



City Gardens Management Plan 2011-2016

Final Draft



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Foreword - Alderman Robert Hall, Chairman of Open Spaces, City Gardens
and West Ham Park Committee

To be agreed with the Chairman

Part 1: Introduction to the City Gardens

Part 1: Introduction

The City of London provides local government and policing services for the financial and commercial heart of Britain, the 'Square Mile'. It combines its ancient traditions and ceremonial functions with the role of a modern and efficient local authority, looking after the needs of its residents, businesses and over 320,000 people who come to work in the 'Square Mile' every day. Among local authorities the City of London is unique; not only is it the oldest in the country but it operates on a non-party political basis through its Lord Mayor, Aldermen and members of the Court of Common Council. The City provides businesses and residents with local government services, including planning, housing, education, social services, environmental health and waste management and maintains many of the Open Spaces in the City, including several former churchyards.

The City of London is home to around 200 areas of planting and green space that provides the City's community with much-needed oases of calm in this densely developed heart of London. This maze-like array of secret gardens, churchyards, plazas and highway plantings in turn supports over 2,600 trees and an annual influx of over 200,000 bedding plants. They are an integral part of the area's unique history: from the tiniest leafy churchyard to the City's largest open space, all have a tale to tell.

In order to set out the vision, objectives and priorities for the management of the City's Open Spaces, a Management Plan has been prepared by the City Gardens team.

What is an Open Space Management Plan?

A Management Plan for a public Open Space is a published written document, prepared by the managers of that open space, outlining their aims and objectives in relation to the Open Space.

Its purpose is to balance the priorities, policies and pressures that apply to a particular space and to establish a time scale for putting the objectives into practice. The production of such a document allows the contribution that a site makes to the local community to be measurable and progress against key objectives monitored.

Why have an Open Space Management Plan?

The main reasons to have a Management Plan are to ensure continuity of approach in the City's Open Spaces through:

- Documenting a site's history
- Assessing priorities and challenges for the future
- Encouraging community involvement, interest and support
- To adapt to the challenges of climate change and the need to reduce carbon emissions
- Ensuring objectives of management and maintenance are documented
- Demonstrating what visitors can expect in terms of service standards
- Promoting and marketing the attributes of the Open Space sites
- Monitoring and assessing changes that occur at the site

The aim of the City Gardens Management Plan is to clearly set out in one accessible and easy to read document how the gardens, churchyards and open spaces in the 'Square Mile' are managed, and the projects that are proposed for the next five years.

The Value of Open Space

The benefits of providing good quality parks and open spaces are widely recognised. The Urban Green Spaces Task Force report 'Green Spaces, Better Places' (2002) identifies the following benefits that open spaces deliver:

- Urban Renaissance – good quality parks contribute to regeneration and create a sense of place, which is vital to community spirit and to attract visitors;
- Health and Well-being – green spaces can play a role in promoting healthy lifestyles and preventing illness;
- Social Inclusion, community development – green spaces give people the chance to participate in design, management and care of local spaces, fostering local pride. They are places to socialise, and because access is free, provide an affordable alternative to other leisure activities;
- Education and Lifelong Learning – green spaces provide an outdoor classroom for schools, and provide work experience and learning opportunities in environmental management;
- Environment and Ecology – green spaces help counter pollution, provide wildlife corridors, serve as 'lungs' for towns and cities, absorb noise, and provide sustainable urban drainage solutions;
- Heritage & Culture – green spaces are part of the heritage and culture of local communities. They provide venues for local festivals and civic celebrations.

Description of the City's Green Spaces

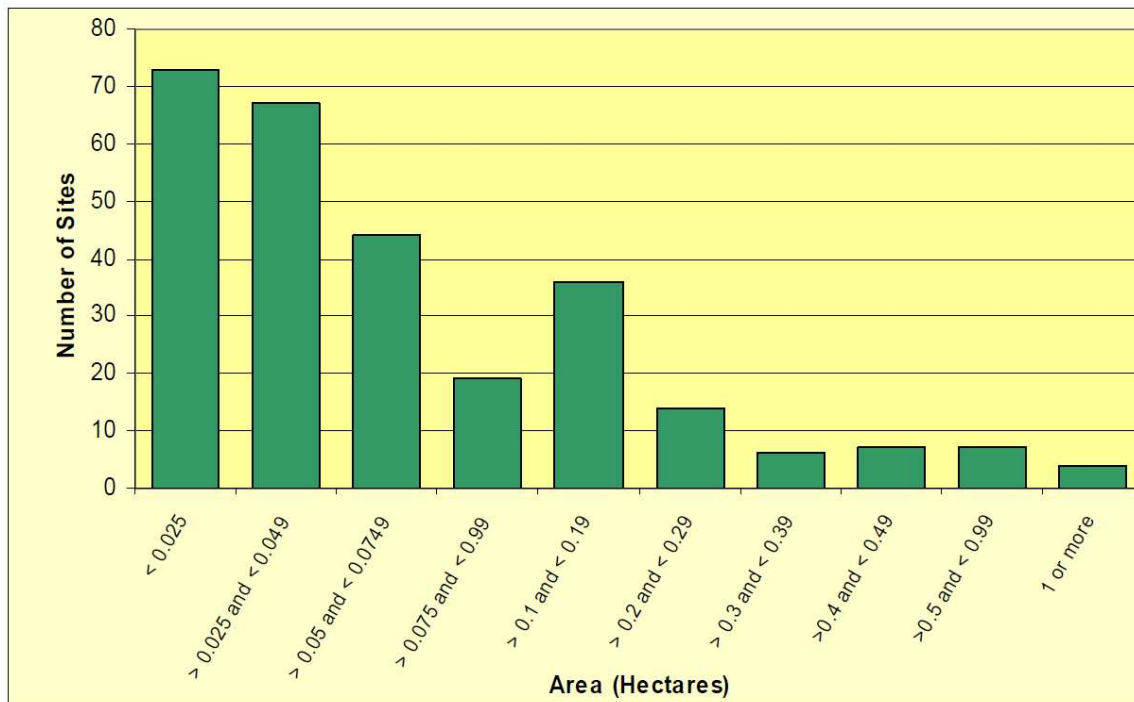
One of the key characteristics of the City of London include its unique historical landscape and the presence of high quality open spaces, in an otherwise heavily urbanised place. Many of these open spaces still have remnants and features of great historical interest and offer great amenity value, with the gardens and cultivated areas of the 'Square Mile' having long been a part of the City's past and character. Many Livery Companies still have gardens, some of which date from the medieval period.

The current level and quality of open space in the City of London needs to be considered in context. The numerous gardens, churchyards and areas of highway planting within the 'Square Mile' are often smaller than 0.2 hectare, but are intensively used. For example, Finsbury Circus Garden (approximately 0.51 hectares) received over 2 million visitors in 2008 and St. Dunstan's in the East (0.11 hectares) received a total of over 108,000 visitors in 2010. The number of open spaces within the Square Mile has increased significantly over the last 70 years. In 1927, there were just three surviving public open spaces, each of which had passed into the City Corporation's care some years before, plus a number of churchyards and disused burial grounds. Today, there are more than 150 open spaces in the City, not counting private gardens.

The City Corporation's Planning and Transportation department undertook an audit of Open Spaces in 2007 which comprised of a comprehensive survey of all open spaces in the City. This work was conducted as part of a national requirement, Planning Policy Guidance Note 17: Planning for Open Space, Sports and Recreation (PPG17) and used the typologies as set out in '*Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG17*'.

In 2007 there were approximately 32.18 hectares (321,800 square metres) of open space within the City. Half (50%) of these sites are less than 0.049 hectares in size, 35% are in the range 0.05 to 0.2 hectares, and 15% greater than 0.2 hectares in size, as shown in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1: Number of Open Spaces in the City of London analysed by size (City of London Open Spaces Audit 2007).

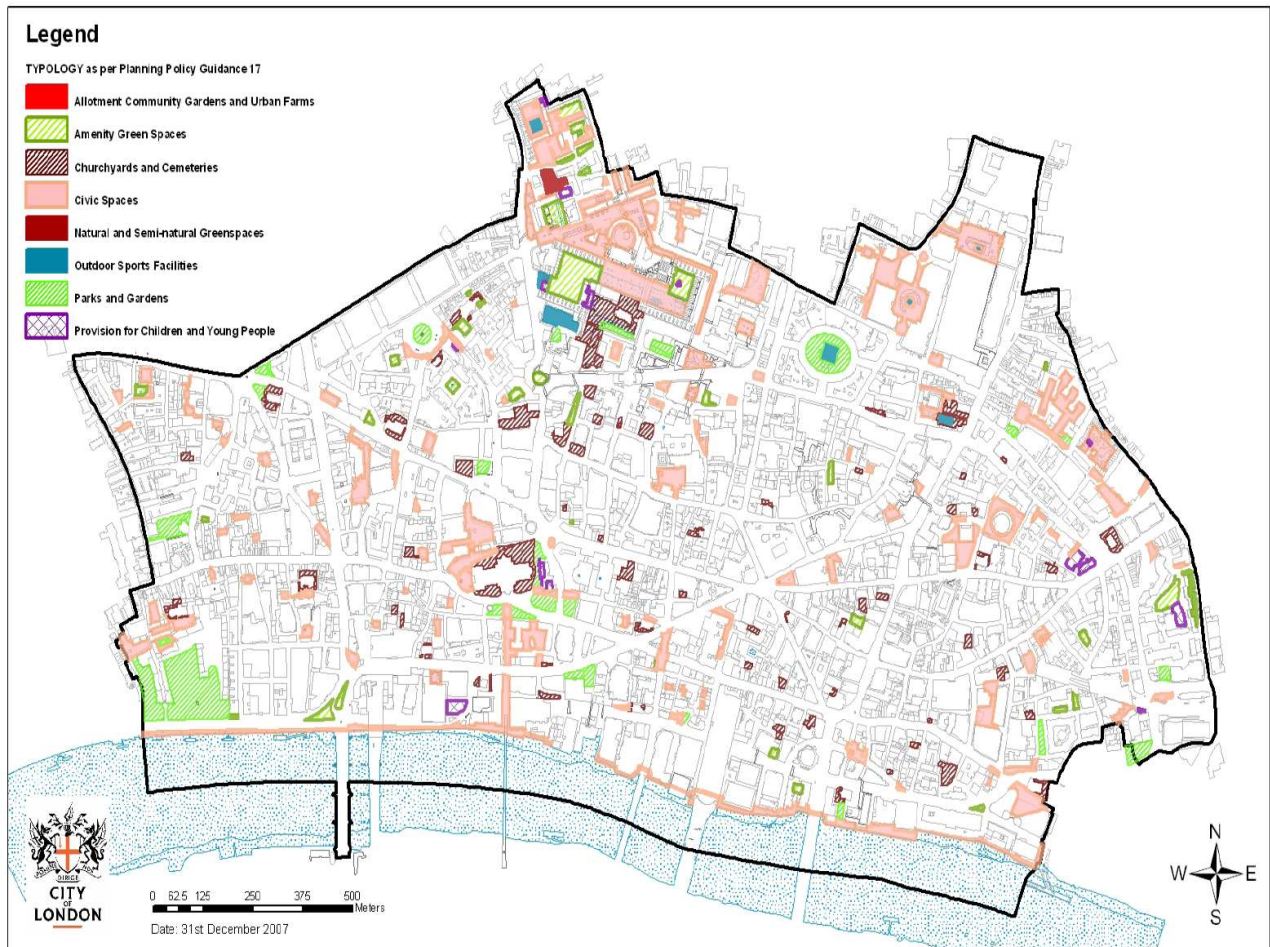


The size band distribution reflects the densely built-up nature of the City. Whilst 15% of the sites were greater than 0.2 hectares this contributes to 60% of the open spaces area in the City of London. There are four sites within the City that are greater than 1 hectare; these include the Middle Temple Gardens, the Riverside Walk, the Lakeside Terrace at the Barbican (this includes the adjacent lake however), and the Barbican walkway system (which was treated as a single open space); these contribute 6.14 hectares (61,400 square metres) of open space.

Figure 2 illustrates the spatial distribution of open spaces by typology. There is a dense distribution of open spaces surrounding the residential districts of Temple, Mansell Street, Middlesex Street, Golden Lane and the Barbican (see Housing info, City of London Corporation, 2007). Other areas of dense distribution include St. Paul's and the linear open spaces framework along the River Thames Embankment.

The main area where there is a spatial deficiency in open space is within the central and southern business area of the City, around the Bank of England and Cannon Street Station.

Figure 2: Distribution of Open Spaces by Typology (City of London Open Spaces Audit 2007)



Population Characteristics of the City of London

The characteristics of the City mean that it has a large influx of over 370,000 workers, students and visitors during the week (City of London Open Space Strategy, 2008) and a relatively small resident population of 9,000 (Office of National Statistics, 2008). This is an unusual situation which presents a number of unique challenges to assessing need and strategy development.

In summary, this figure comprises approximately:

- 342,000 workers (92%);
- 16,000 students (4.4%);
- 10,000 visitors (3%); and
- 2,400 day time residents (0.6%).

During the working week, workers, students, visitors and residents compete for access to, and use of, open space and sports and recreation facilities. Competition is at its peak at lunchtimes and after work during the summer months.

What do our users think?

The characteristics of the City mean that it has a very large influx of workers and students during the working week (Monday to Friday), with visitors also coming into the area throughout the week, and a relatively small resident population.

To capture the views of this diverse population, the City of London participates in the 'Million Voices' campaign which aims to capture public satisfaction towards the country's parks and open spaces through an online survey, Green STAT.

In addition to the on-going satisfaction survey, resident consultation events are also held twice a year at the City of London's Guildhall. These events which are open to all residents and provide an opportunity for them to ask questions to key officers from the City about any issues, concerns or ideas they may have about services they receive. A member of the City Gardens Management Team attends to ensure that any queries relating to the gardens and open spaces in the City are answered.

Leaflets and comments cards are also made available at all the City's main open space sites which provide good user feedback, which can be incorporated into making improvements.

At the end of 2008 all households in the City of London received a copy of the 'Place Survey' asking for residents views on living in the City. Parks and Open Spaces services received one of the lowest levels of satisfaction, with only 59% of respondents rating the service provided positively. Feedback from residents revealed that one of the reasons for low satisfaction was the lack of access to public gardens for residents at weekends, particularly those gardens close to where residents lived. Although the closures at weekends were something that had happened historically in the City, the City Gardens Team was able to rectify this with the opening of both Finsbury Circus and Portsoken Street garden at weekends from 2009 onwards.

Another issue that was consistently raised was the lack of play facilities available for children in the City. In order to address this, the City applied for funding from Play England's 'Play builder' project to build two new playgrounds at Tower Hill Garden and Portsoken Street Garden. The funding was granted and these projects were successfully implemented in spring 2010. Funding for a third 'Play builder' project was also applied for and has now been completed at West Smithfield Rotunda Garden as of spring 2011.

Following on from the 2008 'Place Survey', a face to face survey targeting a representative sample of over 1000 members of the City's core community, including residents, workers and visitors, was carried out in August and September of 2009. The survey showed 86.1% of respondents used open spaces in the City, the popularity of the open spaces was reflected in the high frequency of visits. Virtually half of open space users visit the gardens on a weekly basis. This not only illustrates that the open spaces are attracting visitors, but that we are successful in retaining these visitors. 99.5% of respondents were satisfied with the standard of maintenance within the City Gardens and 97% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "I always feel safe in the parks and gardens in the City". This has increased since the 2004 survey when 85% of respondents said that they felt safe.

The results of these surveys provide a useful indication of the satisfaction levels with the services currently provided by the City Gardens, and feed in to the development of policies and future management plans for different areas and open spaces in the City as well as individual open spaces.

Our Vision for the City Gardens

Our overall aim is to provide high quality urban green space, which reflects and benefits the local community it serves. Our vision is:

“The creation of a network of high quality and inspiring open spaces which help ensure an attractive, healthy, sustainable and socially cohesive place for all the City’s communities and visitors.”

To achieve this vision, we recognise the importance of working towards an agreed national standard for good practice in the management of parks and green spaces. We have carefully considered the **Green Flag Award** recommendations for a successful park, and have adapted these to form our eight key service objectives:

- 1. *Well Managed Spaces***
- 2. *A Welcoming City***
- 3. *Healthy, Safe and Secure Environment***
- 4. *Well Maintained and Clean City Gardens***
- 5. *Sustainable City Gardens***
- 6. *Spaces that Address Conservation and Heritage***
- 7. *A City where Community Involvement is Encouraged***
- 8. *Well Marketed and Promoted City Open Spaces***

Through working to these objectives, we aim to not only achieve Green Flag status for a number of our eligible City Gardens and churchyards, but also to uphold these service objectives in all of our City spaces and to maintain this high standard for the life of this Management Plan.

What does this Management Plan contain?

This management plan is divided in to three parts.

- The first details how the City will deliver the eight key service objectives mentioned above.
- The second half of this plan provides an introduction into the different categories of Open Space that are owned or maintained by the City Gardens Section and lists the similarities that exists within them and effect their management. Following on from this is the Management Plan objectives for the City Gardens.
- Part three contains site specific action plans for those sites which are designated as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC’s) and those sites being proposed for SINC designation. This section contains further information regarding the unique attributes of these sites that have resulted in their designation, along with specific action plans describing ways in which these will be positively managed to improve and enhance their condition.

For sites that do not have SINC status but share similar features, the management action plans have been combined in part two to reduce the overall size of this document.

In setting these action plans, we strive to be as realistic as possible, working within the constraints of available financial and staff resources, and have also given careful consideration to the improvements recommended by our visitors through recent consultation.

Looking Back: What has been achieved over the past 3 years?

The past three years have been a time of great change, challenge and achievement at City Gardens, the main focus of which has been bringing the grounds maintenance team in-house in 2008 after thirteen years of external contractual arrangements.

These changes have allowed us to take a fresh look at the way in which the City Gardens are managed and consider our strengths, as well as areas for development. A number of new projects have been completed, both 'front of house' and 'behind the scenes', which until recently has not been widely communicated to visitors.

Looking back over the past three years, our key achievements grouped by the eight service objectives include:

Well Managed City Gardens

- Introducing annual performance and development reviews for all staff.
- Developing a long term training policy and plan for all staff.
- Introducing monthly team meetings for all staff.
- Reviewing and updating all staff job descriptions, contracts, rotas, and working/opening hours.
- Development of a Conservation Management Plan and achievement of Green Flag Status and a Green Heritage Award at Bunhill Fields Burial Ground.
- Annual entry into the London in Bloom Competition where the City Gardens have been awarded the 'London in Bloom Champion of Champions' award in 2010 and a Gold in the Borough Category in 2008 and 2009. The City Gardens also won the Sustainable Landscaping Award and a Gold Award in the Town Category of Britain in Bloom in 2010.
- Annual entry into the London Garden Society awards where individual City Gardens have received Gold, Silver and Bronze awards.

A Welcoming City

- Commissioning a disability access audit, producing an action plan and implementing key recommendations where possible.
- Improving the signs and notice boards in several City Gardens to ensure sites are informative and welcoming.
- Lockable cabinets have been erected in 10 gardens to display up to date information and newsletters. These are located at West Smithfield Rotunda, Portsoken Street Garden, Bunhill Fields Burial Ground, Postman's Park, St.

Mary Aldermanbury, St. Dunstan's in the East, Finsbury Circus, Cleary Garden, Fann Street Wildlife Garden and St Botolph Bishopsgate.

- Production of an introduction to the City Gardens leaflet, a City Walks leaflet, a City Wildlife Walks leaflet and a Bunhill Fields leaflet.

Healthy, Safe and Secure Environment

- Delivering 113.5 days of staff learning and development, including personal safety, leadership development, customer care and health & safety training across the City Gardens section in 2010.
- Undertaking a risk assessment and review of work activity within the City Gardens.
- Carrying out a detailed health and safety audit of the City Gardens work processes.
- Supplying each member of staff with new uniform, personal protective equipment and a set of professional hand tools.
- Production of a 'City Gardens Working Safely Manual'.

Well Maintained and Clean City Gardens

- Introducing a grounds maintenance management system to schedule and record all maintenance tasks.
- Introducing an annual audit and inventory check of all equipment and tools.

Sustainable City Gardens

- Selecting peat free plants for the City.
- Including nectar rich and biodiversity enhancing herbaceous material in new planting schemes.
- Installing bird, bat and insect nesting boxes along with bird feeders and log piles to Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINC).
- Completion of the planter replacement scheme project.
- Introduction of insect hotels to 5 gardens as part of 'Beyond the Hive' design competition.
- Installation of a bee hive at Bunhill Fields.
- The completion of various wildlife surveys including: insect survey, bird counts as part of the RSPB big garden bird watch and a survey of the uptake of nest boxes across the City Gardens.
- The introduction of separating the recyclable litter from general waste from the City Gardens was achieved.

Open Spaces that Address Conservation and Heritage

- Removal of invasive weed species from the Historic City Walls.
- Mulching a third of the City's shrub bed and hedge bases annually to suppress weeds and retain soil moisture.

- Creating and enhancing habitats to encourage species variation.
- Introducing scheduled annual inspections of all trees by an arboricultural consultant.
- Production of a Tree Strategy.

A City Where Community Involvement is Encouraged

- Improving links and relationships with local schools and community groups through talks and events.
- Annual reading event held at Bunhill Fields in partnership with the City of London Library to coincide with the National Summer Reading Challenge.
- Bulb planting and species monitoring by the Lord Mayors Scout Group amongst other volunteers at various City Gardens throughout each year.
- Annual bird monitoring by local residents as part of the RSPB's Big Garden Bird Watch.

Well Marketed and Promoted City Open Spaces

- Producing free promotional leaflets and maps.
- Introducing a 'What's New' newsletter for City Gardens.
- Contributing to the Open Spaces Department annual report.
- Regularly updated City Gardens Website detailing news and activities.
- Organisation of historical and horticultural walks in partnership with the City Guides at Bunhill Fields and around various other City Gardens throughout the summer months for visitors, residents and workers.
- Delivering the 'Beyond the Hive' insect hotel design competition in partnership with British Land, involving City Businesses and City Workers; and delivering the Insect Hotel Painting and Drawing competition sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Gardeners and participation by local primary schools.

Objective 1: Well Managed Spaces - Policy Context

The City Gardens are part of the 10,500 acres of open space provided by the City in and around London as part of its commitment to sustaining a world class City.

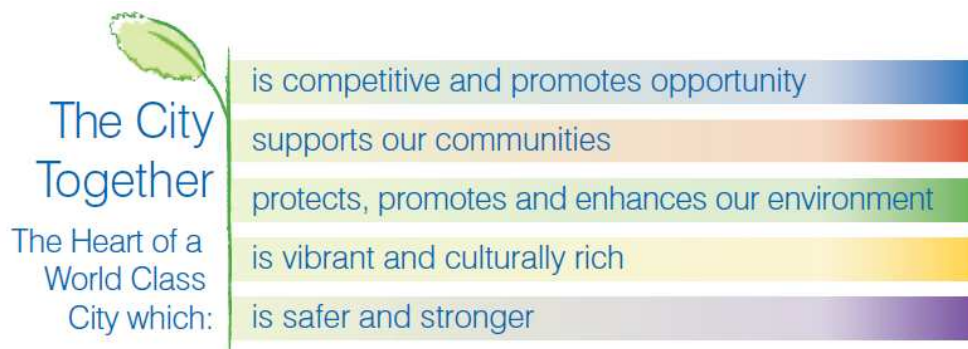
1.1 The City of London Corporation: Working for a World Class City

The City of London Corporation is responsible for the financial and commercial heart of Britain – the City of London. The policies it pursues and the high standard of service it provides are dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the City of London's status as the world's leading international financial and business centre. The City's responsibilities include the full range of services usually provided by a local authority, such as planning, housing, education, social services, environmental health and waste management – all geared to meeting the needs of the City's residents, businesses, workers and visitors.

However, the City also provides a range of additional services for the benefit of the City, London and the nation as a whole. This includes being the Police authority for the City of London, the port health authority for the River Thames, as well as ownership and management of the world renowned Barbican Centre.

The City has recently produced a Community Strategy that sets out the vision for the City of London and aims to ensure that all services offered reflect the needs and aspirations of the City's communities – namely businesses, residents, workers and visitors. The City Together Strategy concentrates on the activities within the Square Mile and incorporates the Local Area Agreement, while the Corporate Plan covers all the City's activities, including the Open Spaces, outside London.

The City Together Strategy 2008-2014 has been prepared by the City Together, the Local Strategic Partnership for the City of London, on behalf of everyone who works in, lives in or visits the City. The City Together brings the key public, private and voluntary sector providers in the City together with representatives from the City's resident, business, worker and faith communities.



The vision of this sustainable Strategy is underpinned by a series of objectives which have been organised into five themes which will enable greater cross working by partners across the range of issues faced by the City's diverse communities (shown above).

The City's Corporate Plan represents the long term ambitions which contribute towards achieving the vision for the City as set out in the City Together Strategy, and the objectives of those services operating outside of the Square Mile. In order to demonstrate how the Open Spaces Department's strategic aims and objectives are linked to the themes in the City Together Strategy, they have been developed in line with the main priorities for the Department.

1.2 Open Space Management

The City of London's commitment to open space management dates back to the 1870s when, in response to the rapid disappearance of many public open areas to make way for the building of new suburban homes and city offices, it embarked on an ambitious project to safeguard some of what remained.

1.3 The Open Spaces Department

The management of all City owned parks and open spaces is carried out by the Open Spaces Department, which is divided into five Divisions:

- 1 Parks & Gardens (City Gardens and West Ham Park)
- 2 Epping Forest
- 3 North London Open Spaces (Hampstead Heath, Queens Park, Highgate Wood)
- 4 Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common
- 5 City Commons (Ashted, West Wickham and Coulsdon Commons)

All of the sites managed by the Department are legally protected as permanent open spaces, which prevent them ever being developed. With the exception of the City Gardens, all are funded from the City's own resources at no cost to the public.

The Director of Open Spaces is responsible for overseeing the overall management of the Department and agreeing objectives for each site with the individual Divisional Superintendents. Over the past few years, the Director has been instrumental in forming twelve cross-departmental working groups in order to share best practice, agree policies and formulate a consistent approach for specific areas of work. Each working group is chaired by a member of the departmental management team and is attended by at least one representative from each open space site.

The Director's team also produce a Business Plan, which defines the overall objectives for the Department and its mission statement, which is:

'A world class city needs a world class environment'

The aims and objectives for the Department until 2012 across all areas are outlined in the departmental Business Plan, which also shows the practical steps the Department is taking to contribute to the City Corporation's overall priorities.

The revised Open Spaces Business Plan for 2009-2012 was produced in March 2009 and reflects all aspects of work in the Department and the key priorities and challenges that lie ahead. Each year all staff are provided with a summary, so that they are aware of the main objectives in the Business Plan.

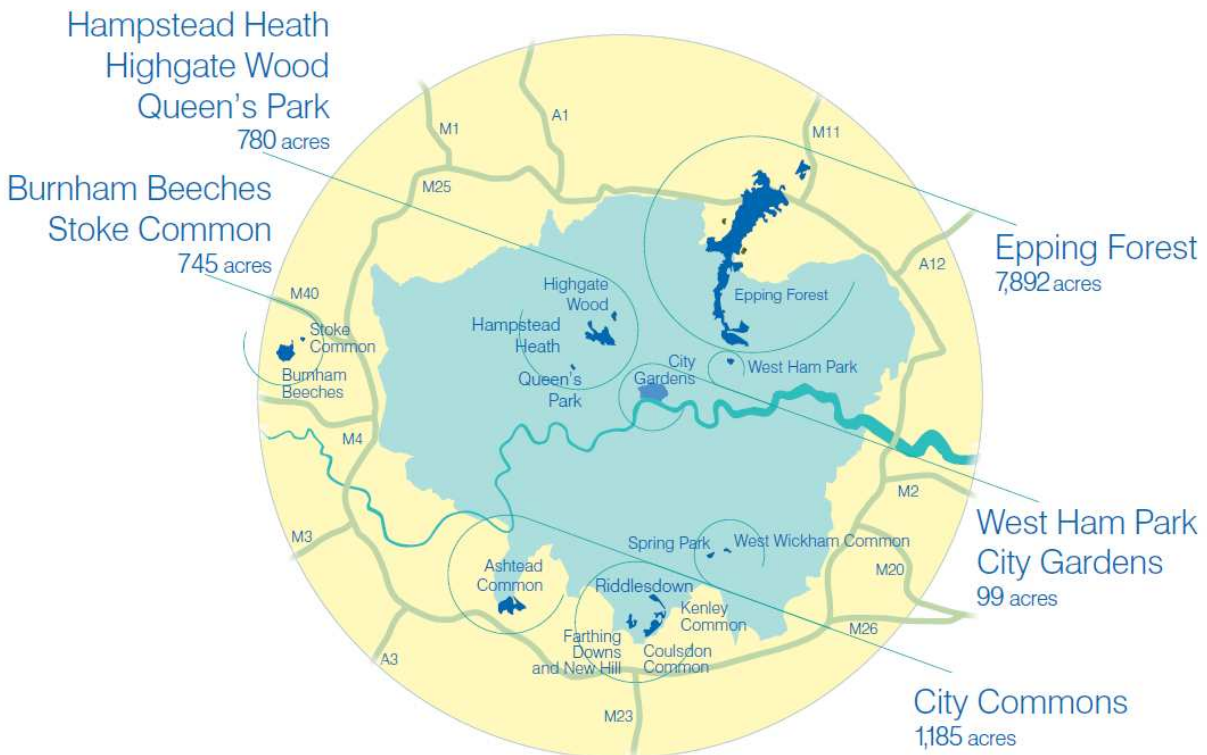
The relationship between the City's Community Strategy, Open Spaces Business Plan and local site Management Plans is illustrated below:



The importance of the City's open spaces is widely recognised nationally. Burnham Beeches and Ashted Common are classified as National Nature Reserves, Epping Forest and Burnham Beeches are both Special Areas of Conservation and many of the other areas contain Sites of Special Scientific Interest. In total, it is estimated that over 30 million visits are made to the City's open spaces each year.

As a major provider of open space in and around London, the City has also been a founder partner in a number of London wide initiatives to promote and protect green space, including the London Parks and Green Space Forum.

A map indicating the location of all the sites managed by the Open Spaces Department is shown below. Further information on each site can be found at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/openspaces



1.4 Open Spaces Strategy

The City of London Open Space Strategy was produced in 2008/9 in order to ensure that the City's gardens are attractive, healthy and sustainable spaces for the City's community.

The Strategy identified 10 Strategic Objectives which are key in achieving the vision of open space in the City, these are:

1. To maintain and increase public access to existing open spaces and enhance the quality of these spaces, in terms of both design and management.
2. Increase the amount of high quality publicly accessible open space in order to maintain the existing City-wide ratio of 0.062ha per 1000 week day day-time population and focus efforts on creating additional publicly accessible open space in the Eastern Area of the City.
3. Ensure that all open spaces are designed and managed to be safe and accessible to all and, where appropriate, provide opportunities for different activities at different times of the day and year.
4. Provide additional play facilities (including equipped play areas) in existing and new spaces in accordance with the City Corporation's Play Strategy (2007-2010).
5. Maximise the provision of additional open spaces and trees to ensure that existing and new spaces make a positive contribution to the biodiversity value of the City.
6. Ensure that enhanced and additional open spaces accord with high standards of sustainable design, construction and management and take account of the potential changes to the City climate.
7. Maximise the provision of private and communal residential amenity space (balconies and roof terraces) and communal amenity space for office workers (including gardens and 'sky gardens') in appropriate locations.
8. Effectively manage the temporary loss of any open space during construction projects and ensure that high quality open space of equivalent or greater size is established as soon as possible following the necessary works.
9. Improve physical access to and use of open spaces in neighbouring Boroughs.
10. Increase public awareness and understanding of the different types of open space in and around the City and encourage the City's communities to make the most of open spaces and to help improve them.

Delivery mechanisms have been identified in order to implement the Strategy and a five year Delivery Plan is in place to guide delivery over the short and medium terms.

1.5 Designations, Restrictions and Covenants

There are a number of designations, restrictions and covenants that affect the management of the gardens, churchyards and Open Spaces within the 'Square Mile'. The main ones are listed and briefly described below (full details of designations that affect the way that sites are managed can be found in Objective 6: Conservation and Heritage).

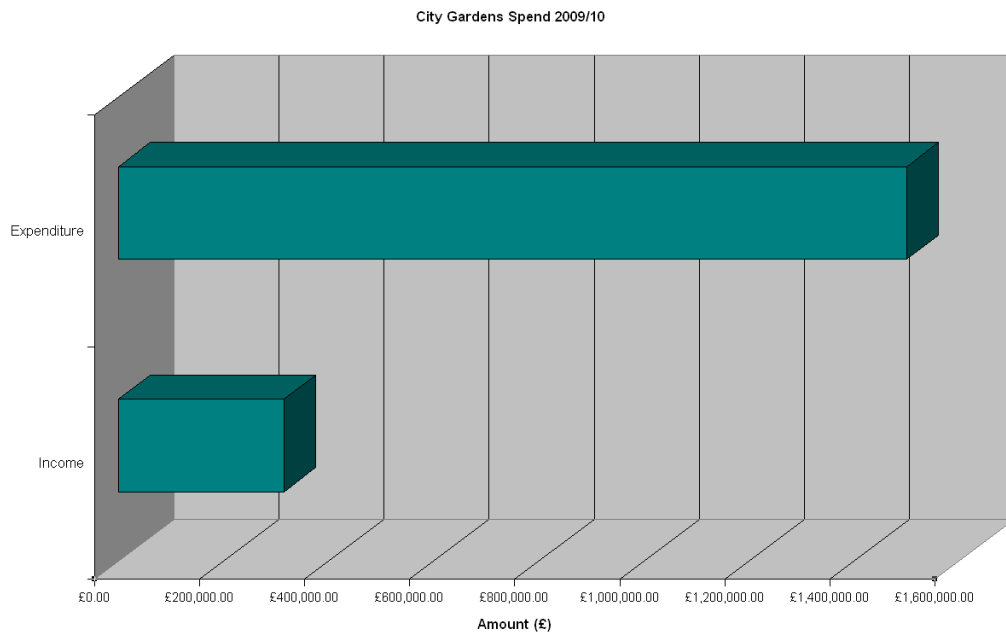
- **Disused Burial Act 1854** – closed churchyards in the City. These spaces are still owned by the church but many were landscaped and opened for the public to use e.g. Postman's Park
- **Disused Burial Act 1884**, enacted that there was to be no development on these lands.
- **Open Spaces Act 1906** – section 9 granted local authorities the power to maintain any Open Space or Burial Ground at their own cost.
- **City of London (Various Powers) Act 1952** – permits the City Corporation to maintain, by Agreement, unenclosed land and some disused Burial Grounds and Churchyards.
- **Conservation Areas:** These are designated by the City of London to safeguard areas of special architectural and historic interest. There are 26 in the City. If a tree is located in a conservation area, consent must be given before any pruning work etc. is carried out to it, by the City's Planning Department.
- **Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC);** the city has several gardens which meet the criteria and are classified as SINCs. The habitats within these sites are managed for the benefit for wildlife.
- **Listed Buildings, monuments** etc. (English Heritage) there are monuments and section of the Roman wall in the City that are listed on English Heritage's "Heritage at Risk Register" and monuments that have been scheduled due to their archaeological importance. These listings affect their maintenance which is managed by the City's Surveyors Department.
- **The Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest** (English Heritage) Parks and gardens that due to their age, layout and features along with the quality of the landscaping have been assessed and recognised by English Heritage as Important and therefore appear on the register e.g. Finsbury Circus.

