



Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee

Date: TUESDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2012
Time: 7.00 pm
Venue: EDUCATION CENTRE, THE LIDO, OFF GORDON HOUSE ROAD,
HAMPSTEAD HEATH, NW5

Members:

Jeremy Simons (Chairman)	Akin Olukiran, (DISC)
Deputy Michael Welbank (Deputy Chairman)	Helen Payne, (Friends of Kenwood)
Xohan Duran, (Representative of People with Disabilities)	Mary Port, (Dartmouth Park Conservation Area Advisory Committee)
Colin Gregory, (Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association)	Harunur Rashid, (Black and Minority Ethnic Communities representative)
Michael Hammerson, (Highgate Society)	Susan Rose, (Highgate Conservation Area Advisory Committee)
Richard Harris, (Nature Conservation Section)	Robert Slowe, (Representative of Clubs Using Facilities on the Heath)
Ian Harrison, (Vale of Health Society)	Ellin Stein, (Mansfield Conservation Area Advisory Committee & Neighbourhood Association Committee)
John Hunt, (South End Green Association)	Richard Sumray, (London Council for Sport and Recreation)
Jamie Jenkins, (Heath Hands)	David Walton, (Representative of Clubs using facilities on the Heath)
John Rogers, (Ramblers' Association)	John Weston, (Hampstead Conservation Area Advisory Committee)
Nigel Ley, (Open Spaces Society)	Jeremy Wright, (Heath & Hampstead Society)
Alix Mullineaux, (Marylebone Bird Watching Society)	

Enquiries: Edward Foale
tel.no.: 020 7332 1426
edward.foale@cityoflondon.gov.uk

John Barradell
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

Public Agenda

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF ANY PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA**
3. **MINUTES**
To agree the public minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2012 (copy attached).

For Decision
(Pages 1 - 8)
4. **NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING - IMPLICATIONS FOR THE CITY OF LONDON'S OPEN SPACES**
Report of the Director of Open Spaces (copy attached).

For Information
(Pages 9 - 20)
5. **HAMPSTEAD HEATH CAR PARK ENFORCEMENT**
Report of the Superintendent (copy attached).

For Information
(Pages 21 - 26)
6. **UPDATE ON THE HAMPSTEAD HEATH FLOOD MANAGEMENT AND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROJECT**
Report of the Superintendent (copy attached).

For Discussion
(Pages 27 - 30)
7. **RESULTS OF THE SPARROWS PROJECT**
Report of the Superintendent (copy attached).

For Discussion
(Pages 31 - 36)
8. **REVIEW OF ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2012**
Report of the Superintendent (copy attached).

For Discussion
(Pages 37 - 82)
9. **FEES AND CHARGES REPORT**
Report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath (copy attached).

For Discussion
(Pages 83 - 90)
10. **SPORTS FORUM MINUTES 2 OCTOBER 2012 SL**
To receive the minutes of the Hampstead Heath Sport Advisory Forum meeting held on 2 October 2012 (copy attached).

For Information
(Pages 91 - 96)

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

The Superintendent to be heard.

For Discussion

12. QUESTIONS

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be held at 7pm on Monday 11 March 2013

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Agenda Item 3

HAMPSTEAD HEATH CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE Monday, 9 July 2012

Minutes of the meeting of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee held at Education Centre, the Lido, off Gordon House Road, Hampstead Heath, NW5 on Monday, 9 July 2012 at 7.00 pm

Present

Members:

Jeremy Simons (Chairman)	
Deputy Michael Welbank (Deputy Chairman)	
Xohan Duran	- Representative of People with Disabilities
Colin Gregory	- Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association
Michael Hammerson	- Highgate Society
Ian Harrison	- Vale of Health Society
John Hunt	- South End Green Association
Jamie Jenkins	- Heath Hands
Alix Mullineaux	- Marylebone Bird Watching Society
Helen Payne	- Friends of Kenwood
Mary Port	- Dartmouth Park Conservation Area Advisory Committee
John Rogers	- Ramblers' Association
Susan Rose	- Highgate Conservation Area Advisory Committee
Robert Slowe	- Representative of Clubs Using Facilities on the Heath
Ellin Stein	- Mansfield Conservation Area Advisory Committee & Neighbourhood Association Committee
Richard Sumray	- London Council for Sport and Recreation
David Walton	- Representative of Clubs using facilities on the Heath
Jeremy Wright	- Heath & Hampstead Society

Officers:

Edward Foale	- Committee & Member Services Officer, Town Clerk's Department
Sue Ireland	- Director of Open Spaces
Jonathan Meares	- Highgate Wood & Conservation Manager
Declan Gallagher	- Operations Service Manager, Open Spaces Department
Richard Gentry	- Constabulary and Queen's Park Manager, Department of Open Spaces
Yvette Hughes	- Business Manager, Open Spaces Department
Jennifer Wood	- Water Management Communications Officer
Paul Maskell	- Leisure and Events Manager
Richard Litherland	- Group Building Surveyor
Paul Monaghan	- Assistant Director Engineering, City Surveyor's Department
Peter Snowdon	- Projects Director, City Surveyor's Department

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from John Weston.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**

The public minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2012 were approved.

MATTERS ARISING

Hampstead Heath – Public Sex Environment Outreach Work (item 3).

The Constabulary Manager confirmed that there were ongoing discussions with the Terrence Higgins trust with regard to a litter picking exercise that was scheduled to take place in November 2012.

Update on the Hampstead Heath Flood Management and Water Quality Management Project

In response to a query from Jeremy Wright, the Director of Open Spaces advised that the offsite emergency plan had been developed and, although officers from the City of London had provided assistance, this was the responsibility of the London Borough of Camden.

ORDER OF AGENDA ITEMS

The Chairman amended the agenda order so that the “Flood Management and Water Quality Project - Communications Strategy” and the “Flood and Water Quality Management, Hampstead Heath - Progress and Procurement Structure Report” would be considered simultaneously prior to the Superintendent’s Update.

4. **FLOOD MANAGEMENT AND WATER QUALITY PROJECT - COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY**

The Committee considered a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath that presented a Communication Strategy for managing all communications associated with the Flood Management and Water Quality project.

The Water Management Communications Officer made reference to the presentation that Members had received during a recent Consultative Committee visit. The Chairman advised that he had since received a range of comments and advised any further comments should be provided no later than Friday 13 July 2012.

In discussing the Flood and Water Quality Management paper, Richard Sumray suggested that one or more Members of the Consultative Committee should be involved in the tender process.

The Projects Director ran through the timetable for the appointment of the Design Team and advised that the appointment of a Strategic Landscape

Architect was currently out to tender. The Strategic Landscape Architect would not be a member of the Design Team, but would provide challenge and influence over the design process, and ensure that designs were as far as possible sympathetic to the overall project vision and objectives.

The Projects Director summarised the required Design Team services and advised that it had not yet been decided whether the appointments should lie with a single or multiple contractors. There were advantages and drawbacks from each. A key issue was that using a single contractor could cost the City more money, but this option also had the potential to reduce costs over the lifetime of the project. A single contractor also had the benefit of allowing a single point of contact for the Design Team and could facilitate a more joined up approach, particularly with the landscape architect and ecologist.

Susan Rose proposed the following amendment to the Water Management Stakeholder Group draft terms of reference:

To inform and assist the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee:

- iii) by providing views on the construction planning, timetable, logistics, communication strategy and implementation of the Flood Management and Water Quality Project works, *particularly the impact on the local community.*

Ian Harrison advised that he had believed that the terms of reference had implied the importance of factors that affect the local community, but agreed with Susan Rose that this should be amended to be explicit. Mary Port indicated that she agreed with the proposed amendment.

Susan Rose tabled a document that proposed to incorporate the following into the management plan:

- i) The impact of the proposed works on those local residents and those with access requirements.
- ii) Works impact management would be necessary to address possible loss of amenity, including: noise and dust pollution, disruption of local traffic, deprivation of parking facilities and risk to all users, but especially children and the elderly.
- iii) The use of a works impact management plan, appropriate professional expertise and a works impact management team.

Colin Gregory advised that he believed that the Communications Strategy provided an effective approach to explaining the existing risks, but believed it could better explain what would be done to address them.

Richard Sumray advised that the Communications Strategy should be improved to emphasise that the project would both maintain and improve the existing dams and stressed the need for a proactive, rather than reactive, strategy. He

emphasised the importance of explaining why actions were being taken in order to pre-empt any negative feedback.

Helen Payne advised that a project Facebook page could prove useful for updating stakeholders and obtaining feedback. Photographs and illustrations could be used to help stakeholders visualise what the project hoped to achieve.

Jeremy Wright advised that the Communications Strategy was an effective framework for moving forward, but emphasised the importance of proactive communications. He also advised that the ongoing conflict between the Hampstead Heath Act 1871 and the Reservoirs Act 1975 should be resolved in public discussions.

The Projects Director advised that Twitter and Facebook would be utilised for the Communications Strategy the project and would be managed by the Water Management Communications Officer. He also emphasised the independence of the Strategic Landscape Architect and advised that there would be opportunities for Members of both the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee and the Water Management Stakeholder Group to provide briefing to the appointed person.

The Assistant Director advised that there had recently been a considerable amount of rainfall on the Heath, but there was currently no substantial cause for concern. There had been a minor leak close to the top of a dam on the Men's Pond directly above Highgate number one, however the water level had recently lowered and the leak had ceased. A specialist was now examining the cause of the leak and action would be taken to fix it.

In response to a question from Michael Hammerson, the Projects Director clarified that it was anticipated that if possible the Strategic Landscape Architect would be involved in the Contractor appointment process.

Alix Mullineaux indicated that she believed that there needed to be better communication with local communities regarding the project, particularly in the Kentish Town area. The Water Management Communications Officer advised that leaflets regarding the project had been delivered to 60,000 local households, which included Kentish Town. Social media and the Chairman's column in the Ham and High would also be used to disseminate information to the local community.

Ian Harrison advised that the Stakeholder Group would examine why the particular actions that would need to be done were necessary and precisely what the actions would entail. Each of these areas would be scrutinised in order to ensure correct action was taken. He also advised that the Group would discuss any relevant matters that were not mentioned within the terms of reference. He advised that, although it had been suggested that there should be a wider membership within the Group, if the membership were too large it could lose focus. He advised that he believed the Group should initially meet

privately, but he recognised that it may be beneficial to meet in public in the future and emphasised the importance of transparency.

BOTH REPORTS RECEIVED

5. FLOOD AND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT, HAMPSTEAD HEATH - PROGRESS AND PROCUREMENT STRUCTURE REPORT

The Committee considered a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath that set out the progress made with several key appointments associated with the implementation of the Flood Management and Water Quality Project.

This item was considered earlier in conjunction with the previous item.

RECEIVED

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

The Hampstead Heath Management Team updated the Committee on the following matters:

- A visitor 1 sculpture was scheduled to be installed on 11 July 2012, and would be removed in November 2012.
- The National Grid gas works were progressing. Due to recent weather conditions, a temporary track had been placed over part of the Hampstead Heath Extension in order to aid vehicle use. One rugby pitch would be temporarily relocated. The works were expected to be completed by 15 November 2012. Works began at Cut Through Lane on 31 May 2012, with an expected completion date of 31 October 2012. Works were scheduled for Parliament Hill Fields in mid-September and were expected to last 22 weeks.
- There were the following on-going planning issues:
 - A new planning application was being proposed in Garden House, which featured a basement in the plans.
 - The Water House development had not yet submitted an application to the London Borough of Camden.
 - Proposed works to extend the East Heath Car Park had recently been approved.
 - A new planning application at Athlone House was expected in the near future.
- The legal dispute over the "Green to Gold" copyright had recently been settled out of court. The phrase could now be used until 2013.
- The Freedom Bill was likely to be enacted in the future and would revoke the City's power to clamp vehicles that did not comply with the Heath parking policy. Alternative measures were currently being investigated. Members noted that a decision regarding the matter may need to be made outside of the Committee cycle and members were invited to forward their comments to staff once details had been circulated.
- Massaria had recently been identified on trees in the City Gardens, Royal Parks and Stratford. Officers were currently seeking advice from the London Tree Officers' Association. In response to a question from Ellin Stein, the Conservation and Trees Manager confirmed that Massaria was likely to disfigure trees rather than kill them. A Massaria-

infected tree carried a higher risk of limb drop. Massaria had been identified on the Heath and the number of tree inspections would be increased in order to closely monitor the situation.

- Oak Processionary Moth had not yet arrived on the Heath, but had recently been located in Croydon and was known to be in the Richmond area.
- A Pekingese type dog had been killed by a Mastiff dog on 7 July 2012.

RECEIVED

7. PROVISIONAL ADDITIONAL WORKS PROGRAMME 2013-14 - 2014-15

The Committee considered a report of the City Surveyor that set out a provisional schedule of cyclical projects being considered for Hampstead Heath in 2013/14 and 2014/15 under the umbrella of the “additional works programme”.

The Group Building Surveyor advised that the report highlighted essential maintenance works and asked for any comments to be forwarded to staff by 13 July 2012.

RECEIVED

8. MANAGEMENT WORK PLANS FOR THE SANDY HEATH PONDS AND THE SANDY HEATH AND FLAGSTAFF GORSE SITES

The Committee considered a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath that presented detailed management work plans for the Sandy Heath ponds and Sandy Heath and Flagstaff gorse sites.

Jeremy Wright commended the report. In response to a question from Robert Slowe, the Director advised that the work plans were available online. Richard Sumray advised that a condensed version should be circulated to a wider audience.

RECEIVED

9. MANAGEMENT WORK PLAN FOR PRYOR'S FIELD

The Committee considered a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath that presented a detailed work plan for Pryor's Field.

The Conservation Manager advised that a key objective of the plan was to inhibit the spread of invasive species in Pryor's Field. Members were invited to forward any comments to officers by 13 July 2012.

RECEIVED

10. 'WILD ABOUT HAMPSTEAD HEATH' PROJECT APPLICATION UPDATE

The Committee considered a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath that reviewed the main aims and background informing the 'Wild About Hampstead Heath' project and the current progress of the Heritage Lottery Fund Application to support this project.

Richard Sumray commended the proposed use of volunteers. Jeremy Wright advised that he believed the Cornfield Meadows to be too small to house a Kingfisher Bank, however Alix Mullineaux advised that she believed that a kingfisher had settled in the area in the past.

The Leisure & Events Manager advised that there were regular meetings between Officers and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. In response to a question from Mary Port, the Operations Service Manager advised that fencing would cordon off the sparrow meadow north of the bandstand at Parliament Hill Fields following the National Grid Works. Fencing for perennial planting would be in place for one year to aid establishment. Annual meadows would be fenced off permanently.

In response to a query from Colin Gregory, the Conservation Manager advised that the proposed project would engage largely with schools from the more deprived areas to the south of the Heath, but would also engage with local schools in Barnet.

RECEIVED

11. DOG CONTROL ORDERS

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Open Spaces that advised Members on the success in achieving Secondary Authority status for the control of dogs.

The Director of Open Spaces advised that the City had recently acquired secondary authority status, which meant it could enforce stricter dog control orders. This would be trialled in Burnham Beeches, and could be considered for use in Hampstead Heath. The Home Office was currently drafting a White Paper that proposed abolishing the status. Ian Harrison commended the City's obtainment of secondary authority status and advised that the measures should be used constructively on the Heath and well publicised.

The Chairman advised that, due to an erroneous internal memo, during a recent interview with the Ham and High he had advised that the City had failed in its attempt to acquire secondary authority status. This was not so.

In response to a query from Mary Port, the Director advised that the definition of an out of control dog was for the courts to decide.

RECEIVED

12. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

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

13.1 **Hampstead Heath Sports Advisory Forum Minutes**

The Committee received the minutes of the Hampstead Heath Sports Forum held on 21 May 2012.

RECEIVED

EXTENSION OF THE MEETING

At this point, the time limit for Committee meetings as set out in Standing Order 40 had been reached, but there being a two-thirds majority of the Committee present who voted in favour of an extension, the Committee agreed to continue the meeting.

13.2 **Proposal to Hold Affordable Art Fair in June 2013**

The Committee considered a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath that proposed to hold an event on Hampstead Heath for a 23 day period from 2 June 2013 to 24 June 2013, with the fair taking place between Wednesday 12 June 2013 and Sunday 16 June 2013. It also sought support to host similar events in 2014 and 2015.

Jeremy Wright commended the proposal. Ian Harrison supported the proposal but advised that there was scope to increase the charge for the event to be more in line with what other local authorities across London charged for similar events. Michael Hammerson queried whether it would be better to agree a three year contract in 2012.

RECEIVED

Members noted that the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath had recently undergone an operation and was consequently unable to attend the meeting. The Committee wished the Superintendent a speedy recovery.

14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED: That the next meeting be held on Tuesday 6 November 2012 at 7pm in the Hampstead Heath Education Centre.

The meeting ended at 9.04 pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: Edward Foale
tel.no.: 020 7332 1426
edward.foale@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Committee(s):	Date(s):
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	6 th November 2012
Subject: National Planning Policy Framework and Neighbourhood Planning - implications for the City of London's Open Spaces	Public
Report of: Director of Open Spaces	For Information

Summary

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) has swept aside much detail in terms of the protection of the Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land (MOL), including the new presumption in favour of sustainable development. The implications for the City's Open Spaces are considered. The report proposes seeking to work with the Greater London Authority (GLA) to identify means of strengthening strategic planning in the London Plan, to explicitly protect and enhance the portfolio of open spaces across London. The existing local planning policy framework, (still in preparation in many areas,) does not provide a clear enough guide for development proposals affecting our open spaces. A strengthened strategic policy, which explicitly referred to the Corporation's open spaces, would provide greater clarity and make certain that any developments affecting these areas would be resisted. Further protection could be achieved by seeking Statutory Consultee status; however this would take longer to achieve as it would require secondary legislation and is likely to require significantly increased resources.

Recommendations

That Members of Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee receive this report that recently went before the Open Spaces, City Gardens and West Ham Park Management Committee.

Main Report

Background

1. The Government is committed to reforming the planning system as part of its wider promotion of 'localism'. It considers that the existing system is so elaborate that it discourages local involvement in the planning process and local acceptance of new development arising from it. The much shorter National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which came into force on 27th March 2012 provides a simpler framework within which local people and their councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans, to reflect the needs and priorities of their communities.

2. The City of London's Open Spaces are used and enjoyed by millions of visitors each year. They are important wildlife habitats but also provide many facilities for visitors. The Corporation has duties under section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended), the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) and EU Habitats Regulations; which require the City of London to take reasonable steps to further the conservation and enhancement of its Open Spaces.
3. Whilst it is important to promote and manage these spaces continuously, the requirement for growth and new housing in London and the South East is placing considerable pressure on our open spaces. A significant number of planning applications are submitted each year, which affect these Open Spaces; this generates a substantial workload. For example, Burnham Beeches is likely to deal with some 50 planning objections this year (has been up to 100 in previous years); whilst Hampstead Heath deals with some 60 applications. Epping Forest handled 127 applications in 2011, with 26 requiring responses (Planning Casework, EF&CC 5March 2012). These applications frequently relate to land immediately adjacent to or, close to, an Open Space and often concern the scale of development.
4. Appendix 1 summarises the wide range of planning authorities and designations impacting on these open spaces. Although the open spaces are generally well protected (through our land ownership and appropriate Open Spaces Acts), it is the effect of adjacent development that can cause considerable harm; this varies with each application but often includes the visual landscape, air pollution, and drainage and water table impacts.
5. The open spaces themselves provide London with a green infrastructure that is important to the health, welfare, quality of life experience and enjoyment for residents, businesses and visitors. Given their strategic importance in terms of the overall functioning of the City it is considered that options for a London-wide strategic policy should be explored with the GLA.
6. This report considers the strategic planning policy options available for managing the Corporation's open spaces and whether more could be done to reduce the planning pressures on these spaces and thus the resources (officer time) required.

Current Position

The presumption in favour of sustainable development

7. The NPPF transitional arrangements, for twelve months, allow development plan policies adopted since 2004 to be given full weight, even if there is a limited degree of conflict with the NPPF. In other cases and after 27th March 2013, relevant weight must be given to local policies in accordance with their consistency with the NPPF. To date only half of local planning authorities (LPAs) have adopted a core strategy (and others need to review them following the NPPF) this is likely to cause some significant

issues when resisting development based on pre-2004 Development Plan policies.

