



Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee

Date: MONDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2022

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: HYBRID – VIRTUAL AND COMMITTEE ROOMS, SECOND FLOOR, WEST WING, GUILDHALL

Members:

William Upton KC (Chairman)	Helen Payne, (Friends of Kenwood)
Ray Booth, (Barnet Mencap)	Harunur Rashid, (Black and Minority Ethnic Communities representative)
Nick Bradfield, (Dartmouth Park Conservation Area Advisory Committee)	Susan Rose, (Highgate Conservation Area Advisory Committee)
John Foley	Ellin Stein, (Mansfield Conservation Area Advisory Committee & Neighbourhood Association Committee)
Fox, (Heath Hands)	Richard Sumray, (London Council for Sport and Recreation)
Matthew Frith, (London Wildlife Trust)	Jeff Waage, (Heath & Hampstead Society)
Colin Gregory, (Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association)	David Walton, (Representative of Clubs using facilities on the Heath)
Michael Hammerson, (Highgate Society)	John Weston, (Hampstead Conservation Area Advisory Committee)
Dr Gaye Henson, (Marylebone Birdwatching Society)	Simon Williams, (Vale of Health Society)
Simon Hunt, (Open Spaces Society)	Vacancy, (Ramblers Association)
Sharlene McGee, (Leonard Cheshire)	

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Blair.Stringman@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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< https://youtu.be/XnydytN_a6E >

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John Barradell
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA

Public Agenda

1. APOLOGIES

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

3. MINUTES

To agree the public minutes of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee meeting held on 26 September 2022.

For Decision
(Pages 5 - 12)

- a) Draft minutes of Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee

To note the public minutes of the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee meeting held on 5 October 2022.
(*To Follow*).

4. SPORTS AND WELLBEING FORUM - DRAFT ACTION POINTS

To receive the draft action points of the Hampstead Heath Sports & Wellbeing Forum meeting held on 28th September 2022.

For Information
(Pages 13 - 18)

5. DIRECTORS UPDATE

Report of the Executive Director, Environment.
(*To Follow*)

For Information

6. ASSISTANT DIRECTORS UPDATE

Report of Executive Director, Environment.

For Discussion
(Pages 19 - 36)

7. **CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY PROJECT**

Report of the Executive Director, Environment.
(*To Follow*)

For Information

8. **HEATH HANDS NOVEMBER UPDATE**

To receive the draft action points of the Hampstead Heath Sports & Wellbeing Forum from November 2022.

For Information
(Pages 37 - 38)

9. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

16 January 2023
13 March 2023

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HAMPSTEAD HEATH CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Monday, 26 September 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee held at
HYBRID – VIRTUAL AND COMMITTEE ROOM 4 on Monday, 26 September 2022
at 5.30 pm

Present

Members:

William Upton KC (Chairman)
Ray Booth (Barnet Mencap)
Nick Bradfield (Dartmouth Park Conservation Area Advisory Committee)
John Etheridge (South End Green Association)
Matthew Frith (London Wildlife Trust)
Merlin Fox (Heath Hands)
Colin Gregory (Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association)
Michael Hammerson (Highgate Society)
Dr Gaye Henson (Marylebone Birdwatching Society)
Richard Sumray (London Council for Recreation and Sport)
Jeff Waage (Heath and Hampstead Society)
David Walton (Representative of Clubs using facilities on the Heath)

Officers:

Jonathan Meares	- Natural Environment Division
Declan Gallagher	- Natural Environment Division
Paul Maskell	- Natural Environment Division
Stefania Horne	- Natural Environment Division
Julie Fittock	- City Surveyors
Ben Dunleavy	- Town Clerk's Department
Blair Stringman	- Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Helen Payne (Friends of Kenwood) and Susan Rose (Highgate Conservation Area Advisory Committee). Nick Fielding was in attendance for Friends of Kenwood.

Before continuing with the main items of the agenda, the Chairman placed on record the Committee's thanks and congratulations to Richard Gentry who had recently moved to a new role within the Corporation.

2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF ANY PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The Committee considered the minutes of the previous meeting of the Consultative Committee, held on 23 May 2022.

A Member (Highgate Society) suggested that under item 5 (5.1 Draft Divisional Plan 2022-25) the conversation concerning archaeological interpretations had been raised by them rather than the Member erroneously referred to.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee held on 23 May 2022 be agreed as a correct record, as corrected.

a) **DRAFT MINUTES OF HAMPSTEAD HEATH, HIGHGATE WOOD AND QUEEN'S PARK COMMITTEE**

Members noted the draft minutes of the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queen's Park Committee meeting held on 15 June 2022.

Matters Arising

- A Member (Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association) suggested that any financial papers received by the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queen's Park Committee should also be received by the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee, as appropriate. The Chairman will consider the request and appropriate information will be made available.

4. **SPORTS AND WELLBEING FORUM - DRAFT ACTION POINTS**

The Committee received a report of draft action points of the Hampstead Heath Sports & Wellbeing Forum.

RESOLVED – That Members receive the report and note the contents.

5. **ASSISTANT DIRECTORS UPDATE**

Members received a report of the Executive Director, Environment, providing the Assistant Director's Update.

The Assistant Director reported that corporate projects were progressing well. The Committee heard that a corporate review of all projects within the City of London Corporation was taking place, including the athletic tracks and the ponds projects. It was noted that the pond project was progressing well with procurement and design now finalised. The Committee was advised that good progress had also been made on the pond and wetlands conservation plan and work had also begun on building a brand-new pond. Members noted that the London Cricket Trust had confirmed funding for several improvements to the cricket facilities and the environment department continues to liaise with stakeholders and users to ensure funding continues to progress.

The Assistant Director highlighted to the Committee a correction regarding a project involving the Royal Free Hospital, noting the project was funded not by the Hospital but by the Royal Free Charity.

