

Open Spaces and City Gardens

Date: TUESDAY, 27 APRIL 2021

Time: 11.30 am

Venue: VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING (ACCESSIBLE REMOTELY)

Members: Oliver Sells QC

Caroline Haines
Graeme Doshi-Smith
Alderman Ian Luder

Wendy Mead

Deputy Barbara Newman Deputy John Tomlinson

Karina Dostalova

Anne Fairweather (Ex-Officio Member) Benjamin Murphy (Ex-Officio Member)

Enquiries: Richard Holt

Richard.Holt@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Accessing the virtual public meeting Members of the public can observe the virtual public meeting at the below link: https://youtu.be/rU3dzbHxaHQ

This meeting will be a virtual meeting and therefore will not take place in a physical location following regulations made under Section 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020. A recording of the public meeting will be available via the above link following the end of the public meeting for up to one municipal year. Please note: Online meeting recordings do not constitute the formal minutes of the meeting; minutes are written and are available on the City of London Corporation's website. Recordings may be edited, at the discretion of the proper officer, to remove any inappropriate material.

John Barradell
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA

Part 1 - Public Agenda

1. **APOLOGIES**

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

3. ORDER OF THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

To receive the Order of the Court of Common Council dated 15 April 2021 appointing the Committee and setting its Terms of Reference.

For Information

(Pages 1 - 2)

4. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

The Committee are invited to elect a Chairman in accordance with Standing Order 29.

For Decision

5. **ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

The Committee are invited to elect a Deputy Chairman in accordance with Standing Order 30.

For Decision

6. **MINUTES**

To agree the public minutes and non-public summary of the previous meeting of the Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee held on the 12th of February 2021.

For Decision (Pages 3 - 8)

7. APPOINTMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE STREETS AND WALKWAYS SUB COMMITTEE

The Committee are invited to appoint one Member as an Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee representative on the Streets and Walkways Sub-Committee. The next Streets and Walkways Sub-Committee meeting is scheduled to take place on 29th of April 2021.

For Decision

8. OPEN SPACES COVERAGE 2021

Report of the Town Clerk.

For Information (Pages 9 - 12)

Open Spaces

9. **BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN UPDATE**

Report of the Director of Open Spaces.

For Decision

10. BUNHILL FIELDS HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND PROJECT

Report of the Director of Open Spaces.

For Decision

(Pages 63 - 100)

11. G4: CITY CLUSTER AREA - WELLBEING AND CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (2021-2024)

Report of the Director of the Built Environment.

For Decision

(Pages 101 - 142)

12. CITY CLUSTER AREA - PROGRAMME UPDATE

Report of the Director of the Built Environment.

For Information

(Pages 143 - 154)

13. **G3/4: CITY CLUSTER AREA - ACTIVATION AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME**Report of the Director of the Built Environment.

For Information

(Pages 155 - 190)

14. KING GEORGE'S FIELD TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Joint report of the Director of Open Spaces and Chamberlain.

For Information

(Pages 191 - 212)

15. **CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY - OPEN SPACES "CARBON REMOVALS"** Report of the Director of Open Spaces.

For Information

(Pages 213 - 222)

16. **CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY - COOL STREETS AND GREENING PROGRAMME**Report of the Director of Built Environment.

For Information

(Pages 223 - 250)

17. AWARD OF FUNDING 2020-21: ENJOYING GREEN SPACES AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Report of the Director of Open Spaces.

For Information

City Gardens

18. CITY GARDENS MANAGER'S UPDATE

Report of the Director of Open Spaces.

For Information

(Pages 255 - 258)

19. **GREENING CHEAPSIDE: SUNKEN GARDEN (PHASE 1B & PHASE 2)**Report of the Director of the Built Environment.

For Information

(Pages 259 - 270)

- 20. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE
- 21. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED
- 22. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

MOTION: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

For Decision

Part 2 - Non-Public Agenda

23. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

To agree the non-public minutes of the previous meeting of the Open Spaces & City Gardens Committee held on the 12th of February 2021.

For Decision

(Pages 271 - 272)

24. REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN BETWEEN MEETINGS

Report of the Town Clerk.

For Information

(Pages 273 - 276)

- 25. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE
- 26. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

Agenda Item 3

RUSSELL, Mayor	RESOLVED: That the Court of Common
	Council holden in the Guildhall of the City of
	London on Thursday 15th April 2021, doth
	hereby appoint the following Committee until
	the first meeting of the Court in April, 2022.
	-

OPEN SPACES & CITY GARDENS COMMITTEE

1. Constitution

A Non-Ward Committee consisting of,

- eight Members elected by the Court of Common Council, at least one of whom shall have fewer than five years' service on the Court at the time of their appointment
- the following ex-officio Members:
 - o the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Epping Forest & Commons Committee
 - o the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queen's Park Committee

2. Quorum

The quorum consists of any five Members.

3. Membership 2021/22

- 11 (4) Ian David Luder J.P., Alderman
- 8 (4) Graeme Martyn Doshi-Smith
- 4 (3) Caroline Wilma Haines
- 11 (3) Wendy Mead, O.B.E.
- 2 (2) Karina Dostalova
- 5 (2) Oliver Sells, Q.C.
- 9 (1) Barbara Patricia Newman, C.B.E., Deputy
- 5 (1) John Tomlinson, Deputy

together with the ex-officio Members referred to in paragraph 1 above.

4. Terms of Reference

To be responsible for:-

(a) The allocation of grants in relation to Open Spaces taking account of any views or recommendations expressed by the Epping Forest and Commons Committee, West Ham Park Committee or Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee as relevant;

Open Spaces

- (b) dealing with, or making recommendations to the Court of Common Council where appropriate, all matters relating to the strategic management (e.g. policy, financial and staffing) of the City of London Corporation's open spaces where such matters are not specifically the responsibility of another Committee; and
- (c) the appointment of the Director of Open Spaces (in consultation with the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee);

City Open Spaces

- (d) the management and day-to-day administration of the gardens, churchyards and open spaces in the City under the control of the Common Council, together with Bunhill Fields Burial Ground;
- (e) arrangements for the planting and maintenance of trees and other plants and shrubs in open spaces and in footpaths adjacent to highways in the City;
- (f) advising on applications for planning permission relating in whole or in part to the gardens, churchyards or open spaces in the City under the control of the Common Council; and
- (g) the functions of the Common Council under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to make safe by felling, or otherwise, dangerous trees in the City generally on receipt of notices served on the City of London Corporation in the circumstances set out in Section 23 of the Act and where trees are in danger of damaging property.

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OPEN SPACES AND CITY GARDENS Friday, 12 February 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the Open Spaces and City Gardens held at Virtual Public Meeting (Accessible Remotely) on Friday, 12 February 2021 at 11.30 am

Present

Members:

Oliver Sells QC (Chairman)
Caroline Haines (Deputy Chairman)
Alderman Ian Luder
Barbara Newman
Deputy John Tomlinson
Anne Fairweather (Ex-Officio Member)
Benjamin Murphy (Ex-Officio Member)

Officers:

Richard Holt Joseph Anstee Kristina Drake Mark Jarvis

Ola Obadara
Joanne Hunneybell
Colin Buttery
Martin Rodman

Gerry Kiefer Jake Tibbetts Town Clerk's DepartmentTown Clerk's DepartmentTown Clerk's Department

 Head of Finance, Chamberlain's Department

City Surveyor's DepartmentCity Surveyor's DepartmentDirector of Open Spaces

Superintendent, West Ham Park and City Gardens

- Open Spaces Business Manager

- City Gardens Manager

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Wendy Mead and Deputy Phillip Woodhouse.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No declarations were received.

3. MINUTES

The Committee considered the public minutes and non-public summary of the Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee meeting held on the 12th of December 2020.

RESOLVED- That the public minutes of the Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee meeting held on the 12th of December 2020 be approved as an accurate record.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk on the Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee's Terms of Reference.

RESOLVED- That: -

- I. The terms of reference of the Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee be approved for submission to the Court of Common Council in April, and that any further changes required in the lead up to the Court's appointment of Committees be delegated to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman; and
- II. That Members considered that no change be required to the frequency of the Committee's meetings.

5. **DEPARTMENTAL AND SERVICE COMMITTEE BUDGET ESTIMATES**2021/22

The Committee considered a joint report of the Director of Open Spaces and Chamberlain on the Departmental and Service Committee budget Estimates 2021/22.

The Committee discussed opportunities for holding appropriate events in the City Gardens to provide valuable income opportunities. The Director of Open Spaces explained that, while the sites in the City Gardens are not as large as the open spaces outside of the City of London, events in the City Gardens had been marketed. It was added that the Open Spaces Act 2018 requirement to keep open spaces accessible to the public and the COVID restrictions could potentially cause difficulties for holding events.

Following a Member's query, the Director of Open Spaces confirmed that the maintenance of the Barbican Gardens would not be impacted by the efficiency savings of 12% as these are funded by Barbican Residents through the service charge account.

It was raised by a Member that the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queens Park Committee Budget for 2021/22, appended to the report, was not the updated version as agreed by the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queens Park Committee. Further to this the Committee agreed that the recommendations of the report would be approved with the caveat that the updated Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queens Park Committee Budget for 2021/22 be included when presented to the Finance Committee.

A West Ham Park Committee local observer appointed to the Committee confirmed that as the West Ham Park Committee had not yet received the report so the approval would need to be given subsequently from the West Ham Park Committee its 2021/22 Budget.

RESOLVED- That: -

 The Directorate, Bunhill Fields and City Gardens proposed revenue budget for 2021/22 be approved for submission to Finance Committee; and

- II. That the City Gardens and Bunhill Fields capital and supplementary revenue budgets for 2021/22 be approved for submission to Finance Committee; and
- III. That the provisional 2021/22 revenue budget for the services overseen by the other Open Space Service Committees (appendices 6 8) be noted:
- IV. That the Chamberlain be authorised, in consultation with the Director of Open Spaces, to revise these budgets to allow for any further implications arising from Corporate Projects, the City's new Target Operating Model, and changes to the Cyclical Works Programme.

6. 2021/22 EVENTS FEES AND CHARGES - CITY GARDENS

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Open Spaces on the 2021/22 Events Fees and Charges for the City Gardens. The report proposed that the fees and charges for events that are held in City Gardens sites throughout the 2021//22 financial year be increased by 1.3% in line with the November Retail Price index figure and explained the rationale behind this suggestion.

The Committee discussed the need for a greater increase in the Fees and Charges for the City Gardens noting the need for the Department to be more commercially minded. The Committee agreed the recommended increase but also instructed Officers to provide a further report later in the year with an update on the position and more information on possible increased charges.

RESOLVED- That the proposed 2021/22 fees and charges as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be approved.

7. **CITY GARDENS UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Open Spaces on the update for the City Gardens section since December 2020. The Director of Open Spaces informed the Committee that the report on the Finsbury Circus Reinstatement was now included in the non-public section of the agenda. In addition, the Director invited Members to provide any further comments on the Draft Biodiversity Action Plan in the proceeding two weeks.

The Director of Open Spaces informed the Committee of the vandalism experienced at the City Christmas Tree noting that key lessons learnt on this had been taken on board by Officers. The Committee commented on their disappointment that this had taken place and encouraged Officers to take all necessary action to resolve this.

A Member questioned the use of mixed hedging at Moor Lane and whether the proposed design provided an increased or decreased amount of garden compared with what was there previously. The Director of Open Spaces replied that an answer to this point would be provided to the Member in question. Further to a query regarding a cycle lane in Moor Lane's usage for lorries it was noted by the Chairman of the Streets and Walkways Sub-Committee that he would investigate this issue.

RESOLVED- That the report be noted.

8. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

A Member requested further information on the business engagement with the Draft Biodiversity Action Plan within the City of London. The Director of Open Spaces confirmed that there had been significant engagement with City Businesses within the Draft Biodiversity Action Plan and that the aim was to widen this engagement. The Chairman added that recent planning approval within the City of London had included the provision of green space in new development.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED

No urgent business was considered in the non-public session.

10. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

MOTION: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

11. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

The Committee considered the non-public minutes of the previous meeting of the Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee held on the 12th of December.

RESOLVED- That the non-public minutes of the previous meeting of the Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee held on the 12th of December be approved as an accurate record.

12. FINSBURY CIRCUS REINSTATEMENT

The Committee considered a report of the City Surveyor on the Finsbury Circus Reinstatement.

RESOLVED- That the report be approved.

13. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no questions received in the non-public session.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There was no urgent business received in the non-public session.

The meeting ended at 12.25 pm

Chairman	

Contact Officer: Richard Holt

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Ham& High	The Ham& High reported on the reopening of Hampstead Heath Bathing Ponds and Parliament Hill Lido. Chair of the City Corporation's Hampstead Heath Management Committee, Anne Fairweather, was quoted.	Local	February 2021
City Matters	Chairman of the City Commons Committee, Graeme Doshi-Smith, was quoted in further coverage of a call by the City Corporation for people to only visit Burnham Beeches if they live locally.	London	February 2021
lewham Recorder [viewable internally nly]	The Newham Recorder ran a comment piece from Chairman of the West Ham Park Committee, Oliver Sells QC. The article covered COVID-19, a local foodbank and plans for a new playground at the site.	Local	February 2021
<u>lam & High</u>	The Ham&High reported that concessionary tickets for swimming on Hampstead Heath will rise above inflation this year. Chairman of the Open Spaces Committee, Oliver Sells QC, was quoted.	Local	March 2021
OC Radio Essex OD Sping Forest Guardian	Deputy Chairman of the Epping Forest and Commons Committee, Ben Murphy, was interviewed by <i>BBC Radio Essex</i> calling on visitors to stick to Government COVID-19 guidelines [viewable internally only]. The story ran on news bulletins on BBC Radio London and BBC Radio Essex over the weekend and in the <i>Epping Forest Guardian</i> , where Chairman of the Epping Forest and City Commons Committee, Graeme Doshi-Smith, was quoted.	Broadcast London	March 2021
ondon News Today.	Chairman of the Epping Forest and Commons Committee, Graeme Doshi-Smith wrote in the <i>Epping Forest Guardian</i> about the role Epping Forest is playing as COVID-19 restrictions start to ease. Further coverage in <i>London News Today</i> .	Local	March 2021
Ny London	My London reported that the City Corporation-run Parliament Hill Lido is due to reopen at the end of the month, with outdoor sports allowed from March 29 under the Government's roadmap out of lockdown.	London	March 2021
Horticulture Week	Horticulture Week reported on the launch of a year-long initiative to celebrate 150 years of Hampstead Heath being protected as a public open	Trade	March 2021

	space. Chair of the City Corporation's Hampstead Heath Management Committee, Anne Fairweather, was quoted (£).		
BBC London TV breakfast show [link unavailable] This is London Local City Matters London Loves Business Horticulture Week (£)	BBC London News reported that the City of London Corporation, Lee Valley Regional Park, London's boroughs, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, and The Royal Parks have joined forces to urge Londoners to socially distance when visiting parks. Coverage appeared in a number of other media outlets.	London Trade	March 2021
BBC Radio London [starts at 39:01]	BBC Radio London's Jo Good show interviewed Hampstead Heath Superintendent Bob Warnock about plans to celebrate the 150 th anniversary of the Hampstead Heath Act, and the importance of the open space to the community. Extensive coverage throughout the show, with listeners getting in touch to talk about their favourite part of the Heath.	Broadcast	March 2021
Forther coverage on LBC News [listenable internally] Forther coverage on LBC News [listenable internally], BBC London TV [link unavailable], The Guardian, Ealing Times, Epping Forest Guardian, Enfield Independent, Harrow Times, Hendon & Finchley, Barnet & Potters Bar, Edgeware & Mill Hill Times series, Hillingdon Times, My London, South London Press, Tottenham & Wood Green Independent, Watford Observer, London News Time and In Your Area.	BBC Radio London's Vanessa Feltz Breakfast Show [listenable internally] interviewed Director of Open Spaces Colin Buttery who urged Londoners to socially distance when visiting parks. The interview is part of a pan-London campaign, led by the City Corporation, together with Lee Valley Regional Park, London's boroughs, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, and The Royal Parks.	Broadcast National Local	March 2021
Ham & High	The <i>Ham & High</i> ran an opinion piece from the Chair of the Hampstead Heath Management Committee Anne Fairweather on plans to celebrate the 150 th anniversary of the Hampstead Heath Act, and the importance of the open space to the community.	Local	March 2021

BBC Berkshire	BBC Berkshire [listenable internally] interviewed Chairman of the City Commons Committee, Graeme Doshi-Smith, who urged people to socially distance when visiting open spaces. The interview is part of a pan-London campaign, led by the City Corporation, together with Lee Valley Regional Park, London's boroughs, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, and The Royal Parks.	Broadcast	March 2021
<u>The Express</u> [available internally], <u>The Evening Standard</u> , <u>India Times</u> and <u>MSN News</u> .	The reopening of outdoor sports facilities on Hampstead Heath was covered.	National London International	March 2021
on <u>BBC London radio Robert Elms Show</u> (i) encouraging	Director of Open Spaces Colin Buttery was interviewed on <u>BBC London</u> <u>radio Robert Elms Show</u> (i) encouraging people to socially distance in parks. The interview is part of a pan-London campaign, led by the City Corporation, together with Lee Valley Regional Park, London's boroughs, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, and The Royal Parks.	Broadcast	March 2021
BBC London News O Corther coverage in The Times (£), Mes Radio (skip to 11124mins), Independent, news bulletins on BBC Radio 2, Radio 4, BBC 5 Live and LBC [links not available], Metro, Daily Mail, The Sun [viewable internally only] City Matters, Essex Live, Epping Forest Guardian and many more online outlets.	Chairman of Epping Forest & Commons Committee Graeme Doshi-Smith was quoted in a <i>BBC London News</i> story about dozens of people being fined for picking wild mushrooms in Epping Forest. The story ran in a number of national media outlets.	London National Local	April 2021
Horticulture Week (£)	Horticulture Week reported that wildlife information boards have been erected at the entrances to Hampstead Heath to raise awareness and appreciation of the site's biodiversity.	Trade	April 2021

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Committee(s):	Dated:
Planning and Transportation – For Recommendation	30/03/2021
Open Spaces & City Gardens Committee – For Decision	27/04/2021
Subject: Biodiversity Action Plan Update	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	2,5,11 & 12
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	£
What is the source of Funding?	
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the	N
Chamberlain's Department?	
Report of: Colin Buttery, Director Open Spaces	
Report author: Jake Tibbetts, City Gardens Manager	

Summary

This report sets out the background and production of the Draft Biodiversity Action Plan (2021-26) (BAP); attached at Appendix 1. The BAP aims to ensure that the City meets its obligations towards the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.

A timetable for the production of the BAP was agreed by Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee in December 2020. This draft has been developed as a result of consultation with the Biodiversity Action Plan Partnership Group.

Members are asked to agree to the draft plan being made available for public consultation which will run from the 3rd to the 31st May 2020. Members will be able to comment individually on the BAP during that consultation period. Following consultation, any proposed changes to the draft plan will be brought back to both Planning and Transportation and Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee for approval and for formal adoption as a City-wide Biodiversity Action Plan.

This report is supported by the Planning and Transportation Committee for onward approval to the Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee.

Recommendations

- i) Members of the Planning and Transportation committee are asked to:
- Recommend for onward approval to the Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee, the draft Biodiversity Action Plan 2021/2026, subject to the incorporation of any changes proposed by this Committee.
- ii) Members of the Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee are asked to:
 - Approve the draft plan being made available for public consultation.

Main Report

Background

- 1. The City of London produced its first Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) in 2003 which was subsequently updated in 2010, 2012 and 2016. The BAP covers the geographical area of the Square Mile. Sites outside of the City are covered by the local authorities in which they are located.
- 2. As a public authority in England the City of London Corporation has a duty under the National Environment & Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 'to have regard for conserving biodiversity in all their actions'. In addition, the National Planning Policy Framework states that local planning authorities should set out a strategic approach to their Local Plans by planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks for biodiversity and green infrastructure. The BAP provides a strategic focus on Biodiversity for decision makers.

Current Position

3. Open Spaces committee agreed the following timetable for the development of the BAP in December 2020.

DATES	ACTION/ EVENT
2nd Dec	Present Timetable to Committee
	First Draft of Biodiversity Action Plan circulated to Biodiversity
17th Dec	Partnership Group
14th Jan	City of London Biodiversity Group - Consultation meeting
15th -30th Jan	Second Draft of Biodiversity Action Plan produced
	Second draft circulated to Partnership Group for Further
1st -15th Feb 2021	comments
8th Feb	Second draft presented to Open Spaces Committee
16th Feb -15th Mar	Third Draft of Biodiversity Action Plan Produced
	Third Draft of Biodiversity Action Plan presented to Planning
30th March	& Transportation Committee
	Open Spaces Committee to sign off third draft of Biodiversity
27th April	Action Plan
3rd May -31st May	Public Consultation
1st June - 5th June	Response to Public Consultation and Final draft Produced
	Final draft of Biodiversity Action Plan presented to Planning &
29th June	Transportation Committee for Information
	Final draft of Biodiversity Action Plan presented to
13th July	Open Spaces Committee for sign off
TBC	Launch

- 4. An ecological consultant was commissioned to interrogate the species data that has been recorded over the last five years to identify key species and recommend objectives for the new Biodiversity Action Plan. These recommendations are being incorporated into the first draft of the new Biodiversity Action Plan.
- 5. The BAP will be delivered under the four following themes:

I. Open space and habitat management

Aim: to protect and enhance habitats and species in the City.

II. The built environment

Aim: to improve green infrastructure in the built environment

III. Education and community engagement

Aim: to promote a greater understanding of the City's biodiversity

IV. Data collection, surveys and monitoring

Aim: to improve monitoring and data on biodiversity in the City.

- 6. Consultation is an essential part of the development of the Biodiversity Action Plan. During the development of the previous BAP a "Biodiversity Partnership Group" was created, which included internal and external stakeholders. New members were added, and the group reconvened in January when feedback on the first draft of the BAP was obtained. A second draft was then produced and presented to Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee in February. Following further internal consultation and with key external partners a third draft has now been produced. This is the draft that is being presented to the Committee.
- 7. As part of the public consultation a copy of the draft BAP will be available to be downloaded from the City's website. Stakeholders will be sent links to the consultation documents directly. More widely the consultation will be promoted through social media, City Gardens notice boards, housing resident and internal newsletters. The Biodiversity Partnership group will also play a key role in promoting the document beyond stakeholders through their extensive network. Feedback will be collected primarily through an online form.
- 8. Public consultation will be carried out between the 3rd till the 30th May. Collation and incorporation and feedback of comments will be carried out before reporting back to the Traffic and Transportation and Open Spaces & City Gardens Committee with the final draft in July.
- 9. Whilst City Gardens oversee and monitor the BAP, actions are to be delivered by City Gardens as well as internal and external partners. All partners who are listed as a lead partner for BAP actions have agreed to the actions as detailed in the current draft. These lead partners include Planning Policy, Development Management, City Surveyors, DBE Environmental Resilience Team, Friends of City Gardens and the Barbican Wildlife Group.

Strategic implications

- 10. The BAP ensures that a key aim of Corporate Plan; 'To Shape Outstanding Environments" is realised as well as the priorities;
 - We have clear air, land and water and a thriving sustainable natural environment
 - Businesses are trusted and socially and environmentally responsible.
 - Our spaces are secure, resilient and well-maintained
- 11. Under the Natural Environment & Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 states that "Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity'.
- 12. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that local planning authorities should set out a strategic approach to their Local Plans by planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks for biodiversity and green infrastructure.
- 13. The London Environment Strategy 2018 of which conserving and enhancing wildlife and natural habitats is a key element of the strategy, which recognises that important social, health and economic benefits result from greening the city.
- 14. The London Plan 2021 Policy G6: Biodiversity and access to nature reads:

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) should be protected.

Boroughs, in developing Development Plans, should:

- use up-to-date information about the natural environment and the relevant procedures to identify SINCs and ecological corridors to identify coherent ecological networks
- identify areas of deficiency in access to nature (i.e. areas that are more than 1km walking distance from an accessible Metropolitan or Borough SINC) and seek opportunities to address them
- 3) support the protection and conservation of priority species and habitats that sit outside the SINC network, and promote opportunities for enhancing them using Biodiversity Action Plans
- 4) seek opportunities to create other habitats, or features such as artificial nest sites, that are of particular relevance and benefit in an urban context
- 5) ensure designated sites of European or national nature conservation importance are clearly identified and impacts assessed in accordance with legislative requirements.

15. The Draft City Plan 2036 Policy OS3: Biodiversity reads:

Development should aim to secure net gains for biodiversity where possible by incorporating measures to enhance biodiversity, including:

- retention and enhancement of habitats within Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs), including the River Thames
- measures recommended in the City of London Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) in relation to particular species or habitats
- green roofs and walls, gardens and terraces, soft landscaping and trees
- green corridors and biodiversity links
- wildlife-friendly features, such as nesting or roosting boxes a planting mix and variation in vegetation types to encourage biodiversity
- planting which will be resilient to a range of climate conditions, with a high proportion of native plants
- a lighting scheme designed to minimise impacts on biodiversity.
- 16. The BAP is also integral to the Climate Action Strategy includes the following actions:
 - Introduce new land management practices across our open spaces aiming to maximise their ability to remove carbon, and optimise their biodiversity and resilience value
 - Advocate the importance of green spaces and urban greening as natural carbon sinks, and their contribution to biodiversity and overall wellbeing
 - Enhance greening and biodiversity across our public realm and open spaces

Financial implications

17. None

Resource implications

18. The development of the BAP document will be resourced by City Gardens staff, internal partnership members and relevant support services. There will not be the need for additional resources above this.

Legal implications

19. There would be risk of non-compliance of policy should the City not have an up to date BAP in place. Any BAP should meet the policy requirements as set out above.

Risk implications

20. There is a reputational and legal risk of not having a current BAP as the Corporation has obligations towards the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.

Equalities implications

21. None

Climate implications

22. It is widely recognised that Biodiversity and Climate change are interconnected. Protecting and restoring ecosystems can help us reduce the extent of climate change and cope with its impact. The BAP will support the delivery of the City's Climate Action Strategy.

Security implications

23. None

Conclusion

24. A new BAP for the City is necessary to ensure that we continue to meet our legal and moral duties, it is also required to ensure that we meet our other strategic commitments. The current draft has been prepared in line with the agreed timetable and it is recommended that the current draft is made subject to public consultation.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Draft City of London Biodiversity Action Plan 2021-2026

Jake Tibbetts

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Draft
City of London
Biodiversity Action Plan
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1.0 Introduction

1.1 The City: A unique urban environment

The City of London Corporation is the governing body of the Square Mile dedicated to a vibrant and thriving City, supporting a diverse and sustainable London within a globally-successful UK.

1.2 What is Biodiversity?

Biodiversity is the term used to describe the variety of life on Earth. This includes animals, plants and fungi as well as recognisable wildlife such as birds, mammals and insects. The habitats are the places they live and how they interact with their surroundings as part of the ecosystem. Conserving biodiversity involves restoring and enhancing species populations and habitats as well as implementing measures to promote them in the future. The value of biodiversity extends beyond habitat and species with the benefits extending to a range of economic, social and intrinsic values.

1.3 Biodiversity in the City

The City of London has just under 33 hectares of open spaces which includes parks, gardens, churchyards and hard open spaces such as plazas and improvements to the highway. Most of the open spaces are small, primarily consisting of pocket parks smaller than 0.1 hectares. There is a need for additional open space in the City to provide facilities for residents and the daytime working population to help mitigate the effects of pollution and climate change, to provide facilities for relaxation, tranquillity, agile working, leisure and sport, and to increase biodiversity.

Ground level open spaces are mostly the result of two significant events in the City of London: the Great Fire of London in 1666 and bomb damage caused during World War II. These traumatic events resulted in damaged or destroyed buildings being repurposed and in many cases eventually becoming open spaces for the public to enjoy. Together these small, high quality and intensively used open spaces are highly valued and offer an important resource for biodiversity in the Square Mile. There is also an increasingly important resource for biodiversity at roof top level with the addition of green roofs and roof terraces.

Historically the City's open spaces have been managed primarily for amenity value and public enjoyment. However, recent changes in management practices have placed a greater emphasis on the importance of promoting biodiversity. Raised awareness of the natural environment amongst City workers, residents and visitors has changed the ways in which the public enjoy, value and engage with open space in the Square Mile through interpretation, activities and events.

A full list of types of open spaces in the City of London is listed in <u>Appendix 3</u>: Open space typology and categorisation.

1.4 Why does the City need a Biodiversity Action Plan?

According to the intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) the world is facing a biodiversity crisis. Nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history, and the rate of species extinctions is accelerating, with grave impacts on people around the world now likely. The Report also tells us that it is not too late to make a difference, but only if we start now at every level from local to global.

The Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) provides a strategic focus to ensure species and habitats are understood and considered throughout the decision making process. The BAP directly supports the overall aim of the City Corporation's Corporate Plan to shape outstanding environments.

The BAP provides a framework to ensure all legislative requirements and regional and national targets for protecting, conserving and enhancing biodiversity are met at a local level.

Outside of the Square Mile, the City Corporation owns or manages almost 4,500 hectares of historic and natural open spaces including Hampstead Heath and Epping Forest. These sites are of significant importance habitats and species and include Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves and Special Areas of Conservation.

The BAP covers the open spaces, habitats and species in City of London only, regardless of ownership. Open spaces outside of the City of London are covered by the relevant local authorities' Biodiversity Action Plans or alternative policy or strategy. The City Gardens team is responsible for tree and green space management for around 200 sites in the Square Mile including parks, gardens, churchyards, plazas and highway planting.

1.5 Structure of the Biodiversity Action Plan

The aim of the BAP is to produce a set of objectives and actions to assist members of the City of London Biodiversity Action Plan Partnership Group (Partnership Group) and the wider City community in delivering strategically planned biodiversity networks for both the City and Greater London, taking into consideration both local and national priorities.

The BAP will be delivered under the following themes:

Open space and habitat management

Aim: to protect and enhance habitats and species in the City.

Enable land owned and managed by both the City Corporation and privately, to be maintained and enhanced for biodiversity.

• The built environment

Aim: to improve green infrastructure in the built environment

Enable biodiversity to be incorporated into the built environment to enhance and connect green spaces.

• Education and community engagement

Aim: to promote a greater understanding of the City's biodiversity

Identify and encourage best practice amongst private landowners and managers as well as develop the skills and knowledge of residents, City workers, school children and students through events, activities and volunteering opportunities.

Data collection, surveys and monitoring

Aim: to improve monitoring and data on biodiversity in the City.

Establish a structured approach to surveying and monitoring of sites to inform ongoing management decisions and identify future areas of priority. This includes professional ecology surveys, citizen science opportunities and records collected by voluntary groups and individuals.

2.0 National and regional policy context

2.1 National policy

In 2018 the Government published 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment' which sets goals and targets for improving the environment. The Plan focuses on a number of cross-cutting themes including embedding an 'environmental net gain' principle for development, creating additional green infrastructure, planting trees and developing a Nature Recovery Network to support landscape-scale restoration of nature.

Under the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC), as a public authority in England, the City of London Corporation has a duty to 'in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity'. This may include promoting biodiversity in planning and development, recognising the importance of conserving and enhancing biodiversity in public authority managed land and buildings and managing green infrastructure to support biodiversity.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2019 states that planning should contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment, habitats and biodiversity.

The City Corporation will participate in the emerging requirements to develop a Nature Recovery Strategy and co-ordinate with neighbouring boroughs.

The BAP should also consider national strategies such as The National Pollinator Strategy, which seeks to protect pollinating insects that support food production and the diversity of our environment.

2.2 Regional policy

The London Plan 2021 is an overall strategy document and policy framework for London, which includes green infrastructure, urban greening and biodiversity. Many of the objectives of the London Plan are incorporated and delivered as part of the City Corporation's Local Plan.

The London Environment Strategy includes action to make London cleaner, greener and ready for the future. The strategy includes policies to protect nature conservation sites, create priority habitats, conserve priority species and to ensure net gain in biodiversity.

3.0 Local policy context

3.1 Local policy

The new City of London Local Plan, called City Plan 2036, sets out the City Corporation's vision, strategy and objectives for planning up to 2036, together with policies that will guide future decisions on planning applications.

Once adopted, the new Plan will replace the current City of London Local Plan adopted in January 2015.

Policy OS3 of the draft City Plan 2036 specifically addresses biodiversity and states that development should aim to secure net gains for biodiversity where possible by incorporating measures to enhance biodiversity, including:

- Retention and enhancement of habitats within Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs), including the River Thames
- Measures recommended in the City of London Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) in relation to particular species or habitats
- Green roofs and walls, gardens and terraces, soft landscaping and trees
- Green corridors and biodiversity links
- Wildlife-friendly features, such as nesting or roosting boxes
- A planting mix and variation in vegetation types to encourage biodiversity
- Planting which will be resilient to a range of climate conditions, with a high proportion of native plants
- A lighting scheme designed to minimise impacts on biodiversity

The City Corporation has developed a series of strategies for improving streets and public spaces in the Square Mile which incorporate elements such as tree planting and urban greening. These are integral to supporting biodiversity in the planning process.

The BAP supports the City of London Corporation's Corporate Plan's aims to:

Contribute to a flourishing society

- People enjoy good health and wellbeing
- Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need

Support a thriving economy

- Businesses are trusted and socially and environmentally responsible
- We have access to the skills and talent we need

Shape outstanding environments

- We have clean air, land and water and a thriving and sustainable natural environment
- Our spaces are secure, resilient and well-maintained

The City of London Open Space Strategy, which was adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in January 2015, sets out the principles to help improve the quality, management and accessibility of the open spaces of the Square Mile. The strategy comprises of ten strategic objectives which include ensuring that existing and new spaces make a positive contribution to the biodiversity value of the City through appropriate plant choice and habitat creation. A full list of the policies that support biodiversity in the City is set out in Appendix 1.

3.2 Climate Action Strategy

The City Corporation has adopted a radical Climate Action Strategy which breaks new ground and has the following goals:

- City Corporation scope 1 and 2 emissions are net zero by 2027 and scope 3 emissions are net zero by 2040.
- The City Corporation and its assets are resilient to climate change.
- The City Corporation supports UK and overseas organisations to become climate responsible.

The City Corporation are enacting a variety of measures to mitigate for the impact of this on the Square Mile. This is to ensure that the City of London public spaces and infrastructure are resilient to the effects of climate change.

The following Climate Action Strategy aims are supported and enhanced by the Biodiversity Action Plan:

- Introduce new land management practices across our open spaces aiming to maximise their ability to remove carbon, and optimise their biodiversity and resilience value
- Advocate the importance of green spaces and urban greening as natural carbon sinks, and their contribution to biodiversity and overall wellbeing
- Enhance greening and biodiversity across our public realm and open spaces

Biodiversity and climate change are interconnected. Protecting and restoring ecosystems can help us reduce the extent of climate change and cope with its impact. The BAP supports the creation of biodiverse green infrastructure to support the climate resilience of the Square Mile. This also assists with mitigating and adapting to the impacts on habitats and species and changes in prevalence of pests and diseases.

The BAP plays an important role in raising awareness of the importance of green spaces and urban greening as natural carbon sinks, and their contribution to biodiversity, access to nature and overall wellbeing.

The aim to incorporate more greenery in the City's streets and public spaces is supported by both the City of London Air Quality Strategy and Transport Strategy.

3.3 Lighting

The City of London Lighting Strategy aims to deliver a creative, holistic and smart approach in which light and darkness are better balanced to meet both a functional and aesthetic need. It is vital that impacts of lighting on sensitive species such as bats are considered during design, construction and operation of new developments especially in sensitive areas adjacent to SINCs and near lakes and rivers.

3.4 Urban Greening Factor

The London Plan 2021 states that major development proposals should contribute to the greening of London by including urban greening from the outset of the development design process. Boroughs should develop an Urban Greening Factor (UGF) to identify the appropriate amount of greening required in new developments.

In response to this requirement, the draft City Plan 2036 requires that major development proposals will be required to include a UGF calculation demonstrating how the development will meet the City's score of 0.3 as a minimum.

3.5 Biodiversity Net Gain

The draft City Plan 2036 states that development should aim to secure net gains for biodiversity where possible by incorporating measures to enhance biodiversity. The emerging Environment Bill will ensure that the delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) through development becomes a mandatory part of the planning process.

4.0 Biodiversity in the City of London

The City Gardens team commissioned Greengage Environmental Ltd to undertake an audit of the BAP. The audit was a desk based exercise primarily based on data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL) and reviewed the City's habitats, species and policy.

The audit highlighted the successes of the current BAP and deficiencies which include:

- Greenspace connectivity and species distribution;
- Habitat diversity;
- Under recording of species;
- Invasive species awareness

To address these deficiencies, the audit recommendations have been identified that can be delivered as part of the Action Plan. The recommendations of the audit target three key areas:

- Improved greenspace connectivity
- Diversification of City habitats and strategic habitat management
- Raising the profile of ecological issues and importance in the minds of the people who access and develop within the City.

City of London Biodiversity Partnership Group

The City of London Biodiversity Partnership Group was established to the support the review the BAP, assist with delivery of the actions and SINC review and selection process. The group consists of representatives from the relevant departments of the City of London Corporation, business, community and resident representatives as well as ecology, species and biodiversity professionals.

As the City is unique in terms of its size, structure, opportunities and challenges for biodiversity, a more landscape-scale approach was developed for the BAP 2016-2020. This means all the elements that influence habitats and species will be considered. Specific action plans will be developed for some species such as the Black Redstart and detailed guidance such as for pollinators in the built environment. This will maximise the benefits across all open and green spaces with specific objectives developed to prioritise actions for specific sites, species or areas of opportunity. Priority habitats and species have been identified at both a UK and London level by the London Biodiversity Partnership.

4.1 Habitats

The main types of habitats located in the City of London are:

- Amenity grassland
- Scattered trees
- Introduced shrub

The BAP can assist with the diversification of habitats in the long term which will both encourage greater species diversity and create habitats that are more resilient to a changing climate.

The 'priority habitats' identified by the London Biodiversity Partnership that are most relevant to the Square Mile are 'parks and urban green spaces' with an 'important habitat' identified as 'built structures'. The action plans have been developed to take into consideration these priority habitats. A further habitat recognised as a London biodiversity target within the City of London is standing water and the Tidal Thames, which is also the City's only Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation (SMINC),

Whilst there are some sites with standing water that are dealt with in this BAP, the Tidal Thames is the prime responsibility of the Port of London Authority, with the City's responsibilities for the riverside and foreshore are detailed in draft City Plan 2036 Strategic Policy S17, Thames Policy Area. This states that development should not have an adverse impact on the SMINC and should seek opportunities to create or enhance riverside habitats.

4.2 Species

Species can be categorised into the following. It should be noted that a single species can be have multiple categories. The definitions are as follows:

- **Protected species** protected by national and international legislation
- Priority species species identified of particular conservation importance regionally including at a London and England scale.
- **Target species** flagship species to consider during development and conservation in the Square Mile.

Protected and priority species that GiGL data shows frequently occur in the City and should be considered in the planning process and conservation interventions are detailed in Appendix 2: Protected Species and/or Priority Species records in the City of London.

Following consultation with the Partnership Group and taking into consideration local, regional and national priorities the following species have been selected as target species:

- House Sparrow Passer domesticus
- Black Redstart Progenitures ochruros
- Swift Apus apus
- Peregrine Falcon Falco peregrinus
- Bats Chiropter spp.
- Wild Bees Bumblebees and Solitary Bees
- Stag Beetle Lucanus cervus

These species are exemplars of their ecological niches, the interaction the species has with the surrounding environment, and also are in many cases highly adapted to the urban environment. They have been selected to highlight their importance within the City of London and to focus conservation management and monitoring. The target species selected also take into consideration national priority habitats and species are defined under Section 41 of the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006.

In addition to the identified target species, records held by GiGL show there are 60 species which are either legally protected or considered of national, regional or local policy.

4.3 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

The London Plan identifies the need to protect biodiversity and to provide opportunities for people to access nature through local green spaces. The best examples of key habitats and green spaces are identified as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs). SINCs are non-statutory designated sites identified by local authorities and are recognised as part of the planning process.

In London, sites are categorised of importance at a Metropolitan, Borough and Local level. The London Plan 2021 and London Environment Strategy states that SINCs should be protected.

The following sites have been identified in the City:

Table 1 - Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in the City of London

Site Ref	Sites	
	Sites of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation (SMINC)	
M031	The River Thames and its Tidal Tributaries	
	Sites of Borough Importance for Nature Conservation (SBINC) Grade 2	
CiBII01	The Temple Gardens	
CiBII02	The Barbican and St Alphage's Garden	
	Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINC)	
CiL01	Pepys Garden and St Olave's Churchyard, Seething Lane	
CiL02	St Paul's Cathedral Garden	
CiL03	Cleary Gardens	
CiL04	St Botolph without Bishopsgate Churchyard	
CiL05	Aldermanbury Gardens	
CiL06	The Roman Wall, Noble Street	
CiL07	Finsbury Circus	

SINCs are key to how the City Corporation delivers biodiversity. The small fragmented nature of the greenspaces across the highly built urbanised Square Mile need to meet many, often competing needs. This results in many SINCs having limited biodiversity potential. The focus needs to be on improving the biodiversity value of the SINCs and linking these sites with new green infrastructure.

In December 2015, the City Gardens team commissioned the London Wildlife Trust to review SINCs within the Square Mile. This included reviewing existing sites for their grading and boundary as well as three new proposed sites at Postman's Park, St Dunstan in the East Church Garden and Portsoken Street Garden.

The following changes including new and upgraded sites and boundary changes have been recommended. It is intended that these changes will be adopted as part of the draft City Plan 2036:

Table 2 - Proposed Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in the City of London

Site Ref	Sites	
	Sites of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation (SMINC)	
M031	The River Thames and its Tidal Tributaries	
	Sites of Borough Importance for Nature Conservation (SBINC) Grade 1	
CiBI01	The Barbican Estate, St Alphage Garden and Barber Surgeons'	
	Garden	
	Sites of Borough Importance for Nature Conservation (SBINC) Grade 2	
CiBII01	The Temple Gardens	
CiBII03	Roman Wall, Noble Street and St Anne & St Agnes Churchyard	
	Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINC)	
CiL01	St Olave, Hart Street Churchyard	
CiL02	St Paul's Cathedral Churchyard Gardens	
CiL03	Cleary Garden	
CiL04	St Botolph without Bishopsgate Churchyard	
CiL05	Aldermanbury Gardens	
CiL07	Finsbury Circus Gardens	
CiL08	Postman's Park	
CiL09	Portsoken Street Garden	
CiL010	St Dunstan in the East Church Garden	

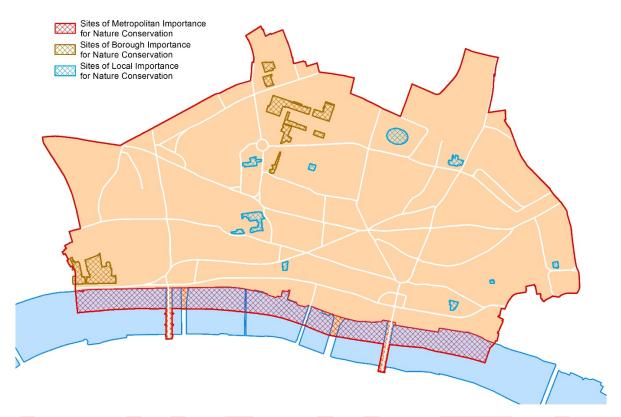


Figure 1 - Map of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) in the City of London

4.4 Local Natures Reserves

The City of London does not currently have any sites designated as Local Nature Reserves (LNR). Action Plan 1 includes an objective to explore the opportunity to select, declare and manage a site as an LNR.

4.5 Open Spaces Audit

A comprehensive audit of all open spaces owned and managed by the City Corporation and private landowners is carried out by the Department of the Built Environment (DBE).

The draft City Plan 2036 sets out seven Key Areas of Change areas that are likely to experience significant change over the Plan period and present particular opportunities and challenges that warrant a specific policy focus. They Key Areas of Change are:

- Blackfriars
- Pool of London
- Aldgate
- Tower and Portsoken
- City Cluster
- Fleet Street and Ludgate
- Smithfield and Barbican
- Liverpool Street

The Open Spaces Audit will be used to support the BAP by identifying and prioritising biodiversity enhancements and providing access to nature and green space in the Square Mile.

4.6 Access to nature and green space in the City

Areas of deficiency in access to nature are areas in London where people have to walk more than one kilometre to reach an accessible Metropolitan or Borough Site of Importance for Nature.

Both the Sites of Borough Importance for Nature Conservation (SBINC) Grade 2 located in the City of London have reduced or limited public access because they are privately owned or designated for residents' use. The nearest publicly accessible SBINC to the City of London that is managed by the City Corporation is Bunhill Fields Burial Ground. This site is located just outside the City's boundary in the London Borough of Islington.

The review recommended that the The Roman Wall, Noble Street SINC was both updated to a SBINC Grade 2 and extended to include St Anne & St Agnes Churchyard. The SINC has been renamed Roman Wall, Noble Street and St Anne & St Agnes Churchyard as a result.

