

Draft Green Spaces Strategy 2012-2026

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The Green Spaces Strategy is a key document to show how and why Oxford's parks and open spaces will be preserved, protected and enhanced over the years to come.

The vision is: "To provide world class parks and open spaces to enhance the quality of life of everyone living, visiting or working in Oxford"

The importance of parks and open spaces, should not be underestimated. They are crucial for maintaining people's **health and well-being**, allowing **biodiversity** to flourish, contributing to the local **economy**, providing stronger more engaged **communities**, helping to **adapt to and combat climate change**, adding quality to the built environment and protecting our **heritage**.

The strategy sets out six aims, which focus on quantity, accessibility, quality, biodiversity, health and community engagement.

Aim 1	To establish a minimum standard of green space provision to ensure that Oxford has an agreed amount of green spaces and play spaces to meet existing and future needs of residents, workers and visitors.
Aim 2	To ensure everyone living, working and visiting in Oxford has easy access to open space.
Aim 3	To achieve high quality green spaces across Oxford, including spaces that are nationally recognised for their quality and attractions.
Aim 4	To promote the central role that green spaces play in contributing to the city's biodiversity, sustainability and heritage.
Aim 5	To promote the central role that green spaces play in contributing to the city's health and well-being.
Aim 6	To support community cohesion and community involvement in the stewardship of green spaces.

The strategy has been developed utilising previous consultations, surveys and best practice guidance from industry experts. It identifies 22 objectives to meet the above aims. An action plan details the delivery by using a number of key stakeholders including departments across the City Council and Friends of Park Groups.

These objectives support the Council's corporate plan outcome of Strong and Active Communities and Cleaner, Greener Oxford. In order to assess if the strategy is delivering on its objectives it will be reviewed and updated yearly.

If you would like to read the full version of this strategy and provide feedback please visit:
www.oxford.gov.uk/consultation