The City Gardens Critical Audit (2007) lists all sites that fall under the maintenance of the City Gardens Section and details the specific designations, restrictions and covenants that effect each individual site and the items within it, which we are responsible for maintaining.

1.6 Operating Budget

The typical annual expenditure budget for all of the City Gardens (not including Bunhill Fields Burial Ground) under the control of the Open Spaces Department is c.£1,500,000. The City Gardens Section also generates income through garden maintenance and project work that is carried out on behalf of other landowners and businesses, e.g. Barbican Estate, and money generated through charging third parties for access to public Open Spaces, e.g. to private filming companies for use of gardens for filming. Figure 3 shows the amount of income generated by City Gardens in comparison to expenditure.

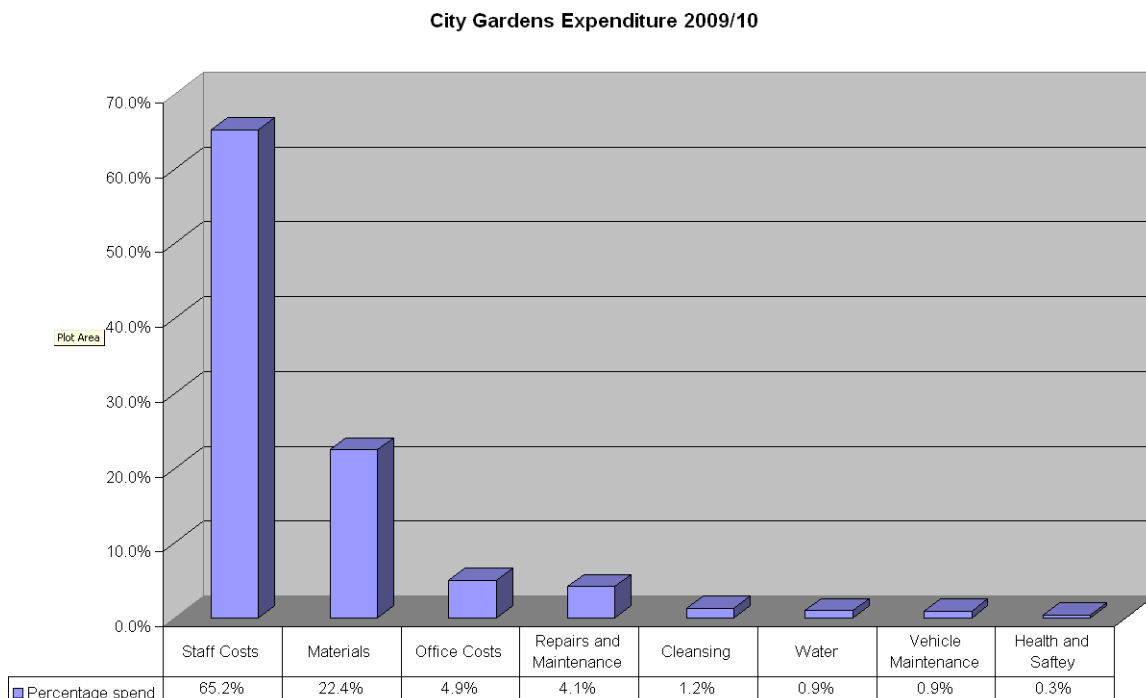
Figure 3: City Gardens Annual Expenditure and Income for 2009/10



What is our budget used for?

A large proportion of our total annual budget in each area is committed to fixed costs (such as salaries and utilities) and essential service provision, leaving only a small percentage for discretionary spend on repairs, maintenance and improvement projects. A typical breakdown of annual expenditure is indicated in Figure 4 below.

Figure 4: City Gardens Annual Expenditure 2009/10



Budget Constraints

In common with all areas of the City of London, we have been required to operate on a 'nil budget growth' basis for a number of years. Although general inflation has been added to the budgets each year, this has not met the cost of successive annual pay awards and rises in utility costs, and as such, it is becoming increasingly difficult to meet the cost of all the services we provide.

As it is unlikely that additional resources will be made available from the City for some time, the projects listed in this plan have been produced on that basis. However, should the City Gardens be subject to further budget cuts over the next five years, the list of proposed projects will have to be reviewed accordingly.

Staff Structure

The City Gardens section is overseen by the Superintendent, with the City Gardens Manager having responsibility for the overall management of the City Gardens and Bunhill Fields.

The City Gardens Manager and support team are all based at the Open Spaces office in central London. In addition, the garden team are based at several sites around the City, the main depot being at Blackfriars. City Gardens currently employs a total full time equivalent of 32 posts. The Manager is supported by a Supervisor and four Team Leaders - each managing a team of Gardeners – plus four support staff. Following the bringing in-house of the grounds maintenance contract, we have been fortunate in retaining a long serving team. The current staff organisation chart is shown in Figure 5 on the next page.

1.7 Investment in People

The City Gardens team were first successful in gaining accreditation in 'Investors in People' in 2005 and in 2008 following a corporate wide re-assessment. 'Investors in People' (IiP), is the national standard for good practice in the learning and development of people in organisations, as part of this, IiP UK require that a review must be conducted every 3 years. In 2011 we underwent the IiP reaccreditation assessment and were successful, a great achievement for the organisation and it's staff demonstrating the high standard and quality of staff development. The twelve principles of IiP will continue to guide our work on staff management throughout the life of this Plan.

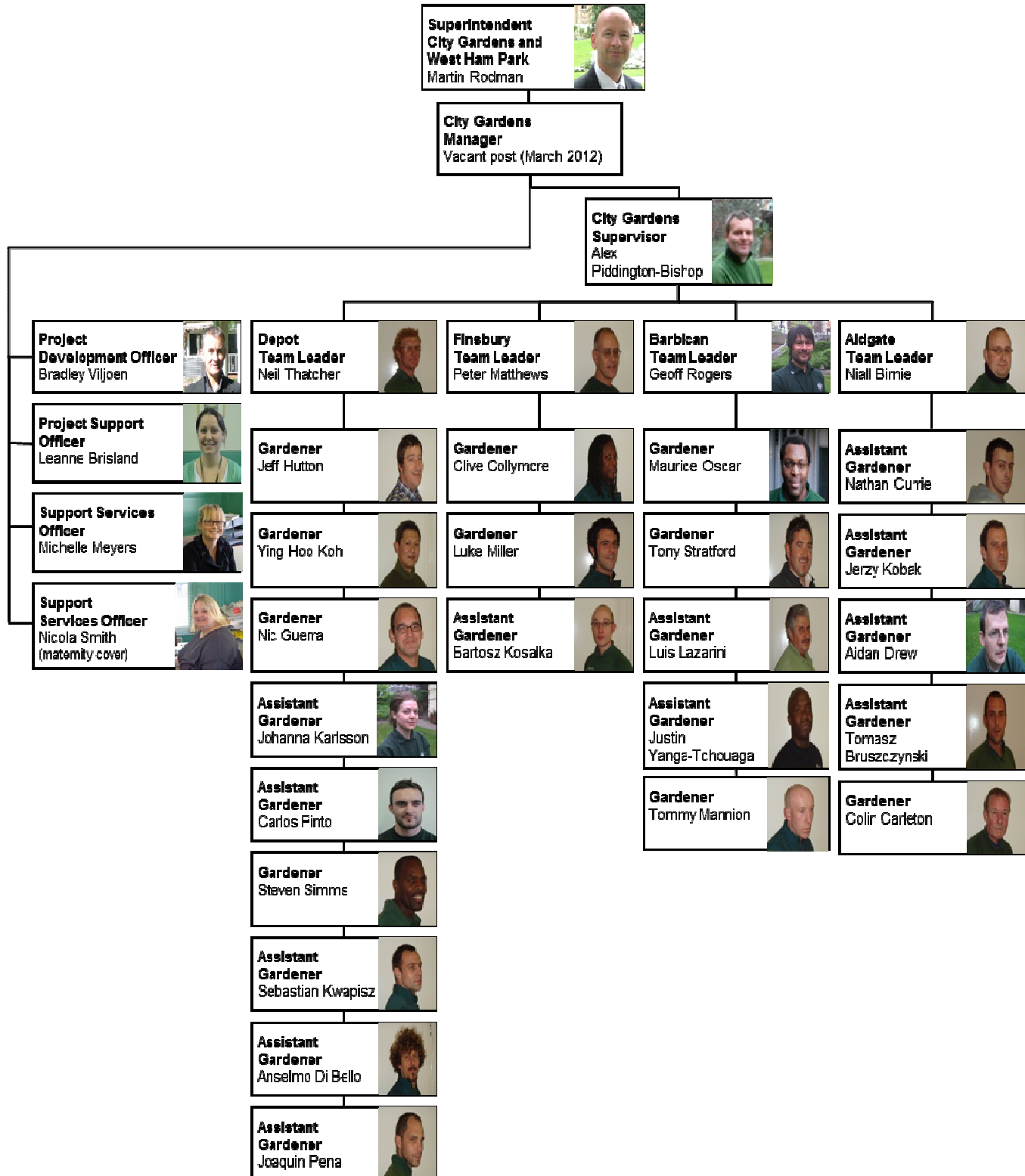
Staff Training, Learning and Development

Staff development remains important for the Open Spaces Department and a comprehensive record of training is now inserted on to iTRENT, the corporate HR system which holds organisational and employee details electronically. The City Gardens team are continually working to ensure that each staff member has a long term individual learning and development plan; setting out what is planned during the next three years. Individual training needs are identified from the annual performance and development reviews.

Recent improvements in the organisation, booking, recording and evaluation of courses will ensure that we continue to make progress in this important area. The Open Spaces Department has together a 'Training Manual' and 'Career Development Framework' to help guide learning, allowing employees develop their skills, experience and knowledge in their job role and in order to further their career. These will be useful tools for City Gardens Section as they will assist with succession planning for the future of the team.

Figure 5: Staff Organisational Chart 2011/12

City Gardens: Organisation Chart



Annual Performance and Development Reviews

All staff receive an annual review in order to provide a dedicated opportunity to talk on a one to one basis with their line manager about a range of development issues including personal objectives, competencies and training.

Engaging and Involving All Staff in Decisions

We are fortunate to have a considerable number of motivated and committed staff who are keen to be involved in shaping future plans and setting priorities. Although improvements have been made to internal communication over the past year, we continue to encourage further staff involvement through monthly staff meetings, annual staff consultation events and through an annual joint event with the Committee.

Recruitment and Induction

To ensure we recruit staff of a sufficient calibre, we provide potential candidates with a range of information prior to interview, including guidance on the City Gardens, the role and our overall objectives as a team. During interview days, we involve as many staff as possible in order to get a balanced view from the teams.

The City of London has a Single Equality Scheme which sets out how we intend to meet our general and specific duties under the Equality Act 2010. It also lists the equality objectives that we have developed in collaboration with our stakeholders. The aim is to make equality a central part of the way we work by putting it at the centre of policy making, service delivery and employment practice. The City Gardens recruitment process is in line with the corporate equalities strategy, and recruits the best candidates for the job.

On appointment, a detailed induction checklist is followed to ensure the best possible start for new staff, and progress is reviewed carefully at regular meetings with the line manager throughout the first year of employment.

1.8 Information Technology

To assist with the efficient management of the City Gardens as a whole, considerable use is made of IT. Over the past three years, we have invested in both computer hardware and extensive staff training to ensure that staff are able to use a computer to access site information, particularly through the electronic shared site diary and email system.

The City of London Open Spaces Department has a Geographical Information System (GIS) and this is used to develop and maintain accurate electronic site plans for all areas maintained by the City. In 2009, the site survey Computer Aided Design (CAD) drawings were updated for all gardens, churchyards and open spaces in the 'Square Mile' that are being maintained by the City Gardens Section. We are also a partner of Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL), the data record centre for the whole of London. Any ecological data recorded at any of our open space sites is sent to them to add to their database. The City then receive quarterly outputs of all the data that GiGL hold from their partners, providing us with up to date information about the species in the 'Square Mile' and at our other open spaces.

Currently, to enable detailed information about every tree in the City to be stored electronically and linked to a GIS based map and image library, the Arbotrak tree management software is used.

Support in developing IT solutions for the City Gardens service is provided by City of London's corporate IT department, who also oversees the replacement of all computer hardware on a three year cycle.

1.9 Data Management

A wide range of data and information relating to the City Gardens is held on an electronic and hard copy filing system in the City Gardens Office. All electronic information is available to all of the City Gardens team through a shared drive and is backed up daily.

1.10 External Assessment: The Green Flag Award

We recognise and support the need for independent external assessment of how the City Gardens are being managed in order to generate ideas, promote the gardens and encourage new thinking and service improvement.

The Green Flag Award is the national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales. The award scheme began in 1996 as a means of recognising and rewarding the best green spaces in the country. It was also seen as a way of encouraging others to achieve the same high environmental standards and to create a benchmark of excellence in recreational green areas. Awards are given on an annual basis and winners must apply each year to renew their Green Flag status.

The City is committed to the continuous improvement of all its open spaces through regular external assessment. To achieve this, the City has been a supporter of the scheme since it was introduced in 1996, and has now won over 60 flags.

Objective 2: A Welcoming City

Visitors are welcomed into the City and the City Gardens by two different styles of signage. In historic sites black wooden signs mark the entrances to for example churchyard gardens and burial sites. These are in-laid with a panel that displays the City of London Crest, as well as further details identifying who owns and manages the garden, opening and closing times, contact details, a brief symbolised version of the bye-laws, and a map of the site. In addition, a 24 hour emergency contact number is also featured on the signs should it be needed.



As part of the City's Street Scene Enhancement Strategy, way finding signage, street maps, node points and fingers posts have been upgraded around the City.

Installation was completed in 2007 and the scheme was 'highly recommended' at the 2006 FX International Design Awards.

New Open Spaces that have been developed in partnership with the Street Scene Department contain this more modern style signage.

Figure 6: Signage at the Information Centre, St Pauls

Notice boards are also situated in a number of gardens informing visitors about various events taking place throughout the year. Typical information provided includes a 'What's New' newsletter updated six times a year, information on where to pick up the free Park leaflet and map, the entertainment programme, as well as the advertising of events and activities that are happening elsewhere in the City of London.

A number of information points have been set up around the City. Lockable cabinets allow our newsletter 'What's New in City Gardens' to be displayed alongside leaflet dispensers. Our bi-monthly newsletter is also emailed to a wide variety of residents, Councillors and workers to keep them up to date with all the latest information regarding events and activities in the City Gardens.

Figure 7: Lockable cabinet at Cleary Garden displaying newsletters



We have developed a comprehensive portfolio of leaflets to welcome visitors to the City Gardens. Our introductory leaflet gives an overview of the gardens and provides a useful map identifying where the gardens and churchyards are in the City.

We have a similar leaflet for Bunhill Fields Burial Ground and an incredibly popular *City Gardens Walks* leaflet. This is a folder style leaflet with three pull out garden-orientated walks that builds on our introductory leaflet with the aim of encouraging easier access to the gardens for our users.

In 2011 we added the *City Gardens Wildlife Walks* leaflet to the suite of leaflets already on offer. Another folder style leaflet which also includes three guided walks, which individually focus on living buildings and green roofs within the City, the Thames riverside habitat and other 'behind the scenes' biodiversity improvements to add another dimension to the information already on offer and of particular interest to visitors.

Figure 8: City Gardens Leaflets



By far the best way to discover the joys of the gardens and to appreciate the wide range of planting, some of which has a fascinating history, is to join a walk led by a qualified City of London Guide, who are trained in horticulture and the history of the gardens. The City Garden's team have worked closely with the City Guides to set up this additional service for the City Gardens and a continuation of this close relationship and of a jointly-run horticultural education programme that is now in its fourth year.

The City Garden's team also contribute to various publications including the Young City Magazine, City Resident, Barbican News and City View as well as the Garden's own What's New newsletter, ensuring that residents of all ages are kept informed and invited to any events and activities taking place in the City gardens. In addition the team also contribute regularly to national industry publications.

Our services have been made more accessible through improvements to our website (www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/citygardens) where all of our interpretative material can also be found, and further improvements are continuing to be made. Temporary signage around the City Gardens has also been improved, ensuring that garden users are kept abreast of any works being undertaken in the gardens.

2.1 Something for Everyone

A key part of our vision for City Gardens is to provide facilities for all. Our overall aims for achieving this for the life of this Plan are as follows:

Garden Design: the City's parks and gardens incorporate a balanced mixture of floral displays and sustainable planting, providing a foil for the City's varied architectural heritage and unique - and concentrated - patterns of usage. The City Gardens team works tirelessly to ensure that standards across all the open spaces in the City are maintained to the highest level.

Footpaths: we will carry out regular inspections and repair of all footpaths with the aim of maintaining them and improving the level of accessibility (see below for further detail regarding access).

Garden Furniture: we will continue to maintain the benches, railings and signs in City Open Spaces, ensuring that they are regularly inspected and refurbished. If replacements or temporary additions are required, they will be in the same style, and will be purchased from sustainable sources.

Buildings: we will preserve all buildings and structures in the open Spaces through regular inspection and maintenance; and ensure that they continue to be fit for purpose.

Trees: we will continue to manage our diverse tree stock with the aim of maximising the amenity, historical and wildlife value through regular inspection and high standards of arboricultural care.

Information and Assistance: we will continue to ensure that staff are easily recognisable by wearing City Gardens uniform, and are on-duty in the gardens during opening times. We will also improve the availability of City Gardens literature by installing further leaflet dispensers throughout the gardens.

Toilet Facilities: toilet facilities are not available within any of the City's gardens, simply because their small size makes it impractical to provide these facilities. The City does provide public toilets at busy tourist spots which are clearly marked on our maps and in our leaflets so that they are easy for visitors to find should they require them.

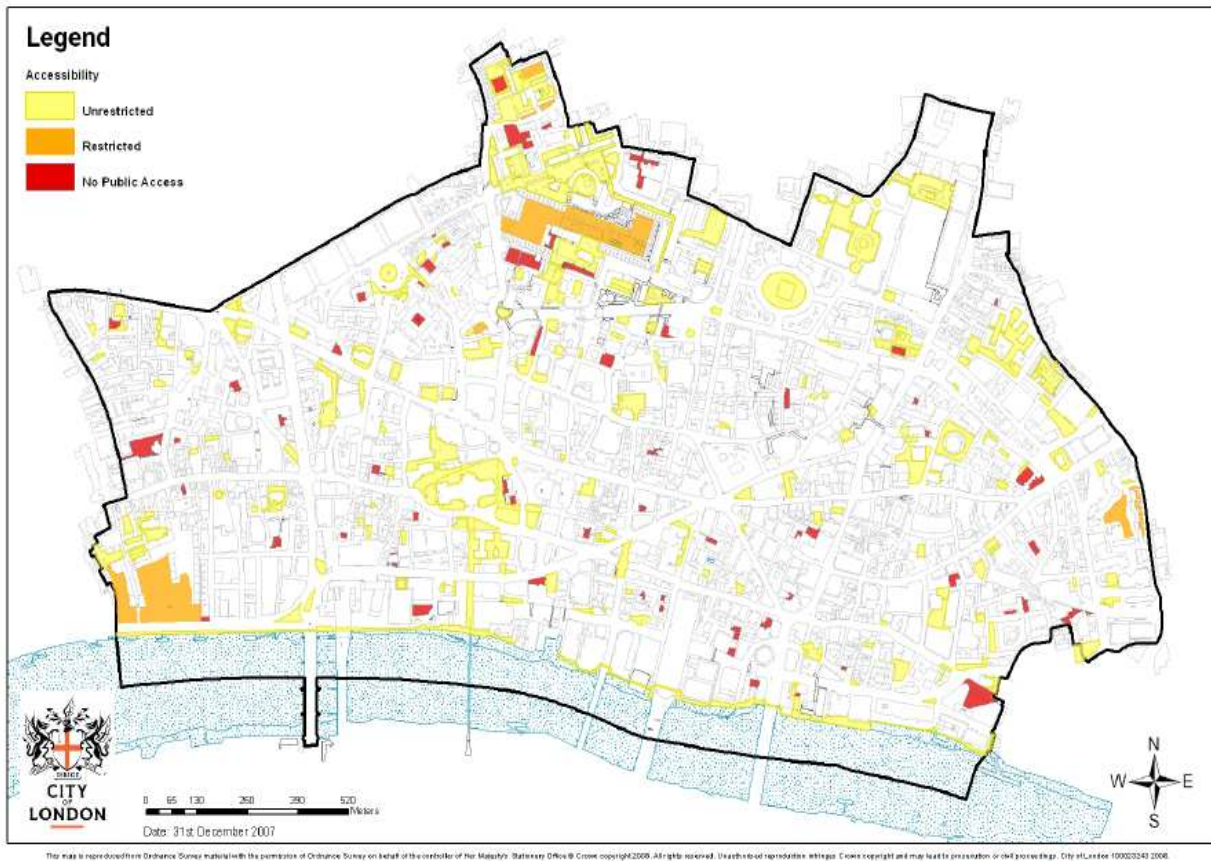
Site Accessibility: we aim to ensure that as many of our open spaces are publically accessible as possible. However, there are open spaces with restricted or no public access, but these still enhance the visual amenity and contribute to improving the environmental quality and biodiversity value of the City. It is for this reason that private open spaces were included in the City's Open Space Audit of 2007.

The level of accessibility of city gardens sites to all members of the public was evaluated and assessed, as shown in figure 9. Accessibility was categorised as:

- **Unrestricted** - Access which provides full public access.
- **Restricted** - Access where public access is only to a small group of people (for example, a residents' garden).
- **No Public Access** - Where the site is private and usually occupied or leased by a single organisation or individual.

The Audit found that 23.31 hectares of the Open Space surveyed had unrestricted access; this means that 72% of the total open space in the City is freely accessible to all.

Figure 9: Map showing the levels of accessibility in the City of London Open Spaces (City of London Open Space Audit 2007)



2.2 Addressing the Disability Discrimination Act (1995) requirements

The City of London's Equal Opportunities Policy states that *'promoting equality will enrich our service delivery and ensure that our services are fair and sensitive to peoples needs'*. In order to achieve this, the City aims to:

- **Ensure** staff are trained to meet the needs of disabled people,
- **Ensure** that premises and services are physically accessible to all that need to use them,
- **Provide** information in a format most appropriate to the needs of the person requiring it,
- **Provide** communication aids to ensure that disabled people can both understand the service being provided and be understood by the service provider,
- **Involve** disabled people in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of services to ensure best practice and continuous improvement,
- **Continue** its commitment to the recruitment and retention of people with a disability.

The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 makes it unlawful for service providers to discriminate against disabled people.

The Open Spaces Audit of 2007 looked at the accessibility of the City's Open Spaces for disabled people and found that most sites within the City provided sufficient space for wheelchair access, and just under half included adequate ramp or stepped access.

Access was found to be most difficult in the City's churchyards, cemeteries and other historic sites, which were not originally designed with any consideration of wheelchair users. The City Gardens Section have been working with these organisations to improving access at these sites and have succeeded in installing wheelchair access slopes at St. Dunstan's in the East (2006) and St. Bride's Church (2007/8). The recent improvements to West Smithfield Rotunda in 2011 mean this historic garden also now includes DDA compliant access via the main circumference path. Newly designed sites usually provide ramp or elevator access, or are designed to be completely level, for example Paternoster Square.

2.3 Getting to the City Gardens by Public Transport

The City is easy to get to and easy to get around. Situated at the heart of London's public transport system, it is served directly by seven Underground lines, 13 tube stations, seven mainline stations, 38 high-frequency bus routes and 24 night bus routes. With the major rail terminal at London Bridge and Waterloo just over its borders and the frequent commuter rail services operating throughout London and the wider South East region, getting in to the City and visiting the City's Open Spaces by public transport couldn't be simpler. This unique level of accessibility is complemented by the Docklands Light Railway at Bank and Tower Gateway, various commuter coach services and river boat services which operate from piers at Blackfriars, London Bridge and Tower Hill. The City is also linked by rail to all of London's airports while the high-speed Eurostar international rail services operate from nearby St Pancras station.

Objective 3: Healthy, Safe and Secure Environment

3.1 Health and Well Being

The City has a number of facilities that assist visitors in living a healthy lifestyle through physical activity in and around its open spaces.

Guided Walks

City Guides conduct a walk every Wednesday throughout the summer at Bunhill Fields Burial Ground and provide visitors with information on the historical and horticultural significance of the site. The on-site gardener is also available to take visitors into certain restricted access sections of the burial areas when requested. On Saturday's and Sunday's throughout the summer the City Guides also lead walks through several City Gardens starting at St Paul's Cathedral. The walks are a very effective way to introduce our users and non-users to new gardens that they are often not aware of.

The City Gardens team have also produced the *City Gardens Walks* and *City Gardens Wildlife Walks*. These two free leaflets each contain three trails which lead readers around gardens in the City, providing horticultural, historical and wildlife information about the gardens visited, and encourage people to do set walks at their own leisure.

Quiet Relaxation

The City Garden's provide an area where visitors can relax and contemplate in a quiet and beautiful environment, indeed relaxation was found to be the most popular use of the Open Spaces in the face to face survey that was carried out in 2009, with 74% of respondents using the gardens for this purpose.

Secured seating is available in the majority of the City Gardens. Benches are positioned to enable enjoyment of attractive views and the changing seasons.

3.2 Equipment and Facilities

Sports Facilities

The City has the following sports facilities:

- Golden Lane Leisure Centre: City Corporation run public facility providing a 20m x 8m swimming pool, 1 court sports hall, club rooms offering various uses and 2 outdoor tennis/netball courts;
- Sir John Cass Primary School: Providing playgrounds with limited markings and a small sports hall. These facilities are currently used for sports development work, including coaching, but are not suitable for wider community use;
- City of London School: Limited use by local schools and available to external hirers providing a 25m x 10m swimming pool, 2 indoor court facilities and a large outdoor playground area;
- City of London School for Girls: Limited use by external hirers providing a 25m x10m swimming pool, diving pit, 2 indoor court facilities and outdoor courts for tennis and netball;
- St Botolph's Churchyard: Available for public use providing 1 tennis/netball court,

- Barbican Estate (Barbican residents only) multi-use area with lining for netball and tennis court, plus a cricket net;
- Finsbury Circus: Bowling green (temporarily out of action as a result of Cross Rail works);
- Broadgate Office Development: Ice rink and croquet lawn (seasonal);
- White Lion Hill Basketball Court.

A review of public sports facilities in summer 2007 by the City Corporation's Community and Children's Services Department revealed that most sites are well used and are operating at near capacity levels.

In January 2008, a separate website based audit was carried out of sport and health and fitness uses in and around the City. This found that, in addition to the facilities outlined above, the City and the surrounding area (within 400m) is home to approximately 45 commercial gyms/health clubs. There are also an unknown number of private gyms and fitness suites in office buildings that are for use by employees only.

Play Provision.

In terms of children and young peoples' play facilities, the City of London Open Space Audit (2008) incorporates the findings of the City of London Play Strategy (2007-2010), which considered the qualitative, quantitative and accessibility elements of play and informal recreation facilities in the City.

This revealed the following provision in four of the City's residential clusters:

- **Barbican Estate** – equipped playground in Thomas More Garden (multi-use play unit with slide, cradle seat swings, flat seat swings, roundabout, hopscotch, two spring animals, boat themed multi-play unit, see-saw and a ball court);
- **Barbican Estate** – equipped play area in Speed Garden (cradle seat swing and multiuse play unit with slide);
- **Golden Lane Estate** – small equipped play provision adjacent to Cullum Welch House (1 x multi-use play unit and spring bike within a 'play pit');
- **Mansell Street Estate** – equipped play area next to estate car parking (multi-use play unit with slide, cradle seat swings, flat seat swings, seated roundabout, hopscotch, two spring animals) plus an outdoor ball court, which is used by Millwall Football Club for coaching sessions);
- **Middlesex Street Estate** – small equipped play area (multi-use play unit and 'play mushrooms') plus outdoor ball court;
- **Tower Hill Gardens:** equipped play provision including more naturalistic play features installed as part of the Play builder project;
- **West Smithfield Rotunda Garden:** 3 x play features introduced to the garden as part of the Play Builder project;
- **Portsoeken Street:** naturalistic play features installed as part of the Play builder project; and
- **St Peters Hill Walkway:** metallic urban play features added along the walkway for explorative play.

Many of the equipped play areas are on the 'private access' areas of housing estates and are not intended for use by the general public, however the features installed as part of the Play builder projects are all publically accessible.

Fortune Street playground, refurbished in 2002, 300m north of Golden Lane Estate, is also accessible for City residents although in the London Borough of Islington. This comprises 3 Multi-use Play Units (2 with slides), cradle seat swings, roundabout, rope climbers, spring animals and a traditional see-saw.

Furniture in the City's Open Spaces

All furniture in the City's Open Spaces is inspected on a weekly basis, with ad hoc visual inspections also carried out daily by staff as they carry out their daily rounds. Benches are secured for safety and to prevent movement, because of this they usually receive their annual painting/treatment in situ, with appropriate protection used until suitable for re-use.

Toilets

Bunhill Fields Burial Ground is the only Open Space site under the City Gardens management which has toilet facilities located on site. The other Open Spaces sites do have publically accessible toilets within their vicinity that are clearly denoted on our literature and signage. The face to face user survey that was conducted in 2009 found that 63% of visitors stay in the gardens for less than 1 hour, these visitors are most likely office workers who use the spaces to relax and eat their lunch in, therefore toilet facilities are not the main priority for these people. Visitors from the UK and overseas are most likely to visit for longer lengths of time, in the more tourist areas of the City e.g. St Paul's Cathedral, public toilets are available.

First Aid Assistance

Although understood not to be a primary function of our service, first aid kits are held at the City Gardens depots located at several points around the City. City of London vehicles are also all fitted with first aid kits in case of an emergency.

3.3 Site Inspections

To ensure that safety systems that are put in place are working, regular inspections are carried out both internally and externally. All inspections relating to the buildings in City Gardens are managed by the City Surveyors department. These checks include:

- Legionella checks of water systems
- Electrical circuit and Portable Appliance Testing (PAT)
- Gas appliance servicing
- Building fabric inspections and repairs
- Fire and security alarm system servicing

Visual inspections of all areas of the City Gardens are carried out on a daily basis by staff as part of regular duties. However, a more thorough weekly inspection is also carried out as follows:

- Workplace (mess-room) inspections every month
- Vehicle inspections on a monthly basis
- Ladders & safety platforms have quarterly inspections
- Hard hat & harness system inspections once a year
- Machinery inspections every quarter
- Drivers licence checks on an annual basis

Any serious defects are reported to the Team Leader for action. Inspections are recorded, and checks are also carried out to ensure that the statutory inspections, that are the City Surveyor department's responsibility, have also been conducted. Any issues arising from the inspection which are not under our power to resolve are logged on a separate defects sheet and passed onto the relevant person / department for action.

Although trees are subject to a specialised independent annual survey, staff carry out regular visual inspections, particularly following any severe weather.

Graffiti and Vandalism

If any graffiti or vandalism is noted through site inspections, it is dealt with through its removal as soon as possible. However, with the exception of a few isolated incidents, the City Gardens have not experienced serious problems in this area for a number of years.

3.4 Security in the City's Open Spaces

Staff Presence

A team of 22 maintain the gardens in the Square Mile and at Bunhill Fields. We have a permanent on-site gardener at Bunhill Fields who carries out horticultural and cleansing duties as well as showing visitors to graves where requested. The remaining staff are split into 4 teams which look after different quarters of the City. Staff move between different sites during the day to carry out their daily duties. When garden renovation or larger projects are taking place staff from different teams work together to complete the task at hand. Team Leaders are supplied with a mobile phone and the majority of staff carries private mobiles with ICE numbers readily accessible.

Park Bye-laws

Bye-laws are informally enforced by members of staff, often when dealing with anti-social behaviour in the gardens, for example by asking people to leave the site if they are handing out flyers or advertising brochures. However employees do not have the power to prosecute, and as such, rely on assistance from the local Police in dealing with persistent issues.

The bye-laws were last fully revised in 1912, and it is acknowledged that they would benefit from a City Gardens wide bye-laws review, but to undertake this would be dependent on available resources in the appropriate departments.

Although we receive occasional enquiries regarding the reasoning for the 'no cycling' bye-laws, these are outweighed by requests to do more to enforce the other bye-laws. In reality, despite whatever measures we put in place, there will always be a minority of Open Space visitors who will not follow certain bye-laws.

Control of dogs

The bye laws state that dogs are to be kept on a lead at all times, and that dog owners should clear up after their animals. As part of their daily rounds gardeners pick up any dog fouling that has been left behind when undertaking cleansing duties.

Police Support

The City of London Police are responsible for the safety of everyone in London's 'Square Mile'. They provide a rapid response or a more targeted support service where requested. The Force is organised into five Directorates:

- Economic Crime Directorate
- Counter terrorism and Serious Crime Directorate
- Specialist Support Directorate
- Territorial Policing Directorate
- Corporate Services Directorate

The police station staff have a wide range of functions that include giving crime prevention advice, investigating crime, patrolling, staffing the traffic and environmental zone, and dealing with public enquiries.

