







City Gardens Management Plan: Consultation Feedback Matrix 2012

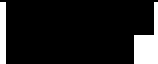
Name	Contact	Comments	Officer response and action
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	<p>Comments on Draft City Gardens Management Plan 2011-2016</p> <p>I think this is an excellent piece of work and all my comments are of a minor nature, Here goes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Page 115 last para : Looking at map area around bank does not seem too bad . Areas of deficiency seem to be north and south of Fleet Street. I would also suggest north and south of Fenchurch Street although the Walkie Talkie might change this. 2. Why does the Riverside Walk not come up as an Open Space? 3. Page 128 2nd para: Although not to be put into the plan I trust contingent plans to meet a budget reduction should be put in hand <p>Page 129; Excellent chart and should be copied by all Open Spaces</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Page 136 final section: Do people really come to the City to visit an open space ? They are only 3% of the users and I suspect the use of an openspace is secondary to their prime purpose of visiting the City. In that sense they are just like workers seeking relaxation 5. Page 144 Tree work: Is there any benefit in seeking to use HH Arboricultural team rather than outside consultants. 6. Page 154 Monuments: None of those listed are in Open Spaces and are Surveyors responsibility. Not sure of relevance of this para in this report 7. Page 156 R Thames: I remain confused about the COL responsibilities for the Thames as between Planning, Port health, Trustees of Tower Bridge and Open Spaces and how this all meshes 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Areas of deficiency were identified by the GLA following a London wide assessment; the areas identified as deficient are based on their findings. On a London wide scale the entire square mile would be considered as an area of deficiency in access to nature, on a more local scale the square mile has more deficient areas and it is these that are shown. 2. The Riverside walk is classed as public highway and therefore is not classified under 'Open Space'. 3. The actions in the plan have been prioritised to ensure that the most urgent are achieved if budgets were to be reduced further. The plan would then be instrumental in seeking additional funding from external bodies. 4. There are people who specifically visit the city to explore the open spaces primarily due to their historical significance and value, more visible in some open spaces than others. But agree that there is also a high percentage that uses the open spaces like the city workers do in terms of spaces to relax and escape the hustle and bustle. 5. The peak time for tree work in the City will also mirror that of Hampstead's therefore it is doubtful whether the team would have the capacity to take all of our tree work. Also the urban nature of the City means that the level of inspection and work required is different to that of those found across North London Open Spaces. 6. This section puts some of the historical nature of the city into context in terms of the City's responsibility.


		<p>in with the numerous other bodies with responsibilities for aspects of the Thames. It would help if this was spelt out somewhere</p> <p>Besides budget risks it would be useful to spell out (but not in this report) the specific risks pertaining to City Gardens which would be a somewhat finer grain risk register than one applying to the department as a whole and have more punch and direct relevance for the Cttee</p>	<p>There are various monuments, features in the gardens especially those linked with disused and active churches.</p> <p>7. This is detailed in the 'Tidal Thames' section of the City's Biodiversity Action Plan.</p>
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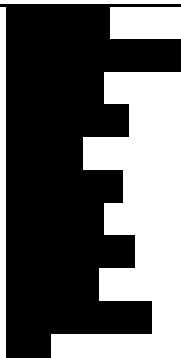
		<p>In response to the paper on City Gardens Management..</p> <p>I am a new resident in Bunyan Court, Beech Gardens, Barbican and a very keen gardener. On moving in during the summer 2011 I noticed the rather grim-looking concrete troughs lining the Highwalk on Beech Gardens, above the infamous tunnel en route from Barbican tube to the Barbican Centre. These troughs are either empty, full of weeds or planted with some very unattractive grotty heather. There are about FIFTEEN of these troughs all looking dishevelled and dull and along with the 'dead' Bryer Pond the overall outlook is bleak to say the least! I am itching to get my hands on them. Other areas en route to Chiswell Street are beautifully planted and maintained which is in sharp contrast to this route, a very public thoroughfare. I have been told that the responsibility for these troughs rests with the Corporation rather than the Barbican Centre as it is a public thoroughfare.</p>	<p>LB Forwarded email to Barbican estate officers for their response copying </p>
