

**Nottingham students' proposed workshop model for consultation and promotion of health benefits in relation to parks or green spaces development.**

**Additional supporting comments of Members of the Scrutiny Project Group and Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee**

The recommendations agreed by the Enterprise and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee include the following recommendation regarding consultation (paragraph 10.2 of the Cabinet Report):

*That consultation is carried out with local residents and community groups when proposals are put forward for investment in a park or open space, in conjunction with promoting awareness of the health benefits.*

*Such consultation should be in line with the Council's Community Engagement Strategy and regard should be given to the community engagement model produced by students from University of Nottingham's masters in public health course in partnership with Derbyshire County Council's Public Health Department.*

As referred to at paragraph 6.4 of the SPG report, the students had been asked to develop a workshop model to consult communities and residents on the health benefits in using parks and green spaces. The workshop model is now attached and was only received after the Scrutiny Committee had met.

It is proposed that this model be used to compliment other forms of consultation, in line with the Council's Community Engagement Strategy. It is hoped to be trialled in Rother in three projects.

Comments were made that the questions or discussion topics used in the workshops should be tailored to each project and also need to be carefully worded so as not to raise unrealistic expectations.

Members of the Scrutiny Committee support the methodology proposed in this model as a proactive way of engaging with the community and to encourage involvement and a sense of community ownership at the beginning of a project. It was also seen as a tool to allow people to gain insight into their current health and to change their lifestyles to improve their health and wellbeing. It is hoped that through these changes, there will be an impact on their employment opportunities and longevity and integration into the community as well as reduce costs to the health service.