

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Climate Change

Bramcote Hills Park Development Proposal

1. Purpose of Report

To set out a potential development option for Bramcote Hills Park, specifically proposals for enhanced visitor amenities including a café, toilets and a meeting space.

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to RESOLVE that a budget of £4,000 for the commissioning of concept drawings and initial capital cost estimates for the proposed visitor facilities at Bramcote Hills Park be approved and funded from Revenue Contingencies in 2025/26.

3. Detail

Bramcote Hills Park, together with the recently adopted Bramcote Quarry site, now forms a developing destination of Borough-wide significance. The combined area consists of extensive woodland, parkland and key heritage features, attracting high levels of use from both residents and visitors. Public consultation has repeatedly identified the lack of toilet facilities and supporting amenities as a major constraint on the visitor experience.

In response, the Council is proposing to advance initial design and costing work for a new sustainable visitor facility, incorporating a café, meeting space and accessible toilets. A sum of £4,000 is required to commission concept drawings and firmed-up cost estimates, which will inform a further report to Cabinet. Any full proposal would be subject to planning approval and financial business case, and external funding opportunities will continue to be explored following confirmation that Section 106 contributions and FCC funding are not available for this phase.

Work is also progressing on wider site connectivity, including refinement of a proposed walking route linking five Local Nature Reserves within 5km, and early exploration of Parkrun opportunities. Further detail on the park's existing features, consultation findings, sustainability requirements, funding considerations and associated project work is provided in the **Appendix**.

4. Key Decision

This report is not a key decision as defined under Regulation 8 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. At this stage the report does not result in the Council incurring revenue or capital expenditure or savings of £250,000 or more.

5. Updates from Scrutiny

Not applicable.

6. Financial Implications

The comments from the Interim Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer were as follows:

There is no budgetary provision in place for the cost of commissioning a feasibility study into a potential development opportunity for Bramcote Hills Park. An allocation of £4,000 has therefore been requested from the General Fund revenue contingency budget in 2025/26, of which £38,000 currently remains available. Any commitment in terms of funding a capital investment scheme for Bramcote Hills Park would require a further report to and approval by Cabinet.

7. Legal Implications

The comments from the Head of Legal Services were as follows:

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report, however, further legal implications will need to be considered as the project progresses.

8. Human Resources Implications

Not applicable.

9. Union Comments

Not applicable.

10. Climate Change Implications

The climate change implications are contained within the report.

11. Data Protection Compliance Implications

Not applicable.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

Not applicable.

13. Background Papers

Nil.