Queen's Green Canopy

A Member (Marylebone Birdwatching Society) queried whether the trees being proposed for planting on the Tumulus site would be in a line or group. An officer confirmed that the plan was to recreate the field boundary that once existed across the field and the trees would be placed as naturally as possible and

would be positioned in such a way that they would mark the field boundary and will be irregularly spaced. They added that, should Members of the Consultative Committee wish to be involved in the placing of the trees, this would be welcomed.

A Member (Representative of Clubs using facilities on the Heath) said the location for the trees around the Tumulus site looked to be on the route where the large cross-country races followed and asked that this be considered. An officer said the relevant officers would be working on the issue raised and plans would be made to avoid disruption to the cross-country races.

Constabulary Update

The Chairman asked whether the weeklong operation with the Metropolitan Police in partnership with the City of London Corporation and the London Borough of Camden (Community Safety Team) would take place again. The Assistant Director said the operation took place because of the recent issues concerning anti-social behaviour on the Heath; the operation had been successful in providing public reassurance and there was an opportunity to continue to work jointly with other partners to make sure the Heath remained safe.

A Member (London Council for Recreation and Sport) said there are issues each summer around Parliament Hill, just after exams have taken place for young people and further partnership work with the police would be welcomed and provide safety for young people on the Heath. Regarding boating issues in the pond, the Member asked whether fixed penalty notices could be issued where unsafe actions were occurring and said more notices needed to be placed regarding the use of disposable barbeques in the park. Regarding the pond, the Assistant Director said that large signage was situated to ensure that the public does not access the pond and natural barriers were also being used to maintain health and safety. Concerning the use of barbeques, the Assistant Director said there had been a huge effort from staff to minimise the risk of fires and firebreaks had also been put in place, but the department understood the challenges disposable barbeques posed to the Heath.

A Member (Heath Hands) suggested that signage declaring fixed penalties would have a substantial effect on boating issues in the pond. The Assistant Director agreed to take these suggestions away to colleagues at the constabulary.

A Member (Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association) asked if the Assistant Director could confirm if serious trends of anti-social behaviour had been observed. The Assistant Director said a dashboard is planned to analyse trends but also to look in further detail as to where problems were arising and in which locations.

A Member (London Council for Recreation and Sport) expressed their concern that the current timetable for the developments being carried out on the Parliament Hill Athletics Track for 2023/24 including the timing for the changing

of floodlights. The Assistant Director said have already been raised back to appropriate colleagues and will be considered when the project develops.

Good News

A Member (Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association) queried what more could be done to encourage women's cricket and requested an update on the rollout of dog licensing. The Assistant Director said Women are already a priority group for Camden's Health and Wellbeing agenda. The department was working closely with the London Cricket Trust but also with the English Cricket Board to make sure good work and progress continues with partners. Regarding dog licensing, the Assistant Director said licences are continuing to be sent out, and this was a priority for the department. The Assistant Director also provided an update on the Heath extension playground, which is progressing well, and contractors have been engaged.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

A Member (South End Green Association) asked whether monies being sought for the Model Boating Pond Island would only be raised through donations, enquiries were also made on whether the former role of Constabulary, Queen's Park and West Ham Park Manager would be appointed in the same capacity. The Assistant Director confirmed donations are continuing and will be used as match funding towards funding applications as and when they become available. Regarding the filling of the vacant position, the Assistant Director said the role was currently being undertaken by existing staff as a temporary measure until the Target Operating Model review was complete.

RESOLVED – That Members receive the report and provide feedback.

6. A BLUEPRINT FOR THE PARLIAMENT HILL LIDO

Members received a report of the Executive Director, Environment, providing a concept plan for Parliament Hill Lido. The Assistant Director explained that the proposed concept plan is not the final proposal but initially developed to visually highlight development opportunities and that the final design will need to be developed with users and stakeholders.

A Member (Representative of Clubs using facilities on the Heath) said it was important that the essence of the Lido was not forgotten in the blueprint for Parliament Hill. They also suggested that the customer journey can be improved. The Assistant Director agreed to take these comments back for review.

A Member (London Council for Recreation and Sport) said it was important to understand what the financial envelope for the changes being proposed might be and asked how the blueprint would be taken forward after being brought to the Consultative Committee. The Assistant Director confirmed that an initial analysis had been conducted on the capacity and penetration rate, it was estimated that with the current population and a basic model and basic improvements, subsidies could be potentially decreased by half but this can

change according to final design and model. For the next steps, the Assistant Director noted that it was important that the vision and capacity of the changing rooms be clarified together with the users to ensure there was a vision that was achievable to funding.

RESOLVED – That Members receive the report and provide feedback.

7. GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT FOR NATURE RECOVERY

Members received a report of the Executive Director, Environment, setting out a series of proposals for future grassland management on Hampstead Heath in response to the City of London's 2020 Climate Action Strategy, nature recovery and the biodiversity emergency.

A Member (Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association) asked in what circumstances would less annual cutting be considered appropriate and whether grazing was an issue. An officer commented that there was some overlap with some areas concerning grazing and the cutting regime would be dependent on the strength of the grass as some areas were in enriched zones. Members were informed that the annual cutting of grass would also produce a saving on fuel.

A Member (Heath Hands) said the initiative was excellent and in line with the City of London agreeing to reach net zero by 2027, it was suggested that the department may want to consider implementing the 7.2 hectares across the Heath for lowland meadow creation. An officer noted that strategy implementation had already started, and an audit had been completed from scopes one and two which showed emissions were already down from 2020's levels, however, this was still a big challenge.

A Member (London Wildlife Trust) advised that Consultative Committee be mindful concerning fires and that decisions may need to be taken were there to be extended periods of high temperatures. They felt that cuts may need to be taken earlier in advance than may have been preferable. The Member asked what monitoring would take place as referred to in the report. The Assistant Director confirmed monitoring would be done by the City of London's ecologist with methodology yet to be agreed upon surrounding species diversity.

