

<b>Committee:</b> Epping Forest & Commons – For decision Epping Forest Consultative – For Information	<b>Dated:</b> 09/05/2022 15/06/2022
<b>Subject:</b> Epping Forest Work Programme 2022/2023 (SEF 14/22)	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	2, 11, 12
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	Y
If so, how much?	<b>£250,000</b>
What is the source of Funding?	Local Risk including external grant aid, RASC has agreed £250,000
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	Yes
<b>Report of</b> Juliemma McLoughlin, Executive Director Environment Department	<b>For information: EFCC For Decision: EF&amp;CC</b>
<b>Report authors:</b> Geoff Sinclair, Head of Operations Epping Forest	

### Summary

This report is necessary to seek your Committee’s approval for the proposed 2022/23 Epping Forest Work Programme. The work described in this report covers a large number of the 38 Forest and 14 Buffer Land compartments and describes significant visitor access, habitat and heritage conservation and risk management projects.

The varied programme of work across both Forest and Buffer Land is described and will be implemented by in-house teams, with significant contributions from contractors and volunteers. The continued conservation of Forest habitats maintains progress to achieve both the *favourable condition* of the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and *favourable conservation status* of the Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

The access management programme addresses work in response to car park charging, improvements and maintenance of the path network in line with the new *Epping Forest Management Strategy* and additional £250,000 capital funding provided to mitigate the impact on Forest paths by high visitor use during the COVID-19 lockdown period. The habitat conservation work proposed for this year centres on the re-pollarding of ancient hornbeams, where a pollard cycle has been established over the last 30 years, and the continuation of the restoration of wood-pasture habitats around them. Grassland and heathland management continues to be managed by a combination of extensive grazing by Longhorn cattle and mowing.

The risk management and resilient environment work involves significant operations in relation to large, raised reservoirs, a continuation of the survey and control of the Oak Processionary Moth populations across all the key visitor “hubs” in the Forest and the Forest-wide management of tree safety. There is a backlog of tree safety works from 2021 due to short term staff capacity issues that will need to be reduced in 2022. Local partners have secured funding that will allow work to progress on the conservation of the Grotto and the creation of a natural play area at Wanstead Park

### **Recommendation(s)**

Members are asked to:

- i. Approve the annual work programme as described in the main report.

### **Main Report**

#### **Background**

1. This report describes significant visitor access, habitat and heritage conservation, and risk management projects proposed in Epping Forest for the programme year 2022-2023.
2. The work outlined below is drawn from the 2020-2030 Epping Forest Management Strategy and its supporting documents (see *Background* papers below).
3. Works undertaken as part of the Carbon Removals Project (Climate Action Strategy) will be reported separately.

#### **Current Position**

4. As reported to your Committee on 8 March 2021 a 10-year Countryside Stewardship Scheme (CSS) grant has been agreed with Natural England (NE) and the Rural Payments Agency (RPA). The annual work commitments for this grant require the working of approximately 233 pollards, the maintenance of 45 hectares of wood pasture through cutting, with grazing occurring throughout the wood pasture area. Restoration of 18 ha of wood pasture through thinning and creation of new pollards will also be carried out. There is a backlog on pollarding works and on wood pasture restoration and future annual work targets have been amended to complete the agreed work program by the end of the ten CSS year agreement.
5. A total of 110ha of our grass and haylage cutting and the bulk of our 73 km of highway verge cutting is undertaken by local contractors. The verge cutting contract was retendered in 2021 on a three-year basis and we will be retendering the grass cutting works this year for a further three-year period.
6. The Charity proposed three project streams that were started or developed in 2021 and will continue into 2022:
  - 6.1 Queens Green Canopy: A new Commonwealth Grove will be planted on Wanstead Flats in association with the Royal Commonwealth Society and the QGC to mark Her Majesty the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. Other projects proposed in a dedicated report are subject to the provision of suitable funding.

6.2 Wanstead Park Grotto Landing stage: The second phase of a funded work program to safeguard the landing stage following erosion damage. This phase will involve the repair to the land stage surface to make it watertight.

6.3 Wanstead Park Play Area: Partial funding for the play area has been received from the City Corporations Enjoying Greenspaces and the natural Environment Central Funds Grant Scheme which will allow the creation of a core play facility. Fundraising efforts are progressing with our local partners which will allow further works to follow.