8. It is assumed that it will not be possible to rely on pre-2004 policies. Given that they were not subject to the test of ‘soundness’ required under the 2004 legislation. This is important because, where the development plan is silent/ absent / out of date, the NPPF provides there should be a presumption in favour of sustainable development (PFSD). Consequently, LPAs have only a short period in which to update their development plans before all allocations and development control policies have to be considered in the context of the NPPF. In addition, for housing policy, a failure to demonstrate a 5year land supply automatically triggers PFSD.
9. If the development plan is absent, LPAs will find many development proposals more difficult to resist unless the adverse impacts of granting permission would ‘significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits’, a much higher requirement than previous policy. The NPPF also makes clear that “*Supplementary planning documents should be used where they can help applicants make successful applications or aid infrastructure delivery and should not be used to add unnecessarily to the financial burdens of development*”.

Green Belts, Metropolitan Open Land and Open Space

10. Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) is a designation only used within London and provides the same level of protection as Green Belt; to protect areas of landscape, recreation, nature conservation and scientific interest, which are strategically important. Strategic applications are referred to the GLA and cannot be determined locally, although smaller applications are not always monitored in the same way.
11. The NPPF provides guidance to facilitate the restriction of inappropriate development within open spaces. Paragraph 74 states that:

“Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

 - *an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or*
 - *the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or*
 - *the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss”*.
12. Whilst the NPPF is silent on explicitly mentioning MOL, the general thrust of green belt policy has changed relatively little from PPG2, although much detail has been swept aside.

Paragraphs 87 and 88 of the NPPF sets out the key approach to development proposals within the green belt, which states:

“As with previous Green Belt policy, inappropriate development is, by definition harmful to the Green Belt and should not be approved except in very special circumstances.

When considering any planning application, local planning authorities should ensure that substantial weight is given to any harm to the Green Belt. ‘Very special circumstances’ will not exist unless the potential harm to the Green Belt by reason of inappropriateness, and any other harm, is clearly outweighed by other considerations.”

13. The main change is in the context within which green belts operate. Since the early 1990s, green belts have operated within a framework of regional planning, with structure plans or regional strategies setting the broad extent and providing the context for review. With the general absence of regional planning it is not yet known how the overall framework for developments within them will be monitored or regulated. They were designed to prevent the coalescence of urban areas and maintain the openness of the countryside, yet despite the NPPF and ministerial statements, there is uncertainty over the future strength of green belt protection in the absence of the overarching regional framework,

Neighbourhood Plans

14. The Localism Act, which received Royal Assent on 15th November 2011, introduced new rights and powers to allow local communities to shape new development by coming together to prepare neighbourhood plans.
15. Neighbourhood planning can be taken forward by two types of body – town and parish councils or ‘neighbourhood forums’. Neighbourhood forums are community groups that are designated to take forward neighbourhood planning in areas without parishes. It is the role of the local planning authority to agree who should be the neighbourhood forum for the neighbourhood area.
16. The criteria for establishing neighbourhood forums are being kept as simple as possible to encourage new and existing residents’ organisations, voluntary and community groups to put themselves forward. The current criteria for a Neighbourhood Forum is it should have a minimum of 21 people who live or work or are Councillors in the neighbourhood, is open to all including those wanting to live in the area – and has a constitution.
17. Neighbourhood forums and parish councils can use new neighbourhood planning powers to establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in a neighbourhood. These are described legally as ‘neighbourhood development plans.’
18. In an important change to the planning system communities can use neighbourhood planning to permit the development they want to see – in full or in outline – without the need for planning applications. These are called ‘neighbourhood development orders.’

19. Local councils will continue to produce development plans that will set the strategic context within which neighbourhood development plans will sit. Neighbourhood development plans or orders do not take effect unless there is a majority of support in a referendum of the neighbourhood. They also have to meet a number of conditions before they can be put to a community referendum and legally come into force. These conditions are to ensure plans are legally compliant and take account of wider policy considerations (e.g. national policy).

Conditions are:

- they must have regard to national planning policy;
- they must be in general conformity with strategic policies in the development plan for the local area (i.e. such as in a core strategy); and
- they must be compatible with EU obligations and human rights requirements.

20. One of the basic conditions is that the neighbourhood plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan. S.38 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 defines “development plan” as the development plan documents (DPDs) adopted for the area and Schedule 8 extends this to include saved local plans. Where there are no DPDs in an area the examiner must consider whether the draft plan/ order is in general conformity with the strategic policies in the saved development plan. In London, the development plan for the local area includes the London Plan and any development plan documents prepared by borough councils applicable to that local area.

21. An independent qualified person then checks that a neighbourhood development plan or order appropriately meets the conditions before it can be voted on in a local referendum. This is to make sure that referendums only take place when proposals are workable and of a decent quality.

22. Proposed neighbourhood development plans or orders need to gain the approval of a majority of voters of the neighbourhood to come into force. If proposals pass the referendum, the local planning authority is under a legal duty to bring them into force.

23. The NPPF makes explicit reference to the opportunity for neighbourhood plans to promote more development than is set out in the local plan. Neighbourhood planning is about shaping the development of a local area in a positive manner. It is not a tool to stop new development proposals from happening and should reflect local and national policies. Neighbourhood plans and orders should not promote less development than set out in the local plan or undermine its strategic policies.

24. Although Neighbourhood plans cannot permit development on our open spaces (due to our land ownership); by supporting increased development locally, they have the potential to cause harm to the open spaces.

All London Green Grid (ALGG)

25. The ALGG was published as Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) in March 2012. This provides a framework for the creation, enhancement and management of green and open spaces across Greater London. The objectives include, but are not limited to, promoting urban greening, enhancing biodiversity, healthy living, heritage and landscape features and improving air quality. The way in which this work will be further implemented is not yet clear and there may be opportunities for greater recognition of the Corporation's open spaces. By linking strategic spaces, the ALGG may afford these areas more protection, but it is too early to know.

Options

26. With the significant changes in planning policy affecting our open spaces and the constraints on resources to monitor planning applications, the Committee needs to determine whether there is more that can or should be done to support and protect these open spaces.

Statutory Consultee

27. Statutory Consultees are organisations and bodies, defined by statute, which must be consulted on relevant planning applications. Key organisations (in terms of impact and volume of consultations) include the Environment Agency, Natural England, English Heritage and the Highways Agency. Other bodies include local highway and local planning authorities (in relation to some forms of development in adjoining areas) and organisations with very specific interests, such as the Theatres Trust.

28. Non-statutory consultees are organisations and bodies, identified in national planning policy, which should be consulted on relevant planning applications. These include some bodies who are also statutory consultees (for example English Heritage and English Nature) and others that are not, such as the Police Architectural Liaison Officers.

29. Each local planning authority is required to prepare a Statement of Community Involvement which sets out which organisations will be consulted on planning applications, including both statutory and non-statutory consultees. However, to ensure that the Corporation is included as a key consultee in each of the SCIs affecting our open spaces, or to request changes to existing SCIs, would be a resource intensive process. Local planning authorities are also required to keep SCIs under regular review, so this will be a continuing call on resources.

30. In terms of implementing the Corporation's objectives to manage development proposals that affect its portfolio of open spaces, an option could be to explore ways in which the Corporation becomes a Statutory Consultee for all proposals affecting its land. This would require secondary legislation and would not necessarily address the Corporation's concerns on

how to resource and respond to the on-going supply of planning applications in question.

31. The Town and Country Planning Order 1995, sets out a timeframe of 21 days for statutory consultees to provide advice on applications, although for complex cases different time periods can be agreed. This requirement would result in further budgetary and resource constraints, if we were to seek Statutory Consultee status. Furthermore, a formal position may, at times, reduce the flexibility in the way we currently operate. Generally, officers are of the opinion that the disadvantages of this approach outweigh the advantages.

Strategic Policy

32. In the context of an overall weakening or watering down of open space policies at the national level and within the NPPF it will be important to ensure that greater clarity is provided through policies in order to present the gradual erosion of the Corporation's open spaces. The existing local planning policy framework affecting the Corporations' open spaces is as diverse as the spaces themselves. This presents a management issues for the Corporation given the variety local policies that are applicable to each site. Attempts to prepare separate planning policy documents or SPDs for each site would be hugely challenging and resource intensive process and not necessarily supported by guidance in paragraph 153 of the NPPF, which discourages the use of too many SPDs. One alternative would be to explore ways in which a Strategic Policy, via the London Plan, could be strengthened to explicitly protect and manage the Corporation's portfolio of open spaces.
33. It should be recognised that this approach would not directly benefit sites located considerably beyond the Greater London area e.g. Burnham Beeches; although there is a possibility of indirect benefit. In these locations, there may be no alternative to continued liaison with the local planning authority on policy development, although officers will continue to investigate any possible opportunity for additional protection.
34. The current planning framework largely relies on policies being implemented at a local level, which has placed greater emphasis on the need for the Corporation's Superintendents to become involved at the planning application stages for individual development proposals and to decipher the local policies in the context of each planning application, to ensure that the Corporation's objectives are met. The growing trend for extensions and basement proposals in particular means that many applications affecting the Corporation's open spaces that are designated areas of MOL; do not meet with the criteria outlined in the Mayor of London Order for referral (i.e. proposals less than 1,000 sq.m). This is inadvertently resulting in a gradual erosion of the Corporation's spaces as there is no overall strategy for monitoring the many smaller applications that escape a referral. The recent Government announcement proposing

further relaxation of planning controls on extensions may result in greater pressure.

35. Whilst there is Strategic Policy support within the London Plan for the protection of the MOL and London's strategic open spaces, it is the Corporation's experience that this protection is not necessarily being applied consistently or robustly at the local level, where officers spend much time and resources fighting development planning application proposals. This, together with the NPPF and the loss of detailed Green Belt guidance leads the Corporation to conclude that it would be appropriate at this time to investigate with the GLA the potential to strengthen its planning powers and specifically in relation to the Corporation's portfolio of open spaces which are of strategic importance to London as a whole.
36. The benefits of a strengthened strategic planning policy led approach would provide explicit guidance at the outset and may help to save time and resources in terms of the need for the Corporation to respond to each planning application proposal on a piecemeal basis. This would also ensure that local policies, including any area based policies, or Neighbourhood Plans, are also prepared in general conformity with those outlined in the London Plan.
37. These benefits would provide greater clarity in terms of the requirements for local development plan policies to be in general conformity with explicit policies to protect the Corporation's portfolio of open spaces. Whilst there would still be a need to work with local planning authorities in the development of their Local Plans and potential Neighbourhood Plans, this should reduce the amount of work required to ensure that the Corporation's open space interests are reflected.
38. Additionally a strengthened policy based approach would allow all of the Corporation's open spaces to be afforded protection at a strategic level to ensure that planning applications are managed consistently, the standards and criteria to which they should be considered are uniform and that there is greater accountability in terms of managing development proposals that affect these important open spaces.
39. Such a policy would establish clear links between the management of the open spaces and other London-wide issues such as planning, transport, tourism, the environment and leisure. In addition a strategic policy would need to be carefully structured to recognise the individual character and importance for each of the open spaces.

Neighbourhood Forums and plans

40. Several Neighbourhood Forums are already in existence or will be shortly, for the reasons described above, it is not feasible given the current and reducing levels of staff resource to support or be directly involved in their work. However, in the short term, where specific issues are considered directly to impact on our open spaces, Superintendent's will determine

whether it is appropriate to engage with a Forum. In the longer term, if further strategic policy could be achieved then it should reduce some of the requirement to engage in Neighbourhood Forums.

Proposals

41. A strategic planning policy with explicit reference to the Corporation's sites, with a stronger presumption in favour of protection of the open spaces and developments permitted only in exceptional circumstances, would allow staff to focus on the day to day management of the open spaces. Such a policy approach would play an important role in shaping the future of development around these spaces in a coherent and planned manner. This considered approach would be in contrast to the existing situation where the Corporation plays much more of a reactive role in responding to a multitude of development pressures.
42. It is important that a planning policy approach is decided upon which best reflects the needs of the Corporation, those who live in or adjacent to the open spaces and those who visit; by shaping development in a manner that improves the open spaces, has due regard to the protection of landscape features and habitats, conserves and enhances the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of each area.
43. To progress a strategic planning approach, it is proposed that officers meet with planning officers for the Greater London Authority to both review this report and consider the most appropriate way of amending existing policies in order to address the concerns raised in the report.
44. It is proposed that officers engage with All London Green Grid (ALGG) initiatives to identify ways in which greater recognition can be achieved for the Corporation's Open Spaces.
45. Further protection could be achieved by seeking Statutory Consultee status; this would take longer to achieve as it would require secondary legislation. Due to the potential resources required, it is suggested that this option is not progressed further at this time.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

46. Protecting the future of our Open Spaces supports the City Together Strategy theme 'the Heart of a World Class City which protects, promotes and enhances our environment'. Likewise, the departmental Business Plan's first strategic aim is to 'provide safe, secure and accessible Open Spaces and services for the benefit of London and the nation' and the second aim is to involve communities and partners in developing a sense of place through the care and management of our sites'.

Implications

47. The only financial implications are likely to be the need to retain the use of planning consultants to support this work, which will have to continue to be resourced from existing local risk budgets.

Conclusion

48. If it is possible to achieve a strengthened strategic policy, which explicitly refers to the Corporation's open spaces, this could provide greater clarity and help ensure that any developments affecting these areas would be resisted.

Background Papers

Open Space Planning Strategy – Renaissance Planning August 2012

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Planning authorities and designations impacting on City of London Open Spaces.

Contact:

Sue Ireland | sue.ireland@cityoflondon.gov.uk | 0207 332 3033

Open Spaces Planning Strategy

Site	Size (ha)	Regional Authority	Regional Plan	Local Planning Authority	Designations
Ashtead Common	200	Surrey CC	n/a	Mole Valley DC	Green Belt, Public Open Space, National Nature Reserve, SSSI, Area for Special Historic & Landscape Value.
Burnham Beeches	220	Buckinghamshire CC	n/a	South Bucks DC	Ancient Woodland, Biodiversity Opportunity Area, Green Belt, National Nature Reserve, Special Area of Conservation, SSSI, 2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (within).
City Gardens	32	GLA	London Plan 2011	City of London	Amenity Spaces, Churchyards and cemeteries, Civic Spaces, Public Open Space (various), Outdoor sports facilities, Registered Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Natural and semi natural Green Spaces, Provision for children and young people, ALGG Area 12.
Coulsdon Common	51	GLA/ Surrey CC	London Plan 2012/ n/a	LB Croydon/ Tandridge DC	Green Belt, Priority Archaeological Zone, Site of Nature Conservation Importance, Public Open Space, Woodland, ALGG Area 7.
Epping Forest	3,220	GLA/ Essex CC	London Plan 2011/ n/a	Epping Forest DC/ Redbridge BC/ Waltham Forest DC	Green Belt, Regional Park, Special Area of Conservation (SAC), UK BAP Priority Habitat, Forest Land, SSSI, Regionally Important Geological Site (RIGS), Register of Historic Parks & Gardens, Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs), ALGG Area 2.
Farthing Downs and New Hill	95	GLA	London Plan 2011	LB Croydon	Green Belt, Metropolitan Park, SSSI; Site of Nature Conservation Importance, Priority Archaeological Zone, Archaeological Sites of National Importance, Croydon Panoramas, local views, ALGG Area 7.
Hampstead Heath	320	GLA	London Plan –	LB	Metropolitan Open Land, Metropolitan Park, Parks and

			2011	Camden/ LB Barnet	gardens of special historic interest/ Heritage land, Sites of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation, Sites of Nature Conservation Importance, SSSI, Conservation areas/ areas of special character, public open space, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Archaeological priority areas.
Highgate Wood	28	GLA	London Plan 2011	LB Haringey	Ancient Woodland, Metropolitan Open Land, Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation, Ecologically Valuable Site, Heritage Land, Conservation Area.
Kenley Common	56	GLA	London Plan 2011	LB Croydon/ Tanridge DC	Green Belt, Archaeological Priority Zones, Scheduled Monument, Site of Nature Conservation Importance, Conservation Areas, Archaeological Sites of National Importance, ALGG Area 7.
Queen's Park	12	GLA	London Plan 2011	LB Brent	Open Space in Conservation Area, Public Park, Woodland, recreational space, ALGG Area 12.
Riddlesdown	43	GLA	London Plan 2011	LB Croydon	Green Belt, Archaeological Priority Zone, SSSI, Site of Nature Conservation Importance, London Outer Orbital Path, ALGG Area 7.
Spring Park	21	GLA	London Plan 2011	LB Bromley	Green Belt, Woodland, Development and Nature Conservation Site ALGG Area 7.
Stoke Common	80	Buckinghamshire CC	n/a	South Bucks DC	Green Belt, Ancient Woodland, Heathland, Biodiversity Opportunity Area, Special Area of Conservation, SSSI.
West Ham Park	31	GLA	London Plan 2011	LB Newham	Green Space to be protected, Public Open Space, Green Chain, Nature Conservation, ALGG Area 2.
West Wickham Common	10	GLA	London Plan 2011	LB Bromley	Green Belt, Areas and Sites of Archaeological Significance, Ancient Monuments and Archaeology, Development and Nature Conservation Site, ALGG Area 7.
Total	4,419				

Agenda Item 5

Committee(s):	Date(s):	Item no.
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	November 6 th 2012	
Subject: Hampstead Heath Car Park Enforcement	Public	
Report of: Superintendent of Hampstead Heath	For Information	
<u>Summary</u>		
<p>From 1 October 2012 the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 made it an offence to clamp or tow away a vehicle parked on private land, without lawful authority. An alternative enforcement method to ensure payment for parking within the Heath car parks has been introduced.</p> <p>This report sets out the new enforcement model based upon the arrangements currently operated at Burnham Beeches through an approved external contractor and on-site staff which has proved effective, fair and proportionate.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>That Members note the new arrangements that are being introduced to manage unauthorised car parking events.</p>		

Main Report

Background

1. Car parks are located at East Heath, Jack Straws Castle and The Lido. There is also a small disabled car park at Golders Hill Park. Proposals have been approved by the London Borough of Camden's Planning Department to realign the car park at East Heath to increase capacity and improve the landscape. These works are due to be implemented during the winter period.
2. The power to charge for use of the car parks is by virtue of section 19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, as applied to the Heath by the Local Government Reorganisation (Hampstead Heath) Order 1989.
3. Parking fees for use of the car parks have been in operation since 1 July 2005. Fees were introduced at this time in order to provide a means manage the car parks more effectively as prior to this time the car parks were not opening to the public until 11am, a measure to prevent commuter parking, thus denying a facility to genuine Heath users. The

fees are set in such a way as to discourage long stays, with the cost increasing after 4 hours – current fees being as follows:

- £2.50 for up to 2 hours,
- £5.00 for up to 4 hours
- £4.00 for additional hours or part hours.

All Heath car parks are now open to the public between the hours of 7.30am and 8.30pm.

4. A means of enforcing parking fees is essential otherwise it is likely that payment would not be made in a number of cases. The current enforcement method has been through clamping. Given the nature of the service in seeking to promote access to the Heath, the City has worked hard to develop an enforcement policy that is fair and proportionate.
5. The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 which has progressed more quickly than originally anticipated has made it an offence to clamp or tow away a vehicle parked on private land, without lawful authority from 1 October 2012; therefore an alternative model of enforcement has been implemented to ensure compliance.

Options Considered

6. The introduction of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 made it necessary to investigate the options available for the City in order to ensure payment of the required parking fees.
7. One option initially considered was the passing of a bye-law to authorise continued wheel-clamping. Any bye-law would require the approval of the central Government. It appeared unlikely that the Government would agree to a new bye-law which ran counter to the policy of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012.
8. The preferred option that has been pursued is to issue a notice or parking ticket referred in this report as the Parking Charge Notice (PCN) – requesting payment of a parking charge for an unauthorised parking event, such as non-compliance with the stated conditions for parking within the car park. For example, non-payment of the fee for parking, not parking within a parking bay or overstaying the paid time on the pay and display ticket. Parking charges are enforceable under contract or tort law and may be pursued as a civil debt through the courts.