A Member (Highgate Society) suggested that rotational cutting could address the issues raised with fire risk. Concerning diversity, the Member also asked whether the loss of grassland between the south meadow could be addressed. The Assistant Director said there was a constant battle of grass versus woodland, with woodland taking hold despite the departments' attempts to arrest the process.

A Member (South End Green Association) said they welcomed the initiative and noted that it was important to monitor erosion issues.

RESOLVED – That Members receive the report and provide feedback.

8. SWIMMING BOOKING SYSTEMS

Members received a report of the Executive Director, Environment, setting out proposed changes to the Booking System used at the Bathing Ponds and Lido on Hampstead Heath.

A Member (Friends of Kenwood) suggested that it would be good to create a user account on the system so data did not have to be entered multiple times. This would also help to enable data gathering, which had the Members' full support.

RESOLVED – That Members receive the report and provide feedback.

9. **VISION AND PRIORITIES FOR PARLIAMENT HILL IMPROVEMENTS**

Members received a report of the Executive Director, Environment, providing a vision for improvement to Parliament Hill.

A Member (Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association) asked to what extent the proposals involved possible changes to the staff yard including Heathfield House and relocation of the education team. The Assistant Director said a formulated strategy for buildings had not yet been done but work was ongoing with surveyors in terms of improvements and maximising opportunities for the staff yard.

A Member (Highgate Society) said focusing on the concept of the visitor hub was a particularly important issue and was glad to see it had been given serious consideration. The Member suggested that a better program of public information about the Heath was needed to enable informative information to give greater feedback. The Assistant Director said the points raised would be picked up by separate projects and initiatives.

RESOLVED – That Members receive the report and provide feedback.

10. **HEATH HANDS SEPTEMBER UPDATE**

Members received a report updating the Consultative Committee of the work of Heath Hands from September 2022.

A Member (Marylebone Birdwatching Society) said they were grateful for the work done by Heath Hands for filling up feeders as well as being impressed with the activities involving school children birdwatching. A question was raised as to why there had been a drop-in volunteer activity for Highgate Wood. The representative from Heath Hands agreed to report back to the Member on the issue.

11. **QUESTIONS**

There were no questions.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

There were no items of urgent business.

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was noted by the Consultative Committee.

The meeting ended at 7.39pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: Blair Stringman
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Hampstead Heath Sports & Wellbeing Forum

Wednesday 28 September 2022, 6.30pm

Parliament Hill Meeting Room

Attending

Alderman Gregory Jones	GJ	(Chair) Deputy Chairman Hampstead Heath Management Committee
David Walton	DW	Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee
Karen Smith	KS	Parliament Hill Fields Lido
Mary Powell	MP	Kenwood Ladies' Bathing Pond
Marc Hutchinson	MH	Licensed Activity - Winter Swimming Club
Joseph Lowe	JL	Athletics
Sandy Nairne	SN	Licensed Activity - Croquet
John Carrier	JC	Target groups and underrepresented groups
Robert Gibbs	RG	Angling
Gary Fagg	GF	Parliament Hill Fields Lido
Margaret Dickinson	MD	Mixed Bathing Pond
Rudolf Benjamin	RB	Tennis coaching
Karin Oleinikova	KO	Heath Hands
Colin Houston	CH	Heath Hands
Stefania Horne	SH	Assistant Director, Hampstead Heath
Paul Maskell	PM	Officer from Hampstead Heath
Declan Gallagher	DG	Officer from Hampstead Heath
Paul Jeal	PJ	Officer from Hampstead Heath
Kate Radusin	KR	(Note taker) Officer from Hampstead Heath

Apologies

William Upton	WU	Chair, Hampstead Heath Management Committee
Richard Sumray	RS	Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee
Richard Caylor	RC	Bowls & Croquet
Dr Frankie Blackmore	FB	Target groups and underrepresented groups
Jane Myatt, GP	JM	Target groups and underrepresented groups
Cindy Galvin	CG	Trustee representing Heath Hands
Debbie Bush	DB	Pro-Active Camden (PAC).
Mike Sands	MS	Mixed Bathing Pond
Emma Rae	ER	Parliament Hill Fields Lido
Anandi Shah	AS	Licensed Activity - ParkRun
Ella Mitchell	EM	Rugby
Ray Booth	RB	Mental Health

Meeting Action Points & notes

Outstanding Actions from the last meeting (21.07.2022) & matters arising

Angling –

A meeting has taken place between representative from the Men's Bathing Pond Hampstead and Highgate Angling Society (HAHAS) and Officers from the Heath to discuss the re-opening of the Men's Bathing Pond North Bank on a trial basis. Access will be permitted only to HAHAS Members. RG can provide further information on platform costs.

ACTION – RG to provide details of platform costs to COL.

Social prescribing and health and well being

Heath Hands continues to discuss opportunities for social prescribing and social interventions with partners such as Voluntary Action Camden, Age UK and local GP Surgeries and Practices in relation to linking in opportunities at the Heath. Five referrals for activities on the Heath have come from the Health Navigator Teams so far. The Team are also linked in with research into the effects of long covid at the Royal Free Hospital.

With regards to outreach and the use of the ponds, officers are already working to harness social value. A recent visit was arranged for a Muslim ladies group to familiarize with the facility and Heath Hands are working on referrals. MP welcomed Heath Hands reps and highlighted further opportunities for joined working with KPLA.

Update for Pro-Active Camden

PM provided a verbal update on a recent conference which PM and KO had attended. PM outlined that a local GP spoke at the event, with the focus being getting people into activity.

ACTION – PM – Request an update from DB in relation to children's weight data (linked to a long term study).

KO noted that a number of local boroughs were represented at the event, including Haringey and Barnet. A written update on the event, received from DB is set out below:

Supporting Camden Residents to be Active - Moving Forward event (Monday 26 September)

Pro-Active Camden, Camden Council and Camden & Islington Public Health successfully hosted an event which brought together over 50 strategic senior members of Camden's physical activity system and regional partners to share experiences and ideas about increasing accessible, affordable, sustainable and engaging opportunities to get and stay active, in light of the current climate and issues we face.