7. Reduced capacity following arborist staff leaving the City's employment in 2021/22 has meant that tree safety works need to be rolled forward into 2022/23. Options for creating additional capacity to complete this essential safety work are being progressed, such as the use of contractors and employing casual arborist staff, drawing on local risk funding.

### **Proposals**

8. The work programme sets out work under four of the five Strategic Priorities of the new *Epping Forest Management Strategy*.

### **Strategic Priority - A Beautiful Forest, sustaining an internationally and nationally important mosaic of wildlife habitats**

#### Wood pasture restoration

9. With the support of the CSS grant funding, the following habitat conservation programme will be delivered for the period up to 31 March 2023:

9.1 Re-pollarding work will be carried out on up to 233 ancient Hornbeam pollards trees. This annual program of work pollarding continues over 30 years of cyclical work, rejuvenating this wood-pasture habitat across the Forest. The operations will be undertaken by an Epping Forest in-house arborist team.

9.2 The limited use of contractors will be concentrated on tree-felling operations, supported by a 100% funding subsidy from the CSS grant. These felling works are to be completed by the end of December 2022 and are targeted at removing younger trees over-shading and outcompeting the ancient pollards, especially the small but ancient oaks scattered across these compartments, as well as opening up sites to allow ground flora to re-establish.

9.3 Alongside the felling operations and Hornbeam pollarding, there will be continued restoration and maintenance of the wood-pasture sites opened up over the last decade. This work will be carried out by a combination of extensive grazing, flailing by the in-house teams, some small tree regeneration removal and some grass cutting. The exact acreage cut during the late summer will be determined by a site review to assess which sites require an annual cut and which others may require a rotational cut every other year or longer. Alongside this work, the impact of the cattle grazing in the wood-pasture areas would also be assessed.

## Grasslands, Heathlands and Grazing

10. Grazing and mowing will be combined as in previous years on the Forest's open plains and conservation grasslands. This combination would be managed to ensure a varied sward height and ensure flowering for pollinating insects throughout the summer season and overwintering habitat. For the general grass programme, we continue to seek to increase the area cut by contractors, especially from mid to late summer. This will free up staff time to focus on the CSS grant requirements for the maintenance of wood-pasture by tractor mounted flailing.
11. Late summer hay-cuts will be taken to ensure a good establishment of the flowering plants at the newly created wildflower meadow sites at Whipps Cross and Manor Flats. Grazing and bracken control work will continue on five heathland sites which are integral to the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) designation as well as selected wood pasture areas and Loughton Camp. In addition, volunteers from the Epping Forest Conservation Volunteers (EFCV) will continue their long-term conservation work on these sites helping to control bracken regrowth and tree establishment amongst the heather and other rare heathland flora.
12. The area enclosed by fencing on Wanstead Flats to restrict disturbance of Skylarks and Meadow Pipits proved very successful in 2021. This was a pilot project and the fence erected was done so using plastic netting with the view it may only last a short term. The fence will last a second year however during 2022/23 we will need to review the desirability of erecting a more permanent fence area that could be open and closed as required through the year. The very substantial and continued help of volunteers from the Wren Conservation Group (WCG) on this project is gratefully acknowledged.
13. Volunteers from the WCG and Friends of Wanstead Parklands (FoWP) were also important in ensuring the success of the 2021 extended cattle grazing at Wanstead Park. In 2022/23, it is proposed that we further extend the area of Wanstead Park to be grazed and to also have larger herd size of six cattle. Over 200 cattle will graze the Forest and Buffer lands this year. There will be increased numbers of animals on the Forest as a whole due to the use of GPS collars which is enabling an expansion of grazing management. Wanstead Park will have up to 6 animals grazing late summer depending on vegetation growth with the possibility of the over-wintering of a couple of animals. New grazing sites for this year include Warren Wood Slope, Warren Hill and Raveners Farm.
14. This winter marked the first complete year of over-wintering a small group of animals on Chingford Plain / Bury wood which is vital for dung dependant insects which are emerging earlier due to our milder winters, the lack of vegetation growth through the winter helps push the animals to browse on young tree growth helping to keep the wood pasture landscape open. The full grazing programme is attached at **Appendix 1**.