9. Burnham Beeches introduced this system of enforcement in August 2011, and it has proved to be very successful and continues to provide a positive means of managing the car park.
10. Contractors carrying out this role are required to be members of the Approved Operator Scheme administered by the British Parking Association (BPA). This enables access to the DVLA vehicle “keeper” details via a secure electronic link, in order to pursue payment when a PCN has been issued.
11. The opportunity to review the current enforcement role has also been taken. Under the clamping arrangements the patrols of the car parks were carried out by an external contractor, along with cash collection from the pay and display machines.
12. The issue of PCN’s at Burnham Beeches is carried out by the directly employed Ranger team, which means that they are in a customer service role and can provide information to visitors, litter pick the site and check for defects, for example whilst on site. Additionally on busy days resources can be focussed to ensure that staff are in the right places, doing the right things to manage effectively.
13. By utilising Heath staff rather than a dedicated third party to patrol the car parks and issue PCNs, the savings from the current contract can be used to retain a post within the Heath Ranger team that would otherwise, as part of the current budgetary reductions, be lost in 2014. The post is currently funded by the City Bridge Trust Grant that is in place until 2013/14. Ranger staff can also provide additional services as outlined above.
14. From 1 October 2012 the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 has made it easier to recover parking charges as a civil debt, by introducing a right to claim unpaid parking charges from the vehicle keeper in appropriate circumstances, whether or not they were the driver of the vehicle at the time of the unauthorised parking event. A notice to the driver – in this report also referred to as a Parking Charge Notice (PCN) – containing prescribed information must be affixed to the vehicle or handed to the person in charge of the vehicle whilst the vehicle is stationary in the car park, and must be followed by a notice to keeper handed to the keeper or posted to their current address for service. An Independent Appeals Service (IAS) will be provided to deal with appeals.
15. To comply with the new model of enforcement the current signs will have to be amended to meet legal requirements and to comply with the code of practice set by the BPA.

New Arrangements

16. Following a tendering exercise District Enforcement have been appointed to provide the new services required.
17. City of London staff will now issue a PCN in appropriate circumstances and pass these to the new contractor to carry out subsequent enforcement activity. The contractor will also deal with appeals on a case by case basis, liaising with Hampstead Heath senior management as necessary. This approach will remove the administrative burden from Hampstead Heath, whilst enabling the City Corporation to maintain the correct balance between effectiveness fairness and proportionality.
18. Guidelines for notice cancellations will be provided to the contractor and any appeals which fall outside of these will be referred to Hampstead Heath management for guidance, thus building a criteria list for enforcement which will ensure a consistent and fair approach based upon the principles already established.
19. A survey of signage has been undertaken to update and amend the current signs to advise the public of the new enforcement procedures. The wording is modelled on that used at Burnham Beeches which has proved effective.
20. Training has been provided by the contractor, to prepare staff to carry out the ticketing role utilising handheld automated machines. The Heath staff will be directly supported in this new role by the Heath constables who will also provide training additional training for staff.
21. As this model is a change to the current method of enforcement a warning notice has been issued to those contravening the terms of parking for the first two weeks of operation. This will enable motorists to become familiar with the changes and for the staff to become accustomed with the ticketing requirements.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

22. The proposals support several of the City Together Strategy Themes, including: Supports our Communities and protects promotes and enhances our environment.
23. The Open Spaces Business Plan 2012-2015 values; the right services at the right price and the best of the old with the new are supported by this proposal.

24. Hampstead Heath Management Plan part 1 – Towards a Plan for the Heath 2007 -2017 policy D1 states “Conserve and enhance the historic and planned elements of the heath’s designed landscapes, while improving their appearance and public facilities.” The proposals support this policy.

Implications

Financial and Risk Implications

25. If enforcement is not carried in the car parks then it is likely that the income generated from these facilities will decrease and the car parks will be used by commuter traffic, depriving genuine Heath users of these facilities.
26. The change in the model of enforcement needs to be carefully managed. Warning Notices have been used to ensure that motorists are familiar with the changes and will therefore understand the need to comply with the conditions of parking and the implications of not purchasing a pay and display ticket for the duration of their stay. Clamping is a visual deterrent and it may be that more PCNs are issued than clamps were applied, this may result in complaints. By ensuring that correct signage is in place and that staff are on-site regularly to advise of the changes, this should mitigate the impact.

Legal

27. Contained within the body of the report.

Conclusion

28. The enforcement of the parking fees at Hampstead Heath had to change due to new legislative provisions. A proportionate means of enforcement has been identified and introduced.
29. By City staff issuing PCNs the front facing customer service function will be enhanced as they will be present in the car parks to deal with issues and identify problems. Additionally this will present the opportunity to retain a post that would otherwise be identified to be potentially deleted in April 2014.

Contacts:

Simon Lee \ simon.lee@cityoflondon.gov.uk \ 0207 3322 3322

Yvette Hughes | yvette.hughes@cityoflondon.gov.uk | 020 7332 3977

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Agenda Item 6

Committee(s):	Date(s):	Item no.
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	6 th November 2012	
Subject: Update on the Hampstead Heath Flood Management and Water Quality Management Project	Public	
Report of: Superintendent of Hampstead Heath	For Discussion	
<u>Summary</u>		
<p>This report provides the Consultative Committee with an update on the progress of this major project, since the last report in July 2012. Considerable work has been undertaken in negotiating a contract for the appointment of the Design Team and the Strategic Landscape Architect. These appointments have now been made and the selection process for a construction contractor has commenced.</p> <p>The Water Management Stakeholders Group, consisting of representatives from local interest groups, has been established and has been meeting monthly since July 2012. A wider consultation to reach Heath visitors and those living near-by has started and will continue throughout the duration of the project.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>That Committee note the progress being made towards the implementation of the Flood Management and Water Quality project.</p>		

Main Report

Background

1. At the Court of Common Council on the 14th July 2011 approval was given to the upgrade of the pond embankments on the Hampstead and Highgate chains, at an estimated cost of £15.12m, ±20%. These works are necessary to reduce the risk of dams failing, to comply with the Reservoirs Act 1975 together with the emerging Flood and Water Management Act 2010. It will also be essential to consider design solutions that ensure the City also meeting its obligations under the Hampstead Heath Act 1871.
2. Given the complexity and risks associated with this project the Chairman has requested that both the Hampstead Heath Management Committee and your Committee receive regular updates on progress.
3. The primary aim of the project is to ensure peak water flows pass safely through the ponds or over the dams without any collapse, ensuring the City of London meets its statutory obligations. Works include:

- Embankment improvements - crest armouring, raising and creation of designed spillways
- Landscape amelioration in terms of preserving the semi-rural character of the Heath and habitat improvement
- Replacement of the building currently on the embankment of the Ladies' Bathing Pond
- Water quality improvements

Current Position

4. Over the summer and autumn period the following actions have taken place:

Water Management Stakeholders Group

- In July the inaugural meeting of the Water Management Stakeholders Group was held. The Water Management Stakeholder Group is comprised of a body of some fourteen local people with knowledge and interest in Hampstead Heath to provide views and advice to this Committee in relation to the Flood and Water Management Project within the context of the Hampstead Heath Act 1871 and relevant reservoirs legislation.
- The Stakeholder Group is chaired by the Chairman of the Vale of Health Society a founding representative of this Committee. The Stakeholders Group have met monthly since inception and have received presentations on the background to the project, a legal overview and a briefing on the technical guidance. They have also attended and contributed to a very informative walk of the Highgate chain of ponds. Notes from each meeting will be circulated to this Committee.

Procurement

- Strategic Landscape Architect – a landscape architect from Wilder Associates has been appointed as Strategic Landscape Architect to the project. This followed the City of London's evaluation of tenders together with presentations from the two lead candidates to the Water Management Stakeholder Group. Following consultation with their members there was clear support from the Stakeholders Group for Mr Wilder, he took up the position in October.
- Design Team – Following detailed negotiations on costs and finer details, W.S Atkins have been appointed to manage the following packages within the Design Team: engineering, planning, landscape and ecology. It is anticipated that local architectural practice Walters & Cohen will be appointed by W.S Atkins to support the changes required at the Kenwood Ladies Pond. Capita Symonds has been appointed as the cost consultants and the Client Representatives. This dual role for Capita Symonds has

generated cost savings. These appointments have all been made within budget.

- Construction Team – Given the nature of the project the City Corporation are keen to appoint the Construction Contractor early in the process. This will provide them with an opportunity to fully understand the sensitivities of the site in working up the construction management plan and technical solutions to meet the emerging designs. The tendering process to appoint the Construction Contractor is currently underway.

Design Review

- The first task of the newly appointed Design Team will be a review of the fundamental aspects associated with the project. This will include verifying (or amending) hydrology studies, including the design flood, downstream impacts, potential options for spillway/dam design that are viable and comparing the existing landscape situation with the proposed changes. Given the importance of this review in determining the level of intervention and potential design solutions to meet the vision and primary aim of the project, the outcome of this review will be reported to both the Heath Consultative and Management Committees. This review will also require the Design Team to consider the current programme, particularly in view of the level of consultation required.
- It should be noted that the review will not include a Quantified Risk Assessment. This is not part of any of the required guidelines or procedures and would take considerable time and resources diverting the team away from proceeding with the works with all deliberate speed.

Implementation of the 2010 Flood and Water Management Act

- Over the past months the City has been liaising closely with DEFRA over the implementation of the above Act. The Act will be implemented in a number of phases with phase one expected to come into force over the coming months, subject to consultation. The part of this phase which deals with the new High Risk category of reservoirs also introduces the concept of cascade requirements and therefore will have an impact on the Heath ponds, resulting in potentially more of the ponds being subject to reservoir legislation.

Consultation

- Initial ‘pop-up’ consultations are taking place once a week at various locations on the Heath to canvas opinion and spread information about the project to visitors. These will continue and will increase in frequency as the need arises. A more structured and widespread consultation programme will be devised when clearer timescales and parameters of

what can be consulted upon are set out upon further discussion with the Design Team.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

5. The works support the strategic aim ‘To provide valued services to London and the nation’. The scheme will improve community facilities, conserve/enhance landscape and biodiversity and contribute to a reduction in water pollution whilst meeting the City Corporation’s legal obligations. The risk of any dam breach and serious downstream flooding of communities (and consequent harm to the City’s reputation) is mitigated.

Financial and Risk Implications

6. The aim of the work is to ensure the dam structures are able to cope with the requirements of the reservoir legislation and guidance. Although extreme storms may still result in floods in the area downstream after the work is complete, the risk of the dam embankments failing, which would lead to sudden and severe inundation, will be virtually eliminated. The proposed works also include improvements to water quality to reduce non-compliance with the Water Quality Directive. The project team have developed a comprehensive Risk Register which is regularly reviewed at Project Board meetings.
7. Project costs (at a Q4 2010 price base) were outlined at £15.12m, this figure was estimated to have a confidence ‘range’ of $\pm 20\%$ at this stage of the project. Further cost plans will be developed as the detailed design options are produced.

Conclusion

8. This is a major project for the Heath and the City will make every effort to ensure it succeeds in both meeting current and planned reservoir legislation, while also preserving as far as maybe the natural aspect and character of the Heath, in accordance with the Hampstead Heath Act 1871.

Contact:

Jennifer Wood | jennifer.wood@cityoflondon.gov.uk | 0207 332 3847
Simon Lee | simon.lee@cityoflondon.gov.uk | 0207 332 3322
Paul Monaghan | paul.monaghan@cityoflondon.gov.uk | 0207 332 3122

Agenda Item 7

Committee(s):	Date(s):	Item no.
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	6 th November 2012	
Subject: Results of the Sparrows Project	Public	
Report of: Simon Lee	For Discussion	

Summary

The Sparrows Project, led by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), finished this year. The aims of the project were to elucidate both whether changes in grassland management in parks could benefit wildlife as well as help reduce the decline in house sparrow numbers in London. This report summarises the findings of the project.

A perennial wild flower meadow was created on the Heath above the Paddling Pool at Parliament Hill as part of the project. The biodiversity value of such meadows was found to be significantly greater than the species-poor long grass which it replaced.

No sparrows were seen using the perennial wild flower meadow at Hampstead Heath or elsewhere. As part of the project, areas of annual wild flowers were established in eight other open spaces, although not at the Heath. Sparrows were seen feeding in four of these. However, there was no statistically significant correlation between sparrow numbers and management of the area, so that no definitive conclusion can be reached on whether annual meadows benefit sparrows.

The creation and maintenance of the wildflower meadow has been well received by the public.

Recommendations

- That the Committee note the findings of the Sparrows Project
- That the Committee views on retaining the area as a wild flower meadow be received.

Main Report

Background

1. In 2008 the City joined seven other open space managers in London in a project led by RSPB. The project aimed to test the effectiveness of changes in land management in stemming the decline in house sparrow numbers in London, estimated as 68% between 1994 and 2009. It was largely funded by SITA Trust through the Landfill Communities Fund, and the work on the Hampstead Heath was carried out at little expense to the City.

2. House sparrows predominantly eat seeds in winter and invertebrates in summer, supplemented by food scraps. However, chicks require a protein diet from invertebrates in the early stages of their growth to ensure adequate development. Research has shown that survival of young house sparrows in urban areas is often low, and it has been postulated that this is due to lack of invertebrates.
3. The project assessed the benefits to invertebrates and birds, especially house sparrows, of three different types of habitat management. These were: an area of long grass; a meadow of perennial wild flowers; and an area of specially selected annuals, for example those with seeds attractive to birds. These three were compared with grass which was mown regularly.
4. In 2009, a quarter of a hectare of low-diversity grassland above the paddling pool at Parliament Hill - the 'Sparrows Site' - was stripped and then sown with a seed mix of perennial wild flowers. By 2010 the flowers had established very well, and the meadow looked extremely attractive, and continues to do so. The area was chosen to be as close as possible to established colonies of sparrows near the Lido and the gardens of houses near Nassington Road.
5. The meadow was initially protected with wire mesh fencing, but this was later changed to a rope. The barrier was removed entirely in 2011, to the annoyance of local ornithologists, who had enjoyed watching interesting birds alighting on the fence posts. (Several fence posts were left in place for this purpose, but they were continually removed.) Nearby areas of amenity and of long grass provided two of the other management regimes.
6. The City opted not to sow an area of annual plants as part of the project. However, two small plots of annuals were sown elsewhere, one near Duke's Field (Parliament Hill) and one on the Heath Extension. The species mix used for these was of plants which have disappeared from our cornfields, such as corn marigold, corn chamomile and poppy, rather than the mix designed specifically for bird seed and containing species such as millet and sun flower which was used for the project. However, many of the plants used do produce copious quantities of seeds likely to benefit birds.



The Sparrows site

7. All areas were monitored by a volunteer, students, or by RSPB or City of London staff. Bob Gillam from the Conservation Team monitored the long grass and amenity grass plots monthly for 2½ years, patiently watching each for three quarters of an hour, but usually seeing no more than pigeons, gulls and crows. The RSPB carried out invertebrate sampling, using sweep nets and a special machine like a vacuum cleaner which hoovered them up from near the ground. 139,446 invertebrates were captured during monitoring of all the plots in London. Those over 2mm in length were identified to group, or family where possible.

Current Position

8. The project ended this year and this report summarises the main findings.

Results

9. No house sparrows were seen on any of the study areas on Hampstead Heath.
10. In four other open spaces, sparrows were seen on the areas of annual wildlife seed plants. These areas were used by the birds for gathering invertebrates, mainly during the breeding season: the time at which invertebrates are needed for feeding young. It is postulated that the wildlife

seed plots may have been used most because the varied structure of the vegetation allowed birds easier access to the invertebrates. However, the results were not statistically significant, so no firm conclusion can be made.

11. The perennial wild flower meadows were used more often by seed-eating birds in general, such as goldfinches, than the long grass plots. Migrating birds have also used the wild flower meadow on the Heath, and ornithologists have enjoyed sighting them, as witnessed by a outcry on the London birdwatchers' website occasioned by the City cutting the meadow in September 2012 as part of normal management.
12. Significantly more invertebrates were found in the wild flower meadows than in the long grass plots or wildlife seed plots.
13. The results of the study show that meadows of perennial wild flowers and wildlife seed plots both benefit biodiversity. The former add to the diversity and abundance of native plants on the Heath and are particularly beneficial to invertebrates. The latter may be most beneficial to seed-eating birds. Both are very attractive, especially if a cornfield mix is used for the annual plots, and both have been admired on the Heath.

Proposal

14. It is proposed that the 'Sparrows Site' be maintained as an unfenced wild flower meadow, with an annual cut.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

15. The City has a legal duty under the Hampstead Heath Act 1871 to preserve, as far as may be, the natural aspect and state of the Heath.

Strategic Implications

16. The proposal links to the theme in the Community Strategy to protect, promote and enhance our environment.
17. It also links to the Open Spaces Department Plan through the Strategic Aim to 'adopt sustainable working practices, promote the variety of life (biodiversity) and protect the Open Spaces for the enjoyment of future generations', and the Improvement Objective to 'ensure that measures to promote sustainability and biodiversity are embedded in the Department's work'.
18. The proposal also fulfils a number of Essential Actions in the Part 1 Management Plan, including:

Retain and enhance the Heath's habitats and natural resources to enable continued quiet enjoyment and appreciation of the natural world by its visitors

Manage the Heath's grasslands to enhance their nature conservation and aesthetic value.

Financial Implications

19. Management of the wild flower meadow can be undertaken as part of the normal management of the grasslands on Hampstead Heath. No extra cost will be incurred since the area would need to be cut in any case, the costs of maintenance are met from the Superintendents local risk budget.

Key risks

20. Creeping thistle is likely to become more common in the plot. Options for the control of thistle will be presented to Committee in 2013.
21. It is possible that people and dogs may damage the area, making it look unattractive in summer due to vegetation being trodden down. However, this did not occur in 2012, when the area was unfenced. Should it happen seriously, the meadow could be cut, although this would reduce its value for wildlife.

Conclusion

22. The results of the study show that meadows of perennial wild flowers and wildlife seed plots both benefit biodiversity. The former add to the diversity and abundance of native plants on the Heath and both benefit invertebrates. The latter may also provide for seed-eating birds. Both are very attractive, especially if a cornfield mix is used for the annual plots, and both have been admired on the Heath.
23. The area should continue to be maintained as a wild flower meadow.

Contacts:

Meg Game
Ecologist
Hampstead Heath
Meg.Game@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Jonathan Meares
Highgate Wood & Conservation Manager
Jonathan.Meares@cityoflondon.gov.uk

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Agenda Item 8

Committee(s):	Date(s):	Item no.
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	6 th November 2012	
Subject: Review of Annual Work Programme 2012	Public	
Report of: Superintendent of Hampstead Heath	For Discussion	
<u>Summary</u>		
<p>The report below provides a review of the management operations and activities carried out on Hampstead Heath over the past 12 months as part of the 2012 Annual Work Programme, and to consider the new 2013 Work Programme appended to this report.</p>		
Recommendations		
That the Consultative Committee:		
a) Notes the work undertaken during 2012 to enhance the natural aspect and designed landscapes within the Heath.		
b) provides its views on the proposed 2013 Annual Work plan appended to this report.		

Main Report

Background

1. Hampstead Heath is a complex mosaic of different habitats, comprising extensive areas of grassland and secondary woodland, hedgerows, water bodies, streams, a raised bog, heathland and formal areas. It is also extremely popular and well used. These factors make it complex to manage.
2. The Interim Management Policy Plan for the Heath states, in Policy 6, that the City will draw together an annual work plan for the Heath in consultation with local groups and interested parties. The Annual Work Plan will reflect the primary objective set out in the Mission Statement and will broadly cover planned conservation operations including vegetation, pond and wetland management, tree work and footpath maintenance and fencing works.
3. For completeness the major tasks within the formal areas of the Heath have also been included within the Annual Work Plan.

Review of the 2012 Annual Work Programme

4. The following section sets out in some detail the extensive work that has been undertaken in maintaining and monitoring the complex landscape of the Heath.

Arboriculture and Veteran Trees

- The Hampstead Heath Tree team has undergone a restructure with a new Team Leader and Arborist all joining the team over the last 12 months. The task of creating a new team has been very effectively and professionally managed by the Tree Management Officer, and we hope to return the team to full strength before Christmas.
- The Team have continued their rolling programme of management work on the current tranche of Veteran trees, assisted by the Conservation team.
- During the spring the team identified the disease *Massaria* on a London Plane tree in Queen's Park. Subsequently the team have discovered a number of other trees affected by the same disease within the various avenues and plantings of London Plane on Hampstead Heath. *Massaria* of Plane is a fungal disease with an aggressive and rapid pathology, and is now widespread in the London area. Fortunately the disease does not kill the host tree but effects the lower lateral branches, and with good management can be controlled. Virtually all the Plane trees on Hampstead Heath are located at busy access points, often close to highways and facilities, which has necessitated the tree team to focus on inspections and removal of any suspected limbs, and consequently other tree work has had to be postponed. The team have now completed most of the work and are able to return to other priority works.
- Tree risk management and inspections is a critical component of the tree team's work and due to the urgent deployment action following the discovery of *Massaria*, an external Consultant was commissioned to continue the programmed work of plotting the priority areas within the green zone or medium risk areas across the site. This work will enable the tree team to carry out the tree condition surveys more effectively.
- 2012 was another year marked by several storm events resulting in a number of tree failures. The most severe weather event occurred in early June with a rare episode of high winds and rain resulting in a number of significant tree related incidents on the Hampstead Heath and Queen's Park.

