



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

## AREA PANEL 5 7 DECEMBER 2005

Report of the Director of Commercial Services

### PETITION REQUESTING A DEDICATED RANGER FOR DARLEY PARK AND COMPLETION OF THE RIVERSIDE PATH

#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.1 A petition has been received containing 104 signatures and reads as follows: We the undersigned petition Derby City Council to:

- Assign a dedicated Ranger to Darley Park
- Complete the riverside footpath from wild-flower meadow to rowing club.

1.2 The requests have been investigated. Although we do not have a dedicated Ranger for Darley Park at the present time, our Ranger base is located on Darley Fields and provides a 12 hour, 7 day a week presence on the site. The contact number is shown on all playgrounds and the café have their contact number.

Darley Park is visited daily by a Mobile Park Ranger, who checks the playground and Café Terrace and litter picks both areas. They also check the life belts daily and can be seen on the park at regular times. Litter picking is carried out as required and there is also a team of gardeners who can regularly be seen in the park carrying out routine maintenance operations.

If there are any problems on the park, then anyone can contact Darley Fields between 9 am and 9 pm on telephone number 367800. If the problem is of a serious nature, then the Police need to be contacted.

There is no realistic prospect of a permanent Park Rangers being based at Darley Park in the current financial circumstances.

1.3 Regarding the request for the riverside footpath to be completed from the wild-flower meadow to the rowing club, Parks recognise the need for the path, but there is currently no funding available. Darley Park is being considered as part of a bigger project for which we are looking at options for funding.

Development and Cultural Services will be carrying out some repairs on the culvert soon, and will be putting down a temporary track and using stone to level some areas out. At the end of the project, the track will be rolled up for use on another site so there will not be a permanent path resulting from these works. In any case, the temporary track does not follow the river side where we would anticipate locating the path. Given that the temporary path will not run along the river side and will mainly be track it will not be possible to fund the cost of laying a path.

## PROPOSED ACTION

- 2.1 That the request for a dedicated Ranger for Darley Park is kept on file and that a path is included in any funding bid.

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**Background papers:** None.  
**List of appendices:** None.