

# Appendix 2

## **Vision for Hampstead Heath**

### **We protect & conserve the Heath**

Our lives are enriched by this treasured and ancient landscape, a stretch of rolling countryside and wide vistas in this crowded city.

The Heath's varied landscape has been shaped by human hands over centuries and is carefully managed to conserve its unique mix of wild and natural spaces, rich mosaic of habitats, heritage gardens, sporting, play and visitor facilities.

Its magical ponds, trees and heathland that support diverse plants and wildlife thrive, flourish and remain resilient to changes over time.

The fringes of the Heath are protected from encroaching urbanisation with expanding green corridors linking to a wider network of green spaces to enhance biodiversity and improve the air we breathe.

The Heath is valued as a relaxing respite from urban life, a peaceful and tranquil refuge for reflection and recharging, where we can connect to nature and feel refreshed.

### **The Heath enriches our lives**

The Heath contributes immensely to our mental, emotional and physical health and wellbeing, providing free access to roam in the outdoors, to pause and observe, to play, to explore, discover and learn about the natural world.

Connection with the Heath is life-enhancing and our lives are healthier and more active with opportunities for walking, informal recreation, active pursuits, swimming and sports.

Experiencing the Heath's rich natural, built and cultural heritage deepens our understanding of our connection with nature, place and the past.

The Heath remains constant through time, witnessing generations upon generations growing up and growing old, a place of cherished memories, rites of passage, the source of stories, the family friend.

### **The Heath is inclusive & welcoming**

The Heath is an inclusive, open access space that brings people together and fosters social cohesion. It is a safe space with freedom for all to play, socialise, relax and keep active with minimal restrictions.

Diverse communities are reflected in our visitors, staff and volunteers. Engagement is ongoing and perspectives, both old and new, are welcomed, shared and respected.

A diversity of activities and interest groups is welcomed. A balance for all is achieved through a culture of mutual respect, compromise and individual responsibility.

### **Together we care for the Heath**

We are all custodians of the Heath and we strive to 'tread lightly', mindful of the potential impact of our activities.

We learn from each other and collaborate to find a balance, ensuring the needs of the Heath community are valued and reflected.

We entrust a skilled and committed City team to lead a collaborative partnership with dedicated and valued volunteers, working with an empowered and representative Heath community.

United in our passion and love for Hampstead Heath we work together to realise our shared aspirations.