- This year has been an exceptionally challenging year for the Conservation Team, having to work through record rainfall during June and July resulting in considerable disruption to their core work. With the saturated ground conditions machinery could only be used with great caution to avoid damage to the ground. This coupled with a change of green waste disposal arrangements necessitating sourcing a new site to remove the considerable volume of compostable material, created some logistical problems which have now been resolved.
- The grass cutting operations this year have had to be reduced due to these factors, but plans are already moving forward to change to more traditional hay making techniques for the 2013 season with the purchase of new equipment to bail the grassland areas following cutting.

Community Outreach Work and the City Bridge Trust Project

- This has been a very successful and productive year for the City Bridge Trust Project with the development of an educational garden facility adjacent to Kenwood Nursery Staff yard (see Figure 1 below) alongside heathland restoration work and control of invasive species, all involving Heath Hands.



Figure 1: New pond under construction at Kenwood Nursery Yard as part of CBT project

- In addition to our regular programme of Heath Hands volunteer sessions the Conservation Team were also able to accommodate a number of work experience placements this year, as well as young people working towards their Duke of Edinburgh award and also in collaboration with the princes trust scheme.
- We have also been developing links and supporting local community based projects through advice and provision of waste by-products generated by operations undertaken on the Heath, such as, woodchips, leaf mould, timber and other re-cycled materials.

Control of Invasive Species

- Himalayan balsam has been prolific this season due to high germination rates, necessitating a targeted and systematic approach, working down the Fleet stream catchment and along other riparian areas. Additional sessions were added to Heath Hands work programme, which has greatly assisted our control programme this year.
- Continued control of Giant hogweed using stem injection techniques.
- The extent of yellow balsam control was extended this year across the Heath again with the assistance from the Heath hands volunteers.
- Bracken spread continues to be managed using carefully applied chemical spraying in the West Heath and Sandy Heath areas. We will only be using non-chemical procedures such as rolling for the foreseeable future due to the withdrawal of the chemical Asulox from the market.
- The conservation team have been targeting the small isolated pockets of Japanese Knotweed across the Heath, and is now using a more precise and effective injection system,
- Rodents were particularly visible during the spring and summer season, possibly due to high rainfall and raised ground water levels. This generated a great deal of public concern and due to this the team deployed additional control measures across the site, which appears to have been effective in controlling the rat population.
- Thistles and Ragwort continue to be a problem with areas being cut at various locations during July which has had limited success. We will be looking at more intensive management operations next year to control these two species. Options being considered include the use of Cinnabar moths and the ragwort flea-beetle as a natural biological control. More frequent cutting may help control thistles, and this will be tried on Parliament Hill.
- Areas of Californian brome, Michaelmas daisy, Canadian goldenrod and Russian comfrey have been repeatedly cut and/or dug up to reduce their vigour and prevent seeding.

Woodland Management and Hedges

- Hedgerows were laid at the back of the Drying Ground on the edge of West Heath, along the First and Third Hedge lines in the Parliament Field area, and the Heath Extension. This work provides crucial undisturbed habitat for nesting birds and is part of a rolling programme of restoring historic boundary hedges.
- A new hedgerow was planted along the perimeter wall of the Hill garden which was sadly vandalised and pulled up within 24 hours of planting.
- Supplementary planting was undertaken to some existing hedgerows, both to fill gaps and diversify the species range.
- On-going programme of volunteer sessions directed by the conservation team to remove non-native tree saplings at various wooded location on the Heath. With particular focus within areas of secondary woodland adjacent to the Spaniards Road.
- Coppicing and laying of the shrub islands at Parliament Hill and the on the causeway at the Men's Pond.
- The collection of 30 oak saplings from around the Heath for potting up and transfer to Northern Ireland for planting.
- The ecologist
- has carried out a condition survey of the Heath's extensive network of hedges, identifying areas where restoration work is required. A student volunteer assisted with the work. Data will be analysed over the winter months.
- In February we took delivery of approximately 250 micro propagated Dutch elm disease resistant Elm tree saplings. Working in partnership with the Conservation Foundation and as part of the 'Ulmus Londinium' and Great British Elm experiment projects, we will be distributing these trees to schools and other local community groups during the winter.
- The Conservation team carried out selected holly removal around the veteran trees in South Meadow as part of the CBT programme of veteran tree management.
- Extensive plantings of native bulbs at the Whitestone garden.
- On-going restoration of the old orchard at Springett's Wood through additional planting of old fruit tree varieties.
- Removal of sycamores and subsequent re-planting with native whips within the shelterbelt adjacent to Springett's Wood.

Heathland, Bog, and Wetland Areas

- An area next to the Viaduct Bridge was planted up with heather plugs following the removal of a storm damaged oak tree.

- The area of Gorse was expanded on the West Heath at Sandy Heath involving coppicing and planting seedlings raised Kenwood Nursery. This work was carried out as part of the City Bridge Trust programme involving the Heath Hands Volunteers
- Heather patch near the middle gate to the Hill Garden weeded and improved.
- Heather patch close to Pitt's Garden has been improved by selective thinning of existing birch and pine trees to improve light levels
- Continued vegetation management at the West Heath valley mire site.

Grassland Management

- Four new annual and perennial wildflower areas were created this spring. Two composed of cornfield annuals, located on the Heath Extension and Duke's Meadow (see figure 2 below). The two perennial wildflower areas were located on the higher areas of the Heath, at the old Hockey pitch and behind the old dump site. The Old Hockey Pitch site has developed successfully, but the seed at the other perennial meadow did not germinate well. It was re-seeded in early October. One area of sunflowers was seeded for the local bee keepers association to provide additional forage for bees.



Figure 2: Annual wild flower meadow at Duke's Field

- Successful conclusion of the R.S.P.B. house sparrow project.
- Work was undertaken to expand the acid grassland at the 'Tormentil Slopes' at the Vale of Health by removal of bramble and tree cover.

This has already led to an expansion of the tormentil population. An experiment to increase the spread further was carried out by spreading tormentil prunings containing ripe seed onto the newly cleared area.

- As with previous years the team have continued to manage the spread of bramble with existing areas cut back to agreed boundaries recognising their value as habitat.

Paths and Erosion Issues.

- A new path surface has been constructed on the West Heath using materials which are geologically similar and sympathetic to the surrounding landscape.
- Monitoring for the potential development of bare eroded footpaths across grasslands and halting the development of these through the cutting of alternative desire routes to distribute foot traffic and subsequent compaction.
- De-compaction and diversion of paths that have developed under veteran trees.
- Restoration of a number of informal paths through wooded areas achieved via the removal of accumulated mud and detritus, with the aim of reducing erosion and compaction to veteran trees as a result of foot traffic.
- Serious erosion issues to open grassland areas have been addressed with the removal and repair of some informal paths.(boating pond and cross country route)
- Work has continued to improve drainage alongside existing paths and also to reduce gullying at various locations on bound gravel surfaces.
- A number of other small repairs were carried out at various locations.
- The path adjacent to the boating pond has been re-laid.

Ponds

- Expansion of pond edge habitat through the lifting, and thinning of existing trees along the margins of the Highgate and Hampstead chains of ponds. This forms part of the dam's vegetation management programme currently being implemented on the site.
- Installation of dams along catchments to slow water flow and improve the conservation value of ditches.
- Replacement of the vegetated island at the Vale of Health .
- Improvements to the marginal edges of the Ladies pond through clearance and additional planting.
- As mentioned in the above section on the control of invasive species the conservation team continue to work closely with the Hampstead Heath Angling Society on various projects to improve the fishing environment.

- Several fishing workshops were held during the summer, raising the profile of angling and promoting recreational benefits.
- Regular removal and checking for rubbish, snags and discarded fishing tackle in all the ponds.
- Some judicious coppicing has taken place to trees along the marginal edges of a number of the ponds. This has proved to be very adventitious to the amphibian population due to increased light levels along the all-important warm marginal edges.
- The Ecology team continued to monitor the amphibian populations on the Heath. A student was involved with newt monitoring in 2012. 5 volunteers received training on newt ecology in liaison with the nearby Glebelands nature reserve.
- Creation of a new pond to be used by school groups for pond dipping at the Kenwood educational garden.
- New ephemeral pools were dug at Springett's wood.

Wildlife Welfare

- Some supplementary feeding of wildfowl during extended frozen periods.
- Songbird feeding stations have been maintained at Kenwood, the Ladies Pond and the Bird Sanctuary.
- The successful capture, rehabilitation and release of injured birds and other wildlife was undertaken, working with the zoo at Golder's Hill.

Managing Water Quality

- During the summer period monitoring of oxygen levels was essential to maintain adequate water quality. Aeration equipment was deployed on the Viaduct and Swan ponds as a precautionary measure. Rapid deployment of oxygenation equipment to the ponds is essential if dissolved oxygen levels fall below a critical level, therefore reducing the risk of a fish kill incident.
- This monitoring is a core part of the Ecology Team's work.
- Fortunately this year there has been no further evidence of the Azolla outbreak that occurred in 2010 at the Viaduct Pond.
- Both the water aeration and mixing equipment were given a complete overhaul at the Boating pond.
- Barley straw was again positioned in some of the swimming ponds to reduce the likelihood of blue green algae blooms.
- Regular removal of blanket weed at the Whitestone pond.
- Slit traps have been placed in a number of locations along ditches within the pond catchments to help reduce sedimentation.
- Continuous monitoring of catchments leading from developments and private residences for pollution and unlawful discharge incidents.

Habitat and Species Monitoring and Planning

- Four volunteers continued to carry out reptile surveys across the Heath in liaison with the ecology team. This continues the successful surveys carried out in 2011 which recorded 5 times as many snake sightings than the previous year.



Figure 3: Grass snakes

- The experiment to compare the effects of grassland cutting times continued on the wild flower area on the Extension, with three different regimes. The area was monitored.
- Grassland monitoring including Small Tumulus Field, the Sparrows Site, the ‘Tormentil Slopes’ and acid grassland above the Vale of Health. Selected areas of creeping thistle, common hogweed and bracken were also monitored. Data will be analysed over the winter months.
- The Butterfly transect that has been running successfully for thirty one years indicated a hard year for a number of species due to the poor weather.

- Bat surveys were carried out on the Hampstead and Highgate pond chains in areas likely to be affected by the forthcoming flood and water management work.
- The Ecology Team produced three Compartment Management Plans, for Sandy Heath Ponds, Sandy Heath and Flagstaff Gorse Patches, and Pryor's Field. .
- Quarterly walks were held with the Heath Subcommittee of the Heath and Hampstead Society.

Formal Areas

Golders Hill Park / Pergola & Hill Garden / Keats House

- Design, planting and establishment of sustainable and structured plants in the Wall Garden – Figure 4 & 5.
- Replanting of shrub borders following phase three wall repairs in the Hill Garden.
- Installation of shade canopy and new play equipment in the children's play area.
- Additional sustainable planting in Keats House.
- Creation of natural grass habitats in the Swan Pond.
- Reed control in the Water Garden Pond.

Parliament Hill Fields

- Completion of landscape improvement works in the front of the Lido and Education Centre.



Figure 4: Front border Golders Hill Park



Figure 5: Front border Golders Hill Park

Corporate & Strategic Implications

5. The protection of the natural aspect cannot be taken for granted and to retain the existing mosaic of vegetation that makes the Heath such a

popular open space, whilst fulfilling the basic services to keep the site clean and well maintained, requires significant investment.

6. The preparation and implementation of an Annual Work Plan in accordance with Policy 6 of the Interim Management Plan contributes to the strategic theme of A Clean, Pleasant and Attractive City. The natural aspect is a significant factor in the popularity of the Heath for general recreation and sport and this also helps to contribute towards A Healthy City.
7. The actions for the new annual work plan are set out under the main character areas of the Heath. This follows the format of the proposed Part III section of the management plan, detailed prescriptions of work. What is ultimately required for each of these character areas is a clear vision on and long term aspirations together with those policies that are relevant to these areas, that will be taken from the Part I overriding strategic direction and Part II policies for each Topic Area.

Implications

8. The costs of meeting this ambitious programme are funded through the Superintendents' local risk budgets, together with the grant funding from City Bridge Trust. Wherever possible opportunities are sought for external funding to support these essential works.

Conclusion

9. The Heath is a complex site and it is impossible to set out in full all the work required to manage it a year ahead. Unanticipated circumstances may require a change of priorities, such as storms. However, the plan establishes our intentions for the year, subject to the Committee's comments.

Background Papers:

Committee Report - Sustainable Planting - Golders Hill Park

Contact:

jonathan.meares@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Hampstead Heath Annual Work Plan January to December 2013

Introduction

The Annual Work Plan January-December 2013 includes conservation and arboricultural work and work related to the formal areas of Hampstead Heath. It outlines the management works that will take place over the coming 12 months. Like all working documents it must be recognised that weather, seasonal changes and other factors can have an impact on the programme and lead to unavoidable changes. Sunday working which causes noise will be avoided where possible, but may from time to time be necessary. For example, in wet summers it may be necessary to take advantage of dry weekends to cut grass.

Note that items from the 2012 Annual Work Plan which have not yet been undertaken have been included. Many of these may be completed before the end of 2012 and, if not of a repetitive nature, will then be removed from the 2013 list.

The work programme is an ambitious one. It is hoped that it can be completed in full, but it is necessary to consider which items could be deferred if the need arises. Items listed in normal typeface are those required to be undertaken this year to maintain the Heath in the short term.

Any comments or queries should be made, in the first instance, to the Conservation Manager, 020 8347 0389.

Conservation work

Principles for ecological management

Much conservation work on the Heath aims to maintain the *status quo*. Without this work, large areas of the Heath would succeed to dense and spindly secondary woodland. Our current guiding ecological principles are:

- To maintain current grassland areas, particularly the scarcer patches of 'acid grassland' on the Heath's upper areas. This involves keeping back encroaching bramble, thistle and tree seedlings and dealing sensitively with the margins of adjacent woodland and hedges, which can be particularly valuable ecologically. Such work will be completed from autumn to early spring, to avoid disturbing breeding birds, or from late autumn where there may be grass snakes present. If necessary, low bramble can be cut again outside this season, ideally on a hot day when grass snakes will probably be in retreat underground or can move away from machinery, or it can be cut by hand.
- Where choices are possible, to aim for a mosaic of vegetation of different aspects and height. Such mosaics are essential for many invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles. This principle applies to both woodland (where it translates into a tiered canopy) and grassland.
- To be on the lookout for opportunities to develop undisturbed areas of dense scrub or woodland understorey, to provide additional (currently scarce) bird-nesting habitat.

- To try to eradicate or prevent the spread of invasive species, e.g. Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam, which would be detrimental to the Heath's wildlife value if allowed to increase their populations.
- The public enjoyment of nature in a safe environment is of paramount importance.
- Particular care is taken to attend to the needs of valued or special species and habitats, e.g. veteran trees and ancient hedge lines, kingfishers, and the rare *Atipus affinis*, a purse web spider.
- In non-formal parts of the Heath we seek to avoid planting purchased trees and shrubs, relying instead on natural regeneration. Where a more reliable or quicker result is required, only stock of local provenance will be used.

New work for 2013

This section identifies the major items of new work which we shall be undertaking in 2013. Numbers refer to locations shown on attached map.

Wildflower meadows

The 'Sparrows' wildflower meadow (number 32), above the paddling pool at Parliament Hill and measuring about a quarter of a hectare, was established in 2009 and has been a considerable success. Two further meadows were seeded in 2012 using funds provided by the City Bridge Trust. That on the Old Hockey Pitch (not shown on map) germinated sufficiently well for the fence to be removed this autumn. Unfortunately establishment at the Parliament Hill site (number 26) was very poor, probably due to slug damage on this relatively damp site during the extremely wet spring. The site was re-sown in early October, and it is envisaged that the fence will be removed by early summer 2013.

The 2012 programme listed the establishment of about 0.1 hectares of perennial wildflowers in an area of rough grassland below the Pergola (number 96). This has been held over to 2013. Two further areas are planned for seeding with perennial wildflowers in 2013, as agreed by the Management and Consultative Committees in 2011. These are in Tumulus Field (number 28) and are situated near the top north-west corner (a City Bridge Trust project) and 0.08ha near the top of cycle track (part of the RSPB Heritage Lottery Fund project). They together amount to 0.25 hectares.

Two small areas of annual wildflowers have also been established on the Heath, one by the northern-most entrance to Parliament Hill, near Duke's Field (number 41), and the other on the Heath Extension (number 88). These have been greatly admired by the public, and will be re-sown in spring 2013. The fence round the area on the Extension will be removed once the flowers have established, but it will not be possible to take down the fence round the one at Parliament Hill due to the number of dogs frequenting this part of the Heath. However, the fence will be made sinuous and the area will be extended slightly towards the road to make it look more natural.

Hedge work

About 100m of hedge will be laid in 2013, mostly on the Heath Extension. One exception is the eastern-most section of Hedge 1 at Parliament Hill, near the first pond (number 42). This old hedge is becoming a line of spindly trees and shrubs, and it is imperative that it is laid to preserve it as a hedge, and prevent it becoming a line of trees, as has happened to Hedges 2 and 3. The adjacent section was laid in 2011. A third of the blackthorn-dominated boundary between Pryor's Field (number 16) and the Mixed Pond will also be coppiced or laid, to regenerate it.

There is a large patch of scrub in Small Tumulus Field (number 31) adjacent to Hedge 3. Scrub between this and the Hedge will be cut back to prevent the area becoming part of the Hedge.

Invasive species

Ragwort is becoming more common on the Heath. It is a native plant of considerable wildlife value, and there is no legal requirement to control it. However, we do not wish it to dominate significant areas of grassland, as has happened on one of the Paddocks on Sandy Heath and on part of Small Tumulus Field. A report on options will be produced.

An experiment will be initiated to test methods of controlling creeping thistle. Different cutting and topping treatments will be tried on the southern slopes of Parliament Hill (number 34), where thistle is extensive, and the area will be monitored.

Work will continue to prevent unwanted spread of bramble. This will include reducing its extent in Pryor's Field (number 16), in line with the agreed Management Work Plan. The Heath and Hampstead Society has also requested that several cuts are made into the bramble round attractive trees in the more open sections of South Meadow (number 46), so that their trunks can be admired, and this has been inserted into the work programme.

New kingfisher bank

A new kingfisher bank is proposed on the northern bank of the Viaduct Pond (number 15). This will be partly hidden by trees and shrubs, and if successful will allow unrivalled views of the birds from the Viaduct.

New boundary posts

Where new boundary posts ('shark's teeth') are required due to decay of the existing ones, it is proposed to shear off the old ones at ground level but leave their bases in place, and insert the new ones adjacent to the old. This is to protect any stag or lesser stag beetle larvae, which are from time to time discovered in the rotting bases of old posts. Newts have also been found sheltering in the bases of rotten posts on the Extension.

Work required by the Dams Supervising Engineer

The Supervising Engineer will require further tree and scrub clearance to reduce flood risk. The City has a legal requirement to carry out this work. This is in advance of the proposed major project on the flood alleviation. Several ponds, including Highgate no 1, Hampstead no 1, Vale of Health and the Viaduct may be affected.

Vale of Health

It is proposed to coppice willow trees in the centre of the Upper Vale of Health (number 2). This will reduce shading to the edge of the acid grassland and improve the view over the Vale from entrance to the Heath from Whitestone Lane.

Removal of trees and scrub adjacent to the Tormentil Slopes (number 12) in 2012 has successfully increased the population of this iconic flower of acidic grassland. It is proposed to further improve the habitat here by removing a fallen willow tree, removing lower branches of trees at the bottom of the slope, and attempting to control bramble, willowherb and coarse grasses.

Flagstaff area

It is proposed to extend the gorse in this area (number 94), in line with the management plan. This will entail removing tree and scrub cover from and planting with gorse.

Leg of Mutton pond

It is proposed to cut back holly & coppice or pollard selective trees from the banks of the pond (number 105) on 4-year rotation, to allow light to reach marginal areas. Regrowth will be prevented in areas of good emergent vegetation. In addition, tree and scrub cover shading out marginal vegetation will be removed, particularly on the north side.