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		<p>Leanne, hello, and thank you -- so good to get news of this latest management plan, not least because it includes detailed actions and objectives pertaining to our local 'open space', Cleary Garden(s) noting the fact that...<i>"This site falls in an area classified by the GLA as an 'Area of Deficiency' where local people do not have sufficient access to nature."</i></p> <p><i>"...During the Middle Ages, the area was a hub of the wine trade, with the Vintners Livery Company situated on nearby Upper Thames Street. Records show that a local vintner once traded his produce on the plot where Cleary Garden Stands today."</i> Accordingly, it's in fact a disappointment to various residents within our Upper Thames Street community that having lost the 'skywalk' that was due to be afforded to</p>	<p>LB advised that copies of the management plan were available in each of the libraries as requested and physically gave a copy of plan to .</p>
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		<p>us by the Queenbridge House/Queen Hithe Hotel development as an important link to our local/only public green space the physical link between our neighbours the present day Vintners and their rich history on the Cleary Garden site has also gone with it.</p> <p>That being aside I am sure there is so much more for me to read in the 2011-2016 plan!</p> <p>Could I ask you to please confirm whether there is a reference hardcopy for us to read through at any of the CoL libraries. Unfortunately, for some reason, the CoL public PC's won't allow the summary to be downloaded although, rather perversely, they will offer up the full 7.5Mb doc, which is in fact to big and 'dense' to read on screen, not least because the full page tables mean that scrolling is both slow and 'jumpy' meaning that you get bogged down beyond your control on some pages and involuntarily skip others</p>	
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		<p>Page 17 – if a tree falls within a conservation – should be if a tree is located in a conservation area</p>	<p>Noted and management plan updated to reflect this.</p>
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		<p>Page 79 of St pauls church garden Action Plan – action A23-1 says Finsbury circus! Check other action plans for similar errors Page 124 – Postmans Park – says st dunstans in the east, keep checking</p>	<p>All individual action plans have been corrected where relevant</p>
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		<p>Dear Sirs</p> <p>Are the gardens on the highwalk and ground level of the Barbican Estate not part of the City Gardens? or are they administered by a separate body?</p>	<p>The gardens on the High walk and at ground level are the responsibility of the Barbican Estate Office both the publically accessible and private gardens therefore do not fall into the City Gardens administration nor the remit of the management plan.</p> <p>However the City Gardens team do maintain the gardens on behalf of the Barbican Estate, and therefore the practices and principles outlined within the management plan are still practiced in the management of these areas by the team that carries</p>
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	[REDACTED]		out the maintenance.
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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	<p>Thank you for asking for comments on the management plan.</p> <p>I was pleased to see that the value of the gardens as wildlife habitats is recognised in the plan and that encouraging wildlife and increasing the biodiversity of the gardens is a specific aim in most of the individual plans.</p> <p>As a City worker, I value the gardens as being beautifully maintained outdoor spaces where I can eat my lunch and relax away from the office. Seeing birds in them indicates their wildlife value and brings them to life. I've particularly enjoyed the birds in Finsbury Circus and St Alphage Gardens and I'd appreciate any measures you take to increase their numbers.</p> <p>1. One thing I think you could do is to encourage a little less neatness. I see you mention introducing log piles and this is a very good measure. What about a few informal "compost heaps" at the back of borders and under shrubs? These encourage insects and birds and need not look unsightly: just a pile of leaves, hedge trimmings and weeded out plants. I think the majority of people using the gardens are not looking for perfect green turf and symmetrical flower arrangements and won't mind a little less formality.</p> <p>The plan states that herbicide/pesticide use is kept to a minimum, an extremely good point. Weeds and insect pests are all part of biodiversity (although I appreciate you need to keep things within limits) and encourage other wildlife.</p> <p>2. On some of the smaller open grass spaces could a "wilder" grass mix be encouraged? For example, there is a nice patch of grass on the corner of London Wall and Moorgate, with a fine oak tree. The grass, which is heavily used in the summer by office workers, is kept very short and weed-free. Allowing it to grow a little longer and build up a healthy weed population would reduce costs and could make it more resilient to wear and tear, as well as encouraging wildlife to use</p>	<p>Email sent thanking [REDACTED] for her comments and positive feedback about the City Gardens.