## Lakes and Ponds

15. Monthly monitoring for Floating Pennywort at Wanstead Park will be continued during 2022 using a specialist contractor, with any outbreaks responded to as they appear.
16. We are liaising with the City Surveyors Department (CSD) on several increasingly pressing pond and lake management issues and will be working with them on identifying ways forward on these projects:
  - 16.1 Jubilee Pond: A report prepared by the CSD during 2020 identified the need for £98,582 of essential repairs to prevent the continued decline and probable failure of the pond liner.
  - 16.2 Highams Park Lake wharfing: A review of the lake edge wharfing by the CSD has identified £50,000 of hard and soft wharfing works are required.
  - 16.3 Wanstead Park Pump House: CS Department have estimated that it will cost £45,000 to replace the obsolete pump house taking water from the River Roding into the Ornamental Water. A budget is available for progressing this project and this is likely to be a significant development project during 2022-2024.
17. With £45,000 grant support from the Mayor of London's Green Resilience Fund we will undertake a consultancy during 2022/23 looking at the feasibility of directing more water from the urban drainage network into the lake system at Wanstead Park. In addition to promoting water conservation and reducing pollution of the River Roding this project would contribute significantly to the sustainable water management of the lake system. The consultancy will include estimating the quantity of water available and detailing any issues that need to be considered and the work arising from these, such as how to remove pollutants before the water enters the lake system. We are also working with key stakeholders, such as Thames 21 and Thames Water, on identifying funding opportunities to progress any works that arise from this Sustainable Urban Drainage Scheme (SUDS).
18. Works scheduled for Large and Small Raised Reservoirs at the Wanstead Park Cascade; Baldwins and Birch Hall Park Ponds will be the subject of separate Gateway Projects Reports.

## Volunteer Habitat Management Activity

19. The WCG continues to provide great support to Forest habitat and species conservation in the south of the Forest, around Wanstead in particular. Epping Forest Conservation Volunteers (EFCV) undertake a varied and invaluable task programme across the Forest, focusing on the wood-pasture restoration areas, heathlands (as above), ponds and bogs. Their work on wetland sites, in particular, has been critical to the maintenance of the special wildlife interest in these places. The Swaines Green volunteers, Highams Park Snedders and Epping Forest Heritage Trust volunteers also undertake significant works in various parts of the

Forest and are an important help to deliver a range of land management projects as part of agreed work programmes.

20. During 2022 the Epping Forest Volunteer Wardens will continue with their work on site patrol and cattle monitoring.

#### Damaging Introduced Exotic Species (DIES) & Plant Pathogens

21. Monitoring of Oak Processionary Moth (OPM), using external consultants, the Charity will continue to monitor all the main OPM sites as in 2020, with control measures taken as required. Parts of Epping Forest are now in what is referred to as the Core Zone where the Forestry Commission recognises that OPM is established. In these areas control work is not funded by the Forestry Commission and is the responsibility of the landowner. We will maintain a program of removing low level OPM nests with activity targeted to where the most immediate risks of exposure to visitors are found and as directed by the statutory notices served by the FC in non-core zone areas. Given the broad-spectrum character of pesticide spraying, such work has been limited by agreement with Forestry Commission (FC) and NE to locations outside the SSSI only.

22. Ramorum monitoring will be continued across all Rhododendron sites, both existing and historic, including Knighton Woods, Wanstead Park, Paul's Nursery and The Warren Plantation. Arborist and Grassland Teams will continue to remove Rhododendron growth from various Forest locations.

23. The annual Japanese Knotweed and Giant Hogweed control will be carried out across any remaining sites as required.

24. Following the identification of a specimen of the North American Flatheaded apple tree borer beetle (*Chrysobothris femorata*) in the Forest during 2020, Forestry Research officers are undertaking a summer long monitoring survey for this insect pest species. The survey began on 11<sup>th</sup> April and will continue throughout the summer. The monitoring will involve Forestry Research officers erecting 30 insect traps within trees across the Forest.