South Meadow

In the wooded section of South meadow (number 46) it is proposed to remove or high pollard a small number of ash trees and up to six young oaks near the boundary with Tumulus Field in order to improve the view from the Chubb Shelter. The trees will subsequently be maintained at this height.

Tumulus Field

Saplings and seedlings near the dead tree in Tumulus Field (number 28) will be removed, leaving the three best as options to be grown on as replacements.

Parliament Hill

Another of the shrub patches on Parliament Hill (number 37) will be layed, to retain the rotation and keep these areas as thick shrubs. The best one to lay has yet to be decided.

Compartment Management Work Plans

In 2012 management work plans covering Pryor's Field, Sandy and Flagstaff Gorse Patches and Sandy Heath Ponds were approved. The management items detailed in these have been added to the work programme. In 2013, in addition to those currently under way (Harry's Compartment (numbers 55 and 56) and Sandy Road Coupes (number 119)), detailed management work plans will be prepared for the Hampstead Branch of the Fleet Stream (number 10), Preacher's Hill (number 20) and Small Tumulus Field (number 31).

General maintenance

In addition to habitat management, this Plan also includes other works within the more formalised parts of the Heath. It has not been possible to include all the general maintenance and development tasks that take place, but elements of these can be summarised as:

- Amenity grassland areas are provided and maintained for recreation.
- Areas of formal gardens are maintained throughout the Heath, but principally at the Hill Garden, Golders Hill Park and formal recreational areas below Parliament Hill to Gospel Oak entrance and from Highgate Road to Nassington Road.
- Daily litter picking and Trilo collection from bins is carried out on a daily basis. Dedicated fishing tackle bins at each fishing pond are emptied separately by the Heath Rangers Team.
- Maintenance of sporting and recreational facilities for athletics, football, fishing, tennis and many more activities.
- Supervised swimming facilities at the Lido and at the three natural bathing ponds.
- Play facilities including maintenance of playgrounds, the Peggy Jay Centre and the Adventure Playground.
- Daily cleaning and inspection of public toilets.
- Liaison with the City's Sustainability Working Group to implement the City's sustainability policy wherever possible.
- Path maintenance Heath-wide as and when required: power harrow, add agreed aggregates and roll; and fill in potholes.
- Cleaning and maintenance of benches.
- Maintenance of fences.

Notes on the tables

The relevant Natural Landscape Chapter policies from the Hampstead Heath Management Plan 2007-2017 are given in the first column, or where appropriate references to the Part I Plan itself.

Areas of the Heath are listed in the second column. Where possible, location names relate to those used on the Hampstead Heath Map. Numbers in the third column relate to approximate locations of proposed work as illustrated on the accompanying map.

General items

Map ref.	Policy nos.	Location	Description of work
	47	Hedgerows Heath-wide	Report on survey of the Heath's hedgerows
	50	Hedgerows Heath-wide	Remove non-native tree seedlings
	27	Hedgerows Heath-wide	Carry out any necessary management to promote trees which could grow into veterans.
	Access	Pavement edge general	Lift all trees & shrubs to 2m & cut back to pavement edge as necessary
	36, 46	All water areas	Manage routine incidents, & assist Wildlife Rescue experts in dealing with distressed water fowl. Assist Constabulary in preventing & investigating dog attacks.
	47	All or several ponds	Reinstate dragonfly monitoring scheme
	36, 37, 47	All or several ponds	Use a boat to check for and remove line & tackle & other debris during the fishing season.
	36	All or several ponds	Organise & oversee regular work parties of members of the Hampstead Heath Angling Society to conduct more thorough clean-ups of the ponds & other fishing-related conservation work.
	36	All or several ponds	Work with the Hampstead Heath Angling Society to ensure fishing regulations are understood & adhered to & assist Constabulary in checking permits & rod licenses
	36	All or several ponds	Try to improve marginal vegetation
	36	All or several ponds	Check & clean pond inlets & outlets
	Access, 36	All or several ponds	Monitor ponds for general problems and algae scums, and ensure warning notices are promptly put up & taken down
	36	All or several ponds	Maintain water mixing equipment at the Boating Pond.
	36, 47	All or several ponds	Monitor water oxygen and phosphorus levels
	36, 50	All or several ponds	Alleviate problems such as duckweed blooms and oxygen crashes when required
	36	All or several ponds	Liaise with Hampstead Heath Angling Society
1	Safety issue	Several ponds, including Highgate no 1, Hampstead no 1, Vale of Health, Viaduct	Carry out tree and scrub clearance required by Supervising Engineer to reduce flood risk
	27	Heath-wide	Survey the Heath for opportunities to promote existing trees or plant new ones to become veterans of the future
	50	Heath-wide	Control Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed, California brome and, where necessary, creeping thistle, ragwort and bracken
	50	Heath-wide	Produce map with locations of Japanese knotweed sites
	50	Heath-wide	Redo 2006 map of Himalayan balsam sites.
	50	Heath-wide	Establish a policy for control but not elimination of ragwort where necessary

	50	Selected locations Heath-wide	Top thistles before they seed to try to control them
	47	Selected locations Heath-wide	Monitor selected features, including certain invasive species, Small Tumulus Field grassland, Vale of Health acid grassland, Tormentil slopes, Sparrows site, experimental cutting area, amphibians and reptiles
	3	Heath-wide	Planning, facilitating and overseeing the work of Heath Hands

East Heath, Hampstead Valley and Vale of Health

Map ref.	Policy nos.	Location	Description of work
2	16	Upper Vale of Health	Control bramble as necessary to prevent further spread
2	4	Upper Vale of Health	Reduce brambly clumps by steps opposite Vale Lodge
2	H6	Upper Vale of Health	Cut bramble etc. round Pound to maintain views to it
2	1	Upper Vale of Health	Cut Cotoneaster opposite The Gables every 1-2 years to maintain at about 1m70cm
2	14	Upper Vale of Health	Maintain patches of acid grassland by re-cutting areas created in 2012 by cutting 2 small scallops into the gorse at the lower edge
2	4	Upper Vale of Health	Mow majority of fertile grassland (including along paths) annually in September, removing arisings
2	4	Upper Vale of Health	Maintain uncut strip of grass by wood opposite The Gables by cutting once p.a. at the end of the season
2	13	Upper Vale of Health	Weed heather annually
2	4	Upper Vale of Health	Maintain rough vegetation at top of slope near Whitestone Pond by cutting annually after cow parsley has flowered
2	50	Upper Vale of Health	Pull Japanese knotweed then spray regrowth in late summer
2	50	Upper Vale of Health	Cut areas of hogweed in rough grassland 2-3 times p.a. to prevent spreading
2	16	Upper Vale of Health	Ensure trees & shrubs in bramble areas do not become more numerous
2	46	Upper Vale of Health	Skirt bramble carefully by hand on Atypus slopes, & remove tree & shrub seedlings. Cut back overhanging branches if they have extended from previous year.
2	50	Upper Vale of Health	Control invasive species, e.g. sycamore, southern woodland, adjoining Vale of Health Approach Road
2	50	Upper Vale of Health	Remove Himalayan balsam from area
2	6, H6	Upper Vale of Health	Coppice willow trees in the valley to increase acid grassland and improve view over the Vale from entrance to the Heath from Whitestone Lane

2	Access	Upper Vale of Health	Approach LB Camden to erect public footpath sign at end of Whitestone Lane
2	Access, H6	Upper Vale of Health	Install memorial bench at viewpoint over Vale on access path onto the Heath from Whitestone Lane
3	Safety issue	Vale Approach Road	Maintain sightlines at junction of East Heath Road
4	4	Springett's Wood	Mow grass 2-3 times avoiding bluebell leaves.
4	Access	Springett's Wood	Clear & mow path to new gate (see below)
4	Access	Springett's Wood	Clean & oil bench
4	36	Springett's Wood	Remove excessive marginal vegetation in pond
4	50	Springett's Wood	Remove & dispose of Crassula helmsii if present in pond
4	36	Springett's Wood	Enlarge pond
4	Access	Springett's Wood	Install second gate near western end of fence
4	16	Springett's Wood	Check tree guards & tree ties, & clear scrub around young trees
4	16	Springett's Wood	Remove bramble etc. from fallen live pear tree
5	29, 50	Row of trees/hedge on north/upper side of Hockey Field	Water newly planted shrubs as required
6	Access	The Elms/Radio Mast	Cut back bramble/scrub encroaching on access road
7	6	Vale of Health Valley	Keep central area open, but retaining elder bushes at south-west edge. Retain nettle/comfrey area on south-west side. Mow south-eastern side as required to control bramble with aim of recreating grassland.
8	16	Pines near the Ice House	Clear saplings round old pines and bring on new ones to replace them as they decline
9	16	Woodland south of Vale of Health Approach Road	Remove ivy from 20% of trees each year
10	25	Fleet Stream, Hampstead branch	Prepare a compartment management work plan
11	36	Fleet stream crossing to Viaduct slopes	Re-coppice/clear area previously opened up by crossing to Viaduct pond slopes
11	Access	Fleet stream crossing to Viaduct slopes	Improve crossing, e.g. with wood sleepers
12	13, 14	Tormentil Slopes	Cut bramble patch and rosebay willowherb repeatedly, starting before bird nesting season
12	13, 14	Tormentil Slopes	Cut areas of coarse grass repeatedly
12	14	Tormentil Slopes	Remove fallen willow branches by Tormentil slopes and raise crowns of trees along lower slopes
13	16	Path between Viaduct pond slopes and Hollow Beech	Scallop bramble edges
14	4	'Secret glade' W of path between Viaduct pond & Vale toilets	Continue reducing bramble & rosebay willowherb. Reduce birches and prune back overhanging oak branch on NW of clearing

15	42	Viaduct Pond	Construct new kingfisher bank on northern arm as part of RSPB project
15	16, 50	Viaduct Pond	Remove or coppice young sycamores in enclosures to west of pond
15	13	Viaduct Pond	Remove bramble and tree saplings from gorse. Plant more gorse if necessary
15	H6	Viaduct pond	Heavily cut back hedge by fence at south-west of pond to restore view of water from grassy slope.
15	H6, 16, 39	Viaduct Pond	20% (approx. 55m of pond edge) of alder, willow to be coppiced every year where they occur within 5m of pond edge. Also in 2013 cut ½ of alder obstructing view of pond from grassy slope to south-west of pond. Consider treating where marginal vegetation is present.
15	39, 50	Viaduct Pond	Remove sycamore and false acacia and recoppice tree regrowth between Bird Bridge and the Viaduct to maintain open area.
15	39	Viaduct Pond	Coppice willow, alder and silver birch along east bank.
15	13	Viaduct Pond	Maintain heather patch on slope by regular weeding
15	50	Viaduct Pond	Manage/remove/spray Japanese knotweed in enclosed area.
15	50	Viaduct Pond	Pull Himalayan balsam from marsh area
15	13	Viaduct Pond	Remove bramble and saplings from gorse area. Coppice any degrading gorse
15	36	Viaduct Pond	Remove 25% of elodea to maintain open water and reduce chance of oxygen depletion late in season. Review requirement for this with reference to upcoming dams work.
16	Access, 7	Pryor's Field	Mow fertile grassland in southern part of field
16	7	Pryor's Field	Cut or dig up patch of blackthorn suckers on western side of path along Mixed Pond side of field
16	46	Pryor's Field	Check area where common spotted orchid grows to ensure it is not being outcompeted; manage appropriately if so.
16	50	Pryor's Field	Clear sycamore saplings and laurel from woodland strip along north edge
16	50	Pryor's Field	Pull any Himalayan balsam in damp patch. Pull Himalayan balsam in central bramble patch only if whitethroat not breeding.
16	Access	Pryor's Field	Make sure main paths are clear of bramble and in good order, and ditch line running along the south of the field has been regularly cleared of leaf litter and debris.
16	16, 29	Pryor's Field	Blackthorn shrubs along Mixed Pond fence line: remove oak sapling, coppice blackthorn to within 2.5m of fence and lay remaining shrubs along fence line. Achieve this through cutting 3 tranches on a 9 year rotation
16	20	Pryor's Field	Cut 1/3rd of the scalloped eastern edge of Pryor's Field between the path and shrubs (excluding the area dominated by blackthorn) on a rotational basis
16	13	Pryor's Field	Maintain gorse along northern edge by clearing bramble as necessary
16	6	Pryor's Field	Reduce the extent of areas of bramble as specified on management plan, cutting by hand where ant hills are present.

16	50	Pryor's Field	Remove sycamore trees and saplings from large willow area on the southern edge near the fairground site
16	Access	Pryor's Field	Plant a band of shrubs such as hazel and hawthorn adjacent to the white poplars along the south-east boundary to shield views of the fairground site and improve the sense of enclosure
16	16	Pryor's Field	Coppice selected areas of shrubs on the Field side of the scrub band parallel to East Heath road, in order to thicken it up. Plant hazel or hawthorn where additional shrubs are required. This will improve the visual screen and the habitat for birds. Carry out in two tranches, one within 3 years, the other in perhaps 10 years' time, to be assessed
16	Access	Pryor's Field	Remove some bramble from north-west corner access path on both sides to make entrance to Pryors Field more attractive, with a better view of the field
16	Access	Pryor's Field	Remove small hawthorn growing too close to path to road from south-west corner of Field before it interferes with access
16	14	Pryor's Field	Plant more gorse in small area recently cleared
16	4	Pryor's Field	Cut a small area of bramble in north-east of field with aim of eradicating it
16	50	Pryor's Field	Pull or cut any purple Michaelmas daisy or white Michaelmas daisy not growing in main patch
16	47	Pryor's Field	Monitor extent of hogweed
16	50	Pryor's Field	Remove hogweed flowers before seeding and take off site in all areas except that specified on map in management plan
16	50	Pryor's Field	Cut round Michaelmas daisy and bramble patches to retain current extent
16	50	Pryor's Field	Control Japanese knotweed
16	6, 50	Pryor's Field	Control bramble and thistle as specified in management plan
17	Access	South End Green	Remove wooden fence alongside the plane trees to open up this entrance to the Heath
18	6	East Heath Road	Control spread of bramble, trees etc. onto road and grassland
18	6	East Heath Road	Regularly prune willows to maintain form and maintain safe driver visibility at car park entrance
19	6	Willow Road	Keep bramble back to current frontier, with elm suckers removed
20	25	Preacher's Hill	Prepare a compartment management work plan
20	20	Preacher's Hill	Continue habitat management of woodland copses by sensitive coppicing and dead hedging
20	50	Preacher's Hill	Cut area of California brome repeatedly to stop it flowering
21	1	Lime Avenue	Cut back epicormic growth at base of limes along avenue length
22	1	Vale of Health toilets area	Divert runoff along cycle path to limit erosion during heavy rain
23	38, 39	Hampstead No. 1 pond	Continue establishing marginal plants along east bank and cut back overhanging trees in the north/north-west edge to improve marginal vegetation.

24	Access	Hampstead No 2 Pond	Address tree root trip hazards on paths
24	36	Hampstead No 2 Pond	Replace bird island.
25	6	Mixed Pond meadow	Cut grassland regularly, to keep back bramble encroachment
25	H6	Mixed Pond meadow	Prune oaks to retain view of Christchurch steeple

Parliament Hill and Kenwood

Map ref.	Policy nos.	Location	Description of work
26	Access	Meadow near the Dump / back of Parliament Hill	Remove fence round wild flower area in summer.
27	6	Second Hedge	Cut back western half of bramble fringe by meadow at western end, south side, by half its width
28	32	Tumulus Field	Allow regeneration or transplant 3-4 oak saplings to former hedge line across Tumulus Field, in line with existing trees, & protect.
28	9	Tumulus Field	Create 2 new perennial wild flower meadows: 0.08ha near top of cycle track (RSPB HLF project) and 0.25ha near top north-west corner (CBT project). Fence temporarily. Remove fence late summer assuming adequate vegetation establishment
28	6	Tumulus field	Remove all but 3 selected tree saplings from around dead oak to allow for their regeneration.
29	32	Tumulus Field pond	Manage thistle if necessary July and August. Remove any not native aquatics
30	29	Third Hedge	Lay another very short section along southern side of hedge.
30	46	Third Hedge	Cut bramble on southern side of hedge to protect pignut
30	6	Third Hedge	Cut back current year's extension of bramble on southern side of hedge
31	25	Small Tumulus Field	Prepare a compartment management work plan
31	50	Small Tumulus Field	Cut area of hogweed near main path before seeding
31	50, Access	Small Tumulus Field	Cut central triangle, where ragwort has become dominant
31	6	Small Tumulus Field	Cut back bramble, western edge

31	6	Small Tumulus Field	Create a gap between large shrub patch and Third Hedge to prevent them merging
31	4, 16	Small Tumulus Field	Cut top half of rough area in upper, south, corner of field
32	4, 6, 7	Sparrows site	Manage Sparrows site as wildflower meadow: possibly cut in July to control thistle, otherwise cut in August
33	4, 6, 7	Southern side, Parliament Hill	Control remaining oak seedlings above Sparrows site
34	50	Southern side, Parliament Hill	Experiment with methods of controlling creeping thistle, for example by cutting several times during the growing season
35	6	Parliament Hill, near Dump	Mow close to fallen tree to prevent brambles growing up
36	9	Parliament Hill near bandstand	Sow perennial wild flowers following gas works, approx. 0.12ha, and fence temporarily. Remove fence late summer assuming adequate vegetation establishment.
37	16	Parliament Hill scrub thickets	Lay one scrub island
38	50	Nassington Road Entrance	Control patch of Japanese knotweed north of entrance
39	E1	Heath Life Education Centre	Manage wildlife garden for ecology & education. Lay or reduce hedges around pond.
40	Access	Secret Garden	Cut down bramble at the rear of the site
40	E1	Secret Garden	On-going maintenance work
41	9	Grassland west of Secret Garden entrance	Re-sow a strip of cornflower annuals along edge away from path. Make boundary more sinuous than in 2012.
42	30	First Hedge	Lay eastern section
43	Access	Highgate no 1 and Men's ponds	Maintain windows onto ponds at trig points
44	H6, 1, 39	Highgate no 1 pond	Maintain open view and prevent shading of marginals by coppicing willows
44	36	Highgate No.1 pond	Trial methods of reducing up to 25% of aquatic vegetation. Review this requirement with reference to any potential dams work.
45		Boating pond	Repair and maintain fence surrounding reedbeds
45	42, 45	Boating pond	Maintain floating reedbeds/islands and aerators
46	7	South Meadow	Mow all grassy glades except large areas north of stream to allow access & maintain grassland. Retain strip of long grass round edges.
46	7	South Meadow	North of stream, cut $\frac{1}{3}$ grassland (see management plan), leaving refuges
46	50	South Meadow	Remove oak seedlings from grassland
46	6	South Meadow	Cut areas of bramble cleared in September 2011 several times in order restore grassland. In grassy northern section this will entail cutting back to tree drip lines. All glades in woodland which are currently predominantly thick bramble should be left as such, apart from maintaining any footpaths through them. Retain a brambly fringe round woodland glades.
46	46	South Meadow	Release scaly male fern from brambles

46	50	South Meadow	Pull or cut small balsam in Kenwood SSSI strip before it flowers
46	50	South Meadow	Remove laurel & sycamore saplings & seedlings
46	Access	South Meadow	Strim bramble from paths if required to maintain access
46	Access	South Meadow	Try to reduce erosion on S side of wooden bridge over stream by placing brash & logs over area
46	Access	South Meadow	Maintain area in front of Chubb shelter
46	27	South Meadow	Pollard taller of 2 ash saplings in glade on S edge & remove smaller nearby ash, with long-term aim of creating veteran tree
46	6	South Meadow	Fell one small sycamore tree
46	6, 19	South Meadow	Cut back encroachment of grey sallow in N grassland; coppice remaining grey sallow
46	26	South Meadow	Carry out programme of arboricultural etc. work to maintain veteran trees
46	50	South Meadow	Remove invasive Michaelmas daisy in glade
46	Access	South Meadow	Reinstate sign in Chubb shelter
46	H6, access	South Meadow	Move benches to Becky; Charles & Ken; Max Sondheimer; Susi Holzer; & Herman Bap to edge of woodland or glade
46	H6	South Meadow	Remove or high pollard a small number of ash trees and up to 6 young oak trees near the boundary with Tumulus Field to improve the view from the Chubb Shelter and maintain trees at this height
46	Access	South Meadow	Cut a path through bramble below selected fine oak trees to allow access to see trunks
47	Access	Chubb shelter	Clear any scrub obscuring shelter as necessary
48	47	Stream culvert crossing by bird feeders	Cut round where cuckoo flower grows
49	Infrastructure maintenance	Kenwood nursery	Prune ivy, honeysuckle & buddleia growing along & on top of Hampstead Lane wall as necessary
50	19	Orchard	Continue to coppice area of hazel/ash on a 7 year rotation. Plant additional hazel to fill gaps. Section 2 in 2013. Do section 1 also if not completed in 2012.
50	16	Orchard	Coppice more ash/hazel from section 6 as more required in order to plant fruit trees
50	Access	Orchard	Cut hedges, cut back nettles and other vegetation from path.
50	16	Orchard	Clear around recently planted hazels
50	16	Orchard	Remove one large sycamore
50	16	Orchard	Raise crowns of selected beeches, especially near footpaths
50	16	Orchard	Plant 2-4 pear and 2-4 apple trees into section 6. London and Middlesex varieties
51	47, 50	New Cohen's Field ponds	Monitor for invasive species and remove as necessary
51	36	New Cohen's Field ponds	Dig out dry reedy pond with digger