</p> <p>1. She was also referred to the City's Biodiversity Action Plan which covers a lot of the points about encouraging nature to the gardens, and advised her that at the risk of not repeating all the detail in the draft city gardens management plan the BAP sits alongside the management plan to provide the detail.</p> <p>2. [REDACTED] was advised that the grass area she mentioned is Moore House Lawn, and was advised that we are trialling a new grass species here to try and withstand the amount of wear the area experiences, also that a new native Carpinus hedge has also been planted benefiting the local garden bird population. These works are to act as a temporary measure until Cross Rail works are complete then this area will undergo a more through design plan to enhance the space fully for workers and biodiversity.</p>
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		<p>it when the City workers have gone home.</p> <p>Finally, I'd just like to say how much I enjoy the gardens and to thank you for maintaining them so well.</p>	
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		<p>The only comments I have are for page 52: under the heading Residents helping hands:</p> <p>Here is my suggestion for the copy.</p> <p><i>Residents' helping hands</i></p> <p>The Barbican Estate's garden on the corner of Fann Street is the largest wildlife Garden in the City. A dedicated team of volunteer residents (the Barbican Wildlife Group) have weekly work sessions on Wednesday mornings at the garden. The group was set up in August 2004 to work with the Estate Office and Open Spaces to improve the diversity of wildlife in the Estate as a whole, with the main focus - the Wildlife Garden. The Group works closely with the City Gardens team and a variety of agreed tasks are carried out depending on the season and the needs of the site.</p> <p>In the two years, from January 2010 to end December 2011, the Barbican volunteers contributed well over 1000 hours. The two hedges, the central wildflower meadow, the nursery bed, and the path around the garden require regular maintenance. In addition, new projects, chosen to increase the biodiversity of the garden, include the creation of a wildlife friendly cottage garden down one side of the garden; and of the garden's first pond; and most recently the planting out in the original Fann Street hedge of well over 100 small shrubs, a donation from the Woodland Trust. Bird feeders have been maintained in the garden since the working mornings were begun.</p> <p>In the summers of 2009, 2010 and 2011 opened the garden to non-residents as part of the Open Garden Squares Weekend organised by the London Parks & Gardens Trust and have raised funds to provide new plants, etc for the garden.</p>	<p>These comments have been incorporated in to the management plan to better reflect residents helping hands.</p>
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		Please let me know if you have any questions.	
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		<p>From: [REDACTED] Sent: 24 February 2012 12:46 To: [REDACTED] Subject: Re: City Garden Draft Management Plan Consultation closes 24th February 2012</p> <p>I know comments should be sent to the addresses you give, but although I have skimmed through the full plan it seemed full of entirely worthy objectives on which I didn't feel able to comment.</p> <p>One point is the use of volunteers: I note a brief reference. Perhaps this could be expanded and even combined with the educational aim; I for one would benefit from training or advice, however brief, on subjects such as the insect life of city gardens, which would enable me to keep a much better record of what I see around me (and possibly do useful survey work elsewhere?)</p>	<p>Revisions have been made to the management plan to better reflect the work of volunteers in the City Gardens and now also include the work of the Volunteer Improvement Group, and investing in volunteers through sharing practical knowledge and experience from within the City Gardens team to volunteers through in house training and hands on demonstrations.</p>
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		<p>Thanks for sight of this and for extending the deadline for my comments (which I assume should be on the summary and not the whole plan?) – I am in full accord with what is suggested here as your priorities, except to say that I think that it may be worth mentioning the development of your events programme more explicitly (under community engagement) – I know you are working with City partners such as the City of London Festival and through the various Olympic groups to increase the number of events/artworks etc in City gardens so to encourage greater usage (this would certainly fit with my objectives to increase visitor numbers in the City and animation of spaces). Or perhaps not a priority for you?</p>	<p>These comments were taken into account and further information added to the management plan about publicising events in the city gardens, partnership working and encouraging greater usage of the city gardens spaces.</p>