Once the current recommendations have been adopted via the City Plan 2036, it is recommended that a future SINC review follows any major changes to a SINC. A SINC review would therefore be commissioned following the reinstatement and establishment of the SLINC at Finsbury Circus Gardens including any other proposed changes that are identified.

The opportunity to identify or upgrade sites to SBINC status may be identified as part of a SINC review. However, due to the dense urban nature of the City and the limited size of current local sites, opportunities may be limited. There is a clear deficiency in access to nature in the east of the City and particularly the City Cluster and Aldgate.

The London Plan defines deficiency in access to open space in relation to both the maximum distance residents should have to travel to access a public open space and the size and quality of that open space. The London Plan categorises public open spaces based on their structure and size. Most open spaces in the City are identified as 'Pocket Parks' with a minority of 'Small Open Spaces'. As identified in the London Plan, individuals should have access to these types of spaces within 400 metres of their homes with residential areas outside of this distance potentially defined as deficient in access to open space. Open space provision and types across London are detailed in Appendix 4.

Identifying and maximising both the biodiversity potential and access for public enjoyment of these small sites in the City are of key importance. Management plans will be developed to focus both on enhancing the quality and accessibility of SINCs.

4.7 Achievements and recommendations

The City of London Biodiversity Action Plan 2016-2020 has made the following significant achievements:

- A review of SINCs in the City of London was completed by the London Wildlife Trust (LWT) in 2016.
- A Service Level Agreement (SLA) with GiGL was secured for the Open Space Department (OSD).
- Delivery of a Biodiversity Audit for the City.
- Nine predator-secure bird feeding cages were funded and installed by Friends of City Gardens (FoCG) and bird feeding is carried out by volunteers in ten City gardens.
- FoCG monitor and clean bird boxes each autumn which provide valuable information on usage.
- Barbican Wildlife Group (BWG) has made improvement to habitats in the Barbican Wildlife Garden also undertaking species monitoring and community engagement activities and events.
- Annual breeding bird survey and black redstart sightings report carried out by FoCG.
- Bat activity monitored at 14 different locations over two years and talks and walks funded, organised and delivered by FoCG.
- Bat detection workshops organised by FoCG with support from the Bat Conservation Trust and funded by the City of London Corporation's Central Grants Programme.
- Lunch 'n' learn event on bats and birds in the City delivered to City Corporation staff.
- Planting improvements at Postman's Park to support its proposed status as a SLINC.
- Annual participation in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch by volunteers at targeted SLINC sites including the production of a report and the provision of data to GiGL for inclusion in the regional wildlife records dataset.
- Working with corporate volunteers to improve habitats within the parks, gardens, and churchyards of the Square Mile such as increasing shrub cover, installing log piles and leaf composting.
- Bulb planting of nectar-rich early flowering species for early emerging pollinators.
- Enhancement of two churchyard garden with pollinator-friendly species.

4.8 Health and wellbeing benefits of biodiversity

As well as the importance of conserving habitats and species, biodiversity and activities that enhance the environment are beneficial to people. The opportunities that exist for individuals to engage and promote biodiversity in the City of London contribute to an active and healthy lifestyle. Examples include taking part in planting activities in a green space, working to create new habitats, community food growing or using walks and trails to explore nature in the City. Biodiversity is also an important contributing factor in mitigating air pollution with specific planting used to improve local air quality and raise awareness within the community.

The City Corporation is also working with external organisations based in the Square Mile, such as Bart's Health NHS Trust to increase green infrastructure across their sites. Both participating in biodiversity related activities earning Tempo Time Credits and redeeming them on physical activities such as gyms and swimming pools have a positive impact on health and wellbeing. Access to green space and nature is also linked to improving the mental health and wellbeing of individuals as well as creating quiet and tranquil areas for workers, residents and visitors.

4.9 Education and community engagement

The work of promoting and enhancing SINCs provides a valuable opportunity for individuals to share and learn new skills, knowledge and experience as well as bringing together residents, workers and visitors with a shared passion for biodiversity. This form of engagement can be vital in encouraging local residents to become champions in promoting the quality and understanding of biodiversity in the City. For this reason, biodiversity enhancement is used as a platform for many events and activities in the City's green spaces.

4.10 Sustainability in the built environment

The built environment represents an important habitat in the City. It includes historic structures and monuments as well as new developments. Historic walls, churchyards and monuments may support plants which are protected or of notable species of local importance as well as provide nesting sites for birds. The sustainability of new structures in the built environment is now a crucial element of building design, with opportunities to support and enhance biodiversity. Developers can include green roofs and walls to contribute towards Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology (BREEAM) certification through the creation of new habitats to support local biodiversity. At rooftop level there is increasing space for biodiversity delivered through green roofs.

As set out in the draft City Plan 2036 proposals for major developments will be required to achieve a minimum BREEAM rating of 'excellent' and aim for 'outstanding' against the current, relevant BREEAM criteria at the time of application. It is important that both existing structures and new developments include features that enhance and compliment the network of green infrastructure across the City and take habitats and species into consideration. Planners and developers have the opportunity to incorporate biodiversity using features such as nest boxes, biodiverse roofs and sustainable drainage systems (SuDs). As open space at ground level is limited, green roofs provide an excellent opportunity to create habitat comparable to open mosaic habitat which is also priority habitat in decline.

New developments or refurbishments must not negatively impact existing habitats without including adequate mitigation. For example, the Black Redstart population in the City is estimated to be at least 10 % of the UK breeding population. This is regarded as 'significant' and any changes to the rooftop habitat must be carefully considered. Similarly, the Peregrine Falcon is also an urban success story with a pair nesting in the City. These unique habitats need to be preserved without disturbance to ensure these rare species are protected.

5.0 Target species

The following target species have been selected as flagship species for their wider conservation value and importance. In general, they have been selected for their low population and vulnerability in the City as species to consider within development and conservation. They also act as a focus for raising awareness and targeting biodiversity conservation actions. Many of the actions to promote these species will have wider positive benefits to biodiversity in the Square Mile.

5.1 House Sparrow – Passer domesticus

Once a common sight in parks and gardens across the UK, it is now widely acknowledged that there has been a severe decline in the UK House Sparrow population. It is estimated that Greater London lost 70% of its House Sparrow population between 1994 and 2001. Due to this rapid population decline the species has received the highest level of conservation concern, red status, with the species needing urgent action. The reasons for this decline are complex and include disease, availability of food, air pollution and loss of habitat and nesting sites. The decline in House Sparrows has also been observed in the City with a few isolated colonies on the City fringes including Fortune Street Park and the Tower of London.

The priority actions for House Sparrows may also have a positive impact on all bird species present in the City, with interventions based in specific sites. Guidance will be developed and included in an ecology toolkit and SINC management plans to ensure habitat interventions are tailored to the needs of the House Sparrow. These recommendations will include provision of nest boxes, planting seed rich species, trialling supplementary feeding of protein-rich food during the nesting season and establishing more areas of dense shrub cover. It is also vital to engage with partner organisations and residents through citizen science initiatives to gain a greater understanding of the House Sparrows' remaining presence in the City.

5.2 Black Redstart – Phoenicurus ochruros

The Black Redstart is a small robin-sized bird that has adapted to live in the urban environment. There are fewer than 100 breeding pairs in the UK and the Black Redstart features on the red list of birds of conservation concern. The Black Redstart was first reported in London in the 1920s and the species has adapted to living in industrial and urban areas. The population increased significantly following the Blitz when bombsites provided the ideal habitat. The rubble between the bombed-out shells of buildings replicated the bare and stony cliffs of the Black Redstarts' natural habitat.

Central London and specifically the City of London are an extremely important location for this species, with a significant percentage of the national breeding population located in the Square Mile. The population is probably made up of resident pairs and breeding birds that travel from western to southern England between March and May and returning to wintering sites from September. The Black Redstart's population has seen a drop in numbers over the decades which have mainly been linked to loss of breeding sites as buildings have been redeveloped. The increase in the number of green roofs in the City is likely to be the key to continued success of this species in the Square Mile. A species action plan will be developed to provide developers and building managers with advice on enhancing their roofs for the Black Redstart.

5.3 Swift – Apus apus

Swifts are summer visitors to London that arrive in April and leave in August to over-winter in Africa. They feed on insects and other invertebrates. Swifts nest in the crevices of cliff faces and have adapted to make the urban landscape their home by taking advantage of features that replicate this environment, favouring the eaves and roof space of buildings. Modern building design and the redevelopment of buildings has meant Swifts have been excluded from suitable breeding sites which have led to their significant decline in the UK. It is recommended that building management guidelines include retrofitting of Swift nesting boxes in refurbished buildings as well as new developments along the Thames riverside. Once there's a greater understanding of the Thames Riverside environment, opportunities for other species such as the House Martin may be identified.

5.4 Peregrine Falcon – Falco peregrinus

Peregrine Falcons have been present in the City for several years. They are given the highest degree of legal protection under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The species is present in many urban areas with the nesting sites closely monitored. Around 20% of the European peregrine population breeds in the UK and therefore it is important to protect this species.

The Peregrine Falcon's natural habitat is cliff ledges. These birds are attracted to the City as tall buildings mimic this habitat. The species also act as a natural predator of pigeons. One pair regularly nests in the City and has successfully raised young for several years. It is important that the nesting sites of these birds are protected, that artificial nests are installed at appropriate locations and building managers and occupiers are made aware of their significance and protected status.

5.5 Bats – Chiroptera spp.

There are 17 species of bats in the UK with the Common Pipistrelle, Pipistrellus pipistrellus, being the most common species in the inner London boroughs. Bats forage on insects such as moths and beetles and have specific roosting and hibernating preferences. They forage over water and use tree lines to aid navigation. The Common Pipistrelle is the species that has been identified most frequently as roosting and foraging within the City but other crevice-roosting species are also likely to be present.

Bat activity monitoring by Friends of City Gardens has provided a vital insight and valuable data on presence of bats across the City. This data can support further opportunities to target monitoring to gain knowledge of roosts and commuting and foraging routes. Bats are regularly seen over the Barbican lakes and gardens, but they are also widespread elsewhere in the City.

Further surveying and monitoring are required to establish their distribution in the Square Mile. A group of volunteers has now been trained by FoCG to undertake bat walks which will take place during the summer months.

There continues to be a significant threat to bats in the UK in terms of loss of roosting, maternity and hibernating sites in both natural and artificial structures. Loss of suitable feeding sites and disruption of flight paths due to artificial lighting also have an impact on bat populations.

It is vital to raise awareness on the law protecting bats and their roosts from disturbance and the opportunities to increase individuals' knowledge and understanding of the potential for bats in the Square Mile. Interventions to protect habitats for bats in the City must include considering the impact of surrounding development. Habitat enhancements can include night-scented planting and appropriately-positioned artificial roosting sites such as bat boxes or bat bricks incorporated into buildings.

5.6 Wild bees (bumblebees and solitary bees)

Wild bees, which includes bumblebees and solitary bees, face serious decline from a range of pressures including habitat loss, pesticide use and climate change. Along with other types of pollinators such as wasps, butterflies, moths and hoverflies, these insects are vital to our environment with many of our food crops dependant on pollinators. The City is also home to domesticised honey bees managing in hives, often at roof level, by beekeepers.

Urban areas can provide a diverse range of flowering plants which extend the season and availability of pollen and nectar as well as providing nesting opportunities. This can be achieved by including nectar-rich planting in landscaping schemes and providing suitable nesting sites, either within the landscape or as artificial structures. Biodiverse roofs which provide an open mosaic habitat can also contribute towards providing suitable habitat.

Several of the Action Plans support wild bees and other pollinators in a number ways. This includes developing guidance on supporting pollinators in the built environment, producing an ecology toolkit and biodiversity checklist and advice notes for developers. SINC management plans will identify site specific opportunities, protect existing features and amend maintenance regimes to improve the quality and diversity of habitats. Solitary bee species are typically under recorded in the City. The action to develop a biological recording strategy will assist with developing a greater understanding of pollinators and supporting flora in the Square Mile so interventions can be tailored to support specific species.

5.7 Stag Beetle – Lucanus cervus

The Stag Beetle is the UK's largest ground living beetle with concentration in population in south-west London. The Lesser Stag Beetle has been observed in the Barbican Wildlife Garden. Stag Beetles have a lengthy life cycle lasting up to seven years from egg to adult. The larvae rely on dead or decaying wood such as fallen trees, branches and stumps. The Stag Beetle is a nationally threatened species. The population decline is related to habitat loss due to development and the sanitisation of parks and gardens with the removal of dead and rotting material. Predators such as foxes can also disrupt the Stag Beetles from completing their life cycle.

Raising public awareness of the Stag Beetle, its life cycle and the benefits of dead and decaying wood, leaf litter and not 'tidying up' green spaces will help create suitable habitats for the wider invertebrate population. Leaf composting areas will be introduced in all SINC sites as an outcome of site-specific SINC management plans. Log piles have been installed in most of the existing SINCs and will be built in newly designated sites. Stag Beetles act as an excellent flagship species to both engage with the public and promote positive habitat management for all invertebrates.

6.0 Target habitats

Two target habitats have been identified where there is the opportunity to create or enhance space for biodiversity within new or existing green spaces or the built environment. These habitats are also an important part of supporting the target species.

6.1 Open mosaic habitat

'Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land' has been identified as a priority habitat to create or restore in the London Environment Strategy. This habitat is typical of old industrial sites and was common in the City in the form of rubble of bomb damaged buildings following the Second World War. Biodiverse roofs can be created to replicate this habitat to create a range of conditions to support flora and invertebrate communities. This can be achieved with varying substrate depths, areas of bare ground and appropriately selected wildflower seeds and plug plants to suit the conditions. Features such as pebbles and stones, sandy mounds, logs and rope as well as created areas with water. Singing posts and nesting boxes for Black Redstarts can also be incorporated.

6.2 Standing open water

Standing water, in the form of ponds and lake in the City, is identified as a priority habitat in the London Environment Strategy. Ponds and lakes are important for supporting a range of wildlife including invertebrates, dragonflies, amphibians and birds as well as feeding ground for bats. There is the opportunity to improve the quality of existing ponds and lakes, create new ponds and incorporate access to water into the design of biodiverse roofs. SuDs schemes can also contribute towards increasing access to water for wildlife including pollinators as well as incorporating features such as bird baths.

7.0 Action Plans

To deliver the objectives of the BAP, four action plans have been developed. These deliver the key themes that support both the priority species and wider biodiversity priorities in the Square Mile.

Action Plan 1: Open space and habitat management

Aim: to protect and enhance habitats and species in the Square Mile

Action Plan 2: The built environment

Aim: to improve green infrastructure in the built environment

Action Plan 3: Education and community engagement

Aim: to promote a greater understanding of the City's biodiversity

Action Plan 4: Data collection, survey and monitoring

Aim: to improve monitoring and data on biodiversity in the City

7.1 Action Plan 1: Open space and habitat management

It is intended that recommendations of the review of SINCS in 2016 will be adopted via the City Plan 2036. The BAP also requires the City Corporation to develop SINC management plans for sites managed both by the City Corporation and explore what equivalent documents may be in place for privately owned/managed sites.

The SINC management plan for each site will identify and develop agreed biodiversity enhancements and promote good management with a clear framework for delivery and annual review of progress. The SINC management plans will identify the specific actions for each site enabling the City Corporation to engage in a dialogue with interested parties and identify funding opportunities.

The range of enhancements will include:

- Increasing shrub cover and berry-bearing plants including hedges.
- Providing continuous vertical habitats from ground level to the tree canopy to create dense cover for roosting and nesting.
- Planting a range of nectar and pollen-rich species, including nightscented varieties that will provide forage for pollinators throughout the year.
- Amending management practices that may harm biodiversity, and introducing practices that will enhance habitats, such as leaf composting and mulching.
- Considering the biodiversity value of planting when redesigning, refurbishing or enhancing current open spaces.
- Considering the impact of climate change on biodiversity choosing plants that are resilient to a range of climate impacts.
- Retaining and increasing deadwood for invertebrates in open space sites either as log piles or as a support for ivy, as well as for fungi.

Many of the City's open spaces such as the churchyards have a stronaly historic character that underscores their biodiversity to powerful effect. A number include historic structures such as parts of the Roman and medieval City wall, exposed Victorian building basements, elements of former churches damaged or altered after the Second World War, arayestones damaged or destroyed in the Blitz, and memorial structures. Their structures provide an excellent host for mosses, lichens and ferns, as well as other wall-dwelling species. Many of these sites are unique habitats that will be surveyed and monitored. The SINC management plans for those sites will require all interested parties, including departments within the City Corporation, Historic England and Natural England, to be made aware of any proposed developments. The sites will be managed taking into consideration the habitat features identified and the desirability of maintaining their unique historic character. Many of these sites and structures are designated assets such as scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings, or within conservation areas and Historic Parks and Gardens, all of which have statutory protection.

The BAP will identify opportunities to understand and contribute towards the River Thames as a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation. The City's artificial structures and river walls and foreshore provide an important habitat for wildlife with the Thames itself providing an important ecological corridor through the heart of London. Developments guided by the Thames Strategy and Riverside Walk Enhancement Strategy must protect biodiversity and encourage enhancements to this wildlife corridor as well as improve water quality with the use of SuDS. The City Corporation works with both the Environment Agency and Port of London Authority to enhance biodiversity along the River Thames. The Thames Tideway Tunnel which will improve water quality and associated biodiversity in the Thames by reducing sewer discharges into the river.

7.2 Action Plan 2: The built environment

The built environment includes all new and existing buildings, structures and public realm developments. Action Plan 2 focuses on the important contributions the built environment can make to supporting biodiversity. These include:

- Green roofs and walls
- Tree planting
- Environmental enhancement schemes
- Biodiversity-rich planting schemes
- SuDs
- Installation of artificial nest boxes for targeted species

The draft City Plan 2036 supports the installation of biodiverse extensive or intensive green roofs and green walls on all appropriate developments. This has the potential to contribute significantly to the biodiversity and climate resilience of the City of London, complementing the network of green spaces at ground level. Well-designed green roofs provide the ideal opportunity to create the open mosaic habitat typical of brownfield sites, replicating the habitat favoured by species such as the Black Redstart. Although green roofs may have constraints depending on their location, they can provide favourable growing conditions such as a sunny aspect, which may be limited at ground level. This can increase the planting palette available to designers and provide opportunities for biodiversity. Roof gardens and terraces also play an important role in allowing access to amenity space for building occupiers and the wider community with the added value of providing connected aerial habitats.

The City has an established network of ground level open spaces. Both street trees and environmental enhancement projects have the potential to improve the connectivity of SINCs, green spaces and associated habitats. The draft City Plan 2036 acknowledges the importance of enhancement schemes which include trees and soft landscaping that promote biodiversity and link existing green spaces and routes in green corridors. The City of London Tree Strategy Part 2 also promotes the aim to increase existing stock and encourage green corridors that contribute to the biodiversity of the City.

Significant opportunities exist to improve the connectivity of green spaces and their biodiversity value. Development of the built environment has the potential to enhance the habitats of priority species that have adapted to and made the Square Mile their home. All buildings and infrastructure must therefore positively contribute to a range of sustainability issues and opportunities with biodiversity a key component. It is imperative that at an early stage in any development or landscape improvement that consideration must be given to both the impact of new developments and potential for biodiversity enhancements are assessed. To ensure the maximum benefits to biodiversity are realised, the context of where the site sits in relation to the local biodiversity network, assessing assets such as individual trees, open spaces, SINCs, water bodies and how the development can enhance, contribute and not detract from what is already there.

Considerations for not negatively impacting on the existing biodiversity network include:

- Ensuring lighting associated with construction sites does not unnecessarily illuminate nearby open spaces and disrupt bat foraging routes.
- Ensuring new lighting in public realm enhancement schemes does not have an adverse impact on biodiversity.
- Over provision of nesting boxes for territorial species in an area that can only support small numbers e.g. Peregrine falcon

Assets that should be considered to be included in any enhancement include:

- Installing well positioned and specified artificial nesting boxes or habitats.
- Retrofitting artificial structures to improve habitats for species such as bats and pollinators.
- Providing standing water on site
- Introducing log piles and other deadwood habitats
- Diverse planting schemes that provide habitat and food for wildlife

Temporary assets that can be introduced during development or on vacant sites include:

- Introducing temporary green walls or other pollen and nectar-rich features on construction sites and on hoardings which in some circumstances may be in place for many years.
- Taking advantage of vacant sites such as planters, beds or borders or areas undergoing redevelopment by sowing wildflower species to provide pollen and nectar as well as a temporary visual amenity.

Wherever possible providing interpretation on the background and history of a site as well as importance of features such as street trees and green roofs. Such suggestions can be developed in guidance and advice notes to support the BAP.

7.3 Action Plan 3: Education and community engagement

Action Plan 3 covers a wide remit, including:

- Promoting a greater understanding of the City's biodiversity and informing stakeholders how their work or leisure might impact on the natural environment.
- Providing opportunities for stakeholders to contribute towards initiatives designed to enhance biodiversity in open spaces and to learn new skills.
- Encouraging volunteers and City Gardeners to work together on biodiversity projects.

The City has several established community and resident groups that engage in activities which promote and enhance the value of biodiversity in the community. These activities include:

- Weekly gardening sessions to support biodiversity at the Barbican Wildlife Garden by the BWG supported by a City Gardener.
- Workshops and other activities organised by BWG.
- Weekly garden maintenance sessions and one-off green space projects organised by FoCG volunteers for residents and corporate volunteers.
- Bird feeding and bird bath cleaning in 10 City gardens by FoCG volunteers
- Monthly Bee Walks to support the national recording scheme run the Bumblebee Conservation Trust.
- Data collection and reporting to GiGL by FoCG and BWG volunteers.
- Nic's Secret Garden and Plant Rescue Nursery created and maintained by a City Gardener, with the assistance of BWG volunteers in an otherwise unused City space.
- Middlesex Street Gardeners' Club and Golden Lane Estate Allotment Group – "Golden Baggers"
- Support and participation of campaigns such as the Royal Horticultural Society(RHS) 'It's Your Neighbourhood and London in Bloom that bring together City businesses, residents and community groups to have a positive impact on biodiversity in the Square Mile.
- The use of social media and dedicated websites by FoCG, BWG and Golden Baggers.

Community and resident groups provide a significant contribution in supporting biodiversity in terms of raising awareness of species and improving habitats. Their work should be supported and assistance provided in identifying funding streams that support their work.

National award schemes such as RHS Britain in Bloom and the Green Flag Awards and Green Heritage Site Accreditation managed by Keep Britain Tidy recognise the importance of considering biodiversity in all aspects of parks and open spaces management. The schemes also provide a stimulus for managers to strive for excellence and promote their achievements to a wider audience. The City Gardens team will encourage City businesses to undertake corporate social responsibility (CSR) commitments in the City's green spaces. This will provide the ideal opportunity for City businesses and their employees to gain a greater understanding of the network of open spaces available in the City and make a positive contribution to biodiversity. This has a positive impact on building a stronger and engaged community in the City as well as developing the skills of individuals.

The City Gardens team will support colleagues, residents, businesses and visitors in raising awareness of the value of biodiversity in the urban landscape and how they can help to protect and enhance it. The City Corporation supports the London-wide campaign to raise awareness of what SINCs are and their importance in the context of both the City and London.

Biodiversity is an excellent platform to engage with children and to increase their understanding of the natural world. There are two state primary schools that take the majority of the City's resident children – The Aldgate School in the east of the City and Prior Weston, a London Borough of Islington primary school on the north-west edge of the City, adjoining Fortune Street Park, as well as another primary school, City of London Academy Islington (CoLPAI) also on the north-west edge of the City. In addition to these state schools there are several private schools and nurseries in or on the fringes of the Square Mile. Volunteer groups already work with both state schools and other nurseries to provide learning opportunities and support gardening activities. Both the City Corporation and volunteer and community groups can be of key importance in working with schools to support curriculum-based biodiversity activities. The City Gardens team will also identify and support opportunities for adult learning, both for individual personal development and to support biodiversity.

The City Corporation website will be developed to include information on biodiversity of the City, raise awareness of SINCs and explain what individuals and businesses, especially though volunteering and CSR, can do to support biodiversity in the Square Mile. Communication channels should be used to raise awareness how biodiversity is being supported as well as disseminate good practice guidance. They will also be used to signpost respondents to other more detailed sources of information and how they can engage with delivery of the BAP.

7.4 Action Plan 4: Data collection, surveys and monitoring

It is essential that data on species and habitats is systematically collected and digitally recorded. This information can be used to inform planners and developers, help shape management plans and demonstrate the importance of green spaces and associated green infrastructure features. The data collected is a vital element for developing an evidence base for evaluating the success of interventions, and guiding future work. It is important that the data is publicly accessible, and that the City Corporation contributes to the regional and national agenda to understand and protect biodiversity.

Analysis of the available data on protected species in the City shows a varied distribution of protected species which can possibly be linked to under-recording and monitoring of species. The lack of species records does not necessarily mean lack of presence. There is no evidence of recent species records for several SINCs, which limits the ability to assess their current situation. Therefore, there is a need to target the monitoring of SINCs and in particular underreported SINCs. The management and monitoring of green roofs once installed is also an important to improve the understanding of how green roofs contribute to urban biodiversity.

GiGL is London's environmental record centre. It receives, collates and manages detailed information on aspects of open spaces, including habitat and species information. This data is available to planners and developers, to enable them to make informed decisions to protect and enhance biodiversity. GiGL's habitat and species datasets provide valuable information and it is important that this information is understood and considered to ensure that informed decisions are made.

More can be done to encourage the monitoring of successful habitats, provide information to make enhancements and inform future projects. The City Gardens team, planners and volunteers will actively engage with developers and building managers to encourage more ecological surveys of these habitats and the sharing of information. Data is invaluable to support funding bids and further ensure that projects and developments take into consideration the specific conditions that influence biodiversity in the City.

The Open Spaces Department (OSD) has a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with GiGL which provides access to data and services that can inform the decision making process to protect and enhance biodiversity. The data and interpretation provided by GiGL has been essential for supporting the SINC Review process and Biodiversity Audit as well as providing the evidence base for the BAP. The Action Plan highlights the need to continue to maintain an SLA with GiGL and promote and utilise the data and services available. The datasets held by GiGL should be reviewed to ensure they are an accurate reflection of the open space provision and urban greening in the Square Mile. The OSD will work in conjunction with the DBE when commissioning, collating and monitoring data.

The BAP identifies the need to monitor protected, priority and City specific target species. This can be achieved by a combination of data collection methods including commissioning systematic and targeted species surveys to gain a better understanding of the species and supporting habitats. A biological recording strategy will be developed to identify the priorities for monitoring from a species data perspective. The strategy will identify opportunities to inform the City's community about the City's open spaces and biodiversity and identify both existing and new opportunities to engage, such as RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch and City Nature Challenge. Species monitoring and recording also provides an accessible, achievable and measurable outcome for investment in biodiversity identification and survey training.

8.0 Funding opportunities

The City Gardens team will work with volunteers to access funding and sponsorship opportunities as they arise. These may be national schemes run by corporates, Heritage Lottery funding, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds, planning obligations commonly referred to as section 106 agreements or other City funds including the Social Value element of the City Corporation's procurement process.

9.0 How the BAP will be monitored and delivered

As progress towards achieving the actions of the BAP is made, it is important to record and communicate this to the members Partnership Group as well as the wider public. Lead Partners will update their actions on an annual basis and meet to review progress made. Biodiversity information, including the annually updated actions which will be provided to committee and made available to the Partnership Group.

Table 3 - Action Plan 1: Open space and habitat management

Action No	Action	Lead Partner	Contributing Partner	To be completed by
OSHM1.1	Adopt via the City Plan 2036, the recommendations of the 2016 review of Sites of Importance of Nature Conservation (SINCs) in the City of London.	CoL PP	CoL OSD	2022
OSHM1.2	Schedule and secure funding for a future SINC review. Identify any proposed new sites, boundary changes or upgrades to be included as part of the review.	CoL OSD	SINC landowners/ managers	2025
OSHM1.3	Assess the potential of the Barbican Wildlife Garden to qualify as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and consider if that is an appropriate designation for this garden.	CoL CCS CoL OSD	BWG Col PP	2023
OSHM1.4	Commission and secure funding of an ecologist to produce SINC management plans for all City Corporation managed SINC sites. Work with landowners and managers to develop management plans for privately owned/managed sites.	CoL OSD		2026
OSHM1.5	Carry out a baseline survey and commission and adopt a black redstart species action plan.	CoL OSD	FoCG	2024
OSHM1.6	Set up of a multi-departmental working group to develop guidance on managing historic walls, memorials and structures for biodiversity.	Col HES	CoL OSD CoL CS	2024

Table 4 - Action Plan 2: The built environment

Action No	Action	Lead Partner	Contributing Partner	To be completed by
BE2.1	Develop an ecology toolkit and biodiversity checklist for the City of London Corporation staff as tool to support projects and public realm schemes.	CoL OSD	Col DBE	2022
BE2.2	Following the enactment of the Environment Bill, assess how the City Corporation will meet its duties as a local planning authority in respect to aspects of the bill that are covered by amendment to the Town and Country Planning act, such as Biodiversity net gain.	Col PP	CoL OSD	2026
BE2.3	Following the enactment of the Environment Bill, assess how the City Corporation will meet its duties as a local authority and implement strategies that are not covered by amendments to the Town & Planning Act.	CoL OSD	CoL PP	2026
BE2.4	Develop Sustainability Planning guidance encompassing, but not limited to, Green infrastructure, Biodiversity and Climate Resilience to ensure Developers and Planning officers take appropriate steps at pre-planning application and design development stages to meet local policy and national legislation.	Col PP	CoL OSD	2024
BE2.5	Review and amend the existing planning application validation process to incorporate consideration of whether biodiversity surveys and reports are relevant and necessary for an application.	Col DM	Col OSD	2022

Table 5 - Action Plan 3: Education and community engagement

Action No	Action	Lead Partner	Contributing partner	To be completed by
ECE3.1	Provide advice, guidance and training to support the BAP both for City Corporation employees and the wider City community including residents, businesses, visitors, schools, colleges, developers and land managers.	CoL OSD	BAP PG	2026
ECE3.2	Support resident and community groups that contribute to local and national species recording and monitoring initiatives, through providing direct support for initiatives, by providing training and by collecting and promoting best practice that current groups have demonstrated.	CoL OSD	FoCG BWG	2026
ECE3.3	Develop guidance on supporting pollinators in the built environment by enabling biodiversity partnership working group.	Col OSD	BAP PG	2023
ECE3.4	Promote and disseminate guidance for the London Invasive Species Initiative (LISI) species to raise awareness of these species and how they should be managed.	CoL OSD		2022

Table 6 - Action Plan 4: Data collection, surveys and monitoring

Action No	Action	Lead Partner	Contributing partner	To be completed by
DCSM4.1	Maintain, improve, promote and utilise the information and services available via the GiGL SLA including to be achieved through providing internal training.	Col OSD	CoL DM CoL PP CoL M&I	2026
DCSM4.2	Develop and implement a planning condition which requires developers of relevant schemes to collect and submit relevant Biological data of their site to the CoL PA to improve data monitoring and assessment on biodiversity trends in the City.	COL PP COL DM	Т	2022
DC\$M4.3	Produce a biological recording strategy to target SINCs with under-recording of species and promote good practice. To include identification of target sites, promotion of best practice, identifying and promoting appropriate recording methods for different audiences and promoting e.g. i-record for public and staff.	Col OSD	BAP PG GiGL	2023
DCSM4.4	Identify funding to carry out a black redstart and bat baseline survey to guide future management interventions and enhancements.	CoL OSD		2025
DCSM4.5	Undertake below ground mapping to identify opportunities and barriers for establishing new green infrastructure and SuDs within the public realm.	Col ERT	GiGL	2024

Table 7 - Key for action plan tables

Abbreviation	Organisation
CoL OSD	City of London Corporation, Open Spaces Department
CoL DBE	City of London Corporation, Department of Built Environment
CoL PP	City of London Corporation, Planning Policy
CoL DM	City of London Corporation, Development Management
CoL M&I	City of London Corporation, Monitoring & Information team
CoL CS	City of London Corporation, City Surveyor's Department
COL ERT	City of London Corporation, Environmental Resilience team
CoL CCS	City of London Corporation, Community and Children's Services
BAP PG	City of London Biodiversity Action Plan Partnership Group
FoCG	Friends of City Gardens
BWG	Barbican Wildlife Group
GIGL	Greenspace Information for Greater London

10.0 Appendices

10.1 Appendix 1: National, regional and local policy

The list below outlines the key policy and legislation at a local, regional and national level to which the BAP contributes towards their delivery and support:

National policy

A Green Future: Our 25 Year environment Plan

Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006)

National Planning Policy Framework 2019

Regional policy

The London Plan 2021

London Environment Strategy 2018

Local policy

City of London Local Plan 2015

Draft City Plan 2036

City of London Climate Action Strategy 2020-2027

City of London Air Quality Strategy 2019-2024

City of London Transport Strategy May 2019

City of London Lighting Strategy 2018

Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-2020

City of London Tree Strategy Part 1 SPD 2012

City of London Tree Strategy Part 2 2012

City of London Open Spaces Strategy SPD 2015

City Gardens Management Plan 2011 – 2016

10.2 Appendix 2: Protected Species and/or Priority Species records in the City of London

Common name	Scientific name
Frequently occurring	
Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros
Buff-tail Bumblebee	Bombus Terrestris
Common Cardar Bee	Bombus Pascuorum
	Rana temporaria
Common Frog Common Pipistrelle	Pipistrellus pipistrellus
-	
Dunnock	Prunella modularis
Grey Heron	Ardea cinereal
Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinereal
Herring Gull	Larus argentatus
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus
Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus
Lesser Black Backed Gull	Larus fuscus
Peregrine falcon	Falco peregrinus
Small Garden Bumblebee	Bombus Hortorum
Starling	Sturnus vulgaris
Swift	Apus apus
White-tailed Bumblebee	Bombus Lucorum
Wigeon	Anas Penelope
Woodcock	Scolopax rusticola
Rarely Occurring	
Arctic tern	Sterna paradisaea
Avocet	Recurvirostra avosetta
Cinnabar	Tyria jacobaeae
Common Porpoise	Phocoena phocoena
Common Seal	Phoca vitulina
Early Bumblebee	Bombus pratorum
Firecrest	Regulus ignicapilla
Gadwall	Anas Strepera
Goldcrest	Regulus regulus
Hedgehog	Erinaceus europaeus
House Martin	Delichon urbicum
Jersey Tiger	Euplagia quadripunctaria
Kittiwake	Rissa tridactyla
Red-tailed Bumblebee	Bombus lapidarius
Lesser Redpoll	Acanthis cabaret
Little egret	Egretta garzetta
Meadow Pippet	Anthus pratensis
Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus
Mute Swan	Cygnus olor
Nathusius's Pipistrelle	Pipistrellus nathusii
Pied Plycatcher	Ficedula hypoleuca
Purple Emperor	Apatura iris
Red kite	Milvus milvus
Redwing	Turdus iliacus

Common name	Scientific name
Rarely Occurring	
Rook	Corvus frugilegus
Rudy Darter	Sympetrum sanguineum
Shag	Phalacrocorax aristotelis
Short-eared Owl	Asio flammeus
Silver-washed Fritillary	Argynnis paphia
Skylark	Alauda arvensis
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos
Stag Beetle	Lucanus cervus
Stock Dove	Columba oenas
Swallow	Hirundo rustica
Tawny Owl	Strix aluco
Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus
Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus
Wryneck	Jynx torquill

10.3 Appendix 3: Open space typology and categorisation

The open space typologies used for the City of London Open Spaces Audit are identified in the table below:

Typology	Primary Purpose
Civic Spaces	Civic and market squares, and other hard-surfaced areas designed for pedestrians. Providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events.
Primary Civic Spaces	Civic and market squares.
Secondary Civic Spaces	Other hard-surfaced areas designed for pedestrians.
Parks and Gardens	Accessible, high-quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.
Cemeteries and Churchyards	Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.
Amenity Spaces	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas.
Natural and semi-natural greenspaces	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and activities.
Local Green Corridors	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity, environmental education and activities.
Provision for Children and Young People	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, (and) skateboard areas.
Outdoor Sports Facilities	Participation in outdoor sports, such as pitch sports, tennis, bowls, athletics or countryside or water sports.
Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion. Open countryside located on the boundary of an urban area.

10.4 Appendix 4: Public Open Space Categorisations

The table below provides an overview of the Public Open Space categories as defined in the London Plan 2021. Spaces are categorised according to their size, facilities and local importance and provide a clear method to evaluate open space provision and type across Greater London.

Open Space Categorisation	Size Guidelines	Distances from homes
Regional Parks	400 hectares	3.2 to 8 kilometres
Metropolitan Parks	60 hectares	3.2 kilometres
District Parks	20 hectares	1.2 kilometres
Local Parks and Open Spaces	2 hectares	400 metres
Small Open Spaces	Under 2 hectares	Less than 400 metres
Pocket Parks	Under 0.4 hectares	Less than 400 metres
Linear Open Spaces	Variable	Wherever feasible

10.5 Appendix 5: Registered Parks & Gardens

The following sites in the City of London feature on the Historic England 'Register of Historic Park and Gardens of special historic interest in England' which identifies sites of particular historic significance:

Site	Grade
Finsbury Circus	=
Golden Lane Estate Designed Landscape	
Inner Temple	II
Middle Temple	II
The Barbican	*

10.6 Appendix 6: Glossary

Explanation of terms used in BAP:

All London Green Grid

The All London Green Grid (ALGG) is a Greater London Authority (GLA) framework to promote the design and delivery of 'green infrastructure' across London.

Barbican Wildlife Group (BWG)

The BWG is a group of volunteer local residents who, with the City Gardens team, preserve, protect and enhance biodiversity in Barbican Wildlife Garden for the education and enjoyment of all Barbican Estate residents and guests. BWG also promotes the conservation the Garden's many habitats and its retention as a wildlife haven within the City. It also aims to foster and promote biodiversity within the Estate and to work with like-minded groups and organisations to promote and foster biodiversity within and beyond the Square Mile.

Biodiversity

Biodiversity is the term used to describe the variety of life on Earth. This includes wildlife such as animals, birds and plants, the habitats which are the places they live and how they all interact which their surroundings as part of the ecosystem.

Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology (BREEAM)

BREEAM is the world's leading sustainability assessment method for master planning projects, infrastructure and buildings. It addresses a number of lifecycle stages such as new construction, refurbishment and in-use.

Citizen Science

Citizen science is scientific research conducted by amateur or non-professional enthusiasts. Citizen science may be performed by individuals or groups of volunteers and interested parties.

City of London Corporation

The City of London Corporation provides local government and policing services for the financial and commercial heart of Britain, the 'Square Mile'.

City Gardens, Open Spaces Department

The City Gardens team are responsible for tree and green space management for around 200 open spaces in the Square Mile including parks, gardens, churchyards, plazas and highway planting. The City Gardens team is also responsible for Bunhill Fields Burial Ground just outside the City boundary in the London Borough of Islington.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

CSR is a process which companies choose to follow to take responsibility for their actions and encourage positive impacts through their activities on the environment, consumers, employees, shareholders, communities and all other members of the public who may also be considered as stakeholders.

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs (Defra)

Defra is a UK government department responsible for safeguarding our natural environment, supporting our world-leading food and farming industry, and sustaining a thriving rural economy. Our broad remit means we play a major role in people's day-to-day life, from the food we eat, and the air we breathe, to the water we drink.

Friends of City Gardens (FoCG)

A community group of volunteers comprising City residents, City of London Guides, City workers and other interested parties. They support the City Gardens Team and have a special interest in promoting and enhancing biodiversity.

Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL)

GiGL is the capital's environmental records centre that collates, manages and makes available detailed information on London's wildlife, parks, nature reserves, gardens and other open spaces.

Green Corridors

Almost continuous areas of open space which are linked. They can act as wildlife corridors and serve amenity, landscape and access roles.

Green Infrastructure

A strategically planned and managed network of green spaces and other environmental features vital to the sustainability of any urban area. This includes although not exclusively trees, green roofs and walls and green corridors.

Draft City Plan 2036

The City Corporation's Local Plan for the future development of the City of London, setting out what type of development the City Corporation expects to take place and where. It sets out the City Corporation's vision, strategy and objectives for planning up to 2036, together with policies that will guide future decisions on planning applications.

London Biodiversity Partnership

The London Biodiversity Partnership was formed in 1997 to bring together organisations to benefit wildlife and boost the capital's green space.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

Sets out government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.

Open Mosaic Habitat

Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land (OMH) is defined by the Defra. They are found mainly in urban and formerly industrial areas and have high biodiversity value. This value includes rare plants, mosses, lichens and a large number of rare invertebrates, especially bees, wasps and beetles.

Open Space

Open space is land which is not built on and which has some amenity value or potential for amenity value. Amenity value is derived from the visual, recreational or other enjoyment which the open space can provide, such as historic and cultural interest and value. This includes open spaces in public or private ownership.

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)

Sites are designated as SINCs to highlight areas of ecological value in the City. The sites are graded as being of Metropolitan (SMINCs), Borough (SBINCs), or Local (SLINCs) importance.

Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS)

A range of sustainable measures for surface water management which reduce the amount, flow or rate of surface water discharge into sewers.

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.

Open Spaces Department City of London Corporation PO Box 270 Guildhall London EC2P 2EJ

Telephone: 020 7332 3505

Email: openspaces.directorate@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Website: Open Spaces, City of London Corporation

Agenda Item 10

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Committees:	Dates:
Corporate Projects Board - for information	31 March 2021
Projects Sub [for decision]	17 May 2021
Open Spaces & City Gardens [for decision]	27 April 2021
Subject:	Gateway 6:
Bunhill Fields Heritage Lottery Fund project	Outcome Report Regular
Unique Project Identifier:	11094
11944	
Report of:	For Decision
Director of Open Spaces	
Report Author:	
Madhur Gurjar	
PUBLIC	

Summary

1. Status update	Project Description: This project was to deliver works as described in the Cyclical Works Programme (CWP) and bring necessary landscape improvement works required for the site forward if successful at Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) funding application. The proposals included conservation works, tree works, restoration of the 1960s landscape, enhancements to biodiversity and accessibility of the site, refurbishment of toilets and retrofitting the yard to form a public activity space and coffee concession.
	RAG Status: Red (Amber at last report to Committee)
	Risk Status: Medium (Medium at last report to committee)

Costed Risk Provision Utilised: None

Final Outturn Cost: £56,015

v.April 2019

2. Next steps and requested decisions	Requested Decisions: 1. Approve the content of this outcome report. 2. Agree to close this project.
3. Key conclusions	HLF have acknowledged that this was a well- planned project which would offer good quality restoration, learning and training proposals but were unable to fund the Project due to insufficient funds. HLF have suggested rescoping the Project to reduce the funding ask that would strike an improved balance with match funding made jointly available by the City and London Borough of Islington. Following this unsuccessful funding application, HLF have made significant changes to their funding programmes in 2019. 2019 was also the year when the City commenced a fundamental review of all its projects, putting a hold on this Project. Considering the ongoing Covid pandemic since 2020, getting external funding has become unfeasible and this Project is no longer a priority project for the Department and hence the request to close the Project.

Main Report

Design & Delivery Review

4. Design into delivery	The design team selected have significant experience in understanding historic sensitive landscapes, therefore the feasibility stage proposals produced following community and stakeholder engagement were effective and HLF thought that they were well planned. A lot of positive comments were also received from the public via the engagement process.
5. Options appraisal	The Project did not progress to options appraisal stage.
6. Procurement route	Design consultants were procured via open tender, with invitations sent to select consultants. (ITT_COL_7690)
7. Skills base	External consultants with specific design skills to work within a historic landscape were engaged. The in-house project team had the necessary skills to ensure the project was delivered satisfactorily. This included appraisal and challenge of the feasibility study and emerging design ideas and managing external stakeholders.
8. Stakeholders	Stakeholders were identified and engaged through regular meetings, emails and site visits. In addition, we produced

illustrative site information panels ahead of the HLF application submission.

The key stakeholders were:

- London Borough of Islington
- Heritage Lottery Fund
- Historic England
- The City Surveyor
- The City Gardens Team
- Local Primary Schools in Bunhill Ward

Other Local stakeholders:

- Wesley Chapel and Museum of Methodism
- Friends of City Gardens
- Residents from Islington Council-owned social housing in south Islington
- City Garden Walks, who have a wealth of knowledge of Bunhill Fields and Burial Ground
- Clerkenwell & Islington Guides Association who provide heritage walks and tours of the area
- Families First, an Islington Council service who supports families in need across the borough
- Bright Start Children's Centres Golden Lane and Morelands
- St Luke's Community Centre that works with all aspects of the South Islington community focusing on the E1 postcode in which Bunhill sits.
- Members of the public who attended the drop in consultation on site.

All the organisations and individuals consulted showed great interest in the project. There was a universal enthusiasm about the potential it offers communities to engage more meaningfully with the site through improved environment, programming, interpretation and a learning space.

