

APSE Scotland Parks, Grounds & Streets Network Meeting – Wednesday 19 March 2025 10.30 AM to 12.00PM

Welcome: Cllr Norman Hampshire, East Lothian Council

Speakers and discussion items

Plymouth's Habitat Bank – Ocean City Nature

Speaker: Chris Avent, Green Estate Manager and Nigel Cotterill, Natural Grid Project Manager, Plymouth City Council

This will provide the opportunity for colleagues to hear about this innovative initiative which has utilised the creation of a mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain to create a new Habitat Bank, which has the ability to raise external investment to improve habitats across the city.

Soil water management of parks and play areas

Speaker: Justin Smith, Director, Green Pigeon Consulting

This will provide the opportunity for colleagues to hear from APSE's Approved Partner Green Pigeon Consulting regarding the issue of soil water management. As we have seen over the past few years, the weather is wetter for longer and this in turn provides challenges to parks, grounds and street services.

Topics and speakers for APSE Fleet, Waste and Grounds 20 – 23 May 2025

Speaker: Group Discussion

This will provide the opportunity for colleagues to provide their thoughts and views on which topics and speakers they would like to see on the programme at the upcoming Fleet, Waste & Grounds seminar in Aviemore.

Parks, Grounds and Streets clinic: Any issue affecting service delivery including:

- **Fly tipping removal processes and procedures**
- **Rural verge cuts and biodiversity**
- **Local authority inherited grounds maintenance on private land**
- **Collection of Christmas wreaths within cemeteries**

Speaker: Group Discussion

This is the opportunity for attendees to discuss any challenges and solutions that councils are experiencing and adopting in relation to a particular issue.

APSE Update

Speaker: Louise Melville, Principal Advisor, APSE

About the meeting

Any PowerPoint slides and a link to related briefings and research will be made available to participants after the event.

The meeting will end at 12.00 PM