About 1,200 people work for the City of London Police. Around one third of these are civilian support staff performing a wide range of professional, administrative and some operational support roles. The City Gardens Section has a contact within the City Police who deals with all Open Spaces related issues within the Square Mile.

3.5 Vehicle Management

Vehicle safety procedures aim to reduce vehicle movements within sites to an absolute minimum. Wherever possible, we avoid having vehicles on publically accessible garden sites at all, but where it is essential, all vehicles must be informed of, and adhere to, our vehicle safety guidelines:

- **Maximum** speed in a site is 5mph and hazard lights must be used at all times;
- **Always** give way to all visitors and staff;
- **All vehicles** must be fitted with a reversing bleeper;
- In the event of having to reverse on site, a **banksman** must be used;
- **All vehicles** entering a site must be provided with a permit outlining these procedures.

3.6 Health and Safety

Under the Health & Safety at Work Act (1974), the City has a clear responsibility to conduct all its activities within the City Gardens in such a way as to ensure, so far as reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of all it's employees, contractors and visitors.

Health and safety (H&S) is given a very high priority in all areas of the Open Spaces Department, and is formalised through the Open Spaces Health and Safety Management System. A key part of this is the internal auditing process which takes place annually and includes twelve key indicators that all Divisions should be working towards:

Organisation, Implementation and Communication: The City Gardens Section has a local H&S plan and statement, that it is regularly updated, clearly communicated and understood by all staff.

Risk Management: The City Gardens Section has Risk Assessments and Safe Systems of Work in place that cover all activities, operations and premises which adhere to current legislation and City Codes of Practice.

Training: All staff receives a thorough H&S induction followed by regular recorded and evaluated training determined by legislation, risk assessments and duties.

Volunteers, Contractors and Suppliers: The City Gardens Section has local arrangements to ensure that all third parties are working in accordance with H&S legislation.

Accident and 'Near Miss' Reporting: The City Gardens Section has procedures to ensure the reporting, investigation and analysis of accidents, incidents and near misses in accordance with City and Departmental Codes of Practice.

City Central Support: The City Gardens Section has arrangements in place with the Department of Technical Services, the Occupational Health Section and the central H&S Section to ensure central support according to the schedules defined in the Open Spaces H&S Policy.

Checklists, Inspections and Maintenance Records: The City Gardens Section ensures that all statutory tests and inspections are undertaken in accordance with current legislation and that infrastructure is regularly inspected according to an accurate asset inventory.

Policies: Based on Departmental guidance, the City Gardens Section defines site specific policies (as applicable) on Water Safety, Tree Safety, Play Equipment, Vehicle Safety, Events and Lone Working.

First Aid: The City Gardens Section has appropriate first aid arrangements relating to training and provision according to current legislation and local risk assessments.

Emergency Action Plans: The City Gardens Section has plans and procedures to deal with emergencies and disasters.

Fire Safety: The City Gardens Section has appropriate fire safety equipment, training and procedures based on local fire risk assessments.

Monitoring and Review: The City Gardens Section considers and reviews their local H&S Plan on an annual basis, advising the Open Spaces H&S Committee of any key issues arising from this process.

Since bringing the grounds maintenance team in-house at the beginning of 2008 considerable work has had to be undertaken to ensure that the H&S system is appropriate, in place and working. A H&S audit was carried out in 2009 and the resulting recommendations form an action plan of tasks to be implemented for the following year's audit.

The Way Forward

As one of the challenges with H&S related work is making all staff aware of procedures. It is acknowledged that a good way to do this is to set up a group of staff from across the City Gardens team, dedicated to this purpose. The group takes a practical, site based, approach to producing risk assessments, carrying out inspections for all tasks carried out at the site, discussing H&S issues to agree practical solutions, raising staff awareness and identifying required expenditure.

One of the key tasks for the group would be the production and regular updating of a Site Manual, to form a site based document for staff containing information and guidance on all aspects of working in the City Gardens, including:

- the quality of work required and the safe way in which it should be completed
- any key risks to be aware of at particular sites
- site and task checks/inspections required
- policies and guidance on all 'day to day' issues

The Site Manual would be a major piece of work that will take some time to put together, but would ultimately benefit all staff.

Objective 4: Well Maintained and Clean City Open Spaces

4.1 Grounds Maintenance

The City Gardens grounds maintenance team was contracted out between 1994 and 2007. Under the contract, grounds maintenance was determined on an output-based specification (performance quality). With the grounds maintenance team being brought in-house this has changed to frequency based performance. This allows for better measurement and planning of resources and cost.

Litter Collection	Litter is a significant issue across the City Gardens sites. Bins are placed at high use sites where there is sufficient space to locate them and staff onsite regularly empty them during the peak summer months. Recycling bins have been trialled at Finsbury Circus since 2009, and if cross contamination can be controlled, will be rolled out across other gardens in the coming years. Litter collections take place every morning as part of the gardeners' daily duties and throughout the day at higher usage sites. A two bag system is used to separate waste and materials that can be recycled.
Leaf Clearance	Full leaf clearance is carried out from October to December, by hand in shrub and flower beds, and by machine from paths and grass areas, with all leaf piles cleared at the end of each working day.
Shrub Bed Maintenance	Beds are to be kept weed free throughout the year, which equates to approximately once a week in the summer. Watering as necessary to ensure healthy growth and formative pruning, as required, in accordance with the specific needs of each variety.
Garden Grass Cutting	The Garden grass areas are cut to within strict parameters: no shorter than 25mm and no longer than 45mm, which equates to approximately once a week in the growing season. Clippings are removed and paths swept at the end of each working day. Following each cut, all lawn areas are edged by hand.
Garden Furniture	All park benches are checked daily, cleansed weekly and re-treated annually if required. All railings and fences are redecorated every ten years, but any badly worn areas are treated on an <i>ad hoc</i> basis.
General Cleansing	Pathways are swept regularly and leaf fall is picked up on a daily basis when required.

Re-landscaping works are always carried out in the winter due to the lower footfall experienced in open spaces.

The City Gardens Manager meets on a weekly basis with the Team Leaders to review current and future works. Progress is also discussed at monthly meetings and site visits between the Manager and Superintendent.

On sites which the City Gardens are contracted to maintain, any works done outside of usual maintenance, also known as variation work is recorded separately for re-charging purposes.

4.2 Maintenance Standards

The majority of maintenance tasks can be grouped into main categories. These are set out below, together with brief guidance on our service standards:

Litter and Waste Management

One of the City of London's core values as stated in its Environmental Policy is to follow the principles of environmental sustainability. Specific objectives set out in the 'Protecting the City in the 21st Century' policy include:

'Continue to reduce waste generation, maximise the re-use and recycling of waste material in our own operations and improve the cleanliness of London through our responsibilities relating to litter clearance'

Park Waste

Currently any litter collected in the City's gardens, churchyards and open spaces, is bagged using a two bags system, which allows recycled waste (glass, cardboard, tin and plastic) to be separated from other waste. As mentioned above recycling bins have been trialled in Finsbury Circus since 2009 and are due to be rolled out to other appropriate sites across the City in the future. Recycling in the City Gardens as a whole is a priority and various ideas on how to achieve this are being discussed.

In addition, all waste paper, plastic, glass, cans, cardboard and print toners generated by offices within the City Gardens are recycled. Office staff are also encouraged to minimise printing, but if printing is necessary to ensure all printed or copied documents are double sided and to re-use waste paper in order to reduce paper consumption.

Tree Safety Inspections and Maintenance

All trees owned and managed by the City of London in the Square Mile are inspected each winter by an independent tree safety consultant, with an additional summer inspection every two years.

Any work necessary is prioritised by the safety consultant in a report to the City Gardens Manager, who then engages a specialist tree contractor to carry out the work during the winter months.

Employing a tree contractor to carry out this work has proven to be more efficient than training and equipping on site staff to carry out this specialist work.

4.3 Grounds Maintenance Equipment

Induction

In order to ensure the correct use and maintenance of grounds maintenance tools and equipment, all staff receives an induction from an experienced member of staff before commencing a new task or operation. This system will be developed further to include more detailed records on individual staff competencies and the introduction of annual refresher training.

Equipment and Machinery

The equipment and machinery required by City Garden's staff to carry out their duties is stored at 5 main depots across the City where there is no public access. These are:

1. City Gardens Depot, 10 Castle Baynard Street, London EC4V 4EA
2. Barbican Depot, off Fann Street (by Bunyan Car Park), London, EC2Y 8DH
3. Finsbury Circus Depot, Finsbury Circus, London, EC2M 7AB
4. St Dunstan's in the East Depot, St Dunstan's Lane, London, EC3R 8DX
5. Bunhill Fields Depot, Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8ND

Across the Open Spaces Department there is a requirement to set a five year programme for the replacement of vehicles and large equipment. The City Gardens Manager therefore has a rolling replacement schedule for all grounds maintenance equipment.

In researching replacement options, we are committed to selecting models that reduce the environmental impact, both in terms of energy consumption and noise pollution.

Maintenance of Equipment

Staff undertake basic daily checks of all equipment before use, with any defects reported to the Team Leader in order that repairs can take place as quickly as possible. Each week, a member of staff carries out scheduled checks to all our machinery.

All annual servicing and major running repairs of grounds maintenance equipment is carried out annually by an external horticultural machinery specialist, who take the machinery away for works, although minor repairs are carried out where possible on site by City Gardens staff.

Current discussions are being held with the Environmental Services and Open Spaces Department over a partnership to repair and maintain all vehicles and equipment in-house and within the City itself, thereby reducing cost and environmental footprint.

Tools & Equipment Inventories

Details of all tools and equipment are logged on a computerised inventory system, which is updated regularly with information on new purchases or disposals. In addition, all information on the grounds maintenance fleet is recorded on the Open Spaces Department wide Transform computer software package. This allows us to monitor the running and maintenance costs of each individual piece of equipment, thus informing decisions on eventual replacement.

Fuel Storage

For health, safety and environmental reasons, petrol is not stored in bulk on site, but is instead kept in 25 litre containers within locked petrol storage containers.

Staff Uniforms

All staff are provided with a full uniform depicting the City of London crest, and are required to wear it at all times. The full issue comprises:

Two pairs of winter trousers	One pair of boots
Two sweatshirts	One wet weather jacket
One pair of summer trousers	Two long sleeved polo shirts
One fleece	One winter hat
Two pairs of shorts	Four short sleeved polo shirts
One pair of wet weather trousers	One summer cap

Uniform replacement is carried out on an 'as required' basis by individual Team Leaders subject to wear and tear, with all items issued recorded.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

All required PPE identified through risk assessments and accepted good practice is issued to the staff on an individual basis. This includes:

- Protective suits
- Goggles for eye protection
- Ear protectors and ear plugs
- Gloves

In addition, a range of more specialist PPE is held by Team Leaders to issue for less frequent tasks. An audit of PPE equipment is carried out annually by each Team Leader to identify any requirements for new and replacement equipment.

Individual Tools

All staff are provided with a range of personal tools and equipment and a storage locker, all of which are marked with an individual staff number. The tools issued are a fork, spade, shovel, hoe, rake, brush, edging shears, a half moon and pair of secateurs.

4.4 Buildings and Infrastructure Maintenance

All buildings and infrastructure maintenance is carried out on our behalf by the City Surveyors Department, who provide access to a buildings Surveyor, approved plumbing, electrical and building contractors as required, and also organise a range of statutory tests and inspections. The precise scope of the service provided is defined in a Service Level Agreement produced by the City Surveyors.

The City Gardens Manager and Surveyor meet on a monthly basis to discuss necessary repair and maintenance work, as well as any forthcoming major project work. In addition, a joint site inspection of all sites is carried out each July in order to record the condition of key assets and prioritise work for the following year against available resources.

Long Term Plans

To assist the forward planning process, City Surveyors maintain a rolling 20 year condition survey and plan for the repair, maintenance and improvement of buildings and infrastructure in City sites. This is reviewed annually through discussion between

the Surveyor, Park Manager and Superintendent, prior to the Surveyor preparing an annual funding bid for the following year's work.

In the event that cyclical maintenance cannot be funded from local risk budgets a bid for supplementary revenue funding of specific projects is made by the City Surveyors Department.

Minor Repairs

If repair work is necessary throughout the year, this is reported to the Surveyors contact centre by phone or email using a three stage priority system:

- **Priority one:** ensures a response within half a day
- **Priority two:** ensures a response within three working days
- **Priority three:** ensures a response (and quotation if necessary) within ten working days

In scheduling all maintenance work, we aim where possible to select materials and methods that minimise environmental impact, and with new projects, we particularly consider ways in which we can be more efficient with energy and water usage.

Statutory Inspections

The City Surveyors Department is also responsible for arranging and recording the following statutory inspections to buildings within City Garden sites:

- Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) (annually)
- Electrical circuit testing (every five years)
- Gas appliance testing/servicing (annually)
- Emergency light testing (every six months)
- Fire extinguisher and equipment testing (annually)
- Water systems temperature and Legionella testing (quarterly)
- Roller shutters inspection and service (annually)

Objective 5: Sustainable City Gardens

5.1 Environmental Management

We are committed to delivering the Open Spaces Department's Environmental Policy which aims to:

'Follow the principles of environmental sustainability in all areas of work'

This supports the Government's Sustainability Strategy '*Securing the future*', produced in 2005, and the City of London's own recently revised Sustainability Policy agreed in September 2005.

To help deliver the policy and to share good practice throughout the Open Spaces Department, a Sustainability Improvement Group (SIG), has been formed. It consists of a member of each Open Spaces department. The group have been developing an internal 'Sustainability Audit' to ensure that all sections of the Open Spaces department are carrying out activities in the most sustainable way, e.g. Using recycled paper in the office, recycling as much waste as possible and using low energy light bulbs in all our buildings. This system has been put together during 2009 and is due to be trialled in 2010 across the Open Spaces sites and then across other departments within the City of London Corporation.

An Environmental Sustainability Working Group also exists, that consists of representatives from different departments within the City of London. A member of the Open Spaces SIG sits on this group and feeds back to the Open Spaces Department via the SIG.

Climate Change

The influence of human activities on climate change is now recognised. The three warmest years on record have all occurred since 1998; 19 of the warmest, 20 since 1980. For the City Gardens and all open spaces, this presents a management challenge with more extreme weather events having a dramatic effect on hydrology, biodiversity and the built environment.

At a political level responsibility for delivering effective action on climate change within the City of London is divided between two groups:

1. Internal activities overseen by the Energy Working Party, established in 1975, and who were responsible for encouraging the purchase of renewable energy across the City in 1998.
2. External activities and partnerships overseen by the Policy and Resources Committee which have been instrumental in driving forward the importance of tackling climate change through adopting the Local Agenda 21 Action Plan, setting CO2 reduction targets, developing the Sustainability Policy and signing the Nottingham Declaration.

In January 2007, the City of London developed its Climate Change Adaptation Strategy. It was the first of its kind in Britain and earned the City Beacon Status in this particular field.

Research is on-going nationally and locally into the possible effects of climate change. This will help predict the long term effects on the local environment of the Park, and provide information on how to help protect the City Gardens environment through

identifying priorities for improving conservation and sustainable working practices. All developments will be monitored closely during the life of this plan, and where necessary, changes to landscape management techniques will be made.

Environmental Management System (EMS)

In order to coordinate and prioritise the environmental management activities carried out in the City's Open Spaces, a full EMS is being developed and implemented and any appropriate action points will be incorporated into the plans project list.

As an EMS is an on on-going process which must be incorporated into the everyday management of the City Gardens, it will be regularly reviewed and updated throughout the life of this plan. We will also use it as a basis for assessing all site tasks as part of the Site Manual and will ensure that in planning any new future projects, developments and initiatives, full consideration will be given to the use of sustainable methods through use of the City of London's Sustainability Framework.

5.2 Pesticides and Herbicides

Chemical Use

Herbicide use is kept to an absolute minimum and only applied in areas where cultural methods would prove too ineffective. It is intended to follow West Ham Parks lead and administer all herbicide applications by means of a controlled droplet applicator to reduce drift and the amount of chemical used.

Pesticide use is also very minimal and where possible, other methods are utilised, such as pruning out pest damage or leaving it for natural predators to eradicate.

Storage of Chemicals

All chemicals are stored in a locked and purpose built store, with all usage logged in a chemical application book. A summary of the chemicals currently used in the City Gardens is set out below:

Function	Chemical	Type
Remove weeds from paved areas	<i>Round up</i>	Contact / translocated herbicide
Cleaning benches and removal of graffiti	<i>Graffiti remover</i> <i>Disinfectant</i>	Cleaning materials
Control/removal of problem insects	<i>Vitax Intel Insecticide</i>	Insecticide
Herbicide : control of problem broad-leaved weeds in sports and amenity turf	<i>Mascot Greenor</i>	Selective herbicide
Herbicide : Removes algae, moss and lichen from external hard surfaces	<i>Mascot qualgex</i>	Contact herbicide
Herbicide: control of annual and perennial grass and broadleaved weeds	<i>Roundup probiactive</i>	Non-residual, systemic herbicide
Herbicide : control of most broadleaved and grass weeds	<i>Barclay Gallup</i> <i>Biograde Amenity</i>	Systemic weedkiller

Function	Chemical	Type
Control/removal of problem insects	<i>Crossfire 480</i>	Control of leatherjacket and fruit fly in sports and amenity turf areas.
Herbicide: control of many annual and perennial weeds in managed amenity turf.	<i>Mascot Super selective plus</i>	Liquid selective herbicide
Fertiliser: Liquid fertiliser containing iron	<i>Mascot liquid iron</i>	Encourages turf to 'green-Up'
A worm suppressant and fungicide	Ringer	Anti-feeding/repellent action causing casting worms to avoid feeding in treated areas.

Peat Use

The West Ham Park Nursery produces over 200,000 bedding plants a year for use in the City of London open spaces. Although peat was used as a growing media for a number of years, staff at the Nursery trialled a number of reduced peat and peat free mixes over recent years, and have for the last 4 years provided all bedding plants in a peat free mix.

Procurement

Wherever possible, our aim is that all materials and consumables purchased for use in the City Gardens are as environmentally friendly as possible, by ensuring that:

- All shrubs and trees are sourced from UK nurseries;
- Benches are provided by a company using timber products from a sustainable source;
- All publications produced and used in the City Gardens are printed double sided and on recycled paper;
- Equipment made from recycled, sustainable or ethically traded material is purchased where practical;
- Tools and equipment are only replaced when they meet the end of their useful life.

5.3 Green Waste Management and Recycling

The City Gardens Section has been investigating the most efficient way (both in terms of cost and environmental footprint) of introducing recycling into the City Gardens, churchyards and Open Spaces in the Square Mile, in partnership with the City's Environmental Services department. The main difficulty has been lack of space combined with transportation and separation of the green waste, household recycling and general waste.

Following close working with the Environmental Services' contractor, green waste is now taken to Nine Elms. Here it is processed at a modern 'energy-from-waste'

facility, rather than going direct to landfill. The facility – operated by Cory Environmental subsidiary, Riverside Resource Recovery Limited in Belvedere - has an average annual capacity of 585,000. The plant is one of the most efficient facilities in Europe - and generates a net of about 66MW of electricity, feeding into the National Grid with enough electricity to serve around 100,000 homes.

New bins have recently been placed in 2 trial areas (Finsbury Circus and Bunhill Fields) that are busy with lunchtime users, hoping to encourage people to consider the environment when disposing of their waste. We already carry out recycling of household waste at various gardeners’ depots across the City - a wheelie bin of 240 litres is collected from the main depot every week, which makes 12,400 litres of recycled waste per year and our office waste (paper, card, toner cartridges, plastics, etc.) has been recycled for many years.

Any plant pots received from West Ham Park Nursery are returned there, where they are stored prior to being returned to the manufacturer for recycling.

5.4 Water Management

Monitoring Use

As part of a City wide drive to reduce water usage, all water meters across the City Gardens are read on a monthly basis in order to maintain accurate records of consumption and highlight any potential leaks.

Mulching

All shrub beds and hedge base areas in the City's Open Spaces are mulched on an annual basis to help retain moisture in the soil, improve the soil structure and enrich the nutrient content of the soil.

Housekeeping: Reducing Water Use

All staff are aware of the importance of reducing water consumption and are regularly reminded of the need to turn off taps properly, report leaks as soon as possible, carry out watering in the early morning or late evening to reduce evaporation, and to avoid general wastage. Drip line irrigation systems are fitted to all new gardens and refurbished gardens in the City. As the pipe is in direct contact with the soil it is a very effective and efficient way of watering plant. Sub-terranean irrigation is being trialled at a number of sites across the City, e.g. at Grants Key lawn which is a south facing garden that is next to the River Thames, resulting in high amounts of evaporation. Newly planted trees also have automatic irrigation installed when they are planted.

5.5 Energy Management

Monitoring Use

Meter readings for all electricity and gas used in the City Gardens are recorded monthly to form annual and seasonal records of usage and to assist us in meeting the Department wide aim of reducing consumption by 5%, prior to a future change to a green energy supplier.

Housekeeping: Reducing Energy Use

All staff are aware of the importance of reducing energy consumption and are regularly reminded of the need to ensure that lights, photocopiers and electrical machinery used in the City Gardens and offices are turned off when not in use and at the end of each working day. Where possible, all lights within the City Gardens will be changed for low energy units based on light or movement sensors during the life of this Plan.

5.6 Nature Conservation

This is covered in Objective 6.

Objective 6: Open Spaces that Address Conservation and Heritage

The City Corporation's commitment to open space management dates back to the 1870s when it campaigned to retain public open spaces and common land that were being threatened by the expansion of London and house-building.

Two Acts of Parliament were passed in the 1870s that granted the City Corporation the right to acquire and protect land within 25 miles of the City for the recreation and enjoyment of the public. This far-sighted policy was the inspiration behind the later Green Belt movement, designed to protect the countryside around British cities from urban sprawl.

Cultural History

With its roots in medieval times, the City of London is the oldest local authority in England. Even the Parliament at Westminster is based on the City of London's Court of Common Council, which has been referred to as the 'Grandmother of Parliaments'. The Square Mile has a long and fascinating history - the City of London itself is over 800 years old and, while fulfilling its role as a modern local authority, it respects and preserves its rich historical legacy. The ancient civic offices of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs are still an integral part of the modern City of London and traditions such as the Lord Mayors Show and the Freedom of the City bring London's history to life.

The 'Square Mile' is not just about business and finance. Within it are galleries, theatres, museums and concert halls to cater for all tastes. There is a wide range of sporting activity, a public leisure centre and the world-famous Barbican Centre.

A Brief History of the City of London's Open Spaces

The range of gardens, piazzas, disused churchyards and burial grounds that make up a large proportion of the City's open space mostly result from two significant historical events that affected the townscape and geography of the City: the Great Fire of 1666 and bomb damage caused during World War II. The devastation caused by both events created pockets of land that were not redeveloped and were retained as open spaces for the City's communities.

After the Second World War, some damaged churches were not rebuilt, they went out of ecclesiastical use and their ruins were kept and landscaped as public gardens. Christchurch Greyfriars, rebuilt by Wren after the Great Fire and the 19th century church of St. Dunstan's in the East (as shown in Figure 10 right) are two such examples.

Figure 10: St Dunstan's in the East



The Disused Burial Ground Act 1854 closed churchyards in the City for burials. Subsequently, although remaining in ecclesiastical ownership, many were landscaped and opened for public use as gardens. Postman's Park, for example, is formed from the former churchyard of St Botolph-without-Aldersgate, St. Leonards Foster Lane and Christchurch Greyfriars, and a number of gravestones can be seen on the boundaries. Bomb damage also revealed stretches of the Roman and medieval City wall and Roman fort, which have been kept and gardens created. These areas are valuable open spaces and important in demonstrating the history of the City.

Finsbury Circus is considered to be the oldest public space in London, dating from 1606. Its oval plot is complemented by the surrounding buildings. The gardens of the Inner and Middle Temples have a 19th and 20th century layout but are medieval in origin, possibly dating from the 12th century when the Knights Templar established their base there. The Barbican landscaping is a group of public, communal and domestic gardens at different levels which are an integral part of the design of the Barbican Estate. All four gardens are on the English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest.

Disused churchyards, including the churchyard of St Paul's Cathedral, make up approximately a third of the total open space in the City. The high number of medieval churches, numbering 110 prior to the Great Fire, and their churchyards means that these spaces form an integral part of the total open space in the City. Today churchyards are not used for burials. The Disused Burial Act 1884 enacted that there was to be no development on these lands. Many churchyards are open to the public by agreement with the church. They were kept intact for public enjoyment, even though today some of the graves and gravestones are no longer visible. Most churchyards are relatively small and provide secluded, intimate spaces. They form essential foils to the hard urban landscape.

Historic green spaces are augmented by a growing number of hard 'civic spaces'. The large day time population of the City places pressure on the limited amount of open space and the City Corporation is actively working with private landowners and developers to enhance highways and existing spaces and to create additional spaces.

6.1 Conservation of the Landscape and Built Environment

As well as being one of the most significant arts sponsors in the UK, the City of London own, preserve and protect some of the finest examples of the Square Miles architectural heritage – from the medieval Guildhall and Thames bridges, to the rare surviving Georgian town palace that is Mansion House.

The City of London Surveyor's department is responsible for the maintenance of landscape infrastructure within the City Gardens, e.g. railings, gates, walls, monuments and memorials. The City's Environmental Services Department maintains the hard landscape on the highway and in unenclosed public spaces. The City Gardens Section therefore works in conjunction with these departments to ensure that the churchyards, gardens and open spaces in the City are maintained to a high standard.

The City Gardens Manager meets with the City Surveyors department on a quarterly basis to discuss maintenance issues and prioritise items that require works and improvements. Since the grounds maintenance contract was taken back 'in-house' by the City Corporation, the focus for improvements has been within the City owned buildings and stores where gardening equipment is held and staff are housed. For example the City Gardens depot at Castle Baynard Street has been repainted, the

floor in the courtyard of the depot re-laid this has ensured that the buildings meet the necessary fire regulations etc. and are fit for purpose as a working depot.

Management Policy - Memorials

The City of London cares for several war memorials situated within the local authority boundary, these are:

- Guildhall War Memorials which include the Boer War Memorial and the First and Second War Memorial
- London Troops - Royal Exchange, Bank
- Royal Fusiliers - Holborn
- Smithfield War Memorial, Smithfield Market
- Submariners - Victoria Embankment

In some cases the cleaning and maintenance of memorials may be undertaken by the church or other local organisations rather than the City of London.

The overarching plan for 'City' owned monuments and memorials is to conserve them through a prioritised phased programme of repair, followed up by appropriate planned maintenance and conservation work. The approach to conservation being one of minimum intervention avoiding major changes to the inherited appearance of the memorials while giving careful consideration to structural stability, general maintenance and cleaning.

Management Policy – Paths, Walls, Railings and Gates

Within historic sites the management policy is to conserve the walls, railings and gates through sensitive repair and appropriate works. The design of open spaces and the materials used to pave streets and other surfaces are of prime importance generally and especially in locations such as conservation areas. It is important to maintain and, where appropriate, upgrade the City's open areas and streets to a high standard as these spaces contribute significantly to the area's attractiveness as a place in which to live and work. The City of London will continue to undertake street enhancement works through specifically targeted programmes, or in association with general street maintenance duties and traffic management schemes.

The 'Delivering Sustainable Streets' programme plays a key role in fulfilling the City of London's commitment to creating an attractive and sustainable public realm. This programme is managed and measured according to Area Based Strategies which ensures the needs of an area are identified and City objectives embedded in the proposals. The Strategy is then put through public consultation and approved by Members to become the baseline document for enhancement works in the area.

An area based approach provides the necessary scale to deliver thematic priorities expressed in the City of London's policies. These include promoting the Cultural City with public art installations; play features to provide amenities for children; infrastructure improvements to reduce flood risk such as sustainable urban drainage and rainwater harvesting; and promoting biodiversity with more planting, trees and habitats. These themes are established in the Strategy and delivered via individual projects. Currently, there are 7 approved Area Based Strategies including those for the Barbican area, Cheapside, the Eastern City Cluster and the Riverside Walk and several more area strategies in the pipeline including those for Bank, Aldgate and Liverpool Street.

Management Policy - Buildings

Where buildings are present within open spaces the policy is to ensure that they are appropriate to the historic character of the site, that they are fit for purpose and are actively used for maintaining the site or for enhancing public use and enjoyment of the site.

5.2 Biodiversity and Nature Conservation

In the City, open spaces, churchyards and gardens provide a haven for birds, butterflies and other wildlife. Improving biodiversity in urban environments such as the City of London is not about focusing on rare and endangered species; it is about ensuring that the natural world which supports us remains healthy. Biodiversity is a term used to describe the numbers of plant, insect and animal habitats in a given location.

The original City of London Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) was launched in 2003 and has now been updated for 2010-2015. The BAP is divided into three Habitat Action Plans (HAP). They look at the different types of habitat that exist in the City and the opportunities that these hold for wildlife and are detailed below.

Urban Green spaces, Churchyards and Cemeteries HAP

Urban green spaces, churchyards and cemeteries have similar opportunities for wildlife in the City; therefore they have been put together as one HAP. The City Corporation aims to protect and enhance urban green spaces, churchyards and cemeteries in the Square Mile. The City of London Biodiversity Partnership is working to increase the value of these spaces by improving them as homes for wildlife and by promoting good land management. The BAP aims to increase knowledge of the City's biodiversity through improved wildlife monitoring and to promote the public's understanding, awareness and enjoyment of biodiversity in City Garden.

The City of London Open Space Strategy was produced in 2008 to guide future management plans for all sites within the City. It concluded that the City should prioritise the provision of green publicly accessible Open Space and protect and promote the provision of green private open space where practicable.

In terms of biodiversity, the priority is to enhance the value of existing City managed sites that are designated as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, these were designated using the criteria and procedures set out in the Mayor of London's Biodiversity Strategy. They are listed as below;

Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation (SMINC)

- River Thames and its tidal tributaries

Site of Borough Importance for Nature Conservation (SBINC)

- Temple Gardens (Grade II)
- The Barbican and St Alphage's Gardens (Grade II)
- Bunhill Fields Burial Ground (Grade II) - this site is outside of the City's boundary, but is owned by the City and managed by the City Gardens Section and therefore appears on this list.

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINC)

- Pepys Garden, Seething lane and St Olave's churchyard

- St Paul's Cathedral Garden
- Cleary Garden
- St Botolph without Bishopsgate churchyard
- Aldermanbury Gardens
- Roman Wall Noble Street
- Finsbury Circus

This will be achieved by increasing the number of bird and bat boxes and appropriate wildlife feeders in these gardens, increasing the amount of native and wildlife-enhancing planting and habitats such as natural water features, continuing good maintenance practice to avoid disturbing wildlife at key times of the year and constructing log piles for Stag Beetles and other insects. Not restricted to SLINC areas named above, these good practice measures (additional bird and bat boxes, water features for bathing birds, bird feeding stations and even small apiaries where feasible) will be implemented at other City Open Space sites. Biodiversity actions have also been added to the performance and development reviews of the City Gardens ground staff, e.g. monitoring wildlife, responsibility of maintaining bird feeders and boxes. It is also important to enhance and create linkages i.e. 'green corridors', between Open Spaces in the City and neighbouring boroughs. These linkages facilitate the movement of plants and animals, allowing them to migrate as the climate changes.

Around 28% of existing open space is private or has restricted use and individual residents and businesses can make a big contribution to enhancing the biodiversity value of the City by improving the way they manage their gardens and roof spaces.

Built Structures HAP

The highly built environment of the City can and does provide opportunities for biodiversity. Over the past few years we have seen Peregrine Falcons choose City roof tops as their nesting home, while balconies and green roofs provide havens for insects, birds and butterflies.

The City of London Built Structures Habitat Action Plan aims to enhance biodiversity in the Square Mile by promoting the opportunities for living roofs and walls in new and existing developments and buildings. The plan seeks that ensure that biodiversity considerations are designed into new buildings, such as the inclusion of bird and bat roosting boxes and living roofs. Important City sites for our flagship species need to be identified, protected and where possible increased.

Tidal Thames HAP

The City of London Biodiversity Action Plan identifies the stretch of the Thames that runs through the City as being important to biodiversity and strives to protect and enhance the wildlife habitats, species diversity and local distinctiveness of the Tidal Thames. The River Thames is now cleaner and sustains a greater diversity of wildlife than it has for 200 years, supporting 119 different species of fish.

The Thames Estuary has been identified as the largest green corridor in London and is protected by Legal status. Green corridors are essential in linking open spaces throughout London to ensure free movement of species leading to increased biodiversity. Throughout the City as a whole there is a lack of green corridors, meaning that it is difficult for wildlife to migrate from the Thames Northward through the City. Improvements in green roofs and the encouragement of greening the City on any scale from gardens to window boxes will help to improve links between the pockets of green space within City.

The City of London Tidal Thames HAP aims to ensure that strategic plans and initiatives recognise the biodiversity importance of the River Thames, whilst promoting public awareness and appreciation of it. It also strives to protect and enhance the wildlife habitats, species diversity and local distinctiveness of the Tidal Thames.

Flagship Species

The 2003 BAP identified House Sparrows, Peregrine Falcons and Black Redstarts as local indicators of biodiversity. Their numbers have been monitored to provide an indication of how successful the action plan has been. For the 2010 – 2015 City Biodiversity Action Plan we have added Bats and Stag Beetles to our Flagship species list to allow us to build up a broader picture of wildlife in the City and to educate people about these important species and their place in the City environment.

Management Policy - Trees

The City considers that trees, planting and the design of open spaces are of particular importance to the visual quality, amenity and wildlife of such a densely developed area as the City. Over one thousand trees can be seen in the City streets and gardens and they range across approximately 140 different species. Climate change means that species should be planted which can cope with predicted higher temperatures and provide shade.

Wherever possible the City favours the use of species of plants and trees, native or otherwise, which help to sustain wildlife. All trees support insect life which provides food for birds and some species of bat. Native tree species are of most value as they will have evolved together with animals which depend on them, but some non-native species are also successful in attracting insects. For birds, trees provide places to nest and staging posts for migrant species.

The City will continue to encourage, the planting of trees and gardens where appropriate and will seek to protect all trees including those on private land where they contribute to the townscape. Where the removal of a tree is unavoidable, it should be replaced. The City of London is also concerned that development proposals do not jeopardise the form, health or survival of trees that have a townscape and natural value. In order to safeguard the trees within the City, the City of London has made a number of Tree Preservation Orders.

