

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
TASK AND FINISH GROUP MONITORING SHEET**

TOPIC	Management of Parcels of Unadopted Green Land
DATE CONCLUDED	March 2015
PRESENTED TO CABINET	25 March 2015
MONITORING DATE	19 October 2015

RECOMMENDATION	LEAD OFFICER(S)	PROGRESS/ACTION TAKEN	STATUS
LEGACY ISSUES			
1. Legacy issues to be tackled by identifying land ownership details in the first instance	Environmental Planning Manager/ Tree and Landscaping Assistant	Ongoing, mostly in response to Members and the Public	Ongoing
2. Developers to be lobbied	Environmental Planning Manager/ Senior Planning Compliance Officer	As part of ongoing negotiations with developers regarding the adoption of land. Enforcement team have been made aware of issues	Ongoing
3. Residents to be written to where land is found to be in private ownership	Environmental Planning Manager/ Tree and Landscaping Assistant	Ongoing. Currently reactive, i.e. when an issue has been identified	Ongoing
4. Community clean-ups to be encouraged involving Amey, County Council and Gloucester City Homes, where appropriate	Interim Neighbourhood Services Manager/ Amey	Ongoing as part of clean up days.	Ongoing
5. Residents to be encouraged 'you blitz it and we might adopt it' provided the advice of Council Officers is followed	Interim Neighbourhood Services Manager/ Environmental Planning Manager	Reactive in response to resident/Member concern. Each site to be assessed on merits re final adoption. See point 8	Ongoing

6. Where appropriate, residents to be able to take ownership of odd pieces of land which are of no value or use to the City Council to ensure the land is maintained	Environmental Planning Manager/ Tree and Landscaping Assistant	Ongoing, as requested by members of the public. Planning consent may be needed and there may a requirement for restrictive covenants	Ongoing
LEGACY ISSUES			
7. Potentially unsafe areas to be tackled by Amey on an emergency case by case basis	Amey/ Interim Neighbourhood Services Manager/Environmental Planning Manager	Amey have agreed to this and is the current informal policy	Complete/ Ongoing
MOVING FORWARD			
8. Policy to be drafted for dealing with unadopted green land	Environmental Planning Manager	There are potential financial implications of formally adopting a policy as any commitment to adopt land will inevitably have ongoing maintenance costs. Presently sites are judged on their individual merits. See above with regard dangerous/unsafe sites	Ongoing
9. Planning Officers should look at the most appropriate means of ensuring small areas of unadopted land do not slip through the net, such as using a 'checklist'	Environmental Planning Manager/ Development Control Manager	A checklist may not be the most appropriate tool given the complexity of the development process. However, the Environmental Planning Manager has facilitated a seminar raising the issue amongst Development Control and similar staff. This will be refreshed as and when necessary	Ongoing

10. Developers to be encouraged to maintain unadopted land that they are responsible for	Senior Planning Compliance Officer/ Environmental Planning Manager/ Tree and Landscaping Assistant	Ongoing discussions with developers. As a last resort there is the potential to use Section 215 of Town and Country Planning Act where it can be shown there is a detriment to neighbourhood amenity	Ongoing
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS			
11. Information to be placed on the Council's website advising residents of their options for dealing with overgrown areas of land	Web Manager/ Environmental Planning Manager	Completed. New page inserted along with parks and open spaces giving advice and who to contact	Complete
12. Assistance for community groups both in terms of financial help through funding and through mentoring by other established voluntary groups, to be publicised on the Council's website	Interim Neighbourhood Services Manager/ Environmental Planning Manager	Promotion of Asset Based Community Development generally and through publicity on Council Website	Complete/ Ongoing
13 .Councillors to be informed of the City Council's intranet mapping system and how to manipulate it, subject to access levels being pre-set	GIS Officer/ Environmental Planning Manager	One Councillor is being piloted. On the assumption this goes smoothly all Councillors will be invited to use the system. There are issues however, with the validity of the data which will be overcome by the introduction of a new GIS system.	Ongoing