Variation Review

9. Assessment of project against key milestones

	Key Milestones	
G2	HLF First Round bid- Aug 2018	Achieved
	HLF First Round decision- Dec 2018	Received (Unsuccessful)

At Gateway 2- The project funding was subject to success at securing funding from HLF. If successful it was anticipated that

v.April 2019

	options appraisal would have been presented at Gateway 4 in winter/ spring 2019/20 with the view to submit a second-round bid to HLF in Autumn 2020. With an unsuccessful first round application, further progress on the Project was halted after G2. One of the key deliverables of the Project was to update the Conservation Management Plan for the site, which was completed by the City Surveyor in 2020 and will be reported to the relevant committee in due course.
10. Assessment of project against Scope	Feedback from HLF suggests that our ask for funding was high in comparison to the match funding provided jointly by the City and Islington. We had taken a whole-site approach to enable all the proposals to be implemented as one. This is because many of the proposals depend on another aspect of the project to succeed. This was also in line with the HLF funding programme which required specific outcomes for communities (activity and a learning based programme in the refurbished existing maintenance yard space), environment (improvements to the 20 th C landscape/ public open space) and the heritage (conservation of memorials) to be achieved all at once.
11.Risks and issues	One of the identified risks was failure to secure HLF funding-which materialised and as such the project could not be implemented without this level of external funding. An unidentified risk in the form of the City's Fundamental Review came into force in 2019 when the Project was put on hold. It would have been possible to rescope the project in line with HLF comments for a funding bid resubmission. Immediately following the decision on our application HLF undertook a review of their funding programmes and effectively put applications for funding on hold for one year. This was also an unidentified eventuality. Conservation works to the memorials are being carried out by the City Surveyor. Issues with the landscape remain i.e. restricted access, lack of accessible interpretation, worsening of shade problems, poor drainage of the paths, inaccessible toilets.
12.Transition to BAU	N/A

Value Review

v.April 2019

13. Budget			
	Estimated	Estimated cost (including risk) to reach	
	Outturn Cost (G2)	next Gateway: £68	K
		Funds approved at (G2) to	Final Outturn Cost*
		progress to next G3	
	Fees	£50K	£38K
	Staff Costs	£18K	£18K
	Total	£68K	£56K
	Chamberlain's Finar	r this project has not ncial Services divisio	been verified by the n.
14.Investment	N/A		
15. Assessment of project against SMART objectives	The Project did not progress beyond feasibility stage and identified Smart objectives for landscape conservation and improved learning and interpretation of the site remain unrealised. However, memorial conservation and updating the Conservation Management Plan have been progressed by the City Surveyor.		
16. Key benefits realised	relevant and	landscape issues realiable in the future, o	art of the Project remains main outstanding. If outcome of the Feasibility

Lessons Learned and Recommendations

17.Positive reflections	1. Joined up working with Islington Council as a financial project partner worked well on paper where a portion of match funding was agreed as a contribution. This made the project attractive to HLF funding programme. However, there was tension in setting the objectives of the project to deliver needs of the local Islington residents, meet City's aims and at the same time deliver outcomes as expected by HLF. Agreement on the objectives was sought by consistent engagement
	with Islington and HLF. 2. One of the key aims of the Project was to reduce future
	maintenance liabilities of the City by completing the necessary improvement works all at once. Rescoping
	the project in the future to only deliver the landscape improvements funded by the City could be advocated.

	This will not only reduce maintenance liabilities but also improve physical and intellectual accessibility of the site to the benefit of the community. Other outcomes for communities as required by HLF and Islington by way of a learning programme could be rescoped due to lack of funding and other resources. This outcome required refurbishing the existing yard building to create a classroom/ rentable space for community use. This refurbishment to building that resulted in a large grant ask to HLF is a non-urgent improvement to the quality and offer of the site. 3. The quality of consultants procured to produce the feasibility works had excellent understanding of the site and experience in dealing with stakeholders. They were procured via open tender but invitations sent to a shortlist. 4. A high level of support was provided to the project team by the City Surveyor and City Solicitor officers	
18.Improvement	Our funding bid was thought to be well planned but refused	
reflections	due to lack of funds. Reducing/ modifying the scope of the project outcomes and improving the balance between the	
	grant request to match fund available could have enhanced	
	our chances of success if a resubmission was possible.	
19. Sharing best	Experience from this project exercise will be useful in any	
practice	future National Lottery Grant bids and can be widely shared	
00.400	with other City Open Spaces future bids.	
20. AOB	None	

Appendices

Appendix 1	Project Coversheet
Appendix 2	Feasibility Study for restoring Bunhill Fields Burial Ground
Appendix 3	

Contact

Report Author	Madhur Gurjar
Email Address	Madhur.gurjar@cityoflondon.gov.uk
Telephone Number	

Project Coversheet

[1] Ownership & Status

UPI: 11944

Core Project Name: Bunhill Fields Heritage Lottery Fund Project

Programme Affiliation (if applicable): N/A

Project Manager: Madhur Gurjar

Definition of need: A Heritage Lottery Fund grant application was made to fund delivery of works as described in the Cyclical Works Programme (CWP) and bring necessary landscape improvement works required for the site forward. The proposals included conservation works, tree works, restoration of the 1960s landscape, enhancements to biodiversity and accessibility of the site, refurbishment of toilets and retrofitting the yard to form a public activity space and coffee concession.

Key measures of success: Restored memorials and the 20th C landscape, improvements to the accessibility of the site, enhanced biodiversity and simplified maintenance routines, delivery of a learning programme on site and revenue generation through a rentable space and coffee concession.

Expected timeframe for the project delivery:

Key Milestones:

Gateway 2 report October 2017

Are we on track for completing the project against the expected timeframe for project delivery? No

Has this project generated public or media impact and response which the City of London has needed to manage or is managing?
No

[2] Finance and Costed Risk

Headline Financial, Scope and Design Changes:

'Project Proposal' G1/2 report (Oct 2017):

- Total Estimated Cost: £2.5M
- Resources to reach next Gateway (excluding risk): £68K
- Spend to date: £56K
- Estimated Programme Dates: GW 4 in winter/ spring 2019/2020 with a view to submit a second-round bid to HLF in Autumn 2020. Works to be completed in 2021/2022 with the learning programme delivery continue into 2023.

'Authority to start Work' G5 report (delegated approval 29/09/14):

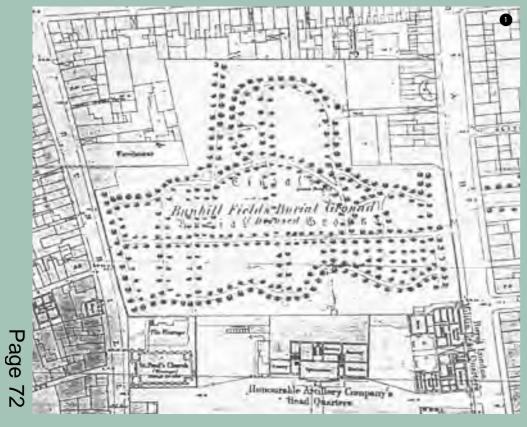
 Unsuccessful in getting grant funding from HLF at round one application hence the Project halted after G2

Total anticipated on-going commitment post-delivery [£]: Not applicable

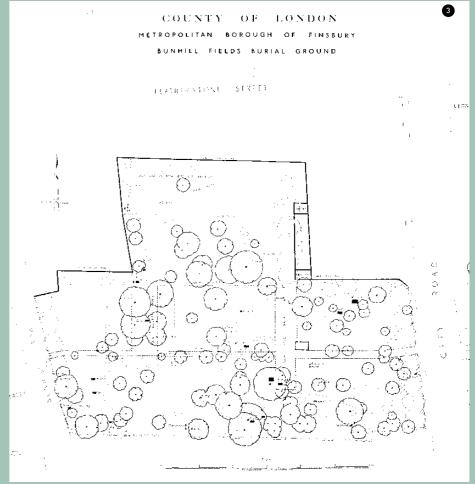
Programme Affiliation [£]: Not applicable

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- ¹ Bunhill Fields Burial Ground in the 1st edition OS Map;
- ² Aerial Photo; 1945. Historic England
- ³ Peter Shepheard's plan from 1959/60, which was passed by parliament that year
- ⁴ Illustration from the Illustrated London News, 1866
- ⁵ Photograph from 1955, showing no railings to the Burial Ground. City of London





Contents

1.0 Introduction	5	5.0 Masterplan Proposals	1
2.0 Context and Spatial Analysis	9	6.0 Monuments Strategy	2
3.0 Original Design Intent	13	7.0 Architectural Proposals	2
4.0 Restoration & Masterplan Approach	17	8.0 Historic England's List Entry	2

Version:

Version date: 14th August 2018

Comment Final Report

This document has been prepared and checked in accordance with ISO 9001:2000.

Fig 1. Illustrative Survey

Legend

1960s brick paviours and edgings to yorkstone paths



Yorkstone paths, with some made from old headstones (shown grey)



Existing loose gravel serpentine path through 1800's section

public use of the gardens and burial grounds



Tombstones and monuments



Issues for Bunhill Fields Today

Despite ongoing improvements to tombs, monuments and planting, over the years some elements of the gardens have become 'tired' or in need of restoration, and others currently do not work as well as they could.

Here are some examples.



Some of the most significant monuments are obscured by services and could be better located.



Drigoing conservation works to fombs, mean space is taken up by the semi-permanent site cabin.



12. Access is nestricted to the main burial ground areas, so over half of the site is instopen to the public.



Some tomby are in an unsafe condition with ground conditions unsafe in places.

RIVERON	PROJECT BUNHILL FIELDS	CLIER City of London
A: Fort Name: 25/06/18	DRAWING Illustrated Survey	SGALE Not to scale
	DRAWING NO. 904_002	DRGHIATON BATE DRAWN 18/06/18 AT/SP



1.0 Introduction

Introduction

Bunhill fields Burial Ground is a historically significant burial ground as well as a vital open space with ecological importance in Islington. Its significance is acknowledged by its inclusion on Historic England's Register of Parks and Gardens at Grade I, the highest status that can be given to a site, building, or a landscape.

It is the pre-eminent Dissenters' burial ground in England, the final resting place of John Bunyan, Daniel Defoe and William Blake, along with many other leading intellectuals, radicals and clergymen from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. Few places in England document our national religious history with such vividness and poignancy.

The City of London is responsible for maintaining the site, and it has been carrying out ongoing conservation and restoration of tombs and monuments for a number of years, as well as ongoing maintenance of the planting and grass areas.

The Need for Change

The Bunhill Fields Conservation Area is on Historic England's Risk Register. Despite the ongoing investment in the tomb conservation, the wider burial ground is in need of more serious repair and restoration. Over the years some elements of the gardens have become 'tired' or in need of restoration and others currently do not work as well as they could.

There are safety concerns about the structural integrity of some of the tombs, while many memorials are declining in condition with some, particularly chest tombs, requiring urgent work to ensure stability and safety and many others in need of repair and conservation work. The built and natural fabric of the site is in mixed condition with the planting from the 1960s overgrown or disappeared and the paths, walls and railings worn.

There is a lack of accessible interpretation - although gardeners on site provide an invaluable service in giving information to visitors and guiding them to inaccessible monuments. Some signage is visually intrusive. The original 1960s seating has been lost around the northern perimeter of the gardens.

The toilet building and maintenance store and yard are in need of refurbishment including provision of wheelchair access. The store and yard are used for storage of small items of equipment for site maintenance but the available space is underused.

The majority of the large mature trees are planes while the younger trees are oaks and it is known that this will cause a change in character of the site in the long term worsening the shade problems (as oak comes into leaf earlier than plane and casts a deeper shade). Long-term consideration needs to be given to the future self seeding of the trees on site. Many of the oak trees were planted in the 1990s, meaning there is a monocrop all of the same age, and already starting to shade out the tombs, ground flora and lawn further.

The 1960s paving is in poor repair and uneven generally. Standard benches are not in keeping with the 1950s design and create a barrier to the 1950s flower garden. The design quality of the buildings (not individually listed) is such that they are very subordinate to the landscape, and do not support wider community use, or create a welcome for visitors to Bunhill. These issues, detrimental to the site's heritage and usage are illustrated on Drawings in sections 2 & 3, numbers 002, 005 and 007.

All of these factors led to the decision by City of London and London Borough of Islington to apply for funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund's 'Heritage Grant' programme. If successful, this will assist with further vital restoration needed, and make the burial ground more appealing to those residents and visitors who use it as a vital open space in this area of greenspace deprivation, as well as those interested in its fascinating history and stories it has to tell, but remain for the most part, untold.

Project and Design Team

The project design team consists of:

Madhur Gurjar: Client, City of London

Martin Rodman: Superintendent of Parks and Gardens, City of London

Cheryl Smith: Community Engagement, London Borough of Islington

Sally Prothero: Sally Prothero Landscape Architecture and Lead consultant

Rachel James: MRDA Conservation Architects

James Rand: Huntley Cartwright, Cost Consultants

5

Developing the Feasibility Study

This study was carried out to ascertain the significance of Bunhill Fields and determine how it could be best conserved while enabling more community use, understanding and enjoyment of the gardens and its heritage.

A review of the well-documented history and research contained in the 2006 Conservation Management Plan, combined with further research into renowned Architect and Landscape Architect Peter Shepheard, who designed the 1950's garden intervention, provided a good basis for understanding the site and assessing and analysing its historic significance, strengths and current issues.

An overlay of Peter Shepheard's original design with today's topographical survey is shown in Drawing No 004_003.'Peter Shepheard's Design Overlay' This drawing shows that what he designed was not built in accordance with his drawings, leading to a large expanse of bland paving; demonstrated further in Drawing No. 004_007 'issues Today'

Numerous site visits, as well as two days of exhibitions at Bunhill talking to residents and visiting lunchtime workers and users, assisted in shaping the proposals. Further outreach work with several of the local residents' groups were invaluable, especially with the development of the brief for the proposed building that will support community use. Proposals for the building and data associated with determining the architectural brief are contained in MRDA's drawings in section 2 of this document.

The results of the community outreach are contained in the outline Activity Plan. The work done by Islington's outreach staff members was invaluable in developing the Activity Plan to enable better understanding and positive future use of site, and this needs to be developed further at HLF Round 2.

Brief History and Summary of Significance

There are three main phases in the historic development of Bunhill Fields Burial Ground. Plans from these phases can be seen in the Public exhibition boards, used during two days of consultation at Bunhill during 2018. All the plans are contained in an Appendix Document.

1. Establishment and use as a burial ground Bunhill Fields became a Nonconformist burial ground in the 1660s, and its name derived from 'Bone hill' when (from 1549) it was an informal burial place for cartloads of bones from the charnel house at St Paul's Cathedral. In the plague year of 1665, when the City's churchyards overflowed with the newly dead, the area was set aside as a mass grave, although it is not clear that it was ever used as such.

Instead in 1666 a Mr Tindal leased the southern part of the site and opened as a private, subscription-based cemetery. Not tied to any established place of worship, it was used by dissenters from the Church of England who wanted to bury their friends and relatives without readings from the Common Book of Prayer at the graveside.

Its current boundaries were established in the mid 1700's and it remained a burial ground until 1856, with around 123,000 burials taking place during this time. See plan No 1, dated 1746. The oldest grave is that of Theophilus Gale, dated 1678 but gravemarkers and tombs survive from every period of the burial ground's use.

2. Burial ground to public garden

Superseded in 1840 by the great Nonconformist cemetery at Abney Park in Stoke Newington, Bunhill Fields - now chronically overcrowded and insanitary, was closed for burials in 1856. Fears that the site might be redeveloped led to its preservation by Act of Parliament, and in 1869 it was laid out as a public park, with plantings and serpentine walks among the graves. The present boundary railings and gates date from this period. These can be seen in plan No. 2 dated 1893.

Many new cemeteries had opened in London during the mid 1800's to cater for the huge increase in population during this time and the need to deal with the subsequent increase in burials. This meant that many of the older Burial grounds could be used as small public gardens.

3. The public garden design overlay

The most recent major phase in the history of Bunhill Fields began after WWII, when the northern part of the ground was cleared following bomb damage and the southern section relandscaped to designs by Peter Shepheard, a well known and respected Architect and Landscape Architect, from the company Bridgewater & Shepheard. His re-design of the northern section is what we see today, with the large lawn and a paved flower garden with ornamental planting.

Historic Significance

Each of these phases of the Cemetery's historic development is Significant for a number of reasons as outlined below. These will need to be further described and updated to include more detail on the 1950's design overlay and its significance, in an update of the 2006 Conservation Plan.

The key periods of Bunhill's development and reasons for their significance are summarised below:

Pre Victorian:

One of the oldest surviving non-conformist burial grounds in London

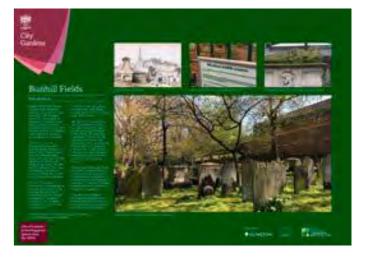
Victorian overlay:

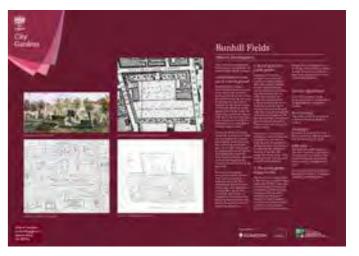
Example of a typical Victorian Cemetery layout, used for public gardens as well as respecting the dead.

1950s design Implemented in the 1960s:

Example of a post war public landscape laid out in a new style to provide a combination of 'external rooms' defined and created with planting, leading onto a central communal lawn space, utilising some of the headstones as paving around the garden planting beds.

Many post-war landscapes have been demolished so examples of relatively intact landscapes by notable practitioners are relatively rare. Bunhill Fields represents a rare, surviving work of the respected modernist Architect / Landscape Architect, Peter Shepheard.







¹ Some of the boards used at conultation, setting out the Significance and Issues at Bunhill

Fig 2. Existing Topographic and Monument Survey with Peter Shepheard's design overlay

Legend

Compartment areas and Numbers in blue



Listed tombs and monuments in red



Peter Shepheards drawing in blue, overlaid with survey. Note extent of originally intended building

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Fig 3. Publicly Accessible Space

Legend

Publiclly Accessible Space shown in yellow = LESS THAN 50%

Areas closed off to public with tall, 1350mm height railings, also obscuring views of the

monuments



8

2.0 Context and Spatial Analysis

Context

Bunhill Fields Burial Ground is located in the London Borough of Islington but is owned and maintained by the City of London Corporation.

The 1.6 hectares of Bunhill Fields are an oasis of calm and greenery in a bustling area just north of the Square Mile. It has been managed as a public open space by the City of London since 1867.

Location

Islington is one of the most contrasting boroughs in the whole of the UK. It has both some of the wealthiest and poorest people in the country living side by side. According to the 2011 census (the most recent) it was the most densely populated local authority area in England and Wales with 13,875 people per square km. In 2017 this figure had risen to 15,517 people per square km. This is almost triple the London average and more than 36 times the national average.

Despite this population increase Islington is the third smallest, but most built up of all London boroughs covering 14.86 km squared. Only 13% of the borough's land is green space, the second lowest proportion of any local authority in the country. 14% of Bunhill ward households live in overcrowded conditions and a significantly high percentage of these have little or no access to private or communal open space.

Associated Sites Nearby

Nearby Bunhill Fields Burial Ground are two other Nonconformist sites:

Wesley's Chapel

Wesley's Chapel is situated opposite the burial ground across the City Road to the east. The chapel was built by John Wesley as his base in London in 1778 and is known as 'the cathedral of world Methodism'. Part of the site is Wesley's House, the Museum of Methodism. To the rear is a small burial ground which is the site of John Wesley's tomb. Other members of his family are buried at Bunhill Fields Burial Ground.

Quaker Gardens

To the west of Bunhill Fields Burial Ground lies Banner Street, where another important Nonconformist site and small public open space is located. This is the Bunhill Fields Meeting House and the Quaker Gardens. The gardens are a small fragment of a Quaker burial ground, which was also known as Bunhill Fields Burial Ground. This was the first freehold property owned by Quakers. It was bought in 1661 and used until 1855 for 12,000 burials. George Fox, Edward Burrough and John Bellers were buried there and many people interested in Quakerism still visit the site from all over the world for this reason.

Biodiversity:

Bunhill Fields Burial Ground provides a valuable oasis of greenery in a highly urban area. It contains grassland and shrubbery along with fine mature trees which harbour birds and bats. Its value for biodiversity is indicated by its designation as a Site of Borough Importance for Nature Conservation.

The graveyard is well stocked with around 130 trees including, London plane trees, oaks, limes, goldenbarked ash, a black mulberry and a *Drimys winteri* from South America. The dominant pattern of tree planting began in the 1870s when the burial ground was laid out with avenues of plane trees. The trees provide cover for birds including:

- Great tit
- Blue tit
- Wren
- Robin
- Feral and Wood pigeons

It is of note that a pair of spotted flycatchers (a UK Biodiversity Action Plan priority species) is also reported as breeding on site.

The ground flora, patchy shaded and regularly mown grass cover, is comprised of annual meadow grass, greater plantain, perennial rye-grass and common chickweed. It also has locally abundant spring beauty, dandelion, white clover, selfheal and procumbent yellow-sorrel. There are also a number of more unusual spring bulbs and groundcover.

During the spring, swathes of crocuses surround the bases of the trees on the north lawn. In the grass surrounding the graves to the south are snowdrops, crocuses, daffodils and hyacinths.

The memorials, together with the shade provided by the tree cover, provide suitable habitat and microclimate conditions for lichens, bryophytes and ferns.

Fig 4. Spatial Analysis and issues

Legend



Space sterilised by placement of benches and extent of paving without seating & obscured by planting



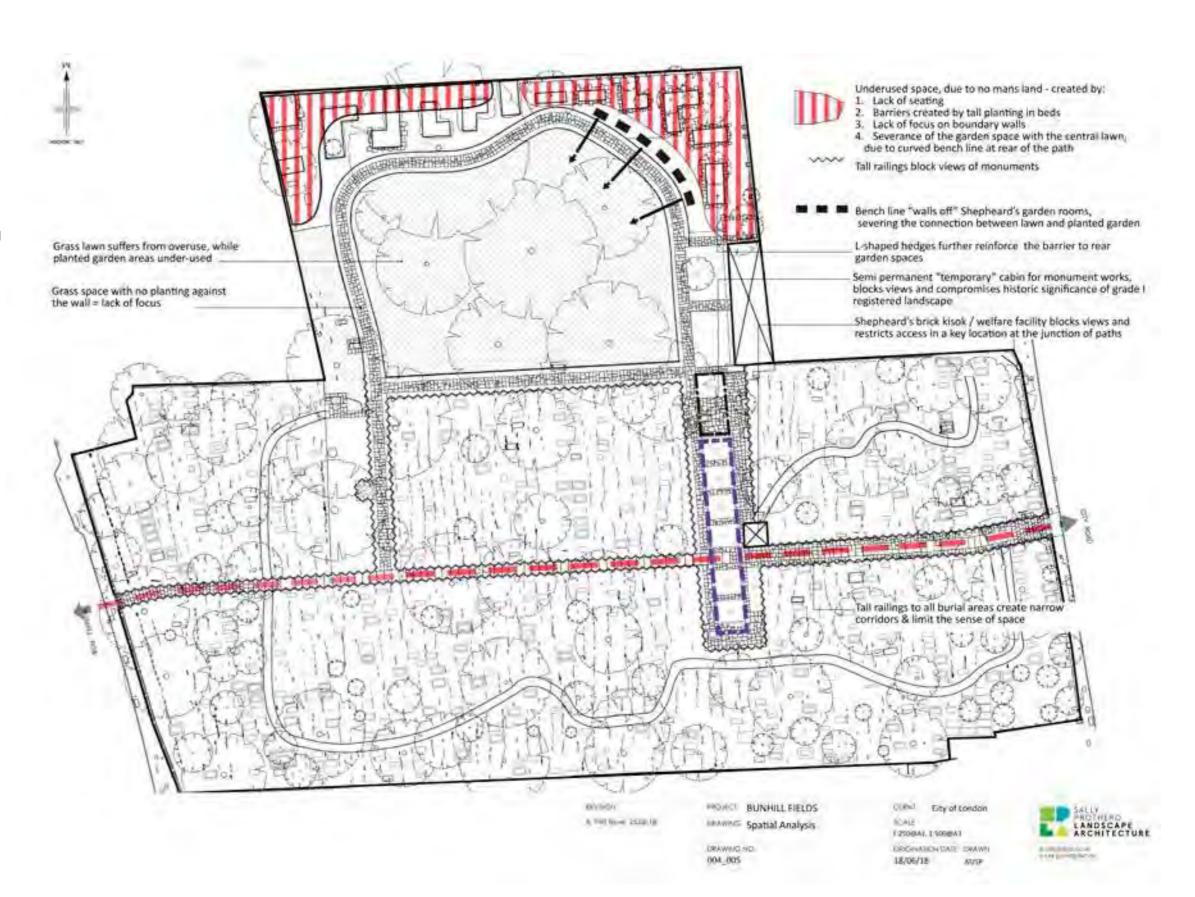
Kiosk blocks views and circulation



Central paved space little used



Tall railings obscure views on central paths



- ¹ William Blake's grave marker
- Office workers using Bunhill Fields as a respite from the bustling city.
- ³ Bunhill Fields as a cut through, with many people never stopping to appreciate its heritage







Current use & vision for the future

Bunhill serves as a major cut-through for people walking from City road to Bunhill Row. However, due to the high railings many people do not stop to appreciate or even notice the heritage or ecology that the site has to offer. It is a very popular lunchtime destination for the surrounding businesses and market visitors.

It is also fairly well used by local residents in this very densely populated area of South Islington, which despite the perceived wealth of the area due to its businesses and numerous coffee shops, is not so.

The project, named 'Reimagining Bonehill' will seek to redress the lack of green space and lack of facilities to widen both physical and intellectual access to the burial grounds and gardens, making it a hub for local communities, especially those who do not generally visit.

The regeneration of Bunhill Fields will significantly improve access to the green space for local residents and substantially increase the use of what little parkland there is in Islington.

Many residents use and enjoy the gardens but many people told us during the consultation that the lack of facilities, toilets and condition of the gardens means that many people do not stay long, or really realise it has a fascinating history, ecology or heritage.

There is a volunteer gardening group - 'The Friends of City Gardens', but not many other groups use the site so its value to the many potential local audiences is diminished.

Access to the burial areas and tombs is restricted due to the unsafe conditions of many tombs, therefore making over 50% inaccessible to the public. Refer to the diagram **Publicly Accessible Space**

Vision

The vision for Bunhill is to restore its significant landscape including monuments and tombs, and allow better access and understanding to all its various layers of history and significance. It should provide a rich resource for the local community and workers alike, as well as providing a respite from the increasingly developed surrounding urban area.

'Reimagining Bonehill' has been therefore been chosen as a working title.

Fig 5. Design Intent: Garden Rooms and **Communal Lawn**

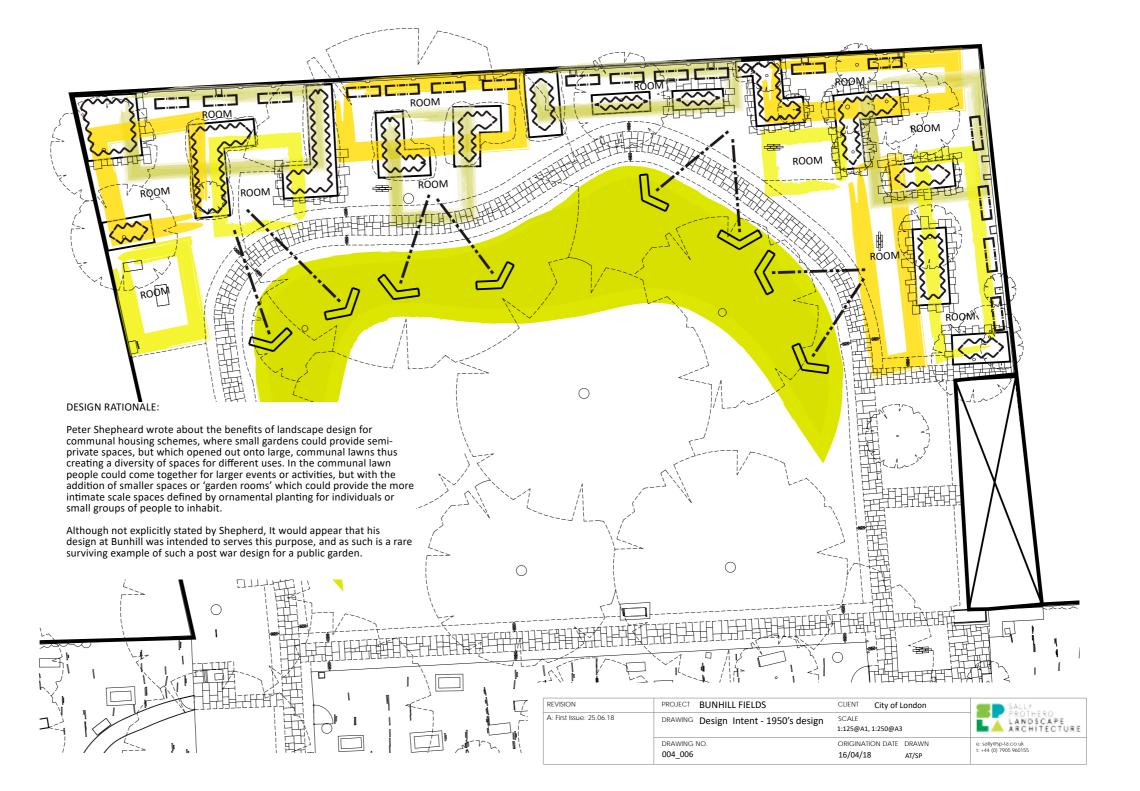
Legend



Communal Lawn



'Garden rooms' with seating 'Garden room and planting



3.0 Original Design Intent

Design Periods

There are two distinct design periods in evidence at Bunhill, and both are largely intact, which adds to the site's interest and historic significance.

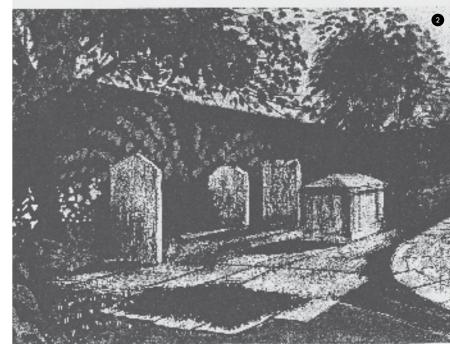
The 1800s Victorian design overlay with its serpentine path through the monuments is intact and matches the contemporary plans, validating its authenticity. The idea that cemeteries should be attractive, and places for the living as much as the dead is demonstrated by J.C.Loudon's 1843 book where he promotes the idea of garden cemeteries and writes 'the secondary object of cemeteries, that of improving the moral feelings, will be one of the results of the decorous attainment, of the main object......; for it must be obvious that the first step to rendering the churchyard a source of amelioration or instruction is, to render it attractive'.

The next design period, came about after the war when several complaints were received about the poor condition of the cemetery and led to Peter Shepheard's commission.

Shepheard recognised the need for open space and gardens in the area, and his radical proposal to move headstones and create lawn and flower garden was eventually approved in 1959/60, as shown in his plan on page 2, although it was not eventually built until late 1960s and after cost saving measures.

- ¹ Peter Shepheard's sketch for Bunhill
- ² Peter Shepheard's sketch for Bunhill
- ³ Sketch for Loudon's illustration of South Metropolitan Cemetery Planted in the 'Pleasure Ground' Style Loudon J.C.
- ⁴ A sketch plan written in 'On the Laying out, Planting, and Managing of Cemeteries, and on the Improvement of Churchyards' 1843. Loudon J.C. which states that a cemetery should be 'for the living as well as the dead'









The 1960s design overlay was not built as Peter Shepheard's intended layout, however, and that is shown on the diagram on the opposite page.

In effect the scheme as built creates a large, 'dead space' of block paving, that is under used and separates the central lawn from the 'flower garden' The originally intended line of the path would reduce the area of existing paving considerably, making the 60's scheme considerably less hard and better integrate the paved flower garden with the lawn.







- ¹ Local workers congregating in the garden rooms on hot summer days, despite the lack of seating. These spaces are little used during the rest of the year
- ² Many people use the space as a cut through, but do not stop, or notice the heritage beyond the railings
- ³ The large paved area where the path was not built to Shepheard's drawings, creating an expanse of paving at the expense of the central lawn. The garden rooms area is further cut off by the line of benches.

Fig 6. Peter Shepheard's Intended Design Overlaid onto Current Site Plan

Legend

Unintended expanse of paving



Path line as drawn on Shepheard's plan



Path line as constructed and as existing



Underused space

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18/06/18

004_007

Fig 7. Restoration Approach - Key **Ideas**

Legend

- Re-purpose Keepers Hut and yard, as a Learning Centre, Community activities space & kiosk / toilets, to better serve the visitors and engage with the landscape
- Paved garden space: seating, circulation, planting beds amended to better reflect original design + public use today
- Railing height reduced from 1.4m to 900mm (same railings) to enable better visibility and presentation of monuments
- Monument stabilization & paths opened, with low knee rail, or post and chain, to discourage Page 86 foot traffic among tombs
 - Limited tree removal of same aged, same spp tree, to limit further shade + monument disturbance, subject to a tree strategy



4.0 Restoration & Masterplan Approach

The key proposals can be seen on Drawing opposite; Restoration Approach - Key Moves, and the Coloured Masterplan, Drawing No. 004_011

It is important that a whole-site approach be taken at Bunhill to enable all the proposals to be implemented at once. This is because many of the proposals depend on another aspect of the project in order to succeed.

For example, to enable access to the burial areas, it is necessary to carry out an accelerated programme of monument restoration to make them safe. To improve visual access across the burial ground for the many visitors who use the Burial Ground as a 'cut through' without ever stopping or appreciating the heritage, the railing height needs reducing.

To enable a programme of community engagement, the building and storage areas need to be repurposed, while still providing welfare facitlies for gardening staff.

To enable the appreciation of this relatively rare 1950s design, the modern Peter Shepheard garden rooms need attention and a site-wide strategy is needed to rationalise seating and planting to encourage use, delight, engagement and feelings of safety and security throughout.

To summarise, the proposals on the masterplan shown overleaf are:

Capital Proposals

- conservation works to the memorials, paths, walls and railings
- * tree strategy and works to ensure long term conservation of the historic pattern and a healthy tree population
- * restoration of the 1960s landscape designed by Peter Shepheard, refreshing the planting, repairing paving and reinstating seating and reconfiguring some of the planter beds
- * opening a historic serpentine route through the south of the burial ground for public access
- * enhancements to biodiversity, encouraging birds and bats
- * building a new flexible space to host events and learning activities including new coffee kiosk and public toilets.

Activity Proposals

supported by a Learning Officer/Outreach post

- * Schools Programme joint initiatives
- * Wellbeing Programme for special needs
- * Training for targeted community groups
- * Volunteer opportunities
- * Walks, talks and story telling with consortium members/specialist groups
- * Events programme
- * Links with the various local quaker, non conformist organisations and research organisation such as the Metropolitan Archives.



5.0 Masterplan Proposals

Our intention for Bunhill:

Our intention is that Bunhill should become a joyous space that celebrates its history and heritage but also serves the local community of residents and workers. This will be achieved by a combination of conservation and restoration works, with sensitive interventions and new design that will reveal the heritage and enable new activities and enjoyment of the grounds through a comprehensive outreach, engagement and activities programme with the local communities.

This will be achieved by the masterplan for the landscape and architectural proposals as set out on the opposite and following pages.

The key is split between the 1950s design, the Central garden and paved area and the older burial ground area.

Key to masterplan opposite

Central Garden And Paved Area

- 1. Re-purpose the main yard and building, while maintaining space for the volunteers, and an external yard space to create a public facility to enable more public use of the gardens, with a learning centre and a tea kiosk. Refer to Architects Dwgs on following pages.
- 2. Re-lay 1960s paving and reduce the area of brick paving to reflect the original design, increasing the central lawn area.
- 3. Reduce and infil (with paving) two No. planting beds against the wall, to create a paved path and a secondary circulation route around the perimeter of the garden, adjacent to the wall.
- 4. Install seating against the wall and within the paved 'garden rooms', in keeping with the original 1950s design, copying style from St John Zachary (Peter Shepheard design).
- 5. Remove the small brick pavilion and create an interpretation focal point with long seating and stone sett paving. This will open up views to the 1950s garden and communal lawn area.
- 6. Replant all the planting beds with a lower height mix of herbs, ground cover and herbaceous plants, along the theme of burial ground stories and culinary uses. Replant climbing plants against the walls, to bring the garden character back to the garden space.

Burial Ground Area

- 7. Complete the restoration of key and unsafe monuments to enable public access to lower and western burial area paths. (see 8)
- 8. Investigate (through geophysical surveys and then trials) opening up the existing path through the burial areas. Ensure burial areas protected with a low knee rail, or post and chain, once key monuments restored and made safe. Create a new opening from central paved area. (8a)
- 9. Lower the 1960s railings to improve views of the burial areas and monuments, and create a more open feel.
- 10. Adjust the maintenance regime of the ground flora, to allow some taller (non-woody) flora, and discourage trampling of the flora if these spaces are opened to the public.
- 11.Add more seating and planting beds in the central paved area, including two long, communal benches
- 12.Create a monument trail and other interpretive trails, telling the stories and lives of the people who are buried and associated with Bunhill Fields Burial Ground. New information & welcome signage at each entrance, reinstate missing wall plates to denote burial compartments.
- 13. Thin some trees to reduce shade and enable planting of a greater diversity of tree ages and different species. Tree strategy required to determine which trees to remove but also ensure long term continuity.

Fig 9. Monument Strategy: Essential Works for conservation and to open serpentine path

Legend



Memorials in greatest need of repair and conservation



Memorials around the serpentine path that need to be made safe



6.0 Monuments Strategy

Intended Works

Works to the monuments have been ongoing in a piecemeal way for several years, meaning a 'temporary' welfare unit is permenantly located in the Burial Ground, further detracting from its heritage and setting of many monuments, particularly Blake, in its current position.

1. Priority will be given to stabilising the monuments adjacent to the serpentine path (indicated in green on the drawing). The intention is that a concerted effort of monument restoration and making safe needs to be made to enable the serpentine path to be opened up to public access. Therefore, all those outstanding monuments that are near the serpentine path are to be conserved and/or restored as well as others in greatest need of restoration.

Due to historic subsidence of ground near monuments, and subsequent injury to pedestrians, it will also be necessary to carry out geophysical surveys to ensure that the ground near the paths is in sound condition.

Similarly, a post and chain, or post and low rail is intended to run adjacent the paths to indicate that visitors should stay on or not stray to far off the paths. Some seating may be provided along the paths, in locations where there is enough space, and will allow visitors to stop and allow the peaceful enjoyment of these areas.

In association with the monument repairs, the historic cast iron compartment plaques that are missing from the southern and western wall are proposed for replacement.





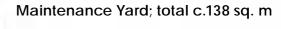
- ¹ Serpentine path just visible through the railings
- ² Cast iron plaques on the boundary wall denoting burial compartments



Long view to compound and stores



Compound and stores from the north.



Comprising

North block (store & wc) 21sq.m

Open to air yard 87sq.m

South block (store & wc) 25sq.m

Toilets are not open to the public due to a lack of level access and potential for antisocial behaviour.

he open to air yard is used intermittently.



Keeper's hut

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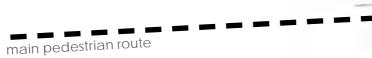
Keeper's hut - restricts views from the main

Keeper's hut

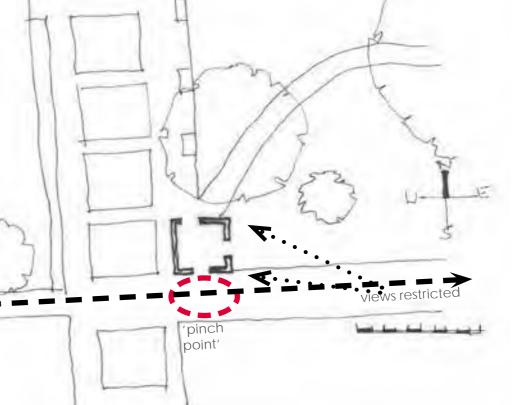
Provides c.13.5sq.m

It is currently used as the base for the groundsman

The location obscures long views into the site from the main path and if the hatches were used it would cause congestion on the main route through the site.



As existing buildings



7.0 Architectural Proposals

Introduction

The architectural feasibility study recommends:

- Demolition of the existing keeper's hut, stores and compound.
- Provision of a new interpretation / orientation point on the site of the keeper's hut
- Provision of a new single storey building on the site of the existing compound and extending to the footprint of Peter Shepheard's original design drawings, to provide office space and storage space for the Friends of City Gardens (FoCG), office space for the park ranger and learning officer, welfare facilities and tool storage for the on site masons, an interpretation / heritage / activity room, public toilets, a small coffee kiosk, tools storage and an open to air secure store for plants / horticultural purposes

This report should be read in conjunction with the public consultation boards, workshop sheets and cost plan to fully understand the scope of the work.

The existing buildings

The keeper's hut, stores and compound are situated centrally within the site and were built in the early 1960s to Peter Shepheard's design and providing an office for the on-site gardener, public toilets and an open to air secure store.

The buildings are both self-effacing single storey brick pavilions subordinate to the landscape. The gardeners' hut is located on the main east west path and the CMP of 2006 records that Peter Hunter, Peter Shepheard's business partner at the time of the 1960s refurbishment reported orally that the current slate roof replaced a more decorative metal roof which was stolen shortly after installation. No information has been found to support this to date. (LUC 2006)

The maintenance building and yard are now used for storage of small items of equipment for site maintenance. The available space is underused and needs internal refurbishment including provision of wheelchair access. The gardeners' hut is now used as a mess room and office base by the on site gardener and as a public information point.

Significance

Historic England noted that the existing buildings are very much subordinate to the site as a whole so as not to interfere or compete with the significance of the landscape including the heritage of the burial ground. The significance of the buildings is therefore largely in their setting and association with landscape design rather than in their aesthetic design. Therefore any new building should be understated in keeping with this setting.

Potential

The Keeper's Hut seems to have been designed as a pivot point however it actually restricts views into the site. If removed it could possibly be replaced with a suitably designed interpretation point to

orientate visitors.

There is potential for audience development and wider community engagement at Bunhill, the existing buildings offer opportunities for more creative use of the site, improvement of the visitor experience and potential to support extended learning and engagement programmes tailored to a range of users.

Covenants and restrictions

The land adjoining the northeast corner of Bunhill Burial Ground was developed in 1996. The provision of windows on the west elevation of the new building resulted in a covenant on the adjacent the City of London land that lies within a distance of 2.96 metres from the western elevation of the apartment building so as not to extend above the structural slab level of the first floor of the new building.