The consent of the City's Planning Department is required before works can be undertaken on these trees and such works are strictly controlled. Trees without Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) located within conservation areas are also subject to additional controls. These require that six weeks' notice is given, of any intention to carry out works to such trees. Exemptions apply to the above requirements and include provisions to deal with trees which are dead, dying or dangerous.

These works are over and above the annual tree maintenance programme which concentrates on health and safety issues. Further tree works over the rest of the site will be undertaken on a rolling basis. These works will help ensure the canopy and overall look of the site is maintained.

A City of London Tree Strategy has been prepared by the Planning Department. It sets out the City's strategy for the protection, maintenance and increase in privately owned trees and City owned and managed trees within the City of London.

It is intended that Part 1 of the Tree Strategy will be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) as part of the Local Development Framework (LDF). The document is currently going through formal consultation and is expected to be adopted for 2012.

It has been found that there are only 300 trees classified as mature in the City, these will be monitored annually to check their health. All other trees will be surveyed on a rolling basis every 5 years. Currently 24 trees have TPO's in the Square Mile. It has been recommended that a further 41 become protected. The City Gardens department is currently discussing these recommendations with the City's Planning Department. Once the details have been finalised and the City will submit the new TPO for these trees to Central Government.

To enable detailed information about each tree to be stored electronically and linked to a GIS based map and image library, the *Arbortrak* tree management software is used.

Management Policy - Lawns

The lawns throughout the City Gardens are continuously maintained due to the high amount of usage they endure from visitors. During the summer months the benches and lawns in Finsbury Circus are awash with people (see Figure 11). Over 2 million people visited Finsbury Circus in 2008. Regular mowing and watering ensures that the lawn areas survive these high usage times.

In 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.



Figure 11: Finsbury Circus during a busy summer lunchtime in 2008

Management Policy - Shrubberies

The City Gardens Section has inherited a large number of mature shrubs, which is fortunate as they provide nesting areas for birds and other wildlife. Whilst we recognise the need to maintain this quantity of shrubbery to ensure that bird populations continue to live in the City, we must ensure that dead and dying shrubs are renewed and replaced. In newly designed gardens we must also ensure that we include a percentage of larger mature shrubs (around 30%), with a mixture of native and berry bearing species to increase the area of the City that can be inhabited by birds and other small wildlife.

Minimising Our Impact

The timing and methods of maintenance operations across the City are planned to minimise any impact on wildlife habitats. For example, unless in an emergency, tree work is not carried out in the nesting season and where possible, deadwood/cavities in trees are retained to provide habitats for hole-nesting birds, bats and insects.

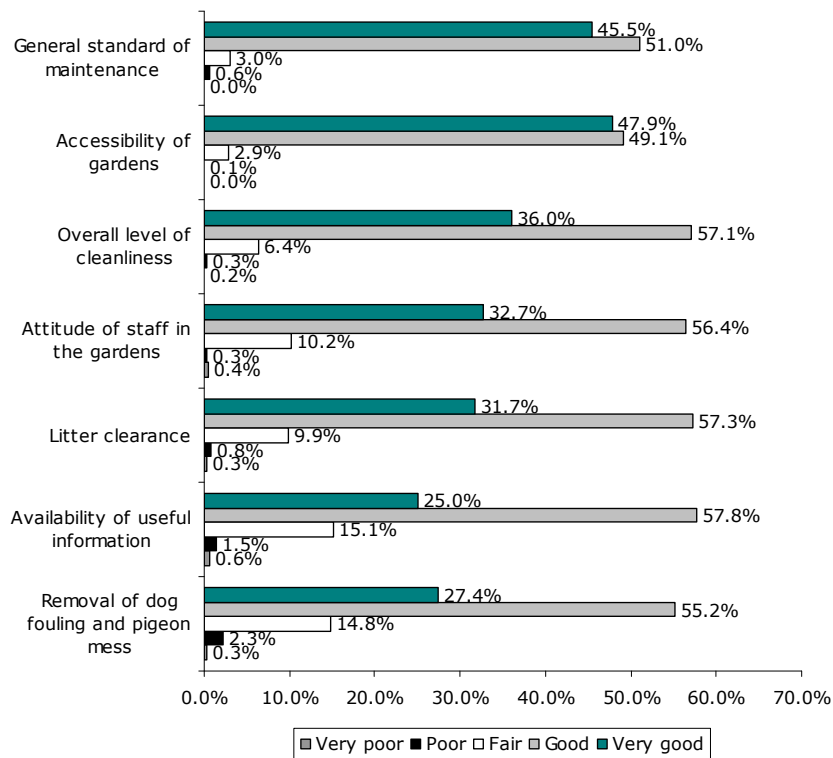
Objective 7: A City Where Community Involvement is Encouraged

7.1 Understanding the Current Use of the City Gardens

In setting priorities for the management of the City Gardens, it is essential that we have a good understanding about how and why the open spaces are currently used. Understanding user requirements allows us to prioritise improvement works based on visitor perception. The commissioning of a detailed visitor survey in 2009 provided key data, which is summarised below:

- 86.1% of respondents use open spaces in the City. Half of the respondents (49.6%) use or walk through the City Gardens at least once a week.
- Finsbury Circus (45.8%) and St. Paul's Churchyard (42.7%) are the two open spaces most likely to be used by visitors. Finsbury Circus however (26.1%) is more likely to be the one main open space visited than all other parks, gardens or churchyards. The location of Finsbury Circus provides an ideal opportunity for workers to take a break from the office, whilst St. Paul's Churchyard, with its proximity to the Millennium Bridge, is a natural draw for visitors.
- **General standard of maintenance:** 99.5% of respondents rated the standard of maintenance in the City's Open Spaces as fair, good or very good. This has increased since 2004 when the score was 89%

Figure 12: Ratings provided for level of satisfaction with open spaces



Sample bases = all respondents who could provide a rating, sample base sizes range from 709 to 906, single response for each area of satisfaction. Ratings are provided on a scale of 1-5, where 1 = very poor and 5 = very good.

- Only 3% of all people surveyed were interested in volunteering in the City Gardens. Of the 30 who were interested there was no consensus over preferred time. Only 7% of respondents wanted to receive the City Gardens bi-monthly newsletter 'What's New'. Volunteering and community work has so far been carried out with groups and organisations that have shown a specific interest in being involved with the City Gardens, e.g. The Scouts, local schools and City businesses. The low response to this question supports this targeted strategy as it suggests that open volunteering (such as with 'friends' groups) would not be well attended.

Continuing on from this survey, further user information and satisfaction ratings will continue to be monitored through:

- Visitor satisfaction surveys on a regular basis (every 1-4 years);
- Comment cards (made available through leaflet dispensers; and returnable through deposit boxes on-site or freepost);
- Feedback through customer care emails / post / calls (clear advertisement of contact details to be provided on all publications and notice boards);
- Feedback through a year round online survey.

7.2 Audience Development Priorities

We aim to develop the audiences for the City Gardens by increasing active involvement and enriching enjoyment of the sites through further developing involvement of existing user-groups, volunteering opportunities and enhancing the access and interpretation aspects.

The City Garden's already work with a range of City partners, such as the City of London Festival and Barbican Children's Library, to increase the number of events, activities and opportunities available for involvement in the City Gardens. A schedule of events is created for the City Gardens to increase visitor numbers and the enjoyment of these spaces. Greater partnership working is being developed to better publicise and promote the City Gardens and the events that take place to increase a greater usage of the City Gardens Spaces.

7.3 Community involvement

Community involvement is an essential part of any open space; it allows the community to take ownership and have pride in their local area particularly where they can have a say in the development and maintenance of a green space. It also benefits the site when the community are able to assist in projects and support various activities through helping with promotion or taking ownership to run them through volunteering, such as the Big Read at Bunhill Fields each year.

The role of volunteers in the management and development of open spaces is invaluable in terms of the benefits gained by the individual including health, social and experience, and to the City Gardens in terms of better community relationships, community ownership and better used spaces. The City Gardens Team support the work of volunteers across the City and are part of a volunteer improvement group which looks at improving volunteer opportunities and experiences across the Open Spaces department. Such ideas as investing in volunteers through ensuring they receive appropriate training and support in relation to their volunteer duties and work is key and would include sharing practical knowledge and experience from within the

City Gardens Team to volunteers through in house training and hands on demonstrations.

The City Gardens has a number of groups that have a vested interest in the Green spaces around the City:

- Barbican Wildlife Group
- Barbican Horticultural Society
- Golden Lane Gardeners Group
- Friends of Fortune Street Park Group
- Blake Society
- Local Residents
- City Businesses
- Lord Mayor Scout Group
- Barbican Children's Library
- City of London School for Girls
- Sir John Cass Primary School
- Prior Weston Primary School and Children's Centre
- Lyceum School
- St. Paul's Cathedral Choir School
- EC1 Play Scheme

These groups are very supportive of activities, events, and projects within the City Gardens and will involve themselves whenever possible.

Resident Helping Hands

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 Barbican Estate Office and the City Gardens team to improve the diversity of wildlife in the Estate as a whole, with a focus on 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 needs of the site.

In the two years, from January 2010 to end of December 2011, the volunteers contributed well over 1000 hours in the garden. The two hedges, the central wildflower meadow, the nursery bed, and the path around the garden require regular maintenance which the group undertake. In addition, new projects, chosen to increase the biodiversity of the garden, include the creation of a wildlife friendly cottage garden, the garden's first pond and most recently the planting out in the original Fann Street hedge of well over 100 small native shrubs, a donation from the Woodland Trust with the help of local school children. Bird feeders have been maintained in the garden since the working mornings begun.

In the summers of 2009, 2010 and 2011 the garden was opened to non-Barbican residents as part of the Open Garden Squares Weekend organised by the London Parks & Gardens Trust and have raised funds to provide new plants for the garden.

Residents have also taken on maintenance and wildlife planting in Bernard Morgan House a garden managed specifically for Black Redstarts, as well as carrying out insect surveys on a monthly basis here and in Fann Street Wildlife Garden.

Volunteers Investing in Their Community

Thanks to recent changes in the way that the City's gardens are maintained, it is now possible to take on a more co-ordinated approach to volunteering in the City. All hours spent by volunteers in the City gardens are recorded and we are delighted to

report that we saw an increase of over 75% in the number of hours spent by volunteers in the City during 2008/09 totalling almost 1500 hours.

To ensure that this increase in volunteer participation continues, projects incorporating volunteers have already begun for 2011/2012. Last spring over 25 officers from the Forensics team of the City of London Police spent a day at Bunhill Fields planting shrubs, cleaning and staining benches and assisted in the cleaning of our depot as part of our improvements to the site outlined in our Management Plan.

Inspiring Young Minds

Of our 9,000 residents, less than 10% are aged 19 or under (Census data, 2001), this still equates to around 900 little hands that we can inspire through projects in the City Gardens. We continually carry out activities with local schools and groups to educate them about the range of flora and fauna that can be found in the City.

In the past the scouts have visited the City Gardens on several occasions, to plant winter bulbs, earn their conservation badges, clean up the Thames foreshore with Thames 21, assist with planting summer bedding and count birds as part of „Make Nature Count week“.

The City Gardens Team work closely with schools within and on the boundary of the Square Mile, this has included, running an Insect hotel painting and drawing competition, sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Gardeners and involving local schools, Planting tree whips at Fann street as part of the Queens Jubilee Tree planting project by the woodland Trust involving the Lyceum, creating a wildlife area at Bunhill Fields with school children and planting up Festival Gardens as part of the St Paul's Coach park project with local school children.

In addition to our higher profile events, the City Gardens team run a number of everyday activities designed to promote gardening and the City's open spaces. These include hands-on demonstrations and talks on balcony gardening and sustainability given to local residents and hosted at various sheltered accommodation sites, as well as guided walks for all user groups such as those given for the benefit of U3A (the University of the Third Age).

The City Guides carry out guided walks around Bunhill Fields (on Wednesday lunchtimes) and throughout the City Gardens (on Saturdays and Sundays) during the summer months. The qualified City of London Guides are trained in horticulture and the history of the gardens. This service is a result of a close working relationship between the City Gardens Section and the City's Guides, and of the jointly-run horticultural education programme that is now in its fifth year.

Various ideas for future events are always welcomed and where possible and appropriate, instigated.

Encouraging Further Opportunities

The City Gardens Team are often approached regarding the possibility of further opportunities for community involvement, including Scout and Cub group activities and gardening clubs. We view these as an opportunity to encourage the community to become more involved with the City's Open Spaces and will offer assistance wherever possible and appropriate to encourage groups to make use of them.

The City Gardens Team also encourages corporate volunteering and involvement in the City Gardens to promote greater relationships and links with the business

community. Other groups, such as the Orange Rock Corps, offer volunteers to help carry out larger improvement or management Tasks in the City Gardens. People volunteer with this group to earn tickets to music concerts and have in the past helping paint the fences at Bunhill Fields.

Objective 8: Well Marketed and Promoted City Open Spaces

8.1 Information and Interpretation

We recognise the importance of promoting the City and the Open Spaces within it locally, regionally and nationally in order to encourage visitors, share best practice and raise our overall profile.

Marketing



Website

All marketing and promotional information about the City Gardens is placed on our web page www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/citygardens, which is regularly updated. Information on Bunhill Fields is also included on a number of other web pages including the BBC, London Garden Trust and Your London sites.



Visitor Website

The City has also developed a website especially for visitors to the City, which individually lists all publically accessible gardens that are maintained by the City of London and provides a brief introduction to their history and details any notable planting found within them. <http://www.visitthecity.co.uk/index.php/attractions/category/4/>. This site is soon to be updated and incorporated in to the City of London's revamped public facing website.



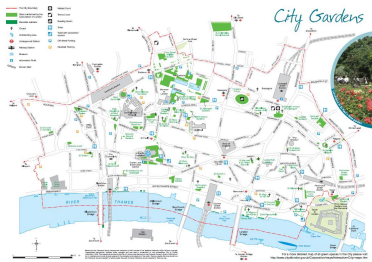
'What's New'

A newsletter is produced every two month. It provides information on current events and work programmes, future projects, staff and information on how visitors can be more involved with the City Gardens. The newsletter is available from the City Gardens office, but is also displayed on the notice boards and posted on our web site.



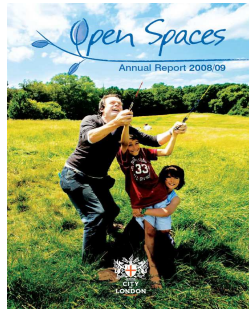
Open Spaces Leaflets

A suite of free leaflets providing information about the City Gardens, the range of facilities provided, our history, walks, and how visitors can help us manage the gardens, is available for visitors. They can be obtained from the City Information centre by St Paul's Cathedral, local libraries and community centres, and for downloading via our web site.



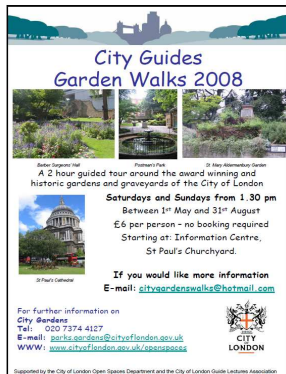
Map

As part of the City Gardens leaflet, a map of the City was produced detailing the location of all facilities and local transport routes. In 2008, the map was reproduced on the main entrance signs to a number of gardens and open spaces, and can also be downloaded from our web site.



Annual Report

Each May, the Open Spaces Department produces an Annual Report setting out what the department has achieved over the past year, reports from the individual Superintendents regarding the sites they manage, and a breakdown of expenditure for each site. This is distributed to all staff and local organisations, and is available to visitors on request.



Events / Activities

Throughout the year there are various events and activities and these are advertised within the City Gardens, on the website and elsewhere. Events include the annual 'Reading Challenge' in the summer, guided walks throughout the summer provided by the City Guides, Green Garden Lunchtimes a week of lunchtime workshops during the summer, as well as native bulb planting and other wildlife activities throughout the year.

The City Gardens team are always on the look-out for new and innovative events and activities to hold.



Entrance Signs and Noticeboards:

In larger gardens and Open Spaces welcome signs are situated. Noticeboards are also present in a number of gardens, providing information such as the 'What's New' newsletter, information on where to pick up the free City Gardens leaflet and map, the entertainment programme, advertising of events that are happening elsewhere in the City of London, and contact details for people to acquire further information.



Well Informed and Easily Identifiable Staff

All City Gardens staff are provided with green uniforms that identify them as City of London staff. In addition, all staff are trained in customer care, are familiar with this Plan, and are able to relay a range of facts about the history and management of the gardens to members of the public.

8.2 National Awards

To promote the City Gardens on a national scale, allow comparison with others and celebrate the high standards achieved, we recognise the value of entering national awards. Following success at London in Bloom in 2009 the City was entered into the Britain in Bloom 2010 Awards, at which the City received:

- A Gold award and Category Winner in the Town category of Britain in Bloom
- A Discretionary Award for Sustainable Landscaping

Awards received in 2011

London in Bloom 2011 Awards

- City of London was awarded a Gold Award in the Borough Category
- City of London was awarded 1st Place for the London in Bloom Floral Display Award
- Small Park of The Year Award:
 - West Smithfield Garden received Gold and was the overall category winner.
 - Cleary Gardens received Silver Gilt,
 - St. Dunstan's in the East received Silver Gilt,
 - Tower Hill Gardens received Silver Gilt,
- Cemetery up to 5 acres: Bunhill Fields received Gold and was the overall category winner.
- Pub and Restaurant of the Year Award: 2nd Place for St. Brides Tavern
- Business Premises of the Year Award: 3rd Place for Inner Temple

Green Flag

The City was successful in retaining a Green Flag Award for Bunhill Fields in 2011 in addition to receiving a Green Heritage Award for the same site.

Other Awards

The City Gardens gardeners were successful in being awarded the 'Luder Cup' in the 'Flowers in the City' Summer Campaign 2011" an award given by the Worshipful Company of Gardeners for Newgate Street Islands Bed. This built on the successful achievement of winning a 'Luder Cup' in 2010 for Festival Gardens.

In addition the City Gardens Team was awarded a 'Green Apple' award in 2010 for the success of the 'Beyond the Hive' Insect hotel design competition.

8.3 Resources

Press Releases

All promotional material produced by the City Gardens office is sent immediately to the City's Public Relations team, to enable them to consider whether any items should be converted into press releases.

Mailing list

To enable information to be sent out quickly and efficiently to local schools, clubs and organisations with an interest in the site, as well as all residents within a one mile radius, a mailing list is maintained at the City Garden office. Information is generally sent out electronically as this is more sustainable and hard copies are sent out where they have been specifically requested or are not suitable to be sent electronically.

Filming

In common with all City open spaces, we welcome the use of the City's Gardens, churchyards and Open Spaces for filming through our established agreement and charging policy, provided it does not compromise the ability of other visitors to enjoy the site.

Part 2:

Objectives for the Future

Part 2: Objectives for the Future

As demonstrated in Part 1 of the management plan, the City of London contains a huge diversity of spaces, each with its own unique character and set of uses. However, for the purposes of management, these can be grouped into 4 broad groups that have common features:

- A) Churchyards - active
- B) Churchyards - disused
- C) Gardens
- D) Highway Planting
- E) Areas maintained on behalf of others

(For full list of sites see **Appendix 1**)

Set out below is a short description of each category including any relevant designations and a broad outline of common site features. Hidden within these categories are a number of sites that have a separate designation, which determines that these sites require a different style of management from the rest of their group. In the case of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) for example, there is a requirement to demonstrate that specific features of the site are positively managed (to ensure that the City Gardens Section can report on Central Government's single data list 160). These sites of special designation are identified separately and each has a site specific management plan of its own in Part 3 of this plan.

Churchyards – Active (A) and Disused (B)

We maintain nearly 40 churchyards within the Square Mile. Approximately half are attached to active Churches, whilst the remainder are the remnants of old churchyards, i.e. where churches once stood but were not replaced following destruction by either the Great Fire of 1666 or the bombing of the second world war. The only indication that this latter group were once churchyards are a few memorials stood around the outer walls or railings. Even so they all provide an invaluable source space for residents, workers and wildlife.

Whilst full details of designations are listed for individual sites in the City Gardens Critical Audit and elsewhere, churchyards are usually managed and maintained on behalf of the Church under powers granted by one of the following Acts of Parliament:

- **Open Spaces Act 1906** – Section 9 grants local authorities the power to maintain any Open Space or Burial Ground at their own cost.
- **City of London (Various Powers) Act 1952** – permits the City Corporation to maintain, by Agreement, unenclosed land and some disused Burial Grounds and Churchyards.
- **The Burial Act 1855** – closed churchyards in the City. These spaces are still owned by the church but many were landscaped and opened for the public to use, e.g. Postman's Park
- **Disused Burial Grounds Act 1884**, enacted that there was to be no development on these lands.

In addition, where work carried out in the churchyard materially affects the features of the site, e.g. change in shape of pathway or removal of significant tree, A Faculty also has to be obtained. This is a process of special permission granted by the

Diocesan Advisory Committee to carry out such works. In addition, where works are likely to require excavation below 300mm, a watching brief by the Museum of London Archaeological Service (MoLAS) is also required, in case of accidental disturbance of historic features/artefacts.

The site features of both active and disused churchyards are very similar, as are the restrictions that govern the work carried out there. Although the City has acquired the freehold of a few former churchyards over the years, they tend to still be managed under powers granted by the same Acts as those listed above.

Our powers within churchyards are therefore restricted mainly to *maintaining*, rather than *improving*, and our services are for the most part restricted to basic grounds maintenance (lawn and shrub bed maintenance, seasonal bedding and cleansing functions).

Gardens (C)

These are the sites over which we have the greatest amount of day to day control. They are often the result of foresighted managers or Members that fought in the past to purchase 'scraps' of land with the aim of securing a green network of spaces for future City generations. They tend to have been acquired under City Corporation title as Public Open Space or are managed under the Open Spaces Act 1906 "*for the enjoyment of the public as open space and for no other purpose*". They are maintained in trust at the cost of the ratepayer on behalf of the public in perpetuity.

There are approximately 40 of these sites, either fully enclosed gardens (that are locked overnight) or open garden areas with free access at all times. Whilst this is an admirable goal in terms of accessibility in a 24-hour economy, this can bring with it other problems and challenges, such as anti-social behaviour. The sites have been laid out historically as formal garden areas including such features as lawns, formal trees, seasonal bedding, shrubberies, hedges and water features. All gardens sites are maintained from the public purse as part of our local authority function.

Several of the enclosed garden areas have sets of Byelaws outlining what activities are and are not allowed. Each set is very similar but it is recognised that these Byelaws – drawn up at the turn of the last century – are outdated and in need of review.

Highway planting (D)

At over 50 separate areas, this is the largest group of sites that we look after. This category includes the planters (built and free-standing), beds, piazzas, trees and corner plots that make up much of the green space under our care. The vast majority are maintained under Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980 which gives the power to maintain planted areas and street furniture on the public highway.

Because of the amount of services under the City's streets, coupled with the poor quality of the subsoil comprising mostly bomb rubble resulting from World War Two, many of the highway beds have to sit above, rather than lay within, the footway. This brings challenges of access and safety of maintenance, additional irrigation requirements due to faster drainage, and an almost 'temporary' feel to some of these areas which are often threatened through road realignment or building development. They are comprised of mainly established shrubberies, seasonal bedding or herbaceous planting, and are maintained to the same rigorous standards as the gardens and churchyards above.

Areas Maintained on Behalf of Others (E)

As well as maintaining the public open spaces within the 'Square Mile', in our role as local authority we also have the ability to maintain other City Corporation-owned land. Within the City this includes the grounds at housing estates such as the Barbican, the City Schools, Mansion House and the landscaping around Guildhall. These are not maintained out of the public purse but instead the private budget for the relevant client department. Although on private footprint, each of the sites (with the exception of school grounds) is accessible to or provides a strong visual amenity to the public.

With nearly 50 such areas, this is clearly a large proportion (numerically) of the sites that we maintain, and consequently an invaluable resource for City gardens users and wildlife. They also provide a source of income for the City Gardens section, as the cost of our services at these sites has to be reimbursed.

This category is probably the one in which we have the least freedom to influence design or development of the sites, as they are maintained as foil for the building to which they belong. However through good partnering relationships and robust service level agreements, we are able to guide clients towards the best maintenance regime for their site whilst attempting to link to appropriate City policies and strategies.

City Gardens Management Plan Objectives: 2011-2016

Objective 1		Well Managed Spaces	
Action No	Action	Links to other docs	Completion Date
OBJ 1.1	Deliver an individual annual learning and development plan for all City Gardens Staff.	OS BP	Annually updated
OBJ 1.2	Achieve SLINC status for 3 additional sites: St. Dunstan's in the East, Postman's Park and West Smithfield rotunda.	BAP-GCS 1.2	2012 / 2013
OBJ 1.3	Review applicability for an apprenticeship scheme in the City Gardens Team.	OSBP 5	2012 / 2013
OBJ 1.4	Undertake re-assessment in Investors in People.	OSBP 5	2011 / 2012
OBJ 1.5	Review City Gardens Bye Laws, subject to resource availability in City Solicitors Department.	OSS 3	2014 / 2015
OBJ 1.6	Formalise churchyard agreements with City Solicitor (subject to resource availability).	OSS 3e	2014 / 2015
OBJ 1.7	Comment on upcoming City Strategies, e.g. Core Strategy Consultation.	BAP GCS1.7	On-going
OBJ 1.8	Conduct 1,000 face to face survey of users and non-users of the City Gardens.	OSBP, OSS 10d	2014 / 2015
OBJ 1.9	Achieve 90% satisfaction levels from user survey.	KPI	On-going
OBJ 1.10	Continue to work with the Department of Planning & Transportation to ensure that we maximise opportunities for new open space through S106 funding and similar, and that those spaces are sustainable and offer full access to all.	OSS 1a	On-going
OBJ 1.11	Work with contacts in the Department of Planning & Transportation to try to secure greater public access to existing and new private gardens within the City.	OSS 1b	On-going
OBJ 1.12	Where development works are likely to impact upon an existing open space for any length of time, negotiate with developers to ensure that either temporary open space is provided, or enhancements are made to neighbouring spaces to help cope with increased visitor numbers.	OSS 2b	On-going
OBJ 1.13	Maximise opportunities to include play within appropriate gardens by delivering 3 play areas within existing sites by 2013.	OSS 5a	2013

Action No	Action	Links to other docs	Completion Date
OBJ 1.14	Utilise funding available through the Access Team to continue with programme of garden improvements aimed at making spaces DDA compliant, e.g. re-profiling of steps, defining path edges, etc.	OSS 3a	On-going
OBJ 1.15	Ensure that an Equal Opportunities audit is undertaken for City Gardens projects over £50k.	OSS 3a	On-going
OBJ 1.16	Work with police and other agencies to „design out“ potential problem areas from new spaces and to manage anti-social behaviour at existing spaces.	OSS 3b	On-going
OBJ 1.17	Work with Cross Rail, other external partners and internal partners to manage the temporary loss of Finsbury Circus Garden during the Cross Rail project, in order to secure the best possible long term outcome for the City, the garden and its users.	OSS 8a	2017
OBJ 1.18	Continue to work with partners in neighbouring local authorities to ensure improved open spaces on the City fringe	OSS 9a	On-going

Objective 2 A Welcoming City			
Action No	Action	Links to other docs	Completion Date
OBJ 2.1	Continue to produce and circulate regular newsletters to City Gardens users (6 per year)	OSS 10a	On-going
OBJ 2.2	Implement and enhance Interpretation in the City Gardens by erecting new interpretation boards/cabinets at 5 sites, ensuring site facilities are shown and updating the City Gardens map to show all gardens that are fully accessible to disabled users.	BAP GCS2.2	2014
OBJ 2.3	Keep the City of London Website up to date with all events and activities taking place in the gardens.	OSS 10a	On-going
OBJ 2.4	Add new benches to Portsoken Street Garden, Byward Street and St Magnus the Martyr as detailed in the Area Based Grants Bids that were successful in 2009.	ABG 2009	2011-2013

Objective 3 Healthy, safe and secure environment			
Action No	Action	Links to other docs	Completion Date
OBJ 3.1	Continue good health and safety practice across the City Gardens Team by reviewing progress against health and safety plan at interim Performance Development Framework Reviews.	HSAR 2009	On-going
OBJ 3.2	Review progress being made against the 12 Open Spaces Department health and safety indicators through completing the annual audit review and receiving validation visits.	HSAR 2009	On-going
OBJ 3.3	Update the health and safety plan based on the annual audit and discussions with the senior management team regarding progress and priorities.	HSAR 2009	On-going
OBJ 3.4	Introduction of divisional health and safety forum.	HSAR 2009	On-going
OBJ 3.5	Integrate health and safety into currently meetings and agendas.	HSAR 2009	On-going
OBJ 3.6	Roll out health and safety manual to all staff.	HSAR 2009	On-going
OBJ 3.7	Develop user friendly safe systems of work to communicate risk management procedures to all staff.	HSAR 2009	On-going

Objective 4 Well Maintained and Clean City Open Spaces			
Action No	Action	Links to other docs	Completion Date
OBJ 4.1	Review existing purchasing practices with an aim to reducing waste through packaging.	OSBP 1	On-going
OBJ 4.2	Undertake trials to identify best method of recycling non-organic waste collected on site. Continue to improve and evolve the way we recycle our non-organic waste.	OSBP 3	2011 / 2012 Annually
OBJ 4.3	Add all machinery and plant equipment owned by the section on to the TRANSFORM information system.	HSAR 2009	On-going
OBJ 4.4	Continue with a yearly review of all mature trees, together with an annual review of a ¼ of all other trees resulting in a complete inspection for all trees every 4 years.	Tree Strategy	Annual

Action No	Action	Links to other docs	Completion Date
OBJ 4.5	Develop the agreed service level commitment to the City Gardens Section by city surveyors Department to pick up Gaps in service where viable.	HSAR 2009	2011 / 2012
OBJ 4.6	Continue with entry in to London in Bloom and achieve min Silver Gilt Standard.	OSBP 1 & 4	Annual
OBJ 4.7	Continue with entry in to London Garden Society competition.	OSBP 4	Annual
OBJ 4.8	Work toward the programme of improvements recommended in the City Gardens Critical Audit, as funding becomes available.	OSS 1c	On-going
OBJ 4.9	Where new spaces are created in partnership with Planning and others, continue to secure funding in order to offset future maintenance implication, thereby ensuring the sustainability of these projects.	OSS 3d	On-going

Objective 5 Sustainable City Gardens			
Action No	Action	Links to other docs	Completion Date
OBJ 5.1	Take part in the annual Sustainability Audit, and implement any associated actions.	OSBP 3	On-going
OBJ 5.2	Achieve Key Performance Indicator targets to reduce energy and water consumption.	OSBP 3	2011/On-going
OBJ 5.3	Change all existing light bulbs/strips in City Gardens for low energy units.	OSBP 3	2012 / 2013
OBJ 5.4	Investigate use of electrical vehicles in the City Gardens fleet.	OSBP 3	2011 / 2012
OBJ 5.5	Continually review cleaning materials used in the City Gardens to enable them to be replaced with more sustainable options where possible.	OSBP 3	On-going
OBJ 5.6	Research administering of chemicals by droplet applicator.	OSBP 1 & 3	2011 / 2012
OBJ 5.7	Annual mulch a third of the City Gardens flower beds in the autumn/winter.	OSBP 3	Annual
OBJ 5.8	Through closer working with Planning & Transportation, ensure that new spaces delivered through S106 contain a balanced proportion of green space and trees to balance the hard landscaping.	OSS 5a	On-going
OBJ 5.9	Ensure that a Sustainability audit is undertaken for all new City Gardens projects.	OSS 6a	On-going

Objective 6 Open Spaces that Address Conservation and Heritage			
Action No	Action	Links to other docs	Completion Date
OBJ 6.1	Maintain bird, bat and insect boxes already installed in City Gardens by carrying out annual inspections; replacing when necessary.	OSS 5b	Annual
OBJ 6.2	Identify mature trees in the City that require Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) with the City Planning Department, and pursue awarding protection.	Tree Strategy	2011 / 2012
OBJ 6.3	Submit all TPO requests to Central Government in conjunction with City Planning Department.	Tree Strategy	2012
OBJ 6.4	Develop a Tree Strategy for the City, and adopt its policies for the protection and enhancement of the City's 'Treescape'.	Tree Strategy	2011 - Completed
OBJ 6.5	Implement actions from the Tree Strategy into the City Gardens forward plan, management works and practices.	BAP GCS2.4	2011-2016
OBJ 6.6	Complete individual Conservation Management Plans for all City Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC's) (4 by 2011, 8 by 2012, 9 by 2013 and 10 by 2014).	BAP GCS 1.2	2014
OBJ 6.7	Produce best practice guidance notes for the management of lakes and ponds within the Square Mile.	BAP GCS 1.4	2012 / 2013
OBJ 6.8	Investigate the potential for wildlife ponds in the City using the opportunity maps produced by Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL).	BAP GCS 1.8	2012 / 2013
OBJ 6.9	Audit and monitor biodiversity: achieve 10% increase per annum on number of records submitted to GiGL for recording.	BAP GCS 1.5	Annual
OBJ 6.10	Produce a „Biodiversity Map“ of all green spaces within the City and assess where there are deficient areas/corridors of green space.	BAP GCS 1.6	2012 / 2013
OBJ 6.11	Improve planting for biodiversity at St Paul's Cathedral Gardens, St Mary Aldermary, Byward street Garden, Portsoken Street and St Magnus the Martyr as detailed in the Area Base Grants proposals.	ABG	2011 - Completed

Action No	Action	Links to other docs	Completion Date
OBJ 6.12	Identify areas within City Gardens where mowing regime can be altered to allow for meadows to develop and produce a timetable for their implementation.	OSS 5b	2012 / 2013
OBJ 6.13	Ensure new and refurbished spaces incorporate planting that is of maximum benefit to wildlife, e.g. native species, shrubs that produce edible berries etc., in accordance with aspirations within the Local Area Agreement and to create essential linkages between existing spaces.	OSS 5b	On-going
OBJ 6.14	Work with City businesses and residents to encourage the planting of wildlife friendly species within private gardens.	OSS 5c	On-going

Objective 7 A City Where Community Involvement is Encouraged			
Action No	Action	Links to other docs	Completion Date
OBJ 7.1	Annual native bulb planting with local schools and scout group in minimum of 1 City Garden per annum.	OSS 10c	Annual
OBJ 7.2	Produce an education, resource and worksheet pack for local schools to encourage visits and further use of the City Gardens adding to the portfolio of resources already available.	OSS 10c	2012 / On-going
OBJ 7.3	Involve local community and children in the implementation of new planting and other biodiversity enhancements e.g. bird boxes, log piles at St Paul's Cathedral Gardens, St Mary Aldermanbury, Byward street Garden, Portsoken Street and St Magnus the Martyr as detailed in the Area Base Grants proposals.	ABG	2011 / 2012
OBJ 7.4	Increase volunteer hours by 3% each year.	KPI	Annual
OBJ 7.5	Increase attendance at organised educational events by 10% annually.	KPI	Annual
OBJ 7.6	Carry out the RSPB Big Garden Bird watch every January with volunteers in the City Garden SLINC sites.	BAP GCS1.5	Annual
OBJ 7.7	Work with existing and new partners (such as Business in the Community) to maximise opportunities for volunteering in the City Gardens.	OSS 10c	On-going

Objective 8 Well Marketed and Promoted City Open Spaces			
Action No	Action	Links to other docs	Completion Date
OBJ 8.1	Create a City Walks Wildlife Leaflet as detailed in the Area Based Grants Bid.	BAP GCS2.3	2011 - Completed
OBJ 8.2	Update all information on the City of London Website and support the corporate migration of the public facing website.	BAP GCS2.1	2012
OBJ 8.3	Maintain and update information about City gardens and open spaces on the City of London Website regularly to ensure it is current and accurate.	BAP GCS2.1	Monthly
OBJ 8.4	Develop a range of presentations for use with local schools, community groups and interest groups to create a portfolio of resources.	OSS 10c	2012 / On-going
OBJ 8.5	Install a series of interpretative panels around SINC sites highlighting points of historical and environmental significance.	OSS 10b	2013 / 2014
OBJ 8.6	Research costs and styles of updating signage in City Gardens and seek approval and funding for its implementation.	OSS 10b	2014
OBJ 8.7	Promote City open spaces for a range of events, activities and healthy outdoor pursuits throughout the year, via newsletters, articles, and the City Gardens website.	OSS 10a	On-going
OBJ 8.8	Continue to promote the diversity and location of open spaces in the City through the on-going programme of guided walks, maps, informative signage and walks leaflets.	OSS 10b	On-going

Part 3: Site Specific Action Plans

Part 3: Site Specific Action Plans

This section contains site specific action plans for those sites which are designated as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC's) and those sites being proposed for SINC designation. These plans contain further information regarding the unique attributes of these sites that have resulted in their designations, along with specific action plans describing ways in which these will be positively managed to improve and enhance their condition.

