

Housing and Community Service Scrutiny Panel



Date of meeting:	16 July 2025
Title of Report:	Central Park Ponds Project – Scrutiny Update Report
Lead Member:	Councillor Tom Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change)
Lead Strategic Director:	Glenn Caplin-Grey (Strategic Director for Growth)
Author:	Kathryn Deeney
Contact Email:	Kathryn.deeney@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	250716 Central Park Ponds Project – Scrutiny Update Report
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

In December 2024 a report was submitted to the Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel in response to a public petition about the Central Park Ponds project. As a result of the scrutiny session the Scrutiny Panel agreed to the following:

1. To recommend developing a comprehensive communication plan to enhance communication for the park works project. This plan should include regular (at least monthly) updates via multiple channels, clear signage in affected areas, and an outline project plan so residents can understand the scheduled works and timelines.
2. The project will be added to the Panel's work programme for the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

This report provides an update on the project since the December 2024 committee meeting. It includes an update on the physical works to the park but also on the linked communications plan.

Recommendations and Reasons

1. Note the report and update on the project.
Reason: The report updates Housing and Community Service Scrutiny Committee on the project including how the committee's recommendations have been progressed.

Alternative options considered and rejected

1. Not provide an update and progression with meeting the committee recommendations – rejected.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

Central Park is an allocation in the Joint Local Plan PLY19.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

No new implications as the project has an approved business plan and we are not proposing any changes to the delivery plans as a result of meeting the committees recommendations.

Financial Risks

No new risks

Legal Implications

None from the update on the project and communications plan.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

The projects is to deliver a Sustainable Urban Drainage system to help the city respond to the challenges of climate change, particularly increased rainfall, and improve the biodiversity value of this part of the park. The project will therefore have a positive impact on the environment.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

** When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.*

None.

Appendices

**Add rows as required to box below*

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	250716 Central Park Ponds Project – Scrutiny							

Background papers:

**Add rows as required to box below*

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

Fin	N/A	Leg	N/A	Mon Off	N/A	HR	N/A	Assets	N/A	Strat Proc	N/A
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Philip Robinson											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 04/07/2025											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Tom Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change) <i>approved by email.</i> Date approved: 03/07/2025											