

	<b><u>Agenda Item: 22</u></b>
<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Birmingham Health &amp; Wellbeing Board</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>HEALTH AND WELLBEING FORUM UPDATE – CREATING A CITY OF NATURE FOR BIRMINGHAM</b>
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Birmingham City Council</b>
<b>Presenting Officer</b>	<b>Humera Sultan – Director of Future Parks Accelerator</b>

<b>Report Type:</b>	<b>Information</b>
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<b>1. Purpose:</b>
1.1 To introduce the City of Nature Framework to the HWBB

2. Implications:		
BHWB Strategy Priorities	Childhood Obesity	X
	Health Inequalities	X
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment		
Creating a Healthy Food City		
Creating a Mentally Healthy City		X
Creating an Active City		X
Creating a City without Inequality		X
Health Protection		

<b>3. Recommendation</b>
3.1 That HWBB Board members agree to actively contribute to the implementation of the City of Nature Delivery Framework

<b>4. Report Body</b>
4.1. The City of Nature Delivery Framework is the operational delivery framework of the commitment to create a City of Nature set out in the Future City Plan.

It builds directly from the Future Parks Accelerator programme which comes to an end in June 2022.

### **Future Parks Accelerator**

- 4.2 In July 2019, Birmingham City Council received £900,000 from Heritage Lottery Fund and up to £100,000 in-kind support from National Trust; to run the Future Parks Accelerator Programme. The ambition was to embed the value of green spaces across the Council.
- 4.3 Key objectives of the programme were to ensure green spaces were considered:
- As vital community living spaces
  - Vital in defining local character, identity and place making
  - Their importance for nature and climate change adaptation
  - Vital for sport and recreation
  - Vital for health and wellbeing
- 4.4 Strong progress has been made in delivering the objectives of the programme, the developing of green spaces training package for use by mentors supporting our most vulnerable young people in the City as well as including nature and green infrastructure as part of the Birmingham City Design Guide.
- 4.5 A full list of further achievements as part of the Future Parks Accelerator Programme is attached as **Appendix A**.
- 4.6 The funding for the Future Parks Accelerator Programmes comes to an end in June 2022. The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted how crucial green and blue space, as well as connecting to nature has been for people. It is vital that the work of the FPA programme leaves a legacy of actions and outcomes for the City Council to achieve, ensuring nature is at the forefront of all decision making across council.

### **City of Nature Delivery Framework**

- 4.7 The City of Nature Delivery Framework is based upon Our Future City Plan 2040 which includes City of Nature as a key theme and sets out how the City will deliver this ambition of the City Plan.
- 4.8 The City of Nature Framework will have a 25-year outlook to transform Birmingham into a place where all citizens have access to good quality green spaces.
- 4.9 A key tenet of the Framework is environmental justice (EJ) – a measure of how well people living in different parts of Birmingham experience nature. EJ varies significantly across the City, with central areas suffering the most.
- 4.10 5 themes have been established which are central to the Framework's aspirations:

- A Green City – Ensuring green and blue infrastructure is safe, clean and sustainably managed.
- A Healthy City – Ensuring every citizen in Birmingham can access nature close to where they reside to improve their mental and physical health.
- A Fair City – Ensure every park and open space within Birmingham reaches a set threshold of quality, named the ‘Birmingham Fair Standard’.
- An Involved City – Citizens will know, love and protect green spaces and nature.
- A Valued City – Ensuring nature and green spaces are maximising commercial and sponsorship opportunities to establish new innovative funding avenues.

4.11 To ensure Birmingham is truly a ‘great city to live in’, we must do more to ensure it is a city which has clean air, safe and clean streets and ample green spaces which citizens have pride in and have a strong sense of belonging.

4.12 The City of Nature Framework sets out some of the interdependencies with other initiatives and strategies across the City including:

- Birmingham Council Plan – Outcome 3 and 6
- Route to Zero Taskforce
- Brum Breathes (Clean Air Zone)
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Birmingham Transport Plan
- Urban Forestry Master Plan
- Birmingham Design Guide
- NHS Long Term Plan
- Green Social Prescribing

4.13 The Draft City of Nature Framework is attached as **Appendix B**.

4.14 The delivery framework approach to addressing environmental justice in practical ways will focus on Bordesley and Highgate Ward as a test pilot, with the aim of tackling the most disadvantaged wards with respect to nature and green space over the first 10 years. The initial 12-month action plan is included as **Appendix C**.

4.15 The approach has been developed through consultation and engagement with key stakeholders and citizens. This is detailed in **Appendix D**.

### Next Steps

4.16 The City of Nature Framework is due to go to Cabinet on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022, where we will be asking for formal endorsement. This includes a 12-month action plan focussing on Bordesley and Highgate.

4.17 We ask all members of the HWBB to support in maximising the role of nature and green spaces by participating in key governance groups that are being setup.

## 5. Compliance Issues

## **5.1 HWBB Forum Responsibility and Board Update**

5.1.1 Creating a Physically Active City – report every two months

## **5.2 Management Responsibility**

The City of Nature Framework is led by the Council Inclusive Growth (IG) Directorate within Birmingham City Council. As part of this, a City of Nature Board is being developed which will hold partners accountable for the delivery of the Framework. A steering group has been set up, chaired by an Assistant Director within IG. An operations group has also been set up, chaired by a senior planning officer within IG. Organisations comprising the HWBB will be invited to partake at all three levels of governance. A City of Nature officer is being recruited to ensure the 12-month action is delivered.

## **6. Risk Analysis**

<b>Identified Risk</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Actions to Manage Risk</b>
The City of Nature Framework's remit becomes bigger than originally agreed	Medium	Medium	Ongoing dialogue with key stakeholders, including the Board to manage expectations.  Ensure scope is constantly reviewed between senior officers.
Failure to create the City of Nature Framework could result in funding opportunities from investors being missed	Medium	Medium	Thorough planning aligned with conversations to ensure the Framework is delivered on time.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Birmingham City of Nature Executive Summary  
Appendix 2 - Birmingham City of Nature Achievements  
Appendix 3 - Birmingham City of Nature Plan  
Appendix 4 - Birmingham City of Nature 12 Month Action Plan  
Appendix 5 - Birmingham City of Nature YouGov Poll Infographic 1  
Appendix 6 - Birmingham City of Nature YouGov Poll Infographic 2  
Appendix 7 - Birmingham City of Nature Final YouGov Report  
Appendix 8 - Birmingham City of Nature Engagement Poll Infographic 1  
Appendix 9 - Birmingham City of Nature Engagement Poll Infographic 2  
Appendix 10 - Birmingham City of Nature Delivery Framework Engagement