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| **POLICY:**   | **CASTLE GARDENS POLICY** |
| **Policy number:** | LTC / CG/23/v.2 |
| **Available to:** | All Staff, Councillors & Public (upon request) |
| **Supersedes Version:** | Castle Gardens Policy – Adopted by Council 20/06/2016 |
| **Approved by:**  | Full Council  |
| **Approval date:** | 31st July 2023 |
| **Review due:** | April 2026 |

**1. Description**

 Policy regulating the use and maintenance of Castle Gardens.

**2. Purpose of this policy**

To set out the permitted uses of the public open space and the Council’s responsibilities.

**3. Scope**

 All property within the boundaries of Castle Gardens within the ownership of Ludlow Town Council and any activities undertaken upon that property.

**4. Procedure**

4.1 The Town Council recognises that the space known as Castle Gardens provides a green space in the centre of Ludlow and appreciates that the space is used by the general public, including:

* Day trippers to Ludlow.
* Festival visitors.
* Students.
* Children.
* Workers in the Town.
* Dog Walkers.

4.2 The Town Council aims to:

* Regularly maintain the perennial flower beds and grass.
* Replace and introduce shrubs where required.
* Collect litter regularly and report any dog fouling.
* Provide a habitat for birds in the form of bird boxes.
* Maintain the benches in the area.
* Review the lime trees and pollard them biennially, where required.
* Assess the retaining wall, steps, paths, chain link fence and posts regularly and make repairs as and when required.
* Preserve the restful space.
* Maintain a good relationship with Ludlow Castle.
* Sustain the current quality and standard of the area by reporting vandalism and making any necessary repairs.
* Continually review the area to identify areas for improvement.
* Monitor the condition of the trees and complete necessary works.
* Maintain the Fountain.
* Maintain the Canon and surrounding railing.

**4.3 USES**

Due to the nature of the Castle Gardens, and in order to maintain them as a peaceful amenity area for the town, the Council will not allow any events, demonstrations, entertainment, trading or similar activities to take place within the Gardens without the written permission of Full Council.

**5. Legal**

The Town and Country Planning Act 1990

the Open Spaces Act 1906

**6. Other relevant policies**

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| Ludlow Town Centre Strategy |