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		<p>City Gardens Management Plan 2011-2016 Comments by [REDACTED]</p> <p>1. General</p> <p>The Management Plan is very comprehensive and well thought out. However, I think it could be tailored to make its main objectives clearer and to highlight the steps needed to achieve those objectives. I also have picked up some typos and inconsistencies in the text which I list at the end of this document. It would also be easier to navigate if there was a clear hierarchy of numbered headings and paragraphs.</p> <p>2. Sustainability</p> <p>I think the MP could be clearer about the challenges facing the City gardens from climate change and the need to reduce carbon emissions. This is mentioned later in the Plan but is probably the single most important issue for the next 5 years and should be noted up front. For example:</p> <p>p.4 – Why have an Open Spaces Management Plan?</p> <p>Add “to adapt to the challenges of climate change and the need to reduce carbon emissions”.</p> <p>p. 8 Our vision for the City Gardens – should include “and sustainable habitats for wildlife”</p> <p>Sustainability should be carried through into your 8 key service objectives. Objective 5 should include “sustainable <i>and wildlife friendly</i> City Gardens”</p> <p>p. 65 Objective 5 Sustainable City Gardens</p> <p>Consideration should be given to including the following in your Objectives:</p> <p>3. Green Waste Disposal</p> <p>The MP is unclear as to how green waste is handled. On p. 35 it suggests that green waste goes to landfill but on p. 41 it says it goes to Nine Elms but doesn't state what happens to it then.</p> <p>I believe green waste should not be disposed of in landfill and that it should be a major objective of the next 5 year Plan to develop a way of sending green waste to composting rather than to dispose of it through landfill or the Energy from Waste plant at Riverside.</p>	<p>1. The typos identified in the plan have been rectified and the headings have been numbered accordingly to help with navigating the Management Plan.</p> <p>2. The sustainability comments have been taken on board and incorporated into the plan. However the key objective titles have not been changed as these reflect the Green Flag criteria which we have based the plan on and Sustainability and Biodiversity are covered within the objectives throughout the management Plan.</p> <p>3. The green horticultural waste from the City Gardens goes to a green waste plant. Green waste in the City Gardens is collected using re-used 1 tonne and quarter tonne bags, so eliminating the use of plastic bags for green waste.</p>
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	<p>4. Recycling</p> <p>Recycling bins have been trialled in some City gardens. These should be more widely installed – particularly in gardens heavily used at lunchtime.</p> <p>5. Electric vehicles</p> <p>Although longer journeys/larger loads may need to be undertaken by conventional petrol driven van, it would seem that a large number of journeys take place round the City where an electric vehicle would be feasible and would reduce carbon emissions and more importantly emission of particulates.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to using electric vehicles wherever possible.</p> <p>6. Herbaceous planting to replace annual bedding</p> <p>Annual bedding would seem to be less sustainable than herbaceous perennials and shrubs. In addition, use of nectar rich meadow plants (both annual and perennial) sown from seed would appear to be both cheaper in terms of maintenance, more sustainable and better for insects and other wildlife. The City should give serious consideration to substantially increasing this type of planting and experimenting to find the mixture that will result in a long flowering season.</p> <p>7. Water</p> <p>How City gardens would respond to a prolonged drought is not clear. For example it seems likely that hose pipe bans will be in force during 2012. Although use of hose pipes might not be banned for local authorities it would not be good public relations for the City to be using hose pipes if the rest of southern England is under a ban.</p> <p>Longer term hotter summers are likely to result in droughts and then torrential rain which may cause local flooding. The City gardens need a coherent plan in place to cope with climate change. Inevitably planting will have to change. This is not really addressed in the MP.</p> <p>8. Wildlife friendly policies</p> <p>p. 66 Objective 6 Open Spaces that address conservation and heritage</p> <p>Consideration should be given to adding the suggestions below to your fifteen Objectives.</p> <p>Target species</p> <p>Target species should be identified for each SLINC and the planting, nest boxes and feeders should be tailored to that specific species. Interpretation</p>	<p>4. In general the use of bins in the City gardens is to be looked at on a broader scale in term of minimising waste, and to consider longer term solutions. An idea of trialling sites without any waste bins could be an option. Workers who eat lunch in the city gardens would therefore need to take their rubbish back to their offices and use the recycling facilities there.</p> <p>5. We are in agreement with this hence the existing action 5.4 to investigate the use of electric vehicles. The City gardens team have trialled the use of an electric vehicle which has proven successful.