

Management priorities for Burnham Beeches, Stoke & City Commons — Working together to care for our open spaces, 2015—2016

OUR SERVICE — Provide our customers with a visible, accessible and approachable service

- **Visitor experience** — maintain the open spaces to Green Flag Award standards.
- **External communication** — ensure that we share a consistent message with stakeholders across the open spaces using technology to engage with a wider audience.

OPEN SPACES — Protect and conserve distinctive and valued places

- **Conservation grazing** — implement our business plans for grazing. Apply the constraints of Countryside Stewardship & BPS.
- **Kenley Revival** — submit a second-round application.
- **Habitat assessments** — continue a programme of surveys and inspections so that we assess the condition of our sites against ESS, SSSI & Cross Compliance criteria.

OUR PEOPLE — Encourage and support our team to achieve our vision and values

- **Business planning** — continue to deliver key projects and management priorities as set out in the Department Business Plan and our approved annual work programmes.
- **Personnel** — continue to deliver structural changes, set core behaviours and PDR objectives.
- **Shared Structure** — continue the development of the shared structure across the new Division.

MAKING CONNECTIONS — Forge strong partnerships with our communities, volunteers and stakeholders

- **Consultation** — continue to develop the role of our consultative committees for the four charities so that we work more effectively with local communities, elected members and officers from other organisations.
- **Volunteers** — continue to create new opportunities and improve the quality of experience for volunteers across the Division.
- **Education, Recreation & Events** — co-ordinate delivery to maintain a sustainable diary of activities across the Division.

OUR STANDARDS

- **Sustainability** — deliver our Local Sustainability Improvement Plan for 2015/16 - reducing use of energy, fuel & water; printing less; and reducing our environmental footprint.
- **Finance** — manage budgets efficiently and sustainably, working through the project boards to deliver SBR requirements and income targets.
- **Health & Safety** — integrate health and safety policy across the Division and deliver H&S improvement plans for 15/16, audit and review our performance.
- **Personnel** — deliver the agreed structure, refine communications and strengthen team working across the division.

BURNHAM BEECHES (Charity 232987)

- **Veteran trees** — resurvey all old pollards and update work programme for the next 10 years, carry out halo clearance & reduction work.
- **Grazing** — continue to expand the conservation grazing area to achieve 163 ha grazed (100% increase).
- **Young pollards** — carry out annual programme of cutting on young pollards.
- **Dog Control Orders** — implement and monitor compliance.
- **SBR** — review car parking charges for 2016.
- **Interpretation Plan** — produce three year plan.
- **East Burnham Quarry** — liaise with Summerleaze Ltd and Bucks County Council to ensure protection of Burnham Beeches from harm.
- **Impact of development** — continue to work with South Bucks District Council and Natural England to protect from development pressure.

STOKE COMMON (Charity 232987)

- **Heathland restoration** — continue with tree clearance and mulching to restore an additional 1.5 ha of heathland.
- **Grassland restoration** — clear trees/scrub from 0.5ha to restore acid grassland.
- **Cattle grazing** — ensure contractor delivers the required level of grazing.
- **Pony grazing** — graze ponies on the north and west parts of the Common.
- **Friends Group** — assist in recruitment drive for more volunteers.
- **Key species** — encourage volunteers to help with monitoring key species of plants and animals.
- **Monitoring & review** — continue habitat and species monitoring programme.

ASHTEAD COMMON (Charity1051510)

- **Veteran trees** — commence year six of the programme (70 trees).
- **Grazing** — graze a small herd of Sussex cattle whilst developing future options.
- **Bracken control** — control bracken by mowing and pulling.
- **Tree health** — support volunteer tree wardens to continue their surveys.
- **Management planning** — plan the next five year period.
- **Volunteering** — further develop volunteer initiatives.
- **Access** — re-profile Bridleway 38 and repair a section of Ride 1.
- **The Rye Brook** — care for the Rye in partnership with other organisations. Develop and commence water quality monitoring.

WEST WICKHAM COMMONS (Charity 232989)

- Spring Park**
- **Small-leaved Lime Project** — deliver the final year of this project.
 - **Coppicing** — continue the annual programme.
 - **Boundaries** — ensure site is protected and safe.
- West Wickham Common**
- **Oak pollards** — annual condition monitoring.
 - **Heathland** — restore, maintain and monitor the relic heath.
 - **Pedestrian crossing & bus stop** — report to EFCC about proposals from TFL.
 - **Boundaries** — ensure site is protected and safe.

COULSDON COMMONS (Charity 232988)

Farthing Downs & New Hill

- **Grassland** — restore open areas.
- **Scrub** — manage retained scrub.
- **Boundaries** — ensure site is protected and safe.
- **Stock fencing** — repair and replace.

Coulsdon Common

- **The Grove** — continue restoring wood pasture.
- **Drainage** — resolve flooding issue in Stites Hill Road.
- **Merlewood** — agree aims for area behind office.
- **Boundaries** — ensure site is protected and safe.
- **Stock fencing** — repair and replace.

Kenley Common

- **Heritage** — support the delivery of the Kenley Revival Project.
- **Grassland** — restore and maintain open areas.
- **Boundaries** — ensure site is protected and safe.
- **Stock fencing** — repair and replace.

Riddlesdown

- **Scrub** — manage successional areas.
- **Grassland** — restore open areas.
- **Boundaries** — ensure site is protected and safe.
- **Stock fencing** — repair and replace.