

CHANGES TO PARKS MANAGEMENT CREATION OF WILDFLOWER & WILDLIFE MEADOWS



Why are we changing the way we manage grass?

- 1 Further reductions to the Council budget mean we need to redesign our parks to provide valuable community facilities at a lower cost
- 2 Current grass mowing regimes are expensive

How will the parks change? What are the benefits?

- 3 More areas of grass will be managed to grow naturally to create areas of wildflower and wildlife meadow
- 4 Some areas of the park will still be cut short, and longer areas will be designed where appropriate
- 5 Meadow and wildflower areas will still be cut once a year in the autumn to stop woody weeds establishing
- 6 We will also design in other new features like mown paths and long grass labyrinths
- 7 Meadow areas are attractive and are great for bug hunts, wildlife education, sketching, plant identification etc
- 8 They encourage diverse habitats in parks and conservation for birds, insects and wider plant species
- 9 They can also encourage natural style play (making daisy chains, environmental art, forest play and much more)

Why haven't we created meadows in the past?

- 11 British parks historically were maintained like private gardens- this has been inherited from the Victorians, in the past there was a greater labour force and more money allocated to parks
- 10 We have experimented with wildflower meadows for a number of years and found they can look very attractive

What could it look like?



Bedford Park, Southport Victoria Park, Crosby North Park, Bootle Seaforth Triangle Marian Gardens, Netherton

For more information and to get involved call 0151 934 2421

