

**Pocket Parks** On 7 November, the Department for Communities and Local Government launched a £1.5 million Pocket Parks programme. This is open to communities across England but outside London (which has recently completed its own pocket park programme).

Applications are invited from communities within deprived urban areas to apply for funding to support them with establishing up to 100 pocket parks. **Deadline for applications is 5:00pm on Thursday 10 December. Any queries to be addressed to**

pocketparks@communities.gsi.gov.uk It is anticipated that there will be an allocation of grants of around £10,000 – £15,000 per project comprised of up to £10,000 capital and up to £5,000 revenue. Grants will be paid to the appropriate principal local authority that is supporting the application (under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003) so that it can be released to the community as they need it to deliver. Pocket parks are defined for this programme as a piece of land of up to 0.4 hectares (although many are around 0.02 hectares, the size of a tennis court) which may already be under grass but which is unused, undeveloped or derelict. There is no prescription on what a pocket park should look like and we welcome both innovative and traditional proposals. We are also keen to see applications from projects aiming to improve their local town centre or high street with a community green space. The aim is to increase access to good quality green space in a sustainable and community-led manner. For more information: [pocketparks@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:pocketparks@communities.gsi.gov.uk) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pocket-parks-support-for-communities-to-manage-small-green-spaces>