</p> <p>6. The City Gardens is already reducing its annual bedding and removing the annual bedding from a number of sites and has included more herbaceous planting, and a further 18 sites have been identified for autumn 2013 to remove annual bedding and to plant more sustainable planting in those areas. In terms of meadow planting, these are more successful as wildlife meadows and if they are managed in that way. We could trial wildflower meadows in some of the SLINCs. However there are some sites where the existing planting is part of the gardens historic nature and would not be suitable for wildflower meadows.</p> <p>7. Although it is not detailed in the plan it is referenced and it being captured through the services Sustainability Audit System. We are using drip line irrigation in a growing number of locations around the city gardens and these are more sustainable than manual irrigation in that water fed directly to root surfaces and minimise waste water. We are also trialling a SUDs scheme for the City and are continuing to look at alternative s and ways to reduce our environmental impact by becoming more sustainable.</p> <p>8. Wildlife Friendly Policies – The City's Biodiversity Action Plan provides the detailed level of information for protecting and encouraging wildlife in the City and as a</p>
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	<p>boards could be installed to explain this strategy in each of the SLINC gardens and where possible this should be adopted for other City gardens.</p> <p>Web cams</p> <p>Consideration should be given to working with a sponsor to install web cams in nest boxes and in the peregrine nest and streaming pictures to the City website or getting a sponsor to host the feed on it own website.</p> <p>Leaf clearance</p> <p>Consideration should be given to leaving some leaves in drifts at the back of beds during the autumn and winter to provide a habitat for insects and improve the food resources for birds. Leaves would also provide mulch during what may become increasingly dry autumns. Although the policy is not to use leaf blowers to clear leaves from beds and under shrubs there is evidence to suggest that this is not always the case. Bare blasted earth can be seen in many gardens devoid of any ground cover as a result of leaf blowing.</p> <p>Nectar and pollen rich meadow flowers</p> <p>Consideration should be given to removing some of the grass cover and sowing with annual and/or perennial meadow flowers. Using seed mixes that include non native plants that are nectar rich but fill an extended flowering season it is possible to have these meadows in peak flowering condition for the entire summer and through into autumn. This would not only greatly reduce the cost of maintenance through weekly mowing, but would benefit bees and other insects and be aesthetically pleasing. I have noted later the gardens where this might be introduced.</p> <p>Bee hives</p> <p>Consideration should be given to increasing the number of bee hives in City gardens. Although conflict with the public would have to be avoided there are spaces – such as Christchurch Greyfriars, Cleary garden, St Paul’s where it might be possible to install a hive. If City gardeners could be trained as bee keepers it would add a useful additional career development for some individual staff members.</p> <p>Additional bird boxes and feeders</p> <p>The benefit of bird boxes (55% occupancy in 2010/11) and feeders is proven. City Gardens should develop partnerships with corporate sponsors to install more boxes. Consideration should be given to tailoring boxes and feeders to target species in specific gardens (as set out later).</p>	<p>document sits alongside the management plan. The BAP is due to be reviewed soon and these points could be picked up as part of the review. However it is important to note that nationally there is a move away from target species and to take a habitat/landscape scale approach to conserving biodiversity. Although there will still be priority species as these are often easier to champion, a broader approach is needed for the longer term protection of biodiversity.</p> <p>Leaf clearance – This is something that we are again reviewing as part of the BAP review. We are considering not blowing the leaves in SLINC sites but would have to look at each site on an individual basis.</p> <p>Nectar and pollen rich Meadow Flowers – as above this would depend on the appropriateness of the site and would be something to consider in the SLINC’s.</p> <p>Bee Hives – We have trialled a bee hive at Bunhill Fields which experienced a colony collapse. We are hoping to retrial the hive again this year by reinstating a colony and will evaluate its benefits success afterwards.</p> <p>Additional bird boxes and feeders – we are already doing this when opportunities arise, and are a part of the City’s BAP.</p> <p>Trees – this is supported by the City’s new Tree Policy</p>