We hope that the event will act as a catalyst to further energise Camden's borough-wide physical activity offer, and start planning next collective steps and consider how we can bring the rest of the system together as we move forward and ensure that we provide support to those who need it most. Following 3 keynote speakers, 5 presenters talking about the strategic view from Camden's frontline, we hosted 5 workshops looking at specific inactive groups and methods for engaging in and sustaining participation through a whole system approach including: Early years, Teen girls, People with disabilities, People with long term conditions – physical activity as connected treatment, and Older People.

Events

PM provided an update on recent and upcoming events:

- Duathlon - A very successful event, with the 3rd highest number of entrants with 284 competitors taking part in 2022. Tri-London won the event. Thanks to the swimming groups and to the HRFC for supporting the event.
- London youth games (25 November 2022).
- The South of England Cross Country will not be coming to the Heath during 2022. The next South of England Cross Country will be held on the Heath in 2023, with the national to be hosted on the Heath in 2024.
- 100th anniversary of the Middlesex cross country event – PM is awaiting receipt of the application forms for review.

There are informal sports (football/rugby/quidditch) taking place at the back of the Lido on Saturday mornings. The area is very well used, especially by youth groups.

Cricket

SH outlined that the London Cricket Trust have agreed funding for improvements to cricket facilities at Parliament hill, Highgate woods and the Heath Extension.

Non-Turf Pitches and new nets are proposed at the Heath Extension with funding in the region of £60k investment. At Parliament Hill the focus is on increasing youth participation with a new non turf pitch as well as Highgate woods. The next steps will be to write to stakeholders to inform them about the proposals. .

Micky Stewart (ex. Surrey cricket captain) has been invited to take the COL Freedom, with the ceremony to be re-rearranged following a clash with the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II.

Capital Projects Update

Swimming -

All Capital Projects are currently being reviewed, as inflation rises have impacted on all capital projects (material costs etc).

With regards to the ponds improvement project, SH highlighted that the tender was being launched. Accessibility and timetable implementation will be discussed with contractors. Part of the procurement brief covers maintaining access to the facilities where possible during the works phase. Once there is further information, PM will contact swimming reps to outline the proposed sequencing of works.

Athletics Track -

SH the project is at formative stage, and is included in the capital project review. As soon as outcome of the review is known, it will be communicated with Stakeholders. This project is amber as a result.

JL we had a good meeting recently at the track forum. The 10,000m Personal Best Event is very important within London and Highgate Harriers want to work the programme around the event schedule and highlighted the opportunity to perhaps start working during summer 2024. The Club are also open to consider financial support for elements of the project. The Floodlighting is not meeting the standard, and that would be needed for the event, as it would be taking place after dark.

DG confirmed that trackmark is in place until 2024 although monitoring is needed and the Track can host running events under the current certification. The facility is very well used by local schools. JL also outlined Club usage of the track, which is substantial. In terms of school use, it is very high compared to similar facilities. Community use could be improved, and we hope the project will help to increase this. DW noted that disabled cycle groups could also use the track, as the surface can sustain the impact and it is a safe contained area.

A Vision for Parliament Hill

SH Camden proposed development at Murphy's yard will increase usage of the Heath. Therefore we want to be ready to tap into any opportunities, such as CIL Funding. There is now more time to develop the vision, as the Murphy's yard development is paused. The plan picks up some of the elements of the 2007 masterplan and sets out a high-level principles around what we want to do in the area.

Although there is no funding allocated at this stage, an agreed vision could help in seeking additional grant funding as and when opportunities arise. Works could also be phased

The main representations made in relation to the Murphy's yard development were around the relationship between the Heath and views and we need to continue to be careful for the Heath not to be exploited. Cycling is an issue that will need to be considered. The group welcomed the sustainable approach of the proposal, such as reusing buildings. We should not underestimate what the impacts will be to Gordon House road entrance. Planting could be bolder, more trees and more could be done to embed nature as well as considering accessibility.

A review of a more diverse the sport provision and tennis floodlighting could be considered for the tennis courts although this will need to be a planning and a consideration that will need to be consulted on.

Basketball is a sport which may bring in younger members and a MUGA could be considered as part of the proposal.

Lido Vision

Although there is no capital funding at present, there is an opportunity to review the unutilised space within the Lido, which can bring in additional income to sustain the facility

and tap to funding opportunities as and when they arise. The emphasis is to remain as a cold water swimming venue with additional spaces to increase the recreational offer.

KS PHLUG met to discuss the plans. There is a concern around the showers/changing room, which may be too small but do not feel negatively around the concept. More discussions are needed to make sure the blueprint can consider current and future usage.

KS suggested that bike racks could be improved as part of the proposals and considerations for security is important as bike stealing is generally increasing and the Lido has been suffering as well.

There was a general consensus that the customer flow is not right with the current proposal although it was highlighted that this was only a basic improvement proposal that needs to be refined according to feedback.

Swimming Booking system.

SH outlined that Officers are looking to make improvements to the current booking system used for swimming. All functionality to be simplified, but overall the booking system will not change how the ponds are used.

The review will look at what could improve the user experience and facilitate bookings.

MP highlighted the importance of the phone line to make sure people who are not computer literate can continue to use the ponds. JP confirmed that all of the phone line enquiries get responded to. SH understand the principle and the difficulties on booking when there is a high demand in the summer and officers will need to continue to review how the booking takes place to maximise opportunities to book for all. It needs to be continue to be practical and fair.

RB same issued with the tennis booking system. The demand is for the same time, but people compromise on times and all the courts get booked.

MD swimming is very weather sensitive, some people book it but then they don't attend, so no-one else can swim even though the pond can welcome more people. This can be considered as part of the new booking system and how the system can hopefully be more flexible.

Hardship Fund

MH there are a group of swimmers who have been identified who are not able to afford a season ticket, but who do not qualify for a concession. SH highlighted the importance to remain within the policy framework of the fees and charges and concessions to guarantee fairness and equal accessibility although the concept is very important and it needs further discussions. We could consider targeting specific groups for set periods of time, either for free or at a reduced rate that can be subsidised by the hardship fund.

