

# Future Parks

Future Parks is our new initiative to secure the future of the UK's urban parks and green spaces.

Future Parks is a joint venture between The National Lottery Heritage Fund and the National Trust. There is also additional funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government in England.

Eight urban areas, covering a combined population of 4.5million people, are joining forces in a pioneering programme designed to find ways to manage and fund parks and open spaces across entire towns and cities.

This is the first project of its kind in the UK.

The Future Parks initiative is investing more than £6million of National Lottery and government funding, plus £5m-worth of advice and support from National Trust experts in conservation, fundraising, volunteering and green space management.

Read more about it in our [news story](#).

## How we chose the eight areas

The eight areas were chosen in a national competition. They were selected for their ambitious and creative plans to put green spaces right at the heart of local communities. They are:

- Birmingham
- Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole
- Bristol
- Cambridgeshire
- Edinburgh
- Islington and Camden
- Nottingham
- Plymouth

All winning bids demonstrated four key themes:

- making green spaces central to everyday community
- giving the public a bigger role in how greens spaces are managed
- ensuring green spaces contribute more to the public's mental and physical health
- transforming the way the green spaces are funded to secure their futures

For example, in Islington and Camden the councils will solely focus on using parks and green spaces to improve health and wellbeing. They plan to do this by developing closer links to the NHS, health providers, doctors and health charities.

## **Newcastle**

The eight selected places will now join Newcastle, a founding city of Future Parks, which has successfully developed a new parks and allotments trust.

Read more in our [news story](#).

## **Get in touch**

Please contact the Future Parks team via email: [futureparks@heritagefund.org.uk](mailto:futureparks@heritagefund.org.uk).