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	<p>Trees</p> <p>Mention is made on p. 52 of choosing native species rather than plane trees. This is really important and where the City has done this it has added substantially to the aesthetic enjoyment as well as the wildlife benefit.</p> <p>9. Specific comments on the text</p> <p>Objective 1 Well managed spaces</p> <p>p.18 Text notes that allowance under the Budget for repairs and maintenance is limited. A key driver of sustainability is repairing and maintaining existing assets. I think that more emphasis should be placed on allocating a budget to this. A particular case is the cleaning and maintaining of benches. Although this does take place in some gardens the vast majority of benches do not get cleaned and treated in autumn and this must reduce their life as they become encrusted with lichen and so subject to decay. It is also not very pleasant to sit on benches that are dirty.</p> <p>I suggest that some thought is given to a project to ensure benches are regularly cleaned and maintained in the late summer. It might be something that could be a work experience project or one using volunteers.</p> <p>Gender equality</p> <p>There should be a statement about equal opportunities. I can't help but notice that only one gardener is female. Although I appreciate it may be difficult to recruit or retain women in this post there should be a statement of the City gardens intention to be gender neutral and to encourage women to join.</p> <p>Objective 2: A Welcoming City</p> <p>p. 24 leaflets. These are very high standard and well produced. City Gardens might also consider producing a leaflet for cycling round City gardens. This should also be done in conjunction with reviewing the provision for secure cycle parking outside all City gardens.</p> <p>You might also want to explore the idea of mobile phone apps. which could navigate visitors round City Gardens.</p> <p>p. 25 toilet facilities as well as marking the nearest toilets on maps and leaflets each garden notice board should clearly show where the nearest public toilet and water fountain can be found.</p> <p>p. 25 – see also comments on maintaining benches.</p> <p>Objective 4: Well Maintained and Clean City Open Spaces</p> <p>p. 34 Again you mention bench cleaning – this just does not happen although</p>	<p>9. Specific Comments objective 1 Benches were subject to jet washing and were treated during the winter 2011/2012, there is an on-going programme for completing this.</p> <p>Gender equality – Women are encouraged to join the city gardens team, and we recruit the best candidate for the job.</p> <p>Objective 2 It is felt that an additional cycling map to city gardens would not add much benefit to the leaflets already produced, but is perhaps something that could be incorporated into the existing leaflets when they are next being reviewed. The City Gardens are part of an interpretation improvement group and are looking at ways to improve publicity and interpretation including the idea of mobile phone apps; however this technology can be quite costly and would require significant investment.</p> <p>The location of toilet facilities is something we would look at with the revision of the existing signage around the gardens in the future.</p>
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	<p>it should.</p> <p>Objective 5: Sustainable City Gardens</p> <p>p. 49 The text refers to areas where it is appropriate, grass is left with longer swards or lawn areas are planted with wild flower mixes to encourage birds and insects in to the gardens. Two such examples of where this has been very successful are Noble Street Garden and Fann Street Wildlife Garden in the Barbican Estate. This could be done in many areas – for example Finsbury Circus when it is returned, swathes of St Paul’s garden, even in smaller spaces in a swathe such as Cleary garden – see specific suggestions later on.</p> <p>Objective 7: A City Where Community Involvement is Encouraged</p> <p>p. 52 Residents</p> <p>Don’t forget to add in something on whip planting with local schools and the insect hotels in Fann Street and Bernard Morgan. Also maintenance and wildlife planting in Bernard Morgan and insect surveys monthly in both gardens. RSPB Big garden Bird count for the last 5 years in number of City gardens, bulb planting in St Magnus and on the Highwalk last year, nest box survey, volunteer help at Bunhill Big Read.</p> <p>p. 52 Young – don’t forget the Insect Hotel Painting and Drawing Competition sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Gardeners and involving local schools. Also the whip planting 2011.</p> <p>p. 53 Further opportunities – mention possibility of setting up a Nature Club at the Barbican Library?</p> <p>Objective 8: Well Marketed and Promoted City Open Spaces</p> <p>p. 56 Awards – don’t forget the Green Apple award in 2010 for the Insect Hotel competition.</p> <p>p. 57 consideration might be given for setting up an email rather than a mailing list?</p> <p>p. 67 OBJ 6.13 This should be deleted as it was completed in 2010.</p> <p>10. Part 3: Site Specific Action Plans</p> <p>A9 – St Botolph without Bishopsgate</p> <p>This garden has great potential but never has many birds I suggest that one of the target species should be picked and the garden managed accordingly.</p>	<p>Objective 5</p> <p>As above, we need to carefully select locations for this and to trail appropriately. This would be something for the SLINCs.