ACTION – KR to arrange a separate meeting with swimmers to discuss.

Clubs Update

ACTION – ALL to send update to KR.

MP informed the group on conflicting issues in relation to transgender women swimmers in the Ladies' Bathing Pond and how a demonstration against transgender women took place in the summer. The KLPA is welcoming transgender women and SH highlighted that the City supports principles in line with the Equality act which is fostering mutual respect for all.

MD Mixed Pond Tea Party – 2nd October within the enclosure.

Date of the next meeting

ACTION – KR to circulate dates for further meetings.

GJ would like to host a meeting at the Guildhall in the future.

Committee(s): Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	Date(s): 7 November 2022
Subject: Assistant Directors Update	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 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?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Executive Director, Environment	For Discussion
Report author: Stefania Horne, Assistant Director	

Summary

This report provides Members with an update on matters relating to Hampstead Heath since May 2022.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Provide feedback on the report.

Main Report

Management Framework

1. An update on Sub-Divisional Plan 2022-25 projects is attached (appendix 1) for information.

Conservation and Biodiversity

2. In September representatives from the Heath and Hampstead Society and the Ecologist and the Trees and Conservation Manager met with the Manager of Mudshute Farm to discuss sheep grazing dates in September 2023. The group looked at the ant hill site on the Heath Extension which is already fenced off and also discussed taking the small flock of sheep over to the Tumulus which was the focus of the 2019 visit. The sheep can be safely housed overnight in the enclosed yard next to the changing rooms and we will involving Heath Hands in looking after the sheep and engaging with the public during the day.

Events

3. Recent events include:
 - 19th Annual Conker Championships (9 October 2022)
 - Duathlon (4 September 2022)

4. Upcoming events:
 - Zippos Circus (performances 20 October - 31 October 2022)
 - London Youth Games (19 November 2022)
 - Hampstead Heath Christmas Fayre (1 December 2022 – 8 January 2023)
5. The Affordable Art Fair (AAF) organisers have requested that the 2023 event dates are moved to avoid a clash with the coronation of Charles III which will take place on 6 May 2023. It is proposed that the Fair now take place between 10-14 May 2023. Construction of the tent would commence from 26 April and the site will be cleared on 20 May 2023.
6. The AAF organisers have confirmed, that due to the current economic climate, plans to for a second event in 2023 have been put on hold until 2024.

Swimming

7. A “project on a page” summary has been prepared in relation to the Swimming – Safety, Access and Security Capital Project (appendix 2).

2022 Summer Swimming Season

8. The summer season was incredibly busy, with the long spell of hot weather and a number of events. The Lido hosted the British Water Polo Association 65th Anniversary, with teams, including the present male and female GB squad and 2012 Olympic squad participating in a series of exhibition matches. The Lido and Ponds hosted the annual Duathlon in September, a very successful event that had 280 participants and 153 teams. Upcoming events this winter include the Christmas Day dip and races at Men’s pond, The New Year’s Day dip at Ladies pond, PHISH cold water races at Lido and Crisis Icebreaker Charity dip at the Lido.

Parking enforcement

9. Currently, enforcement for the four car parks (Golders hill car park (blue badge only car park), Jack Straw’s car park, East Heath and Parliament Hill lido) is undertaken by staff who have other duties and therefore can enforce ad hoc. Such an arrangement, does not maximise revenue or guarantee a high level of compliance.
10. Officers have explored opportunities to involve third party contractors that can free up staff and improve compliance. This model is in place at other sites within the Natural Environment Division and within the City of London.
11. This proposal will modernise enforcement of car parking through use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) and create opportunities for blue badge holder visitors to be registered in a system for parking, that can be managed more easily at Golder’s Hill Park.

12. Arrangements with contractors will only focus on enforcement, the car parking income will continue to be received in full by the Charities and the fees and charges will be regulated through the current review process.
13. The proposal will not change the current parking arrangements, nor the user's experience who will continue to pay through the Ringo's framework, it will simply modernise the back office management.
14. A communication plan will be in place to make sure users are informed during the changes.
15. Under the UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018, a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) is required to identify and mitigate any data protection related risks arising out of implementation of new technology, in this case, the use of ANPR. Officers are working with the Information Compliance Team based in the Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department to complete the assessment. The appointed contractor will also have the opportunity to provide technical information on the use of ANPR which will be documented in the DPIA.
16. In meeting data protection responsibilities of fairness and transparency, Officers will ensure that clear and visible signs are displayed at the entrance of car parks where ANPR will be used. This will ensure individuals entering the car park are aware of this processing of personal information.

Gift Aid

17. A project on a page update for Gift Aid is attached at appendix 3.

Queen's Green Canopy

18. As well as planting 33 trees as part of the Queen's Green Canopy's initiative, and Hampstead Heath and Burnham Beeches have also been chosen for a prestigious tree to be planted as part of the initiative. Each tree was presented to Greater London's recipients by the Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE, at a special Gifting Ceremony, on the morning of Monday 3rd October, at The Royal Hospital Chelsea. The tree for Hampstead Heath was an alder tree that will be planted in Golders Hill Park.
19. The 33 trees have been purchased and are expected to be delivered in November. Tree planting will commence on site from late November/early December 2022.

Good News

20. Works to install new play equipment at the Heath Extension Playground have finished. Staff from the Heath's Conservation Team have undertaken landscaping works to instal natural play features at the playground. It is proposed to re-open the playground in November 2022, subject to RoSPA.