Here is a list of the site specific management plans for **designated** Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation, which is found in this section:

- A9 St Botolph Bishopsgate Churchyard
- A23 St Paul's Cathedral Garden
- B14 St Mary Aldermanbury Gardens
- C17 Cleary Garden
- C20 Finsbury Circus
- C29 The Roman Wall, Noble Street
- C42 Pepys Garden, Seething Lane and A22 St Olave's Churchyard

Here is a list of the site specific management plans for those sites being **proposed** for Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation designation, which are found in this section:

- B9 St Dunstan's in the East
- C34 Postman's Park
- C44 West Smithfield Rotunda

All of these site specific action plans are also available as individual PDF's.

A9: St. Botolph Bishopsgate Churchyard

Site Management Plan

Historical background

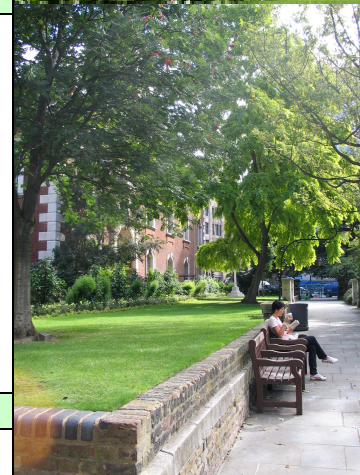
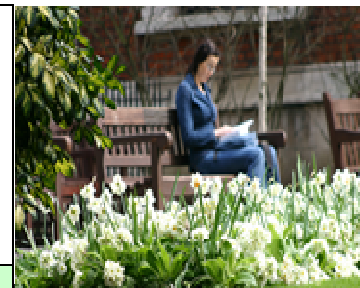
The original Norman church was replaced by a Medieval church, which was subsequently demolished in 1724. A new church was designed and built from 1725-1728 by James Gold. The church suffered little damage during World War II, the only loss being the West window. In 1760 the churchyard extended to its present size with ground donated by the Common Council. To the West of the church the Infants School has served as a hall since 1905. The figures at the front are of Coade stone which are dated back to 1821. A tomb outside the church hall reads "In the vault beneath are deposited the remains of Sir William Rawlins KNT OBT 26/3/1838 AE 85". A monument beside the main church reads "John Travers Cornwell V.C of HMS Chester the battle of Jutland June 1916 Hero of 16 years". At the Bishopsgate entrance there is a memorial slab of George Heath with engraved writing which is no longer legible.

Legislation, designations and restrictions

- Designated as a Public Open Space, under the agreement from the Open Spaces Act 1906.
- City of London Corporation are responsible for the planting and its maintenance.
- The churchyard of St. Botolph Bishopsgate is listed as Grade II by English Heritage under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest. List entry number 1064751.
- The church of St. Botolph is listed as Grade II* by English Heritage (list entry number 1064747)
- Designated as a Site of Importance to Nature Conservation
SINC Code: CiL04 **SINC Grade:** Local
Reason for designation: BAP Habitat – Churchyard & Cemetery

Site Management

Opening hours	Open 7 days a week throughout the year from 8am to 7pm or dusk, whichever is the earlier.
Depot	Local depot – Finsbury Circus.
Staff	1423 gardener hours per annum



Site Features	
Size	Total Area: 1720m ² 391.37m ² Shrubs/Herbaceous material (23%) 67.23m ² Annual bedding (4%) 438.98m ² Lawn (26%)
Signage	One D1 City of London sign at the Bishopsgate entrance to the churchyard, and two D1 City of London signs; one at the Old Broad Street entrance and one next to the tennis court.
Benches	9 benches with dividers to discourage rough sleeping
Fountain & planters	One large modern concrete fountain / water feature with a tiled finish surrounded by brickwork, on the South lawn area. No planters.
Biodiversity features	There are currently two bird nesting boxes.

Ecological Importance of the Garden
<p>This former graveyard is today a Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINC). It includes large areas of shrub cover for birds, mature trees, hedges and lawns. This gives a diversity of habitat within the garden. Male fern can be found growing on the tombstones, and liverworts Lunularia and Marchantia on damp stonework. There are also a number of large London Plane trees and an ornamental Cherry tree.</p> <p>Regular wildlife surveys have shown the garden to include blackbirds, blue tits, great tits, money spiders, comb footed spider, black fly, wood pigeon and springtails supported by the existing vegetation. Whilst the soft landscaping is to be improved in late 2011, the planting changes will still ensure that adequate provision is made in terms of habitat for these species, whilst also encouraging a greater diversity of wildlife.</p> <p>The garden is an important green link in the West of the City providing a mix of habitats, including nesting cover for birds. It forms a vital green space linking other nearby habitats such as All Hallows Wall, Devonshire Square and Finsbury Circus. St Botolph Bishopsgate helps provide an additional green link between these other wildlife hotspots, enabling movement of species and wildlife between a broader range of local habitats. This in turn helps ensure their survival through a variety of food sources, breeding partners and shelter.</p>

Site Action Plan

A9 – St Botolph Bishopsgate

Abbreviations: BAP Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015
 OSS City of London Open Space Strategy 2008
 MPO Management Plan Objective 2010-2015

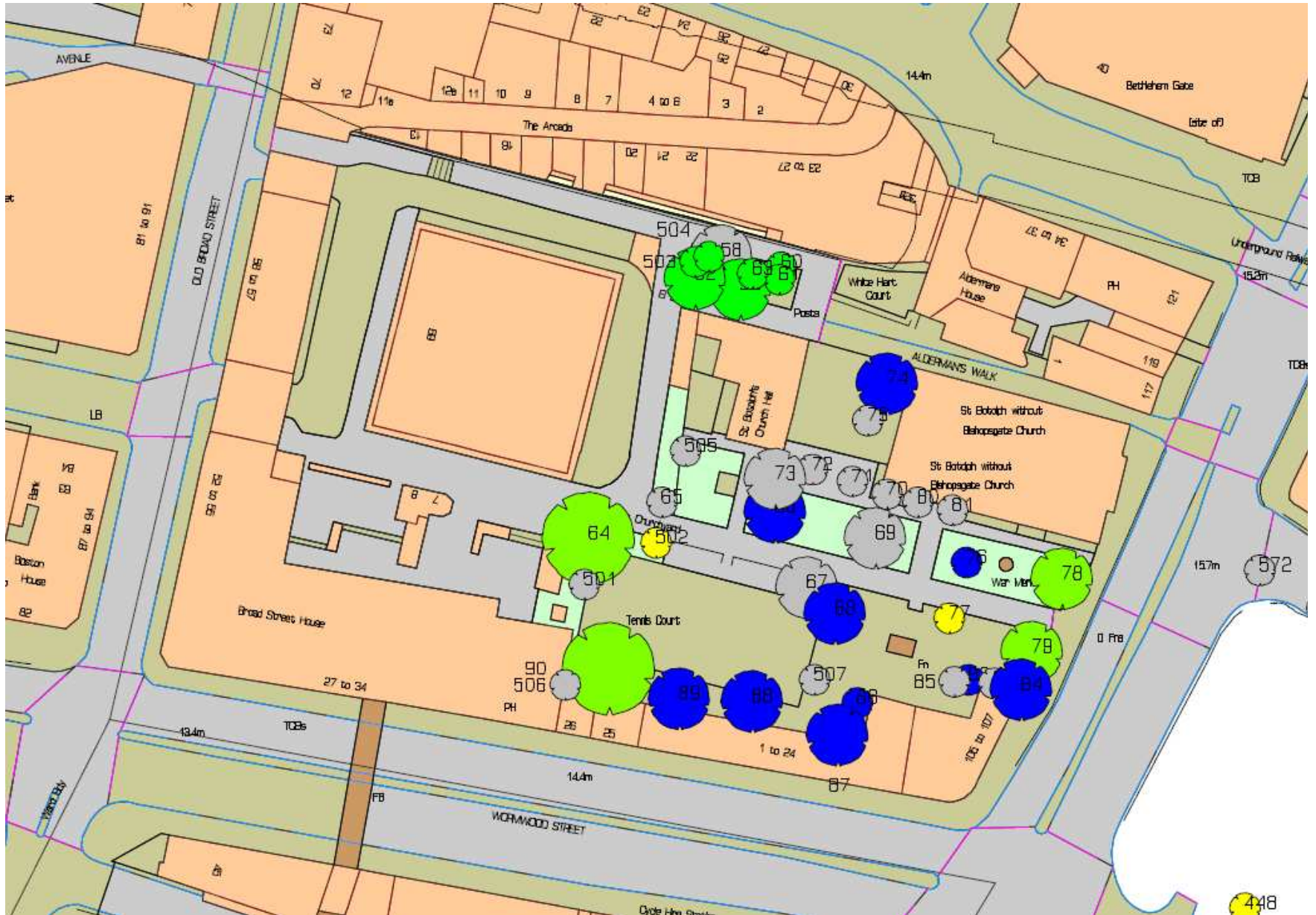
Target A9-1 Improve the condition of the habitat for wildlife within St Botolph Bishopsgate				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
A9 1.1	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Install additional log piles/dead wood at the rear of perimeter planting boarder following improvement works to provide habitats for insects.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2013
A9 1.2	<i>Improve habitat:</i> Investigate potential for additional nest boxes / insect homes on site.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2012
A9 1.3	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Shrub cover to be enhanced as part of upcoming Section 106 funded improvement works to provide wider habitat diversity within the garden.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	Winter 2011
A9 1.4	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Increase the amount of native shrub cover in the garden in any future improvements.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
A9 1.5	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Annually mulch shrub beds.	MPO5	BAP GCS1.1	Annual
A9 1.6	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Include single flowering and nectar rich bedding in any bedding displays.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
A9 1.7	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity:</i> Include St. Botolph Bishopsgate in RSPB's annual 'Big garden bird watch' with volunteers.	MPO6 & 7	BAP GCS1.5	Annual
A9 1.8	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity:</i> Include St. Botolph Bishopsgate in bat surveys and all continuing volunteer wildlife surveys.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
A9 1.9	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity:</i> Commission moth/butterfly/insect survey on site – subject to funding.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	2012 / 2013
A9 1.10	<i>TPO trees to be included in the CoL Tree Strategy:</i> All trees surveyed every 5 years, mature trees every year.	MPO4	Tree Survey	On-going
A9 1.11	Trial alternative maintenance of the garden without leaf blowing to further increase biodiversity. Implement as standard maintenance practice for future if successful.	MP06	BAP GCS1.1	2013-2014

Target A9-2 Community education and interpretation				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
A9 2.1	Include St. Botolph Bishopsgate in City Gardens Wildlife Walks leaflet.	MPO8	BAP GSC2.3	2011 (Achieved)
A9 2.2	Include St. Botolph Bishopsgate in wider City Gardens interpretation material, aiming for 1 article/poster per year.	MPO8	BAP GSC2.2	On-going
A9 2.3	1 community/education event to take place at St. Botolph Bishopsgate every other year.	MPO7		Bi-annually

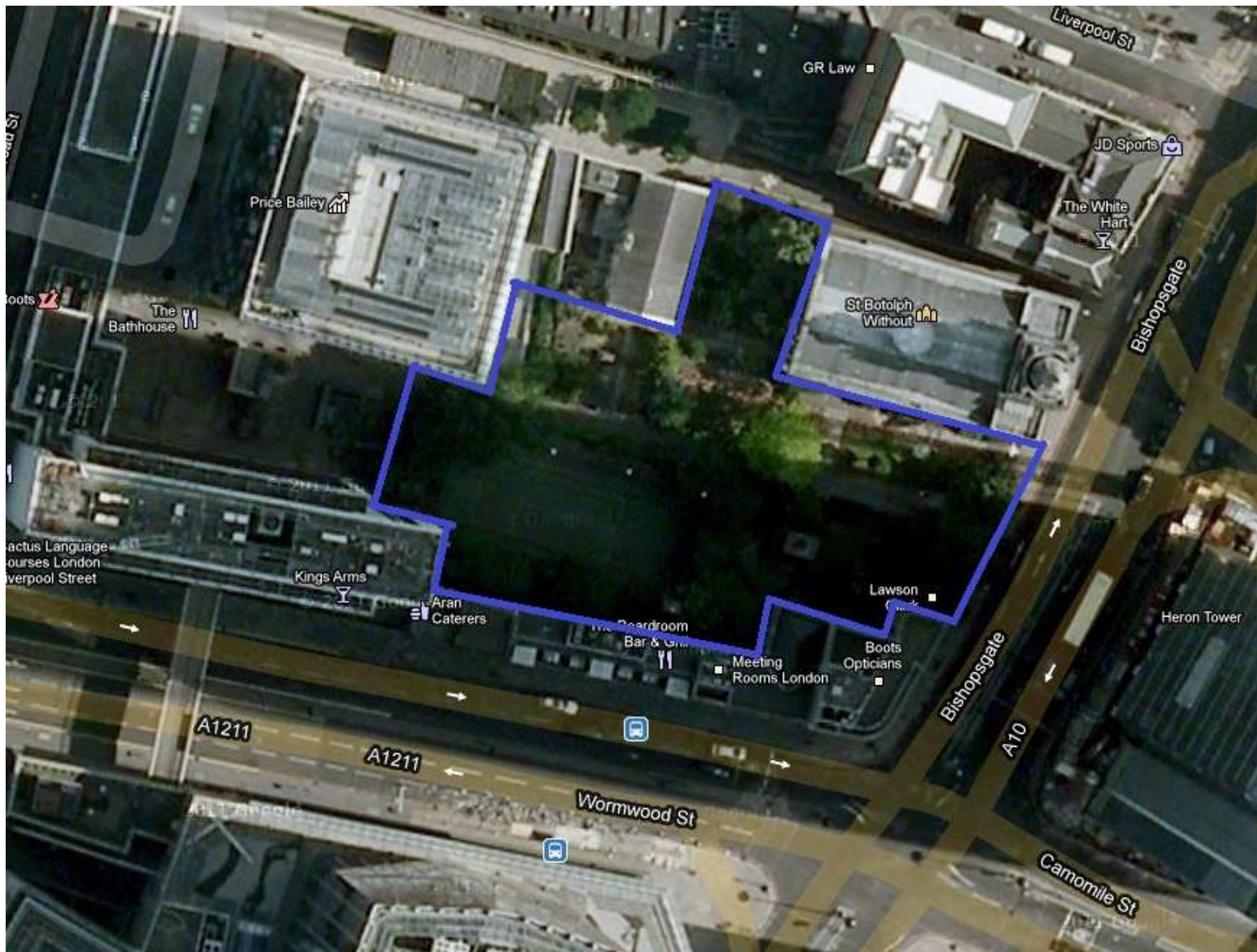
Tree Data - Taken from Arbortrack (July 2011)

Vegetation ID	Type	Age	Condition	Trunk	Full Species	Girth	Height	Spread	Committee
NE-00064	Broadleaf	Mature	Fair	Single	hispanica Platanus	80	19	10 to 15m	CoL Standard
NE-00065	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Single	monogyna Crataegus	120	4	0-5m	CoL Standard
NE-00066	Broadleaf	Mature	Fair	Single	aucuparia Sorbus negundo Acer , Other Broadleaf	290	10	05 to 10m	CoL Commemorative
NE-00067	Broadleaf	Mature	Fair	Single	Broadleaf	290		05 to 10m	CoL Standard
NE-00068	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	ornus Fraxinus	290	7	05 to 10m	CoL Standard
NE-00069	Broadleaf	Mature	Fair	Single	pseudoacacia Robinia Frisia	360	16	05 to 10m	CoL Commemorative
NE-00070	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	microphylla Azara	170	6	00 to 05m	CoL Standard
NE-00071	Conifers	Young	Fair	Single	biloba Ginkgo	150-300mm	0-5m	0-5m	CoL Commemorative
NE-00072	Broadleaf	Young	Fair	Single	betulus Carpinus Fastigiata	150-300mm	0-5m	00 to 05m	CoL Commemorative
NE-00073	Broadleaf	Established	Good	Multi	aquifolium Ilex Variegata	100	00 to 05m	05 to 10m	CoL Commemorative
NE-00074	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	platyphyllos Tilia	290	12	05 to 10m	CoL Standard
NE-00075	Broadleaf	Mature	Fair	Single	sp. Malus	160	6	00 to 05m	CoL Standard
NE-00076	Broadleaf	Young	Good	Single	paniculata 'Fastigiata' Koelreuteria	11	8	00 to 05m	CoL Commemorative
NE-00077	Broadleaf	Young	Felled	Single	robur Quercus Fastigiata	6	00 to 05m	00 to 05m	CoL Commemorative
NE-00078	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Single	platyphyllos Tilia	290	10	05 to 10m	CoL Commemorative
NE-00079	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	platyphyllos Tilia	410	15	05 to 10m	CoL Standard
NE-00080	Conifers	Young	Fair	Multi	lawsoniana cultivar Chamaecyparis	20	2	00 to 05m	CoL Standard
NE-00081	Conifers	Young	Fair	Multi	lawsoniana cultivar Chamaecyparis	20	2	00 to 05m	CoL Standard
NE-00082	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Single	nigra Morus	18	5	00 to 05m	CoL Standard
NE-00083	Broadleaf	Mature	Fair	Group	frigidus Cotoneaster	110	5	00 to 05m	CoL Standard
NE-00084	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	persica Parrotia	150-300mm	00 to 05m	6-10m	CoL Standard
NE-00085	Broadleaf	Young	Fair	Single	aquifolium Ilex Variegata	50	5	00 to 05m	CoL Standard
NE-00086	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	triacanthos Gleditsia sunburst	150	11	00 to 05m	CoL Standard
NE-00087	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	californica Umbellularia	300	11	05 to 10m	CoL Commemorative
NE-00088	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	thuringiaca Sorbus	39	11	05 to 10m	CoL Standard
NE-00089	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	avium Prunus	350	10	05 to 10m	CoL Standard
NE-00090	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	paniculata Koelreuteria	150-300mm	12	11-15m	CoL Standard
NE-00501	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Single	anagyroides Laburnum	150	5	00 to 05m	CoL Standard
NE-00502	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Felled	Single	sp. Malus	110	3	00 to 05m	CoL Standard
NE-00505	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Single	Other Broadleaf	120	5	0-5m	CoL Standard
NE-00506	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	Group	aquifolium Ilex Variegata	40	4	00 to 05m	CoL Standard
NE-00507	Broadleaf	Young	Fair	Single	aquifolium Ilex Variegata	5	3	00 to 05m	CoL Standard

Tree Data: Arbortrack printout (from CoL Tree Database June 2011)



Aerial photograph showing the location of St. Botolph without Bishopsgate Churchyard



A23: St. Paul's Cathedral Garden

Site Management Plan

Historical background

The ancient burial grounds of the cathedral church of St. Paul, St. Gregory by St. Paul's and St. Faith the Virgin under St. Paul's, were combined in 1878 to form an open space which has been managed by the City of London ever since. This open space has been enlarged by the incorporation of certain surplus lands together with the Eastern side of St. Paul's Churchyard, which was closed by Ministry order in 1966. The railings are very early examples of cast iron work and were made at Lamberhurst in Sussex in 1714. They have been carefully restored to enclose the enlarged open space.

Legislation, designations and restrictions

- Site is protected as a Public Open Space “for ever afterwards”, as per arrangements made under the City of London ‘Open Space’ Act 1878.
- City of London Corporation are responsible for the planting and maintenance.
- 3 x Platanus (London Plane) trees and 1 x Juglans (Walnut) tree to the north of the site are protected by Tree Preservation Orders.
- Designated as a Site of Importance to Nature Conservation
SINC Code: CiL02 **SINC Grade:** Local
Reason for designation: BAP Habitat – Churchyard & Cemetery

Site Management

Opening hours	Open 7 days a week throughout the year from 8am to 7pm or dusk, whichever is the earlier.
Depot	City Gardens Depot, 10 Castle Baynard Street, London EC4V 4EA
Staff	3347 gardener hours per annum



Site Features	
Size	Total Area: 800.08m ² garden to the South West, and to the East 5842.74m ²
Signage	Three D3 City of London signs, one at each entrance.
Benches	62 benches distributed throughout the churchyard garden.
Fountain & planters	Granite bird bath in the Eastern shrub border of the garden, installed as part of the biodiversity-oriented Local Area Agreement Funding bid in 2009.
Biodiversity features	The Eastern border was planted with biodiversity promoting plants with the help of local schoolchildren in Spring 2011 as part of the LAA funded Area Based Grants. There is also a granite bird bath on site to provide water for the birds in Summer months in particular. 3 robin & wren boxes, 1 insect house, 1 green open nest box, and 2 'Darwin alder' nest boxes were also installed as part of ABG Biodiversity funding in Spring 2011, to supplement the existing 2 nest boxes on site.

Ecological Importance of the Garden
<p>Of the 54 trees that are present in the garden, 29 are classified as mature with 4 having been recommended for Tree Preservation Orders due to their significant importance in the City (significance is measured against the British Standard 5837 recommendations). The mature shrub borders support a variety of bird life; species recorded include Great tits, Blackbirds, Robins and Starlings. The site is also regularly surveyed by wildlife volunteers for both invertebrate and other wildlife species. So far, greenfly, mallard, the common centipede and springtails have been recorded.</p> <p>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. The St. Paul's Churchyard Garden represents an important ecological resource which is used by the City of London Corporation to educate local children and residents about the importance of nature conservation and biodiversity. Garden birds are surveyed annually by volunteers in conjunction with the RSPB as part of their „Big Garden Bird Watch”. Bird boxes and feeders have been added to the garden over recent years, with a total of 8 bird nesting boxes and 1 insect house in the garden and a new granite bird bath as of July 2011.</p> <p>In conjunction with nearby St. Paul's Cathedral Choir School, the shrub border to the East of the garden has been improved with planting to enhance the ecological value of this garden further through conscious selection of plant species for wildlife, including shrub cover for nesting birds and those which provide habitat or food sources for invertebrates. Plants used included Ilex aquifolium (which is evergreen and has berries as food for birds), Pyracantha, Lonicera fragrantissima, Myrtus and Berberis darwinii. We have an on-going relationship with the St. Paul's Cathedral Choir School, relationship for wildlife education activities in the garden.</p>

Site Action Plan

A23 – St. Paul's Cathedral Garden

Abbreviations: BAP Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015
 OSS City of London Open Space Strategy 2008
 MPO Management Plan Objective 2010-2015

Target A23 -1 Improve the condition of the habitat for wildlife within St. Paul's Cathedral Garden				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
A23 1.1	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Install additional log piles/dead wood at the rear of perimeter planting border to provide habitats for insects.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2012
A23 1.2	<i>Improve habitat:</i> Investigate potential for additional nest boxes / insect homes on site.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2012
A23 1.3	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Shrub cover to be maintained to ensure that it continues to make up 30% of the total surface area of the garden.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
A23 1.4	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Increase the amount of native shrub cover in the garden in any future improvements.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
A23 1.5	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Annually mulch shrub beds.	MPO5		Annual
A23 1.6	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Include single flowering and nectar rich species.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
A23 1.7	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity:</i> Include St. Paul's Cathedral Garden in RSPB's annual 'Big garden bird watch' with volunteers.	MPO6 & 7	BAP GCS1.5	Annual
A23 1.8	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity:</i> Include St. Paul's Cathedral Garden in bat surveys and all continuing volunteer wildlife surveys.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
A23 1.9	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity:</i> Commission moth/butterfly/insect survey on site – subject to funding.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	2013 / 2014
A23 1.10	<i>TPO trees to be included in the CoL Tree Strategy:</i> All trees surveyed every 5 years, mature trees every year.	MPO 4	Tree Survey	On-going

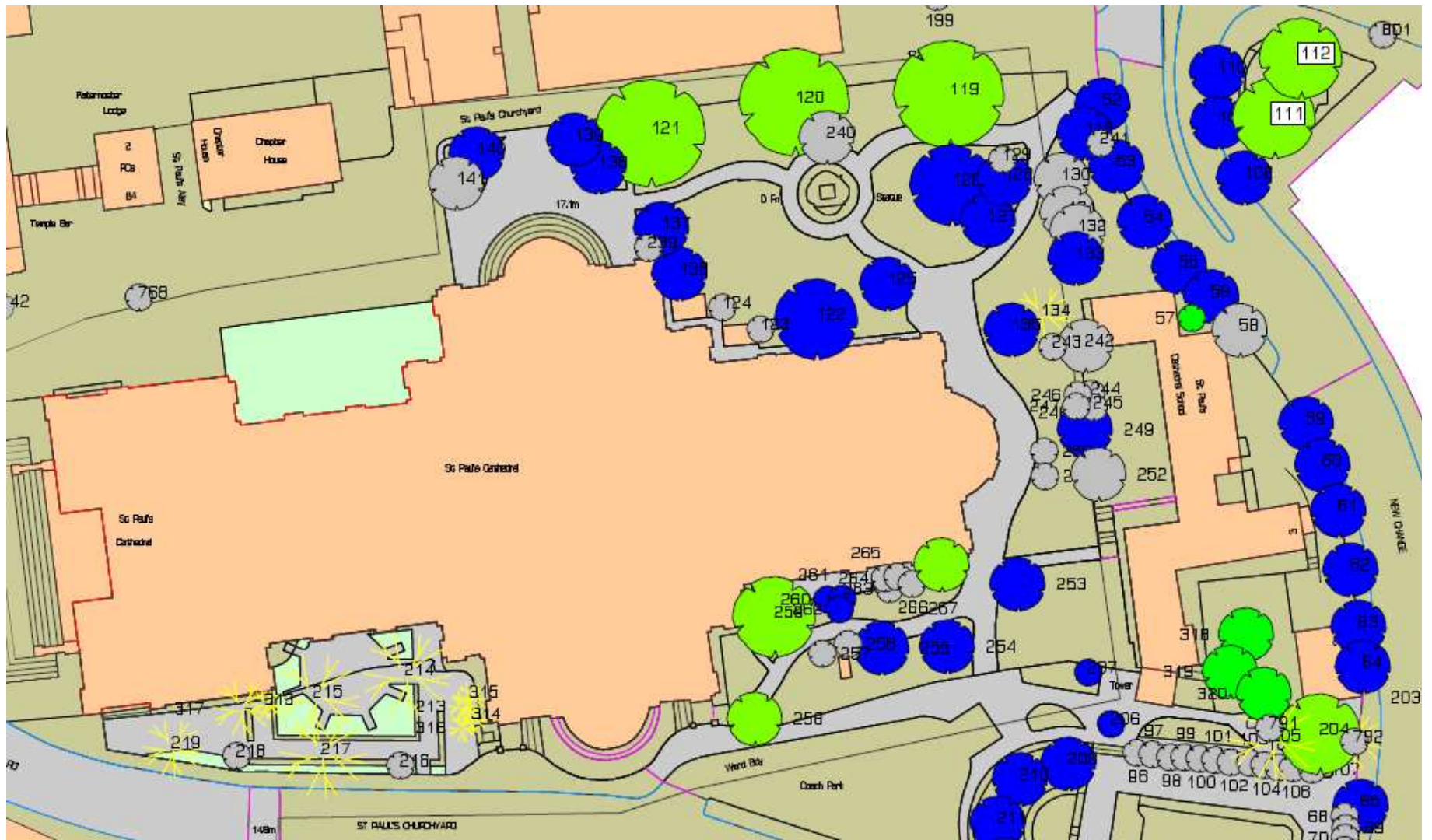
Target A23- 2 Community education and interpretation				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
A23 2.1	Include St. Paul's Cathedral Garden in City Gardens Wildlife Walks leaflet.	MPO8	BAP GSC2.3	2011 (Achieved)
A23 2.2	Continue working with schools such as the St. Paul's Cathedral Choir School to deliver educational sessions within the garden with 1 community/education event to take place at St. Paul's Cathedral Garden each year.	MP07 and MPO8	BAP GSC2.2	On-going

Tree Data - Taken from Arbortrack (June 2011)

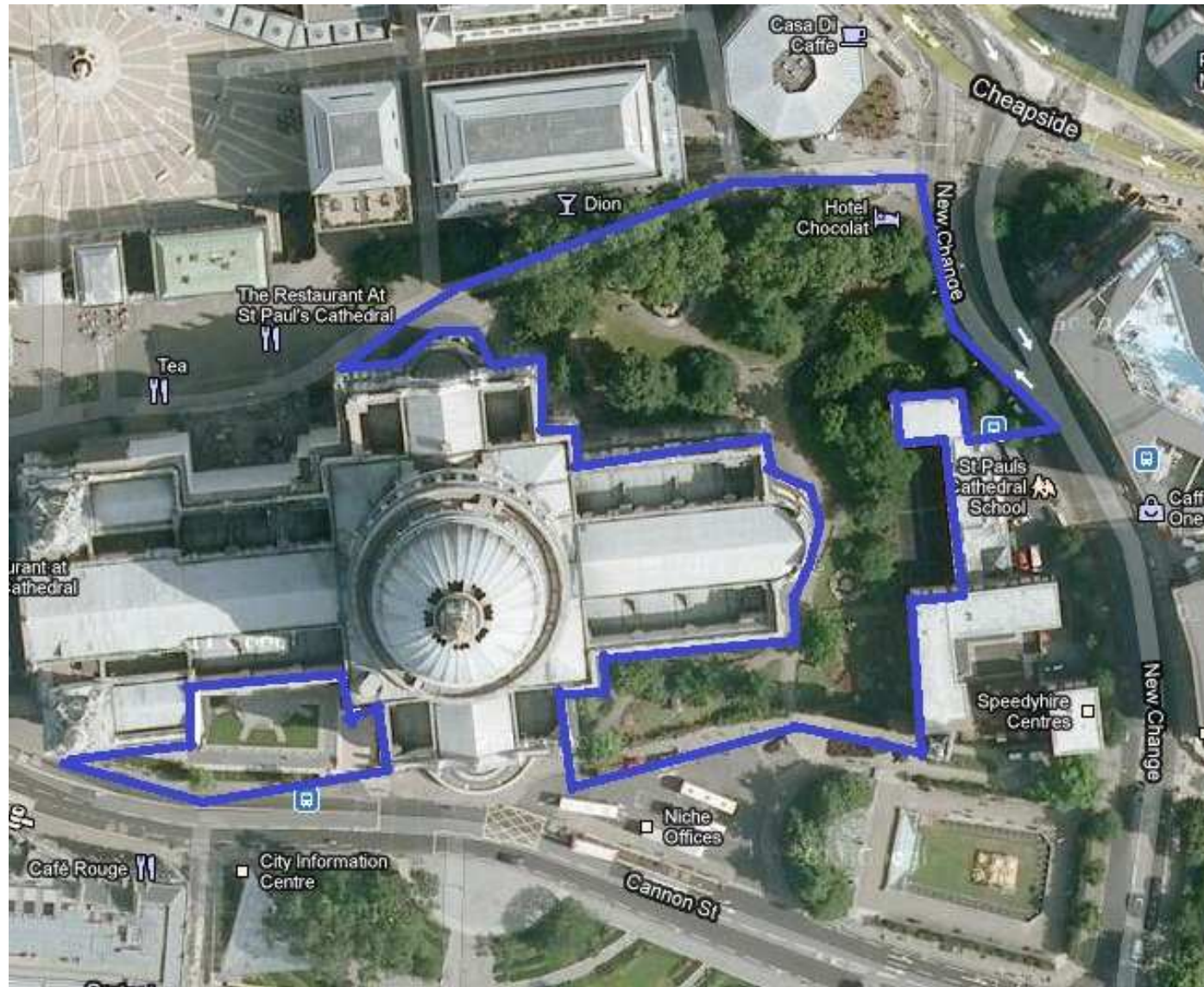
Vegetation ID	Type	Age	Condition	Trunk	Full Species	Arbortrack ID	TPO Reference	Committee
SW-00118	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	platyphyllos Tilia	119		CoL Standard
SW-00119	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	120	T1	CoL Standard
SW-00120	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	121	T2	CoL Standard
SW-00121	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	122	T3	CoL Standard
SW-00122	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	europa Tilia	123		CoL Standard
SW-00123	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	sp. Crataegus	124		CoL Standard
SW-00124	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Single	sp. Crataegus	125		CoL Standard
SW-00125	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Twin	siliquastrum Cercis	126		CoL Standard
SW-00126	Conifers	Mature	Good	Single	biloba Ginkgo	127		CoL Standard
SW-00127	Conifers	Mature	Good	Single	grandis Abies	128		CoL Commemorative
SW-00128	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	sp. Quercus	129		CoL Standard
SW-00129	Broadleaf	Young	Good	Single	alba Morus Pendula	130		CoL Commemorative
SW-00130	Conifers	Semi Mature	Good	Multi	baccata Taxus	131		CoL Standard
SW-00131	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Twin	kobus Magnolia	132		CoL Standard
SW-00132	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Twin	kobus Magnolia	133		CoL Standard
SW-00133	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	nigra Juglans	134		CoL Standard
SW-00134	Broadleaf	Mature	Felled	Twin	sp. Eucalyptus	135		CoL Standard
SW-00135	Conifers	Semi Mature	Fair	Single	gylptostroboides Metasequoia	136		CoL Standard
SW-00136	Conifers	Mature	Good	Single	biloba Ginkgo	137		CoL Standard
SW-00137	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Group	persica Parrotia	138		CoL Standard
SW-00138	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	nigra Juglans	139	T4	CoL Standard
SW-00139	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	nigra Juglans	140		CoL Standard
SW-00140	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	nigra Juglans	141		CoL Standard
SW-00141	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	nigra Juglans	142		CoL Standard
SW-00213	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Felled	Single	tschonoskii Malus	214		CoL Commemorative
SW-00214	Broadleaf	Mature	Felled	Single	nigra Juglans	215		CoL Commemorative
SW-00215	Broadleaf	Mature	Felled	Single	altissima Ailanthus	216		CoL Standard
SW-00216	Broadleaf	Young	Fair	Single	acerifolia Platanus	217		CoL Standard
SW-00217	Broadleaf	Mature	Felled	Single	saccharinum Acer	218		CoL Standard
SW-00218	Broadleaf	Young	Fair	Single	acerifolia Platanus	219		CoL Standard
SW-00219	Broadleaf	Mature	Felled	Single	sp. Quercus	220		CoL Standard
SW-00239	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Twin	laevis Amelanchier	240		CoL Standard
SW-00240	Conifers	Mature	Good	Group	baccata Taxus	241		CoL Standard
SW-00241	Conifers	Established	Good	Single	baccata Taxus	242		CoL Standard
SW-00242	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Twin	altissima Ailanthus	243		CoL Standard
SW-00243	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Multi	laevis Amelanchier	244		CoL Standard

