

**Notes from discussion**

**Comments on exercise**

- All services are important – we should take as many into account as possible and perhaps prioritise them locally
- Difficult to think in terms of your organisation
- Issues with services vs. benefits. Some activities linked to services may provide multiple benefits and the importance of these benefits varies, e.g. people might pick berries for the social/mental benefits, not just to get the produce.
- What about disservices, i.e. negative aspects?
- Need to gather information from a stakeholder group that isn't so engaged – why might they not be using local greenspace?

**Which, if any, Ecosystem Services have been omitted? Note that the list of ecosystem services in the workshop was based upon those identified in the literature**

- Social cohesion/meeting places
- Security/climate change resilience
- Green travel routes/networks
- Crime reduction
- Economic value e.g. from health
- Disservices e.g. gentrification raising house prices so that it is difficult for most people to afford to buy a house in this location
- Education & engagement
- Intrinsic value of nature

NB. These are suggestions made by attendees during the discussion, but there was some disagreement over what constitutes an ecosystem service.

**Which Ecosystem Services are provided well in Edinburgh and which aren't?**

√ Accessible parks

√ Linear green travel routes e.g. canals

√ Large number of community groups help to provide good access to greenspace – this might be further improved with the planned Community Empowerment Bill

X Loss of community greens

X Access to greenspace could be improved if tenement garden boundaries were removed and these areas were opened up

X Air quality

X Regulatory services

- Greenspace access/ecosystem service provision isn't equal across the city – the more deprived areas tend to have lower quality greenspace
- Difficult to generalise as service provision varies across the city

- Can be hard to tell e.g. we have little information on how well we are providing the regulatory services

**- Are different Ecosystem Services important at different spatial scales (e.g., neighbourhood, city or city region)?**

Yes, e.g. need to consider water catchment scale for flood mitigation and smaller scale for local parks.

**- Do you think that your priorities for Ecosystem Services might change 20 years from now?**

Yes, particularly those related to mitigating for climate change (e.g. temperature regulation & flood mitigation) and because of other pressures such as population increases. There is uncertainty over what the future may bring so we need to protect core areas of urban greenspace to ensure they can continue to produce a range of ecosystem services.