21. Conversations with the Hampstead & Highgate Angling Society and swimmers have progressed. The Men's Bathing Pond north bank has re-opened for float fishing from 15 October 2022 for a trial period of 6 months. Only Members of the Hampstead and Highgate Angling Society will be permitted to fish from the north bank.
22. At the recent 2022 London In Bloom Awards Golders Hill Park and Queen's Park achieved a Gold in the Large Park category, and the Hill Garden Pergola won Gold in the Walled Garden category.
23. Hampstead Heath had one of the highest participation figures from schools this summer. The learning programme has successfully engaged 12,240 play participants and 8,438 school participants at Hampstead Heath and West Ham Park (April – September 2022). The school programme engages high pupil premium state schools from some of London's most deprived boroughs, including Tower Hamlets, Hackney and Haringey, and our play centres reach children in some of the most deprived wards to the south of the Heath.
24. The learning team have continued to work with community groups during the summer holidays, including supporting children in Newham to visit Hampstead Heath during the summer holidays. Activities in place include a pre-apprenticeship work experience programme for school students at risk of exclusion, and a six-week programme for a London pupil referral unit. The youth programme is targeting 13 – 25 year olds who are struggling with education, employment or mental health, and activities are designed to boost wellbeing, confidence and skills.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

25. The projects and works outlined in this report contribute towards the achievement of the three aims set out in the City of London Corporate Plan 2018-23: Contribute to a flourishing society, Support a thriving economy and Shape outstanding environments.
26. The projects and works outlined in this report contribute towards the achievement of the Hampstead Heath Management Strategy 2018-2028 Strategic Outcomes A: The Heath is maintained as a flourishing green space and historic landscape, B: Improved quality of life for Heath visitors, C: The Heath is inclusive and welcoming to a diverse range of visitors and D: Greater number of and diversity of People taking care of the Heath.

Financial Implications

27. Donations are currently being sought for the following project:
 - Model Boating Pond Island - wildlife sanctuary (£50,000). The Trees and Conservation Officer and Heath Ecologist are also drafting an application to the London Wildlife Trust's Rewilding London Fund for works to install additional reed beds and protect the island at the Model Boating Pond. £6,153.00 has currently been raised towards this project.

28. We have recently reached the funding total (£5,000) for the bird and mammal shelters project.
29. Donations can be made via the City of London website:
<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/green-spaces/hampstead-heath/donate-to-hampstead-heath>

Resource Implications

30. Staff resources are being prioritised to keep the sites open, safe, accessible and secure.

Climate Implications

31. Included within the Sub-Divisional Plan 2022-25 are a series of projects which contribute towards achieving the City of London's Climate Action Strategy, which was launched in October 2020. A key part of the strategy is conserving and enhancing biodiversity alongside reducing carbon emissions. The Climate Action Strategy will be embedded into future strategies which are currently being drafted within the Natural Environment Division.

Legal Implications

32. Contained within the body of this report.

Risk Implications

33. Risks are monitored and recorded through the Hampstead Heath Charity Risk Register.

Equality Implications

34. No impact.

Security Implications

35. Security implications are monitored and recorded through the Hampstead Heath Charity Risk Register.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Sub-Divisional Plan 2022-25 (October update)
- Appendix 2 – Project on a Page (Swimming Capital Project)
- Appendix 3 – Project on a Page (Gift Aid)

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HAMPSTEAD HEATH, HIGHGATE WOOD AND QUEEN'S PARK SUB-DIVISIONAL PLAN 2022-2025

Introduction

This Sub-Divisional Plan is part of the Management Framework for the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood, Queen's Park and Keats House Sub-Division, which sits within the City of London Corporation's Natural Environment Division.

The Division is comprised of three individual charities, each with their own Charitable Objectives:

Hampstead Heath (803392)	The preservation of Hampstead Heath for the recreation and enjoyment of the public.
Highgate Wood & Queen's Park (232986)	The preservation in perpetuity by the City of London Corporation of the open spaces known as Highgate Wood and Queen's Park, Kilburn for the use by the public for exercise and recreation.
Keats House (1053381)	To preserve, maintain and restore for the education and benefit of the public the house and grounds known as Keats House as a museum and memorial to John Keats.

The Sub- Divisional Plan is part of a hierarchy of strategies and plans which form a 'golden thread', translating City Corporation Strategic Outcomes into operational delivery, as follows:

- Corporate Plan, 2018-23.
- The Natural Environment strategic framework
- Hampstead Heath Management Strategy 2018-28
- Conservation Management Plans
- Three-year Sub-Divisional Plan that guides implementation.
- An Annual Works Programme and Project Plans, supported by detailed specifications and guidance

Green – Project is on track (timescale/budget)

Red – Project is behind schedule/over budget

Amber – Mitigations are required (timescale/budget)

Blue – Project has not started

- Performance Development Approach (PDA), detailing individual's targets to achieve the outcomes and objectives above.

The Sub-Divisional Plan is written for a three-year rolling period and is reviewed and updated annually to identify milestones achieved and inform the projects and priorities for future periods. A version of the Sub-Divisional Plan has been developed for each Charity.

Criteria for Divisional Plan Projects:

The definition and criteria of projects to be included in the Plan are as follows:

- Projects requiring formative community engagement and consultation.
- Capital Projects over £50k.
- Projects spanning more than one financial year.
- Complex and high-risk projects.
- Projects with involvement of other Divisions, for example the City Surveyors.

Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood, Keats House & Queen's Park Projects				
Ref	Project Details	Key Dates	RAG	Notes on progress
1	Deliver Efficiencies, Savings and Income Generation Projects Implement the approved Budget for 2022/23. Investigate opportunities for gift aid to support donations.	On-going.		A number of initiatives are in place to increase effectiveness including: introduction of a gift aid process for donations, review of lido and ponds booking systems, review of enforcement in car parks and review of the Lido.
2	Support Implementation of the Target Operating Model (TOM) Review operational arrangements to align with the TOM.	Phase 2 Implementation 2022/23.		TOM phase 1 completed, and implemented from 4 April 2022. TOM phase 2 to be launched during winter 2022.
Page 27	Develop our Workforce Deliver a range of initiatives to ensure the health, well-being, learning and development of our workforce.	On-going.		Linking to the city staff development and learning programme, this includes new modules i.e. public speaking. Opportunities to act up are in place and further opportunities includes apprenticeships and collaborations, i.e. training to become a green flag judge
4	Compliance with the ULEZ In order to meet the emission requirements and manage the financial implications of the ULEZ, implement the agreed vehicle replacement plan to minimise the impact upon the environment.	Completed		Vehicle replacement programme completed. Vehicles will remain under review to ensure compliance with regulations.
5	Divisional Radio System Procure an alternative Radio system.	On-going.		The new Mast is operational. Signal boosting technology is being investigated. Further testing to be carried out on the effectiveness of a radio system which uses push to talk technology over the cellular network.

