

HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

26 January 2007

**HOW THE HAMPSHIRE GARDENS TRUST CAN HELP
LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

**Joint report by the Association's Director and the Chairman of the Conservation Committee,
Hampshire Gardens Trust**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Hampshire Gardens Trust gives a presentation to Planning Chairs and Development Control Officers.

1. Councillor Ken Thornber, Leader of Hampshire County Council, has requested this brief presentation by the Hampshire Gardens Trust (HGT). This will be given by Mr and Mrs Hurrell, Chairman of the Conservation Group and Research Group of HGT respectively.
2. The Trust is supported by the County Council and has the objective of supporting, conserving and developing parks and gardens within Hampshire. It achieves this through five committees and groups:
 - Education - helping school children to appreciate the benefits of plants and landscapes;
 - Research - providing data on the many historic parks and gardens in Hampshire to provide background information to guide District planning officers;
 - Conservation - providing advice and guidance to local authorities and advice and financial assistance to private and public voluntary bodies;
 - Children's Homes - working with council departments to provide gardens within children's homes; and
 - Community Projects- providing skills, support and small grants to create and enhance community gardens.
3. Whilst the Trust receives assistance and support from the County Council, it believes that other local authorities do not fully appreciate the help it can give them. As a result the Trust is often not consulted about relevant planning applications, the development of planning policies and relevant reports.

4. The Trust operates throughout Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton and would be keen to offer its services to the Isle of Wight if that were thought appropriate.
5. It is appreciated that HGT is not a statutory consultee (unlike the Garden History Society), but non-consultation of HGT means that officers and members are losing the benefits of the Trust's information, and the technical/professional background and local experience of HGT's members.
6. The Trust therefore believes that if consulted it can further help local authorities achieve their objectives.

TONY HURRELL
Chairman of the Conservation Committee, Hampshire Garden Trust

NICK GOULDER
Director

Date: 16 January 2007
Annex: 0
Contact: Nick Goulder - tel: 023 8068 8431 email: hiow@eastleigh.gov.uk

Hampshire Garden Trust report for HIOW/Word