SW-00244	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	persica Parrotia	245	CoL Standard
SW-00245	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	persica Parrotia	246	CoL Standard
SW-00246	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Multi	persica Parrotia	247	CoL Standard
SW-00247	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Multi	persica Parrotia	248	CoL Standard
SW-00248	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	persica Parrotia	249	CoL Standard
SW-00249	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	sp. Malus	250	CoL Standard
SW-00250	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	salicifolia Pyrus	251	CoL Standard
SW-00251	Broadleaf	Young	Good	Single	x vossii Laburnum	252	CoL Commemorative
SW-00252	Broadleaf	Mature	Poor	Single	sp. Malus	253	CoL Standard
SW-00253	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	styraciflua Liquidambar	254	CoL Commemorative
SW-00254	Conifers	Semi Mature	Good	Single	biloba Ginkgo	255	CoL Commemorative
SW-00255	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Twin	unedo Arbutus	256	CoL Standard
SW-00256	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	Multi	spinosa Aralia	257	CoL Standard
SW-00257	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	Twin	spinosa Aralia	258	CoL Standard
SW-00258	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	tulipifera Liriodendron	259	CoL standard
SW-00259	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	styraciflua Liquidambar	260	CoL Standard
SW-00260	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Multi	trifoliata Poncirus	261	CoL Standard
SW-00261	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Multi	trifoliata Poncirus	262	CoL Standard
SW-00262	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Multi	trifoliata Poncirus	263	CoL Standard
SW-00263	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Multi	kobus Magnolia	264	CoL Standard
SW-00264	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Multi	kobus Magnolia	265	CoL Standard
SW-00265	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Multi	kobus Magnolia	266	CoL Standard
SW-00266	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	umineko Prunus californicum	267	CoL Commemorative
SW-00267	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	Fremontodendron	268	CoL Standard
SW-00313	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Felled	Twin	Other Broadleaf	314	CoL Standard
SW-00314	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Felled	Single	kobus Magnolia	315	CoL Standard
SW-00315	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Felled	Single	kobus Magnolia	316	CoL Standard
SW-00316	Broadleaf	Young	Felled	Single	sp. Malus	317	CoL Standard
SW-00317	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Felled	Multi	laevis Amelanchier	318	CoL Standard

Tree Data: ArboTrack printout (from CoL Tree Database June 2011)



Aerial photograph showing the location of St. Paul's Cathedral Garden (June 2011)



B14: St. Mary Aldermanbury Gardens

Site Management Plan

Historical background

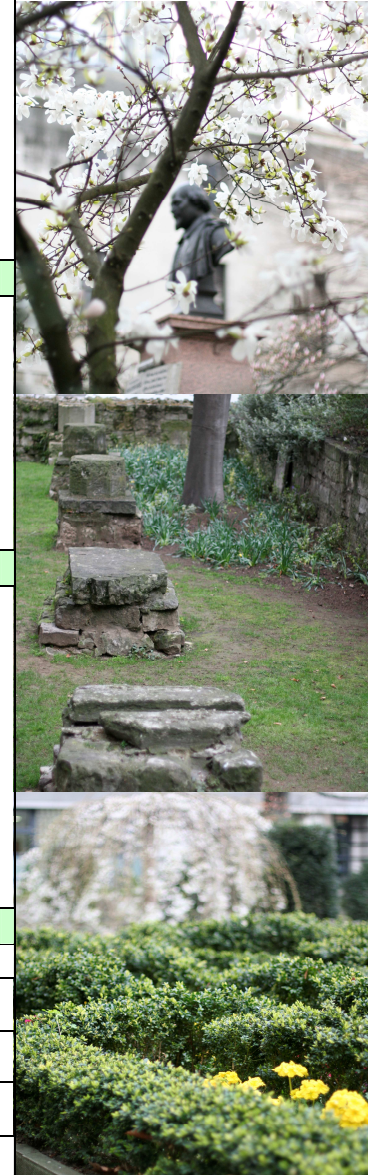
The site of the church of St. Mary Aldermanbury is first mentioned in 1181. This church was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666 and subsequently rebuilt by Christopher Wren. The church was then again destroyed by bombing in 1940. The remaining fabric was moved to Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri in the USA in 1966. A memorial on the East side of the garden reads "To the memory of John Heminge and Henry Condell, fellow actors and personal friends of Shakespeare, they lived many years in this parish and are buried here".

Legislation, designations and restrictions

- Designated as Public Open Space under the Open Spaces Act 1906: 7 March 1974.
- City of London Corporation responsible for the planting and its maintenance.
- Designated as a Site of Importance to Nature Conservation
SINC Code: CiL05 **SINC Grade:** Local
Reason for designation: BAP Habitat – Park/urban green; BAP species - House Sparrow
 Yew hedging, various ferns have colonised the garden.

Site Management

Opening hours	Open 7 days a week throughout the year from 8am to 7pm or dusk, whichever is the earlier.
Depot	Local Depot: Finsbury Circus
Staff	409 gardener hours per annum



Site Features	
Size	Total Area: 762.38m ² 90.07m ² Shrubs/Herbaceous material (12%) 81.31m ² Annual bedding (11%) 173.94m ² Lawn (23%)
Signage	One D1 City of London sign at the South West entrance. Also an A2 size noticeboard to the South of the garden in which the latest 'What's New' newsletter and other relevant information is displayed and regularly updated.
Benches	There are 11 benches, one plaque and a memorial statue
Fountain & planters	There are no fountains. Stone paving and granite are used throughout the site with some cobbles. There are retaining walls of new stone and from the original church walls. Several raised planters.
Biodiversity features	The plant border in the lower garden was planted in Spring 2011 with plants specifically chosen for their value to biodiversity and wildlife, funded by one of the 2009 Area Based Grants aimed at improving biodiversity.

Ecological Importance of the Garden
<p>This site falls within an area classified by the GLA as an 'Area of Deficiency' where local people do not have sufficient access to nature. As such St. Mary Aldermanbury Garden represents an important ecological resource which is used not only by local workers, but also by the City of London Corporation to educate local children and residents about the importance of nature conservation. The shrub boarder and soft landscaping of the lower garden was improved with biodiversity promoting plants species in Spring 2011 as part of the LAA grant funding for Biodiversity awarded in 2009. This included species which provide berries or other food or habitat for invertebrate and bird species, such as Euonymus Europaeus 'Spindleberry', Rosa rugosa 'Alba', Buddleia globosa, Ilex aquifolium, Berberis julianae and Cornus sanguinea.</p> <p>Of the 8 trees that are present in the garden, 4 are classified as mature. The mature shrub borders also support a variety of bird life; species recorded include Blue tits, Great tits, Blackbirds, Robins and Magpies. Garden birds are surveyed annually by volunteers in conjunction with the RSPB. Two bird boxes and a bird bath have been added to the garden. A regular conservation and wildlife survey volunteer has also done practical research and found other wildlife in the garden including greenfly, stripe-legged spider, black fly, comb footed spider, spring tail, common centipede, brandling worm, black slug, garden snail, red spider mite, magpie and wood pigeon, indicating the diversity of species using Aldermanbury Gardens as their habitat.</p>

Site Action Plan

B14 – St. Mary Aldermanbury

Abbreviations: BAP
OSS
MPO

Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015
City of London Open Space Strategy 2008
Management Plan Objective 2010-2015

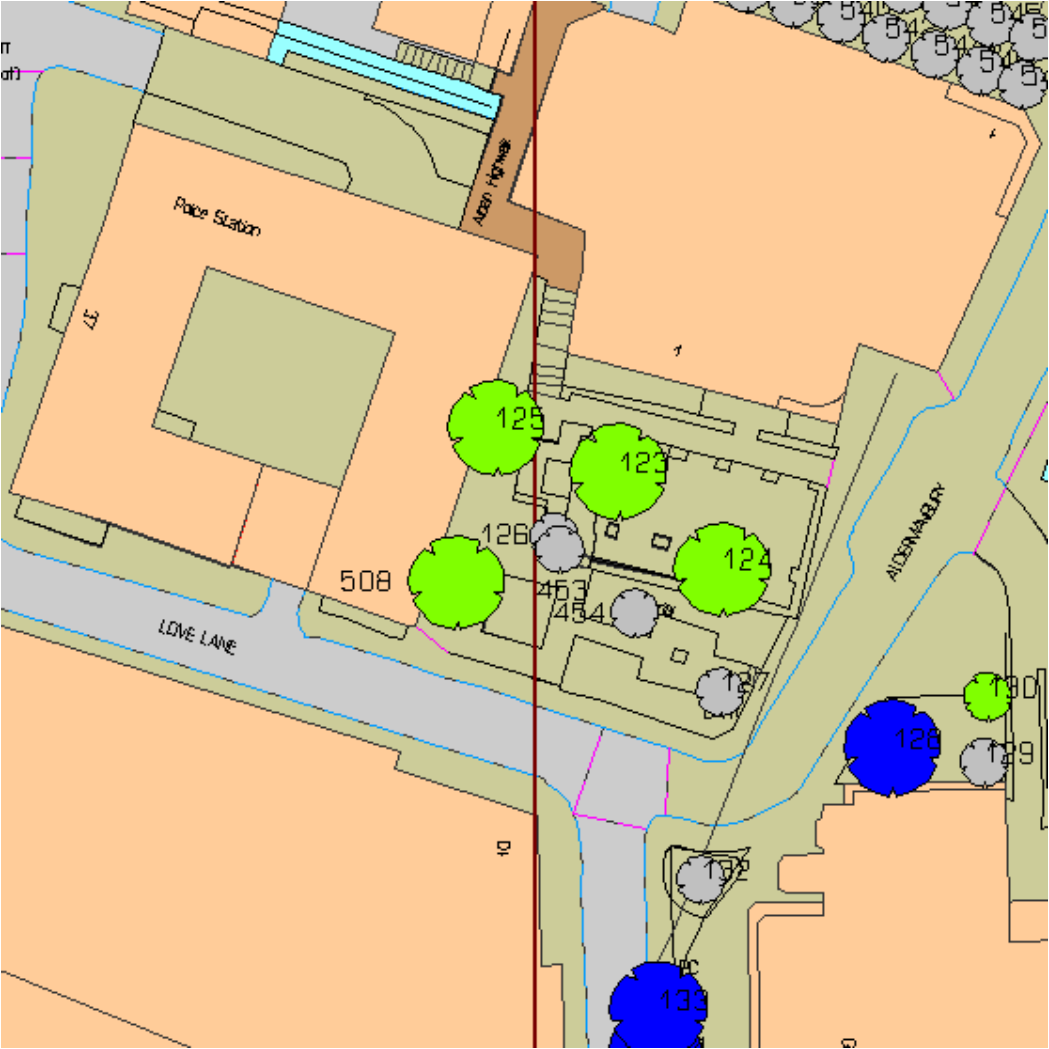
Target B14 -1 Improve the condition of the habitat for wildlife within St. Mary Aldermanbury				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
B14 1.1	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Install additional log piles/dead wood at the rear of the lower garden planting border to provide habitats for insects.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2012
B14 1.2	<i>Improve habitat:</i> investigate potential for bird bath on site.	MPO6		2012 / 2013
B14 1.3	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Existing shrub cover to be maintained and where possible improved.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
B14 1.4	<i>Improve habitat condition</i> - Increase the amount of native shrub cover in the garden in any future improvements. Eventual aim for shrub cover to make up 30% of the total surface area of the garden in the future.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
B14 1.5	<i>Improve habitat condition</i> - Annually mulch shrub beds.	MPO5		Annual
B14 1.6	<i>Improve habitat condition</i> - Include single flowering and nectar rich species	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
B14 1.7	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity</i> – include St. Mary Aldermanbury in RSPB's annual 'Big garden bird watch' with volunteers.	MPO6 & 7	BAP GCS1.5	Annual
B14 1.8	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity-</i> Include St. Mary Aldermanbury in bat surveys and all continuing volunteer wildlife surveys.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
B14 1.9	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity</i> - Commission moth/butterfly/insect survey on site – subject to funding.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	2012 / 2013
B14 1.10	<i>TPO trees to be included in the CoL Tree Strategy</i> – All trees surveyed every 5 years, mature trees every year.	MPO 4	Tree Survey	On-going

Target B14-2 Community education and interpretation				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
B14 2.1	Include St. Mary Aldermanbury in City Gardens Wildlife Walks leaflet.	MPO8	BAP GSC2.3	2011 (Achieved)
B14 2.2	Erect interpretation material about priority species and habitats within the garden.	MPO8	BAP GSC2.2	1 article /poster per year
B14 2.3	At least 1 community/education event to take place at St. Mary Aldermanbury every other year.	MPO7		Bi-annually

Tree Data - Taken from Arbortrack (July 2011)

Vegetation ID	Type	Age	Condition	Trunk	Full Species	TPO Reference	Committee
NE-00123	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	sylvatica Fagus		CoL Standard
NE-00124	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	sylvatica Fagus		CoL Standard
NE-00125	Conifers	Mature	Good	Single	distichum Taxodium		CoL Standard
NE-00126	Broadleaf	Established	Good	Single	subhirtella Prunus Pendula Rubra		CoL Standard CoL Commemorative
NE-00127	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	Single	amabilis Magnolia		Commemorative
NE-00453	Conifers	Established	Fair	Single	baccata Taxus		CoL Standard
NE-00454	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	Single	kobus Magnolia		CoL Standard
NE-00508	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	grandiflora Magnolia Ferrugilea		CoL commemorative

Tree Data: Arbotrack printout (from CoL Tree Database July 2011)



Aerial photograph showing the location of the Aldermanbury Gardens:



C17: Cleary Garden

Site Management Plan

Historical background

Cleary Garden is named after Mr Frederick Cleary, who was a member of the Court of Common Council from 1959 to 1984. He was the former chairman of the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association, who campaigned for the growth and maintenance of the City's open spaces. To mark their centenary in 1982 the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association funded the laying out of Cleary Garden. The garden then went under additional refurbishment in 2007 due to sponsorship money received from Loire Valley Wines for Open Garden Squares Weekend.

Located in the heart of the City, Cleary Garden has a rich history. The garden's lower lawn covers the site of the largest Roman bathhouse yet discovered in the UK. 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.

Legislation, designations and restrictions

- Designated as a Public Open Space, under the agreement from the Open Spaces Act 1906
- City of London Corporation responsible for the planting and its maintenance.
- Designated as a Site of Importance to Nature Conservation
SINC Code: CiL03 **SINC Grade:** Local
Reason for designation: BAP Habitat – Park/Urban green space; BAP Species – House Sparrow & Starling found here

Site Management

Opening hours	Open 7 days a week throughout the year from 8am to 7pm or dusk, whichever is the earlier.
Depot	City Gardens Depot, 10 Castle Baynard Street, London EC4V 4EA
Staff	538.36 gardener hours per annum



Site Features	
Size	Total Area: 771.25 m ² 64.0m ² Shrubs/Herbaceous materials (13%) 14.39m ² Annual bedding (3%) 180.6m ² Lawn (37%)
Signage	One D3 City of London sign at the North-West entrance. Also an A2 size noticeboard on the West wall on the upper level to the garden near the North/West entrance in which the latest 'What's New' newsletter and other relevant information is displayed and regularly updated. There is a temporary sponsorship sign on Queen Victoria Street railings which states 'Loire Valley Wines and the City of London working in partnership to green the City', and a leaf shaped sign on the second terrace with more details about the improvement made through sponsorship.
Benches	5 benches on the lower level and 6 benches on the upper level, all with dividing arms.
Fountain & planters	No fountain or planters.
Biodiversity features	There is an 'insect hotel' in the lower section of the garden, built by German Women in Property as part of the 2010 'Beyond the Hive' competition. There is also a bird bath on the lower level, bird feeders and two nest boxes on the upper level of the garden.

Ecological Importance of the Garden
<p>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. This site represents an important ecological resource which is used by the City of London Corporation to educate local children and residents about the importance of nature conservation. Garden birds are surveyed annually by volunteers in conjunction with the RSPB. Two bird boxes and a bird feeder have been added to the garden. An „insect hotel“ was built in the lower level of the garden in 2010 by German Women in Property as part of the 2010 „Beyond the Hive“ competition which City Gardens took part in alongside British Land. This has been specifically designed to provide habitat for invertebrates in the garden.</p> <p>Of the 12 trees that are present in the garden, 2 are classified as mature. The mature shrub borders support a variety of bird life; species recorded include Blue tits, Great tits, Coal tits, Greenfinch, Blackbirds, Robins, Starlings and Wrens. A wildlife survey volunteer regularly carries out surveying research in the garden to monitor the species of both invertebrates and birds that use Cleary Garden for habitat. So far findings have shown the following species are present: Western honey bee, Blackbird, 14-Spot ladybird, Comb footed spider, Crane fly, Common earwig, Springtail, Red spider mite.</p>

Site Action Plan

C17 – Cleary Garden

Abbreviations: BAP Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015
 OSS City of London Open Space Strategy 2008
 MPO Management Plan Objective 2010-2015

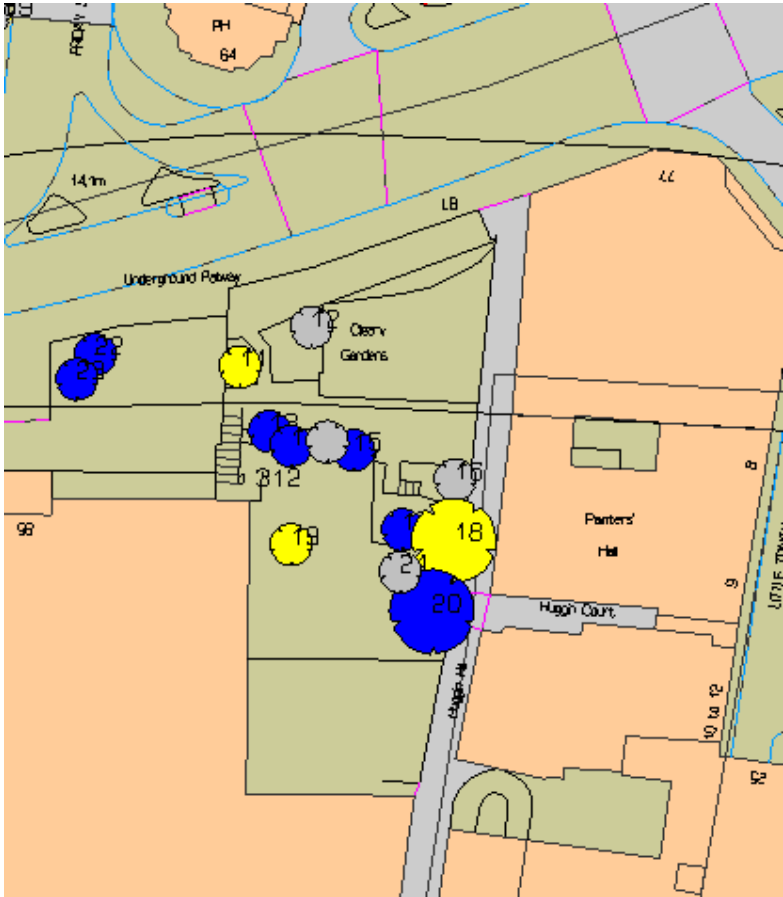
Target C17 -1		Improve the condition of the habitat for wildlife within Cleary Garden		
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
C17 1.1	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> - Install additional log piles/dead wood at the rear of perimeter planting border to provide habitats for insects.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2012
C17 1.2	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Shrub cover to be maintained or improved where possible to ensure that it continues to make up a significant proportion of the total surface area of the garden.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
C17 1.3	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Increase the amount of native shrub cover in the garden in any future improvements.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
C17 1.4	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Annually mulch shrub beds.	MPO5		Annual
C17 1.5	<i>Improve habitat condition:</i> Include single flowering and nectar rich bedding in any bedding displays.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
C17 1.6	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity:</i> Include Cleary Garden in RSPB's annual „Big garden bird watch“ with volunteers.	MPO6 & 7	BAP GCS1.5	Annual
C17 1.7	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity:</i> Include Cleary Garden in bat surveys and all continuing volunteer wildlife surveys.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
C17 1.8	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity:</i> Commission moth/butterfly/insect survey on site – subject to funding.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	2011 / 2012
C17 1.9	<i>TPO trees to be included in the CoL Tree Strategy:</i> All trees surveyed every 5 years, mature trees every year.	MPO 4	Tree Survey	On-going

Target C17-2		Community education and interpretation		
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
C17 2.1	Include Cleary Garden in City Gardens Wildlife Walks leaflet	MPO8	BAP GSC2.3	2011 (Achieved)
C17 2.2	Erect interpretation material about priority species and habitats within the garden	MPO8	BAP GSC2.2	1 article /poster per year
C17 2.3	Deliver 1 community/education event to take place at Cleary Garden each year	MPO7		Annual

Tree Data - Taken from ArboTrack (July 2011)

Vegetation ID	Type	Age	Condition	Full Species	TPO Reference	Committee
SW-00011	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Felled	sp. Malus		CoL Standard
SW-00012	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	Amanogawa Prunus		CoL Commemorative
SW-00013	Conifers	Semi Mature	Good	gylptostroboides Metasequoia		CoL Standard
SW-00014	Conifers	Established	Good	gylptostroboides Metasequoia		CoL Standard
SW-00015	Conifers	Semi Mature	Good	ascendens Taxodium		CoL Commemorative
SW-00016	Broadleaf	Young	Fair	pseudoacacia Robinia Frisia		CoL Commemorative
SW-00017	Conifers	Semi Mature	Good	ascendens Taxodium		CoL standard
SW-00018	Broadleaf	Mature	Felled	thuringiaca Sorbus		CoL standard
SW-00019	Broadleaf	Mature	Felled	platyphyllos Tilia		CoL commemorative
SW-00020	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	triacanthos Gleditsia sunburst		CoL commemorative
SW-00021	Broadleaf	Established	Good	aria Sorbus		CoL Standard
SW-00312	Broadleaf	Established	Good	kobus Magnolia		CoL Standard

Tree Data: ArboTrack printout (from CoL Tree Database July 2011)



Aerial photograph showing the location of Cleary Garden



C20: Finsbury Circus

Site Management Plan

Historical background

Finsbury Circus was originally a fen on a moor known as Fensbury. This had been formed by the blocking of culverts cut into the city wall for the Wallbrook after the Romans had departed. In the early 15th Century the city wall was breached at this point and Moorgate was completed. By 1606 the level of the moor had been raised and laid out with walks, elm trees, and benches, the area becoming London's first public park. The Corporation of London acquired this, the largest open space in the city, by an act of Parliament in 1900. The only bowling green in the city was constructed here in 1925 and was enlarged in 1968 with the replacement of the pavilion.

Legislation, designations and restrictions

- Designated as a Public Open Space, under the agreement from the Open Spaces Act 1906
- City of London Corporation responsible for the planting and its maintenance.
- Cross Rail have temporarily closed off approximately two thirds of the garden for between 5 and 7 years to allow enhancement works to Liverpool Street Station. The garden will be reinstated following completion of the Cross Rail works.
- Designated as a Site of Importance to Nature Conservation
SINC Code: CiL07 **SINC Grade:** Local
Reason for designation: BAP Habitat – Park/Urban green space; BAP Species – Black Redstart and Starling found here

Site Management

Opening hours	Open 7 days a week throughout the year from 8am to 7pm or dusk, whichever is the earlier.
Depot	Finsbury Circus sub-depot.
Staff	4365 gardener hours per annum



Site Features	
Size	Total Area: 5277.33m ² 134.28m ² Shrubs/Herbaceous material (33%) 221.88m ² Annual bedding (4%) 1418.16m ² Lawn (27%)
Signage	Four D3 City of London signs, one at each entrance. Also an A2 size noticeboard at the South entrance to the garden in which the latest 'What's New' newsletter and other relevant information is displayed and regularly updated.
Benches	Despite Cross Rail works, the remaining section of the garden includes benches around the bandstand area and perimeter. Previous to Cross Rail works there were 59 wooden benches, and a similar number have been kept in the garden whilst works go ahead to continue to meet the demand for seating at lunchtime in particular.
Fountain & planters	There is a small fountain near the Western entrance to the garden, a bandstand surrounded by benches, and four bomb-proof bins.
Biodiversity features	There are currently two log-piles in the garden, four bird nesting boxes and a bird bath.

Ecological Importance of the Garden
<p>The historic garden at Finsbury Circus was London's first public park in 1606. The outer circumference of the garden contains a wide border with mature trees and shrubs. One quarter of this perimeter border was re-planted in 2011 to improve the condition of the planting and to enhance this remaining area of the garden whilst Cross Rail undergo their construction works in the rest of the garden.</p> <p>Finsbury Circus falls in an area classified by the GLA as an 'Area of Deficiency' where local people do not have sufficient access to nature. This site represents an important ecological resource which is used by the City of London Corporation to educate local children and residents about the importance of nature conservation. Garden birds are surveyed annually by volunteers in conjunction with the RSPB. Bird boxes and feeders have been added to the garden. An experienced wildlife volunteer surveys the garden every few months, looking in particular for invertebrate species according to a consistent methodology. To date, species include March Fly, Black fly, Greenfly, Springtail, Pill Woodlouse, Ground beetle, Foliage spider, Wrens, and Black Spider Mites.</p> <p>Of the 44 trees that are present in the garden, 14 are classified as mature with 11 having been recommended for Tree Preservation Orders due to their significant importance in the City (significance is measured against the British Standard 5837 recommendations). The mature shrub borders support a variety of bird life; species recorded include Blue tits, Great tits, Blackbirds, and Woodpigeon. The garden also provides a vital green link adding to green corridors for wildlife through this otherwise highly urbanised area.</p>

Site Action Plan C20 – Finsbury Circus

Abbreviations: BAP Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015
OSS City of London Open Space Strategy 2008
MPO Management Plan Objective 2010-2015

Target C22 -1 Improve the condition of the habitat for wildlife within Finsbury Circus				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
C20 1.1	<i>Improve habitat condition</i> - Install additional log piles/dead wood at the rear of perimeter planting border to provide habitats for insects.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2012
C20 1.2	<i>Improve habitat</i> - investigate potential for additional bird bath on site.	MPO6		2012 / 2013
C20 1.3	<i>Improve habitat condition</i> - Shrub cover to be maintained to ensure that it continues to make up 30% of the total available surface area of the garden. Ensure this is applied to whole garden when re-instated following Cross Rail.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
C20 1.4	<i>Improve habitat condition</i> - Increase the amount of native shrub cover in the garden in any future improvements	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
C20 1.5	<i>Improve habitat condition</i> - Annually mulch shrub beds.	MPO5		Annual
C20 1.6	<i>Improve habitat condition</i> - Include single flowering and nectar rich bedding in any bedding displays when garden reinstated following Cross Rail works.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
C20 1.7	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity</i> – include Finsbury Circus in RSPB's annual 'Big garden bird watch' with volunteers.	MPO6 & 7	BAP GCS1.5	Annual
C20 1.8	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity</i> - Include Finsbury Circus in bat surveys and all continuing volunteer wildlife surveys.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
C20 1.9	<i>Audit and monitor biodiversity</i> - Commission moth/butterfly/insect survey on site – subject to funding, and continue invertebrate wildlife surveys by volunteer/s	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	2012 / 2013
C20 1.10	<i>TPO trees to be included in the CoL Tree Strategy</i> – All trees surveyed every 5 years, mature trees every year.	MPO 4	Tree Survey	On-going

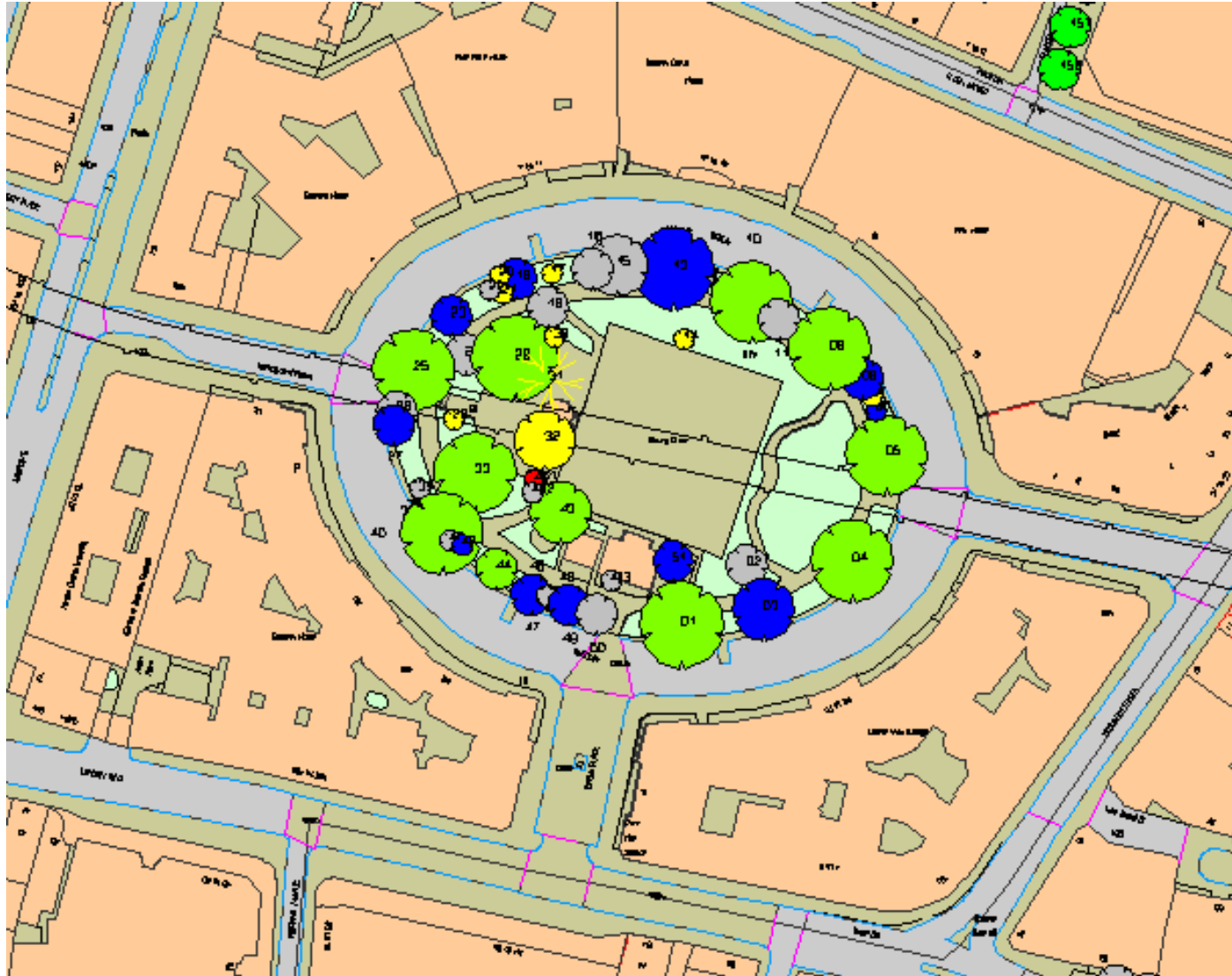
Target C20-2 Community education and interpretation				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
C20 2.1	Include West Smithfield in City Gardens Wildlife Walks leaflet	MPO8	BAP GSC2.3	2011 (Achieved)
C20 2.2	Annually update interpretation material about priority species and habitats in the garden	MPO8	BAP GSC2.2	1 article /poster per year
C20 2.3	1 community/education event to take place at Finsbury Circus bi-annually	MPO7		Bi-annually

Tree Data - Taken from Arbortrack (July, 2011)

Vegetation ID	Type	Age	Condition	Full Species	TPO Reference	Committee
NE-00001	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL standard
NE-00002	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Poor	robur Quercus Fastigiata		CoL Standard
NE-00003	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	platyphyllos Tilia		CoL Standard
NE-00004	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NE-00005	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NE-00006	Broadleaf	Established	Good	orientalis Platanus		CoL Standard
NE-00008	Broadleaf	Established	Good	hispanica Platanus		CoL Standard
NE-00009	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL standard
NE-00010	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NE-00011	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	aquifolium Ilex		CoL Standard
NE-00012	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	microphylla Azara		CoL Standard
NE-00013	Broadleaf	Mature	Fair	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL standard
NE-00015	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	europa Tilia		CoL Standard
NE-00016	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	aquifolium Ilex		CoL Standard
NE-00018	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	europa Tilia		CoL Standard
NE-00019	Broadleaf	Young	Good	hispanica Platanus		CoL Standard
NE-00022	Broadleaf	Young	Good	Vilmorinii Sorbus		CoL Commemorative
NE-00023	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	tomentosa Tilia		CoL Standard
NE-00024	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	europa Tilia		CoL Standard
NE-00025	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NE-00026	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair			CoL Standard
NE-00027	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	persica Parrotia		CoL Standard
NE-00029	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NE-00033	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NE-00034	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	microphylla Azara		CoL Standard
NE-00035	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	aquifolium Ilex		CoL Standard
NE-00036	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	aquifolium Ilex		CoL Standard
NE-00037	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	aquifolium Ilex		CoL Standard
NE-00038	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	aquifolium Ilex		CoL Standard
NE-00039	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	aquifolium Ilex		CoL Standard
NE-00040	Broadleaf	Mature	Fair	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NE-00041	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	ceracifera Prunus		CoL Standard
NE-00042	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	orientalis Platanus		CoL Standard
NE-00043	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	japonica Sophora	required	CoL Standard
NE-00044	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	europa Tilia		CoL Standard
NE-00046	Broadleaf	Established	Fair	aquifolium Ilex Variegata		CoL Standard

NE-00047	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	orientalis Platanus	CoL Standard
NE-00048	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	kobus Magnolia	CoL Standard
NE-00049	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	platyphyllos Tilia	CoL Standard
NE-00050	Broadleaf	Mature	Fair	sp. Malus	CoL Standard
NE-00051	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	tulipifera Liriodendron	CoL Commemorative
NE-00461	Conifers	Semi Mature	Poor	lawsoniana Chamaecyparis	CoL Standard
NE-00462	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Poor	palmatum Acer	CoL Standard
NE-00463	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	sp. Malus	CoL Standard

Tree Data: Arbortrack printout (from CoL Tree Database July 2011)



Aerial photograph showing the location of Finsbury Circus



C29: Roman Wall / Noble Street

Site Management Plan

Historical background

This garden comprises part of the South-West corner of a Roman fort dating from AD100, plus a section of Roman Wall alongside Noble Street. The remains of a brick building along the Western side are the result of bombing in World War II. A new staircase from Noble Street (incorporating an equipment store) and access steps into the lower levels have recently been designed and installed. The site is accessed via the Worshipful Company of Plasterers and as such cannot be reached by the general public. The site has become important ecologically due to its ivy-clad historic walls, wildflowers and other habitat provided by the soft landscape here, which supports a diverse range of wildlife.