51	46, 50, visual access	New Cohen's Field ponds	Stop shrubs & climbers growing higher than fence
51	36	New Cohen's Field ponds	Autumn or late winter cut to pond edges to maintain a grassy fringe.
52	6, 16	Upper (western) Cohen's Field	Cut back overgrown fringe of scrub/tall vegetation on eastern boundary, preserving suitable saplings which will help screen Athlone House
52	H6	Upper (western) Cohen's Field	Plant black poplars along eastern boundary of field where screening of Athlone House is required
52	6	Upper (western) Cohen's Field	Remove patch of field maple saplings at north-east corner of field, near entrance from The Orchard
52	Access	Upper (western) Cohen's Field	Maintain ditch to upper new pond to retain nearby crossing point
52	50	Upper (western) Cohen's Fields	Control Japanese knotweed re-growth above Goodison fountain hedge line
53	46	Lower (east) Cohen's Field	Remove sapling oaks from bramble fringe adjacent to Harry's hedgerow.
53	30	Lower (east) Cohen's Field	Thicken understory along Stock Pond path beside Lower Cohen's field by laying shrubs
53	6	Lower (east) Cohen's Field	Cut back bramble island developing under isolated trees to tree canopy & remove any tree & shrub regeneration within these bramble islands.
53	6	Lower (east) Cohen's Field	Grub out sapling trees from western fringe.
53	6	Lower (east) Cohen's Field	Cut back brambles which have encroached on eastern edge half way to streamline
54	46, 50	Harry's compartment - Model Farm	Eradicate knotweed and balsam. Also cut back fringe vegetation and saplings to maintain some open ground
55	7, 46	Harry's compartment: top meadow	Continue to manage as open grassland by cutting initially in spring and autumn.
56	7	Harry's compartment: Middle section	Maintain as rough meadow through autumn cut
57	7	Pipeline Triangle	Early summer cut to Triangle to reduce coarse grass vigour & encourage later-flowering knapweed & bedstraw
58	1 & others	Athlone House acquisition	Management according to detailed management plan
59	19	Cohen's Wood	Thin oaks selectively and use timber for projects around the Heath
60	16	Allotment fringe	Remove sycamores from area next to the lower allotment fence line to free up native oak
61	36	Stream line from Cohen's Wood to Ladies pond	Recoppice streamline area. Maintain dams & aquatic vegetation to improve water quality along catchments. Further clearance & dam creation may be necessary.
62	36	Stream line from Cohen's Wood to Ladies pond	Ensure corrugated stream cover is removed by the contractor.
63	1, 36 & others	Ecofield	On-going maintenance including planting, pruning, weeding & mowing
63	36	Ecofield	Restoration of pond
63	29	Ecofield	Cut Leylandii hedge
63	46	Ecofield	Plant sunflowers for bees

63	1	Ecofield	Develop management plan for area
63	9	Ecofield	Develop wildflower area
64	6	Ladies Pond meadow	Prune tips of isolated ash sapling back 1m to retain as bird perch but not let grow into tree
64	6	Ladies Pond meadow	Cut back periphery of isolated bramble patch 1m and whole of newly-developing bramble patch nearby further north
64	47, 50	Ladies Pond meadow	Monitor and possibly remove thistle & ragwort round damp area
64	6	Ladies Pond meadow	Cut back bramble patch developing along tarmac path and southern streamline during winter & repeat cut 3 times during growing season
64	4	Ladies Pond meadow	Reduce erosion caused by paths by cutting alternative desire lines adjacent to existing path in summer
65	47	Stock Pond meadow	Monitor extent of bracken and rush
65	47	Stock Pond meadow	Cut back bramble and bracken along Kenwood edge by 3m before mid-March, then cut re-growth 3-4 times
65	47	Stock Pond meadow	Cut patches of invading rush in cold weather to reduce vigour, leaving main patch beside path
65	6	Stock Pond meadow	Remove saplings growing near rushes and oval sedge
66	1	Ladies Pond enclosure	Carry out wildflower meadow improvements, cyclical coppicing and pollarding
66	Access, 39	Ladies pond enclosure	NW edge of pond: remove woody debris from water & coppice 15m section of bankside to encourage emergent vegetation & reduce debris encroachment into the swimming area
66	36	Ladies pond enclosure	Enhance wetland through creation of pools at the northern marsh area of pond
67	Access	Stock Pond	Lift trees on causeway side to improve viewing
67	36	Stock Pond	Continue to selectively thin & lift bankside trees to increase light levels & reduce leaf litter
67	46	Stock Pond	Clear round wild service tree saplings
67	36	Stock Pond	Cut back scrub encroaching onto northern marsh area. Cut back to dead hedge.
68	50	Bird Sanctuary	Control Himalayan balsam & giant hogweed
68	47	Bird Sanctuary	Weekly clean & fill bird feeder
68	Access	Bird Sanctuary	Trim small hedge in front of bird feeder to maintain visibility
68	39	Bird Sanctuary	Coppice 10% of willows & alder along eastern edge. Avoid working near kingfisher nesting bank
68	39	Bird Sanctuary	Regular coppice or removal of recent regrowth from large birch tree southwards on one-year rotation, to provide more light to water
68	36	Bird Sanctuary	Continue to expand wet meadow E of pond through selective coppicing of trees and scrub encroachment
68	H6	Bird Sanctuary	Coppice alder & dogwood S end of pond to maintain view points
68	19	Bird Sanctuary	Coppice hazel area E of pond on 7 year rotation. Remove competing elm scrub.

68	36	Bird Sanctuary	Create large pool/channel N side of pond to increase wetness & habitat for reedbed
68	39	Bird Sanctuary	Remove selected trees and shrubs near reedbed
68	36	Bird Sanctuary	Create new area of reedbed in section 4. Review this requirement with regards to any potential dams works.
68	36	Bird Sanctuary	Dig more pools in western meadow to prevent drying out
68	36	Bird Sanctuary	Continue to increase reedbed through selective felling of birch & willow along NW edge of pond
68	6	Bird Sanctuary	Cut eastern dry area to prevent scrub encroachment in autumn/early winter
68	36	Bird Sanctuary	Cut eastern wet meadow late winter
68	6	Bird Sanctuary	Cut north western rough meadow to prevent succession. Keep some rosebay willowherb and maintain a bramble fringe. Autumn cut followed by late spring and mid summer cut.
68	6	Bird Sanctuary	Cut rough meadow to the north of the reedbed late winter/early spring.
68	6	Bird Sanctuary	Late cut and early summer cut to grass area surrounding bird feeders to maintain as grassland
68	H6	Bird Sanctuary	Consider opening up viewing window again from corner nearest Millfield toilets
68	36	Bird Sanctuary	Remove birch trees which have fallen into water from western edge
68	Access	Bird Sanctuary	Open up 1-2 new sightlines from western section towards reeds.

Hampstead Heath Extension

Map ref.	Policy nos.	Location	Description of work
69	Access	Heath Extension, path edges	Rough cut throughout growing season
70	7	Heath Extension meadows	Late cut to meadows in general
70	6, 50	Heath Extension meadows	Removal of thistles, ragwort and seedling trees
70	20	Heath Extension meadows	Development of scalloped edges between mown and long grass
70	4, 20	Heath Extension meadows	Reduction in the amount of bramble & some thistle where prolific on edges
71	6	Meadow above changing rooms	Hand grub tree seedlings and saplings

71	6	Meadow above changing rooms	Cut back bramble 2m if expanding into meadow
71	9	Meadow above changing rooms	Cut back raspberry to try and control it. Prevent it spreading into the grassland.
72	6, 7	Ikin's Corner meadow	Clear scrub and bramble to protect broad-leaved helleborine, then maintain
72	6, 8	Ikin's Corner meadow	Cut grassland every 2 years - next cut 2013
72	6, 9	Ikin's Corner meadow	Cut bramble growing either side of hedge running down to ponds, including twice in growing season
73	7	New hockey pitch	Top 50% thistle along hedgerow on west of grassland
73	7	New hockey pitch	Maintain scalloped edge to bramble & close-mown grass
74	7	Meadow west of children's play area	Top 80% thistle along east hedge
75	6	Meadow Lower & Upper Wield Field (formerly Meadow 308)	Reduce peripheral bramble. Target encroachment along north edge & remove seedling tree encroachment into meadow.
76	Access	Meadow Lower & Upper Wield Field (formerly Meadow 308)	Maintain horse ride and reinstate signposting
77	50	Meadow at North Point (far NE corner of Extension)	Hand pull or cut 80% thistle
77	7	Meadow at North Point (far NE corner of Extension)	Late annual cut leaving refuges
77	20	Meadow at North Point (far NE corner of Extension)	Develop scalloped edge between mown & uncut grass
78	7, 47	Meadow at North Point (far NE corner of Extension)	Cut & monitor three trial grassland management strips, cutting e.g. April/May; July; July then late
79	29	Meadow at North Point (far NE corner of Extension)	Cut hawthorn hedge
80	4	Eastern edge of Extension	Maintain cut grass strip at base of privet hedges at rear of private gardens
81	4, 16, 18	Damp triangle	Allow to develop as rough grassland dotted with trees and shrubs, which will in future be coppiced
82	16	Copse of aspen saplings	Weed as required. Keep free of everything except aspens. Do not thin aspens.
83	20	Hedge between cricket & football pitches	Retain 4m bramble/grassland fringe to hedge, leaving some wide sections clear to give occasional access to stream
84	6	Hedge between horse ride & junior cricket field	Hand grub tree seedlings and saplings in uncut area & allow habitat to improve for meadow ants. Cut around hills

84	6	Hedge between horse ride & junior cricket field	Cut thistle areas thistles to east and west in July to stop spread into area of ant hills
85	46	Large cricket field	Maintain native black poplar saplings at lower north corner of field
85	46	Large cricket field	Plant two more native black poplar saplings at lower north corner of field
86	16, 18	Old wood banks to east of Extension ponds	Remove holly if supressing young trees & alder stools along wood bank edge
87	H6	Near damp patch	Maintain viewing windows on both sides to give more view of stream
88	9	Wild flower area west of ponds	Clear and re-sow with an annual meadow mix. Remove fence in late spring/summer once establishment adequate
89	30	Extension Hedges	Lay 50m of hedgerow to North of Cricket pitches alongside stream.
90	29, 30	Extension Hedges	Lay a further section to be decided
91	4, 7	Extension Ponds	Maintain damp meadow by late winter/ early spring cut & clear from W edge of ponds 2-7, Feb or early March. See management plan for location.
91	6, 16	Extension Ponds	Cut/coppice scrub & grub bramble for N, S & E edges of ponds 5&6 to maintain low scrub & wildflower area & prevent encroachment into pond. See management plan for location
91	6, 16	Extension Ponds	Cut/coppice scrub & grub bramble for N, S & E edges of pond 7 to maintain low scrub & wildflower area & prevent encroachment into pond. See management plan for location
91	H6	Extension Ponds	Maintain shrub islands by laying shrubs along N edge of pond 2 on 10 yr. cycle starting 2012 to increase bank protection & improve public viewing. Layed section may be pruned yearly if extra viewing is desired. It will however need a few years' growth before laying again. See management plan for location
91	16	Extension Ponds	Selectively coppice shrub islands on 10 yr. cycle to maintain thick vegetation. Coppice 1 island/yr. See management plan for location
91	29, 30	Extension Ponds	Lay or thicken short hedge section running from pond 1 east towards Wildwood road.
91	36	Extension Ponds	Maintain open water by removing 50%-75% emergent vegetation from ponds 2-6 approx. every 10 years. Spread arisings along ground to west of ponds 4-6. Maintain minimum 50% open water. Pond 3 2013, pond 4 2015, Pond 6 2018, ponds 2& 5 2020.
91	50	Extension Ponds	Remove New Zealand Pigmyweed, Crassula helmsii, from pond 5 and any other ponds where it is present
91	47	Extension Ponds	Monitor dragonflies
91	41	Extension Ponds	Remove silt from ponds 1 & 7 by dredging sediment. Engineers department

91	Access	Extension Ponds	Maintain views to ponds in small sections of east and west sides through summer coppicing of vegetation.
92	46	Path edge near to Extension No.1 pond	Ensure marsh woundwort population is protected and maintained.

West and Sandy Heaths and Judges Hollow

Map ref.	Policy nos.	Location	Description of work
93	2, 7	Flagstaff	Regular cut, but with midsummer window to allow flowering of wildflowers
93	H6	Flagstaff	Maintain view from benches towards Harrow
94	13,14	Flagstaff gorse patch	Gorse expansion in section 1. Remove tree and scrub cover from area. Grub out any bramble. Rake and remove as much top soil as possible. Plant up with potted gorse.
94	13, 14	Flagstaff gorse patch	Plant any open areas with gorse
94	13, 14	Flagstaff gorse patch	Follow up management of recently expanded area of gorse. Section 12- Revisit section to remove any returning scrub or bramble growth. Replant any failed gorse.
94	Access, safety	Flagstaff gorse patch	Coppice 1-2m strip of gorse from either side of main east-west track to maintain access and firebreak
95	13	Heath lands, next to Jack Straws car park	Late annual cut, leaving refuges
96	7, 9	Meadow below Pergola	Create wildflower meadow area
97	13, 14	Heather stand on slope by Hill garden middle gate (old section of Pergola)	Weed existing heather & grow on gorse seedlings for future planting. Increase area of heather/acid grassland by cutting back scrub
97	13, 50	Heather stand on slope by Hill garden middle gate (old section of Pergola)	Control bracken
98	46, 50	Area opposite Hill Garden main gate, adjacent to North End Way	Remove bramble & bracken encroaching on lily-of-the-valley & grassland
99	13	Inverforth Close/Hill Garden heather site	Weed and maintain heather
99	14	Inverforth Close/Hill Garden heather site	Increase area of heathland/acid grassland through selective tree and scrub removal from eastern edge

100	13	Drying Ground	Coppice or lift gorse growing over heather surrounding gorse patch. Weed & maintain heather on slopes
100	15	Drying Ground	Maintain open aspect under pines by bramble & scrub removal
100	14	Drying Ground	Continue to Increase area of Heathland/acid grassland through selective tree and scrub removal southern slopes towards hollow. Rake or scrape off heavy areas of leaf mulch.
101	7	Grass Square opposite Bull & Bush public house	Late cut to grass, removing cuttings. Cut away from road edge.
101	50	Grass Square opposite Bull & Bush public house	Control knotweed
102	29	Cuttings Path	Maintain hedge and prevent encroachment
102	7	Cuttings Path	Maintain grass bank with late annual cut
102	16, 19	Cuttings Path	Maintain sightlines and open aspect along length of path
103	Access	Sandy Road	Keep grass edge mown throughout growing season
104	50	Heather adjacent to main path leading through West Heath 50m in from Dump	Control bracken on slope adjacent to area
104	4, 6	Heather adj. main path leading through West Heath 50m in from Dump	Regular cuts of newly opened grass areas to prevent scrub encroachment
104	14	Heather adjacent to main path leading through West Heath 50m in from Dump	Increase area of Heathland/acid grassland through selective trees and scrub removal from lower slopes of existing site. Scrape off heavy leaf mulch to allow better establishment of grass. Regularly cut every 3 weeks in summer.
105	39, 40	Leg of Mutton Pond	Cut back holly & coppice/pollard selective trees from pond banks, on 4-year rotation to allow light to penetrate marginal areas. Prevent regrowth in areas of good emergent vegetation. 1 side a year
105	39	Leg of Mutton Pond	Removal of tree and scrub cover-shading out marginal vegetation, particularly on north side
105	39	Leg of Mutton Pond	Remove willow and birch scrub growing in reedbed. Cut back/grub out bramble encroachment from edges
106	50	Woodland rear of garden fences (area south-west of Leg of Mutton Pond)	Monitor & control Japanese knotweed
107	16	Main body of West Heath woodland	Develop & increase deadwood habitat piles. Place timber in bramble in shade.
107	16	Main body of West Heath woodland	Maintain open glades through removal of sycamores
108	Access	West Heath roadside	Keep road edge & bollards visible by close-mowing through season
109	7	West Heath	Late cut to lower part of meadow, leaving refuges

		meadow	
110	36, 44, 46	West Heath valley mire (West Heath bog)	Remove encroaching bramble from around dwarf willow & seepage points
110	46	West Heath valley mire (West Heath bog)	Cut Juncus & Glyceria before frosts to allow improved growth of sphagnum species
110	46	West Heath valley mire (West Heath bog)	Try to expand sphagnum through pool re-creation & translocation
110	46	West Heath valley mire (West Heath bog)	Maintain low herbage through regular cutting. Monitor for development of sphagnum. Possible involvement of PhD student
110	14	West Heath valley mire (West Heath bog)	Regular cut of area between West Heath meadow & bog through removal of scrub & selective lifting & thinning of trees. This will increase area of acid-loving flora such as tormentil.
110	36	West Heath valley mire (West Heath bog)	Increase extent of boggy area through scrub removal from northern seepage point.
111	36	Whitestone Pond	Maintain pond to specification outlined by City Surveyors. Cut reedbed in early spring
112	7, 50	Flat area at top of Judges Hollow, close to flagstaff	Early cut; top thistle within grassland area
113	Access	Lower corner West Heath road/ Branch Hill junction	Maintain sightlines for traffic on lower bend.
113	Access	Lower corner West Heath road/ Branch Hill junction	Cut back road edge from Branch Hill junction down to West Heath meadow if necessary road closure can be obtained.
114	7, 13	Judges Hollow small wooded area & steep slope	Late annual cut to half slope
114	50	Judges Hollow small wooded area & steep slope	An isolated & expanding area of thistle & nettle on edges of bank needs regular cut to prevent expansion into acid grassland
115	50	Judges Hollow lower section & gentle slope	Cut or pull patches of nettle among fine grasses
115	50	Judges Hollow lower section & gentle slope	Selective cut during May & July to reduce aggressive coarse grasses.
115	50	Judges Hollow lower section & gentle slope	Remove bramble & seedling trees encroaching on all open areas
116	50	Judges Hollow area of mature gorse	Remove large turkey oak and any seedling sycamores
117	7	Judges Hollow lime & chestnut avenue	Late cut of grass next to houses.
117	Access	Judges Hollow lime & chestnut avenue	Prune epicormic shoots on limes

118	Access	Path from Spaniards Green to Ikin's Corner	Cut back bramble encroachment
119	20	Sandy Road	Continue cutting 2 coupes/year along ride in 5-year rotation. Sections 1a +5a 2013. See map.
119	25	Sandy Road	Prepare compartment management work plan
119	20	Sandy Road	Scallop path edge during July
120	H1	Cooling Track	Monitor & remove tree seedlings along ditch as necessary
120	7	Cooling Track	Glade opposite Extension top locking bar: late cut at end of season
120	43	Cooling Track	Clear ditch culvert as necessary
121	50	Old Sand Pit, behind Heath House	Remove seedling sycamores
121	Access	Old Sand Pit, behind Heath House	Shape low epicormic growth from lime trees by bench
122	7, 50	Woodland next path & horse chestnut avenue, south of end of North End	Late cut to the Lily of the Valley area to remove bramble & ivy encroachment
122	16	Woodland next path & horse chestnut avenue, south of end of North End	Develop deadwood habitat
123	39	Sandy Heath pond 3	Selectively coppice or remove tree/gorse and scrub cover from the edge of No.3 pond to prevent shading and establishment of large trees. Attempt to establish soft rush in pond margins.
124	4, 14	All Sandy Heath ponds	Remove bramble developing in damp shaded areas & acid grassland
124	36	All Sandy Heath ponds	Remove selected emergent vegetation + sediment to prevent succession & maintain area of open water. Pond 1 in 2013
124	14	All Sandy Heath ponds	Regular cut of grass adjacent pond 4 to establish & maintain acid grassland
125	36	Main Sandy pond	Boom and net duckweed from pond No.2 surface when covering greater than 25% of pond surface
125	39	Main Sandy pond	Remove trees from centre of large Iris bed in pond No.2 to prevent shading
125	38	Main Sandy pond	Plant emergent vegetation into suitable less shaded areas on the pond margins.
126	14	Sandy Heath grassland	Review removing turkey oaks from selected areas to increase the extent of acid grassland.
127	13, 14	Pitt's Garden	Weed & maintain heather plantings. Remove pine tree seedlings & saplings. Remove willow saplings.
127	16	Pitt's Garden	Remove three pine tree to provide room for the rest to mature
127	13	Pitt's Garden	Keep bramble controlled in areas of gorse
127	Access	Pitt's Garden	Remove wooden fence surrounding the arch
127	H1	Pitt's Garden	Keep listed wall adjacent to North End clear of vegetation.