Green – Project is on track (timescale/budget)

Red – Project is behind schedule/over budget

Amber – Mitigations are required (timescale/budget)

Blue – Project has not started

Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood, Keats House & Queen's Park Projects				
Ref	Project Details	Key Dates	RAG	Notes on progress
6	Promote Health Connections Work together with Partners, including Heath Hands and the NHS, to promote health & wellbeing.	On-going.		
7	Licencing schemes Undertake consultation and engagement to inform the development of a licencing scheme for Fitness Trainers, and Professional Dog Walking. Implement a Licencing for Forest Schools.	On-going.		
8	Develop Heritage Outcomes Engage with Historic England and local historians to: Develop a Heritage Conservation Management Plan for the Heath. Incorporate preservation and interpretation actions to preserve and interpret archaeological and heritage into the existing Compartment Management Plans.	2023/24.		An audit of heritage across the new Natural Environment Division, including heritage sites and projects at Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park as well as other locations, is being undertaken to better understand the range, nature and current management of the historic assets in our care and the outcomes they contribute to. The initial audit, which is expected to be completed by late spring, will be reported to the Divisional Director to inform TOM Phase 2 and the future management of these assets.
9	Bio-Security Management Proactive management of threats, including pest and diseases which impact upon the condition of trees, plants and wildlife.	On-going.		Consultations with DEFRA and Forestry commission are in place to test different methodologies and options.

Green – Project is on track (timescale/budget)

Red – Project is behind schedule/over budget

Amber – Mitigations are required (timescale/budget)

Blue – Project has not started

Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood, Keats House & Queen's Park Projects				
Ref	Project Details	Key Dates	RAG	Notes on progress
10	Planning Regular monitoring of development and planning applications to ensure that the Heath is protected.	On-going.		Current planning applications being monitored include: - Jack Straws Castle (Hampstead Heath). Party Wall discussions are on-going. - Cranley Gardens. Demolition work has started on site. The development is being delivered by London Borough of Haringey. We are awaiting further news on the Murphy's Yard development proposals.
Page 29	Climate Action Strategy Open Spaces seek opportunities to enhance carbon capture while enhancing biodiversity and resilience. These actions will contribute towards the City Corporation achieving Net 0 by 2027 in scope 1 & 2 emissions.	2027 Net 0 scope 1 & 2. 2040 Net 0 Scope 1, 2 & 3.		A programme of allowing areas of amenity grassland to develop into meadow is planned for 2023, and a Committee Report has been drafted for presentation to Committee this autumn. This will support the Climate Action Strategy's objectives on carbon removals, and also increase biodiversity value across the Heath.
12	Litter, Waste & Recycling Reduce reliance on external contracts. Undertaken public engagement in relation to recycling.	On-going.		
13	Review of Systems Undertake a review of current arrangements in relation to online booking, FPN's and CRM to identify efficiencies and improve the customer experience.	On-going.		In partnership with Epping Forest, FPNs are being introduced. Initial set up of back-office process is underway, further training necessary for frontline and back office staff.

Green – Project is on track (timescale/budget)

Red – Project is behind schedule/over budget

Amber – Mitigations are required (timescale/budget)

Blue – Project has not started

Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood, Keats House & Queen's Park Projects				
Ref	Project Details	Key Dates	RAG	Notes on progress
14	Visitor Engagement Undertake surveys and capture data to understand visitor trends and satisfaction.	On-going.		An online surveys seeking feedback from swimmers on the proposals ran between 1-25 April 2022. Feedback from the survey is included in the Swimming Annual Review 2021-22.
15	Asset Management Review and implement site specific Asset Management Plans.	On-going.		An asset management plan is in place to ensure effective management of the built assets to meet statutory obligations, generate efficiencies and improve buildings to support effective service delivery. As well as considering key buildings, the plan also considers the Cyclical works plan that identifies priority interventions.
16	Interventions to mitigate impacts from increasing visitor pressures Interventions to address impacts on wildlife, erosion, compaction, path maintenance, waymarking and signage improvements.	On-going.		A number of fenced off areas have successfully recovered but will remain fenced off as they are now providing refuges for wildlife. More ground restoration works will be undertaken this autumn once the weather has become cooler and rain has returned.
17	Café Tendering Undertake a tender procurement for the Golders Hill Park Café, Parliament Hill Café, Parliament Hill Fields Lido Café, Heath Extension Kiosk, Queen's Park Café and Highgate Wood Pavilion Café.	2023		Surveyor's are undertaking site viewing during November to inform the tender process.
18	Volunteering Opportunities Maximise volunteering opportunities by offering a range of activities and working in partnership with Heath Hands and other key partners.	On-going.		The Trees and Conservation Manager is working with the Heath Hands Development Officer identifying potential funding opportunities focusing on nature recovery, biodiversity and climate action.