Legislation, designations and restrictions

- Site of historical interest / Not accessible to the public
- City of London Corporation responsible for the planting and its maintenance.
- Designated as a Site of Importance to Nature Conservation
SINC Code: CiL06 **SINC Grade:** Local
Reason for designation: BAP Habitat – Park/urban green space, wildflower meadow

Site Management

Opening hours	Access to the sunken garden is only via the Worshipful Company of Plasterers.
Depot	This garden is maintained by the Worshipful Company of Plasterers
Staff	



Site Features	
Size	Total Area: 2.2 hectares (22000 m ²) 645.55m ² Shrubs/Herbaceous material (48%) 60.25m ² Annual bedding (4.5%) 470.04m ² Lawn (34.98%)
Signage	Two signs on the railings overlooking the garden provide interpretation of the history of the site.
Benches	No benches as not publically accessible
Biodiversity features	The garden is carefully managed to promote biodiversity and provide a variety of habitat for birds, invertebrates and other wildlife. This includes areas of ivy on the brickwork and a wildflower meadow.

Ecological Importance of the Garden

The Roman Wall / Noble Street Garden comprise part of the south-West corner of a Roman fort, plus a section of Roman Wall alongside Noble Street. 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. This site represents an important ecological resource which is used by the City of London Corporation to provide habitat for nature conservation in an otherwise highly urban environment. Through careful management, the historic nature of various elements of the site such as the Roman wall, together with its seclusion from public footfall in the sunken area of the garden enable a unique opportunity in the City to create a relatively undisturbed yet managed area for a diverse range of flora and fauna.

The Roman Wall has been colonised by wild plants including Oxford ragwort, Eastern rocket, thale cress, wavy bittercress, and pellitory-of-the-wall. Hart's tongue and male fern grow out of a North-facing wall. At the foot of the walls, below street level lies an area of damp grassland. This contains wildflowers typical of less intensively managed lawns such as daisy, creeping buttercup, thyme-leaved speedwell, creeping cinquefoil, and selfheal, plus species typical of bare soil such as scarlet pimpernel and scentless mayweed. Tall herbs are also becoming established, such as rosebay willowherb, Guernsey fleabane, bittersweet, spear thistle and mugwort. In some places the vegetation is succeeding to bramble and buddleia scrub. Some of the brickwork along the western side is thickly clad in ivy, offering cover for birds. Blackbirds are regularly seen, and holly blue butterflies breed on the ivy. A wildlife volunteer has been surveying the invertebrate species within the garden at regular intervals, and has found the following species: Rosy woodlouse, Common centipede and the Grey Field Slug. The garden is also surveyed as part of the RSPB annual Big Garden Bird Watch by local volunteers, who have spotted a range of bird species in the garden including Blackbird, Blue Tit, Carrion Crow, Dunnock, Great Tit, Greenfinch, House Sparrow and Robins.

To ensure the ecological importance is maintained in the garden, a carefully thought out method of managing the garden has been required. An alternative mowing regime has been used in some sections of the garden to enable the successful growth of the wildflowers. All non-woody plants are removed from the masonry by careful hand weeding when soil conditions are moist. In the longer term a regime of careful hand weeding and approved herbicide use is proposed. Ivy is grown in certain areas of the brick wall, providing nesting cover for birds and habitat for invertebrates. A suitable wildflower mix has also been hydro seeded into the remains of Noble Wall. There is also a significant covering of moss and liverworts near the culvert in the garden which are to be maintained.

The garden also provides an important green link in the local green wildlife corridors through this otherwise highly urban area.

Site Action Plan

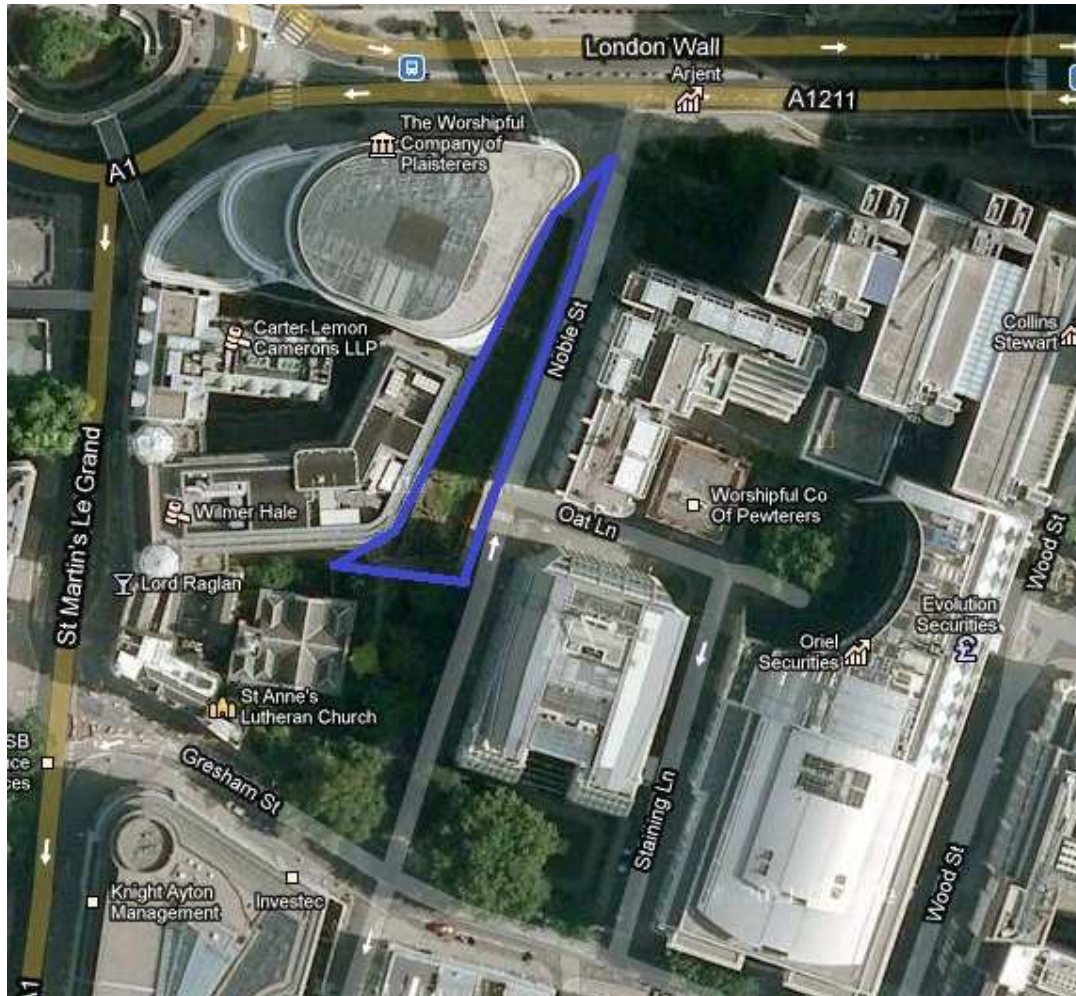
D101 – Roman Wall / Noble Street

Abbreviations: BAP Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015
 OSS City of London Open Space Strategy 2008
 MPO Management Plan Objective 2010-2015

Target D101 - 1 Improve the condition of the habitat for wildlife within Noble Street Garden				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
D101 1.1	Improve habitat condition – continue hand weeding and careful herbicide use to manage woody plants damaging structure whilst enabling diverse species to grow where possible	MPO5		Annual
D101 1.2	Audit and monitor biodiversity - Commission moth/butterfly/insect survey on site – subject to funding	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	2012 / 2013

Target D101 - 2 Community education and interpretation				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
D101 2.1	Include Noble Street Garden in City Gardens Wildlife Walks leaflet	MPO8	BAP GSC2.3	2011 (Achieved)
D101 2.2	Update interpretation material about priority species and habitats within the garden as required	MPO8	BAP GSC2.2	On-going

Aerial photograph showing the location of the Roman Wall / Noble Street:



C42/A22: Pepys Garden, Seething Lane and St Olave's, Hart Street

Site Management Plan

Historical background

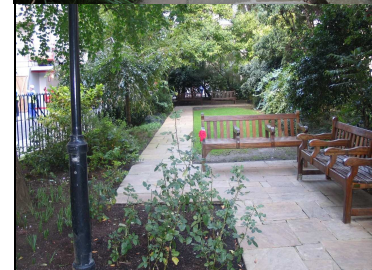
These gardens have strong historic associations with the diarist Samuel Pepys, who is buried at St. Olave's Churchyard. St. Olave's Churchyard is also associated with the Great Plague of 1665, as the three skulls standing over the 17th Century gateway remind. Seething Lane Gardens are owned by Willis Faber Plc. but loaned to the City of London under an agreement of the "Annual Quit Rent Ceremony". This agreement means The Company of Watermen and Lightermen can carry out the Knollys Rose Ceremony every June, for which they pick roses from the garden to take to Mansion House every year. There is a bust opposite the gate with the inscription "Samuel Pepys Diarist 1633-1703 erected by Samuel Pepys Club and public subscription 1983".

Legislation, designations and restrictions

- Designated as a Public Open Space, under the agreement from the Open Spaces Act 1906.
- City of London Corporation responsible for the planting and its maintenance.
- This garden is owned by Willis Faber Plc. but loaned to City of London to maintain under an agreement of the Annual Quit Rent Ceremony. Under this agreement the roses by the entrance to the garden must be provided for use in the Knollys Rose Ceremony each June.
- Designated as a Site of Importance to Nature Conservation
SINC Code: CiL01 **SINC Grade:** Local
Reason for designation: BAP Habitat – Churchyard & Cemetery; Park/Urban green space

Site Management

Opening hours	Open 7 days a week throughout the year from 8am to 7pm or dusk, whichever is the earlier.
Depot	St. Dunstan in the East sub-depot.
Staff	600 gardener hours per annum



Site Features	
Size	<p>Total Area (Seething Lane): 852.78 m² 541.23m² shrubs/herbaceous material (63%) 60.25m² annual bedding (4.5%) 470.04m² lawn (34.98%)</p> <p>Total Area (St Olave's): 331.30m² 177.65m² shrubs/herbaceous material (54%) 0.66m² annual bedding (0.2%) 48.12m² lawn (15%)</p>
Signage	<p>St Olave's: No City of London sign, only that of the church. Seething Lane: No City of London sign. One plaque to Samuel Pepys in the planting bed to the North of the garden.</p>
Benches	<p>St Olave's: 2 benches Seething Lane: 6 benches throughout the garden</p>
Fountain & planters	<p>St Olave's: 1 small wooden planter Seething Lane: No planters/fountain</p>
Biodiversity features	<p>There are currently two bird nest boxes in Seething Lane garden.</p>

Ecological Importance of the Garden
<p>The gardens of Seething Lane and St Olave's are publically accessible Open Spaces which provide an important green corridor link in an otherwise very urban area.</p> <p>The gardens include wide borders that contain mature trees and shrubs. Of the 40 trees that are present in the gardens, 20 are classified as mature. These include a False Acacia (<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>), a Maidenhair tree (<i>Ginkgo Biloba</i>), and two mulberries (<i>Morus nigra</i>). Within Seething Lane's shrub borders there are a variety of traditional shrubs such as beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>), which support a variety of bird life. Species recorded include Coal Tits, Blue Tits, Great Tits, Blackbirds and Wood Pigeons. A wildlife volunteer regularly surveys the gardens for invertebrates, and has so far found earthworms, 2 Spotted Ladybird larvae, green aphid, common black garden ant, springtails and white worms in the garden. There are herbaceous plants along the edge of the shrubbery and a lawn area. The liverwort <i>Lunularia plymorpha</i> can be found growing in shady corners of the garden.</p> <p>St Olave's Churchyard garden contains fewer trees but has small pockets of shrubs and herbaceous plants. There is a single mature hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) and a variegated small-leaved azara (<i>Azara microphylla</i>). The shrubs include large firethorn (<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>) and magnolia (<i>Magnolia x soulangiana</i>), plus hydrangea (<i>Hydrangea macrophylla</i>), forsythia (<i>Forsythia suspensa</i>) and box (<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>). Mosses and liverworts grow on the tombstones, and ferns grow on the West wall of the garden. 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. This site represents an important ecological resource which is used by the City of London Corporation to educate local residents about the importance of nature conservation. Garden birds are surveyed annually by volunteers in conjunction with the RSPB in addition to the wildlife survey volunteer who investigates the invertebrate population of the garden. Two bird boxes have also been added to the garden.</p>

Site Action Plan

A22 / C42 – Seething Lane and St Olave’s Garden

Abbreviations: BAP Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015
 OSS City of London Open Space Strategy 2008
 MPO Management Plan Objective 2010-2015

Target A22 / C42 -1	Improve the condition of the habitat for wildlife within Seething Lane and St Olave’s Garden			
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
A22 / C42 1.1	Improve habitat condition – Following re-installation of the garden, construct additional log pile/dead wood at the rear of planting borders to provide habitats for insects.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2013 / 2014
A22 / C42 1.2	Improve habitat - investigate potential for bird bath on site following redesign	MPO6		2012 / 2013
A22 / C42 1.3	Improve habitat condition – Ensure that 30% of the total surface area of the gardens remain shrub cover following the re-establishment of the garden improvement works.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2013 / 2014
A22 / C42 1.4	Improve habitat condition – Where possible, restrict use of herbicide use on West wall of St. Olave’s garden and tombstones to encourage growth of rare moss and liverwort species.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
A22 / C42 1.5	Improve habitat condition - Annually mulch shrub beds.	MPO5		Annual
A22 / C42 1.6	Improve habitat condition - Include single flowering and nectar rich bedding in any bedding displays.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
A22 / C42 1.7	Audit and monitor biodiversity – include Seething Lane in the RSPB’s annual ‘Big Garden Bird Watch’ with volunteers	MPO6 & 7	BAP GCS1.5	Annual
A22 / C42 1.8	Audit and monitor biodiversity- Include Seething Lane and St Olave’s in any bat surveys and on-going volunteer wildlife surveys of City Gardens.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
A22 / C42 1.9	Audit and monitor biodiversity - Commission moth/butterfly/insect survey on site – subject to funding.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	2013 / 2014
A22 / C42 1.10	All trees to be surveyed every 5 years, mature trees every year.	MPO 4		On-going

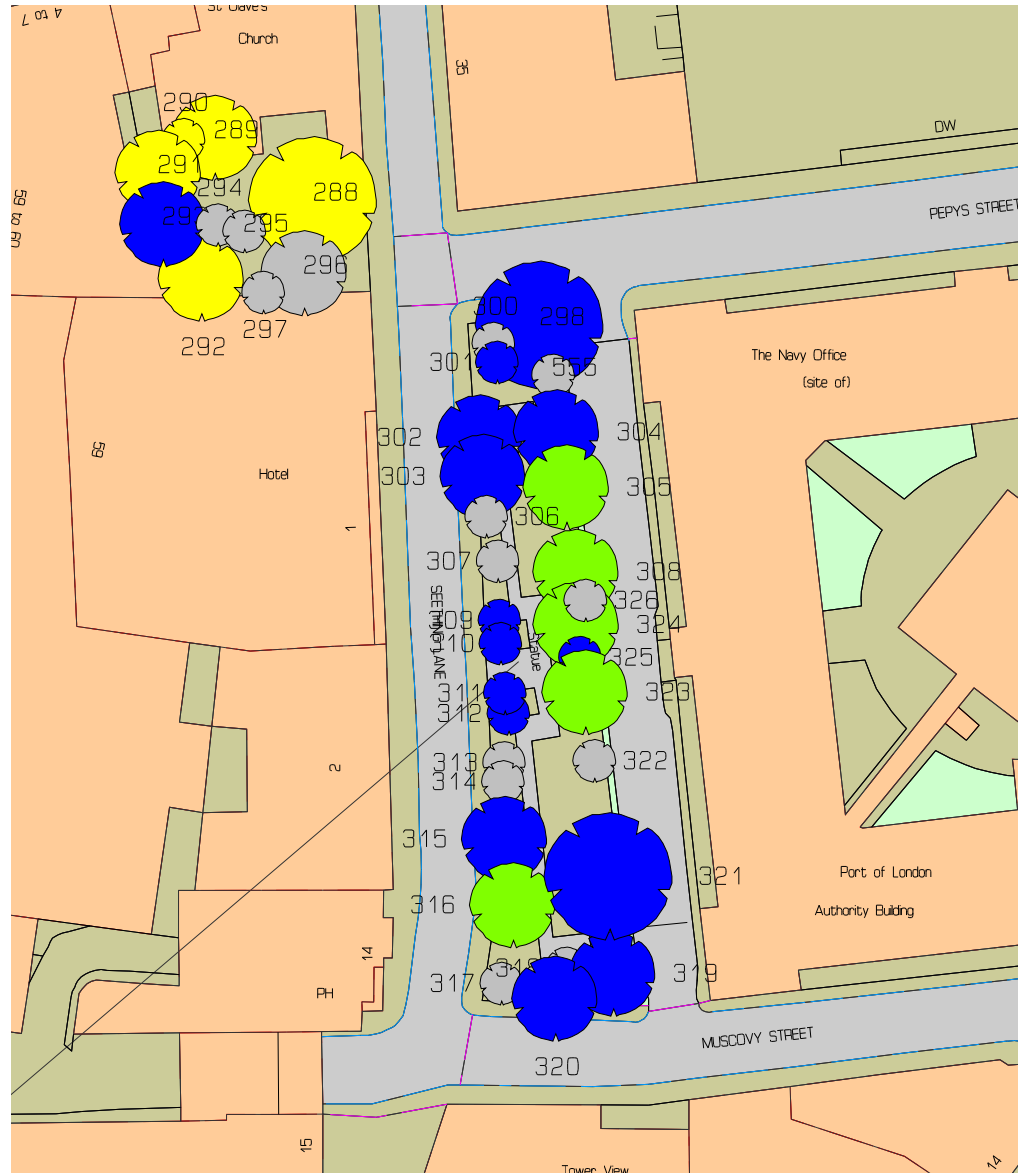
Target A22 / C42 -2 / Community education and interpretation				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
A22 / C42 2.1	Include Seething Lane Garden in City Gardens Wildlife Walks leaflet	MPO8	BAP GSC2.3	2011 (Achieved)
A22 / C42 2.2	Include Seething Lane and St. Olave's Garden in any new wider City Gardens interpretation material	MPO8	BAP GSC2.2	On-going
A22 / C42 2.3	1 community/education event to take place at Seething Lane and St Olave's each year	MPO7		Annual

Tree Data - Taken from Arbortrack (July 2011)

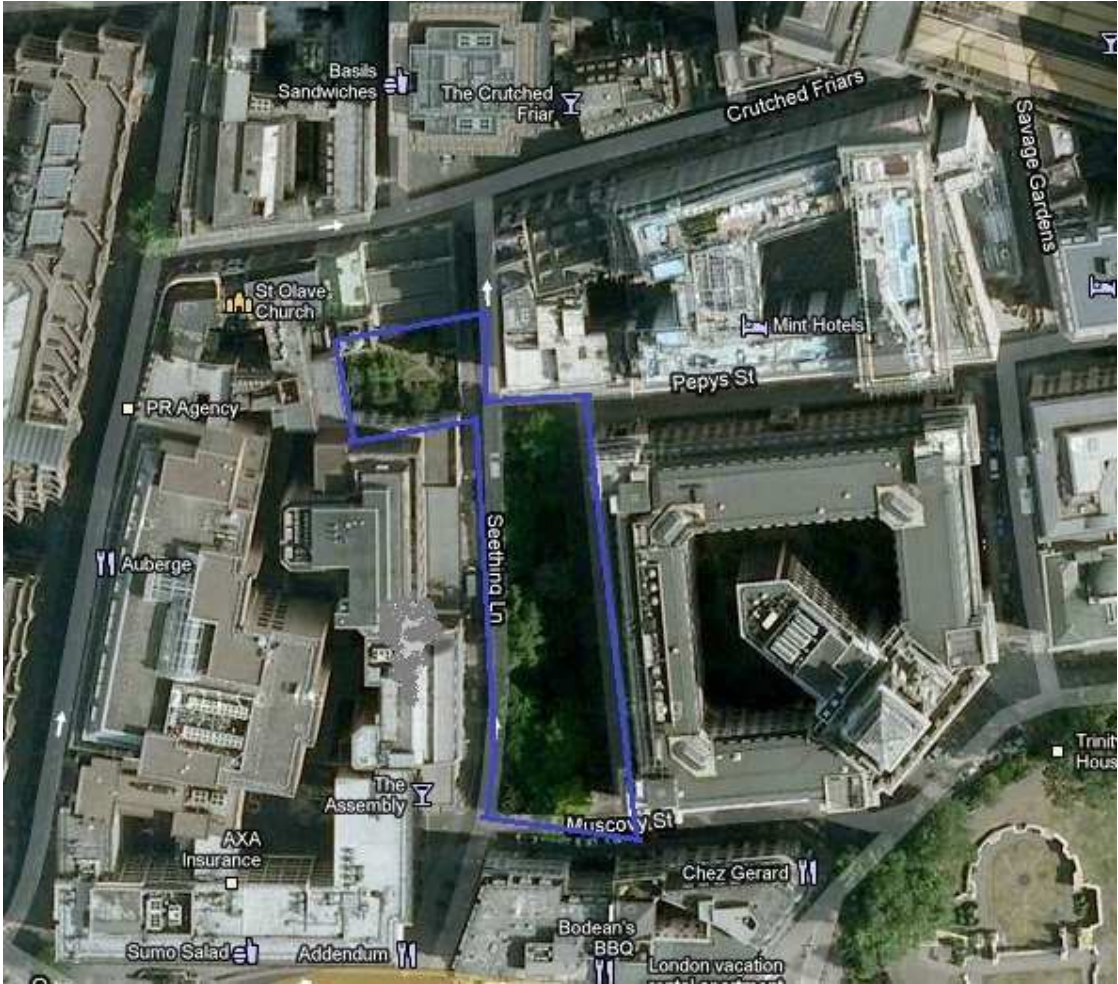
Vegetation ID	Type	Age	Condition	Full Species	TPO Reference	Committee
SE-00288	Broadleaf	Mature	Felled	sp. Tilia		CoL Standard
SE-00289	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Felled	Other Broadleaf Broadleaf		CoL Standard
SE-00290	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Felled	Other Broadleaf		CoL Standard
SE-00291	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Felled	sp. Betula		CoL Standard
SE-00292	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Felled	sp. Betula		CoL Standard
SE-00293	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	microphylla Azara		CoL Standard
SE-00294	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	kobus Magnolia		CoL Standard
SE-00295	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	kobus Magnolia		CoL Standard
SE-00296	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Poor	monogyna Crataegus		CoL Standard
SE-00297	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	microphylla Azara		CoL Standard
SE-00298	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	pseudoacacia Robinia		CoL Standard
SE-00300	Broadleaf	Established	Good	pseudoacacia Robinia		CoL Standard
SE-00301	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	unedo Arbutus		CoL Standard
SE-00302	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	kobus Magnolia		CoL Standard
SE-00303	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	kobus Magnolia		CoL Standard
SE-00304	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	kobus Magnolia		CoL Standard
SE-00305	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	unedo Arbutus		CoL Standard
SE-00306	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	x carrierei Crataegus		CoL Standard
SE-00307	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	umineko Prunus		CoL Standard
SE-00308	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	frigidus Cotoneaster		CoL Standard
SE-00309	Conifers	Mature	Good	biloba Ginkgo		CoL Standard
SE-00310	Conifers	Mature	Good	biloba Ginkgo		CoL Standard
SE-00311	Conifers	Mature	Good	biloba Ginkgo		CoL Standard
SE-00312	Conifers	Mature	Good	biloba Ginkgo		CoL Standard
SE-00313	Broadleaf	Established	Good	subhirtella Prunus		CoL Standard
SE-00314	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	kobus Magnolia		CoL Standard
SE-00315	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	x soulangiana Magnolia		CoL Standard
SE-00316	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	alba Morus		CoL Standard
SE-00317	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	platanoides Acer		CoL Standard
SE-00318	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	tricanthos Gleditsia sunburst		CoL Commemorative
SE-00319	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	pseudoacacia Robinia Frisia		CoL Commemorative
SE-00320	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	pseudoacacia Robinia		CoL Standard
SE-00321	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	tricanthos Gleditsia sunburst		CoL Commemorative
SE-00322	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	platanoides Acer		CoL Standard
SE-00323	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	nigra Morus		CoL Standard
SE-00324	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	nigra Morus		CoL Standard

SE-00325	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	paniculata Koelreuteria	CoL Commemorative
SE-00326	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Other Broadleaf Broadleaf	CoL Commemorative
SE-00555	Broadleaf	Young	Fair	pseudoacacia Robinia	CoL Standard

Tree Data: Arbortrack printout (from CoL Tree Database July 2011)

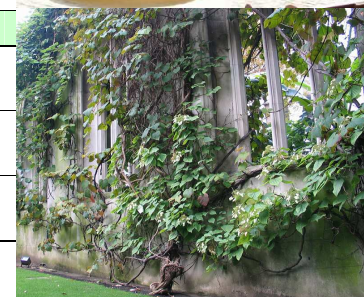


Aerial photograph – Location of Seething Lane and St Olave's



B9: St. Dunstan's in the East

Site Management Plan



Historical background

The Church of St. Dunstan's in the East is a Grade I listed building, originally built in the 12th Century. A Gothic steeple was added by Sir Christopher Wren in 1698 following the Great Fire of 1666. The remainder of the church was rebuilt in 1817 but subsequently damaged by bombs in 1941. The Wren Tower and outside walls are all that now remain. The garden was created by the City of London and opened by the Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor Sir Peter Studd on 21st June 1971.

Legislation, designations and restrictions

- Church ruins 4th August 1967 (53-33)
- Site acquired by the City in 1967 from the Church authorities
- Managed under the Open Spaces Act 1906 12th April 1971 (63-25).
- Land leased back to Church Authorities until 2031 (63-25).
- City of London Corporation responsible for the planting and maintenance of the garden, keeping paved areas clean and opening and closing gates.

Site Management

Opening hours	Open 7 days a week throughout the year from 8am to 7pm or dusk, whichever is the earlier.
Depot	St Dunstan's in the East Depot, St Dunstan's Lane, London, EC3R 8DX
Staff	813 gardener hours per annum

Site Features	
Size	Total Area: 0.1 hectares (1064.66 m ²) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 374.94 m² shrubs/herbaceous material (35%) ▪ 20.83 m² annual bedding (2%) ▪ 295.66 m² lawn (28%)
Signage	D3 sign at the Idol Street entrance. Other signage is used throughout the garden both internally and externally. This includes a large A2 size noticeboard for City Gardens interpretation materials to the West side of the internal seated area. This is updated with the latest 'What's New' newsletter and other information of interest.
Benches	Several CoL benches around the central fountain and throughout the garden, including a commemorative bench to Geoffrey Rowley.
Fountain & planters	6 x lead planters 910 x 910 x 860mm 1 x fountain in central seating area
Bird Boxes	3 bird boxes. Bird feeders (seed and fat based products) are also positioned throughout the garden

Ecological Importance of the Garden

A complex of three interlinked levels within the ruined Church walls, linked via the old Church entrances, gate openings and archways. The garden is surrounded by metal railings and the church ruins/buildings. The garden is on several levels and is accessed via 3 gated entrances. The main entrance is on St Dunstan's Hill. The roof of the church was destroyed during World War II, but the walls remain standing and are now covered with climbing plants such as *Jasimum officinale*, *Lonicera*, *trachelospermum jasminoides*, *Vitis coignetiae* and *Wisteria sinensis*. These provide an excellent example of a natural green wall.

The garden contains 9 mature trees and several shrub beds. All trees in the garden are subject to regular surveying (every 5 years) by an arboriculturalist – those deemed as mature are surveyed every year to monitor their health and condition. The mature shrub borders are planted with a variety of shrubs and perennials that are native and/or beneficial to wildlife e.g. *Berberis*, *Carpinus betulus*, *Ilex aquifolium variegata*, *Mahonia*, *Sarcococca*, *Viburnum* and *Garrya elliptica*. Bedding plants are used in the lead planters to provide seasonal colour and interest to visitors. Single flowering species are used.

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. This site represents an important ecological resource which is used by the City of London Corporation to educate local children and residents about the importance of nature conservation. Bird boxes and feeders have been added to the site with the help of the Lord Mayor's Scout group, who also assisted with the planting of 1000 daffodils throughout the garden. An 'Insect Hotel' providing habitat for invertebrates was added to the garden in 2010 as part of the 'Beyond the Hive' competition to design and build ecologically sustainable solutions for invertebrate habitat in an urban location.

Bird species seen in the garden include Blue tits, Blackbirds, Robins, Great Tits, Green Finches, Wrens and Starlings. The garden has been regularly surveyed for invertebrate species by an experienced wildlife survey volunteer, who has so far found green shield bug, common earwig, common earthworm, common centipedes, greenfly, netted slugs, crab spider, orb weavers, frosted orange moth, rosy woodlice, springtails, red/brown ants, harlequin ladybird larvae, magpies, wood pigeons and ground beetles in the garden.

Site Action Plan

B9 - St. Dunstan's in the East

Abbreviations: BAP Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015
 OSS City of London Open Space Strategy 2008
 MPO Management Plan Objective 2010-2015

Target B9 -1		Improve the condition of the habitat for wildlife within St. Dunstan's in the East		
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
B9 1.1	Improve habitat condition - Shrub cover to be maintained to ensure that it continues to make up 30% of the total surface area of the garden	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	Annual
B9 1.2	Improve habitat condition - Increase the amount of native shrub cover in the garden and replace and replenish 10% of over-matures shrub stock.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2012 / 2013
B9 1.3	Improve habitat condition - Annually mulch shrub beds	MPO5		Annual
B9 1.4	Improve habitat condition - Include single flowering and nectar rich bedding in the annual bedding display	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	Annual
B9 1.5	Improve habitat condition – add log piles to appropriate position in shrub bed with help of volunteers	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2012
B9 1.6	Audit and monitor biodiversity – include site in RSPB's annual 'Big garden bird watch' with volunteers	MPO6 & 7	BAP GCS1.5	Annual
B9 1.7	Audit and monitor biodiversity- include site in the bat survey	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	2012 / 2013
B9 1.8	Audit and monitor biodiversity - Commission moth/butterfly/insect survey on site when funding is secured and continue invertebrate surveying with volunteer/s	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	2012
B9 1.9	Monitor Tree condition - All trees surveyed every 5 years, mature trees every year	MPO4	Tree Survey	Annual
B9 1.10	Achieve SLINC status for Site.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.3 OSS 5 (P49)	2012 / 2013

Target C34-2		Community Education and interpretation		
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
B9 2.1	Include St. Dunstan's in the East in the Wildlife Walks leaflet.	MPO8	BAP GSC2.3	2011 (Achieved)
B9 2.2	Erect interpretation material about priority species and habitats within the garden.	MPO8	BAP GSC2.2	1 article /poster per year
B9 2.3	1 community/education event to take place at site each year.	MPO7		Annual

Tree Data (taken from CoL ArboTrack database July 2011)

Vegetation ID	Type	Age	Condition	Trunk	Full Species	TPO Reference	Committee
SE-00265	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	sylvatica Fagus		CoL Standard
SE-00266	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Single	sylvatica Fagus Dawyck Gold		CoL Standard
SE-00267	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Multi	palmatum Acer		CoL Standard
SE-00268	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Twin	betulus Carpinus		CoL Standard
SE-00269	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	microphylla Azara		CoL Standard
SE-00270	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Felled	Single	styraciflua Liquidambar		CoL Standard
SE-00271	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Multi	robur Quercus Fastigiata		CoL Standard
SE-00272	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Multi	robur Quercus Fastigiata		CoL Standard
SE-00273	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Twin	Amanagawa Prunus		CoL Commemorative
SE-00274	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Group	microphylla Azara		CoL Standard
SE-00275	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Multi	microphylla Azara		CoL Standard
SE-00276	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Single	microphylla Azara		CoL Commemorative
SE-00277	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	microphylla Azara		CoL Standard
SE-00278	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	sylvatica Fagus		CoL Standard
SE-00279	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	sylvatica Fagus Purpurea		CoL Standard
SE-00280	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	ilex Quercus		CoL Standard
SE-00281	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Twin	carica Ficus		CoL commemorative
SE-00282	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Twin	kobus Magnolia		CoL Commemorative
SE-00283	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Single	x soulangiana Magnolia		CoL Standard
SE-00284	Broadleaf	Established	Good	Twin	microphylla Azara		CoL Standard
SE-00285	Conifers	Established	Good	Single	gylptostroboides Metasequoia		CoL Standard
SE-00554	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Group	sp. Magnolia		CoL Standard
SE-00557	Broadleaf	Young	Good	Single	styraciflua Liquidambar		CoL standard

Arbortrack printout of trees within St. Dunstan's in the East (July 2011)



Aerial photo & map



C34: Postman's Park

Site Management Plan

Historical background

Postman's Park first opened in 1880. It is an amalgamation of the churchyards of St Leonard's (Foster Lane), St Botolph's without Aldersgate and Christchurch Greyfriars (Newgate Street). Additional land bordering Little Britain was added in 1883. The garden's name is thought to come from the garden historically having been a popular location for postal workers to take their breaks from the local Post Office HQ which was located on King Edward Street.

