

# Forum Open Meeting

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011  
Roundhay Park Education Centre, Leeds

## Mission Statement...

...GreenSpace Yorkshire and Humber exists to champion quality and sustainable green spaces throughout the region that improve the quality of life for our residents and enhance visitor experience

# Forum Aims

- Improve the value of parks and green spaces to the whole community by demonstrating the benefits and opportunities which they provide.
- Promote and support the value, regeneration, management and sustainable future of parks and green spaces in the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- Help raise the quality standard of parks and green spaces in Yorkshire and Humber to reflect the needs and aspirations of all residents and visitors.
- Be the representative body for parks and green spaces in the Yorkshire and Humber region.

# How are we achieving our aims?

- **Promoting the benefits and provision of information**
  - Regional Member Updates and Newsletters
    - Benefits and value of parks and green space
    - Community & Big Society
    - Health & Wellbeing
    - The Environment & Green Infrastructure
    - Play
    - Funding
  - Website
  - GreenSpace blog <http://blog.green-space.org.uk/>
  - The Bench and Community Update
  - Green Places Magazine

# How are we achieving our aims?

- **Advocacy and support**

- GSYH Open meetings 2 x year
  - Dec 2011 - Big Society, Localism & Quality Places
  - June 2011 - GI Funding and Community involvement  
(Dec 2010 - Performance and Green Flag)
- Networking with increased level of contacts
- Network Queries
- National Forum
- GreenLINK

- GreenLINK brings together, at a national level, organisations that are active in the parks and green space sector.
- Participating organisations include charities and trusts, social enterprises and other non-governmental bodies. Government Departments also attend.
- It provides an open forum where knowledge can be shared, duplication of work can be avoided and robust and effective responses to challenges that impact on the sector can be jointly developed
- Recent Joint Policy responses on Select Committee Inquiry into:
  - National Planning Policy Framework
  - Natural Environment White Paper

# How are we achieving our aims?

- **Performance Group**

- 5 authorities agreed to trial gathering the evidence
  - Quality
  - Satisfaction
  - Engagement
- With the aim to be able to benchmark across the region but not duplicate other measures eg APSE grounds maintenance information
- Advocate for the need to gather data to prove the worth of parks and green spaces internally and externally for peer comparison and advocacy
- Local authorities will be contacted in the new year to explain the full process and invited to join for 2012

# How are we achieving our aims?

- **Skills Group**

- Small group consisting of representatives from :  
GSYH, Lantra, Local Authority and Community
- First meeting Nov 2011
- Working with Lantra to gather data to facilitate knowledge and understanding of the regions needs and issues
  - Apprenticeship survey
  - Skills survey
  - National Occupation standards – deadline 15<sup>th</sup> Dec
- Next meeting in new year
- If you wish to be involved contact [carolines@gsyh.org.uk](mailto:carolines@gsyh.org.uk)

# How are we achieving our aims?

- **Representative Forum**

- **Steering Group**

- Local Authorities representing their sub region
      - Leeds, Harrogate, Hull, Sheffield, Wakefield
    - FCFCG
    - Groundwork Y&H
    - Natural England
    - GreenSpace Staff & Trustee
    - Forestry Commission
    - Yorkshire Play
    - English Heritage
    - Green Flag Award Judges Association Committee regional representative

- **Members and Partners**

- Formal support from 14 members (10 in 10/11)
    - Networking with increased number of partners

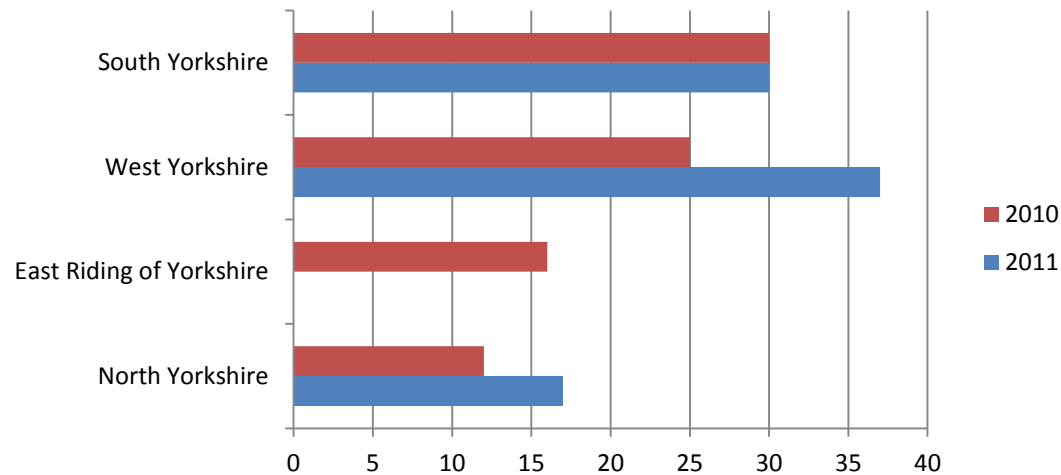
# GreenSpace Update

- Trust Forum
- Community network
- Health Conference : Prescribing Green Space
- Love parks week
- Policy and Advocacy
- Green Flag partnership – training dates and quality manual



# 23 – 31 July 2011

- 1244 Love Parks Week events
- 1 million people attending – the best year yet!
- Y&H beat previous years events – but only just 84 v 83 in 2010



- Additionally 18 events across Lincolnshire
- 2012 Date for diary is 21-29<sup>th</sup> July

# Policy and Advocacy

With significant policy changes GreenSpace continues to advocate and promote the benefits of parks and green spaces in all relevant consultations

This year we have responded to a number of Government proposals including:

- National Planning Policy Framework, DCLG, Sept 2011
- The registration of new town or village greens Defra July 2011
- Independent Panel on Forestry, Defra, July 2011
- Best value: new draft statutory guidance, DCLG, June 2011
- A New Era for the Waterways - A consultation on the Government's proposals for moving inland waterways into a new charity in England and Wales, Defra, June 2011

# Green Flag Training

## Induction Programme

- London – 26<sup>th</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup> January 2012 or 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012
- Rugby 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> January 2012
- North West 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012
- Belfast 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2012
- Leeds 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> February 2012
- Cardiff 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> February 2012

## Refresher training

- Rugby 17<sup>th</sup> January 2012
- London 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> January 2012
- Leeds 7<sup>th</sup> February 2012
- Cardiff 16<sup>th</sup> February 2012

More dates may be added to the refresher training dependent on demand.



# What next?

- Membership and partnership options to ensure the service can continue
- GreenSpace Fund
- Green Flag training in our region February 2012
- Trusts – possibility of GSYH workshop session if enough interest
- Leaders event – Spring 2012 tbc
- Love Parks Week 21-29<sup>th</sup> July
- National conference – Nov tbc

Should you wish your organisation to become a paid member or you think GreenSpace can assist you with your work priorities/programmes or you require any other information please contact:

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