127	H1, 50	Pitt's Garden	Remove some bramble & buddleia & coppice gorse along top of crib wall bank
127	4	Pitt's Garden	Maintain margins as grassland & prevent scrub encroachment on path by fence adjoining North End Way
127	14	Pitt's Garden	Increase area of potential heathland through removal of selected shrubs and trees from northern section.
128	6	Paddock	Grub tree seedlings & bramble as necessary
128	50	Paddock	Reduce thistles
128	7	Paddock	Early spring cut to 80% of meadow, leaving refuges, & repeat cut in summer, to encourage scabious
128	46	Paddock	Plant scabious plugs around Paddock to encourage spread
129	50	Large (Summer) Meadow	Control majority of Canadian golden rod, Russian comfrey & Michaelmas daisy as required
129	50	Large (Summer) Meadow	Remove non-native tree seedling in peripheral areas of meadow
129	7	Large (Summer) Meadow	Early spring cut (around March) to allow invertebrates to overwinter in dead stems
129	6	Large (Summer) Meadow	Cut back bramble edge on south side by 3m
129	6	Large (Summer) Meadow	Continue to remove saplings coming up through gorse
130	13, 14, 15	Gorse patch	Gorse expansion in section 1. Remove tree and scrub cover from area. Grub out any bramble. Rake and remove as much top soil as possible. Plant up with potted gorse.
130	13	Gorse patch	Follow up management of recently expanded area of gorse. Section 12- Revisit section to remove any returning scrub or bramble growth. Replant any failed gorse.
130	13	Gorse patch	Coppice 1-2m strip of gorse from either side of main east-west track.
130	13, 14, 50	Gorse patch	Control bracken
131	16, 22	Woodland adjacent Spaniard's Road	Develop deadwood habitat
131	16, 23	Woodland adjacent Spaniard's Road	Remove cycle jumps
132	H6	North End Green: corner North End & North End Avenue	Cut bramble beneath trees to open view of Green from North End Avenue.
132	Access	North End Green: corner North End & North End Avenue	Put in new boundary posts adjacent to old ones, leaving the bases of the former rotten posts in the ground for stag beetle larvae and prevent disturbance of newts
133	1	Woodland edge north end Bridle Cottage entrance	Maintain open aspect along Bridle Cottage wall
134	4	Hill above Wylde's Farm	Maintain 5m grass verge by cutting twice p.a.
134	H6	Hill above Wylde's Farm	Remove small holly regrowth & saplings

134	H6	Hill above Wylde Farm	Cut low bramble on bank in summer
135	Access	Wylde Farm access road	Remove any garden rubbish
135	Access	Wylde farm access road	Strim round bollards throughout season
135	Access	Wylde farm access road	Selectively thin trees growing into road
136	16	Woodland near Wylde Farm	Manage area with pines to encourage these by removing senescent larches and nearby Turkey oaks and planting new Scots pines.

Arboricultural Work Program

Veteran Trees

Policy no.	Location	Details of proposed work
NL13	Various locations within the 9 Veteran Tree Survey areas	<p>Management to tranche of next 50 nominated trees from the Veteran Tree Survey.</p> <p>Proposed works to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Haloing adjacent tree canopies Felling selective encroaching trees Retrenchment pruning Dead hedging Mulching Moving paths/targets

Wild service trees

Policy no	Location	Map ref	Details of proposed work
NL4	Various Locations across the Heath	Various	<p>Continue to record new found specimens</p> <p>Works to nominated trees</p> <p>Proposed works to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Haloing adjacent tree canopies Felling selective encroaching trees Retrenchment pruning Dead hedging Mulching Moving paths/targets Planting saplings in identified locations

Unprogrammed and routine tasks

Policy no.	Location	Details of proposed work
NL14	Various Locations across the Heath & Queens Park	<p>Emergency works, to include making safe windblown and recently identified (Arbortrack) unstable and/or decayed trees</p> <p>Felling dead elm regeneration</p> <p>Retrieval of kites and other foreign objects</p> <p>Crown lifting for public/transport access</p> <p>Remedial tree works, to include reduction, felling, pollarding, coppicing & airspading</p> <p>These works produced from Arbortrack survey.</p>
	All sites within NLOS	<p>Pest and disease monitoring: Monitor for disease and pests within tree populations including AOD (Acute Oak Decline) Oak Processionary Moth & Massaria</p>

Additional Works

Policy no.	Location	Details of proposed work
HY1	Burnham Beeches	Veteran beech pollard restoration
	Haringey	Working Party – assisting neighbouring LA to carry out woodland conservation
	City Bridge Trust	Assisting with various arboricultural operations when required on CBT projects
	Hampstead Heath	Flood Management: assisting and advising on arboricultural operations on dam structures on Highgate and Hampstead chains

Formal Areas Parliament Hill Fields

Policy nos.	Area	Description
S1,2,7	Cricket Square and Outfield	Maintain cricket table and outfield which will include mowing, preparation and re-instatement of individual wickets, rolling, fertilising and irrigation. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods. Inspect and maintain cricket practice nets.
S1,2,7	Cricket Square and Outfield	End of season renovation of cricket table to include deep scarification, solid tine aeration, top-dressing with surrey loam, over seeding with dwarf perennial rye grass, disease and weed control. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
S1,2,7	Cricket Enclosure	Pruning management of blackthorn, hawthorn, rosa, buckthorn plantings along East and Southern boundary of cricket enclosure.
S1,2,7	Bowling Green	Liaise with licensee of the Bowling Green and offer advice and support throughout the year.
S1,2,7	Grass Sports areas: 2 soccer pitches / 1 rugby training grid / 6 schools training grids / 1 soft ball area / 3 rounder areas / 4 mini soccer training grids	Maintain grass sports pitches and training grids which will include marking out, setting out goal posts, mowing; preparation and re-instatement of individual areas and fertilising. Routine checking of goal post will be completed by daily inspections. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods. Maintain and foster close working relationships with neighbouring schools and encouraging usage of facilities.
S1,2,7,8	Grass Sports Areas: 2 soccer pitches / 2 rugby training grids / 6 schools training grids / 1 soft ball area / 3 rounder areas / 4 mini soccer training grids	Renovation of grass pitches and grids to include aeration to overcome surface compaction, top-dressing and over-seeding centre circle and goal month areas. Repairing and checking goal posts, nets and sockets. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
S1,2,7,8	Athletics Track	Daily inspection of track (including hammer cage / pole vault, long jump and javelin run-ups / high jump fan / shot putt landing area / throwing areas etc. to check for debris and wear and tear. Check sand depth and quality and replace as necessary. Keep abreast with current UKA regulation changes. Routine checking of hurdles / landing mats / hammer wires / throwing equipment / pole fault and high jump stands and bars / judges stand / starting blocks / flags / relay batons. Replacement and repair as necessary. Setting out of track for meetings and training events (including schools). Ensuring the changing facilities including toilets are in a clean and tidy state on a daily basis. Maintain grass centre area and routinely replace divots
S1,2,7	Petanque Area	Daily checking of Petanque area to include debris removal, raking and replacement of topdressing material as necessary. Continual monitoring of weed and moss growth. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
S1,2,7	Tennis Courts	Maintain ten hard tennis courts to include daily inspections for debris, vegetation, wear and tear. Daily checking of nets and fencing. Management of bookings from 1 April to 31 September and also weekend bookings from 01 October to 31

Policy nos.	Area	Description
		March. Monitor open access during the winter season. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods for the control of moss and algae.
P1	Informal Recreational Grass Areas (Dukes Field / Stone of Free Speech / Bandstand / Sports Areas Surrounds / Children's Enclosure).	Grass cutting of individual grass recreational areas a minimum once every seven days. Daily collection of litter, debris and dog faeces. During Spring & Summers term times place temporary bins on Dukes Filed & Stone for Free Speech.
NL3	Natural Grassland Areas in Parliament Hill	Management of existing recently developed natural grass areas (front of Lido) to encourage flora and fauna and extend the natural aspects of the Heath into this municipal area.
NL3	Natural Grassland Areas in Parliament Hill	Yearly cut and collection of designated areas on a three yearly cycle. All cut grass to be removed.
D1	Recently planted Specimen Trees – Dukes Field / Stone of Free Speech	Maintain specimen trees to include irrigation, pruning for vigour, form, safety, weed and disease control, checking of tree stakes. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
B4	Public Toilets	Ensure daily cleaning of toilets and regular checks. Replenish toilet rolls and soap on an hourly basis during peak times. Arrange for one deep clean in March/April.
D1	Mixed Boarders (Bowling Green)	Maintain boarders to include mulching, routine, formative and regenerative pruning. Non-chemical weed and disease control via hoeing and removal or pruning out dead plants or branches. Hand irrigation if necessary. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
NL6	Hedge Rows at Highgate Road, Tennis Courts, Petanque and Bowling Green	Cut hawthorn hedges (outside of bird nesting season) to an appropriate height to encourage vigour, density and maintain views.
P3 B8	Memorial Benches / Litter bins / Tennis Hut Shelter / Tennis Huts	Repair and re-stain or re-paint benches and remove graffiti and bird droppings.
B8	Footpaths, Signage, Fences	Footpaths, signage, fences will be checked on a daily basis and repairs carried out as and when required. Grass edging will be carried out during the growing season and wooded edging boards repaired as necessary.
P1	Routine patrolling of Parliament Hill Area	Visual present will be maintained by Keeping staff during opening hours. Staff will interface with the public and hand out information answer enquires and monitor bye-laws as necessary. Assist the Hampstead Heath Constabulary with emergency situation, for example lost children.
	Christmas Tree	Erection and, later, dismantling of Christmas Tree by main Highgate Road Entrance.
A8	Heath Hands Volunteers	Provide a programme for Heath Hand volunteers for the horticulture projects and works undertaken at the Parliament Hill area.
P8	Filming	Manage filming events on the Heath to ensure that there is no long-term damage to the landscape and minimise disruption to local communities.
B14	Parliament Hill Projects Ball Path Gateway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lodge Garden, Highgate Road – removal of ornamental planting along fence line and replace with a mixed native

Policy nos.	Area	Description
NL6	Football Changing Rooms	<p>hedge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lodge Garden, Highgate Road – replenish crocus bulbs to front lawn Ball Path – remove metal fence line and non- native shrub plantings. Mature trees will be left insitu. Screen off Parliament Hill School and establish nature grass vegetation. Inform Parliament Hill School and customers of intended works. Re-plant shrub beds at football changing room after RBPB works are complete – plantings to be native species.
NL6	Bowling Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bowling Green Hawthorn Hedge – reduce height of hedge by .8m to improve hedge vigour; air circulation around green and reduce the events of persons working at height
NL6	Highgate Road Boundary Hawthorn Hedge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review long term management of boundary hedge on Highgate Road
NL6	Tennis Courts 5-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant natural hedge whips around tennis court. Root barrier to be installed to protect the courts.

Golders Hill Park, Hill Garden and the Pergola (Includes sports areas on the Heath Extension and Keats House)

Policy nos.	Area	Description
S1,2,7	Heath Extension 2 Cricket Squares and Outfield	<p>Maintain cricket table and outfield which will include mowing; preparation and re-instatement of individual wickets, rolling, fertilising and irrigation. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods. Inspect and maintain 2 cricket practice nets.</p>
S1,2,7	Heath Extension 2 Cricket Squares and Outfield	<p>End of season renovation of cricket table to include deep scarification, solid tine aeration, top-dressing with surrey loam, over seeding with dwarf perennial rye grass, disease and weed control. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.</p> <p>Erect post and chain fence during off season.</p>
S1,2,7	Heath Extension Grass Sports Areas: 3 football pitches / 2 rugby pitches / Hockey Pitch / 1 school running track	<p>Maintain grass sports areas which will include marking and setting out goal posts, mowing; preparation and re-instatement of individual areas and fertilising. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.</p> <p>Maintain and foster close working relationships with sports and leisure administration officer, and encourage usage of the facilities with sports clubs and neighbouring schools.</p> <p>One rugby pitch has been temporary re-located during National Grid works for one season</p>

Policy nos.	Area	Description
S1,2,7	Heath Extension Grass Sports Areas: 3 football pitches / 2 rugby pitches / Hockey Pitch / 1 school running track	Renovation of grass pitches to include aeration to overcome surface compaction, top-dressing and over-seeding centre circle and goal mouth areas. Repairing and checking goal posts, nets and sockets.
S1,2,7	Heath Extension 6 Changing Rooms 2 Officials Rooms	Provide clean, well-maintained facilities to schools and sports clubs all year round. Facilities to be cleaned on a daily basis.
S1,2,7	Heath Extension Informal Recreational Grass	Grass cutting of informal recreational areas a minimum once every seven days. Daily collection of litter, debris and dog faeces.
B4	Public Toilets - Golders Hill Park x 2 / Heath Extension x 1	Ensure daily cleaning of toilets and regular checks. Replenish toilet rolls and soap on an hourly basis during peak times. Arrange for one deep clean in March/April.
A1	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension / Pergola Routine patrolling	Visual presence will be maintained by keeping and gardening staff during opening hours. Staff will interface with the public and hand out information, answer enquires and monitor bye-laws as necessary. Assist the Hampstead Heath Constabulary with emergency situation, for example lost children.
S1,2,7	Golders Hill Park 2 Grass Tennis Courts 2 Croquet Squares 1 Putting Green 2 Golf Practice Nets	Maintain grass tennis courts and croquet squares to include twice weekly mowing, monthly verti-cutting, aeration, fertilising, disease, weed, moss control. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods. Irrigation, divot repairs and marking out and rotation of individual courts.
S1,2,7	Golders Hill Park 2 Grass Tennis Courts 1 Croquet Square 1 Putting Green 2 Golf Practice Nets	End of season renovation of grass tennis courts, putting green and croquet lawns to include scarification, aeration, topdressing, over seeding with bent & fescues mix. Disease, weed and moss control. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods, for example, daily dew removal to discourage disease outbreaks and dispersal of worm casts.
S1,2,7	Golders Hill Park 4 Hard Tennis Courts	Maintain four hard tennis courts to include daily inspections for debris, vegetation, wear and tear. Daily checking of nets and fencing. Taking of tennis booking from 1 April to 31 September and also weekend bookings from 01 October to 31 March. Monitor open access during the winter season. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods for control of moss and algae.
NL3	Golders Hill Park Natural Grassland Areas / Orchard Meadow / Dell Area / Swan Pond	Management of natural grass areas to encourage flora and fauna. Pathways cut through on a weekly basis and areas are "framed".
NL3	Golders Hill Park Natural Grassland Areas Orchard Meadow / Dell Area	Late September annual cut and collection - all grass cuttings to be re-cycled. Followed by two general maintenance cuts before end of November.
D1	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension / Hill Garden, Pergola / Kitchen Garden / Keats House: Specimen Tree Management	Maintain specimen trees to include irrigation, pruning for vigour, form, safety, pest, weed and disease control, checking of tree stakes. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
D1	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension / Hill Garden, Pergola, Kitchen Garden /	Maintain shrub beds to include mulching, routine, formative and regenerative pruning. Non-chemical weed and disease control via hoeing and removal or pruning out dead plants or

Policy nos.	Area	Description
	Keats House Shrub Bed Management	branches. Hand irrigation if necessary. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
NL6	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension / Hill Garden, Pergola, Kitchen Garden / Keats House Hedge Management	Cut hedges to an appropriate height to encourage vigour, density and maintain views. Hedges include Privet, Hornbeam, Yew, Buxus, Holly, Copper Beech, and Lonicera. Priority will always be given to the bird nesting season.
D1	Golders Hill Park Hanging Baskets by Café / Planting Tubs / Spot planting in boarders	Install hanging baskets and other seasonal planting areas maintenance to include weed & disease control, dead-heading, fertilising and daily irrigation. Priority will be given to non-chemical control methods.
E1,3 P1	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension Children's Play Areas	Children's play areas will be formally checked by qualified playground inspectors on a weekly basis. Daily visual inspections will be carried out by keeping staff. Annual external playground inspections will be carried out by ROSPA.
E1,3 P1, 10	Golders Hill Park Zoo	Recommendations from the London Borough of Barnet's licensing authority will be adhered to. Links will be pro-actively maintained through BIAZA (British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums) and via the Zoo ethics committee which meets twice per year.
E1,3 P1, 10	Golders Hill Park Zoo	Maintain all livestock and enclosures within the zoo to the animal welfare and husbandry standards as required by the Zoo license. Monitor and maintain all enclosures and housing infrastructure within the zoo, to ensure safety and continued suitability, reporting any defects that may require attention. Liaise regularly with the zoo veterinarian to ensure the health of all the livestock within the zoo. Prepare for and attend bi-annual zoo ethics meetings. Ensure grass levels and general foliage within the animal enclosures is kept at a presentable level throughout the year. Areas left uncut to encourage natural animal behaviour e.g. foraging Promote the zoo to members of the public through advertised feeds, talks, donkey walks and animal adoption scheme. Continue to work towards the approved collection plan for the zoo. This includes the sourcing of new animals for the zoo as well as research into new enclosures and livestock
E1,3 P1	Golders Hill Park Butterfly House	Full access to the Butterfly House will be available to the public during opening hours. Friday 31 March 2013 to Sunday 8 September 2013, 2-4pm every day. Saturday 14 September 2013 to Sunday 27 October 2012, 2-4pm, Saturday and Sunday only. 28 October 2013 to April 2014 - CLOSED FOR WINTER PERIOD. The facility will be maintained in accordance with good husbandry practice.
B8	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension / Pergola Memorial Benches / Gazebo / Litter bins	Repair and re-stain benches and remove graffiti and bird droppings as and when required. Annual clean and re-painting of gazebo.

Policy nos.	Area	Description
P3	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension / Hill Garden, Pergola, Kitchen Garden Litter	All areas to be litter picked daily. Litter bins to be emptied daily.
B8	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension / Hill Garden, Pergola, Kitchen Garden / Keats House Footpaths, Signage, Fences	Footpaths, signage, fences will be checked on a daily basis and repairs carried out as and when required. Wood edging boards repaired as necessary. Wooden edging to be replaced with steel metal edging over a 20 year period.
	Golders Hill Park Christmas Tree	Erection and, later, dismantling of Christmas tree by main North End Road entrance.
A8	Golders Hill Park / Hill Garden, Pergola, Kitchen Garden / Keats House/Butterfly House Heath Hands Volunteers	Provide a programme for Heath Hand volunteers for the horticulture projects and works undertaken at the various locations across the Heath.
HY1 NL5	Golders Hill Park / Heath Extension Ditch Management	Maintain ditches and water courses. Grid clearance to be carried out during inclement weather. All ditches to be maintained as specified in Corporation of London hydrology policy.
A1 D3	Children's Entertainment / Bandstand Concerts / Open House / Open Squares	Overseeing of children's education / interpretation / Open House & Square events, bandstand concerts etc.
HY1	Golders Hill Park Ponds and Streams	Quarterly maintenance of pond pumps and filters. Daily inspection of overflows and safety equipment.
	Golders Hill Park - Projects	
D1	Sustainable Planting	Design, plant and maintain with permanent and semi-permanent plants in flower beds and herbaceous borders in the Walled Garden over a 2 year period.
P1, 10	Zoo	Continual addition to the stock in accordance with the animal collection plan. Stag introduction is a priority
P1	Children's Play Area	Install second shading canopy and research new additional play equipment.
D1	Hill Garden	Re-plant shrub borders following phase five wall repairs.
D1	Keats House	Additional planting to Keats House – subject to monies being available.
NL4, NL9	Create a stump	Following research works at Highgrove House, install a stump in wooded walk area, next to Lily Pond.
NL5	Lily Pond	Plant native Water-Lily (Nuphar lutea and Nymphaea alba) and monitor their establishment.
NL11	Fossil Fuel Day	Manage the operation of Golders Hill Park 2 days per year where no fossil fuel is to be used (excluding heating).
NL6	Boundary Fence in Orchard	Plant native mixed hedge with whips.