Priorities

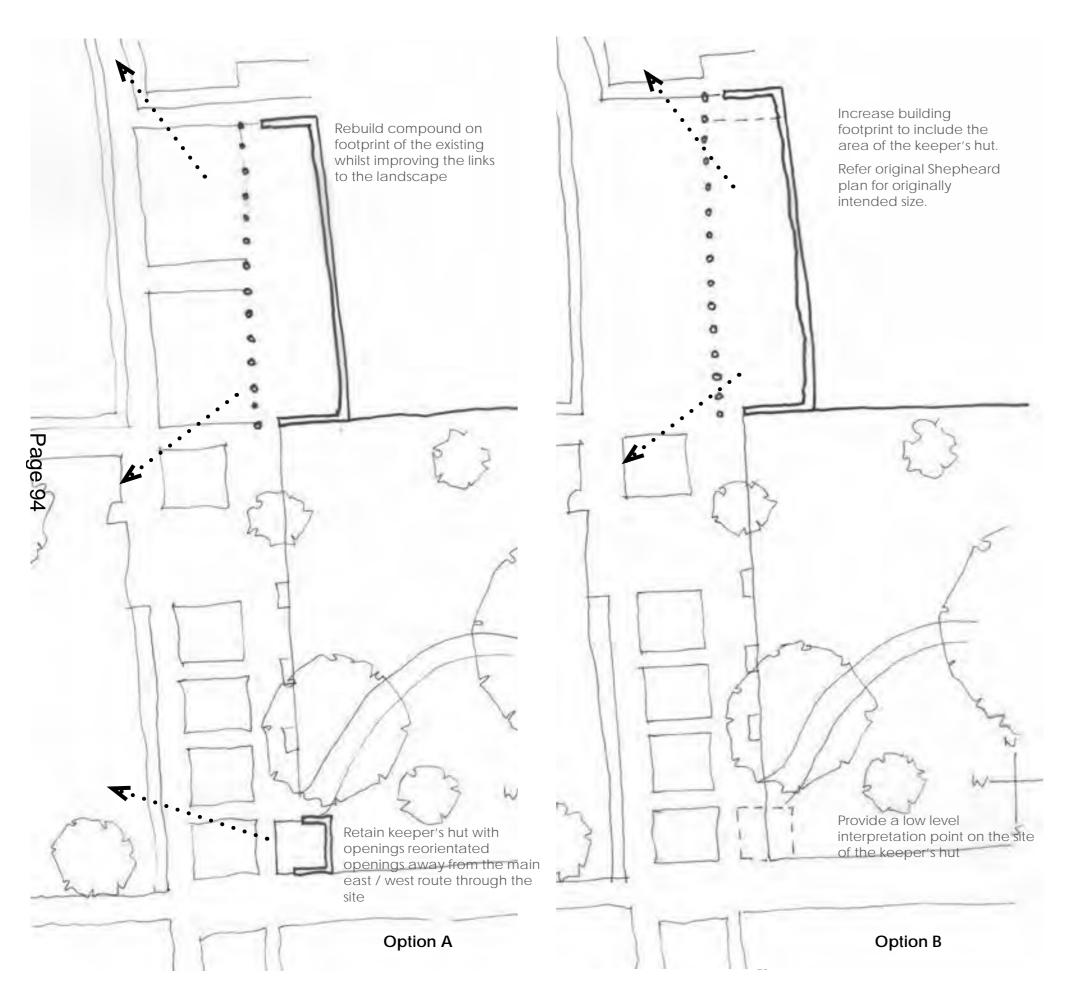
To develop the brief for the capital improvements a number of key user groups and stakeholders were identified with specific needs and priorities relating to their ongoing use. These included;

- The City of London
- The London Borough of Islington
- The Friends of City Gardens
- Visitors

Requirements

Through meetings and consultations the key development requirements for the buildings were identified as;

- Provision of a small refreshment kiosk
- Provision of space for functions /event hire
- Provision of interpretation and heritage space
- Improved facilities for maintenance staff and volunteers including tool storage and lockers
- Wcs to allow safe and accessible access for visitors and those attending functions
- Mess facilities for the on site monumental masons to facilitate the removal of their 'temporary' site accommodation
- An open to air, secure plant store



Options Appraisal

Option A

- Rebuild / alter kiosk on existing footprint and location and re-orientate openings away from main path to reduce congestion
- Provide a new building on the site of the existing compound to provide new public facilities and activity space and re-provide the stores and maintenance yard. Orientate the building towards the open space to improve public permeability

Option B

- Remove the keeper's hut / kiosk to improve views across and into the site from the main public route
- Provide an orientation / interpretation point on the footprint of the existing kiosk to retain the geometry of the Peter Shepheard design.
- Provide a new building on the site of the existing compound + 18sq.metres (gross area of the existing kiosk) to provide new public facilities and activity space and re-provide the stores and maintenance yard
- Orientate the building towards the open space to improve public permeability

Option B is the preferred option as;

- It provides a new building of sufficient size to service all the facilitates required and has maintenance and user advantages.
- It improves views and across and therefore perceived access into the site.
- Option B has documented evidence, given the larger footprint in the original Shepheard

Architectural Brief

The minimum requirements for a pragmatic and usable building that could sustain future uses across the site were agreed. The brief was discussed with both the City and Islington's community outreach staff so their anticipated activities could be established, and inform the brief. The building has to provide;

- Storage area for the Friends of City Gardens (FoCG) and Volunteers. Mainly gardening tools Storage area for City Gardens (CG) tools
- Open to sky secure storage for City Gardens operational needs
- Staff room with two desks for CG staff and project outreach officer
- Welfare / office for FoCG and on site conservation contractors / monumental masons
- Kitchenette- for staff as well as other users
- Accessible and secure public toilets
- Small café / kiosk
- Activity room. A hire-able room suitable for lunch time yoga/ Pilates etc, school groups and meetings

Design development

Through sketch plans a suitable layout was developed that fulfilled the architectural brief whilst maintaining a suitably modest footprint on the site.

It is not possible to meet all the requirements (specifically for the open to air yard) within the footprint of the existing Keeper's Hut, compound and stores (c. 156 sq.m) However the 1959 Peter Shepheard design drawing (see overlay at Fig 2) shows a larger compound and it is possible to provide a building that meets the requirements of the brief within this footprint.

The building layout was tested against the Caledonian Park Heritage Centre which provides a similar range of activity and heritage uses and is currently under construction.

The architecture of Peter Shepheard has informed the design. The new building will be functional and simple with an improved relationship with the landscape to reflect its proposed use.

BUNHILL EXISTING	GROSS sq.m	NETT sq.m	BUNHILL PROPOSED	NETT sq.m	Notes
					Small klosk rather than café with internal seating
Keeper's hut	18.2	13.8	Coffee klosk	12.5	
			Friends tool store	6.5	Control of the Contro
			Activity & Heritage Room	50	Schools, commercial functions. Numbers sitting / standing. To include 'Interpretation Wall'. With
Compound and stores	138				kitchenette.
North store		21	Learning officer & park ranger	10	With tea point
South block		25	Friends and welfare	9.6	With tea point
Compound		87	Gardener's internal store	6.5	
			Open to air store	40	With plant racks for more efficient use of space
			Accessible WC inc baby change	3.3	
			Accessible WC inc baby change	3.3	
			Cleaners store	0.75	
			Other stores	10	Furniture / equipment / coats etc
			Plant / boiler	5	
			Circulation	12	
TOTALS	156.2	146.8		169.45	



Festival of Britain - Peter Shepheard



Bishop Otter College - Peter Shepheard c. 1960s



Kiosk at Walpole Park

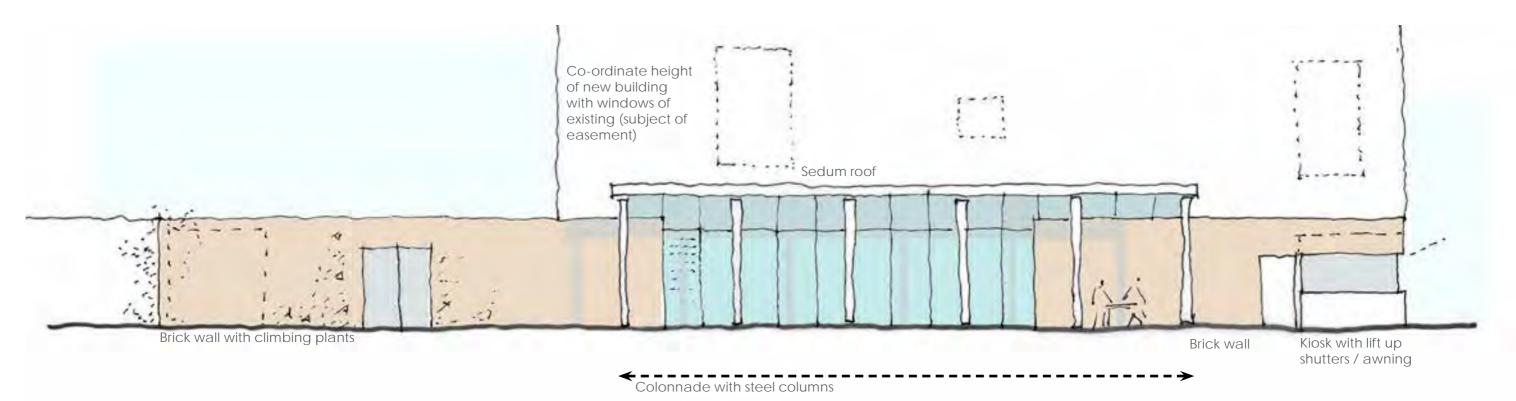


Kiosk at Fortune Street park

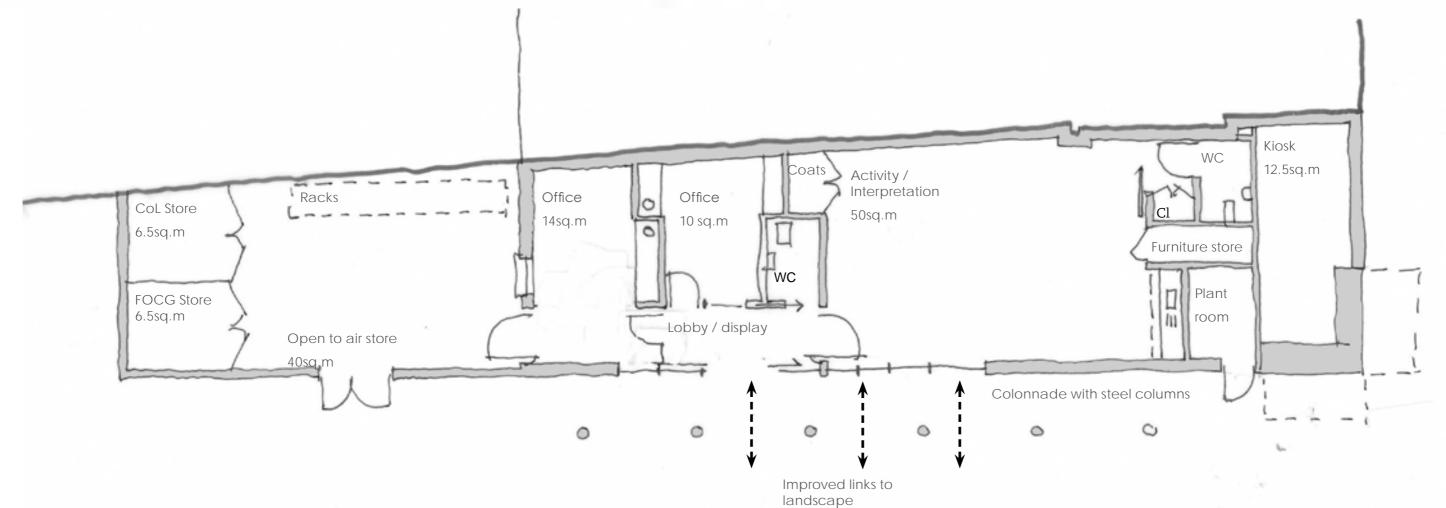




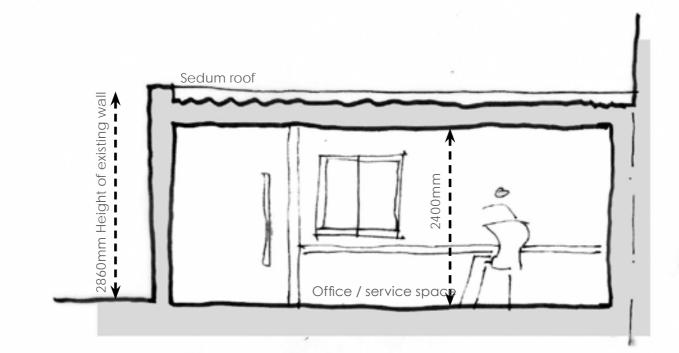
Function / activity room - hard wearing and accessible

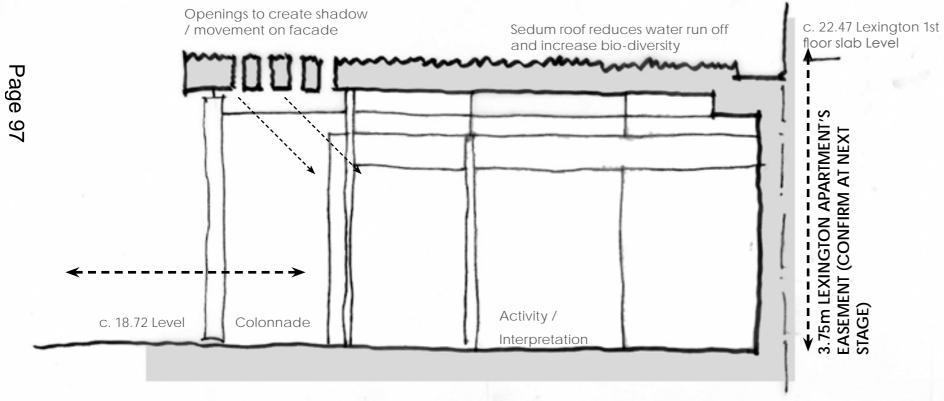


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The proposals





2.96m LEXINGTON APARTMENTS EASEMENT (CONFIRM AT NEXT STAGE)

Sections

27

Materials

The materials will reflect the simplicity of the existing Shepheard buildings whilst bringing light and movement into the building through the use of hit and miss brickwork and decorative grilles.



Use shutters to create shadows



Simple, hard-wearing interiors



Shutters can provide interpretation



Hit and miss brickwork used to filter lighHit and miss brickwork used to filter



Hit and miss brickwork used to filter light



Existing brickwork

8.0 Historic England's List Entry

LISTING DESCRIPTION

Bunhill Fields Burial Ground List Entry Summary

This garden or other land is registered under the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 within the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens by English Heritage for its special historic interest.

Name: Bunhill Fields Burial Ground List entry Number: 1001713

County: G

County: Greater London Authority
District: Islington
District Type: London Borough
Grade: I
Date first registered: 05-May-2010
Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Legacy System Information

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.
Legacy System: Parks and Gardens
UID: 5368

Asset Groupings

This list entry does not comprise part of an Asset Grouping. Asset Groupings are not part of the official record but are added later for information.

List entry Description

Summary of Garden
Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.
Reasons for Designation
Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

History

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Details

Bunhill Fields is a Nonconformist burial ground of the 1660s, with its current boundaries established by the mid-C18. In 1867 it closed for burials and became a public garden, at which time new walls, gate piers and gates were built and paths laid out. In the intervening years, there had been around 123,000 burials, and grave-markers and tombs survive from every period of the ground's use, the oldest being that of Theophilus Gale d 1678. The most recent major phase in the history of Bunhill Fields began after WWII, when the northern part of the ground was cleared following bomb damage and the southern section re-landscaped to designs by Bridgewater & Shepheard.

HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT

A burial ground was first established in the present location in the 1660s, although a place to the north of the City of London called Bunhill Fields, though not necessarily this site, had been associated with burials from the C16. The name may be a corruption of 'Bone hill'. Initially only the southern part of the ground appears to have been a place of burial. This area was enclosed by brick walls in October 1665, with gates erected in 1666, as recorded in inscriptions on the burial ground's Victorian gate piers. The phrasing of the C19 dedication is taken from a C17 inscription at the western entrance to the ground, recorded in John Strype's 1720 edition of John Stow's 'A Survey of the Cities of London

and Westminster', which read: 'This Churchyard was enclosed with a Brickwall, at the sole Charges of the City of London, in the Maioralty of Sir John Laurence, Kt. Anno Dom. 1665. And afterwards the Gates thereof were built and finished in the Maioralty of Sir Tho. Bloudworth, Knight, Anno Dom. 1666'. It was never consecrated.

The map accompanying Strype's text shows an east-west strip labelled 'Burying Ground' (corresponding roughly to the area south of the current main pathway), with the area to the north simply marked as 'Bunhill Fields'. The burial ground was extended in 1700 and its full extent is shown on John Roque's map of 1746. At this time there were still two distinct portions: that to the south is labelled 'Tindall's Ground', that to the north 'Burial Ground'. The southern part is an expanded version of the area described by Strype; the northern takes in those parts of Bunhill Fields that had not been lined with houses by the early-mid C18, resulting in an inverted T-shaped area. By the publication of Richard Horwood's map of the capital in 1799, the two sections had joined and the whole known as Bunhill Fields Burying Ground. It remains thus to the present day.

Strype's 'Survey' describes how the ground had originally been intended as a plague pit but was never used as such and 'Since thence this Place hath been chosen by the Dissenters from the Church of Engl. for the interring their Friends and Relations, without having the Office of Burial appointed by the Book of Common Prayer, said at their Graves. There be a great Number of raised Monuments here with Vaults underneath; and Grave Stones with Inscriptions not a few. The Price of Burial in the Vaults, I am told is 15s.' Thanks to its location just outside the City boundary, and

its independence from any Established place of worship, Bunhill Fields quickly became London's principal Nonconformist cemetery, the burial place of John Bunyan, Daniel Defoe, William Blake and other leading religious and intellectual figures. This is the pre-eminent graveyard for Nonconformists in England and one of the first established specifically for dissenters in London. Few places in London, or indeed nationally, document this as vividly or with such time-depth as Bunhill Fields with its dense concentration of hymn-writers, dissenting ministers, evangelical preachers and divines, their worthy deeds recorded in inscriptions.

The burials in the cemetery were arranged to an orthogonal plan, with a main axial path running east-west along the southern part of the ground from the main entrance fronting City Road to the cemetery wall alongside Bunhill Row (though there was no through access at this point as there is today). A second network of paths, designed straight and perpendicular to the main avenue, gave access to the tombs. Burial areas were numbered and iron plaques on the south wall, these probably early Victorian replacements of the originals, provided a legend for visitors which corresponded with burial registers.

In 1852, an Act of Parliament authorised the closure of graveyards in towns and burials ceased at Bunhill Fields from 29 December 1853. By the time the ground closed for burials, there had been around 123,000 burials at Bunhill Fields. The Corporation of London assumed responsibility for maintaining the ground by an Act of Parliament in 1867 and it opened as a public amenity in 1869. New walls, gate piers and gates were built and paths laid out. The irregular paths between the graves were emphasised to create a more picturesque effect,

28

trees were planted, tombstones straightened, and inscriptions deciphered and re-cut.

Bunhill Fields was damaged by bombing during the Second World War. Vera Brittain describes the Fields as the location of an anti-aircraft gun in the London Blitz, which may have also caused damage to the monuments. In 1964-5 Bunhill Fields was landscaped to designs of one of the foremost landscape architects of the period, Sir Peter Shepheard (1913-2002). Shepheard trained as an architect, worked with Sir Patrick Abercrombie and was a significant figure in the Festival of Britain. His 1953 book 'Modern Gardens' remains highly regarded. He was first engaged at Bunhill Fields in 1949, and completed his revised plans in 1963. He was President of the RIBA in 1969.

Initial proposals at Bunhill Fields were to clear the entire area, but thanks to protestations from the Society of Antiquaries and the Royal Fine Art Commission, gravestones were only removed from the northern part of the ground, the most severely damaged section, which was laid out as a garden. A broadwalk, paved with salvaged York stone and brick, was laid linking this garden with the main east-west path. It was placed to take in the Defoe and Bunyan memorials, which were restored and made focal points, cleared of surrounding monuments. The graves of William Blake and Joseph Swain (1761-96, a Baptist minister and hymn writer) were resited nearby at the same time. The remainder of the burial ground, in an increasingly dilapidated condition, was railed off from public access but left largely undisturbed.

DESCRIPTION

LOCATION

Bunhill Fields lies just without the former walls of the City of London, in what is now a densely-developed urban environment, but would have originally been on the fringes of the metropolis. There are two other Nonconformist burial grounds nearby: a Quaker burial ground on Chequer Street (now a public garden with few historic features) and the the burial ground to Wesley's Methodist Church on the City Road which contains the tomb of John Wesley (d.1791).

AREA

The area is roughly T-shaped, with the main thoroughfare running west-east along the broader southern part of the burial ground. The flagstones on the east-west path are notable, for both their size, traces of inscriptions and the subtle erosion of their central sections.

The southern section is divided into five areas, railed off in 1965. Here there are over two thousand monuments: mostly simple Portland or sandstone headstones; some chest tombs; some ledger stones; a few grander monuments. The contrast with Victorian cemeteries and burial grounds is marked. The monuments are almost entirely Portland stone, with some in sandstone brought in by the late Georgian canal network; few railway-era materials such as granite or cast-iron railings are in evidence. The symbolism (where it can still be discerned) is of a traditional, pre-Victorian kind and overall the flavour of the monuments is fairly plain, as befitting their Nonconformist associations. The gravemarkers are cramped together, defying the geometry of the orthogonal plan to give a sense of the denselythronged nature of Georgian burial grounds that so shocked Victorian reformers. Metal plaques fixed on the southern wall survive and were part of the former system to locate graves, in conjunction with the burial registers.

Straight and winding paths run through the densely-packed burials. Trees include London planes, oaks and limes. The headstones and tombs are in various stages of decay, some upright, others fallen, with the inscriptions and decorative carving indecipherable and distorted on those in the path of the prevailing south-westerly wind. The antiquarian's loss is the aesthete's gain, however, for the organic patterns of weathering and decay are highly poignant. There is a striking chiaroscuro effect where the wind and rain have cleaned parts of the soot-covered stone.

In contrast, the northern part is grassed, with scattered tombs alongside the circular perimeter path and against the boundary walls. There are flower beds set in paving of brick or re-used headstones. Lavatories and the gardeners' hut are on the east side of this zone. Two north-south paths, one broad, the other narrow, both paved with re-used York stone and brick, link this garden to the main west-east thoroughfare. The broadwalk takes in the Bunyan and Defoe tombs, in their original locations, and the resited Blake and Swain headstones. While clearing bomb-damaged burial grounds was common practice after WWII, the special treatment given to Bunhill Fields, as seen in the commissioning of a renowned landscape designer and the use of salvaged York stone for

the paving, is unusual. The realignment of paths to focus on Bunyan, Blake and Defoe in the 1960s scheme has historic interest in the context of postwar national pride and identity.

BOUNDARIES The burial ground is bounded by walls, railings and gates dating to 1868 (east side) and 1878 (west side), both separately listed. A listed brick wall to the south dates to the C18 or early C19 whilst the northern side of the burial ground is bounded by brick walls of 1964-5. The eastern boundary comprises a low coped wall of dressed stone between five granite piers, the piers square in plan and coped and gabled in a Greek Revival manner. The piers record the history of the burial ground and the names of some of the luminaries buried there, quoting verbatim an earlier inscription on C17 gate piers recorded by Strype in 1720. The railings have spearhead standards and finials and are gathered at intervals in clusters of eight. There are iron gates in second bay from the north. The western boundary, also separately listed, is a low brown brick wall in Flemish bond surmounted by fourteen square brick piers, capped with stone. Iron railings with bracketed supports are set in a plinth of cast-iron, with gates in the sixth bay from the north.

OTHER ITEMS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST

There are a number of listed tombs in Bunhill Fields Cemetery, some designated at high grades. Most are located in the southern part of the burial ground, with others along the western perimeter of the grassed area to the north.

REFERENCES

Corporation of London, A History of the Bunhill Fields Burial Ground (1902). Jones, J, A, Bunhill memorials, sacred reminiscences of three hundred ministers and other persons of note... (1849). Light, A, W, Bunhill Fields Volumes I and II (1915) Meller, H & Parsons, B, London cemeteries: an illustrated guide & gazetteer (2008) Rawlinson, R, The inscriptions upon the Tombs, Grave-Stones etc. in the Dissenters Burial Place in Bunhill Fields (1717, reprinted 1867). Rippon, J, Manuscripts relating to Bunhill Fields Cemetery, early C19, at British Library (Ms.Add. 28516) Stow, J, A survey of the cities of London and Westminster corrected, improved and enlarged by John Strype (1720).

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

Bunhill Fields is designated at Grade I for the following principal reasons: * outstanding historic interest as the pre-eminent graveyard for Nonconformists in England * a rare surviving innercity burial ground which is unsurpassed as evidence for the cramped appearance of metropolitan burial grounds in the Georgian period * a large number of listed tombs, notable either for the person they commemorate (for example, Blake, Bunyan and Defoe) or their artistic quality * distinctive aesthetic character in contrast to Victorian cemeteries, with monuments almost entirely in Portland stone or sandstone * an extremely well-documented place where antiquarians have recorded inscriptions from the 1720s and for which the City Corporation holds extensive burial records * high quality design and materials of 1964-5 phase, by the renowned landscape architect Sir Peter Shepheard



¹ Photo from 1949. London Metropolitan Archives

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Committees: Open Spaces Committee - For decision Streets and Walkways Sub Committee - For decision Projects Sub Committee - For decision	Dates: 27 April 2021 29 April 2021 17 May 2021	
Subject: City Cluster Area – Wellbeing and Climate Change resilience programme implementation (2021-2024) Unique Project Identifier: City Cluster Vision Phase one – 12072	Gateway 4: Detailed Options Appraisal (Regular)	
Report of: Director of the Built Environment Report Author: Maria Herrera – City Public Realm		
PUBLIC		

1. Status update

Project Description: The implementation of the City Cluster area delivery plan is divided between three programmes focused on 1) pedestrian priority and traffic reduction, 2) well-being and climate change resilience and, 3) activation and engagement. Each programme will deliver complementary improvements, in response to the highest priorities in the area, and are being developed in close collaboration with local stakeholders.

This report sets out the details for an outline proposal of **Programme 2 – Well-being & Climate Change**, which is proposed to be taken forward to the next Gateway (5)

RAG Status: Green Risk Status: Low

Total Estimated Cost of Projects (excluding risk): £1.4m-£1.5m for the implementation of the programme over the next 3 years.

Change in Total Estimated Cost (excluding risk): £765-850k reported in July 2020 at Gateway 3. The cost range is proposed to be increased in response to:

- The need to accelerate the delivery of improvements, in line with stakeholder needs and funding opportunities, and in order to meet the objectives of the Recovery Task Force;
- The need to take account of increased maintenance budgets;
- The introduction of additional climate resilience measures and pilot projects (including monitoring), as part of the

emerging Cool Streets and Greening programme. Along with working with specialist consultants on this matter.

Spend to Date: £57,108 (fees and staff costs)

Funding source: Section 106 contributions, Cool Streets and Greening programme (subject to approval), TfL, and external contributions, including S278 and bids for CIL Neighbourhood funds.

Costed Risk Provision Utilised: NA

Slippage: NA

2. Next steps and requested decisions

Next Gateway: Gateway 5

Projects within the programme will be reported individually at Gateway 5 in line with regular reporting processes.

Next Steps:

- Continue engagement with stakeholders and occupiers to finalise designs.
- Commission any additional surveys, design work or trial holes as required.
- Produce detailed cost estimates and finalise funding sources with the Chamberlain for inclusion in Gateway 5 reports.
- Submit Gateway 5 reports for individual projects.

Requested Decisions:

- 1. Note the estimated implementation budget is a minimum of £1.447m based on current estimates for the projects outlined in this report.
- 2. Note that the estimated implementation budget will be further increased by external sponsorship with the exact amount to be confirmed at Gateway 5.
- 3. That the 7 projects listed in the Options Appraisal table are approved to be taken forward to Gateway 5, at which point individual project reports will be submitted for approval, in line with the project procedure.
- 4. That £90,000 from the Pinnacle and Mitre Square Section 106 agreements is approved for the programme budget to continue the development of the 7 projects to Gateway 5
- 5. To note that further projects listed in Appendix 1, may be developed in future years, subject to funding being confirmed.
- 6. That within the overall programme budget, funds can be moved between the 7 individual projects and between staff costs, fees and works to maintain pace of delivery and maximum efficiency of the process.

3. Resource requirements to reach next Gateway

Table 1: Budget required for *Programme 2 – Wellbeing and Climate Resilience* to reach Gateway 5, to reach the next gateway approval.

Description	Resources required to reach next Gateway (£)
Highways Staff Costs	15,000
P&T Staff Costs	35,000
Open Spaces Staff Costs	10,000
Fees and surveys (including detailed design, ground investigations and	
trial holes)	30,000
TOTAL	90,000

Detailed funding tables are included in Appendix 3.

Costed Risk Provision requested for this Gateway: No risk provision is required at this stage.

4. Overview of project options

The Well-being and Climate Resilience programme objectives (agreed at Gateway 3) are as follows:

- Increase the amount of greenery to help mitigate the impacts of climate change, noise and air pollution and soften the urban environment.
- Deliver more accessible and attractive spaces to rest and spend time in, including responding to the need for social distancing.
- The creation of 'green corridors' along busy pedestrian routes.
- Deliver spaces which offer opportunities for place activation in a safe street environment i.e. facilitation of Programme 3 - Activation and Engagement.
- Deliver sustainable urban drainage systems (Suds) in line with the emerging Climate Action strategy.

Delivery of these objectives will be framed around the following themes:

Theme (See appendix 1 and 2)	Projects (2021-2024)*
Improvements to existing public spaces	1. St Helens Churchyard

	St Andrews Undershaft Churchyard
	3. Jubilee Gardens
Green Streets	4. Creechurch Lane - Stoney Lane
	5. Philpot Lane – Rood Lane
	Interim greening measures in the short and medium term, due to restrictions imposed by development activity, with designs to be progressed for long-term changes in future years.
Climate change resilience	6.Bevis Marks and Houndsditch Suds pilot projects
measures	7. Tree planting across the area

^{*} Other projects will be brought forward as part of further phases of the programme and as additional opportunities are identified through the Cool Streets and Greening programme and other relevant Corporate Strategies and programmes.

This programme delivers on the activities identified in the Recovery Task Force and will focus on the following headline workstream:

Outstanding environments (i.e. workspaces, environment, infrastructure)

Activities:

- Providing high quality gardens and public spaces
- Enabling unique opportunities to exercise
- Introducing climate resilience measures into the City's streets and spaces
- Ensuring streets, gardens and public spaces are clean, safe and well maintained
- Ensuring the Square Mile's streets accessible to all
- Creating the best urban walking experience

Project Options:

The programme proposals will provide a welcoming and pleasant environment to support the recovery of the area, following the impacts of the pandemic. The improvement of public spaces and introduction of green infrastructure to deliver an attractive and inclusive environment, in line with the

objectives of the City Cluster Vision, the Climate Action Strategy and the City's Recovery Taskforce. A single option is proposed to take forward a series of seven small/medium scale projects over the next three years which have been developed with stakeholders and in response to the City Cluster Vision, Transport Strategy and Climate Action Strategy. Details of these projects are set out in the options appraisal table and appendix. 5. Recommendation **Requested Decisions:** 1. Note the estimated implementation budget is a minimum of £1.447m based on current estimates for the projects outlined in this report. 2. Note that the estimated implementation budget will be further increased by external sponsorship with the exact amount to be confirmed at Gateway 5. 3. That the 7 projects listed in the Options Appraisal table are approved to be taken forward to Gateway 5, at which point individual project reports will be submitted for approval, in line with the project procedure. 4. That £90,000 from the Pinnacle and Mitre Square Section 106 agreements is approved for the programme budget to continue the development of the 7 projects to Gateway 5. To note that further projects listed in Appendix 1, may be developed in future years, subject to funding being confirmed. 6. That within the overall programme budget, funds can be moved between the 7 individual projects and between staff costs, fees and works to maintain pace of delivery and maximum efficiency of the process. 6. Risk The risks associated with developing the programme up to Gateway 5 are low. Projects within this programme are being developed in collaboration with local stakeholders, the Open Spaces department and DBE officers. Subsequent development of projects will be reported via separate Gateway 5 reports to ensure risks are adequately accounted for.

Change in Costed Risk: NA

requested at previous gateway report.

Costed Risk Provision Utilised at Last Gateway: None

	Costed Risk requested: NA Further information is available in the options appraisal matrix.
7. Procurement strategy	Management and coordination of the programme will be undertaken by City Public Ream and Open Spaces officers, in consultation with Highways and City Transportation divisions.
	Stages of the design work will be undertaken in-house by officers and external consultants will be brought in as required to provide specialist services.
	To date, specialists' consultants have been appointed for the development of the Sustainable urban drainage schemes and design work for the improvement of existing public spaces. Construction works are to be implemented by the City's term contractor (currently JB Riney), working in collaboration with Open Spaces for the delivery of the soft landscaping elements.
	Appointment of external consultants will be carried out in line with the City's procurement guidelines for capital projects.

Appendices

Appendix 1	Programme scope
Appendix 2	Visuals and maps
Appendix 3	Funding strategy

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Options Appraisal Matrix

Op	otion Summary	Option 1
1.	Brief description of option	Programme 2 - Wellbeing and Climate Change Resilience Programme is focused on the creation of a greener more welcoming environment, increased climate change mitigation measures and supporting the return of workers and visitors, by contributing towards an improved pedestrian experience and wellbeing.
		The programme has been developed in collaboration with the Open Spaces department and DBE officers, along with local Church representatives, stakeholders and the EC Partnership.
		The recommended option is to continue the development of projects under this programme to ensure there is a coherent strategy for delivery and project dependencies are managed efficiently. The scope range includes small scale green interventions, as well as medium sized public space enhancements, which are inter-related and share stakeholder interests. This option recommends the following projects to be progressed and reported individually at Gateway 5 to obtain authority to start work.
		Improvements to existing public spaces: 1. St Helen's Bishopsgate churchyard: 2. St Andrew Undershaft churchyard 3. Jubilee Gardens
		Green streets: 4. Creechurch Lane - Stoney Lane (interim greening measures in the short-term) 5. Philpot Lane - Rood Lane (interim greening measures in the short-term)
		Climate Change Resilience measures 6. Bevis Marks and Houndsditch; Pilot Sustainable urban drainage (Suds) schemes 7. Area wide tree planting
		For a detailed description of the above projects and visuals, refer to Appendix 1 and 2.

Op	otion Summary	tion Summary Option 1				
2.	Scope and exclusions	The focus of the programme is on areas of public highway, open spaces and churchyards, as they form part of the network of public spaces within the City Cluster. Opportunities have also been discussed with the EC Partnership for the review of areas which are publicly accessible private land, and which could be considered as sites to accommodate an increase provision of green infrastructure as part of future projects to be developed separately. Estimated cost ranges have been provided to account for detailed design, implementation, and on-going maintenance and monitoring of project, in particular for the climate resilience elements. If further external funding opportunities are confirmed, the scope of the programme could increase to include other potential improvements.				
Pro	oject Planning					
3.	Programme and key dates	Programme to be developed and implemented over a period of 3 years. Individual projects will be taken forward as work is developed and separate programmes will be prepared in consultation with stakeholders.				
4.	Risk implications	Overall project option	risk: Low			
	Risk Funding from Some proposed Sources is not yet confirmed. Final det contribut neighbor		Description TfL funding (Liveable Neighbourhood grant) is yet to be determined. Final details of external contributions and CIL neighbourhood fund bids are still to be confirmed.	Response Section 106 contributions have been secured to cover the full costs of the projects (up to £1.5m). However, the preferred funding strategy proposes using a mix of funds in order to best manage the resources available and achieve optimum value for money. Officers will work closely with external funders and the Chamberlains Dept in order to put		

Option Summary	Option 1					
		Funding from Cool Streets and Greening programme, is subject to approval.	together the final funding strategy for individual projects ahead of Gateway 5.			
	Underground conditions impact on project scope and cost.	Due to existing underground conditions, greening interventions may need to be adapted in certain locations.	Projects within churchyards will require careful excavation and archaeology investigations. Surveys will be commissioned, and specialist consultants will be brought on board to provide advice on this matter.			
			Tree planting and Suds: Underground utilities present a challenge; however a number of design options are being explored to achieve climate resilience measures. Officers will carry out surveys and explore innovative design options for the provision of greenery and liaison with the Highways Division and Department of Open Spaces.			
	Increased maintenance costs lead to overall increase in cost estimates	There are pressures on existing maintenance budgets and a likelihood that maintenance costs may increase in the near future.	Any increased maintenance costs (planting, paving, cleansing and infrastructure) will need to be reflected in project budgets at GW5, along with monitoring costs for climate resilience measures.			
	Construction sites in the area impact programme	On-going development construction in the area has the potential to affect or delay the delivery of projects.	The programme includes interim solutions where there is a known development related delay. This can bring much needed positive change, whilst remaining flexible to allow for the redevelopment of sites to continue.			

Ор	tion Summary	Option 1						
		Covid-19 risks: Delivery plan requires changes Implementation of projects is delayed	The development of the programme may need to be further adapted as a result of the unknown nature of the City's reopening and recovery.	The programme has been developed with the City's recovery in mind and there is scope for adapting the delivery to ensure projects comply with any new guidelines and response strategy.				
5.	Stakeholders and consultees	The programme is to be developed in close consultation with local stakeholder groups, religious institutions and City officers from DBE and Open Spaces. The EC Partnership will play a key part in the development and prioritisation of projects. Regular engagement with this group is already taking place.						
6.	Benefits of option	 Deliver attractive and inclusive spaces for people to enjoy. Increase the amount of greenery and provide spaces for safe social distancing as per the Covid-19 response strategy. Provide a high-quality environment to meet the demands and predicted changing patterns in working population. Introduce measures to help mitigate the impacts of climate change and wind, and to improve air quality. Improve thermal comfort in the area. Contribute to the well-being of local users by offering outdoor spaces to rest, work and spend time in. 						
7.	Disbenefits of option	At this stage there are no disbenefits of progressing with this programme, it forms part of the approved City Cluster Programme of works and is in line with the desired outcomes of the City Cluster Vision, Transport Strategy and City's Climate Action Strategy.						

Option Summary		Option 1
	source plications	
8.	Total estimated cost	Estimated cost (excluding risk): £1.4- £1.5 m for the implementation of the first 3 years of the programme including post-Gateway 5 design, implementation, maintenance and monitoring stages. It is noted that the estimated implementation budget is a minimum of £1.447m based on current estimates for the projects outlined in this report. The total cost of the programme could increase if additional funds are secured to deliver further enhancements with the exact amount to be confirmed at Gateway 5.
9.	Funding strategy	This programme is proposed to be funded by:
 Existing area-specif CIL neighbourhood External contribution TfL funding (yet to be 		 Existing area-specific Section 106 contributions (primary funding source). CIL neighbourhood funding bids, to be submitted by stakeholders. External contributions including S278 contributions. TfL funding (yet to be determined). The emerging Cool Streets and Greening programme (OSPR funded, subject to approval).
reported individually at the next gateway. Other funding sources will continue to be to Members as appropriate. This includes the opportunity to attract additional		The projects within this workstream have different funding strategies, and therefore are proposed to be reported individually at the next gateway. Other funding sources will continue to be investigated and reported to Members as appropriate. This includes the opportunity to attract additional external funds for further improvements.
		The forthcoming Gateway 5 reports will set out detailed cost estimates and funding sources, alongside construction programmes.

Option Summary	Option 1
10. Investment appraisal	NA
11. Estimated capital value/return	NA
12. Ongoing revenue implications	Most of the spaces under consideration are already being maintained by the City. There is a risk that maintenance costs could increase in the coming years and any new green infrastructure will include a maintenance provision within the cost estimate. Where maintenance agreements are required, these will be established ahead of implementation.
13. Affordability	Details of the funding strategy are set out above and in Appendix 3. S106 receipts are the primary funding source and are in place to meet the full costs with other funding sources, including external sources, to be investigated in detail in consultation with the Chamberlains Department.
14. Legal implications	Agreements are required with the Church to implement the works to the Churchyards
15. Corporate property implications	None
16. Traffic implications	Some of the temporary interventions on streets such as Creechurch Lane and Philpot Lane, and longer-term projects such as Leadenhall Street, Camomile Street and Houndsditch, will require alterations to carriageway space, parking and loading provision and will also be subject to road safety audits. These interventions will build upon the Covid-19 recovery measures that are already in place and support the delivery of the Transport Strategy aims in the City Cluster.

Option Summary	Option 1
17. Sustainability and energy implications	 The projects will enhance the local carbon absorption capacity and improve air quality within the City Cluster. Suds schemes will reduce stress on the City drainage network and increase biodiversity. Programme objectives are in line with the emerging City Climate Action Strategy and Biodiversity Action Plan. Planting species will be selected to reduce maintenance requirements and support biodiversity. Works to churchyards will take into account the possible re-use of materials; and new materials will be in line with the City's Public Realm Technical Manual.
18. IS implications	NA
19. Equality Impact Assessment	The programme of works will deliver accessible and welcoming spaces for all user groups and provide areas where people can spend time outside their workplace environment. The improvements will deliver benefits for visitors as well as workers, and will facilitate safe social interaction, and improve physical and mental health.
	The design and management of the public space improvements will look to reduce or eliminate opportunities for antisocial behaviour and ensure that spaces feel safe and welcoming for all.
	Each project will have an individual Equality impact assessment carried out.
20. Data Protection Impact Assessment	NA
21. Recommendation	Recommended

Ap	pendix 1. Program	nme Scope Wellbeing & C	imate change re	esilience (2021-2024)		
	Project	Key Objectives	Location	Funding Strategy	Timescales	Notes/Next steps
1	Improvements to existing public spaces	More pleasant and useable spaces to rest.	1.St Helen's Bishopsgate Churchyard	 Church contribution via CIL neighbourhood Bid to be submitted, S106 contributions 	2021-2022	 Funding bid to be submitted by Church Maintenance/legal agreements to be finalised (Open Spaces/Church)
	Introduce Step- free access where required and ensure spaces are safe				Next committee report G5 – Authority to Start Work	
		and inclusive for all the City's communities. • Respond to projected	2.St Andrew Undershaft Churchyard	S106 contributions	2021-2022	 Consultation and agreement with Church on-going to finalise design. Next committee report G5 – Authority to Start Work
	changing working patterns and provide high quality spaces for safe social interaction outdoors.	3.Jubilee Gardens	 S106 contributions external contribution from stakeholders. Cool Streets and Greening programme (for green wall element) 	2021-2022	 Finalise design and cost estimate Next committee report G5 – Authority to Start Work 	
		 Support City recovery with an enhanced visitor experience and 		,		

2	Green Streets	outdoor amenities. Increased greenery Improve thermal comfort Pollution mitigation Increased resilience and sustainability	4.Creechurch Lane-Stoney Lane 5. Rood Lane - Philpot Lane	External contribution, EC Partnership, in addition to S106-S278 from nearby developments for permanent scheme.	2021-2023	 Identify interim greening and improvement measures in the short-term due construction sites constraints. Part of the Covid recovery measures. Consolidate areas of cycle parking/motorcycle marking to provide more walking and dwell spaces. Outline scope for short-medium
3	Climate Action initiatives	 Provide short term interventions in response to needs Increased greenery and biodiversity. Reduced pressure on drainage system through the assessment of Suds schemes. Improve thermal comfort Consideration of green walls and raingardens. 	6.Bevis marks and Houndsditch, along with Jubilee gardens (green wall)	Cool Streets and Greening - CAS fund (subject to approval)	2021-2023	 term designs Next committee report G5 – Authority to Start Work (interim measures) Suds scheme with trial of design solutions, materials and options. Consultants have been appointed to provide specialist input and design guidance. Next committee report G5 – Authority to Start Work

Consideration of alternative and innovative materials				
	Tree planting across the area (site locations to be confirmed) to include: • Crutched Friars • Mark Lane • Fenchurch St	 S106 contributions, external contributions; Climate Action Strategy funding (subject to approval). 	•	the next 3 years.

Other projects
to be
considered at
the next stage
and subject to
feasibility and
funding.

- St Botolph Bishopsgate ChurchyardSt Peter Upon Cornhill Churchyard
- Billiter Street (south)
- Eastcheap
- Camomile Street
- Leadenhall Street
- Creechurch Lane, Philpot Lane, Rood Lane permanent scheme

Appendix 3. Funding strategy

Table 1: Expenditure to date - City Cluster Vision - Well-being & Climate Change - 16800437			
Description	Approved Budget (£)	Expenditure (£)	Balance (£)
Env Servs Staff Costs	20,000	1,886	18,114
P&T Staff Costs	50,000	40,113	9,887
Open Spaces Staff Costs	10,000	659	9,341
Fees	15,000	14,450	550
TOTAL	95,000	57,108	37,892

Table 2: Revised Budget to reach next Gateway – 5			
Description	Approved Budget (£)	Resources required to reach next Gateway (£)	Revised Budget to next Gateway (£)
Env Servs Staff Costs	20,000	15,000	35,000
P&T Staff Costs	50,000	35,000	85,000
Open Spaces Staff Costs	10,000	10,000	20,000
Fees	15,000	30,000	45,000
Works	-	-	-
TOTAL	95,000	90,000	185,000

Table 3: Total Estimated Cost		
Programme	(£)	
Wellbeing & Climate Change resilience		
Total estimated range	£1.4-1.5m*	
*Note: Detailed costs will be determined by the level of additional external contributions, to be confirmed at Gateway 5.		

Table 4: Draft Funding Strategy	
Funding Sources	Amount (£)
S106 - Pinnacle LCEIW 06/01123/FULEIA	95,000
S106 - Pinnacle LCEIW 06/01123/FULEIA	678,802
S106 - 6 Bevis Mark LCEIW 09/00450/FULMAJ	1,087
s106 - 52-54 Lime Street 12/00870/FULEIA	128,840
S106 - Pinnacle LCEIW 06/01123/FULEIA	263,489
External/Other	
To be confirmed at next gateway.	TBC
Cool Streets and Greening (subject to approval)	255,000
TfL (subject to confirmation)	25,000
TOTAL funds available	1,447,218

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City Cluster Area programme: delivery framework 2021-2024

Funding strategy

ည်း မို့ S106 and S278

CIL contributions

External funding sources

Climate Action Strategy

TfL Liveable neighbourhoods

Programme 1:

Pedestrian priority & traffic reduction

Ensure pedestrian routes can accommodate the projected increases in pedestrians and cyclists flows by rebalancing the street capacity.

Programme 2:

Well-being & Climate change resilience

Promote the improvement of public spaces and introduce greenery to deliver an attractive environment.

Programme 3:

Activation & engagement

Deliver public places that are welcoming and inclusive; and encourage public participation and social engagement.

Healthy Streets Plan

To set out the changes required to the street network to deliver the City Cluster Vision.

Programme 2: Well-being & Climate change resilience

Objectives:

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- Increase the amount of greenery to help mitigate the impacts of climate change, noise and air pollution and soften the urban environment.
- Deliver more accessible and attractive spaces to rest and spend time in, including responding to the need for social distancing.
- The creation of 'green corridors' along busy pedestrian routes.
- Deliver spaces which offer opportunities for place activation in a safe street environment i.e. facilitation of Programme 3 - Activation and Engagement.
- Deliver sustainable urban drainage systems in line with the emerging Climate Action strategy.
- Contribute to the well-being of local users by offering outdoor spaces to rest, work and spend time in. In the context of the Covid19 pandemic, the value of our greenspaces and the role of nature will play a fundamental role in our recovery from the crisis.

