

2. Friends Groups

Friends groups are non-profit organisations that partner with public lands agencies to accomplish activities that typically benefit a specific park or public lands area. While some friends groups also function as cooperating associations, the two terms are not interchangeable, as the authority to operate interpretive sales outlets on public lands is governed by specific agreements and authorities.

Do you live close to a park that you care about and would like to have a say in how it is looked after, used or developed in the future. Why not become a Friend of your local park? You can either join an existing group or if there isn't a local group, why not set one up yourself with our help and support.

Friends groups get involved in many different ways, through practical work days, habitat surveys, consultations or organising entertainment, such as concerts or a fete.

Friends groups also help to raise much needed funds to improve green spaces by securing grants and sponsorship.

This document provides you with all the information you need to start your own Friends Group or join an existing one. Further reading and information can be found on the Friends Forum website, www.bromleyfriendsforum.org.

The diagram below shows the relationship structure between the various parties and specifically how the Friends Forum acts on behalf of the Friends Groups.

