

Surrey Parks and Countryside Forum

Terms of Reference

The Surrey Parks and Countryside Forum is an informal grouping of representatives from local authority and organisations involved in the management of Surrey's formal and informal parks and countryside areas.

Purpose of the Forum:

- The primary goal of this Forum is to provide a forum to exchange ideas and collaborate on managing greenspace with public access across the County
- To be the representative body for green spaces in Surrey
- To exchange good practice regarding the good management of Surreys parks and countryside
- Benchmarking of common work areas
- Information exchange/networking between members
- Learning about topics of common interest from external parties
- To build working relationships and develop joint working amongst members
- Developing coordinated approaches to dealing with common issues of green space management
- To act as a representative body for Surrey parks and countryside managers on issues of relevance, to regional or national organisations
- Consultation group to the Surrey Nature

Partnership Meeting structure:

- The Forum meets up to 4 times a year
- The meeting location is online or can circulate around the member organisations for In Person meetings.
- Chairing duties can be taken on by the member organisation hosting the In Person meeting.
- Surrey Nature Partnership provides a coordination role to the Forum, maintaining a membership list, sending out agendas, taking and circulating minutes
- Working groups may be established to address specific tasks identified by the members

Membership:

- Membership is open to any officer involved in the management of green space, whether formal park or wider countryside that is open to the public.
- In addition, other individuals or organisations with a strong interest, but without direct management responsibility for parks or countryside may join with the groups support
- Individuals may be invited to attend specific meetings covering topics of relevance or to present information.

Officers from adjacent local authorities (e.g. Hampshire) are also invited to attend, though the Forum will retain a Surrey focus.