Programme 2: Well-being & Climate change resilience

Well-being & Climate Change resilience programme PROJECTS

Improvements to existing public spaces

Short term:

- 1. St Helen's Bishopsgate
- 2. St Andrew Undershaft
- 3. Jubilee Gardens

Medium-long term:

- St Peter Upon Cornhill
- St Botolph Bishopsgate

Green Streets

Short term-interim measures:

- 4. Philpot Lane Rood Lane
- 5. Creechurch Lane Stoney Lane

Medium-long term:

- Camomile Street
- Leadenhall Street
- Eastcheap
- Billiter Street

Climate Change Resilience measures

Short term:

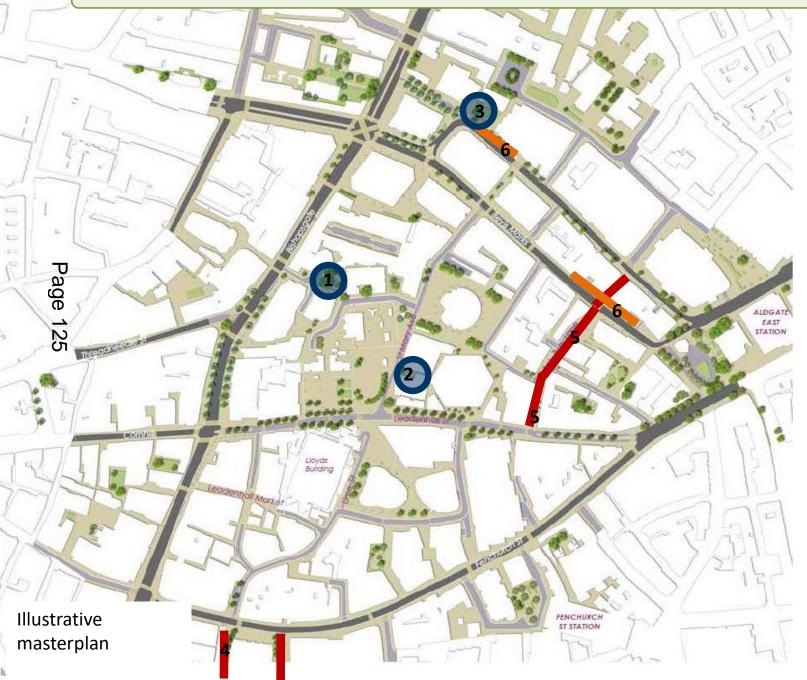
- 6. Bevis Marks-Dukes Place
- 7. Area wide tree planting

Medium-long term:

- Houndsditch
- Camomile Street
- Others to be determined



Programme 2: Well-being & Climate change resilience



Projects (2021-2024):



Existing public spaces:

- 1. St Helen's Bishopsgate
- 2. St Andrew Undershaft
- 3. Jubilee Gardens

Green streets:

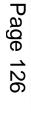
- 4. Philpot Lane Rood Lane
- 5. Creechurch Lane Stoney Lane (interim measures)

Climate Change resilience Measures:

- 6. Bevis Marks/Dukes Place
- 7. Area wide tree planting (various sites)

1. St Helen's Bishopsgate. Current condition







1. St Helen's Bishopsgate

Aim: to redesign the churchyard to provide a peaceful and green space away from the noise and pollution of the adjacent roads

- Develop a unified space designed that celebrates the heritage and open churchyard character of the site.
- Introduce more greenery that is easy to maintain and provides a variety of colour and strikes a balance between the hard and soft landscape.
- Increase seating provision complementary to the size of the space; seating that is incorporated within the design of the churchyard.
- 4 Provide inclusive access to enable all users to visit the space as well as improving the pedestrian route from Undershaft to Bishopsgate.
- 6 Incorporate a discrete bin store
- 6 Assess the need of lighting and therefore the perceived safety within the space at night-time.



1. St Helen's Bishopsgate



2. St Andrew Undershaft. Current condition

Heritage

Stonework on boundary wall and railings are in need of repair

Levels and access

The space is maintained by COL and has public access.

The existing paving is in bad cracked condition and uneven leading to poor drainage.

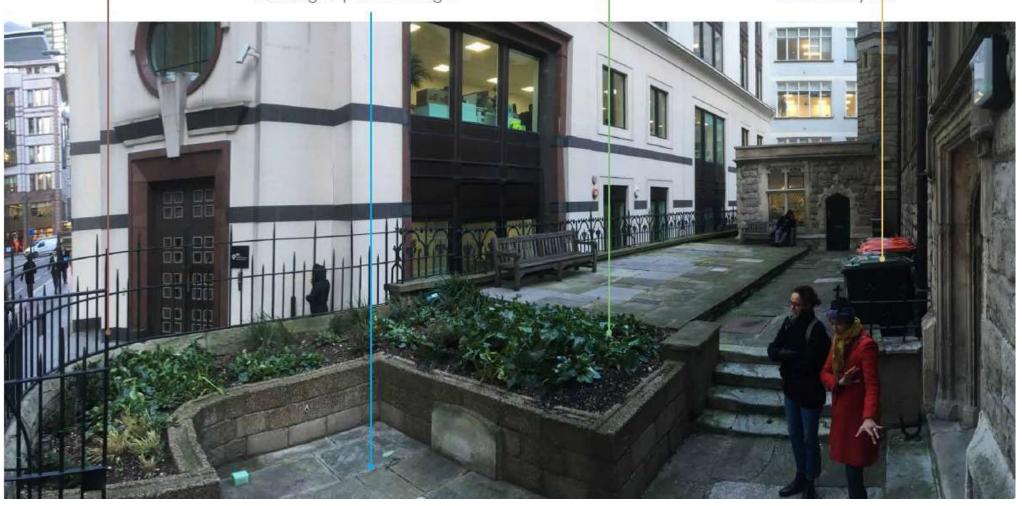
Greenery

Soft landscape is only in the form of shrubs in high concrete planters that are leaning out and in need of repair.

Seating and furniture

Existing benches are in poor condition.

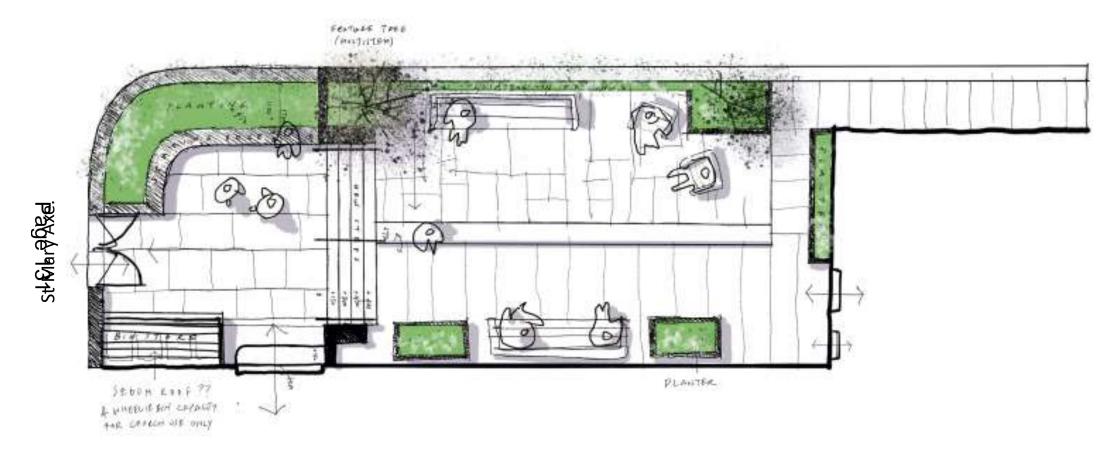
In the absence of a bin store, unsightly bins litter a section of the Churchyard.





Illustrative view.

2. St Andrew Undershaft. Plan



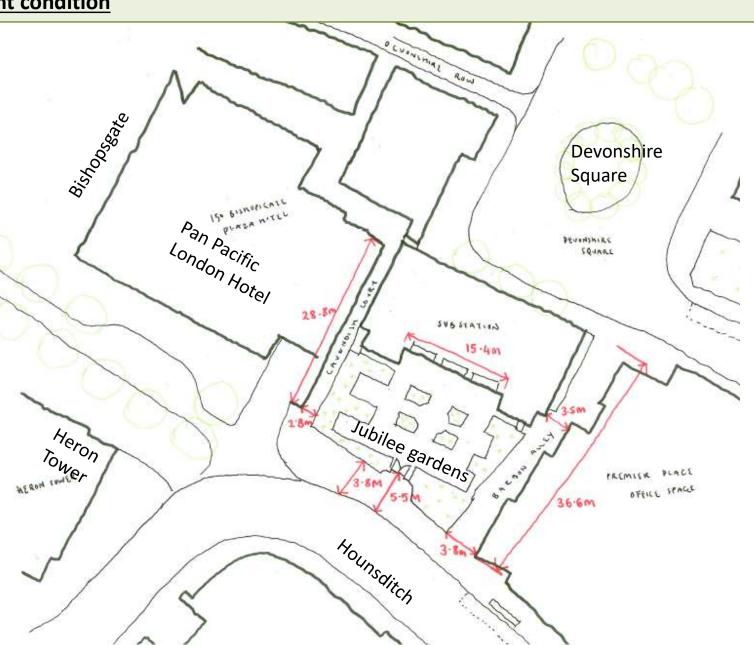
Plan.

3. Jubilee Gardens. Current condition



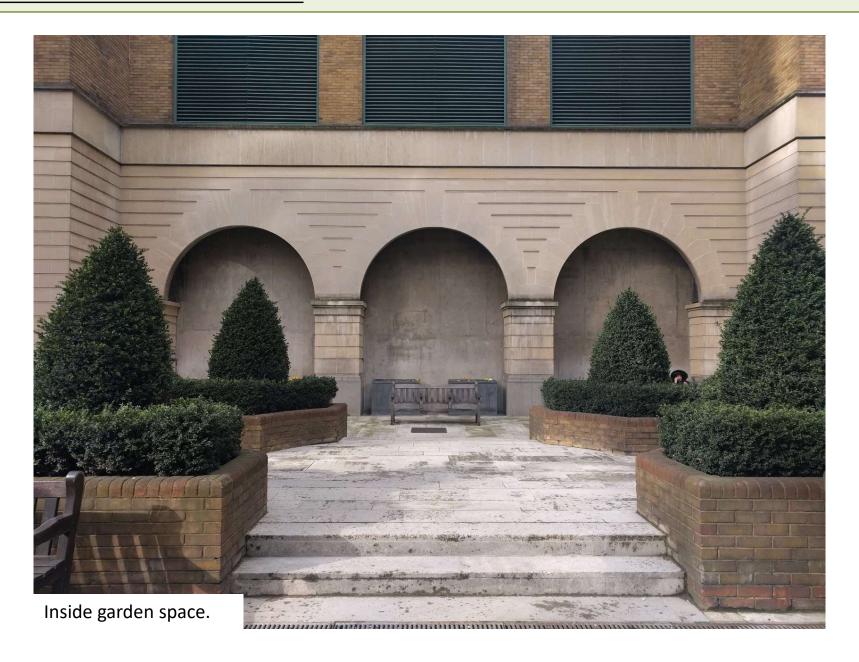




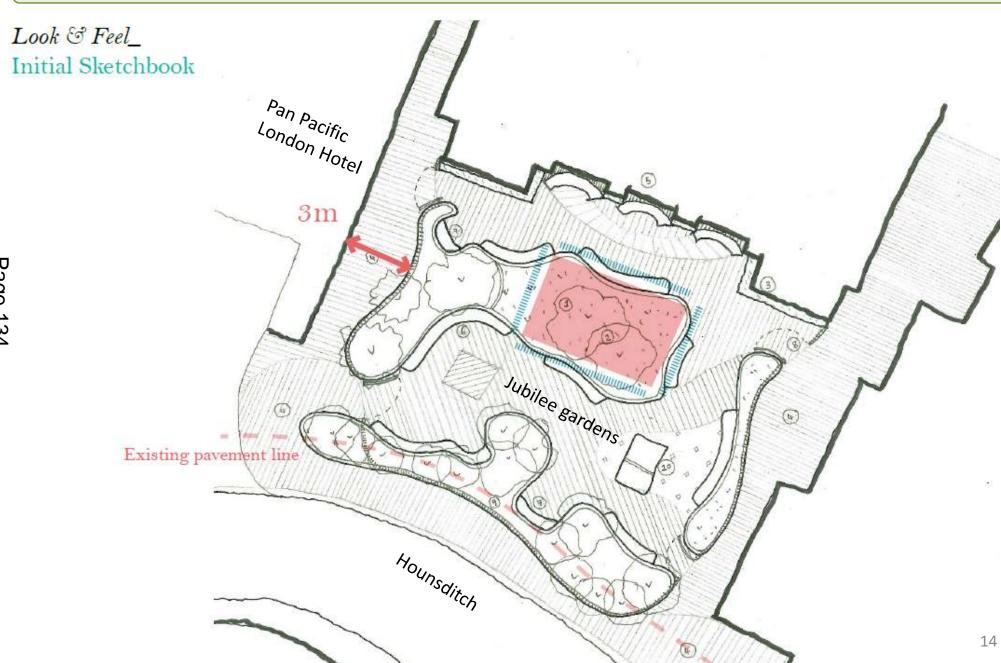


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3. Jubilee Gardens. Current condition



3. Jubilee Gardens. Illustrative sketch plan



3. Jubilee Gardens. Illustrative sketch.



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4. Philpot Lane. Green streets – interim measures

Interim greening measures will deliver an improved environment in the short-medium term and will enable proposals to be tested ahead of permanent changes and informed by consented developments in the nearby area.

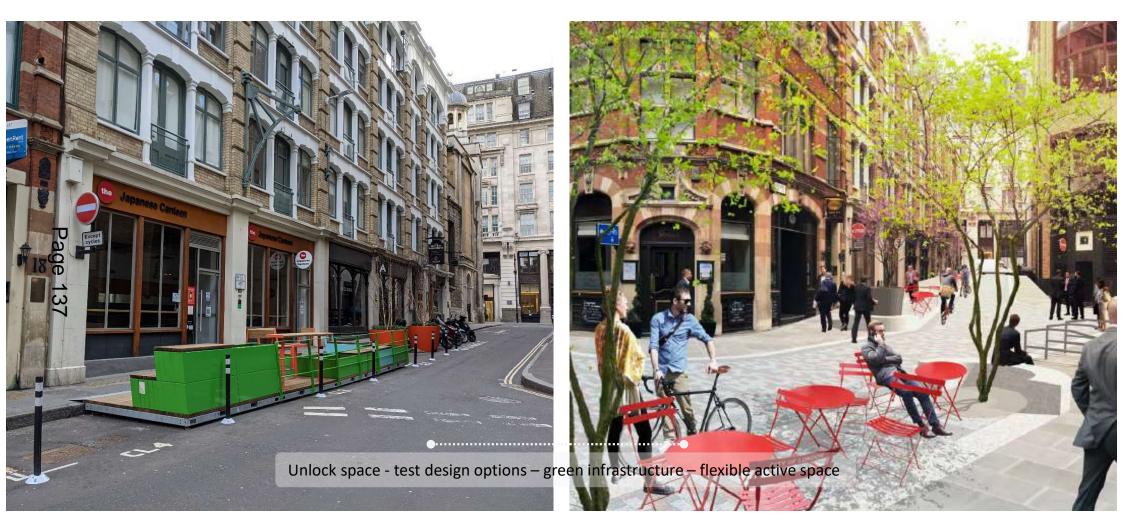


Current situation.

Temporary greening and seating measures have been delivered on Philpot Lane as part of the Covid recovery strategy. Proposed.

A welcoming pedestrian environment, integrating greening measures.

5. Creechurch Lane - Green streets - interim measures



<u>Current situation. Short-medium term intervention</u>
Parklets and additional greenery have been implemented on Creechurch Lane as part of the Covid recovery strategy.

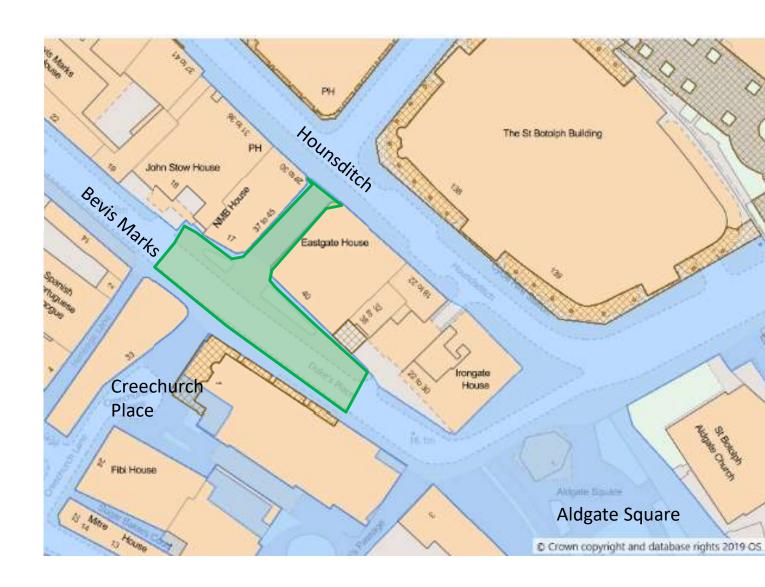
Proposed. Long term vision

A welcoming pedestrian environment, integrating greening and seating areas, creating a vibrant destination.

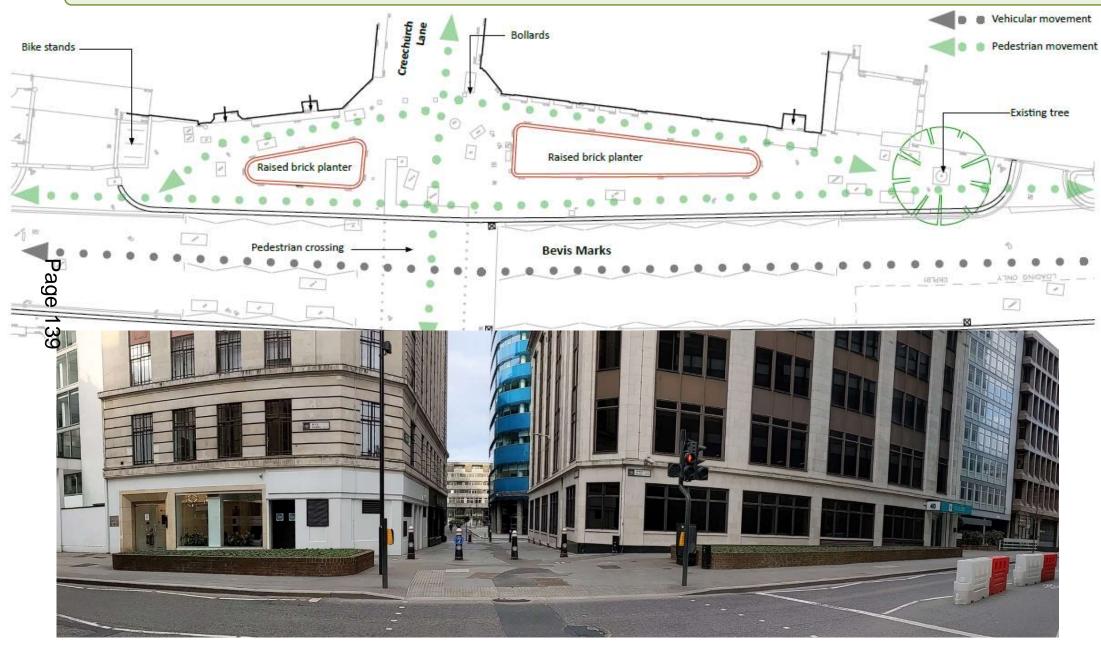
6. Bevis Marks/Dukes Place.

Site location.

Implementation of a sustainable urban drainage for the site.
Adjustment of planting areas and reprofiling of footway and carriageway areas.

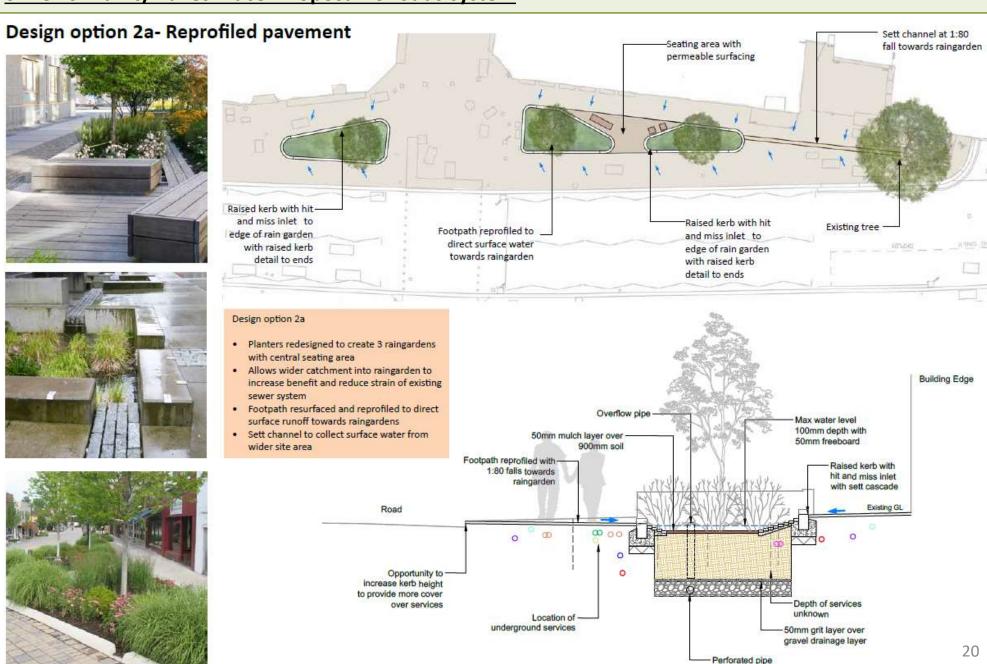


6. Bevis Marks/Dukes Place. Current condition



Bevis Marks – Dukes Place site.

6. Bevis Marks/Dukes Place. Proposal for Suds system



connection

7. Tree planting across the area

Tree planting across the area

Next steps:

- Streets for trial holes to potentially include:
- Crutched Friars, Bevis Marks, Houndsditch, Fenchurch Street, Leadenhall Street, Mark Lane.







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Agenda Item 12

Committee(s): Streets and Walkways Sub – For Information	Date(s): 29 April 2021
Projects Sub – For Information	17 May 2021
Open Spaces Committee - For information	27 April 2021
Subject:	Public
City Cluster Area – programme update	
Unique Project Identifier:	
City Cluster and Fenchurch Healthy Streets Plan - 12071	
City Cluster Vision Phase One - 12072	
Report of:	For Information
Director of the Built Environment	
Report author:	
Maria Herrera – City Public Realm	

Summary

This report provides an update on the City Cluster delivery framework, which is structured around three programmes and focused on the implementation of the City Cluster Vision. In addition, the work supports objectives set out in the Transport Strategy, Climate Action Strategy, Commerce and Culture Taskforce and Recovery Taskforce.

The three City Cluster Vision programmes are:

- Programme 1) Pedestrian priority and traffic reduction,
- Programme 2) Wellbeing and Climate Change Resilience, and
- Programme 3) Activation and Engagement

In the current context of the City recovering from the pandemic, it is important to progress these programmes, which will help to deliver an outstanding environment and improve the way that streets and spaces can support the local economy. These programmes also include measures that will begin to improve the environmental resilience of the public realm, addressing climate impacts in the coming years. To that end, further work on Programmes 2 and 3 has been completed and the results are being presented to this Committee via accompanying Gateway reports. A report on Programme 1 will also be presented to Committees later this year.

All programmes have been progressed following engagement with stakeholders, incorporating detailed feedback from the EC business partnership and to ensure alignment with the objectives of the Commerce and Culture and Recovery Task Forces and other key corporate priorities.

A revised overall budget is set out in the Appendix and more detail, including a funding strategy for the three years of programme delivery, is provided in the separate gateway reports on this committee agenda.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

1. Note the progress update report.

Main report

Background

- The City Cluster Vision was adopted by Committees in May 2019 and provides a
 framework for the transformation of the public realm of the area. The City Cluster Area
 delivery plan was approved by committees in July 2020 and divided the implementation
 of the Vision into three programmes, as follows 1) Pedestrian priority and traffic
 reduction, 2) Wellbeing and Climate Change Resilience, and 3) Activation and
 Engagement.
- 2. A Gateway 3 report on the Wellbeing and Climate Change Resilience programme was also approved in July 2020. This report outlined the objectives of the programme which included the consideration of sustainable urban drainage systems, increased provision of greenery throughout the area, and the improvement of existing public spaces.
- 3. The City's Covid-19 response (Phase 1-2-3) were delivered across the Square Mile. In the case of the City Cluster, measures included additional space for cycling and walking to facilitate social distancing, along with prioritisation of space for people walking and cycling on key streets. Planning and Transportation Committee approved a report in April 2021 that restrictions will remain in place in the short term on Leadenhall Street, St Mary Axe and Lime Street. These measures will be subject to a further period of stakeholder engagement, data monitoring and Equalities Analysis before reports to members for a decision on whether to retain these in the longer term or not.
- 4. In addition to the above, measures to provide additional space for seating alongside greening, Covid response Phase 3, have also been delivered across the City. Works have been implemented in the City Cluster on Creechurch Lane and Philpot Lane, with further potential sites being evaluated by officers, in discussion with stakeholders.
- 5. Officers have developed the work in close collaboration with other CoL departments and the EC Partnership (emerging Business Improvement District). Regular updates have been provided throughout the process to ensure the scope of the programmes is in line with their objectives, particularly considering impacts of the pandemic on the local area.
- 6. The recent work from the City's Recovery Task Force has also been fundamental to the scope and implementation of the programmes.

The Recovery Task force focuses on three dimensions:

- i. World-class business ecosystem (i.e. thriving businesses with innovation and growth opportunities)
- ii. Vibrant offer (retail, hospitality, culture, heritage and recreation)
- iii. Outstanding environments (i.e. the right workspaces, environment, and infrastructure).

The following extract from the Recovery Task Force report is of particular relevance:

"The City's streets, gardens and public spaces will be attractive places to spend time. We will accelerate our plans to rebalance vehicle use, prioritise walking, enable cycling, improve air quality and provide more public space. The experience of

travelling through and spending time in the Square Mile must be world class, for the benefit of residents, visitors and workers alike."

Progress to date

7. The development of the programme has been impacted by Covid-19 restrictions and the need to review the content considering the current situation. The development of Programme 3 – Activation and Engagement was delayed due to the level of uncertainty of the impacts of the pandemic. In addition, further work has been done to align the programme objectives with the recently adopted Climate Action Strategy and the City's Recovery Taskforce objectives. A summary of the status of each programme is included below:

8. Pedestrian priority and traffic reduction programme:

- City Cluster Area Healthy Streets Plan (in progress, expected completion July 2021): This plan will evaluate the feasibility of proposals in the City Cluster Vision in terms of traffic impact and traffic management measures that are required in order to deliver transformational change. It will also set out a proposed delivery plan for the implementation of the proposals.
- Covid recovery Phase 1-2 measures: The traffic restrictions and street changes in the following streets (See table 1) will be maintained and reviewed for the short term with a decision to be taken on whether to retain them for a longer period of time following further stakeholder engagement, data analysis and Equalities Assessment. This may result in changes to the restrictions which are currently in place relating to timings and traffic mixes. If recommended to retain any longer term these would be under Experimental Traffic Orders and subject to a more in depth period of monitoring and public consultation. Further information can be found in the Gateway 6 report, Covid-19 Recovery Phase 1-2, submitted to Committees (April 2021).
- In regards to St Mary Axe, a timed closure experiment was previously seeking Gateway 5 approval to implement a timed closure to all motor vehicles during the morning and evening peak periods by July 2020. The development of this experiment was paused while the temporary scheme was implemented on St Mary Axe as part of the COVID-19 transportation response, with timed access restrictions (7am 7pm) aligned with that of the overall programme for ease of understanding. The COVID-19 transportation response project has now been closed but the temporary measure is being retained while further work is undertaken in the coming months to progress a scheme into an Experimental Traffic Order. Engagement with local stakeholders will be undertaken to decide on which traffic restrictions will be implemented for the experiment.

Table 1. Covid Recovery Phase 1-2 measures in the City Cluster			
Fenchurch	 Small areas of footway widening. 		
Street			
Leadenhall	- Point "no entry" except buses, cycles, emergency services,		
Street	local authority services and London Buses incident		
	response unit.		

Lime Street	 Extend existing "No motor vehicles" restriction to 7am – 7pm Monday to Friday.
St Mary Axe	 "No motor vehicles" restriction (Monday to Friday between 7am – 7pm) except vehicles accessing off street premises, for refuse collection, emergency services and local authority service vehicles.
	- Parking bays removed.
	- Pedestrian priority signage.

9. **Well-being and Climate Change resilience programme** (A Gateway 4 report is also on this committee agenda for Decision):

The content of this programme for the next 3 years (2021-2024) has been organised into three key areas of work (see table 2) and has been developed in collaboration with the Department of Open Spaces and Climate Action Strategy lead officers and local stakeholders. The programme has been expanded and accelerated to reflect the needs of stakeholders and respond to the objectives of the Climate Action Strategy and Recovery Taskforce.

Table 2. Wellbeing and Climate change resilience programme scope 2021-2024		
Improvement to existing public spaces	The Cluster currently contains very few public spaces to rest and spend time in and many existing spaces are dated or in need of enhancement. Considering the current health crisis, the provision of high-quality public spaces is paramount to supporting safe social interaction and City recovery.	
	Designs have been developed for St Helen's Bishopsgate churchyard, St Andrew Undershaft churchyard and Jubilee Gardens.	
Green Streets:	Greening interventions have a positive impact on the environment as well as the physical and mental wellbeing of people. Opportunities have been identified that will seek to address the need for green infrastructure and will build upon the measures delivered as part of the Covid-19 response strategy.	
Climate Change resilience response	The implementation and assessment of two pilot projects to deliver sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) proposals in Bevis Marks-Dukes Place and Houndsditch (vicinity of Jubilee Gardens), along with planting of climate resilient tree species across the area is proposed. Further opportunities will be identified as the Climate Action Strategy programmes inform future projects.	

10. In addition to the above projects, St Botolph Bishopsgate Churchyard has been identified as a high priority Churchyard in need of improvement and with serious issues of antisocial behaviour. An Issues report is due to be submitted which will outline next

steps to improve this space. In addition, further public realm and greening improvements have been identified for Eastcheap, Philpot Lane and St Peter Upon Cornhill Churchyard in discussion with the EC Partnership, which require further evaluation and will be presented to Members in due course.

11. Activation and Engagement programme (A Gateway 3 report on this programme is also on this committee agenda for Decision):

This programme has been aligned with the City's Recovery Taskforce and Commerce and Culture Taskforce objectives and actions. Priority has been given to the delivery of activities and installations that will support the return to work and promote the area as a destination. The programme will be focussed around three themes (see table 3 below) and has been developed in collaboration with the EC Partnership, and the City's Visitor and Destination team, and other nearby cultural institutions, to capitalise on the collaborative networks already in place and build an impactful programme which is tailored to the area's unique character.

Table 3. Activation and Engagement programme 2021-2024		
Urban greening and healthy spaces.	Advocating the importance of welcoming spaces to contribute to social wellbeing and aid the recovery of the City. Installations will include temporary interventions in areas where longer term change is restricted by development activity, alongside events that focus on outdoor exercise.	
Business support and cultural partnerships	Innovative programme in collaboration with cultural institutions to attract visitors and workers into the area, building on the success of Sculpture in the City and promoting the areas' architectural qualities. There will be a strong focus on reviving retail areas and supporting business needs as the recovery continues, in collaboration with the EC Partnership.	
Place activation and installations	Engagement with workers and visitors to encourage public participation through a tailored offer of activities. Promoting the area as destination beyond the "working week" and welcoming a diverse range of visitors. Opportunities will include outdoor activities such as music, performance and food events. Promoting the areas' public spaces, unique built environment and rooftop gardens, which are a key destination in the City Cluster.	

- 12. There are number of existing public realm and highway improvement projects in the City Cluster, which are primarily funded via S106 and S278 agreements which have continued to be progressed. These are as follows:
 - 22 Bishopsgate public realm scheme In progress, completion expected May 2021.
 - 150 Bishopsgate public realm scheme In progress, completion expected summer 2021

- 1 Leadenhall Street S278 works Detailed design stage with agreement expected to be signed in summer 2021.
- 6-8 Bishopsgate S278 works Detailed design stage and agreement expected to be signed in 2022.
- 80 Fenchurch St Completed. Gateway 6 approved, February 2021.
- Eastern Cluster wider security scheme update expected July 2021.
- 13. Annual programme reports will continue to be submitted to Committees and individual Gateway reports will be submitted as projects are developed.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

- 14. The City Cluster is identified as a Key Area of Change in the draft Local plan. The area will experience the largest increase in working population due to current and projected developments.
- 15. City of London Corporate plan outcomes of relevance to the City Cluster Vision are as follows:
 - Corporate Outcome 1 People are safe and feel safe
 - Corporate Outcome 2 People enjoy good health and wellbeing.
 - Corporate outcome 5 Businesses are trusted and socially and environmentally responsible.
 - Corporate outcome 7 We are a global hub for innovation in finance and professional services, commerce and culture.
 - Corporate outcome 10 We inspire enterprise, excellence, creativity and collaboration.
 - Corporate outcome 9 A city that is physically well-connected and responsive
 - Corporate outcome 11 A city that has clean air, land and water
 - Corporate outcome 12 Spaces which are secure, resilient and well-maintained.
- 16.Transport Strategy The following outcomes are relevant to the City Cluster work programmes:

Outcomes:

- The Square Mile's streets are great places to walk and spend time.
- Street space is used more efficiently and effectively.
- The Square Mile is accessible to all.
- People using our streets and public spaces are safe and feel safe.
- The Square Mile's air and streets are cleaner and quieter.
- Our street network is resilient to changing circumstances.
- 17. The City's Recovery Taskforce, key headlines and focus areas relevant to the City Cluster Programmes:
 - Vibrant offer (retail, hospitality, culture, tourism) (i.e. what makes it fun and exciting to be here, attracting talent & visitors)

- Execute a marketing campaign and complementary activities programme over 5 years to promote the City as an inclusive and exciting place to be.
- Enable and animate the City's weekend and night-time offer
- The City Corporation will help leisure businesses to thrive
- Outstanding environments (i.e. the right workspaces, environment, and infrastructure)
 - Provide new and improved public spaces that include opportunities for culture and exercise, and incorporate seating, greening and climate resilience measures.
 - Accelerate our plans to make our streets more accessible, prioritise people walking and improve the experience of cycling.
- 18. Culture and Commerce Taskforce key objectives:
 - Enable Creative Activation, bringing London alive through creativity
 - Facilitate Culture and Commerce Exchange, building skills and knowledge sharing between culture and commerce
 - Develop Creative Enterprise Hubs, providing space for cross-sector innovation

Financial implications

- 19. The programme is proposed to be funded by a variety of sources, including site specific Section 106 contributions, Section 278 payments, CIL contributions (including Neighbourhood CIL), external sources and the Transport for London Liveable Neighbourhoods grant. The Cool Streets and Greening Programme is also an emerging funding source.
- 20. The current estimated cost of the three programmes (for 2021-2024) is £3.6 £3.9m, refer to the Appendix for further information. Programmes 2 and 3 have been expanded and accelerated in line with stakeholder expectations to include the enhancement of a number of public spaces, the delivery of climate resilience measures and an ambitious activation programme to aid the City's economic and social recovery post-pandemic. Some of these additional elements are proposed to be funded by stakeholder contributions which are subject to confirmation ahead of the next Gateway, as well as the emerging Cool Streets and Greening programme which is subject to approval.
- 21. As programmes continue to be developed, the cost ranges will vary depending on the scale of the projects and available funding sources. In particular, there may be scope to secure additional external funds which could deliver further improvements. Officers will work with the Chamberlain's Department to continue to develop the funding strategy.

Legal implications

22. The existing S106 contributions which are proposed to be used to fund the programme are specific to this area, in scope and geography. Section 106 payments made and held for specific purposes must be spent on the purposes for which they are held and in accordance with the City's obligations under the agreement, unless these agreements are specifically re-negotiated with the relevant parties. The TfL funding allocation is also

- specific for the area and therefore ring-fenced to be spent in the City Cluster's streets and spaces.
- 23. Where further consultation is required on individual projects this will be carried out as the project moves forward, in accordance with either the statutory requirements or the principles which guide general consultation.
- 24. The City published an Infrastructure funding statement annually which includes a statement of the infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure which the City intends will be, or may be, wholly or partly funded by CIL. Where proposals for works within the City Cluster Vision fall within the scope City of London Infrastructure List, CIL funds may be used towards such works.
- 25. Furthermore, the removal of regulation 123 that restricted pooling of S106 and CIL contributions now allows local authorities to combine CIL and 106 revenues towards the same infrastructure project or item.

Risk Implications

26. The top programme risks are as follows:

Risk	Description	Response
Future funding is not secured.	Funding has been identified to deliver the first 3 years of the programme (2021-2024), although part of this is subject to funding bids being successful. Funding for future years (beyond 2024) is uncertain at present. The TfL liveable neighbourhoods grant is currently on hold due to Covid-19 and further guidance is expected in the coming months.	Additional funding sources are being investigated, including further external contributions. Officers will work closely with the Chamberlains Dept to finalise the detailed funding strategy for the programmes. Officers are working with stakeholders to support the submission of funding bids to support the programmes.
		Liaison with TfL in relation to their future grants is ongoing.
Delivery timescales are delayed	Projects will need to be coordinated with the on-going developments in the area. This will impose various programme constraints.	On-going communication with developers and contractors is essential, as is the need for flexibility in the programme.
Lack of stakeholder support	The public consultation on the City Cluster Vision and the Transport Strategy highlighted strong overall support to deliver the proposed initiatives.	A communication strategy is in place to ensure stakeholders are consulted at various stages of the projects.
	Page 150	The EC Partnership and stakeholders in the Cluster have expressed their support for the programme. Engagement with

Page 150

		these groups has been maintained and will continue.
Covid-19 risks:	Due to the impacts of Covid-19 projects have been delayed and	The situation is being monitored and the scope of the projects will
Delivery plan requires changes	updated timescales are yet to be confirmed. It is likely that projects within the delivery plan	be evaluated to ensure projects comply with governmental guidance.
Implementation of projects is delayed	will continue to be reviewed in line with government advice on restrictions.	

Project delivery

27. The initial set projects are estimated to be delivered over a period of three years, 2021-2024. The programmes are to be coordinated with the developments in the area, taking into account future construction sites and permissions.

Conclusion

28. The City Cluster area delivery plan outlines a framework for the creation of a positive and welcoming street environment to support the City's recovery. The programme will deliver on the objectives of the City's Recovery Taskforces, and ensure the streets and spaces are attractive, safe and inclusive. The ability to place the City Cluster as a destination beyond the working hours, welcoming visitors and workers alike remains a key aim.

Background papers

• City Cluster Area – Updated Delivery Plan approved by:

	Date(s):
Planning and Transportation Committee – For decision	14 July 2020
Streets and Walkways Sub – For decision	07 July 2020
Projects Sub – For decision	30 July 2020
Open Spaces Committee - For information	14 July 2020

Appendix:

1. City Cluster Area programme summary funding tables

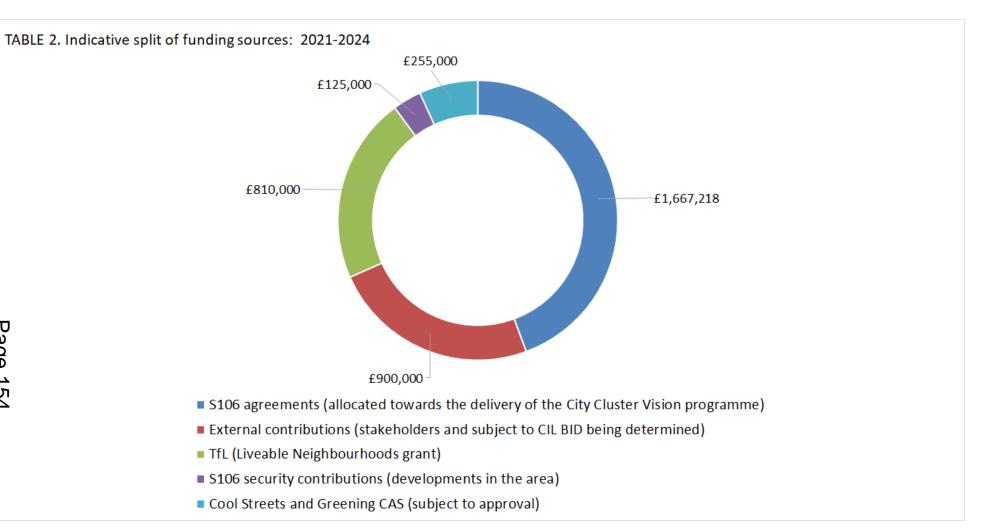
Appendix . Funding tables.

Table 1. Estimated costs 2021-2024			
Programme	Indicative Programme Cost range	Funding sources	Notes
Traffic Reduction and Pedestrian priority	£1.4 - £1.5 m	S106	Detailed scope of this
		TfL	programme will be developed following the completion of
		S106 security	the Healthy Streets Plan.
Well-being & Climate	£1.4 - £1.5 m	External/other	Programme content and funding strategy is described in Gateway 4 report- Wellbeing and Climate resilience programme also on this
change resilience		S106	
Page		Cool Streets & greening programme	
152		TfL	agenda For Decision
Activation and engagement		S106	Programme content and detailed funding strategy is
	£600 - £900k	External/other	described in Gateway 3 report- Activation and
			Engagement programme also on this agenda For Decision
Total estimated costs *	£3.6 - £3.9 m		

^{*}At this stage costs are indicative and are subject to change as individual programmes are developed and funding sources are confirmed.

Table 2. Summary indicative funding sources 2021- 2024	Total estimated cost
S106 agreements (allocated towards the delivery of	
the City Cluster Vision programme)	£1,660,000
External contributions (subject to confirmation and	
neighbourhood CIL bids being determined)	£900,000
TfL (Liveable Neighbourhoods grant)	£810,000
S106 security contributions (from developments in	
the area)	£125,000
Cool Streets and Greening CAS (subject to approval)	£255,000
TOTAL	£3,750,000*

*At this stage costs are indicative and are subject to change as individual programmes are developed and funding sources are confirmed.



Committees: Streets and Walkways Sub – For decision	Dates: 29 April 2021	
Projects Sub – For decision Open Spaces Committee - For information	17 May 2021 27 April 2021	
Subject:	Gateway 3:	
City Cluster Area – Activation and Engagement programme	Outline Options Appraisal	
Unique Project Identifier:	(Regular)	
City Cluster Vision Phase one – 12072		
Report of:	For Decision	
Director of the Built Environment		
Report Author:		
Maria Herrera – City Public Realm		
PUBLIC		

1. Status update

Project Description: The implementation of the City Cluster area delivery plan is divided between three programmes focused on 1) pedestrian priority and traffic reduction, 2) well-being and climate change resilience and 3) activation and engagement. Each programme will deliver complementary improvements, in response to the highest priorities in the area, and are being developed in close collaboration with local stakeholders.

This report sets out the details for an outline proposal of **Programme 3 – Activation and Engagement,** which is proposed to be taken forward to the next Gateway (4/5).

RAG Status: Green Risk Status: Low

Total Estimated Cost of Project (excluding risk): £200-£300k for the delivery of the programme on an annual basis initially over 3 years. Since the previous report, the programme has been substantially developed in collaboration with stakeholders. This revised scope takes into account the deliverables within the City's Recovery Taskforce actions.

Change in Total Estimated Cost of Project (excluding risk): £210k for the delivery of the programme, as reported in the previous programme report (July 2020).

Spend to Date: £111,905 as part of the City Cluster Vision Phase 1 report (approved in July 2019) which also included development of elements within the other two programmes and overall programme coordination. This report will create

a separate budget for programme 3 to manage the programme independently.

Funding Source: For the overall programme over the next 3 years, Section 106 contributions are secured to reach the next Gateway and deliver an initial set of activations this summer. External sponsorship is being explored as the primary funding source. Additional funding opportunities will also be discussed in consultation with the Chamberlain.

Costed Risk Provision Utilised: NA

Slippage: As a result of the pandemic and lockdown restrictions, the development of the programme was delayed until more certainty was provided in relation to restrictions and recovery plans.

2. Next steps and requested decisions

Next Gateway: Gateway 4/5

Detailed Options Appraisal and authority to start work

Next Steps:

- Develop a detailed programme and agree priorities with EC Business Partnership, other stakeholder groups and the Cultural Programming and Partnerships team.
- Develop a detailed funding strategy for the implementation of the programme, both medium and large scale.
- Produce a management and governance plan for the proposed initiatives, alongside a communication strategy.
- Submit a Gateway 4/5 report to committees in July 2021.