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Hampstead Heath Annual Work Programme 2013

Numbers in bold refer to areas where more than one work item is listed, or where a single item refers to a wide area (such as the Extension ponds)

Numbers not in bold indicate the approximate location of a single work item

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Agenda Item 9

Committee(s):	Date(s):	Item no.
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	6 th November 2012	
Subject: Fees and Charges Report	Public	
Report of: Superintendent of Hampstead Heath	For Discussion	
<u>Summary</u>		
<p>This report sets out the proposed fees and charges for a range of facilities and services provided at Hampstead Heath for 2013/14.</p>		
Recommendations		
<p>That the views of the Committee be received on the proposed fees and charges for 2013/14.</p>		

Main Report

Introduction

1. Charges for the wide range of recreation and sporting facilities that are provided in all the City's open spaces are traditionally reviewed annually. The current charges for 2012/13 for Hampstead Heath were approved by the Management Committee in November 2011.

Current Position

2. Weather conditions during the summer were very unfavourable, June and July were extremely wet months. Whilst bookings remained consistent across the various sport and recreation activities, a significant number of cancellations were made. As an example at Parliament Hill cricket square games played were 60% down on the previous year. This situation is reflected in other activities and has consequently had a detrimental impact on income generation for some activities.
3. Interestingly, whether the build up and success of the Olympics/ Paralympics or the desire to make the most of the sun when it appeared, but the Lido takings are actually significantly up on the £95,200 taken during the same period in 2011. The few hot days presented very significant crowds which presented its own challenges in being able to effectively resource this facility and the bathing ponds.
4. For the period April – September 2012 inclusive the following income levels have been achieved across sports and recreation facilities:

Facility	Income Budget (£)	Income for period April – September 2012 (exc. VAT) (£)
Athletics Track	15,000	14,200
Cricket	5,000	7,600
Lido	125,000	142,300
Swimming/Bathing Ponds	80,000	34,800
Tennis	37,000	56,300
TOTAL	262,000	255,200

NB. Invoices for rugby and football have been raised but income is recorded for the third and fourth quarter periods.

Proposed Charges for 2013/14

5. Back in 2005 the City introduced revised charges based on a detailed benchmarking survey with other local providers. Whilst fees and charges have been surveyed against other providers since this period, reservations were expressed last year by the Sports Advisory Forum that adopting a pricing policy based solely on benchmarks is too simplistic an approach.
6. Concern was rightly expressed that benchmarking can be a crude measure in setting appropriate fees and charges, lacking sophistication in understanding current usage patterns, quality of service provision and whether prices are actually encouraging or deterring users, particularly from hard to reach groups.
7. Over the past six months the Sports Advisory Forum has undertaken considerable work in starting to analyse some of these complexities. The initial work has focused on developing processes to understand usage patterns for some of the key activities.
8. The Forum is starting to prepare a set of overriding objectives on aspirations for sport and recreation provision across the Heath, supplemented by some underpinning principles to help develop a more sophisticated and flexible charging regime. These objectives and principles will come before this Committee during 2013 for discussion.
9. Another factor that has been considered in developing this year's fees and charges is the success of the Olympics/Paralympics and the noticeable upsurge in interest in sports participation. The Highgate Harriers had an additional 30 members wanting to join their Club after the conclusion of the Games.
10. With growing concern about obesity and healthy lifestyles across all ages, the open spaces have an important role to play in offering opportunities for people to improve their well-being. This has very much been the focus of our Green to Gold campaign and it is important that we endeavour to build

upon the success of this campaign over the next 12 months as part of our legacy activities.

11. In line with discussions at the Hampstead Heath Management Committee the fees and charges for 2012/13 were rounded where appropriate to the nearest 50pence. It has been custom to increase figures by Retail Price Index which is currently fluctuating at around 3%. A view has therefore been taken to retain the lower fees and charges at their current rates for a further 12 months to avoid the problems of having to manage increases of 5p or 10p and to encourage participation in sport following the success of the Olympic/Paralympic Games.
12. The proposed increases in charges for sports and recreational facilities during 2013/14 are set out in Appendix A.

Financial Implications

13. Further works are proposed during 2013 to develop a more sophisticated approach to pricing sports and recreational facilities.

Consultation

14. At the Sports Advisory Forum there was agreement with the proposed approach to adoption of fees and charges for 2013/14 as set out in this report. Concerns were however raised again about the appropriateness of the sports booking systems and whether these tools were sophisticated enough in terms of capturing essential management information to make better informed decisions. A sports booking system for all the City's Open Spaces is currently in the initial stages of development.

Strategic Implications

15. The current management policy plan states at policy 78 that: "recreational facilities will be managed in a way which recognises the right and ability of everyone to use and enjoy the Heath ...". The proposals set out in this report contain a range of charges with concessionary rates which have been assessed against other local providers.
16. The provision of a wide range of recreational and sporting facilities meets the current Business Plan strategic aim of 'promoting opportunities to value and enjoy the outdoors for recreation, learning and healthy living'. Access for all to facilities that help improve fitness and promote healthy lifestyles particularly obesity in young people is an important objective.

Conclusion

17. The proposed sports and recreation fees and charges in this report has been determined by a number of factors, not least the need to harness the current popularity of sports participation arising out of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The development of overriding objectives and principles for sports and recreation provision has commenced.

Contact:

Simon Lee | simon.lee@cityoflondon.gov.uk | 020 7332 3322

APPENDIX 1 – HAMPSTEAD HEATH, HIGHGATE WOOD AND QUEEN’S PARK

The proposed charges operate from 1 April 2012, all charges include VAT at 20%

Facility	Charges approved 1/4/11 (£)	Charges approved 1/4/12 (£)	Proposed Charges from 1/4/13 (£)
ATHLETICS TRACK			
● Meetings Monday - Friday, (except bank holidays)	81.50	85.00	87.50
● Meetings Peak Times	115.50	120.00	123.50
● Schools Use - standard session charge	48.00	50.00	51.50
● Corporate events	270.00	280.00	290.00
● Individual Ticket - Adults	3.00	3.00	3.00
● Individual ticket - Concessionary Rate	1.50	1.50	1.50
● Season Ticket - Adults	55.00	58.00	60.00
● Season Ticket - Concessionary Rate	28.00	29.50	30.00
BOWLS			
● Seasonal Fee	107.50	113.00	n/a*
● Seasonal Fee - Concessionary Rate	54.00	57.00	n/a*
● Hourly charge per person	3.50	3.50	3.50
CROQUET (GOLDERS HILL)			
● Hourly charge (members of HHCC) for rink	4.00	4.00	4.00
● Hourly charge (non members) for rink	7.50	7.50	7.50
CRICKET			
● Reserved match pitch (prepared and marked)	68.00	71.00	73.00
● Reserved match pitch Parliament Hill weekends (prepared and marked)	-	90.00	92.50
● Junior pitch (prepared and marked)	41.00	43.00	44.00
● Cricket nets (per hour)	6.00	6.50	6.50
● Season Adult (10 games pro-rata thereafter)	610.00	625.00	644.00
● Season Junior (10 games pro-rata thereafter)	370.00	380.00	391.50
FOOTBALL AND RUGBY			
● Reserved match pitch Adult (with goal posts)	63.50	66.00	68.00
● Reserved match pitch Junior (with goal posts)	40.00	42.00	43.00
● Season Adult (10 games, pro-rata thereafter)	560.50	575.00	592.00

Facility	Charges approved 1/4/11 (£)	Charges approved 1/4/12 (£)	Proposed Charges from 1/4/13 (£)
● Season Junior (10 games pro-rata thereafter)	356.50	360.00	370.00
● Hire of goal nets	13.50	14.00	14.00
Schools Use - standard session charge	36.50	38.00	39.00
● Charge for damaged nets	35.00	36.50	37.50
BASEBALL/SOFTBALL			
● Reserved Pitch	45.00	47.00	48.50
GOLF			
● Practice nets per half hour	4.00	4.00	4.00
PENTANQUE			
● Hourly charge/rink	2.50	2.50	2.50
● Deposit for Boules hire	12.00	12.00	12.00
PITCH & PUTT			
● One Round Adult	4.50	4.50	4.50
● One Round Concessionary rate	2.50	2.50	2.50
PUTTING			
● One Round Adult	3.00	3.00	3.00
● One Round Concessionary rate	1.50	1.50	1.50
● Lost or damaged putter	21.00	25.00	25.00
● Lost ball	5.00	5.00	5.00
ROUNDERS			
● Pitch per hour	12.00	12.50	13.00
SWIMMING			
<i>Lido</i>			
● Early Morning - Adult	2.00	2.00	2.00
● Early Morning - Concessionary	1.00	1.00	1.00
● Evening - Adult	2.00	2.50	2.50
● Evening - Adult	2.00	1.50	1.50
● Adults	5.00	5.50	5.50
● Concessionary Rates	3.00	3.50	3.50
● Daily family ticket (up to 2 adults & 2 children)	14.00	14.50	14.50
● Daily adult and child ticket	-	7.50	7.50
● Book of tickets (10 for the price of 9)	45.00	49.50	49.50
● Book of tickets (10 for the price of 9) Concessionary	27.00	31.50	31.50
● Monthly Ticket – Adults	30.00	40.00	40.00
● Monthly Ticket – Concessionary	15.00	20.00	20.00

Facility	Charges approved 1/4/11 (£)	Charges approved 1/4/12 (£)	Proposed Charges from 1/4/13 (£)
● Season Tickets - Adult (All Year)	136.00	140.00	144.00
● Season Tickets - Concessionary Rate (All Year)	85.00	90.00	92.50
● Summer Season Ticket – Adults	100.00	110.00	113.00
● Summer Season Ticket - Concessionary Rate	50.00	55.00	56.50
● All Facilities – Adults (All Year)	160.00	180.00	185.00
● All Facilities – Concessionary Rate (All Year)	90.00	100.00	103.00
● Summer Season All Swimming Facilities – Adults	102.00	110.00	113.00
● Summer Season All Swimming Facilities - Concessionary rate	51.00	55.00	56.50
<i>Natural Ponds</i>			
● Highgate: Mens', Kenwood: Ladies', Hampstead Mixed - Adult	2.00	2.00	2.00
● Highgate: Mens', Kenwood: Ladies', Hampstead Mixed - Concessionary	1.00	1.00	1.00
● Ponds – Adults (All Year)	110.00	115.00	118.50
● Ponds – Concessionary Rate (All Year)	55.00	60.00	62.00
● Ponds – Adults (6 month)	55.00	60.00	62.00
● Ponds - Concessionary rate (6 month)	27.50	30.00	31.00
TENNIS			
● Annual registration fee	12.00	15.00	15.00
● Adult Hourly Charge - hard or grass court (per hour)	6.00	6.50	6.50
● Concessionary Rates - hard or grass court (per hour)	3.00	3.50	3.50
VOLLEYBALL			
● Reserved pitch	40.00	40.00	41.00
CHANGING ACCOMMODATION			
Private changing room with hot water	37.50	40.00	41.00
Keys - deposit or charge for loss	22.00	25.00	25.00
SPORTS COACHING			
<i>Tennis Coaching</i>			
Adult Beginners/improvers			
● 5 weekly 1 hour lessons	40.00	45.00	46.00
● 5 weekly 1 1/2 hour lessons	54.00	65.00	67.00
● 5 weekly 2 hour lessons	73.00	85.00	87.50

Facility	Charges approved 1/4/11 (£)	Charges approved 1/4/12 (£)	Proposed Charges from 1/4/13 (£)
Children Beginners/improvers			
• 5 weekly 1 hour lessons	34.50	36.00	37.00
<i>Football Coaching</i>			
Children			
• 5 weekly 2 hour lessons	40.00	45.00	46.00
<i>Car Parking</i>			
• Up to 2 hours	2.00	2.30	2.40
• Up to 4 hours	4.00	4.60	4.70
• Additional hours or part hours above 4 hours	4.00	4.00	4.50

* the bowls facility is now leased to the Parliament Hill Bowling Club supported by the Hampstead Heath Croquet Club who set their own fees for Members

HAMPSTEAD HEATH SPORTS ADVISORY FORUM

TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER 2012

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE HAMPSTEAD HEATH SPORTS ADVISORY FORUM HELD AT THE STAFF YARD, PARLIAMENT HILL FIELDS, LONDON NW5 ON TUESDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2012 AT 6:30PM.

Present

Members:

Bob Slowe (Chairman)	-	Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee (Highgate Harriers Committee)
Dave Bedford	-	London Marathon Trust
Richard Sumray	-	Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee (London Council for Sports and Recreation)
Rudolph Benjamin	-	HH tennis coach

Officers

Natasha Cendrowicz	-	Note Taker (also Highgate Harriers)
Simon Lee	-	Superintendent, Hampstead Heath
Declan Gallagher	-	Manager, Parliament Hill
Paul Maskell	-	Leisure & Events Manager, Hampstead Heath

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Erin Bunting, John Carrier, Marc Hutchinson, Jeremy Simons, Simon Taylor and Richard Priestley.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 21 May 2012 were agreed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising,

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – Golders Hill Park (item 3) Paul Maskell reported that the Diamond Jubilee celebrations in Golders Hill Park on 4 June had been well attended.

Progress on Places, People Play applications (item 3) Simon Lee explained why the application to the Places People Play (PPP) had been slow to progress. A number of impediments, most significantly the requirement for any project costing more than £50,000 to be approved, meant that the original £140,000 proposal for a dedicated

cricket facility was unlikely to be approved if City funding were required. The City like other authorities been subjected to financial pressures and capital investment on anything other than essential priorities was being closely scrutinised. However, given the match funding dimension to this proposal, he felt that there was scope to discuss a less ambitious (£60,000 to £80,000) with the Director of Open Spaces. He added that the dams project was potentially requiring very significant capital investment, which posed problems for other projects gaining approval.

A discussion then took place regarding whether some of the other projects considered for PPP funding would be more favourably considered. Rudolph Benjamin referred to other external grants that might be available for tennis flood lights. As a lot of work had already been put into the cricket pavilion, Simon Lee was keen for this project to be progressed. Declan Gallagher reminded the group that the scope of match funding for local authorities was only 30% and that applications for rounds 4 to 5 would be considered in 2013. The key issue is where other match funding could be generated.

RESOLVED: That Simon Lee:-

- i) take forward a less ambitious dedicated cricket pavilion following discussion with the Director of Open Spaces, with the view to potentially submitting an application to PPP in 2013, subject to investigating other external funding; and
- ii) report back on progress of the PPP application to the next meeting.

Bowling Green (item 3) The Chairman reported that a meeting to review the new arrangements with both Parliament Hill Bowls Club and Hampstead Heath Croquet Club was due to take place shortly. He noted that due to the unfavourable summer weather, it had been a difficult year to trial the new arrangements.

Rugby Update (item 4) Declan Gallagher reported that staff had been able to accommodate the two o'clock fixtures, ensuring that the women's team could now host home matches on the Heath Extension.

4. **Review of Fees and Charges**

A discussion paper (prepared by Simon Lee), together with notes provided by the Chairman were considered. Simon Lee referred to the sport and recreation income and analysis 2011/12 part of his paper, which demonstrated that no sport was able to cover its costs.

During the course of discussion, the following points were made:

- Simon Lee noted that the income from the swimming ponds was misleading, actual visitor numbers were significantly higher. The new donation boxes were however securing increased levels of income, particularly at the Mixed and Ladies Pond
- It was noted that the level of the discount offered was inconsistent.

- It was also noted that there was Member support for rounding up charges to the nearest 50p or £1.
- It was noted that elasticity of demand could be addressed by increasing the fees of some over-used facilities (to dampen demand).
- Pricing should be a factor when considering how to increase demand for under-used facilities.
- As most sports and recreation facilities were not able to cover their costs, the case for providing a level subsidy should be accepted, the question is what level might be acceptable.
- The principles for a pricing policy should be ranked in terms of:
 - i) maximising usage
 - ii) getting people involved in sport
 - iii) getting people involved in sports clubs
 - iv) maximising income
 - v) encouraging take up by hard to reach groups
 - vi) improving and providing the best possible quality services
- Price increases can be linked to improvements, hence a new cricket pavilion could elicit increased cricket fees.
- The lower take-up of tennis at Golders Hill Park could be addressed by more favourable marketing.
- Lido income in 2012 had been good.
- The debate about how services are provided in terms of potentially reducing costs needs to be carefully considered in light of the quality of service provision.
- Initial pricing should be connected to the quality of the facility.
- Pricing should not automatically be subject to increase, hence the principle setting out “timetabling of proposed *increases*” should read “timetabling of proposed *changes*” instead.

Simon Lee thanked the group for their contributions which would inform his report on fees and charges to the Consultative Committee. He favoured a cautious approach while the principles of pricing were still being worked out.

RESOLVED: That:-

- i) Simon Lee adopt a cautious (inflation based) approach to 2013/14 fees and charges, recognising the national increase in sports participation arising from the Olympic/Paralympic Games;
- ii) Richard Sumray to meet with Simon Lee to refine the list of principles further.

5. **Update on Green to Gold**

Paul Maskell provided an update on the on-going Green to Gold programme of events that have been taking place on Hampstead Heath during this Olympics year. The Chairman requested that thanks be noted to Paul Maskell and the staff for delivering such an ambitious programme of events.

Responding to a question by the Chairman, he explained that the Victoria Pendleton event had generated some hostile comments. Simon Lee stated that cycling continued to be a contentious issue on Hampstead Heath.

In response to a question from Natasha Cendrowicz, Simon Lee stated that he had not been consulted on the Olympics or Paralympics Torch Relay route.

RECEIVED.

6. **Update on Forthcoming Sporting Events**

Paul Maskell reported that the joint legacy event with Camden would take place again in September 2013. The London Youth Games and London Cross Country Championships would be taking place on 17 November. In response to a question by the Chairman, he confirmed that the funding issues that had affected previous London Cross Country Championships had been resolved. Simon Lee added that Paul Maskell and his team had been nominated for a special award at the Balfour Beatty London Youth Games Award Ceremony for bringing the London Youth Games back to Hampstead Heath.

RECEIVED.

7. **Update on Bowling Green**

An update had been given previously under Matters Arising.

8. **Attendance of Sports Groups at future Meetings**

The Chairman suggested that a representative from the various sports that use the Heath make a presentation about their sport to future meetings of this group. While supporting this proposal, Dave Bedford preferred that a full programme of all the sports that use the Heath be drawn up. Simon Lee advised that the establishment of a data-base of sports users would be ideal, but this was a time consuming process to establish and maintain. A brief discussion took place regarding whether more co-operation between the various sporting groups could be encouraged.

RESOLVED: That:-

- i) a list of all the sports that use the Heath be drawn up;
- ii) a representative from each of these sporting groups be invited to make a presentation about their sport to a future Sports Forum meeting;
- iii) the Sports Forum be potentially expanded to include representatives from other sports that use the Heath; and
- iv) consideration be given at a future date to establishing a sports user database for better communicating with these Heath users.

9. **Any other business**

Camden representative Paul Maskell reported that Erin Bunting was stepping down from the Group and a new Camden representative would need to be found.

Parkrun update In response to a question by Dave Bedford, Paul Maskell reported on the continuing success of the Hampstead Heath parkrun, which celebrated its first anniversary this summer.

A brief discussion took place regarding whether the terms of the agreement with British Military Fitness could be reviewed to introduce more competition to the outdoor fitness market on Hampstead Heath. Currently British Military Fitness enjoyed an exclusive contract to use Hampstead Heath.

RESOLVED: That discussions take place with British Military Fitness to enable other outdoor fitness companies to be considered for future contracts for using Hampstead Heath if their services were appropriate.

10. **Date of Next Meeting**

RESOLVED: That the next meeting be held on 4 February 2013, starting at 6:30pm.

The meeting closed at 8:02pm.

CHAIRMAN

Contact: Natasha Cendrowicz
tel. no. 07952096201
e-mail: natasha @cendrowen.freemove.co.uk

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