



# EQUALITY ASSESSMENT

## PART 1 - INITIAL SCREENING

Name of Policy/Function:		This is <b>new</b>
Green Spaces Strategy 2025-35		

Date of screening	2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025
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### **1. Briefly describe its aims & objectives**

The Green Spaces Strategy draws together our ambitions for the management of parks and open spaces within Oadby and Wigston. The strategy has been developed to reflect the work of our officer team, partner organisations, community groups and councillors who each play a role in maintaining and improving the borough.

The strategy will be used as a framework to prioritise how we manage our parks and green spaces now and, in the future, to ensure they serve the needs of our communities.

(We are referring to the sites which Oadby & Wigston Borough Council owns and manages, which also have free public access. These sites include formal parks, recreation grounds, playing fields, general open spaces, play areas, closed churchyards and cemeteries. )

### **2. Are there external considerations?**

e.g. *Legislation/government directive etc*

Contribute to climate change and biodiversity targets and aims, through planting trees and managing sites for wildlife whilst improving flora and fauna.

### **3. Who are the stakeholders and what are their interests?**

Working in partnership is a key element of the strategy, the partners we will be working with include:-  
Pride of the Borough  
Friends of Peace Memorial Park  
Ministry of Justice  
Volunteers

#### 4. What outcomes do we want to achieve and for whom?

Our parks and green spaces are open to all. They play a fundamental role in the provision of increased community cohesion, physical and mental health and wellbeing.

Key Strategic Priorities:-

- Invest in green spaces as a priority, protecting our heritage.
- Use resources effectively and sustainably, whilst maintaining and improving our amenities.
- Contribute to climate change and biodiversity targets and aims, through planting trees and managing sites for wildlife whilst improving flora and fauna.
- Increase the use and accessibility of green spaces for all, improving the health and wellbeing of our communities.
- Work co-operatively with our communities and effectively with partners through positive community engagement.

#### 5. Has any consultation/research been carried out?

In terms of any major changes to our parks, recreation grounds, playing fields, of cemeteries we will undertake a consultation with local residents and key stakeholders.

#### 6. Are there any concerns at this stage which indicate the possibility of Inequalities/negative impacts?

*Consider and identify any evidence you have -equality data relating to usage and satisfaction levels, complaints, comments, research, outcomes of review, issues raised at previous consultations, known inequalities) If so please provide details.*

None

#### 7. Could a particular group be affected differently in either a negative or positive way?

**Positive** – *It could benefit*

**Negative** – *It could disadvantage*

**Neutral** – *Neither positive nor negative impact or not sure.*

	Type of impact, reason & any evidence
<b>Disability</b>	Positive
<b>Race (including Gypsy &amp; Traveller)</b>	Neutral
<b>Age</b>	Neutral
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Neutral

<b>Sex</b>	Neutral
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Neutral
<b>Religion/Belief</b>	Neutral
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	Neutral
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	Neutral

**8. Could other socio-economic groups be affected?**

*e.g. carers, ex-offenders, low incomes, homeless?*

Yes, they could but only in a positive way, we would encourage all our residents to use our parks and green open spaces and let all groups know of any events that are happening.

**9. Are there any human rights implications?**

*No (If yes, please explain)*

**10. Is there an opportunity to promote equality and/or good community relations?**

*Yes (If yes, how will this be done?)*

We have been working with a disabled parent's group to review the play equipment that we have in our parks. Where a piece of equipment needs replacing or we have funding to put in new equipment then we will consult with them on the needs of disabled children so we can maximise access for all to the play equipment.

**11. If you have indicated a negative impact for any group is that impact legal?**

*i.e. not discriminatory under anti-discrimination legislation*

N/A

**12. Is any part of this policy/service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors?**

Where we are replacing or installing new equipment on our parks then we will use contractors, we will ensure that the service they provide is inclusive of all.

**13. Is a Part 2 full Equality Assessment required?**

No

**14. Date by which a Part 2 full Equality Assessment is to be completed with actions.**

N/A

**Please note that you should proceed to a Part 2, the full Equality Impact Assessment if you have identified actual, or the potential to cause, adverse impact or discrimination against different groups in the community.**

We are satisfied that an initial screening has been carried out and a full equality assessment **is not required\*** (please delete as appropriate).

Completed by:      Teresa Neal      Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

Countersigned by:      Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

Screened by:       Mark Smith      Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

Please forward an electronic copy to our Equalities Lead mark.smith@oadby-wigston.gov.uk

Equality Assessments shall be published on the Council website with the relevant and appropriate document upon which the equality assessment has been undertaken.