Requested Decisions:

- 1. To note an increase in the estimated programme budget specifically to address City recovery "Vibrant Offer" recommendations. The programme cost range is estimated to be £200-£300k, for the delivery of the programme on an annual basis, initially over 3 years.
- To note that the overall programme budget will be substantially funded by external sponsorship. The exact budget is subject to the level of external funding which is to be confirmed at the next Gateway.
- 3. That planning for large and medium scale activation programmes (Option 1 and 2) be continued, with detailed options to be presented at Gateway 4-5.
- 4. That a budget of £68,000 (£20k staff costs and £48k fees) from the Section 106 Agreement from the

	Pinnacle is approved to reach the next Gateway and to deliver events to support City's Recovery in summer 2021.		
3. Resource requirements to reach next	Table 1: Budget required for <i>Programme 3</i> — Engagement and Activation to reach the next gateway approval.		
Gateway	Description Description	Resources required to reach next Gateway (£)	
	P&T Staff Costs Open Spaces Staff Costs Fees to include; • Development of programme to next gateway • Implementation of activations in summer 2021 in partnership with Sculpture in the City and CoL outdoor	18,000	
	events programme.	48,000	
	Costed Risk Provision requested for this Gateway: No risk provision is required at this stage.		
4. Overview of project options	 The Activation and Engagement programme objectives are as follows: To contribute to the creation of a pleasant street environment and welcoming destination where people can enjoy spending time outdoors. To support businesses and build upon the areas existing cultural offer. To develop the area as a vibrant destination, for both workers and visitors, and aid the City's recovery. 		
	Delivery of these objectives will be framed around the following themes: • Urban greening and healthy spaces • Business support and cultural partnerships • Place activation and installations This programme will deliver on the aims of the City Cluster Vision, the Cultural Strategy (2018-2022), the Commerce and Culture task force and the Recovery task Force and has been developed in collaboration with the EC Business		

Partnership and the City's Cultural Programming and Partnerships Team.

This programme delivers on the activities identified in the Recovery Task Force and will focus on the following headline workstream:

Vibrant Offer (leisure offer i.e. retail, hospitality, culture, tourism and recreation)

Activities:

- Deliver activities and events that foster a sense of inclusion and shift perceptions around belonging in the City.
- Deliver marketing targeting the City's and London's workforce, fostering inclusion and celebrating the "Unseen City", while encouraging participation in leisure activities outside of work hours.
- Deliver outdoor fitness and leisure initiatives that contribute to the physical and mental wellbeing of the City's workforce.
- Deliver bold event programming to include major weekend and night-time events that respond to shifting work patterns and potential low-use periods; support with community-led content.
- Deliver marketing activity to drive domestic and London audiences to the City.

Project Options:

The programme proposal will promote the area as a vibrant and welcoming place for all, bringing the uniqueness of the area's history, buildings and public realm under a programme of activation and engagement to aid the return of workers and visitors. Interventions will focus on promoting health, culture and outdoor activities with the aim of supporting the area as a destination.

Two options are presented in this report, with medium-larger scale programmes to be developed further and presented at the next Gateway:

Option 1: larger scale programme

To develop a detailed 3-year programme of activities and events to meet the programme objectives and Recovery Taskforce aims, in partnership with local stakeholders, up to a value of £300k per year.

This option will include a wide range of activities and installations, (compared to option 2) and will be focussed on encouraging outdoor activities and supporting businesses to aid the City's recovery. It will also establish the area as a destination, drawing upon the already

	established Sculpture in the City project. An outline description of the proposed interventions is contained within Appendix 2. Option 2: medium scale programme To develop a detailed 3-year programme of activities up to a value of £200k per year. This reduced scope will limit the		
	range and frequency of activities and interventions. Officers will work with local businesses to ensure priorities are agreed and the scope is adjusted in line with available funding.		
	The programme scope for subsequent years will be developed taking on board learned experiences from the initial programme, along with the aim of establishing a long-term external funding strategy.		
5. Recommendations	 To note an increase in the estimated programme budget specifically to address City recovery "Vibrant Offer" recommendations and following positive engagement with local businesses and partners. Based on the above, the programme cost range is estimated to be £200-£300k, for the delivery of the programme on an annual basis initially over 3 years. 		
	 To note that the overall programme budget will be substantially funded by external sponsorship. The exact budget is subject to the level of external funding which is to be confirmed at the next Gateway. 		
	 That planning for large and medium scale activation programmes (Option 1 and 2) be continued, with detailed options to be presented at Gateway 4-5. 		
	4. That a budget of £68,000 (£20k staff costs and £48k fees) from the Section 106 Agreement from the Pinnacle is approved to reach the next Gateway and to deliver events to support City's Recovery in summer 2021.		
5. Risk	The risks associated with developing the programme are low. Officers will evaluate options that will respond to the needs of local stakeholders and in line with Corporate priorities.		
	For top risks please refer to the Options appraisal		
6. Procurement approach	In order to reach the next Gateway, external consultants will be appointed to help develop the detail of the		

programme and this procurement will be carried out in line with the City's procurement guidelines for projects.
The delivery of the initial measures this summer will be undertaken in partnership with Sculpture in the City project and the City's Cultural Programming and Partnerships Team.

Appendices

Appendix 1	Options appraisal matrix
Appendix 2	Outline proposal: Example annual programme of
	activities

Contact

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Appendix 1. Options Appraisal Matrix

Ор	tion Summary	Option 1 – large scale programme	Option 2 - medium scale programme
1.	Brief description of option	The project proposes developing a detailed 3-year programme of activities and events, in partnership with local stakeholders and the City's Cultural Programming and Partnerships Team, focussed on encouraging outdoor activities, promoting the City's streets and open spaces, and supporting businesses to aid the City's recovery. An outline of the types of interventions is set out in the Appendix 2. The programme will include projects which help to develop a tangible identity and trial ideas for green interventions and place activation.	As Option 1, but with fewer activities and events to fit within lower budget.
2.	Scope and exclusions	Activities and events will take place on both public and private land, in collaboration with the EC Partnership and stakeholders. The City Cluster includes large publicly accessible spaces many of which are privately owned, including rooftop spaces which are part of the area's unique offer.	As Option 1
Pro	oject Planning		
3.	Programme and key dates	Programme to be developed and implemented over a period of 3 years. Subsequent years will be dependent on funding and a review of requirements and benefits. A robust evaluation criteria and consultation strategy will be prepared in order to ensure the programme has delivered	As Option 1

Option Summary	Option 1 – large scale programme			Option 2 - medium scale programme
	on the objectives s set out the City's Recovery Task Forces and the EC Partnership's aspirations.			
	_	strategy will ensure activitionsers, as the City's recovery	es respond to feedback and continues.	
	with the In Partnersh — June 20 Produce 2021 Submit Good Deliver in activities Establish	detailed cost estimates for ateway 4/5 report to commitial measures and activitie		
4. Risk implications	Overall project option risk: Low The top risks are as follows:			As Option 1
	Risk Description Response			
	Funding is	It is anticipated that		
	not secured.	many of the interventions will be externally funded by the EC partnership and		

Option Summary	Option 1 – large scale programme			Option 2 - medium scale programme
		other stakeholders. Other potential funding sources will also be investigated.	activities this summer to aid the City's recovery. A funding strategy will be developed ahead of next gateway in liaison with the Chamberlains department.	
	Construction activity limits the ability to create a welcoming and pleasant environment	This is recognised as a risk and has been mentioned in various perception surveys about the area. It is expected that construction activity in the area will continue for several years to come.	Temporary interventions can help to rebalance the street environment and create a positive feeling in those streets where development impacts are felt. Interventions will be targeted that help to counterbalance the negative impacts of construction. Opportunities will be sought to collaborate with	
			sought to collaborate with developers to enhance the areas around development sites and make use of temporary street closures for example Billiter street and Creechurch lane	

Ор	tion Summary	Option 1 – larg	e scale programme	Option 2 - medium scale programme	
				parklets – useful trial for longer term transformation.	
		Covid-19 risks: Delivery plan requires changes Implementati on of projects is delayed	The development of the programme will be adapted to the evolving situation, including guidelines and emerging response stemming from the health emergency.	The situation is being monitored and the scope of the projects will be evaluated to ensure projects comply with new guidelines and response strategy. Projects are primarily considered in outdoor spaces in response to	
5.	Stakeholders and consultees	stakeholder grou Partnership will projects.	play a key part in the deve	various departments. The EC lopment and prioritisation of	Same as Option 1
6.	Benefits of option	vibrancy of the a		ne will help to improve the ic environment. It will focus on ween stakeholders, cultural	The programme scope offers a high degree of flexibility in terms of scaling down the scope to fit a reduced

Option Summary	Option 1 – large scale p	programme	Option 2 - medium scale programme	
	activities in the short-med		budget. This would be reflected in a reduced number of activities and	
		imed at a diverse range of users including dents. The cultural events will foster social	therefore less impact.	
	benefit. The consideration	e the use of public/private spaces for social n of measures to support the weekend and the area is attractive beyond the working w	nigh- similar as per Option 1, but	
	businesses and stakehol	A focussed strategy of activation and engagement provides certainty to businesses and stakeholders and secures interest (financial and cultural) with the long-term aim of creating a well-known destination and identity for the City Cluster.		
	The table below incudes be delivered over a 12-m down as interest is gathe approach, the intention is which will inform and enrould also support the co	or s on rm		
	List examples of events a provided in Appendix 2:	etail		
	Theme	Types of activities and events		
	Urban greening and healthy spaces	 Outdoor exercise classes and walking trails 		

Option Summary	Option 1 – large scale p	programme	Option 2 - medium scale programme
		 Temporary and medium-term greening improvements and meanwhile uses. 	
	Business support and cultural partnerships Place activation and installations	 Tours and educational events in association with Sculpture in the City Food markets Moveable tables and chairs or deckchairs in association with retail areas or events. Architecture guide tours Gallery partnerships Community-focussed art installations Music events, including silent disco and rooftop activation in partnership with cultural institutions. 	
	stakeholders and the EC funding to match large-m businesses and the object the scope of the program has been expressed for confrastructure, weekend a	will be prioritised in consultation with local Partnership, and informed by the available edium scale options. Initial consultation with ctives of the Recovery Taskforces have informed me presented in this report. Particular interest outdoor wellbeing events and improved green and night-time activities, and creating a unique conditions, architecture and heritage.	

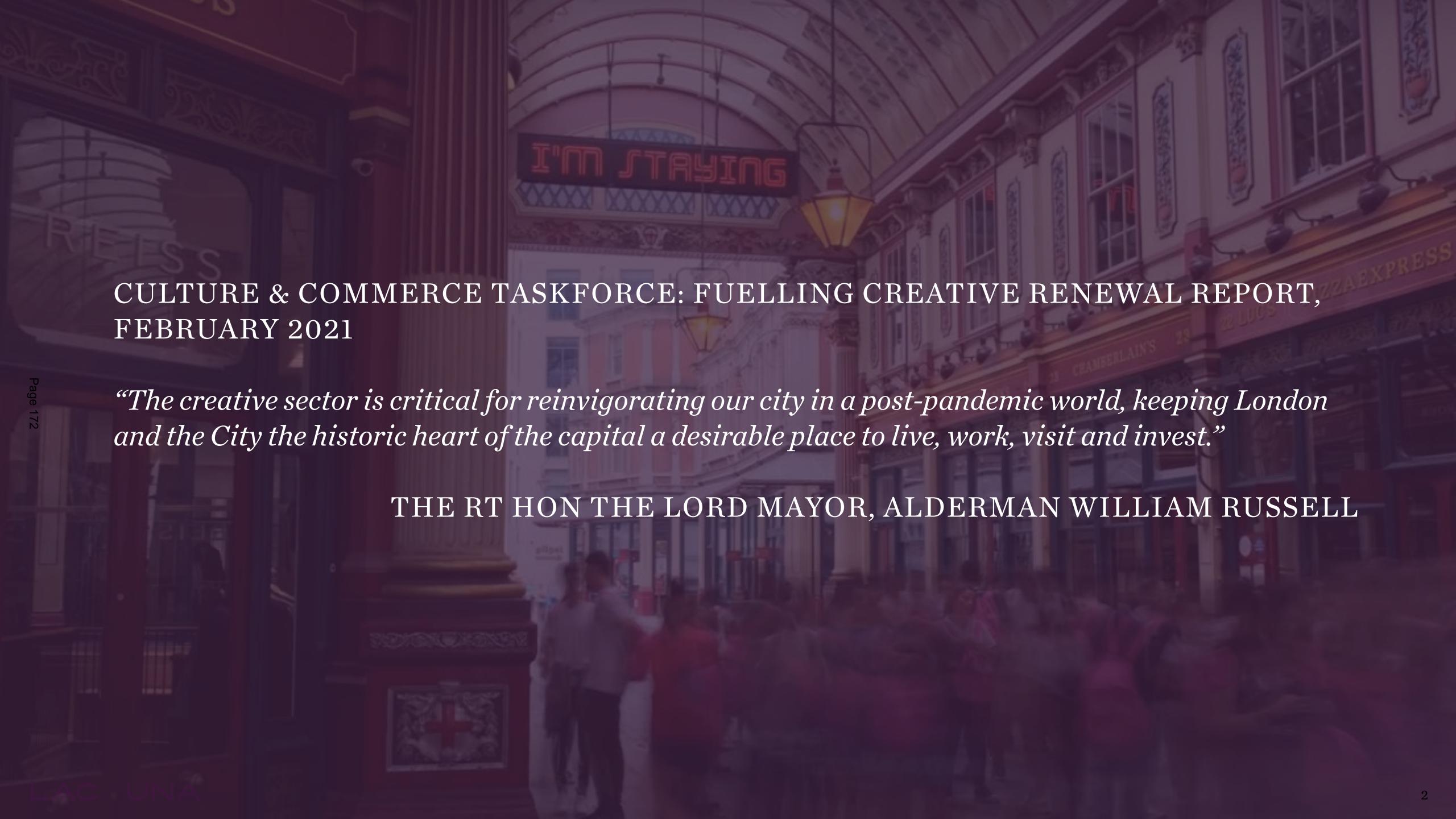
Ор	Option Summary Option 1 – large scale programme		Option 2 - medium scale programme
		It is envisaged that the programme will be managed by CoL DBE officers and the City's Cultural Programming and Partnerships Team, working with an external consultant and in liaison with EC Partnership. A governance structure is to be agreed and presented at the next committee report in July 2021.	
7.	Disbenefits of option	At this stage there are no disbenefits of progressing with this programme, it forms part of the City Cluster Programme of works and is in line with the desired outcomes identified though public consultation on the City Cluster Vision, as well as the aims of the Recovery Taskforce and Commerce and Culture Taskforce. A high impact programme will establish the area as a destination and build on the momentum of the City's wider recovery activities. This will place the area on the map for outdoor culture and activities in the short and medium term to support the economic and social recovery of the City Cluster.	This option will deliver fewer activities and events and will therefore not be as impactful, resulting in fewer benefits than option 1.
	source olications		
8.	8. Total estimated cost £300k per year over an initial 3-year period to deliver a larger scale programme.		£200k per year over an initial 3-year period to deliver a medium scale programme.
9.	Funding strategy	It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded from external sources and the EC Partnership. Some City funding (S106) is proposed	As Option 1

Option Summary	Option 1 – large scale programme	Option 2 - medium scale programme
	to be used to help establish the programme. Further funding bids will also be submitted.	
	A cost table of an example for a 12-month programme is contained in Appendix 2.	
	A more detailed funding strategy will be included at the next gateway.	
10. Investment appraisal	NA	As Option 1
11. Estimated capital value/return	NA	As Option 1
12. Ongoing revenue implications	Management, maintenance and monitoring costs will be included within the programme budget. Including maintenance for soft landscaping and security elements, if required.	As Option 1
13. Affordability	External funding is yet to be confirmed and is subject to a forthcoming bid to be submitted by the EC Partnership.	As Option 1
	Other funding sources are also being investigated and will be reported at the next Gateway report in July 2021.	
14. Legal implications	Legal agreements are likely to be required for some of the initiatives within the project, particularly if located on private land. Details of these will be reported at the next gateway.	As Option 1

Option Summary	Option 1 – large scale programme	Option 2 - medium scale programme
15. Corporate property implications	None	As Option 1
16. Traffic implications	None	As Option 1
17. Sustainability and energy implications	N/A	As Option 1
18. IS implications	N/A	As Option 1
19. Equality Impact Assessment	The programme of works will deliver accessible and welcoming spaces for all user groups and provide areas where people can spend time outside their workplace environment.	As Option 1
	A diverse offer is proposed in response to a wide range of users and age groups. The key objective is for the content of the programme to shift the perception of the City towards an inclusive and welcoming part of London, open to all.	
	Weekend, daytime and evening-time activities have been included in response to the surveys undertaken to date by CoL Recovery Task Forces.	
	The spaces, public and private, which are being considered are fully accessible, the majority being at street level.	

Option Summary	Option 1 – large scale programme	Option 2 - medium scale programme
	Equality assessments for individual projects/activities will be undertaken at the next stage in consultation with consultants and DBE Access officers.	
20. Data Protection Impact Assessment	N/A	As Option 1
21. Recommendation	That planning for larger and medium scale activation programmes (Option 1 and 2) be continued, with detailed options and funding strategy to be presented at Gateway 4-5.	
	Recommended	Recommended.









CITY WIDE - RECOVERY TASKFORCE

World-class business
ecosystems
Encouraging continual return
and engagement; inclusivity.

Vibrant Offer
(Retail, culture, hospitality,
tourism) An engagement City
offer; supporting weekend/nightime economy; community led

Outstanding Environments
Streets are safe, accessible and
attractive.

oage 17t

CITY CLUSTER AREA

Opportunities:

- Well-being activities and health
- Public spaces roof top gardens, terraces, galleries.
- Green infrastructure interventions
- 24/7 City activities and nigh-time economy
- Sculpture in the City: Digital engagement and on-site activities

EC PARTNERSHIP: Priorities

- Cleaner, greener, more welcoming City.
- Social purpose: inclusivity, diversity and innovation.
- Collaborative approach and collective benefit.

EXPERIENCE THE CITY PROGRAMME: ANNUAL PROGRAMME

- URBAN GREENING AND HEALTHY SPACES
- ACTIVATE SPACES AND CITY SOUNDSCAPES
- SUPPORTING BUSINESS AND CULTURAL PARTNERSHIPS (SITC, LFA, NOCTURNAL CREATURES, CITY OUTDOOR PROGRAMME, SKIP GALLERY ...)



180 Bury Court, Reza Aramesh and dancer Joshua Smith *Scramble 1967*, Nocturnal Creatures performance

ANNUAL PROGRAMME SCOPING FOR CITY CLUSTER ACTIVATION

		20)21						2022						
Programme Phases		J	J	Α	S	0	N	D	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J
URBAN GREENING & HEALTHY SPACES	Developing Urban Greening & Meanwhile Spaces to Lay the Groundwork for Longterm Activation.						PH	ASE 1 A	ACTIVA	TION T	BD				
MUSICITY LIVE	A Live Music Programme to activate spaces across Sculpture in the City within the Eastern City Cluster - First Thursday of September, December 2021 and May 2022.														
SILENT DISCO	A Live Music Event to activate spaces across Sculpture in the City within the Eastern City Cluster - First Thursday of October 2021 and January, April 2022.														
CITY SOUNDSCAPES ROOFTOP PROGRAMME "Wicked Wednesdays"	Every Last Wednesday of the chosen Month, three times per year - A live music session at one of the key rooftop locations within the EC. Potential programming with Non Classical.														
ARCHITECTURE + SPECIALIST GUIDE THROUGH SCULPTURE IN THE CITY	Specialist Guided Tour Programme Starting in July 2021 through to July 2022 - Two Sunday's across August, September, October 2021 then														
SKIP GALLERY INTERVENTION	Outdoor Travelling Exhibition, One Skip Gallery Exhibition Installed for 2-3 Weeks With a Special Three Day Artist Led Workshop During the August Bank Holiday Weekend in 2021.														
OUTDOOR YOGA	Every Monday or Friday (TBD) August, September 2021 and May, June 2022. Collaboration with Local Businesses (The Light Centre).														
RUNNING TOURS OF SCULPTURE IN THE CITY	Every Tuesday evening (after work) during Spring & Summer 2021. Collaboration with Local Business such as City Joggers - TBD														
LIME STREET FOOD MARKET	Weekly Food Market for Lime Street Activation, Spring & Summer (Wednesdays).														

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CREATING OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENTS AND HUMANISING SPACES

Project Stream: Activating Space by developing Urban Greening & Meanwhile Spaces to Lay the Groundwork for Longterm Activation.

How: By increasing the number of green spaces, temporary interventions, planters and parklets.

When: Across the year TBD.

Where: Sites across the City being explored, also supporting the delivery of Programme 2 initiatives.

Estimated Cost: £58,000.

Recovery Target Categories:

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Lunchtime + Afterwork/Evening Economy
- Weekend Economy
- City Workers
- Mental Wellbeing of Workforce
- Londoner's and Domestic Tourists



Philpot Lane: Green Streets - Interim Measures

CREATING A VIBRANT OFFER IN THE CITY CLUSTER THROUGH MUSIC

Project Stream: Activating Space Through Musicity Live.

How: A Live Music Programme to activate spaces across Sculpture in the City within the Eastern City Cluster.

When: First Thursday of September, December 2021 and

May 2022.

Estimated Cost: Three extended live music events September, December 2021 and May 2022. Annual activation: £24,051.

Recovery Target Categories:

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Afterwork/Evening Economy
- Weekend Economy
- City Workers
- Mental Wellbeing of Workforce
- Londoner's and Domestic Tourists



The Undershaft, Midori Komachi, Nocturnal Creatures, 9th Edition of Sculpture in the City

CREATING A VIBRANT OFFER IN THE CITY CLUSTER THROUGH MUSIC

Project Stream: Activating Space Through Silent Disco.

How: A Live Music Event to activate spaces across Sculpture

in the City within the Eastern City Cluster.

When: First Thursday of October 2021 and January, April

2022.

Estimated Cost: Per event: £9,340.

Three Silent Disco Events October 2021 and January,

April 2022.

Annual activation: £28,021.

Recovery Target Categories:

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Afterwork/Evening Economy
- Weekend Economy
- City Workers
- Mental Wellbeing of Workforce
- Londoner's and Domestic Tourists



Leadenhall Market, Nocturnal Creatures, *Silent Disco*, 9th Edition of Sculpture in the City

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CREATING A VIBRANT OFFER IN THE CITY CLUSTER THROUGH MUSIC

Project Stream: Activating Space Through City Soundscapes Rooftop Programme.

How: A live music session at one of the key rooftop locations within the EC.

When: Three events across the year.

Estimated Cost: Per event: £14,353.

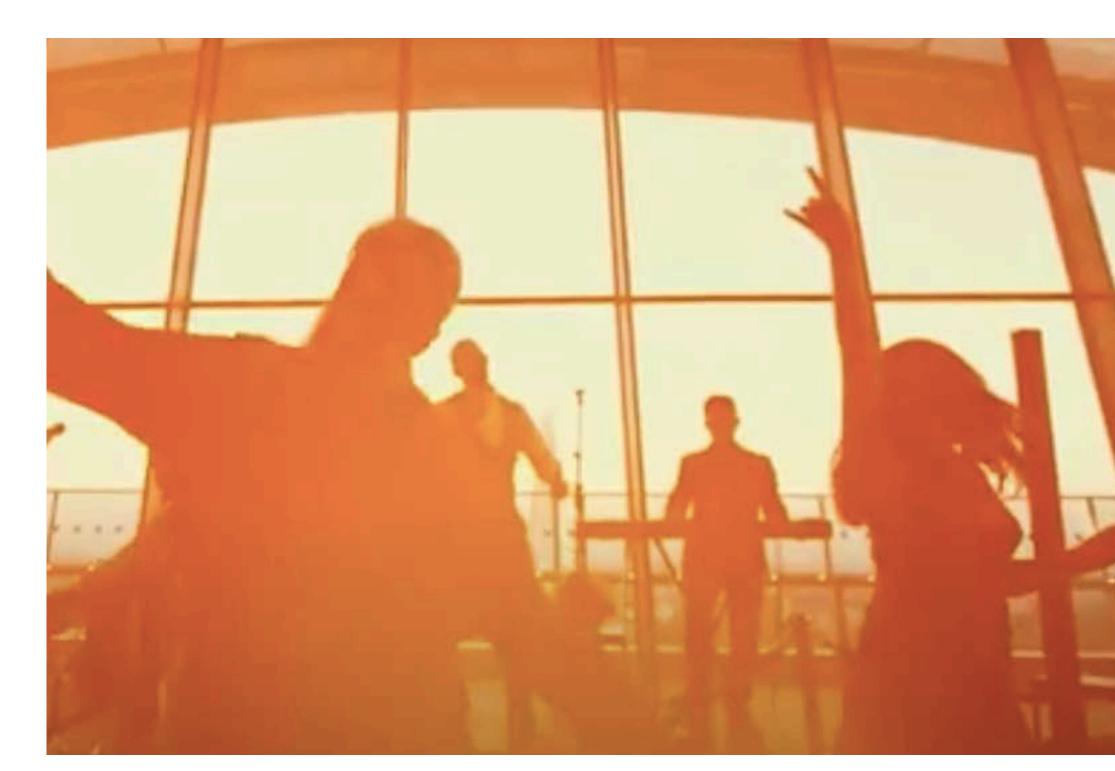
Every Last Wednesday of the chosen Month - August,

November 2021 and May 2022. Potential programming with Non Classical.

Annual activation: £43,085.

Recovery Target Categories:

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Afterwork/Evening Economy
- Weekend Economy
- City Workers
- Mental Wellbeing of Workforce
- Londoner's and Domestic Tourists



Potential Venue: Sky Garden, Rooftop

Page '

CREATING A VIBRANT OFFER IN THE CITY CLUSTER THROUGH TOURS & TALKS

Project Stream: Activating Space Through Architecture

Tours + Specialist tour guides.

How: Two tours to be scheduled monthly, across the annual

Sculpture in the City Programme.

When: Two Sundays each month for up to 20 people.

Estimated Cost: To enable the tours to be free, £7,750.

Recovery Target Categories:

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Weekend Economy
- Mental Wellbeing of Workforce
- Londoner's and Domestic Tourists



Notice Me (LGBTQIA+ Walk) participatory artwork led by Guillaume Vandame, Nocturnal Creatures 2019

CREATING A VIBRANT OFFER IN THE CITY CLUSTER THROUGH ART INTERVENTIONS

Project Stream: Activating Space Through Art Interventions.

How: Outdoor travelling exhibition by Skip Gallery, installed for 2 weeks with a special three day artist led workshop during the August Bank Holiday Weekend.

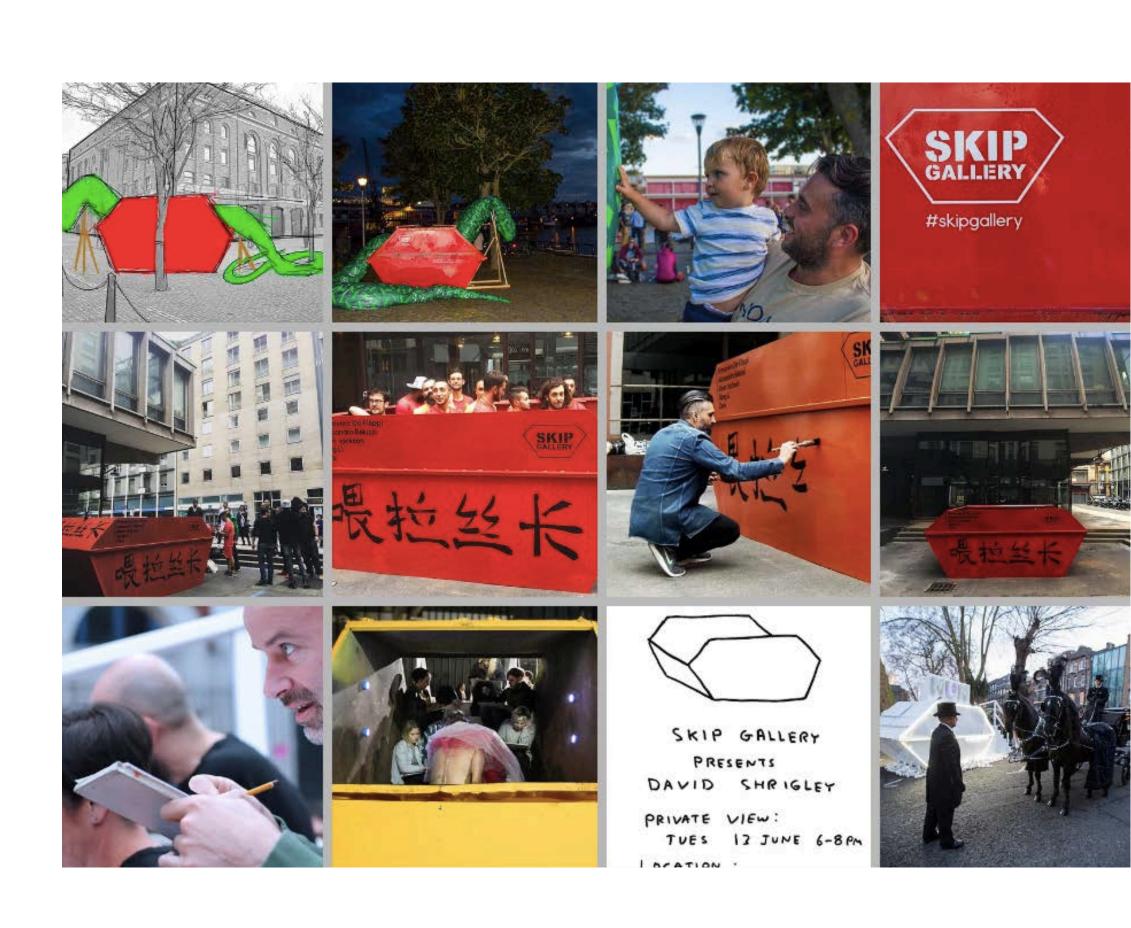
When: August 2021.

Where: Sites across the City being explored.

Estimated Cost: A two-three week art intervention and exhibition to celebrate the return to London and August Bank Holiday weekend: £28,798.

Recovery Target Categories:

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Afterwork/Evening Economy
- Weekend Economy
- City Workers
- Mental Wellbeing of Workforce
- Londoner's and Domestic Tourists



Collage of SKIP Gallery activations

CREATING OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENTS AND HUMANISING SPACES

Project Stream: Humanising Space with Outdoor Yoga.

How: Potential collaboration with local business ie. Light

Centre (London Wall).

When: Every Monday or Friday (TBD) August, September 2021 and May, June 2022.

Estimated Cost: COST NEUTRAL (TBD) + Fees £3,000.

Recovery Target Categories:

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Weekday Economy
- City Workers
- Mental Wellbeing of Workforce
- Londoner's and Domestic Tourists



Outdoor Yoga activations

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CREATING OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENTS AND HUMANISING SPACES

Project Stream: Humanising Space with Running tours of Sculpture in the City.

How: Potential collaboration with https://www.cityjoggingtours.co.uk/corporate.

When: Every Tuesday evening (after work) during Spring / Summer.

Estimated Cost: COST NEUTRAL (TBD) + Fees £2,250.

Recovery Target Categories:

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Weekend Economy
- City Workers
- Mental Wellbeing of Workforce
- Londoner's and Domestic Tourists



Sculpture in the City Running Tour activations

CREATING A VIBRANT OFFER IN THE CITY CLUSTER

Project Stream: Activating Space Through Food Markets.

How: Potential collaboration with various food market vendors.

When: Weekly Food Market for Lime Street Activation, Spring & Summer (Wednesdays).

Where: Sites across the City being explored in partnership with local stakeholders.

Estimated Cost: COST NEUTRAL (TBD) + Fees £3,389.

Recovery Target Categories:

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Lunchtime + Afterwork/Evening Economy
- City Workers
- Mental Wellbeing of Workforce
- Londoner's and Domestic Tourists



30 St. Mary Axe Lunch Markert and Spitalfields Music







EXPERIENCE THE CITY:

Annual Programme For City Cluster Activation

Outline otions

Budget Summary Coversheet	
URBAN GREENING & HEALTHY LIVING	£69,000
MUSICITY LIVE - PERFORMANCE	£24,051
MUSICITY LIVE SILENT DISCO	£28,021
CITY SOUNDSCAPES ROOFTOP PROGRAMME "Wicked	£43,058
ARCHITECTURE + SPECIALIST GUIDE THROUGH SCULPTURE IN	£7,750
ANNUAL SUMMER SKIP GALLERY ART INTERVENTION	£28,798
OUTDOOR YOGA	£3,000
RUNNING TOURS OF SCULPTURE IN THE CITY	£2,250
FOOD MARKETS	£5,978
MARKETING	£18,000
ESTIMATED BUDGET SUB-TOTAL - DELIVERY	£229,905
COL - PROJECT COORDINATION	£35,000
DESIGN AND MONITORING FEES	£30,000
PERMITS-SURVEYS	£8,000
TOTAL IMPLEMENTATION COSTS - ANNUAL PROGRAMME	£302,905

Committee(s)	Dated:
Open Spaces and City Gardens	27 April 2021
Subject: King George's Field Trustees Annual Report and	Public
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2020	
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate	n/a
Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or	N
capital spending?	
If so, how much?	n/a
What is the source of Funding?	n/a
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the	n/a
Chamberlain's Department?	
Report of:	For Information
The Chamberlain	
Director of Open Spaces	
Report author:	
Beatrix Jako - Chamberlains	

Summary

The Trustee's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 March 2020 for King George's Field (charity registration number 1085967) are presented for information in the format required by the Charity Commission.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that the Trustee's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the 2019/20 Financial Statements be noted.

Main Report

- 1. The Trustee's Annual Report and Financial Statements are presented for information, having been signed on behalf of the Trust by the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Finance Committee and the auditors BDO LLP. The information contained within the Annual Report and Financial Statements has already been presented to your Committee via budget and outturn reports.
- 2. Following on from a previous review of the charities for which the City is responsible, (completed in 2010), which detailed key reports that should be presented to your Committee. The Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements was one of these reports. Information from these statements will form the Annual Return to the Charity Commission. Since this undertaking the City Corporation has recently approved that a further comprehensive review be

- undertaken across all of its charities, the outcome of which will be reported to this committee in due course.
- 3. The Trustee's Annual Report and Financial Statements were submitted to the Charity Commission within the regulatory deadline of 31 January 2021.

Appendices

 Appendix 1 – King George's Field Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2020

Beatrix Jako

Acting Senior Accountant – Chamberlain's Financial Services Division, Citizen Services

E: Beatrix.Jako@cityoflondon.gov.uk



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Trustee Responsibilities	6
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ORIGINS OF THE CHARITY

The King George's Field was established in 1936 as a memorial to King George V, the intention being to provide much needed open space for sports, games and recreation. The City of London Corporation was a Trustee of a King George's Field which was originally situated in Vine Street, Minories. In 1973 this site was acquired by compulsory purchase order by the Greater London Council and in return that council transferred to the City Corporation a plot of land in Portsoken Street which was laid out as a children's playground. The playground was closed in 1981, and the space then used as a garden for general public use.

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

The governing document is the Trust deed dated 19 December 1939. The charity is constituted as a charitable trust.

GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

The Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of the City of London (also referred to as 'the City Corporation' or 'the City of London Corporation'), a body corporate and politic, is the Trustee of King George's Field—City Of London. The City Corporation is Trustee acting by the Court of Common Council of the City of London in its general corporate capacity and that executive body has delegated responsibility in respect of the administration and management of this charity to various committees and subcommittees of the Common Council, membership of which is drawn from 125 elected Members of the Common Council and external appointees to those committees. In making appointments to committees, the Court of Common Council will take into consideration any particular expertise and knowledge of the elected Members, and where relevant, external appointees. External appointments are made after due advertisement and rigorous selection to fill gaps in skills.

Members of the Court of Common Council are unpaid and are elected by the electorate of the City of London. The Key Committees which had responsibility for directly managing matters related to the charity during 2019/20 were as follows:

- **Finance Committee** responsible for administering the Trust on behalf of the Trustee.
- Audit and Risk Management Committee responsible for overseeing systems of internal control and making recommendations to the Finance Committee relating to the approval of the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the charity.

Individuals collectively act as Trustee by virtue of positions that they hold in the City of London Corporation in accordance with the governing document. They act as a Trustee during their tenure of these positions.

All of the above committees are ultimately responsible to the Court of Common Council of the City of London. Committee meetings are held in public, enabling the decision-making process to be clear, transparent and publicly accountable. Details of the membership of Committees of the City Corporation are available at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk

The charity is consolidated within City Fund as the City of London Corporation exercises operational control over their activities. City Fund is a fund of the City Corporation responsible for delivering the functions of a local authority and a police authority for the Square Mile.

Governance Arrangements (continued)

The Trustee believes that good governance is fundamental to the success of the charity. A comprehensive review of governance commenced during the year and is ongoing to ensure that the charity is effective in fulfilling its objectives. Reference is being made to the good practices recommended within the Charity Governance Code throughout this review. Focus is being placed on ensuring regulatory compliance and the ongoing maintenance of an efficient and effective portfolio of charities that maximise impact for beneficiaries.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objective for King George's Field–City Of London is to preserve in perpetuity a recreational and playing field as a memorial to King George V, under the provisions of the King George's Fields Foundation.

Public benefit statement

The Trustee confirms that it has referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing King George's Field-City Of London's aims and objectives and in planning future activities. The purpose of the charity is to preserve in perpetuity a recreational and playing field as a memorial to King George V, under the provisions of the King George's Fields Foundation.

Consequently, the Trustee considers that King George's Field-City Of London operates to benefit the general public and satisfies the public benefit test.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The administrative details of the charity are stated on page 18.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

King George's Field was maintained during the year at a cost of £18,626 (2018/19; £18,407) this was met by the City of London's City Fund.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The aim for King George's Field is to preserve in perpetuity a recreational and playing field as a memorial to King George V under the provisions of the King George's Fields Foundation.

Prior to the end of the financial year of the charity, a global pandemic of Coronavirus began. This is not expected to have an impact on income as the Charity has no income streams which would be affected by the closure of King George's Field. The City of London Corporation's City Fund has undertaken a revised forecasting exercise, which offers assurances that the charity's running costs will continue to be funded in this way. This enables the Trustee to confirm that the charity remains a going concern.

The Trustee is monitoring the situation and will continue with it's plans in line with the charity's objectives.

There are no improvements scheduled for 2020/21 other than general grounds maintenance.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income

In 2019/20 the charity total income for the year was £18,626, an overall increase of £219 against the previous year (£18,407).

The only contributor to income was an amount of £18,626 (2018/19: £18,407) received from the City of London Corporation's City Fund as a contribution towards the running costs of the charity. The charity is supported wholly by the City of London Corporation and expenditure in the year was offset by this income.

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £18,626, all being for the category charitable activities (2018/19: £18,407) Activities consist mainly of grounds maintenance costs £16,079 (2018/19: £15,204) and premises maintenance costs of £2,547 (2018/19: £3,203) The modest increase in expenditure are due to inflation on staff pay costs.

Funds held

There are no funds held for this charity as at 31 March 2020 (2018/19: £Nil).

Reserves policy

The charity is wholly supported by the City of London Corporation which is committed to maintain and preserve King George's Field-City Of London out of its City Fund. These Funds are used to meet the deficit on running expenses on a year by year basis. Consequently, this charity has no free reserves and a reserves policy is considered by the Trustee to be inappropriate.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The charity is committed to a programme of risk management as an element of its strategy to preserve the charity's assets. In order to embed sound practice the senior leadership team ensures that risk management policies are applied, that there is an on-going review of activity and that appropriate advice and support is provided. A key risk register has been prepared for the charity, which has been reviewed by the Trustee. This identifies the potential impact of key risks and the measures which are in place to mitigate such risks.

TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustee is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under charity law the Trustee must not approve the financial statements unless the Trustee is satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustee is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable the Trustee to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Trustee is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustee is aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware;
 and
- the Trustee has taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Financial statements are published on the Trustee's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements, which may vary from legislation in other jurisdictions. The maintenance and integrity of the Trustee's website is the responsibility of the Trustee. The Trustee's responsibility also extends to the ongoing integrity of the financial statements contained therein.

Adopted and signed for on behalf of the Trustee.

Jeremy Paul Mayhew MA MBA
Chairman of Finance Committee of
The City of London Corporation
Guildhall, London
10 November 2020

Jamie Ingham Clark FCA, Deputy Chairman of Finance Committee of The City of London Corporation

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEE OF KING GEORGE'S FIELD-CITY OF LONDON

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of King George's Field (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2020 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended:
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions related to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

• the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or

 the Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion;

- the information contained in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustee's Annual Report; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustee's responsibilities statement, the Trustee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustee is responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustee either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Financial Reporting Council's ("FRC's") website at:

https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustee, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustee those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

BDOLLP

BDO LLP, statutory auditor London

28 January 2021

BDO LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127).

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

			Unrestricted
		Funds	Funds
	Notes	2019/20	2018/19
		£	£
Income from:			
Grant from City of London Corporation	2	18,626	18,407
Total Income		18,626	18,407
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	3	18,626	18,407
Total expenditure		18,626	18,407
Net Income/(expenditure)		_	_
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	6	_	_
Total funds carried forward	6	_	

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

There were no other recognised gains and losses other than those shown above.

The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

	Notes	2020	2019
		Total	Total
		£	£
Current assets		-	-
Current liabilities		-	-
Total net assets		-	-
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds	6	-	-
Total funds		-	-

The notes on page 13 to 17 form part of these financial statements Approved and signed on behalf of the Trustee.

Dr Peter Kane

Chamberlain of London

25 January 2021

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items that are considered material in relation to the financial statements of the charity.

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities, published in 2015, Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

(b) Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the Trustee considers that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The governing documents place an obligation on the City of London Corporation to preserve the open spaces for the benefit of the public. Funding is provided from the City of London Corporation's City Fund. The Trustee considers the level of grant funding received and plans activities as a result of this. On an annual basis, a financial forecast is prepared for City Fund.

In making this assessment the Trustee has considered the potential impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the future income levels and the liquidity of the charity over the next 12-month period. The charity will be able to reduce its expenditure principally on grounds maintenance. The charity is funded by the City of London Corporation's City Fund which has undergone a revised forecasting exercise to help provide assurances that it can continue to keep operating over the next 12-month period. For these reasons the Trustee continues to adopt a going concern basis for the preparation of the financial statements.

(c) Key management judgements and assumptions

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenditure. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the result of which form the basis of decisions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in any future periods affected. Management do not consider there to be any material revisions requiring disclosure.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(d) Statement of Cash Flows

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 (paragraph 1.12b) from the requirement to produce a statement of cash flows on the grounds that it is a qualifying entity.

(e) Income

All income is included in the Statements of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income; it is more likely than not that economic benefit associated with the transaction will come to the charity and the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty. Income consists of a grant from the Trustee, the City Corporation.

The City of London Corporation's City Fund meets the deficit on running expenses of the charity. This income is recognised in the SOFA when it is due from City Fund.

(f) Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under the principal category of 'expenditure on charitable activities'. Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

The charity does not employ any staff. Officers of the City Corporation provide administrative assistance to the charity when required, but this is not considered material and is not separately calculated by the City Corporation. It is consequently not possible to quantify this assistance within expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(g) Taxation

The charity meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes, as set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010. Accordingly, the charity is exempt from UK taxation in respect of income or capital gains under part 10 of the Income Tax Act 2007 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

(h) Funds structure

Income, expenditure and gains/losses are allocated to particular funds according to their purpose:

Unrestricted income funds – these funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustee and include both income generated by assets held within the permanent endowment fund and from those representing unrestricted funds. Specifically, this represents the surplus of income over expenditure for the charity which is carried forward to meet the requirements of future years, known as free reserves.

(i) Indemnity insurance

The Charity, elected Members and staff supporting the charity's administration are covered by the City Corporations insurance liability policies and otherwise under the indemnity the City Corporation provides to Members and staff, funded from City Fund.

2. INCOME FROM THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
	funds	funds
	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Revenue grant from City of London Corporation	18,626	18,407

Income for the year included:

Grants from the City of London Corporation – being the amount received from the City of London Corporation's City Fund to meet the deficit on running expenses of the charity.

3. EXPENDITURE

Expenditure on charitable activities

	Total 2019/20 £	Total 2018/19 £
Grounds maintenance costs	16,079	15,204
Surveyors maintenance costs	2,547	3,203
Total	18,626	18,407

Expenditure on the charitable activities includes labour, premises costs, equipment, materials and other supplies and services incurred in the running of King George's Field-City Of London.

4. AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION

The City Corporation's external auditor audits this charity as one of the numerous charities of which the City Corporation is Trustee. The City Corporation does not

attempt to apportion the audit fee between all the different charities of which it is Trustee but prefers to treat it as part of the cost to its private funds. No other services were provided to the charity by its auditors during the year (2018/19: £nil).