</p> <p>In terms of Finsbury Circus, once Cross Rail works are starting to complete there will be a redesign of this site which will very much involve public consultation and will be an opportunity to put forward these ideas.</p> <p>Objective 7</p> <p>Pg. 52 – this section has been written to include more examples of the great work already done by residents and schools in the City of London Corporation</p> <p>Pg. 53 – although we would welcome the setting up of a nature club serious consideration would need to be given as to where the time and resources come from to do this.</p> <p>Objective 8</p> <p>These have been reviewed</p> <p>10. Part 3</p> <p>A9 – The installation of the bird bath is a good idea but is restricted by budget and other competing demands</p> <p>Leaf blowing – See earlier comment – this would need to be trialled and agreed to by the church it is also a slower process and would need to be resourced and</p>
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	<p>Starlings or sparrows would be good.</p> <p>I agree site action plan actions A9.1.1 to 11 but also include add a bird bath. Ideally fill in the hideous water feature and replace with accessible bird bath. Berry rich like pyrocantha (would also deter rough sleepers). Consider adding bee hive in closed church garden and sowing bed of nectar rich annual and perennials along the north side next to the church.</p> <p>Picky I know but the way St Botolphs is referred to in the text is inconsistent and needs to be checked.</p> <p>p. 72 – no bird bath in St Botolph’s</p> <p>p. 73 Action A9 1.11 leaf blowing alternatives – yes but please do it earlier than 2013/14.</p> <p>A23 St Paul's</p> <p>Again pick a species and target planting and nest boxes accordingly. Sparrow would be a good choice. Put up sparrow specific boxes and aim for year round flowering and nectar production Consider a bee hive. Consider replacing the grass on the sunny south side to the west of the gate with a wildflower meadow Consider replacing grass in other suitable sunny areas with a swath of meadow flowers. Bird bath near the feeders in the sunny SW side.</p> <p>B14: St. Mary Aldermanbury Gardens</p> <p>B14 1.2 agree that a bird bath is essential. Area has surprisingly few birds – blue tit, robin, blackbird and wren have been observed but no sparrows. Feeders are necessary and bird box. Grass is very sterile but site is shady – consider sowing a strip next to the raised area with woodland edge perennials and biennials such as:</p> <p>Alliaria petiolata - Garlic Mustard</p> <p>Allium ursinum - Ramsons</p> <p>Betonica officinalis - Betony</p> <p>Campanula trachelium - Nettle-leaved Bellflower</p> <p>Digitalis purpurea Foxglove</p> <p>Filipendula ulmaria Meadowsweet</p> <p>Galium album - (Galium mollugo) Hedge Bedstraw</p>	<p>time managed.</p> <p>A23 – See earlier comment. We have worked on the habitat improvement as opposed to targeting a specific species. The GLA recommended 30% shrub cover to encourage a variety of garden birds.</p> <p>B14 – This site received a Local Area Agreement Grant to improve the biodiversity, these works were carried out in Spring 2011. When future funding is available we will consider further enhancements.</p>
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	<p>Geum urbanum Wood Avens Prunella vulgaris - Selfheal Silene dioica Red - Campion Silene flos-cuculi - (Lychnis flos-cuculi) Ragged Robin Stachys sylvatica - Hedge Woundwort Teucrium scorodonia - Wood Sage</p> <p>C17: Cleary Garden</p> <p>Select priority species – suggest starling. Plant appropriately – berry bearing shrubs Cotoneaster, Berberis, holly, Pyracantha, hawthorn, blackthorn, dogwood.</p> <p>Installing a bird bath is essential</p> <p>C20 – Finsbury Circus</p> <p>Select species – again sparrow and starling would be appropriate – flocks of starlings have been observed in the garden. A couple of bird baths and more nest boxes and feeders – species specific. Consider sowing strips of meadow annuals and perennials (if the bowling green is to go then there will be more grass area and opportunity to have a wildflower meadow). The annual bedding could be replaced by herbaceous perennial bed (like the St Paul's area but with more flowering plants. Consider installing a bee hive. Pergolas with concealed nest boxes and ivy to provide cover and nectar late in the year and winter berries.</p> <p>C29: Roman Wall / Noble Street</p> <p>The interpretation boards on the walkway above the garden are about the history not really the wildlife – that could be made more specific. Consider putting sparrow and tit boxes on the wall to encourage nesting. Allow ivy to grow over part of the wall – it is currently too exposed.</p> <p>C42/A22: Pepys Garden, Seething Lane and St Olave's, Hart Street</p> <p>Biodiversity features – there are no bird boxes in Seething Lane but there is one in the Byward St pocket park. There are 4 bird feeders in St Olave's.