Green – Project is on track (timescale/budget)

Red – Project is behind schedule/over budget

Amber – Mitigations are required (timescale/budget)

Blue – Project has not started

Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood, Keats House & Queen's Park Projects				
Ref	Project Details	Key Dates	RAG	Notes on progress
HH1	Swimming Capital Project Progress through the Capital Project Gateway Procedures a programme of safety, access and security improvements across the Bathing Ponds and Lido.	Implement 2022/23.		RIBA stage 3 completed. Gateway 3/4 report approved by Members (21 June 2022). See project on a page update include within the meeting agenda pack.
HH2	Parliament Hill Athletics Track Reconstruction Capital Project To reconstruct the Athletics Track Surface in order to maintain U.K. Athletics (UKA) TrackMark Standard Level 1.	2022/23.		
HH3	Playgrounds Implement improvements at the Hampstead Heath Extension.	2022/23		Works to install the play equipment have been completed. Staff from the Heath's Conservation Team are undertaking landscaping works. The playground will re-open in November 2022, following sign off from RoSPA.
HH4	Cycling Install additional cycle parking at entrances and facilities. Improve cycle signage, waymarking and maps. Where appropriate, work with Partners to implement cycle bursts for children using the Heath to travel to and from school.	On-going.		Link to review of Management Strategy.

Green – Project is on track (timescale/budget)

Red – Project is behind schedule/over budget

Amber – Mitigations are required (timescale/budget)

Blue – Project has not started

Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood, Keats House & Queen's Park Projects				
Ref	Project Details	Key Dates	RAG	Notes on progress
HH5	Golders Hill Park Accessible Car Park Undertake a tendering process to appoint a Consultant to develop options which facilitate safe weekend and Bank Holiday opening of the Car Park.	2022/23		New car park markings installed (April/May 2022). Next steps: -Installation of signage & comms. -Enforcement. An update on enforcement is included within the Assistant Directors report.
HH6	Golders Hill Park Zoo & Butterfly House Undertake an options appraisal to inform discussions with the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee regarding the long-term sustainability of the Zoo and Butterfly House.	Summer 2022 (present options to HHCC).		An Officer Project steering group has been set up to implement priorities as agreed by HHMC. New visitor experiences are being shaped up to be promoted in the summer. The review of the collection plan is on-going.
HH7	Master Plan for optimising facilities at Parliament Hill Undertake a review of facilities and buildings at Parliament Hill to inform provision of a visitor centre, maintain suitable accommodation for staff and volunteers, as well as improved sports facilities and improved learning facilities.	September 2022.		A Parliament Hill masterplan is being shaped following an initial feedback with the HHCC and the sports forum in September 2022. (Linked to project 15)
HH8	Mid-Term Review – Hampstead Heath Management Strategy 2018-2028	2023-24		

Green – Project is on track (timescale/budget)

Red – Project is behind schedule/over budget

Amber – Mitigations are required (timescale/budget)

Blue – Project has not started

SWIMMING - Access, Safety & Security	Outcome	Lead	Overall status	
	Improved safety, access and security across the three Bathing Ponds.	Edwin Birch/Richard Chamberlain (C. Surveyors) Stefania Horne/ Paul Maskell (HH)	<div>A</div>	
Date of Report: 19 October 2022 Phase: Procurement				
Highlights		Next Steps		
<div>Page 33</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">RIBA Stage 4 (detailed design) completeFull Planning Permission Granted with five conditions.Building Control application submittedTender launched on 30th September and running for six weeks. <p>Looking ahead:</p> <p>Tender period, analysis and further stakeholder engagement</p>		Tender Analysis – November 2022		<div>Metrics</div> <div>Status</div>
		Gateway 5 Report – December 2022		<div>Budget</div> <div>G</div>
		Start on Site – January 2023		<div>Schedule</div> <div>A</div>
		Project Completion – June 2023		<div>Risk</div> <div>A</div>
Risks and Issues		Reasons for RAG Status		
Key Risks				
1. Cost increases due to market conditions and inflation		1. Project schedule has been slightly delayed, however is expected to be delivered within the planned timescales and budget.		
2. Work sequence & access restriction changes		2. Risk is Amber due to a volatile market and increasing inflation costs. The tender process will mitigate the risks through value engineering.		

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Heath Hands Update – November 2022

Highlights

- Over 9,300 **hours** contributed by volunteers in the year to date (see chart overleaf)
- Over 7,000 participants in Heath Hands activities so far this year
- Recent conker championships a huge success with up to 400 competitors, following summer community festival and Afghan kite festival
- New laboratory installed at the Hive – collaboration with LNHS for millennial flora project

Coming up

- The 2023 **Hampstead Heath Calendar** is available at all the usual places and via the online shop: heath-hands.org.uk/shop
- Final preparations for opening of Dairy **interpretation centre** being completed
- Display of Hampstead Heath photos will be first exhibition on display
- **Annual Volunteer Survey** will be undertaken in November
- Seasonal events programme will include Ranger walks, Autumnal forest bathing and festive **wreath-making** sessions – Consultative Committee members welcome to join!

Conservation

- Over 400 volunteer **sessions** delivered working with Conservation, Ranger, Golders Hill, Keats, Highgate Wood and English Heritage teams.
- More than 1700 **corporate** volunteering hours contributed by 29 companies
- **Wildlife Monitoring** completed for 2022, with results to be published in due course
- Savernake Bridge and Hive landscaping ongoing, with initial **Hive wildflower meadow** work completed with sowing by 60 pupils from Gospel Oak Primary School.

Community

- Over 600 participants on 48 **community** activities so far this year
- Wildlife interpreting sessions in full swing running autumn activities on weekends and 8 new volunteers recruited to join the team.
- Young Barnet Carers hosted at Golders Hill Park, alongside groups from Mencap, Scouts and QCCA.

Learning

- Over 700 **school** children participated in activities and growing **youth** programme
- 15 **Heath Friendly Schools** active with a balanced mix of state and private
- Busy programme of **walks and talks** with a seasonal theme including walks on spiders, Autumn and hedgerows – more info here: www.heath-hands.org.uk/whatson

Wellbeing

- Discussions started with Camden Council about taking responsibility for and growing the regular **Health walks** on Hampstead Heath.
- **21 wellbeing activities** (forest bathing, Nordic walking etc.) delivered so far this year, including forest bathing for visually impaired participants.
- Social prescribing activities ongoing – 11 referrals signposted to heath activities as part of **health connections** so far and work progressing to set up two new group projects with local services.