5. TRUSTEE EXPENSES

The members of the Finance Committee of the City of London Corporation acting on behalf of the Trustee did not receive any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during 2019/20 (2018/19: nil)

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Total as at 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	Total as at 31 March 2020
At 31 March 2020	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds: General funds	_	18,626	(18,626)	_
At 31 March 2019	Total as at 1 April 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Total as at 31 March 2019 £
Unrestricted funds: General funds	_	18,407	(18,407)	_

7. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The City Corporation is the sole Trustee of the charity, as described on page 2.

The charity is required to disclose information on related party transactions with bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the charity. Members are required to disclose their interests, and these can be viewed online at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk.

Members and senior staff are requested to disclose all related party transactions, including instances where their close family has made such transactions.

The following table sets out amounts due (to)/from another entity at the balance sheet date. Other figures represent the value of transactions during the year.

Related party	Connected party	2019/20 £	2018/19 £	Detail of transaction
City of London Corporation	The City of London Corporation is the Trustee for the charity	18,626 (nil)	18,407 (nil)	The City of London Corporation's City Fund meets the deficit on running expenses for the charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

CHARITY NAME: King George's Field–City Of London

Registered charity number: 1085967

PRINCIPAL OFFICE OF THE CHARITY & THE CITY CORPORATION:

Guildhall, London, EC2P 2EJ

TRUSTEE:

The Mayor and Commonalty & Citizens of the City of London

SENIOR MANAGEMENT:

Chief Executive

John Barradell OBE - The Town Clerk and Chief Executive of the City of London Corporation

Treasurer

Dr Peter Kane - The Chamberlain of the City of London Corporation

Solicitor

Michael Cogher - The Comptroller and City Solicitor of the City of London Corporation

Open Spaces

Colin Buttery - Director of Open Spaces

AUDITORS:

BDO LLP, 55 Baker Street, London, W1U 7EU

BANKERS:

Lloyds Bank Plc., P.O.Box 72, Bailey Drive, Gillingham Business Park, Kent ME8 0LS

Contact for The Chamberlain, to request copies of governance documents & of the Annual Report of City Fund:

PA-DeputyChamberlain@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Agenda Item 15

Committee(s):	Dated:
Epping Forest Consultative Committee – For Information	10022021
Epping Forest & Commons Committee – For Information	08032021
Open Spaces and City Gardens – For Information	27042021
Subject: Climate Action Strategy – Open Spaces "Carbon Removals"	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	11
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
	N To be outlined in the
capital spending?	
capital spending?	To be outlined in the
If so, how much?	To be outlined in the Gateway report
capital spending? If so, how much? What is the source of Funding? Has this Funding Source been agreed with the	To be outlined in the Gateway report Climate Action Strategy

Summary

This report provides an introduction to the Open Spaces Department's *Carbon Removals* project within the City of London Corporation's Climate Action Strategy (CAS). One of the main goals of the CAS is to reduce the Corporation's direct carbon emissions to net zero by 2027. Currently the Open Spaces are estimated to offset existing emissions by around 44%. Within the CAS, the Open Spaces *Carbon Removals* project will increase carbon sequestration and storage. This project will be conducted alongside Corporation carbon reduction and resilience projects to reduce the organisation's net carbon emissions. This report is an amended version of the March 2021 report to Epping Forest & Commons Committee because the carbon sequestration project target has been updated (see paragraph 13).

Carbon Removals operations will increase the storage of carbon in soils and plant material through the reversion of arable land to areas of open grassland or woodpasture, tree establishment on some existing species-poor grasslands and management of woodland. This project will not only contribute to addressing the Global Climate Emergency, but also the global biodiversity crisis. There are, therefore, clear benefits to the individual open spaces charities. Epping Forest and its Buffer Lands offer the key initial opportunities. Starting in 2021, land management activities have been chosen to enable the maximum possible annual carbon sequestration target to be reached by 2027. Studies to identify further carbon sequestration opportunities beyond 2021 will be commissioned also. The funding for all the Carbon Removals work will come from additional funding from the City Corporation identified for CAS implementation, with further external grant income being sought to encourage supplementary work. Funding will be drawn down from

CAS via the Gateway Project management process and further reports will be presented to your Committee.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- note the report;
- note the comments made by the Epping Forest Consultative Committee at its meeting on 10 February 2021.

Main Report

Background

- 1. The City of London Corporation (City Corporation) has adopted a radical Climate Action Strategy (CAS) as its contribution to addressing the Global Climate Emergency. The CAS sets out how the Corporation is committed to reducing its contribution to the factors that cause climate change, as well as adapting to the impact of a changing climate and the extreme weather events, such as storms and flooding, that are likely to increase in frequency and severity. The CAS sets out the steps towards achieving net zero, building climate resilience and championing sustainable growth.
- 2. The Court of Common Council adopted the Climate Action Strategy on 8 October 2020. This marked the start of a new and transformative programme of action. It adopted three interlinked primary objectives for the City Corporation and the Square Mile: to support the achievement of net-zero emissions, to build resilience, and to champion sustainable growth. In so doing, it committed the City Corporation to mitigating the impact of climate change by achieving net-zero emissions for the City Corporation and the Square Mile. It also committed to climate resilience through taking preventative steps to protect the City and its assets from the physical risks from climate change. Fifteen costed project delivery areas were presented with the Strategy that has since been consolidated into ten project plans. The relevant plan for this Committee is the Carbon Removals Plan, which delivers upon the goal of the achievement of net-zero emissions.
- 3. The current CAS covers the period 2020-2027. It recognises the City's contribution to climate change factors through the apportionment of emissions to one of three categories: its direct emissions from its own activities or those controlled by the organisation ("scope 1 emissions"); indirect energy emissions related to the consumption of energy that are not controlled by the organisation ("scope 2 emissions"); and other emissions which are a consequence of the organisation's activities which occur at sources the Corporation does not own or control ("scope 3 emissions").
- 4. The CAS sets out to achieve net zero on the scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2027. The Departments of the Built Environment, City Surveyor's, Chamberlain's and Open Spaces are beginning to undertake projects that will achieve net zero on the 36 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents (kt CO₂e) (greenhouse gases that cause global warming) from the City's scope 1 and 2 emissions.

- 5. Vegetated habitats absorb and sequester carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and sequester this within plant matter and, most importantly, the soil. This is one mechanism to lock up carbon emissions. In 2020, a study by the University of Surrey, commissioned by the City Corporation Climate Action Team, estimated the quantity of the existing annual sequestration capacity of all the Open Spaces sites (4,250 ha) at 16kt CO₂e.
- 6. This total of 16kt CO2e represents an estimated 44% offsetting of the City's scope 1 and 2 emissions, highlighting the importance of the Open Spaces, and their continuing conservation management, to the Corporation and to London in the face of the Climate Emergency.
- 7. Alongside the declared Climate Emergency, there is a biodiversity crisis unfolding across the world, where species are being lost or populations reduced at an accelerating and wholly unsustainable rate. Locally and internationally, the Corporation's Open Spaces sites are vital refuges for species and habitats under threat in temperate Europe. In addition to their intrinsic value, healthy populations of species and healthy habitats provide ecosystem services such as clean water, crop pollination, soil protection, amelioration of air pollution, buffering against climate heating and more besides.
- 8. Through land management activities, biodiversity can be enhanced at the same time as the carbon sequestration rate can be increased. This will enhance the value of the work being undertaken across the City Corporation to achieve net zero on its scope 1 and 2 emissions. This report outlines the projects that the Open Spaces Department (and any successor) would undertake between 2021 and 2027 to achieve an increase in carbon sequestration.

Current Position

- 9. The report by the University of Surrey, commissioned by the City Corporation in 2020, identified land management activities that would increase carbon sequestration and improve biodiversity. It is thought sequestration could increase by around potentially 1.41kt CO₂e annually. The use of this report, combined with further analysis, has revealed that the greatest sequestration possibilities would be in converting arable land to areas of meadows and trees alongside allowing tree establishment on some grasslands where it is appropriate and can enhance the biodiversity. Other activities such as management of woodland and trees and grazing of grassland might be able to sequester additional carbon. The key reference for these calculations has been Natural England's report, *Carbon Storage by Habitat* (NERR043) by Alonso et al. (Natural England 2012). Additional and more recent studies have been used to provide further reference points for details of project proposals.
- 10. These findings have been considered in relation to the opportunities available across the Open Spaces to implement these activities. Given the nature of the various Open Spaces sites, only the Epping Forest Buffer Lands currently offer opportunities for the conversion of arable land and tree planting which includes the estates of Copped Hall, Woodredon and Warlies, Birch Hall Park, Monkhams,

Netherhouse and North Farm. Epping Forest may also be appropriate for additional woodland and tree management, conservation grazing of grasslands and heaths and maintaining healthy soils.

- 11. The carbon sequestration potential values given in Alonso et al. 2012 demonstrate that arable reversion (the conversion of land in agricultural cropping to permanent grassland) will yield significant increases in carbon sequestration. It also shows that woodland management results in an increase in carbon sequestration. The report is limited in the number of different types of land management activities considered. To identify further land management activities studies will need to be undertaken to understand opportunities for additional carbon sequestration.
- 12. Land management has been identified for implementation starting in 2021 based on the information above. Studies to understand further beneficial work will need to be commissioned to allow land management activities to be scheduled for 2023-2027. Therefore, land management will be done in phases. The approval to undertake Carbon Removals work will be done through the Gateway process, reports of which will be presented to your Committees.
- 13. This report is an update of the report to Epping Forest & Commons Committee on 8 March 2021. The estimated carbon sequestration potential of this project has been re-evaluated given subsequent greater project details. The revised target of 1.41kt increase carbon sequestration is what is confidently expected to be achieved, whilst further opportunities will be sought throughout the Open Spaces during the project for further sequestration uplift.

Options

14. The Gateway report will report on the options for approval.

Proposals

- 15. The Gateway report will present the proposals that the *Carbon Removals* project be undertaken in a phased approach. This will allow carbon sequestration land management activities to be started as soon as possible to enable the maximum possible annual sequestration target to be reached by 2027. Further phases, in parallel, will encompass the commissioning of studies to identify further opportunities and the delivery of these opportunities.
- 16. The first phase is being proposed to involve carbon sequestration on the Epping Forest Buffer Lands. These sites provide the greatest potential for relatively rapid carbon assimilation rates in the early years of the project. The CAS funding would ensure that available arable land would be converted to grassland cover and that the costs of the management of this land, to protect and increase the carbon stored in its soils, could be ensured. Having made this immediate change of land use, officers would then seek to lever in external grant income, such as Stewardship, to enable additional work for biodiversity and heritage conservation. Such grant income would amplify the annual income on the land to match or exceed any previous or potential agriculture-based income.

17. Whilst the current opportunities have been identified at Epping Forest and its Buffer Lands, there are likely to be other land management activities that would be undertaken across the Open Spaces between 2021 and 2027. These additional activities will be important in enabling a further increase towards the desired carbon sequestration target.

Key Data

- 18. The Open Spaces Department is estimated to already offset approximately 16kt CO₂e of the City Corporation's emissions (~44%).
- 19. The City Corporation's Climate Action Strategy aims to reach net zero by cancelling out or offsetting its scope 1 and 2 emissions, amounting to a total of 36kt CO₂e annually.
- 20. It is thought additional land management activities undertaken by Open Spaces could realise a potential additional 1.41kt CO₂e of sequestration annually, if the measures outlined above are implemented. The increase in sequestration capacity is dependent on final site evaluation, species and planting densities. Carbon sequestration will be measured through the *Carbon Removals* project.
- 21. An additional key metric is likely to be measure changes in biodiversity, this method for doing this needs to be defined, and this is likely to be done in be the studies that will be commissioned.
- 22. Performance will be tracked by through the Key Performance Indicators, including carbon sequestration capacity, which will be defined and tracked to judge its overall delivery success. Each KPI will be tracked at a quarterly basis and will be reported as part of the formal Climate Action Strategy progress reporting in the Annual Report and via reports to this Committee.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

- 23. The Carbon Action Strategy is complementary to London-wide and national efforts to reduced emissions and improve resilience of our communities and urban spaces in the face of the Climate Emergency. This includes the draft London Plan, the Greater London Authority's London City Resilience Strategy 2020, the UK Committee on Climate Change Climate Risk Assessment 2017 and National Adaptation Programme, as well as the landscape of policies set out by government.
- 24. The Carbon Removals project within the Climate Action Strategy will meet Outcome 11 of the Corporate Plan: "We will have clean air, land and water and a thriving and sustainable natural environment". The Climate Action Strategy builds upon existing City Corporation strategies and policies including: The Responsible Business Strategy 2018-2023, the Climate Mitigation Strategy, the Carbon Descent Plan, the Responsible Investment Policy, the City Procurement Strategy 2020-2024, the Local Plan 2015, the draft City Plan 2036, the Transport Strategy

- 20218-2043, the Air Quality Strategy 2015-2020, the Transition to a Zero Emission Fleet Policy, the Renewable Electric Policy & Sourcing Strategy.
- 25. By aiming for net zero, the City Corporation will be contributing to the UK government's Nationally Determined Contribution, which commits the UK to reducing economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions by at least 68% by 2030. This legal commitment has been made by the UK Government under the UK Climate Change Act 2008 (revised 2019), which has enshrined in law both a target of net-zero emissions by 2050 and requirements for measures for climate adaptation.
- 26. As described above, some of the Buffer Lands have been identified as essential for enabling the *Carbon Removals* project to meet its aims and to contribute to the required proportion of the Climate Action Strategy's net zero target.
- 27. Some of these areas of Buffer Land are business critical to CAS operational requirements and, therefore, would not be subject to a Section 56 declaration of the Standing Orders of the Court of Common Council relating to property assets surplus to departmental requirements.
- 28. Furthermore, in addition to enabling a response to the Climate Emergency, the original purpose of the Buffer Lands as a refuge for wildlife can now be enhanced significantly. The *Carbon Removals* project will provide opportunities and funding to ensure meaningful Biodiversity Net Gain through the expansion of protected wood-pasture and parkland, a UK priority habitat, adjacent to the internationally important Epping Forest.

Financial implications

- 29. The financial requirement is detailed in the relevant Gateway reports. These reports will request release of funds that have been set aside by the Policy and Resources Committee to fund delivery of the Climate Action Strategy (the dashboard at the beginning of this report indicates no extra revenue and/or capital spending is required).
- 30. Whilst sufficient funding is available through the Climate Action Strategy (around £1.93 million), there are a number of external funding opportunities which may be available to contribute to the cost of delivering the works long-term. These will be explored, and appropriate funding applied for, to both reduce the amount requested from the Climate Action Strategy for any one project while allowing additional carbon sequestration or storage work to be undertaken.

Resource implications

31. Staff resource is required to manage and deliver this project. This will encompass corporate reporting requirements, undertaking tendering, commissioning studies and contractors, and overseeing works. The initial project management is being undertaken by the Conservation and Trees Manager at North London Open Spaces and the Environmental Stewardship Officer at Epping Forest. The initial delivery of works will be undertaken by the Grazing and Landscapes Project Officer and Biodiversity Officer at Epping Forest.

32.Long-term delivery will be resourced through the recruitment of four new roles that will be funded by the Climate Action Strategy (£1.35 million). Over the long term the roles mentioned above will continue to input to the project and facilitate works where required.

Legal implications

- 33. Any works being undertaken on protected sites will require a Site of Special Scientific Interest consent from Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
- 34. Certain qualifying work may require an assessment under the Environmental Impact Assessment as required under Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999, as amended.

Risk implications

35. The land management works currently identified to return the most significant carbon sequestration increase would be required to be undertaken on arable land on the Epping Forest Buffer Lands which is currently tenanted. The termination of these tenancies need to be negotiated with tenants before the lands can be made available.

Equalities implications

36. A Test of Relevance was undertaken on the options put forward for the whole Climate Action Strategy and presented to Resource Allocation Sub Committee in June 2020. No detrimental impacts on the protected groups defined in the Equality Act 2010 were identified. The *Carbon Removals* project would provide additional open spaces for general public use.

Climate implications

37. The *Carbon Removals* project is part of the City Corporation's Climate Action Strategy which demonstrates the Corporation's commitment to reducing its contribution to factors that cause climate change and adapting to the impact of a changing climatic conditions, including extreme weather events.

Security implications

38. None.

Charity Implications

- 39. Epping Forest is a registered charity (number 232990). Charity Law obliges Members to ensure that the decisions they take in relation to the Charity must be taken in the best interests of the Charity. In the long term works may also be undertaken on land within the other charities: Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common (number 232987), Ashtead Common (1051510), Hampstead Heath (803392), West Wickham Common and Spring Park Wood (232988), Coulsdon and Other Commons (232989), West Ham Park (206948).
- 40. In carrying out its charity trustee duties in respect of its various open spaces charities, the City as trustee must have regard only to whether proposals and their effects are in the best interests of each of the charities (not to whether they benefit any wider City interests, for example by helping achieve net zero carbon

emission targets for the wider City). In respect of the proposals in this report, there are clear benefits to the charitable purposes of the various open spaces charities for the reasons set out in this report including, protection of habitats and amelioration of adverse environmental impacts on the open spaces. The strategic aims of the wider City are explained in this report for context. However, pursuit of the proposals is considered fully justified on the sole basis of the benefits to the open spaces charities.

Epping Forest Consultative Committee

- 41. The Consultative Committee considered SEF 10/21 and the following points were noted, with verbal responses given at the time:
 - It is important to maintain a distinct charity identity whilst providing this ecosystem "service" for the City Corporation. (It can be noted that paragraph 39, above, is pertinent in this regard, although this was not cited in the response given at the time).
 - Communication to the local community will be key to ensuring an understanding of why this work is being done and to avoid any confusion with local authority air pollution mitigation projects related to the Special Area of Conservation (SAC).
 - This is a key opportunity to educate the public in the practical ways of protecting the environment, helping the City Corporation offset its carbon budget, and promoting the work that is being done. Carbon sequestration needs to be done in the best way to protect the environment.
 - Would other local authorities be counting the Forest in their carbon offsetting calculations? (The verbal response given at the meeting is that other local authorities would not be able to offset their carbon footprint by using the Forest in their calculations).
 - The impact of tree maintenance work in the Forest should be considered.
 - A recognition that agricultural habitats may also have value for specialist farmland wildlife and there is a need to try to ensure retention of these species. (Skylarks and Yellowhammers - both UK red-listed bird species were highlighted in the response, that acknowledged the need for assessing conservation priorities).

Conclusion

- 42. The City Corporation has committed to reducing its contribution to the factors that cause climate change and adapting to the impacts through its adoption of its Climate Action Strategy. Its aim is to achieve net zero on its scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2027.
- 43. The Open Spaces owned by the City Corporation already contribute an estimated 44% offset of these emissions. The open spaces charities are preparing to undertake new land management activities to increase further their capacity to sequester carbon. The Open Spaces Dept activities would be achieved through the *Carbon Removals* project that sits within the Carbon Action Strategy Programme.

44. In the early stages of the *Carbon Removals* project, works will be focussed at Epping Forest and its Buffer Lands, involving the reversion of arable land to natural habitats, including grassland, and promoting ecological processes as a way of enhancing carbon storage. Studies are required to identify further opportunities to increase carbon sequestration. These will inform the next phase of works to deliver this increased sequestration capacity. Sites across the Open Spaces will be considered. The funding that has been committed to deliver the Carbon Action Strategy will be requested and approved through the City Corporation's Gateway process.

Appendices

None

Background Papers

• Climate Action Strategy, Report to Open Spaces Chairs, 9 September 2020

Dr Sally Gadsdon

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Committees:	Dates:
Corporate Projects Board - for decision	31 March 2021
Projects Sub - for decision	14 April 2021
Service Committee Streets & Walkways Sub Committee – for decision	29 April 2021
Planning & Transportation Committee- for information	12th May 2021
Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee – for information	27 th April 2021
Subject: Climate Action Strategy - Cool Streets and	Gateway 1& 2:
Greening Programme	Project Proposal Regular
Unique Project Identifier:	
PV ID 12267	
	For Information
PV ID 12267	For Information
PV ID 12267 Report of:	For Information
PV ID 12267 Report of: Director of the Built Environment	For Information

PUBLIC

Recommendations

1. Next steps and requested decisions

Project Description: Cool Streets and Greening is a Climate Action Strategy programme to develop climate resilient streets and open spaces in the Square Mile.

This project aligns with the City's Corporate Plan and Responsible Business Strategy and contributes to the City Corporation's preparation for the UN climate conference COP26. It will assist in implementation of climate measures in the emerging City Plan 2036 and Transport Strategy whilst supporting the City's aspiration to develop culture and commerce in parallel in the coming decades.

Funding Source: Members agreed funding for this work through the Climate Action Strategy in Oct 2021. The specific funding source for this work is the Department of the Built Environment On-Street Parking Revenue (DBE - OSPR)

Next Gateway: Gateway 3/4 - Options Appraisal (Regular)

Once suitable pilot sites have been identified and prioritised a Gateway 3 / 4 report will seek approval for implementation of resilience measures on specific sites later in year 1.

In subsequent years, the implementation of resilience measures will be at sites where other works are planned. Full Gateway approvals will be sought for each site with suitable climate resilience measures being incorporated within the normal project approval process.

Next Steps:

Year 1 (2021/22) of the Cool Streets and Greening project will involve:

Set up Climate Resilience Steering Group Terms of Reference

- Programme development & governance
- Opportunity mapping and data gap analysis
- Data collection & analysis protocols
- Develop criteria for funding of resilience measures

Steering Group Review - programme

- Draft technical resilience measures guidance
- Site identification and prioritisation
- Baseline heat, flood and Urban Greening Factor monitoring

Steering Group review – sites, measures & data - subject to Gateway 3/4 approvals for pilot sites

- Plan implementation of heat and flooding resilience measures on 4-7 pilot sites
- Model impacts for 4-7 sites
- Implement climate resilience measures on 4-7 pilot sites
- Monitor impacts

Steering Group review – implementation and impacts

Years 2,3 & 4 2022 to 2025- Further resilience measures will be implemented in a minimum of 20 sites based on the evaluation at the pilot sites.

Requested Decisions:

- 1. That budget of £320K is approved for
 - Programme framework development (4-year programme)
 - Climate resilience measures catalogue
 - Installation of smart sensors and data protocols for monitoring
 - Opportunity mapping and gap analysis for climate resilience solutions
 - Identification and prioritisation of sites.

This is a capitalised resource against the proceeding capital works.

 Note the total estimated cost of the Cool Streets and Greening project at £1.7M for Year 1. The remaining funds will be for installation of resilience measures in priority sites and will be subject to Gateway 3,4 & 5 approvals

Note that the likely cost range for the Cool Streets & Greening 4-year programme will be an estimated £1.7M per annum over 4 years – Total £6.8M

2. Resource requirements to reach next Gateway

Item	Reason	Funds/ Source of Funding	Costs £
Framework development	Consultant support in designing programme	Climate Action Strategy (CAS) funding DBE - On Street Parking Reserve (OSPR)	50K
Resilience measures catalogue	Consultant support in development of technical catalogue of resilience measures	CAS funding DBE OSPR	10K
Smart sensors and monitoring	Installation of smart sensors for flood and heat monitoring including ongoing maintenance	CAS funding DBE-OSPR	85K
Data collection & analysis	Consultant support in smart monitoring, analysis and interpretation and reporting of results & KPIs	CAS funding DBE-OSPR	20K
Opportunity mapping & data gap analysis	Consultant support	CAS funding DBE-OSPR	75K

Site identification	Consultant	CAS	
and prioritisation	support	funding DBE-OSPR	30K
Staff costs Site identification and prioritisation	Public Realm/ Highways/ Open spaces staff	CAS Funding DBE-OSPR	50K
Staff costs Cool Streets & greening workstream management	Environmental resilience team currently funded until Sept 2021 thereafter to be funded through the Mainstreaming Resilience workstream	Environmen tal Resilience Team	100K funded from existing budgets

Costed Risk Provision requested for this Gateway: £0(as detailed in the Preliminary Risk Register – Appendix 2)

3. Governance arrangements

- The service committee for this project is the Streets & Walkways Committee
- A cross departmental Climate Resilience Steering
 Group, chaired by the District Surveyor and
 Environmental Resilience Director, will oversee
 recommendations on procurement, project prioritisation,
 budgets, timetable and reporting. This steering group
 will meet quarterly and will report progress to the
 Projects Sub Committee.
- The Senior Responsible Officer for this project is the District Surveyor and Environmental Resilience Director (Gordon Roy)
- The Project Manager for this project will be the Senior Sustainability & Lead Environmental Resilience Officer (Janet Laban) who will be supported by the Environmental Resilience team the City Public Realm team, and the City Transportation team, working with highways, transport and open spaces officers on

individual implementation projects within this workstream.

- Year 1 will be undertaken by the Environmental Resilience team which is a small team using design thinking and agile work practices to achieve results (see appendix 3). The team will work in partnership with officers from other parts of the Environment Service Area in the new Target Operating Model.
- Some activities will require partnership working with organisations such as the British Geological Survey, Thames Water and the Environment Agency. Such activities will be undertaken with the relevant confidentiality agreements and memorandums of understanding in place.

Project Summary

4. Context	 4.1 The City's Climate Action Strategy identifies the need to adapt to a changing climate where we will experience hotter drier summers, warmer wetter winters, sea level rise and more extreme weather events. 4.2 The climate risks that the City faces include overheating, flooding, water scarcity, biodiversity loss, increases in pests and diseases and disruption to food and trade. 4.3 The City of London Adaptive Pathways report prepared for the City Corporation by Buro Happold demonstrates the importance of beginning now to incorporate resilience actions into the Square Mile. 4.4 The funding for the Climate Action Strategy was agreed in Oct 2020 by Court of Common Council. Individual tranches of funding will be the subject of Resource Allocation Sub Committee approval as appropriate.
5. Brief description of project	 5.1 This Gateway 2 project is the first phase of a wider programme of work to improve the resilience of the City's streets and spaces to climate change. 5.2 This phase will identify opportunities, set an evaluation framework, gather baseline information including from smart sensors and identify and prioritise sites for installation of climate resilience measures such as sustainable drainage (SuDS) and heat resilient materials. 5.3 The wider project addresses the range of actions agreed through the City's Climate Action Strategy to address climate risks for the City's streets including: Flood modelling

	 Heat resistant materials testing Water footprint and leakage management Natural flood management and sustainable drainage (SuDS) Greening and climate resilient planting. 5.4 Subject to Gateway 3/4/5 approval the wider project will install and evaluate measures and techniques to address the climate challenges that the City faces. 5.5 The measures that are found to be effective will then be incorporated into the City's design guidance providing a roadmap to 2080 for a climate resilient public realm. This aligns with the Climate Action Strategy adapting to climate change diagram – best case by 2080 5.6 Ongoing maintenance of the climate resilience measures will be secured through a commuted sum associated with each implementation project to be included at Gateway 3 / 4 /5. The amount of the commuted sum will be included in each project cost and be funded from the Climate Action funding sources.
6 Consequences if project not approved	 6.1 The City's climate is changing. We need to adapt the City's environment to hotter drier summers, warmer wetter winters, sea level rise and more frequent extreme weather events. 6.2 The high cost of reacting to rather than preparing for climate change is well recognised¹. 6.3 The Climate Resilience Adaptive Pathways study completed for the City Corporation by Buro Happold in 2020 identified the measures that we need to implement now to ensure that we are ready for the future climate. 6.4 If this project is not approved, we will miss the opportunity to prepare for the inevitable change in the climate resulting in increased climate risks, higher insurance costs through lack of preparedness and higher costs of action. 6.5 Some actions from the recently adopted statutory Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) could be compromised if we fail to progress this project.
7 SMART project objectives	Vision: The Square Mile and City Corporation assets elsewhere are an exemplar of climate resilience, pre-empting inevitable climate related risks and impacts, providing a model for others to follow. Climate Action Strategy Objectives:
	The City of London Corporation and its assets are resilient to climate change

¹ Stern Review Report on the Economics of Climate Change

- The Square Mile's buildings, public spaces and infrastructure are resilient to climate change
- People in the Square Mile and beyond benefit from a clean, green and safe environment and job creation

These objectives were agreed by Court of Common Council on 8th Oct as part of the City's Climate Action Strategy (Committee report appendix 2)

The key project objectives for 2021/22 are to

- To develop a catalogue of resilience measures and assessment methodology for consideration in planned public realm, transport, highways and open spaces schemes by Q3 2021/22
- 2) To map the opportunities and constraints for flood and heat resilience interventions in the Square Mile by Q3 2021/22.
- 3) To identify and prioritise sites for Climate resilience interventions by Q3 2021/22
- 4) Develop and implement real time baseline monitoring infrastructure which will be used to evaluate resilience interventions by Q3 2021/22
- 5) Identify and design interventions for 4-7 sites by Q3 2021/22 subject to Gateway 3-4 approval
- 6) Implement and monitor resilience measures on 4-7 sites by Q1 2022/23 subject to Gateway 3-4 approval

The project level Key Performance Indicators for this project will be:

- Urban Greening Factor for the Square Mile which provides a quantifiable measure of the overall level and environmental benefit of greening in the City.
- Area of the Square Mile with Sustainable Drainage (SuDS) installed.

8 Key benefits

This project covers the ten actions agreed by the Court of Common Council on 8th Oct 2020 under the City Climate Action Strategy report – nine actions from Appendix 2b Action Area 2 Resilient Streets and Greening and one action from Action Area 4 Resilience co-ordination and training.

The Key benefits are set out below:

Action	Benefit
2.1 Flood modelling	Provides accurate, up to date information about flood risk in the Square Mile
2.2 Heat resistant materials	Provides pilot results for effective heat resilient materials in the public realm

	2.3 Water footprint management plan	Identify opportunities to minimise water use (and associated cost) and make best use of this resource	
	2.4 Develop natural flood risk management areas	Reduces surface water flooding and sewer overflows	
	2.5 Sustainable rain and surface water management	Reduce surface water flooding and sewer overflows	
	2.6 Water leakage management	Minimise water loss through leakage through pro active leak detection and asset management	
	2.7 Increase green space	Climate resilient greening reducing flood risk and overheating risk	
	2.8 Climate resilient planting 2.9 External funding sources review 2.10 Engagement plans 4.6 Below ground mapping Description of Climate resilience opportunities Thriving planting in face of climate change Potential partner funding from non-City of London sources Best practice used elsewhere Identification of climate resilience opportunities The measurable benefits for Gateway 2 will consist of:		
	 Framework resilience measures catalogue for flood and heat risk and appraisal methodology Mapping (above and below ground) showing constraints and opportunities for flood and heat resilience measures Prioritised list of sites that are suitable for climate resilience interventions in the Square Mile Network of smart sensors to measure flood and heat risk Baseline monitoring of climate resilience indicators including Urban Greening Factor for the Square Mile 		
9 Project category	7a. Asset enhancement/improvement (capital)		
10 Project priority	A. Essential		

- 11 Notable exclusions
- 1 Implementation of buildings related resilience measures
- 2 Resilience of privately owned assets and infrastructure

Options Appraisal

12 Overview of options

Option 1 – Business as usual. Ad hoc inclusion of climate resilience measures in public realm when funds allow.

Option 2 – Focused programme to install and evaluate climate resilience measures in the Square Mile informing a roadmap for resilience to 2080. This option could be achieved within the requested budget subject to Gateway approvals as appropriate.

Option 3— extend measures to include open spaces elsewhere. This option would provide more comprehensive data on the impacts of the climate resilience measures and is particularly relevant to surface water management and sewer overflow flooding. Additional funding would enable extension of this project beyond the Square Mile to include City Corporation managed open spaces elsewhere.

Option 2 is the preferred approach since it will progress the City Corporation's adopted Climate Action Strategy climate resilience actions. Seeking further funding through Option 3 is dependent on the City Corporation progressing Option 2.

Project Planning

13 Delivery period and key dates

Overall project: This project will run from Jan 2021 until March 2025 see Gantt chart – Appendix 4. This Gateway 2 report is seeking approval for the initial phase of year 1 activities.

Kev dates:

Year 0	Q4 2020/21	Partner engagement Staff upskilling Project plans
Year 1	Q1- 2021/22 to Q1- 2022/23	Project design & governance Resilience measures catalogue Opportunity and constraint mapping Smart monitoring infrastructure Site identification and prioritisation Design and installation for 4-7 no pilot schemes Evaluation and reporting

	ears 2 & 3	Q2- 2022/23 To Q1- 2024/25	 Implementation of resilience measures Sustainable drainage SuDS Natural flood management (NFM) Urban greening factor (UGF) Resilient planting Leakage management Heat resilient surfaces
Y	ear 4	Q2- 2024/25 To Q4- 2024/25	Review and recommendations Development of guidance Roadmap for a climate resilient Square Mile to 2080

Other works dates to coordinate: The implementation phase of this project will be carried out alongside maintenance cycles and improvement to the public realm, highways and open spaces. Benefits from installation of resilience measures may be realised in adjacent areas e.g. SuDS in open spaces may benefit highway run off. Integration with other projects will minimise cost and disruption but will require careful planning to ensure alignment of dates.

14 Risk implications

Overall project risk: Low A high level overview of the risks in line with the <u>Projects Procedure Corporate Risks Register</u> is set out in Appendix 2: Risk Register – Costed Risk Provision. Further risk assessment will be carried out at the next Gateway as the workstream progresses.

The potential risks at the Gateway 2 stage are as follows:

- Lack of funding would prevent these actions from progressing however the Climate Action Strategy commits £1.7M per annum to climate resilience.
- Contract or partnership problems could delay progress of this stage. City procurement and comptrollers will oversee contracts and partnership governance arrangements.
- Skills shortages Skills currently exist in the Environmental Resilience Team as secondments with consultant support. Measures are underway to secure longer term commitment to skilled staffing for climate resilience.
- Smart sensors do not provide suitable data to evaluate resilience measures. To mitigate against this contract specifications will be drawn up to ensure provision of useful data.
- Opportunity mapping might show that there are minimal opportunities for resilience measures. An alternative approach would then be needed

	The Costed Risk Provision assessment shows that at Gateway 2 any costs associated with minor risks and do not present a threat to the project.
15 Stakeholders and consultees	PESTLE analysis has been used to identify the relevant stakeholders for this project (appendix 5) A stakeholder engagement plan is being developed to ensure coordinated messaging across the Climate Action Strategy implementation phase.

Resource Implications

16 Total estimated cost	Likely cost range (excluding risk) for Gateway 2 Cool Streets & Greening: £320K		
	Likely cost range for the Cool Streets & Greening 4 year programme: £1.7M per annum over 4 years – Total £6.8M		
	Likely cost range (including risk): +/- 20% Years 1-4 £5.4M to £7.2M (if additional funding is not available to cover the shortfall then resilience measures will be implemented on fewer sites).		
17 Funding strategy	Choose 1:	Choose 1:	
	All funding fully guaranteed	Internal - City's own	Funded wholly by resource
	Funds/Sources of Funding		Cost (£)
	Year 0 Climate Action Strategy	CAS	-
	Year 1 CAS*		2.0M
	Year 2 CAS*		1.8M
	Year 3 CAS*		
	Year 4 CAS*		
	Total 6.8M		
	There may be potential for securing additional funding from external sources to extend this programme.		
18 Investment appraisal	For the Cool Streets and Greening Gateway 2, an options appraisal is not required. This is preliminary work to assess future options for implementation of climate resilience measures which will be assessed at Gateway 3/4		
19 Procurement strategy/route to market	Procurement for the Gateway 2 element of this workstream will involve specialist consultants and contractors all of which will be procured in line with the City's procurement policies. Appendix 6 summarises the Procurement Strategy for the		

	lifecycle of the project and further procurement approaches will be finalised, in response to the findings of consultants appointed at this Gateway. Procurement will be overseen by the Climate Action Strategy Programme Management Team and the Senior Sustainability and Lead Environmental Resilience Officer City Procurement Reference Number: Not required – all appointments are below PCR threshold
20 Legal implications	This project implements actions agreed by the Court of Common Council under the Climate Action Strategy. There are no specific legal implications at this stage and implications (for example on the highway) will be explored at the next stage as more detailed proposals are formulated. The Climate Change Act 2008 sets a framework for mitigating climate change and for adapting to climate change. This Act enshrined into law a target of reducing the UK's carbon account for the year 2050 by at least 100% of the 1990 baseline. The Climate Action Strategy as a whole and this project, which implements actions agreed by the Court of Common Council within it, are compliant with legislation, including the Climate Change Act 2008
21 Corporate property implications	Year 1 - None Year 2-4 Discussions with Corporate Property team will take place during year 1 as sites are identified. Resilience works will be aligned with maintenance schedules wherever possible
22 Traffic implications	Resilience interventions in the public realm and highways may have traffic implications through the reduction of carriageway space for vehicles and pedestrians. Implications will be explored at the next stage.
23 Sustainability and energy implications	 This project will help to prepare the City for the impacts of climate change Sustainable procurement and circular economy principles will be applied to minimise the materials impacts of implementation and reduce embodied carbon. During Year 1 of this programme monitoring and reporting protocols will be put in place to enable robust evaluation of climate impacts including temperature and flood risk and evaluation methodologies will be developed
24 IS implications	None.
25 Equality Impact Assessment	An equality impact assessment test of relevance will be undertaken at each stage of this project and any

	potential issues will be addressed prior to progressing the action.
26 Data Protection	The risk to personal data is less than high or non-
Impact	applicable and a data protection impact assessment will
Assessment	not be undertaken

Appendices

Appendix 1	Gateway 1 Approval
Appendix 2	Risk Register
Appendix 3	Team structure and support
Appendix 4	Schedule of stages Gantt chart
Appendix 5	Stakeholder engagement plan
Appendix 6	Procurement Strategy

Contact

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Appendix 1 Gateway 1 Approval

In September 2020 Resource Allocation Sub Committee and Policy and Resources Committee approved the scoped and costed Climate Action Strategy for the City Corporation which was subsequently approved by the Court of Common Council on 8th October 2020. See Committee Report below. A capital bid was submitted in August 2020 by the relevant Chief Officer – this was then adopted at RASC in Sept – this constitutes the Gateway 1 approval.



Climate Action Report for Policy and



App2 Actions by Committee FOR SUB

Appendix 2 of this Committee report provides a breakdown of the actions proposed to implement the Climate Action Strategy. Appendix 2b provides a detailed profile of each action area for climate resilience and Action Area 2 Resilient Streets and Greening includes most of the actions that will be covered through the Cool Streets and Greening programme. In addition, one action from Action Area 4 Resilience Co-ordination and Training has been included in the Cool Streets and Greening programme. (see below for relevant action plans)

Action Area 2: Resilient Streets and Greening

Committee: Planning & Transportation Committee

			sewhere are an e	xemplar of climate resilience, pre-empting inevitable
	d impacts, providing a model for others to		·	
,	he City of London Corporation and its asset			
	uildings, public spaces and infrastructure are			
	Mile and beyond benefit from a clean, gree	_	_	
High level actions	Ur. Little L. L. Guis. L. d.	Gross	Impact on	What it pays for
	lling, which include SUDs and other	cost	employment	
0 .	o complement EA flood models	£M /	(estimate of	An investigation into new water infrastructure such as
· ·	ot to test heat resistant materials in	yr.	total new jobs	strategic SUDs, roof top greening, catchment greening
	ets and highways during 2021-2025		created in the	and afforestation, and more as relevant
	y Corporation and Square Mile water		green	A register and upgrade plan for roads that are
footprint management			economy /yr.)	vulnerable to acute heat which mainstreams heat-
	rural flood risk management areas	60.0		resistant road surfacing
	rain and surface water management	£2.0m	8	A connected system of water recycling, urban drainage
policies and implement				and rainwater management measures
	partners to accelerate actions to address			Increased greenery in the Square Mile public realm
water leak managemer				Climate change adaptable landscapes and planting
	e quality and provision of green space and			A strong partnership with Thames Water to reduce
	Mile and wider City Corporation spaces imate-resistant and adaptive landscaping			water wastage from leakage
in planned works	imate-resistant and adaptive landscaping			
Action 2.9 Undertake f	unding sources review			
Resilience Risks	unung sources review	Measur		Key Benefits
	. Water stores		ement o. climate risks	key benefits
• Flooding	Water stress Natural assistal	manage		Positive reputation amongst suppliers and construction
Overheating	Natural capital	Illallage	:u	industry
Impact on resilience ris	sks			Indirect effect on green jobs and economic multipliers
	on climate resilience forming part of			for green tech ecosystem
_	educe all resilience risks			Increased visibility and standards across projects
	ure increases through the public realm,			Future proof public realm for climate impacts
creating cool spots	and the passes reality	Strategi	ic Links	
	shading, urban greening, heat-resistant	_		s – 5,7, Local Plan 2015, The draft City Plan 2036, Transport
	al flood risk management areas, flood			nsible Business Strategy 2018-23, Local Flood Risk
	enance and careful material selection will	Manage	ement Strategy 20	014-2020
reduce all resilience r				

Action Area 4: Resilience Co-ordination and Training

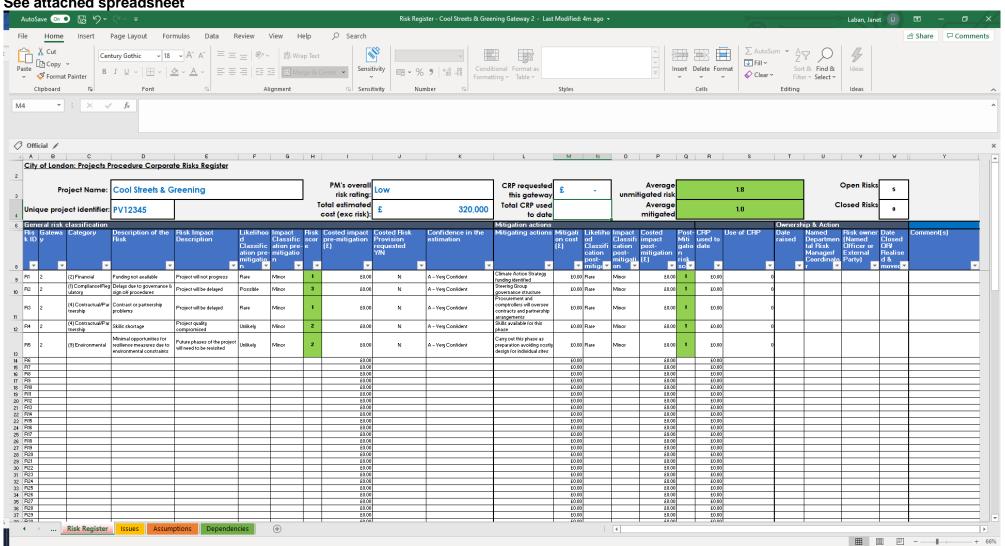
Committee: Primarily Porth Health & Environmental Services Committee and Planning & Transportation Committee

CLIMATE RESILIENCE VISION: A future where the City's communities benefit from a fair and equitable transition to a climate resilient City with open access to data, knowledge and skills resulting in collaborative climate responses.

