From: Smith, MatthewA

Subject: Upcoming Open Space and Green Infrastructure Survey Collaborative Work.

Date: 31 January 2020 15:08:26

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Dear Clerk,

We are writing to give you advance notice of an upcoming piece of collaborate work that Wiltshire Council will be seeking assistance with. Approximately 4 years ago, Wiltshire Council collected data related to open space provision in your area and your input was invaluable. However, it is really important that the records the Council has are brought up to date so that they can accurately inform two significant emerging strategies.

The data collected will be used to understand the current provision of existing open space within the county and will form the evidence base necessary to underpin a new Green Infrastructure Strategy and an Open Space Strategy. Local information provided, through the survey and the maps, that we will be sending you shortly, will help with the future provision of formal and informal recreational space and green corridors for walking, cycling and could be used as a catalyst for a wider discussion within your council around Green Infrastructure, particularly if you're thinking about Neighbourhood Plans.

The information that you provide will be added to the Councils GIS maps so we will be able to see how, existing and future open space, and green infrastructure can be knitted together to develop a more cohesive, integrated green infrastructure network. A well connected green infrastructure network has far reaching implications for health and wellbeing, flood mitigation and biodiversity.

With the importance of this data, comes the need for accuracy and no-one will know your Town/Parish better. So we would be grateful if you could arrange for the survey to be completed and returned before the 13th of March deadline. The survey will be sent out via email, with maps provided as attachments. We will also be posting you a hard copy of the survey and the maps that we are ask you to use to mark on any amendments. Further details will be sent with the survey itself.

Attached to the main survey, there is a household survey which we would like you to publicise to your residents so that they can comment on the spaces that they care about. Please use the link to the online householder survey when publicising it, together with the soft copy and explanatory text.

If you wish to read around the subject before receiving the survey <u>Natural England's Green Infrastructure's Guidance</u> page has a downloadable PDF which describes Green Infrastructure. If you wish to see further information regarding Wiltshire Council's current policies in the Wiltshire Core Strategy please go to our <u>Planning Policy Core Strategy</u> webpage.

We hope you understand the important role that open space and green infrastructure plays in the community and the benefits thereof of completing and returning the survey.

In the interim, if you have any further questions or would like to know more please email SpatialPlanningPolicy@wiltshire.gov.uk or phone 01225 713223. Please let us know sooner

rather than later if you will have trouble or if this will miss any important meetings, so we can provide appropriate support.

Thank you in advance,

Spatial Planning
Economic Development and Planning

Wiltshire Council

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