

<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>
West Ham Park Committee	7 October 2013
<b>Subject:</b> West Ham Park Management Progress Report	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Director of Open Spaces	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>This report is to provide Members with background information relating to the uses and management of West Ham Park during the 2012/13 financial year.</p>	
<b>Recommendations</b>	
<p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the Report</li> <li>• Note the hard work and commitment of staff and volunteers at West Ham Park</li> </ul>	

## Main Report

### **Background**

1. Historically, progress on the Management Plan objectives along with data collected during the year relating to the use of the park has been reported to this Committee annually.
2. Due to the absence of key senior staff this year, it has not been possible to progress as many Management Plan projects as envisaged, due to other priorities taking precedence. This report will therefore only provide background information relating to the management of the park in 2012/13. A summary of progress is attached as an appendix at the end of this report.
3. Progress reports on objectives in the revised West Ham Park Management Plan 2012-17 will resume from 2014.

### **Current Position**

4. Through improved monitoring of all of our facilities, we are able to provide detailed information regarding participation levels for a variety of activities and make available an analysis of other factors that have an impact on the park

during the year. This range of information is provided in Appendix 1 of this report.

5. The appendix includes information relating to weather, visitor numbers, audience numbers for the free entertainment provided, and paddling pool and sports usage. In addition, the appendix provides information relating to volunteer activities and data relating to incidents that have occurred during the year, for consideration and discussion by Members.

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

6. Projects and activities that take place within the park strongly support four of the five Community Strategy themes:
  - Supports our communities – by encouraging well-being and participation in volunteer activities
  - Protects, promotes and enhances our environment – by raising awareness and encouraging enjoyment of the City's open spaces
  - Is vibrant and culturally rich – by providing opportunities for people of all backgrounds and abilities
  - Is safer and stronger – evidence suggests increasing legitimate use in open space can discourage anti-social behaviour
7. Management activities also support all five strategic aims and objectives within the Open Spaces Departmental Business Plan:
  - Quality: provide safe, secure and accessible open spaces and services for the benefit of London and the Nation
  - Inclusion: Involve communities and partners in developing a sense of place through the care and management of our sites
  - Environment: Deliver sustainable working practices to promote the variety of life and protect the Open Spaces for the enjoyment of future generations
  - Promotion: Promote opportunities to value and enjoy the outdoors for recreation, learning and healthy living
  - People: Manage, develop and empower a capable and motivated workforce to achieve high standards of safety and performance

## **Implications**

8. The park continues to improve its sustainability credentials through participation in the Departmental Sustainability Audit System, striving to improve wildlife conservation, water conservation, recycling of waste and reducing energy consumption.

## **Conclusion**

9. Despite the challenges faced by the Park team in dealing with adverse weather conditions and a wide range of incidents, the 2012/13 financial year at West Ham Park was very successful with over a million visitors enjoying the park, its facilities and free entertainment

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 - Update on key projects and an analysis of data collection relating to the management of West Ham Park

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