STRATEGY GOALS: B) The City of London Co	orporation and its assets are	resilient to climate	change						
E) The Square Mile's buildings, public space	s and infrastructure are resi	lient to climate cha	nge						
F) People in the Square Mile and beyond be	nefit from a clean, green ar	d safe environmen	t and job creation						
High level actions	Gross cost	Impact on	What it pays for						
	£M / yr.	employment							
Action 4.1 Develop financial package and promanage resilience in longer term Action 4.2 Expand use and availability of not data to monitor effectiveness of interventic Action 4.3 Embed principles of inclusion and throughout all resilience strategies Action 4.4 Design and deliver cross-Corpora programme to strengthen skills and capabilitience Action 4.5 Mainstream climate resilience in Corporation governance and decision-making Action 4.6 Review of above and below grountilisation in the Square Mile Action 4.7 Strengthen resilience requireme planning Action 4.8 Undertake external funding sour	n-sensitive ons d equity stion training ities on to City ng nd space onts for	(estimate of total new jobs created in the green economy /yr.)	 A considered plan on funding options for climate resilience work, blending internal and external funding sources A stronger, data-led approach to understanding climate related risks and mitigations across the Square Mile A method to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable to climate change are prioritised in decision making A workforce with the knowledge and skills required to manage climate resilience across the Square Mile, backed up by a climate resilience lens across all decision making A review of the supplementary planning guidance and approach for new developments to strengthen climate resilience measures 						
Resilience Risks	Measurem	ent	Key Benefits						
Flooding	Total no. c	imate risks	External investment in Corporation assets Increased visibility and standards across projects Increased performance from capital spend						
Embedding inclusion and equity in strategorojects will ensure that the needs of the vulnerable are prioritised Still and applied will be beginned to be included.	most		Future proof key asset base for the Corporation Decreased costs due to integration of resilience actions						
Skills gap analysis, skills sharing, and train proof the organisation	Strategic L	inks	1						
proof the organisation	_	Corporate Plan Outcomes – 5,7							
	co. porate		•						

Appendix 2 Risk Register – Costed Risk Provision (CRP)

See attached spreadsheet



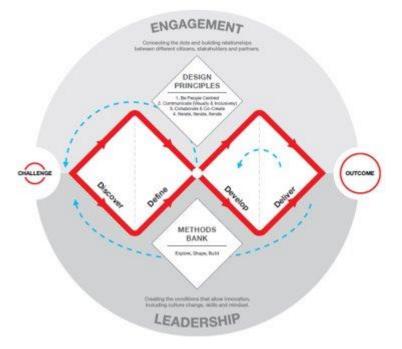
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Appendix 3: Team Structure & SupportProposed Environmental Resilience Team

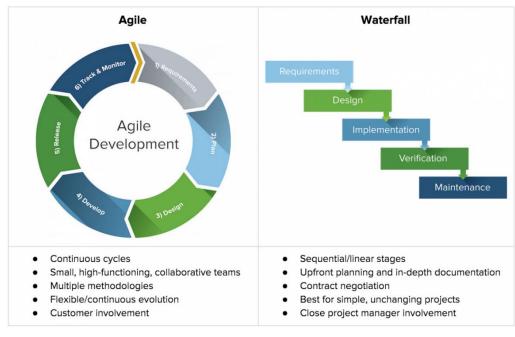
Post	Grade									Ski	lls								
The resilience team should remain as a small team with secondment or temporary recruitment to fill posts. Part time secondments will help to spread the skills across the organisation and give interested individuals the opportunity to develop their expertise		Climate Change	Sustainability	Climate resilience	Data management	GIS	Sadus	Flooding	Water resources	Overheating	Natural capital	Greening	Pests & Diseases	Food and trade	Communications	Agile working	Funding bids	Budgeting & Finance	
Programme Lead – Climate Resilience	1 FTE Grade F	Х	Х	х											Х	Х	Х	Х	
Data Lead – Climate resilience	1 FTE or 2 x0.5 FTE Grade E	х	x	x	х	х									x	x	x	х	
Topic Lead Flooding / SuDS/ water resources	0.5 FTE Grade D/E			х			Х	Х	Х						Х	Х		Х	
Topic Lead Overheating / natural capital / greening	0.5 FTE Grade D/E			х						Х	Х	х			х	х		х	
Topic Lead Pest & disease / Food & Trade	0.5 FTE Grade D/E			х									Х	Х	Х	Х		х	
Apprentice – Climate Resilience	1 FTE Apprentice		Х		Х										Х	Х		Х	
Total		1 F	TE G	rade	F 1	FTE	Grad	le E	1.5	FTE (Grade	e D/E	1 F	TE A	Appre	ntice			

Contact: janet.laban@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Design thinking



Agile Project Management



Appendix 4 Schedule of StagesProject Timeline and Milestones Year 1

Project Plan for Cool Streets and Greening																															П								
Year 1 April 2021 - March 2022		Ар	ril		N	⁄lay_			June			July			Au	g		Se	pt		0	ct		Ν	lov			Dec			Jan			Fe	b		M	ar	Deliverable
	05/04/2021	12/04/2021	19/04/2021	03/05/2021	10/05/2021	17/05/2021	31/05/2021	07/06/2021	21/06/2021	28/06/2021	05/07/2021	12/07/2021	26/07/2021	02/08/2021	09/08/2021 16/08/2021	23/08/2021	30/08/2021	13/09/2021	20/09/2021	27/09/2021	11/10/2021	18/10/2021	25/10/2021 01/11/2021	08/11/2021	15/11/2021 22/10/2021	29/11/2021	06/12/2021	20/12/2021	27/12/2021	03/01/2022	17/01/2022	24/01/2022	07/02/2022	14/02/2022	21/02/2022	07/03/2022	14/03/2022	21/03/2022	77.07 (CO)07
Set up Resilience Steering Group TOR		М																																					Steering Group agreed TOR
Programme development & governance																																							Final programme
Opportunity mapping & data gap analysis																																							Data report & below ground mapp
Develop data collection and analysis protocols					Ш																					Ш									Ш	4	Ш		Power BI data dashboard
Develop criteria for project funding																																				4			Funding decision tool
Steering Group review (programme)										М																									Ш	4			
Draft technical resilience measures guidance																							tes														Ш		Technical manual - resilience mea
Pilot site identification and prioritisation																			ites				ots			Ш									Ш		Ш		Sites database
Baseline heat, flood & UGF data																			lot s				k Pi													4			Power BI data dashboard
Steering Group review (sites, measures, data)																			al Pi	и			Won													4			
Plan implementation of measures on 2-4 sites	oosa																		prais				tart															port	
Model impacts for 2-4 sites	Pro																		Api				to 9															s Re	
Implement pilot resilience measures 2-4 sites	Project																		Options				uthority															utcome	
Monitor impacts	y 1-2																		y 3-4				y 5 A															y 60	Power BI data dashboard
Steering Group review (Implementation)	ewa																		ewa				ewa					М										ewa.	
Report progress to P&T Committee	Gate																		Gate				Gate															-	Outcomes report
M = Milestone (fixed date)																																							

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Lead officer: Janet Laban Line manager: Gordon Roy Authority: Carolyn Dwyer

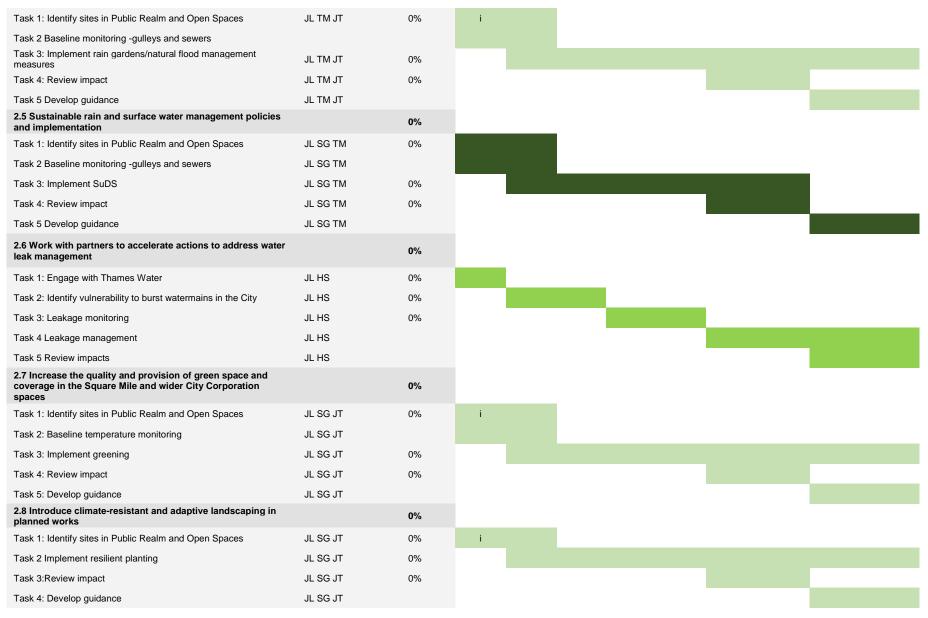
CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY PROJECT PLAN
RESILIENT STREETS AND GREENING

Project ID: CAS-00X Date: 30/10/2020

Version: 1.1

Recipients: Damian Nussbaum, Simi Shah, Stuart Wright

			Year 0	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4	
Delivery plan (Gantt chart)			FY20/21	FY21/22		FY22/23		FY23/24		FY24/25	
Phases	Responsible	Completion	Oct-Mar	Apr- Sep	Oct- Mar	Apr- Sep	Oct- Mar	Apr- Sep	Oct-Mar	Apr-Sep	0
2.1 Flood modelling, which include SUDs and other mitigation strategies, to complement EA flood models	JL	0%									
Fask 1: Review scope of Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2017	JL	0%									
Task 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Review	JL/ consultants	0%									
ask 3: Integrate findings into other plans and strategies	KS/ JL	0%									
2.2 Conduct pilot to test heat resistant materials in planned works for streets and highways during 2021-2025		0%									
Fask 1: Design programme with Highways, Public Realm & Open Spaces	JL SG HS	0%				_					
ask 2: Baseline monitoring	SG HS	0%									
ask 3: Engage with partners Utilities highways contractor etc	SG HS	0%									
ask 4 Materials testing	SG HS										
ask 5 Review and conclusions	JL SG HS										
.3 Develop City Corporation and Square Mile water footprint nanagement strategy		0%									
ask 1: Design Programme	JL HS	0%									
ask 2: Baseline monitoring	JL HS	0%									
ask 3 Engage with Thames Water	JL HS										
ask 4: Implement water reduction measures	JL HS	0%									
ask54: Review and conclusions	JL HS										
.4 Develop natural flood risk management areas		0%									



HS JL

i - overlaps between these projects JL - Janet Laban

Task 4: Develop guidance on use of underground spaces

SG - Simon Glynn

HS - Holly Smith

JT - Jake Tibbetts

Appendix 5 Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Who:	What message?	Channels	When
Internal/External. Priority groups.	Inform, engage or consult. Asks/offers.	Tried and tested. New.	Phase around project plan. Media needs 1- month lead- time.
COLC Members	Engage Asks: Seek approval for projects Offers: CAS implementation projects	Committees	Ongoing as required
London Borough of Camden	Engage Asks: Project partnerships Offers: Collaborative resilience projects	Collaboration through Officers	Quarterly partnership meetings
Potential Funders External	Engage Asks: Seek funding Offers: Projects which meet funding priorities	Regular partnership meetings Funding opportunities	Ongoing – quarterly partnership meetings
Businesses & SMEs	Consult Asks: Seek comments Offers: Inform of plans	Consultation surveys Website Social media	Q1-2 2021/22
Public realm users City Residents Disability groups City of London Access Group	Consult Asks: Seek feedback on plans Offers: Inform of plans	Consultation surveys Website Social media	Q1-2 2021/22
COLC Officers Highways Open Spaces Public Realm Housing Cleansing	Engage Asks: Project management for implementation of resilience measures Offers: Part funding	Climate Chats Interviews 1:1 meetings	Q1-2 2021/22
Green Finance Institute Contractors Academic partner Thames Water UKPN BT Openreach Transport for London British Geological Survey	Engage Asks: Technical / expert input into Climate Resilience plans Offers: Involvement with Local Authority Leader in Climate Resilience	Interviews 1:1 meetings	Q2-3 2021/22
CoLC Comptrollers & City Solicitors Emergency services	Consult Asks Seek feedback on plans Offers: Inform of plans	Consultation	Q2-3 2021/22
Environment Agency	Engage Asks: Expert input into plans Offers: Involvement with Local Authority Leader in Climate Resilience	Partnership meetings 1:1 meetings	Ongoing
London Climate Change Partnership London Councils Green & Resilient Group London Drainage Engineers Network London Environmental Coordinators Forum	Inform Asks: Comment on plans Offer: Knowledge sharing	Presentations at regular meetings	Ongoing Quarterly meetings

Appendix 6 Cool Streets & Greening Procurement Plan

	type Consultant	Requirements Develop a framework for the 4 year Cool Streets	ct value	Timescale Q1 2021/22	Selection process	procurement
Framework develop		4 year Cool Streets		01 2021/22		1
-	Consultant	4 year Cool Streets	40-	01 2021/22		
ment		7		Q1 2021/22	Request for quote	Include
		<u> </u>	70K		(RFQ) process via	responsible
		& Greening Programme to				business in
		ensure delivery of:				tender
		Outputs: a minimum of 17			'	evaluation
		climate resilient test sites				
		Outcomes: monitoring and				
		evaluation of direct impacts,				
		co benefits and value for				
		money. Benefits: A climate				
		resilient Square Mile and				
D:!!: N A	C 14 4	roadmap for future resilience	Disease	0.4.2020.24	C	D i i
	Consultant	Develop a technical catalogue		Q4 2020-21		Review sustaina
Catalogue		of resilience measures,	1		•	bility credentials
		methodology	10K-	00 0004 /00		of current
		for recording effectiveness of	20K	Q2 2021/22		provider
		resilience measures and			competitive	
		recommendations for	+		tender for phase	
		inclusion in City Corporation	Phase		2	
		design guides	2			
			30K-			
			40K			
	Contractor	Provide and install smart		Q1-2		Include
flood		sensors to monitor water	50K	2021/22		responsible
risk monitoring		levels in gullies in high flood			-1 ()	business in
		risk parts of the City along				tender
		with control sensors				evaluation
		elsewhere in the				
		City. Integration of the				
		data with MET office weather				
		data, the City's gulley				
		emptying schedule and SuDS				
		implementation and reportin				
		g real time monitoring results				
		through Power BI				
Smart sensors for	Contractor	Provide and install smart	40-	Q1-2	Procurement	
heat risk		sensors to monitor	50K	2021/22	Authorisation	
monitoring		temperature across the			Report (PAR)	
		Square Mile. Integration				
		of the temperature data with				
		MET office weather data, air				
		quality monitoring and urban				
		greening reporting real time				
		Power BI				
Data collection &	Contractor	Ongoing assistance in smart	20-	Q2 2021/22-	Procurement	Include
analysis		monitoring, analysis	30K			responsible
•		and interpretation of results				business in
						tender
						evaluation
	Contractor	monitoring results through Power BI Ongoing assistance in smart monitoring, analysis	30K	to	Authorisation Report (PAR)	responsible business in

Opportunity mapping	consultant	Development of comprehensive below ground mapping for the Square Mile. Integrated 3D spatial assessment, drawing on existing, but disparate, data and models (e.g. 3D geology, soil properties, land use, basements, buried utilities, archaeology) to i) map underground structures and linkages to surface features, ii) model surface-subsurface environmental conditions, iii) model potential interactions between groundwater systems and underground structures and surface water features. The below ground assessment will be used to identify suitable locations for integrated water management options including natural flood management e.g. SuDS and options for dual-use of underground assets for flood alleviation.	1 75K Phase 2 75K – 125K		to Tender (ITT)	Include responsible business in tender evaluation
Site identification & prioritisation	In House or specialist consultant	Using evidence from below ground mapping, City Corporation GIS, vulnerability data and development potential, develop a comprehensive map of suitable sites for implementation of resilience measures, with priorities and timing estimates		Q2 2021/22- Q3 2024/25	Quote (RFQ) process via the Procurement	Include responsible business in tender evaluation
	with advice from specialist consultant Highways	Develop comprehensive designs for resilience measures for 4 - 7 no pilot sites Install resilience measures on 2 -4 pilot sites	60K 0.9M-	Q 1-2 2021 /22 Q2-4 2021/22	process via the Procurement Operations team Highways term contractor	Include responsible business in tender evaluation Include responsible business in
for 4-7 pilot sites			£1.7M	Q1-4		tender evaluation Include
monitor resilience measures in suitable	design and monitoring with consultancy	Implement a programme of design, installation and evaluation of resilience measures with ongoing maintenance on sites across the Square Mile	ра	Q1-4 2022/23 Q1-4 2023/24 Q1-4 2024/25	tender/ Framewo rk contract	responsible business in specification and tender evaluation

	term contractor for installation					
Scientific	Academic	Sponsor PhD Researcher to	35K	Q3 2021/22	Request for	Use academic
verification	partner	develop robust evidence of	per	to Q2 2024/	Quote (RFQ)	institution with
of programme findi		Resilience measure	annum	25	process via the	exemplar
ngs		effectiveness			Procurement	responsible
			(total		Operations team	business
			140K)			reputation
		TOTAL 2022-24	£5.24M			
		Cool Streets & Greening	£6.59M			
		TOTAL 2021-24	– 6.94M			

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Agenda Item 17

Committee(s)	Dated:
Open Spaces and City Gardens Committee	27 April 2021
Subject:	Public
Award of Funding 2020-21: Enjoying Green Spaces and the Natural Environment	
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	2,4,9,10,11,12
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	
Report of: Director Open Spaces	For Information
Report author: Gerry Kiefer, Open Spaces Business Manager	

Summary

The *Enjoying Green Spaces and the Natural Environment* funding theme, which forms part of the Central Grants Programme, was initiated in October 2016 and last reviewed by this Committee in 2019. It offers community, voluntary and charitable groups an opportunity to apply for up to £15k funding for projects where most of the impact will be on the City of London Corporation's (COL's) green spaces.

Despite COVID19 impacting on community work, eight applications were received. Following grant assessment and due diligence checks by the City's Central Grants Unit (CGU) which oversees the scheme a group of expert officers reviewed the submissions and recommended seven applications with a value of £83.5k. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of this Committee approved the allocation of funding under delegated authority

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked:

To note the report.

Main Report

Background

- 1. The *Enjoying Green Spaces and the Natural Environment* grant funding stream is managed by the CoL's CGU.
- 2. This grant scheme awards funding between £2,000 and £15,000 (£20,000 in exceptional circumstances) to community, voluntary and charitable groups under 4 sub themes:

- a) Connecting communities with their green spaces
- b) Improving the conservation value of the green spaces
- c) Improving our knowledge of the biodiversity of the green spaces
- d) Improving mental health, through the use of green spaces
- 3. Full eligibility criteria for this funding theme is available on the City of London Corporation's website: https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/about-us/working-with-community/central-grants-programme/enjoying-green-spaces-and-the-natural-environment
- 4. Your Committee delegated authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with your Chairman and Deputy Chairman to agree the award of grants.
- 5. A communications plan was developed which included production of a poster which was displayed across the Open Spaces sites and to Open Spaces staff, social media posts and information sent to local organisations.
- 6. Applications and applicant organisations underwent due diligence checks by the CGU to ensure compliance with the established eligibility criteria and a financial assessment.

Current Position

- 7. Up to £84,000 was available to award and eight submissions were received with a total funding request of £96,894. All eligible applications were reviewed and assessed by Open Spaces Director and Senior Officers.
- 8. The funding recommendations were approved by the Chairman and Deputy Chairman under delegated authority.
- 9. Grant funding was awarded to seven organisations for projects across the Open Spaces with a total award of £83,545. The groups awarded funding and a summary of their projects are detailed in the table below.

Division	Group	Award £	Project summary
The Commons	Buckinghamshire Fungus Group	£9,700	A new scientific framework for studying the fungal biodiversity of Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common through specimen collection and analysis.
The Commons	Downlands Trust	£14,988	Practical volunteer task days at four City Commons, including grazing at Riddlesdown Quarry, to enhance biodiversity.
City Gardens	Friends of City Gardens	£11,800	Delivery of habitat enhancement, training of community volunteers, biodiversity surveys and data recording to support the City's Biodiversity Strategy
Epping Forest	The Friends of Wanstead Park	£4,100	Provision of directional signage within the Park to help users navigate to

			historic features, lakes, facilities, entrances and exits.
Epping Forest	Epping Forest Heritage Trust	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Enable London's communities to discover and access Epping Forest through the historic long distance 'Centenary Walk' and signage at Epping and Loughton stations directing people to the Forest.
Epping Forest	Heritage of London Trust Ltd	,	Restoration of the historic landing stage of Wanstead Grotto which is at risk of collapse
Epping Forest	Rare Breeds Survival Trust	·	Using innovative cattle GPS collars to undertake precision grazing on City of London's internationally important habitats to enrich biodiversity and share the learning nationally.

10. The funding was oversubscribed by £12,894. One submission was not recommended for funding. This organisation was offered feedback on their submission.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Corporate Plan 2018 – 2023

11. The *Enjoying Green Spaces and the Natural Environment* funding stream helps deliver the following Corporate Plan 2018-2023 aims and outcomes:

Contribute to a flourishing society

- 2. People enjoy good health and wellbeing.
- 4 Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need

Shape outstanding environments

- 9 We are digitally and physically well-connected and responsive
- 10 We inspire enterprise, excellence, creativity and collaboration
- 11. We have clean air, land and water and a thriving and sustainable natural environment.
- 12. Our spaces are secure, resilient and well-maintained
- 12. The grant aid also supports all the Department's business plan main objectives:
 - A. Open spaces and historic sites are thriving and accessible
 - B. Spaces enrich people's lives
 - C. Business practices are responsible and sustainable.

Finance

13. An award budget of £84,000 was available for 2021/22. The total funding awarded is £83,545.

Conclusion

14. This report and appendix provide a summary of the grant applications received in 2020/21 under the theme: Enjoying Green Spaces and the Natural Environment. Seven groups were awarded funding totalling nearly £84k for projects that will take place in Epping Forest, The Commons and in City Gardens.

Report author

Gerry Kiefer, Business Manager, Open Spaces Department

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E: Gerry.kiefer@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee:	Date:
Open Spaces & City Gardens	27 April 2021
Subject:	Public
City Gardens Update	
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N/A
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of:	For Information
Director of Open Spaces	

Summary

This report provides an update to Members of the Open Spaces & City Gardens Committee on management and operational activities across the City Gardens section since February 2021.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

Note the report

Main Report

Current position

Finance

- 1. The anticipated outturn for the 2020/21 financial year is a deficit of circa £80k. This is in part due to the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on filming and events income, as well as the reduction in public realm improvements during lockdown. However, this needs to be seen in the context of a likely overall underspend for the Open Spaces department.
- 2. City Gardens are commencing the 2021/22 financial year with £158k deficit of, as yet, unidentified savings, which equates to 9% of the total budget. The team will work to reduce this over the year through increasing income and identifying ways to minimise expenditure. However, considering that staff costs equate to 84% of the combined City Gardens and Bunhill Fields budgets, this will remain

a challenge until the implementation of any restructure to align with the Target Operating Model (TOM) and the merge into the new Environment Department. As this is not scheduled until Phase 5 of the TOM, any changes are unlikely to take effect until the end of the calendar year. Consequently, it is unlikely that the full 12% savings target will be achieved in year and in the short-term other areas of the Open Spaces department may accordingly need to make good the shortfall.

Personnel

3. There have been no new staff or leavers since February. Two members of staff that have been shielding returned to work on April the 1st.

Procurement

- 4. City Gardens are currently carrying out a number of procurement exercises this financial year, these will help ensure that City Gardens continue to provide a value for money service:
 - Tree procurement tender will be let before the end of the financial year.

Operational Activities

- 5. **Marketing:** Following a request from Members to review how we market the events in our gardens, we have started a review of our website and identified a number of improvements that will be implemented shortly. City Gardens will be presenting a report on benchmarking fees and charges as well as improving marketing in general.
- 6. **COVID-19:** City Gardeners have continued to work during the third lockdown. COVID guidance and protocols are regularly reviewed. All office-based staff continue to work from home and the Irish Chambers remain closed.
- 7. **Jubilee Gardens and Cleary Gardens:** There has been a significant increase in use of these sites in the evenings and particularly at weekends. Skateboarders are congregating at both sites and there has been a substantial increase in damage to plants and furniture.

Project Updates

- 8. **Covid Streets Programme 19 planters:** Due to the success of this scheme, a second phase is now being planned and will be implemented later in the year.
- 9. **St Pauls Choir School:** The extension of the property is now complete, and City Gardens have completed the soft landscaping works to re-install the Holly hedge that was along the southern boundary and 4 replacement trees on Watling Street.

- 10. **St Bartholomew's Close**: The final street tree has been planted. There are issues with the drainage of one of the bronze planters which is affecting the health of the Camellia; this is being investigated and solutions identified.
- 11. **150 Bishopsgate (Heron Tower):** The line of seven London Plane trees on Houndsditch have now been replanted.
- 12. **Bank Junction:** The City Corporation have launched the consultation on a safer, greener Bank Junction. Details can be found at: https://news.cityoflondon.gov.uk/city-corporation-launches-consultation-on-a-safer-greener-bank-junction/
- 13. **Jubilee Gardens:** As part of the wider area development, this garden is to undergo a major redesign. Proposals include removal of the current wall facing on to the street and replacing this with railings to improve visibility and deter anti-social behaviour. The design team are also working with a scientist from the RHS to assess planting and monitor progress.
- 14. **St Bride Street River Court HVM removal:** This project includes the removal of the slim planters along St Bride Street, the removal of the planters on Poppins Court, along with the bollards. River Court is due for demolition, delaying the proposal for street tree planting until the new development is complete.

Planning

15. A list of planning applications that have been received since the last Committee meeting can be found in Appendix 1.

Community, Volunteering and Events

- 16. City Gardens are working with the Friends of City Gardens, who have secured funding from British Land to create a wildflower meadow in Barbers Surgeons, along the western side of the wall.
- 17. Virgin Active are running fitness classes at Finsbury Circus until the middle of May.
- 18. City Gardens completed the installation of new log edging into the Barbican Wildlife Gardens.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – List of planning application Open Spaces consultations to March 2021

Jake Tibbetts

City Gardens Manager

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APPENDIX 1 - Planning Application Open Spaces Consultations to March 2021

Application number	Location	Description
PT_KG/21/00187/FULL	Cheapside Traffic Island Cheapside London EC2V 6AA	Retention of the existing structure on the Cheapside traffic island for a further temporary period of 12 months to house a new art installation.
PT_AS/21/00152/MDC	155 Bishopsgate London EC2M 3TQ	Details of landscaping pursuant to condition 9 of planning permission ref 19/00837/FULL dated 3rd December 2019.
PT_CL/20/00997/FULEIA	Land Bounded By Fleet Street, Salisbury Court, Salisbury Square, Primrose Hill & Whitefriars Street, London, EC4Y	Demolition of existing and erection of three new buildings (combined court building, police headquarters building and a commercial building including offices) and public realm and highway works, including creating an enlarged Salisbury Square, including landscaping, new pedestrian routes and bicycle and vehicle parking; Dismantling, relocation and reconstruction of Grade II listed Waithman obelisk within Salisbury Square.
PT_AW/21/00122/FULL	5 Essex Court And 4 Brick Court Middle Temple London EC4Y 9AH	External works to provide a level access to 4 Brick Court and 5 Essex Court, and the installation of 10 No. Electric Vehicle Charging Points and associated works.
PT_PF/21/00110/MDC	St Paul's Cathedral St Paul's Churchyard London EC4M 8AD	Submission of details for the reinstatement of the 'People of London' Memorial pursuant to condition 2(c) of planning permission 17/00790/FULL dated 14.11.2017
PT_BXD/20/00848/FULEIA	Bury House 31 Bury Street London EC3A 5AR	Demolition of existing building and construction of a new building comprising 2 basement, ground floor plus 48 upper storeys for office use, retail/cafe use, publicly accessible internal amenity and community space, a new pedestrian route and new and improved Public Realm
PT_KG/21/00095/MDC	25 Cannon Street London EC4M 5TA	Submission of details pursuant to condition of planning permission 19/01150/FULL for re-landscaping of 25 Cannon Street Garden dated 16 April 2020

Committees: Streets and Walkways [for decision] Projects Sub [for decision] Open Spaces [for information]	Dates: 18 February 2021 23 February 2021 27 April 2021
Subject: Greening Cheapside: Sunken Garden (Phase 1B & Phase 2) Unique Project Identifier: 10991	Gateway 3: Outline Options Appraisal
Report of:	For Decision
Director of the Built Environment	
Report Author: Leila Ben-Hassel	

PUBLIC

1. Status update

Project Description:

The Greening Cheapside project was identified as a high priority of the Cheapside and Guildhall Area Enhancement Strategy. A key objective of the strategy is to enhance the local environment and improve air quality particularly through new green spaces and tree planting. As such the project contributes to the aims of the City's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy as well as the City's newly adopted Climate Action Strategy.

In 2019, Members approved the proposal to deliver the Greening Cheapside project in phases (see location map in appendix 2):

- Phase 1A: St Pauls Tube station Area Improvements
- Phase 1B: Sunken Garden (the subject of this G3 report)
- Phase 2: St Peter Westcheap churchyard

As part of the "DBE Review of projects" report, approved by Members in December 2018, the total allocation of S106 funding towards the Greening Cheapside project budget was capped. The project scope was subsequently limited to Phase 1A (St Pauls Tube station Area Improvements) with the progression of Phase 1B and Phase 2 subject to alternative funding sources being identified.

Following positive discussions with local stakeholders in 2019, officers secured external funding to progress Phase 1B (Sunken Garden) from C Hoare & Co. who agreed a voluntary

contribution of £200k to deliver public realm enhancements works to the Sunken Garden. These include a sustainable design approach aligning with the recently completed Phase 1A, and historic interpretation commemorating the original site of the first C Hoare & Co bank ahead of its 350th anniversary in 2022. It is anticipated that Phase 1B will start on site in January 2022 and complete in time for C Hoare & Co bank anniversary celebration in June 2022.

Subsequently, further funding from the Cheapside Business Alliance has been secured, which has enabled an update of the base scheme for Phase 1B, presented in this report as Option 1. Both Phase 1B and Phase 2 also offer the opportunity to pilot a sustainable urban drainage scheme and other environmental resilience measures in support of the Climate Action Strategy. The additional funding required to deliver these extra items (and whether or not this project meets the criteria for the use of Climate Action funding) is subject to confirmation at the next Gateway report.

RAG Status: Green

Previous RAG status: Green

Risk Status: Low

Total Estimated Cost of Project (excluding risk): £296,095-£515,000 (Phase 1B), including spend to date.

Change in Total Estimated Cost of Project (excluding risk): Increase of £96,095 - £315,000 since last report to Committee following opportunity to secure additional external funding.

Spend to Date: £36,095 (Phase 1B)
Costed Risk Provision Utilised: 0

Slippage: The project is on time and not overspent. However, as officers managed to secure additional funding from other external sources, including Cheapside Business Alliance, the scope of the base scheme for Phase 1B has increased to maximise environmental benefits. Furthermore, there is an opportunity to pilot Sustainable Urban Drainage measures (SuDs) on this site, in support of the Climate Action Strategy and to monitor the impact and benefits of the environmental resilience measures introduced to inform future projects. This is a shared aspiration of the project's key stakeholders.

As a result of the development of the base scheme and possible further enhancement, the cost range for Phase 1B has increased from £200K at last gateway to £296,000-£515,000 (including spend to date and excluding costed risk provision).

2. Next steps and requested decisions

Next Gateway: Gateway 4/5 Detailed Options Appraisal and Authority to Start Work (anticipated July 2021)

Next Steps:

- Confirm additional sources of funding and finalise total funding available for phase 1B (Sunken Garden) and phase 2 (St Peter Westcheap).
- Develop the design of Member-approved options and consult key stakeholders on the preferred design.
- Finalise detailed design of the option selected and present to Members at next Gateway.

Requested Decisions:

- 1. That the increased scope, in response to additional external funding secured, be approved;
- 2. That all options are approved and to note that options 2 'silver' and 3 'gold, will only be progressed should further funding be confirmed. This funding decision will be taken by Members via a separate report on the implementation of the Climate Action Strategy.
- 3. That additional budget of £50,000 is approved for fees and staff costs (fully externally funded) to reach the next Gateway (G4/5) and that £13,905 underspent from the current budget allocation is carried forward to be used on this next stage of the project.
- 4. Note the total estimated cost of the project (Phase 1B) at £296,095-£515,000 (excluding costed risk provision).

3. Resource requirements to reach next Gateway

The below table shows the proposed budget to progress the project to the next Gateway 4/5:

Item	Reason	Funds/ Source of Funding	Cost (£)
P&T Staff costs	Project Manager time incl. design development, stakeholder engagement, funding strategy and legal agreement. Also includes Group Manager supervision time	C Hoare & Co bank	21,799
Highways Staff costs	To input in design development, produce construction package, oversee investigations, produce cost estimates	C Hoare & Co bank	11,183
Open Spaces Staff Costs	To input in the design development	C Hoare & Co bank	2,000

Legal Team Staff costs	Draft legal agreement	C Hoare & Co bank	0
P&T Fees	Site investigations, Specialist Consultants, consultation/engagement	C Hoare & Co bank	17,518
Total			50,000

Please note staff costs are calculated on the basis of reaching the next gateway (G4/5) in Summer 2021 and on the basis of the construction package being produced in-house with input from technical specialists externally appointed.

No Costed Risk Provision is requested at this stage.

The £13,905 underspent from the current budget allocation is to be carried forward to be used on this next stage of the project. Spend to date and revised budget information is presented in appendix 3.

4. Overview of project options

Officers developed 3 concept designs for review by the project steering group and key internal and external stakeholders, including Cheapside Business Alliance.

- Option 1 (£296,095-£315,000): This 'bronze' option was developed as it fits within the existing budget. The design is simple and based on the footprint of existing planters in the Sunken Garden and includes minimal environmental measures such as replacing existing planting with more biodiverse and sustainable species to align with Phase 1A, additional seating space, basic lighting design and historic interpretation design details as this is a key design element (Plaque and paving details), but no greater improvement to accessibility of the space. The design provides opportunities for informal play and activation by local occupiers.
- Option 2 (£345,000-£400,000): The 'silver' option creates a fully accessible "soft bowl garden". The design provides the greatest area of permeability out of all concept design options, new biodiverse and sustainable planting aligning with Phase 1A, increased seating, basic lighting design and historic interpretation design details as this is a key design element (Plaque and paving details). The design provides opportunities for informal play and activation by local occupiers.
- Option 3 (£400,000 £515,000): The 'gold' option is to fully re-landscape the site using the historic urban grain to create large "rain garden" and new biodiverse and sustainable planting aligning with Phase 1A. It creates

		,
		opportunities for informal play and activation by local occupiers. A path is introduced through the rain garden as part of the informal play.
5.	Recommendation	That all options are approved but options 2 'silver' and 3 'gold, will only be progressed should further funding be confirmed. This funding decision will be taken by Members via a separate report on the implementation of the Climate Action Strategy.
6.	Risk	Overall project risk: low The main risks to the project, include the design scope being impacted by site conditions; resourcing and manufacturing of any bespoke items impacting programme; Brexit impacts cost and sourcing of materials.
		 Costed Risk Provision Utilised at Last Gateway: 0 (none sought at last stage) Change in Costed Risk: 0
		Further information is provided in the Options Appraisal matrix on risks specific to design options and in the attached project risk register (Appendix 4).
7.	Procurement approach	At this stage of the project, any necessary specialist consultant will be appointed following the City's Procurement code. Any site investigations such as trial holes will be undertaken by the City's Highways Term Contractor.

Appendices

Appendix 1	Project Coversheet
Appendix 2	Map of project area
Appendix 3	Finance tables
Appendix 4	Risk Register
Appendix 5	Visuals of proposed design options

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Options Appraisal Matrix: Greening Cheapside Phase 1B – Sunken Garden

Option Summary	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Brief description of option	This option ("Bronze option") was developed as it fits within the budget available. The design is simple and based on the footprint of existing planters in the Sunken Garden. Please refer to appendix 5 for indicative plans and artist impressions. • Hard landscaping: The existing large planter would be removed, and a ramped access created (some stepped access would be retained). The layout creates opportunities for informal play and activation by local occupiers. Additional seating space would be created (additional 29 spaces bringing total to 50). The lighting design would be simple introducing a subtle LED lighting strip under granite benches. This design option also includes elements of historic interpretation as this is a key requirement of the Steering Group as this is a key design element (Plaque and simple paving detail). • Greening: Existing trees would be retained. This design would result in the same of area of greenery, but existing	This option ("Silver option") is centred on the concept of a fully accessible "soft bowl garden" and provides the greatest area of permeability out of all concept design options. Please refer to appendix 5 for indicative plans and artist impressions. • Hard landscaping: All entry point into the garden are accessible creating a soft variation in levels/gradients. This option proposes to predominantly use bounded gravel thereby increasing the permeable area of the site by 4 times. The layout creates opportunities for informal play and activation by local occupiers. Seating would be integrated into existing steps and the total seating capacity of the site would be increased by 49 seats. This option provides the greatest seating capacity of 70. The lighting design would involve LED lighting strip under granite benches and opportunities would be explored for further architecture lighting details. This design option also includes elements of historic interpretation as this is a key requirement of the	This option ("Gold option") is based on the historic grain of the large planters. Please refer to appendix 5 for indicative plans and artist impressions. • Hard landscaping: This option proposes to fully relandscape the area of the garden to create a large "rain garden". The design would create opportunities for activation by local occupiers. It introduces a meandering narrow path through the rain garden as informal play. Seating would be integrated into existing steps and the total seating capacity of the site would be increased to 60 seats. The lighting design would involve LED lighting strip under granite benches and opportunities would be explored for further architecture lighting details. This design option would include more opportunities for historic interpretation, incl. a plaque and several paving inlets throughout the site ("the Golden Bottle"). • Greening:

Ор	tion Summary	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
		planting would be replaced with more biodiverse, low maintenance planting.	Steering Group as this is a key design element (Plaque and paving details running throughout the site). • Greening: Existing trees would be retained. This design would result in a 24% increase in greenery with more biodiverse and low maintenance planting.	Existing trees would be retained. This design would result in a 50% increase in greenery with more biodiverse and low maintenance planting (20% more than option 2).
2.	Scope and exclusions	The scope of the project is defined by the site boundary shown in red on the map included in appendix 3. It includes the sunken space and surrounding planters.		
Pro	oject Planning			
3.	Programme and key dates	 Design development, incl. construction package: February 2021 – June 2021 (Gateway 5: July 2021) Pre-construction activities: July – November 2021 Start works on site: January 2022 Complete works on site: May 2022 		
4.	Risk implications	Overall project option risk: Low Key risks include: Brexit: possible increase of material costs and delays of sourcing materials. This would impact the overall project cost and the project programme. This is mitigated by the City's Term Contractor factoring delays in their orders and increasing its stock of materials.	 Overall project option risk: Low Key risks include: Brexit: possible increase of material costs and delays of sourcing materials. This would impact the overall project cost and the project programme. This is mitigated by the City's Term Contractor factoring delays in their orders and increasing its stock of materials. This design option involves some bespoke design elements which could impact the project 	Overall project option risk: Low Key risks include: Brexit: possible increase of material costs and delays of sourcing materials. This would impact the overall project cost and the project programme. This is mitigated by the City's Term Contractor factoring delays in their orders and increasing its stock of materials. This design option involves some bespoke design elements which could impact the project

Ор	tion Summary	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
			programme if any delays in manufacturing are incurred. This would be mitigated through production of thorough shop drawings and researching subcontractors. Site conditions limit design scope. This would be mitigated through undertaking site investigations. A Tree Root survey has already been carried out to inform design development. The budget sought at this stage include allocation for further site investigations.	programme if any delays in manufacturing are incurred. This would be mitigated through production of thorough shop drawings and researching subcontractors. Site conditions limit design scope. This would be mitigated through undertaking site investigations. A Tree Root survey has already been carried out to inform design development. The budget sought at this stage include allocation for further site investigations. Not sufficient funding secured. This option is the most costly and could require officers to secure further external funding. If this design option was preferred by stakeholders, officers would tailor the design detail to fit available funding.
5.	Stakeholders and consultees	 Internal stakeholders: Highways, Environmental Policy Team (CoL Planning), Historic Environment (CoL Planning), Open Spaces External stakeholders: Project Steering Group (incl. landowners Landsec, Hoare bank and Cheapside Business Alliance), other local occupiers and visitors 		
6.	Benefits of option	 Openness and accessibility Increased visibility through and to garden with new planting strategy 	Openness and increased visibility (greater lines of sight) through and to garden with new planting strategy	Openness and increased visibility (greater lines of sight) through and to garden with new planting strategy

Option Summary	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
	 Increased seating capacity to 50 spaces (29 more) Opportunities for activation Informal play elements New planter with enhanced biodiversity and introducing small area for SUDs (soak away) Reuse of existing York stone (circular economy – more environmentally friendly) Lower end of the cost range – fits within funding available. 	 Garden would be fully accessible from all sides Increased greenery area by 30% Largest permeable surface for water run off Opportunities for informal play Delivers the greatest increase of seating (70 seating capacity) The gentle variation of levels echoes the historic sunken nature of the garden 	 Garden would be fully accessible from all sides Vast greening area - Increased planting by over 50% with enhanced biodiversity & SUDs strategy Opportunities for activation Walkway through rain garden as informal play Reuse of existing York stone (circular economy – more environmentally friendly) Memorial site to mark Hoare's Bank Historic urban grain echoed in the footprint of planters
7. Disbenefits of option	 Through the new planting, visibility and lines of sight would be improved however although the design proposes the introduction of a ramp, steps would be retained and therefore the space would be accessible but this option would not deliver full accessibility of all entry points This option would deliver enhanced biodiversity through a new planting strategy, though the area of greenery would remain the same following the footprint of the existing planters. 	 Scope of opportunities for activation more restricted due to gradient changes Possible greater maintenance requirement due to the use of binding gravel which isn't a standard City of London material 	Less permeable area than option 2 but larger greening area Possible greater maintenance cost as greening area a lot larger compared to greening currently maintained in Sunken Garden (this would be mitigated by the use of low maintenance species) On the higher end of the cost range

Option Summary	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
	Less scope for historic interpretation than the other 2 options but would meet expectations of stakeholder to celebrate the history related to C Hoare Bank Co.		
Resource Implications			
8. Total estimated cost	£296,095-£315,000	£345,000-£400,000	£400,000 - £515,000
9. Funding strategy	This option would be fully funded by external parties (Hoare Bank and Cheapside Business Alliance)	This option would be fully funded by funding secured from external parties and some CoL Climate Action funding (subject to confirmation)	This option would be fully funded by external parties and some CoL Climate Action funding (subject to confirmation)
10. Investment appraisal	Not applicable		
11. Estimated capital value/return	Not applicable		
12. Ongoing revenue implications	A full estimate of the impact on revenue departmental budget will be carried out ahead of the next gateway. It should be noted that the design approach aims to minimise and reduce where possible maintenance costs by using robust materials and replacing existing high maintenance planting with low maintenance sustainable planting. Any lighting introduced will be in accordance with the City's Lighting strategy and using specifications that are as low energy as possible (LED mostly).		
13. Affordability	All options would be fully funded by external parties' contributions, some S106 and some CoL Climate Action funding (subject to committee approval of the City's climate action plan).		
14. Legal implications	Legal implications are minor for this phase of the project. To enable external parties to fund the project, CoL legal officers will be entering into voluntary agreements with funders.		

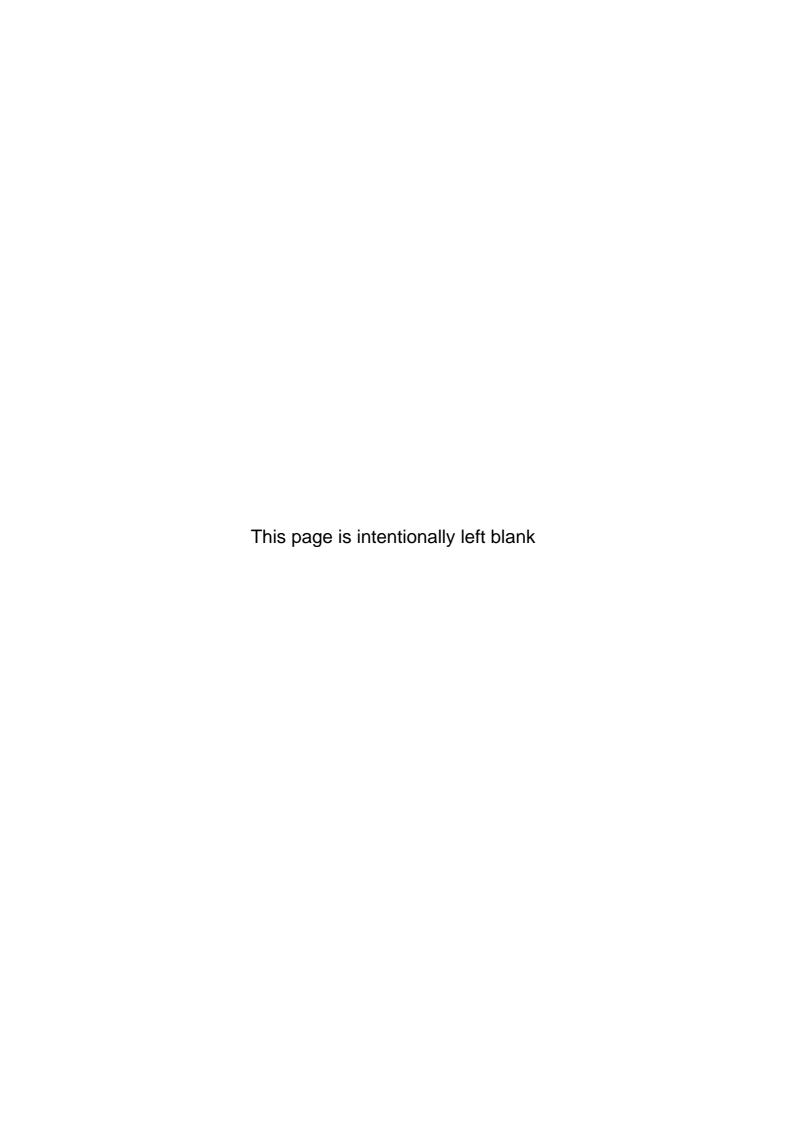
Option Summary	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
15. Corporate property implications	Not applicable		
16. Traffic implications	None		
17. Sustainability and energy implications	This option delivers less environmental benefits compared to the other 2 design options. However it would introduce more biodiverse plant species and lower maintenance planting. Any lighting introduced would be low energy LED.	 Use of robust materials low maintenance sustainable and biodiverse planting. This option provides the largest area of permeable surface Any lighting introduced will be as low energy as possible (LED mostly). 	 Use of robust materials This option provides the largest area of greening (low maintenance sustainable and biodiverse planting). This design option provides the largest area of permeable surface
18. IS implications	Not applicable		
19. Equality Impact Assessment	Officers will undertake a full Equality Impact Assessment of the final design ahead of the next gateway. The design approach of the project is to balance the needs of various user groups to minimise any negative impact on any protected characteristic groups.		
20. Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not applicable		
21. Recommendation	Recommended	Recommended	Recommended

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Agenda Item 23

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Agenda Item 24

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