</p> <p>Pepys garden is very run down and needs radical improvement. It is very shady and attempting to grow a lawn there is hopeless as it becomes a disgusting mud bath in the winter. Suggest that it is remodelled with a large 'rockery' area with seating interspersed. No grass but shade loving rockery plants like ferns, Lily of the Valley (Convallaria majalis), Elephant's Ears (Bergenia), Mahonia, Hardy Geraniums (Cranesbill), Snowdrops (Galanthus),</p>	<p>C17 – This site has received a great amount of investment and has already been completely replanted. Further enhancements will be considered when gapping up takes place in the future.</p> <p>C20 Due to the Cross Rail activity our works at Finsbury Circus are restricted. Once there works are being completed there will be a design board set up to look at the whole garden, this will be opened up to public consultation, until then there is little in ways of enhancement for this site.</p> <p>C29 This is restricted by budget commitments and other competing priorities at this stage.</p> <p>C42 / A22 Seething Lane – there is a large development due to take place imminently which will impact this garden. As part of these works there will be \$106 monies available to look at the entire gardens and to make improvements, biodiversity will be a key consideration as part of these works. St Olaves – There is \$106 for this garden and are working with the church to improve biodiversity in this garden These will also be considered as part of the BAP review.</p>
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	<p>Alchemilla mollis (Lady's mantle), Rose Of Sharon (Hypericum calycinum), Red Stonecrop (Sedum spurium).</p> <p>B9: St. Dunstan in the East</p> <p>Bird boxes – only 2</p> <p>Site Action Plan – include bird feeders. Consider more nest boxes targeted at different species – sparrows? Starlings?</p> <p>C34: Postman's Park</p> <p>Pick the target species. Lack of nectar rich plants – consider replacing annual bedding on large circular bed with herbaceous perennials. Beds under the large plane trees are very bare – consider a rockery type structure to give a more interesting planting are with habitat for invertebrates – and plant with shade loving planting and ground cover.</p> <p>Biodiversity features – there is no bird bath except the ornamental pond which is not accessible to many species of birds.</p> <p>C44: West Smithfield Rotunda Garden</p> <p>Biodiversity features – there is no bird bath</p> <p>Installing feeders would improve bird count. Consider sowing a swathe of wildflower meadow round the edge of the grass and substituting annual bedding with more herbaceous perennials.</p> <p>11.Typos and picky comments on text</p> <p>The whole document needs to be carefully proof read for typos and consistent style. Here are some things I have picked up</p> <p>p.11 Sustainable City Gardens</p> <p>You should also mention:</p> <p>Insect survey, bird counts, the bee hive, nest box survey, separate collection of recyclable litter, log piles.</p> <p>P.12 typo Annual bird monitoring by local residents to coincide with the Big Garden Bird watch ran by the RSPB.</p> <p>p.12 Well marketed and promoted City Open Spaces</p> <p>typo in Producing Free promotional leaflets and maps</p> <p>You should also add - Insect hotel competition involving City businesses and City workers in conjunction with British land and the Insect Hotel Painting and</p>	<p>C34 – See earlier comments about target species. Some of the bedding planting is a traditional feature of a Victorian garden like postman's park and we need to balance this still along with biodiversity. There has been gapping up done on this site but fails to establish. Because of the shade and dryer soil it is harder to establish plants in the beds under the Plane trees. Ponds are of great benefits to birds, there is also a small bird located near to the insect hotel.</p> <p>C44 – Bedding has been reduced but will still be a feature of this garden. The shrub beds were replanted as part of the play builder's project and have added much benefit to biodiversity in this garden.</p> <p>11. the typos and text have been reviewed and corrected where appropriate</p>
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	<p>Drawing competition sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Gardeners and participation by local primary schools.</p> <p>P. 24 Para 3 – include City Resident and What's New in City Gardens as publications.</p> <p>p. 28 St Botolph Churchyard: Available for public use providing 1 tennis/netball court, (Barbican resident only) multi-use area with lining for netball and tennis court, plus a cricket net; Delete text in red.</p> <p>p. 29 typo Thomas Moore s/b More</p> <p>p. 29 Play Provision - what about Tower Hill and Portsoken St and St Peter's Walk?</p> <p>p. 40 List of chemicals should include the cleaner for bird boxes.</p> <p>p. 43 There is inconsistency in how St Dunstan's (St Dunstan) St Dunstan's-in-the-east etc. is written in the text</p> <p>p. 59 typo Para 2 (to ensure that the City Gardens Section can report on Central Government's single data list 160).</p> <p>A9 1.1 Improve habitat condition: Install additional log piles/dead wood at the rear of perimeter</p> <p>typo planting boarder following improvement works to provide habitats for insects</p> <p>p. 98 C20 1.1 typo Include West Smithfield in City Gardens Wildlife Walks leaflet s/b Finsbury Circus</p>	
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