In 1871, the Victorian sculptor and philanthropist Mr G.F. Watts conceived the idea of a national memorial to heroic men and women. This was realised in 1900 with the creation of the Watts Memorial Cloister.

A Church has stood here since the time of Edward the Confessor, the present Church of St Botolph's being the third and dating from 1754. In 1950 it became a Guild Church.

Legislation, designations and restrictions

- Maintenance Agreement made under the Open Spaces Act 1906: 2nd Nov 1961 (34-59)
- Majority of the space owned by the Vicar and Churchwardens of St Botolph's without Aldersgate
- Watts Memorial Cloister and Memorial Tablets maintained by Vicar and Churchwardens of St Botolph's without Aldersgate (in conjunction with Watts Gallery).
- There are a total of 15 TPO protected trees in this garden.
- City of London Corporation responsible for the planting and its maintenance.
- The garden sits within Conservation Area 8 – Smithfield.
- This part of the City is classed as an area of deficiency (GLA 1986) – where people have little or no access to nature.

Site Management

Opening hours	Open 7 days a week throughout the year from 8am to 7pm or dusk, whichever is the earlier.
Depot	City Gardens Depot, 10 Castle Baynard Street, London EC4V 4EA
Staff	1204 gardener hours per annum



Site Features	
Size	Total Area: 0.25 hectares (2514.45m ²) 826.01m ² Shrubs/Herbaceous material (33%) 182.14m ² Annual bedding (7%) 583.55m ² Lawn (23%)
Signage	D3 CoL sign on the east side entry. Attached to the Church wall is an A2 noticeboard for City Gardens interpretation materials. There are several plaques within the garden relating to the historical elements of the Park. Interpretation plaque added to the Watts Memorial along with new commemorative plaque in 2009.
Benches	A number of CoL benches throughout the garden.
Fountain & planters	3 lead planters (910 x 910 x 860mm) situated next to the church. Ornamental fountain with surrounding pond, ornamental fish and small marginal border.
Biodiversity features	Various bird boxes and feeders (seed & fat based products) and one bird bath positioned throughout the garden. There are two large log-piles in the garden, created February 2011 with the Lyceum school.

Ecological Importance of the Garden

Postman's Park is a mature City Garden which has been open to the public since 1880. At 0.25 hectares it is one of the larger Open Spaces in the City and provides an important resource in which residents, workers and visitors can interact with nature. The garden contains mounded banks of well-kept lawns, with mature borders around the perimeter. Annual bedding is also present, providing seasonal colour and interest to visitors and users of the garden.

The 31 trees in the garden give it its unique character. 15 of these have Tree Preservation Orders and 13 are classified as mature specimens (there are only 300 mature specimen trees owned by the City of London in the Square Mile and therefore these are highly important). The mature trees and shrub cover provide habitat for small garden birds. Bird nesting boxes, feeders and a bird bath have also been added to the garden to complement this. Bird species recorded include Blackbirds, Blue tits, Dunnocks, Greenfinches and Coal Tits. A pair of blue tits also nested in the garden in Spring 2009. Small white butterflies (*Pieris rapae*) have also been seen in the garden.

The site falls in an area classified by the GLA as an 'Area of Deficiency' where local people do not have sufficient access to nature. The site represents an important ecological resource which is used by the City of London Corporation to educate local children and residents about the importance of nature conservation. The Lord Mayor's Scout Group have assisted with the planting of native bulbs, erected bird nesting boxes and feeders in the garden. The garden is also featured on the 'Blue Badge' Guides' tour of the City during which they talk to visitors about the historical, horticultural and ecological value of the garden.

Adult volunteers also carry out an annual bird survey in the garden in conjunction with the RSPB. The garden is also regularly surveyed by a wildlife volunteer for other wildlife, so far species found include black fly, common black garden ants, greenfly, money spiders, springtail, common woodlice, robins, green aphid, ground beetles, sheet web spiders and mallards.

Site Action Plan

C34 – Postman’s Park

Abbreviations: BAP Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015
 OSS City of London Open Space Strategy 2008
 MPO Management Plan Objective 2010-2015

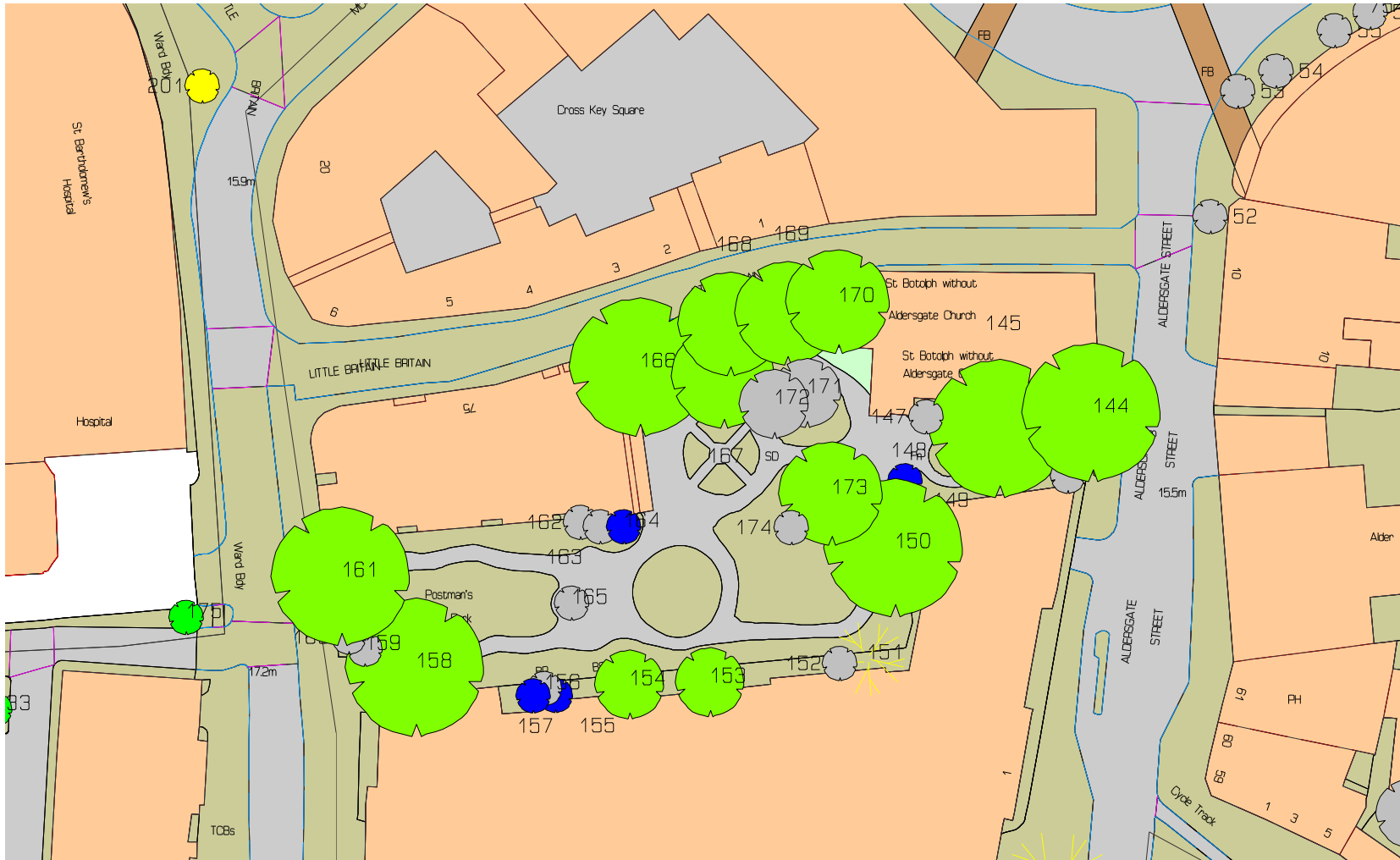
Target C34 -1 Improve the condition of the habitat for wildlife within Postman’s Park				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
C34 1.1	Improve habitat condition - Install log pile/dead wood at the rear of flower beds to provide habitats for insects.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2010 (Achieved)
C34 1.2	Improve habitat - investigate potential for bird bath on site.	MPO6		2011 (Achieved)
C34 1.3	Improve habitat condition - Shrub cover to be maintained to ensure that it continues to make up 30% of the total surface area of the garden	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
C34 1.4	Improve habitat condition - Increase the amount of native shrub cover in the garden	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2013
C34 1.5	Improve habitat condition - Annually mulch shrub beds	MPO5		Annual
C34 1.6	Improve habitat condition - Include single flowering and nectar rich bedding in the annual bedding display	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
C34 1.7	Audit and monitor biodiversity – include Postman's park in RSPB's annual 'Big garden bird watch' with volunteers	MPO6 & 7	BAP GCS1.5	Annual
C34 1.8	Audit and monitor biodiversity- Include Postman's park any future bat surveys	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
C34 1.9	Audit and monitor biodiversity - Commission moth/butterfly/insect survey on site – subject to funding	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	2012 / 2013
C34 1.10	TPO trees to be included in the CoL Tree Strategy – All trees surveyed every 5 years, mature trees every year	MPO 4	Tree Survey	On-going
C34 1.11	Achieve SLINC status for Postman's Park	MPO6	BAP GCS1.3 OSS 5 (P49)	2012 / 2013

Target C34-2 Community education and interpretation				
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
C34 2.1	Include Postman’s park in City Gardens Wildlife Walks leaflet	MPO8	BAP GSC2.3	2011 (Achieved)
C34 2.2	Erect interpretation material about priority species and habitats within the garden	MPO8	BAP GSC2.2	1 article /poster per year
C34 2.3	1 community/education event to take place at Postman’s park each year	MPO7		Annual

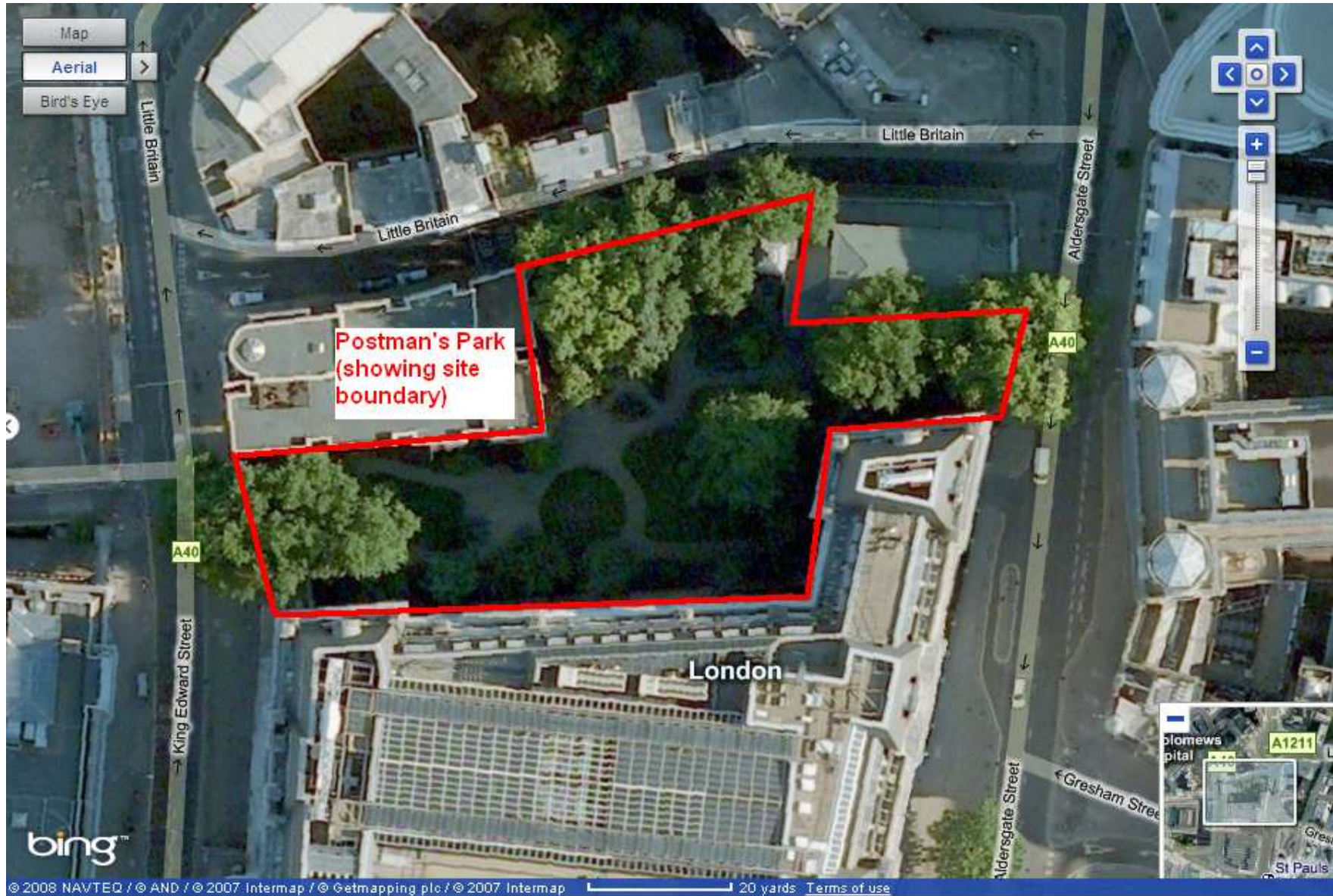
Tree Data from ArboTrack database (July 2011)

Vegetation ID	Age	Condition	Trunk	Full Species	ArboTrack ID	TPO Reference	Committee
NW-00001	Established	Fair	Single	Acer	1		Private
NW-00144	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	145	T15	CoL Standard
NW-00145	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	146	T14	CoL Standard
NW-00146	Semi Mature	Good	Single	palmatum Acer Purperea	147		CoL Standard
NW-00147	Semi Mature	Good	Single	palmatum Acer Purperea	148		CoL Standard
NW-00148	Semi Mature	Good	Single	Acer	149		CoL Standard
NW-00149	Semi Mature	Felled	Single	pseudoacacia Robinia Frisia	150	T8	CoL Commemorative
NW-00150	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	151	T7	CoL Standard
NW-00151	Semi Mature	Felled	Single	intermedia Sorbus	152	T5	CoL Standard
NW-00152	Semi Mature	Fair	Single	sp. Prunus	153	T4	CoL Standard
NW-00153	Semi Mature	Good	Single	aucuparia Sorbus	154		CoL Standard
NW-00154	Semi Mature	Good	Single	involuta Davidia	155		CoL Standard
NW-00155	Semi Mature	Fair	Single	dealbata Acacia	156		CoL Standard
NW-00156	Semi Mature	Good	Single	dealbata Acacia	157		CoL Standard
NW-00157	Semi Mature	Good	Single	dealbata Acacia	158		CoL Standard
NW-00158	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	159	T2	CoL Standard
NW-00159	Established	Fair	Single	palmatum Acer Purperea	160		CoL Standard
NW-00160	Semi Mature	Good	Single	caricq Ficus	161		CoL Standard
NW-00161	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	162	T1	CoL Standard
NW-00162	Semi Mature	Good	Single	palmatum Acer	163		CoL Standard
NW-00163	Semi Mature	Good	Single	palmatum Acer Purperea	164		CoL Standard
NW-00164	Semi Mature	Good	Single	robur Quercus	165		CoL Commemorative
NW-00165	Established	Good	Single	aria Sorbus	166	T3	CoL Commemorative
NW-00166	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	167	T9	CoL Standard
NW-00167	Mature	Good	Single	hippocastanum Aesculus	168	T10	CoL Standard
NW-00168	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	169	T11	CoL Standard
NW-00169	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	170	T12	CoL Standard
NW-00170	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	171	T13	CoL Standard
NW-00171	Established	Good	Single	sibhirtella Prunus Autumnalis	172		CoL Standard
NW-00172	Mature	Good	Group	microphylla Azara	173		CoL Standard
NW-00173	Mature	Good	Single	europea Tilia	174	T6	CoL Standard
NW-00174	Mature	Good	Single	sp. Prunus	175		CoL Standard

Tree Data: ArboTrack Map showing trees on site (July 2011)



Aerial Photograph of Postman's Park



C44: West Smithfield Rotunda Garden

Site Management Plan

Historical background

West Smithfield Garden is a circular garden, central to the West Smithfield Rotunda. In the Middle Ages this was a plain, grassy space just outside the city walls, known as "Smethefeld" or Smoothfield, which from ancient times was used for jousts and tournaments. It was also a place of public execution for over 400 years, where heretics, rebels and criminals were burnt, beheaded or boiled. In 1305 Scottish hero William Wallace was hung, drawn and quartered at this site after being dragged behind a horse.

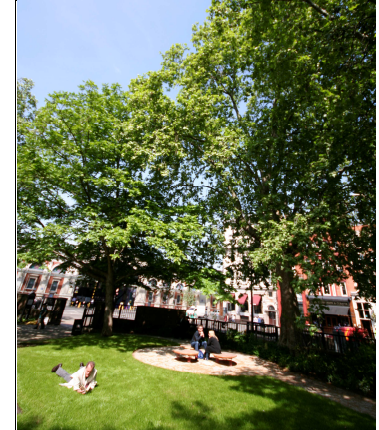
In subsequent years the site became the reception area for the Smithfield meat market. However, following the removal of the live animal market to Copenhagen Fields, Islington, the Rotunda was laid out in 1872. Today the area is a peaceful, hidden corner of London which is used as a publically accessible garden. The site was re-landscaped in 2011 as part of the Play builder scheme to provide additional play facilities within the City of London whilst also maintaining the site's ecological and horticultural merits and improving the seating and accessibility of the site.

Legislation, designations and restrictions

- Public Open Space.
- City of London Corporation responsible for the planting and its maintenance.
- This garden is opened and closed by the Markets' Constabulary based in the West Smithfield Meat Market.

Site Management

Opening hours	Open 7 days a week throughout the year from 8am to 7pm or dusk, whichever is the earlier.
Depot	City Gardens Depot, 10 Castle Baynard Street, London EC4V 4EA
Staff	908 gardener hours per annum



Site Features	
Size	Total Area: 0.13 hectares (1343.59 m ²) 645.55m ² Shrubs/Herbaceous material (48%) 60.25m ² Annual bedding (4.5%) 470.04m ² Lawn (34.98%)
Signage	D3 CoL sign in good condition following repairs in 2011. Plaque to the side of the bench reading Sculptured stone bench unveiled on 6 December 2006 by The Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor John Boothman Stuttard. Bench designed by Sam Dawkins and Donna Walker and made by the apprentices and masons of CWO Ltd. Sponsored by City of London Corporation, CWO Ltd and Albion Stone Plc".
Benches	16 x CoL standard benches line the central paving and perimeter CEDEC pathway 1 x large stone bench – designed by students who won a design competition in 2006.
Fountain & planters	Fountain of Portland Stone with basins of polished granite in centre of garden, made in 1873 (Grade II listed) with a bronze figure 'Peace' standing on bronze sphere decorated with daffodil flowers. The water fountain is not currently in use.
Biodiversity features	There are currently two log-piles in the garden, a number of bird nesting boxes and a bird bath.

Ecological Importance of the Garden

The circular garden of West Smithfield has been a publically accessible Open Space since 1872. The outer circumference of the garden contains a wide border that contains mature trees and shrubs. Of the 15 trees that are present in the garden, 11 are classified as mature with 8 having been recommended for Tree Preservation Orders due to their significant importance in the City (significance is measured against the British Standard 5837 recommendations). The mature shrub borders support a variety of bird life; species recorded include Blue tits, Great tits, Blackbirds, Robin, Starlings and Wrens. A wildlife volunteer regularly surveys the garden for invertebrates, and has so far found black snake millipedes, springtails, greenfly, green aphid, black fly, stripe-legged spiders, red/brown ants, pill woodlice, common woodlice, and white worms in the garden.

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. This site represents an important ecological resource which is used by the City of London Corporation to educate local children and residents about the importance of nature conservation. Garden birds are surveyed annually by volunteers in conjunction with the RSPB. Bird boxes and feeders have been added to the garden. In conjunction with local business volunteers the shrub borders have been improved with nectar rich herbaceous perennials around their outer edge and log piles for insects were constructed at the back of the shrub beds. During the Autumn of 2009 residents from the Providence Row Housing Association (that provides accommodation for homeless men and women) assisted with the planting of 750 spring bulbs including Crocus, *Galanthus nivalis*, *Anemone nemorosa*, *Eranthis hyemalis*, *Convallaria majalis* and *Allium ursinum*. The recent planting and hard landscape improvements to the site as part of the Play builder project in 2011 have enhanced the ecological value of this planting further through conscious selection of plant species for wildlife, including shrub cover for nesting birds. The garden is close to the Barbican Estate where Peregrine Falcons nest annually and is an important green link in the west of the City.

Site Action Plan

C44 – West Smithfield Rotunda Garden

Abbreviations: BAP Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015
 OSS City of London Open Space Strategy 2008
 MPO Management Plan Objective 2010-2015

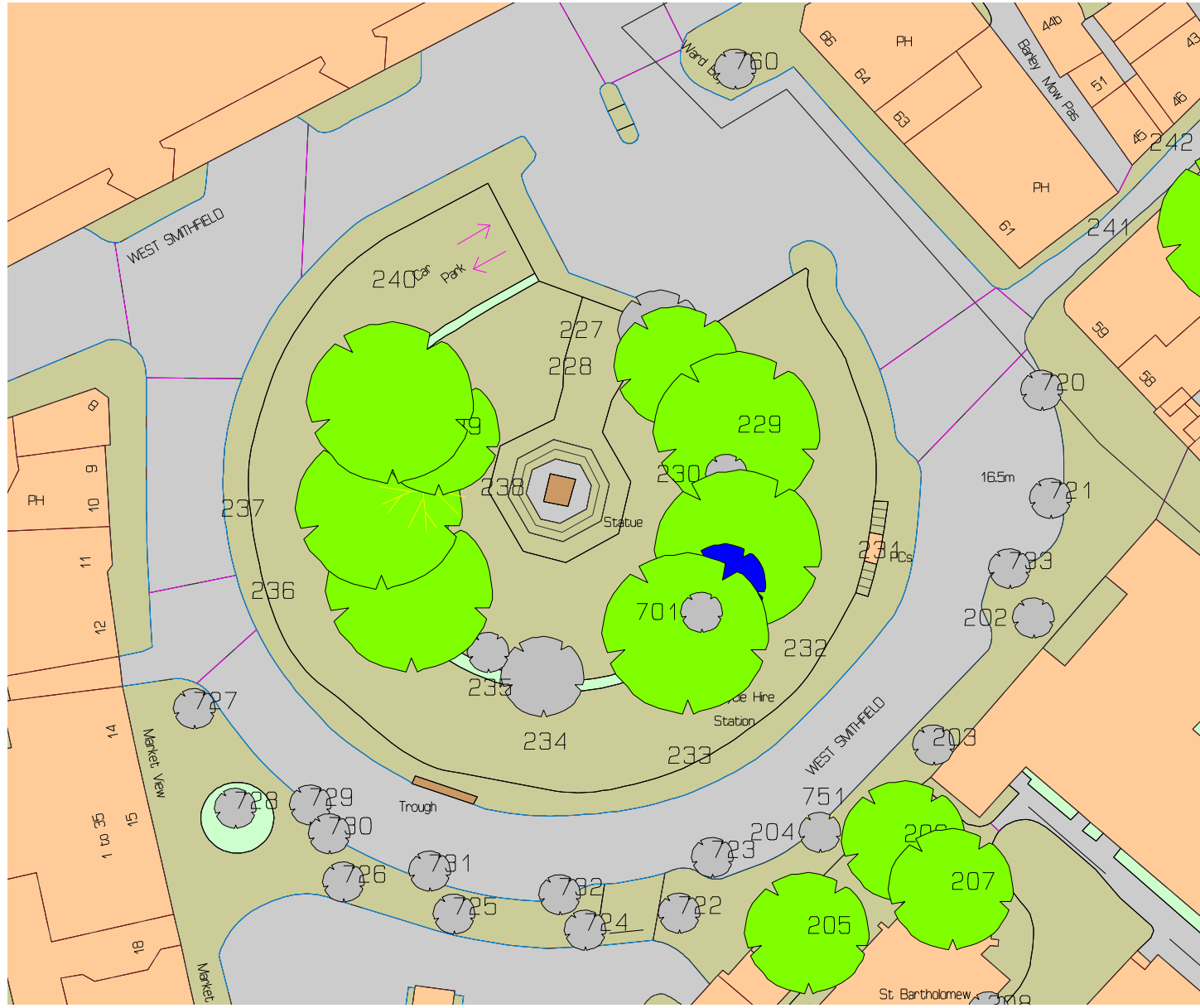
Target C44 -1		Improve the condition of the habitat for wildlife within West Smithfield		
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
C44 1.1	Improve habitat condition - Install additional log pile/dead wood at the rear of perimeter planting border to provide habitats for insects.	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	2011 (Achieved)
C44 1.2	Improve habitat - investigate potential for bird bath on site	MPO6		2011 (Achieved)
C44 1.3	Improve habitat condition - Shrub cover to be maintained to ensure that it continues to make up 30% of the total surface area of the garden	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
C44 1.4	Improve habitat condition - Increase the amount of native shrub cover in the garden in any future improvements	MPO6	BAP GCS1.1	On-going
C44 1.5	Improve habitat condition - Annually mulch shrub beds	MPO5		Annual
C44 1.6	Improve habitat condition - Include single flowering and nectar rich bedding in the annual bedding display	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
C44 1.7	Audit and monitor biodiversity – include West Smithfield in RSPB's annual „Big garden bird watch" with volunteers	MPO6 & 7	BAP GCS1.5	Annual
C44 1.8	Audit and monitor biodiversity- Include West Smithfield in any bat surveys and on-going volunteer wildlife surveys of City Gardens	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	On-going
C44 1.9	Audit and monitor biodiversity - Commission moth/butterfly/insect survey on site – subject to funding	MPO6	BAP GCS1.5	2013 / 2014
C44 1.10	TPO trees to be included in the CoL Tree Strategy – All trees surveyed every 5 years, mature trees every year	MPO 4	Tree Survey	On-going
C44 1.11	Achieve SLINC status for West Smithfield	MPO6	BAP GCS1.3 OSS 5 (P49)	2012 / 2013

Target C44 -2		Community education and interpretation		
Action No	Action	Management Plan Objective	Links to other docs	Date
C44 2.1	Include West Smithfield in City Gardens Wildlife Walks leaflet	MPO8	BAP GSC2.3	2011 (Achieved)
C44 2.2	Erect interpretation material about priority species and habitats within the garden	MPO8	BAP GSC2.2	1 article /poster per year
C44 2.3	1 community/education event to take place at West Smithfield each year	MPO7		Annual

Tree Data - Taken from Arbortrack (July 2011)

Vegetation ID	Type	Age	Condition	Trunk	Full Species	TPO Reference	Committee
NW-00227	Broadleaf	Mature	Fair	Single	sp. Prunus		CoL Standard
NW-00228	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	fraxinifolia Pterocarya	required	CoL Standard
NW-00229	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NW-00230	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Good	Single	sp. Malus		CoL Standard
NW-00231	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NW-00232	Broadleaf	Mature	Fair	Single	caricq Ficus		CoL Standard
NW-00233	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NW-00234	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	Ficus		CoL Standard
NW-00235	Broadleaf	Established	Good	Single	sylvatica Fagus Dawyck		CoL Standard
NW-00236	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NW-00237	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NW-00238	Broadleaf	Established	Felled	Single	rubra Quercus		CoL Commemorative
NW-00239	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	fraxinifolia Pterocarya	required	CoL Commemorative
NW-00240	Broadleaf	Mature	Good	Single	hispanica Platanus	required	CoL Standard
NW-00701	Broadleaf	Semi Mature	Fair	Twin	sp. Prunus		CoL Standard

Tree Data: Arbortrack printout (from CoL Tree Database May 2011)



Aerial photograph



Appendix 1: List of Sites Maintained by the City Gardens Section (Does not include D or E sites)

Site Reference	List of sites maintained by the City of London
A	CHURCHYARDS - ACTIVE CHURCHES
A1	All Hallows by the Tower
A2	All Hallows London Wall
A3	St. Andrews Churchyard, Holborn
A4	St. Andrews Undershaft
A5	St. Andrews by the Wardrobe
A6	St. Anne/ St Agnes
A7	St. Bartholomew the Great
A8	St. Botolph Aldgate
A9	St. Botolph Bishopsgate Churchyard
A10	St. Brides, Fleet Street
A13	St. James Garlickhythe
A14	St. Magnus the Martyr
A17	St. Mary Aldermary
A18	St. Mary at Hill
A19	St. Michael Cornhill
A20	St. Michael Paternoster Royal
A21	St. Nicholas Cole Abbey
A22	St. Olave's Hart St
A23	St. Pauls Cathedral (Inc. Southside)
A24	St. Peters-upon-Cornhill
A25	St. Sepulchre, Holborn

B	CHURCHYARDS - DISUSED CHURCHYARDS
B1	Bunhill Fields
B2	Christchurch Greyfriars Churchyard, Newgate Street
B3	Christchurch Greyfriars Church Garden
B4	Fenn Court (St Gabriel Fen)
B5	St. Albans tower
B6	St. Anne Blackfriars - Ireland Yard
B7	St. Anne Blackfriars - Church Entry
B8	St. Benet fink
B9	St. Dunstan in the East
B13	St. Mary Staining
B14	St. Mary Aldermanbury
B15	St. Mary Somerset Tower
B16	St. Olave's Noble Street
B17	St. Peter's Westcheap
B19	St Dunstan's in the West
B20	Pancras Lane Churchyard

C	OPEN SPACES
C1	Aldermanbury/Gresham St. pond and garden
C2	Aldermanbury/Love Lane
C3	Aldermanbury Square
C4	Little Trinity Lane / St James Garlickhythe
C5	Barber Surgeons' Hall
C6	Coleman Street Garden
C7	Bastion House/Roman Wall
C8	Beaufort House
C9	Blackfriars Bridge, South Garden
C11	Blackfriars Underpass
C13	Brewers Hall
C14	Bridgewater Square
C15	Bucklersbury
C17	Cleary Garden
C18	Fenchurch Place
C19	Festival Gardens
C20	Finsbury Circus Gardens
C21	Fore St/London Wall (plough)
C22	Information Centre Garden (Carter Lane)
C23	Jubilee Gardens
C25	London Wall Shrub Bed
C28	Museum of London Engineers Store
C29	Noble Street Gardens (W.C Plasterers)
C31	Old Change Court
C33	Portsoken Street Garden
C34	Postman's Park
C35	Royal Bank of Canada House
C36	St. Alphages Garden London Wall
C37	St. Benet's Church Garden
C38	St. Mary Le Bow Church Garden
C39	St. Pauls Choir School Open space
C40	Peters Hill (north) 12 planters plus garden
C42	Seething Lane Garden
C43	Senator House
C44	Smithfield Rotunda Garden
C45	Angel Passage
C46	Warwick Square
C47	Whittington Garden

Appendix 2: List of Associated Documents Available

Below is a list of documents that are referred to throughout this document, if you would like to obtain a copy please contact the City Gardens Office.

	<u>Abbreviation</u>
• Open Spaces Business Plan (2010/13)	OSBP
• Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015	BAP
• Area Based Grants Bids 2010/11	ABG
• Health and Safety Audit Report 2009	HSAR 2009
• Open Spaces Strategy 2009	OSS
• Critical Audit 2007	
• City Gardens Survey 2009:- CAD drawing of each individual site and its associated assets	CGS 2009
• London in Bloom Portfolio's:- Annually produced	
• Open Spaces Annual Report	OSAR

Open Spaces Department

The City of London Corporation owns and manages a number of Open Spaces, Parks and Gardens in and around London as part of its commitment to sustaining a world class city. Each Open Space is a unique resource managed for the use and enjoyment of the public and for the conservation of wildlife and historic landscape.



In addition to the City Gardens Management Plan 2011-2016, a number of other publications are available, including many free leaflets. A full list of Sites and visitor information can be found on our website, as detailed below.

If you would like to receive this publication in your language, or in an alternative format such as large print, Braille or audio tape, please contact:

City Gardens Section
P.O. Box 270
Guildhall
London EC2P 2EJ

Phone: 020 7374 4127
Fax: 020 7710 8524
Email: parks.gardens@cityoflondon.gov.uk



A full list of sites and visitor information can be found on our website at:
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/citygardens