#### **Strategic Priority - A Welcoming Destination for all**

##### Ride and Path Management

25. Detailed mapping of path works has been completed on 30km of paths that were severely impacted by high visitor use during the COVID-19 lockdown period. During 2022 and 2023 the Charity will be implementing a program of mitigation works to make good path damage and to ensure conditions where the path verges can recover from the lockdown period of intense use. Works will comprise mainly of drainage works and the construction of around 6 km of new surfaced paths and £250,000 of capital funding has been approved by the City Corporation.

26. In line with the recommendations of the Path Management Policy Development Note (PDN), approved by your committee on 16 November 2020, it is planned that path management continues to be concentrated on the high access categories of

Red+ and Red. During 2022 approximately 31 km of path will have a 1.5m verge cut along both sides. Following a successful 3 year works tendering exercise in 2021 path verge cutting will largely be undertaken by contractors.

27. Formal path monitoring program as outlined in the 2020 Path Management PDN will be implemented fully in 2022/23. This will make use of volunteers trained for the role and will see around 30km of path assessed each year on a cycle of up to ten years.

#### Car Parks

28. Working with the City Surveyor consideration will be given to regrading and improving further car park surfaces, and in particular adding additional double gate entrances allowing vehicles to leave the Forest after the evening closure of car parks.

### **Strategic Priority - *Special Heritage Landscapes – protected and celebrated***

#### Wanstead Park: Parkland Plan

29. Through local partners we have obtained funding to progress important aspects of the Wanstead Park Parkland Plan and The Grotto: Conservation Management Plan. We are also working with key stakeholders to identify additional funding and these projects are outlined below:

- 29.1 Play area: The Aldersbrook Residents Association have received £10,500 of funding from the City Corporation Central Grant Programme – Enjoying Green Spaces and the Natural Environment scheme, towards the creation of a simple natural play area based on timber from Epping Forest. Additional funding is still required and is being sought by the working group progressing the play area project however a core facility is planned for opening in July 2022.
- 29.2 The Grotto. The Friends of Wanstead Parkland (FoWP) and the Historic London Trust (HoLT) jointly raised £24,000 towards restoring the landing stage to the Grotto in 2020/21. The first phase of works was completed in March 2022 under the supervision of CSD, with a second final phase to consolidate the main body of the landing stage scheduled for the summer 2022. The support from FowP and HLT is very welcome and has ensured we can deliver this much needed work.
- 29.3 See Ponds and Lakes section.
- 29.4 Vegetation management: Targeted work to open key vistas and paths will be continued where resources allow.

#### Highams Park

30. Spa Flow Limited completed a report and feasibility study for options to improve the banks of Highams Park lake. The report identifies eight areas of the lake

margin where work is recommended to ensure bank stability and to respond to polluted water. Working with the City Surveyors Department it is proposed that we start to progress work on these improvements.

31. The Highams Park Snedders undertook work in 2021 to reduce competition from holly and brambles as part of a long-term plan to promote and encourage the population of bluebells towards the NW of the Park. We will work with the Snedders during 2022/23 to clearly mark paths to reduce trampling damage to the bluebells.
32. Responding to COVID-19 in 2020 prevented work with local volunteers to seek funding for work proposals through the Park identified in the Highams Park Individual Site Plan. This work has been rolled forward into 2022 and we will first produce a costed action plan based on proposals in the ISP and any consents/assents from NE will be sought as required.

#### Loughton Camp Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM)

33. At Loughton Camp under Countryside Stewardship Scheme grant (CSS) supported works we will continue with the ten-year program, started in 2021, of clearing 0.1 ha/year of holly and other small and medium-sized infilling trees the Scheduled Ancient Monument.
34. A Committee member has drawn attention to the anomaly, first identified by Benjamin Cowper in 1872, of additional earthwork features outside the existing univallate Iron Age Hillforts that were subsequently designated as separate Scheduled Ancient Monument designations. Following site meetings with Historic England as resources allow an application will be made to Historic England to review the existing designation.

#### Churchill Avenue: Woodford Green

35. A community and stakeholder engagement process was undertaken in 2019 on proposals for the phased replacement, for tree safety reasons, of the London Plane and Poplar tree avenue at Woodford Green. Proposals have been submitted to the London Borough of Redbridge for Conservation Area consent to undertake the work however agreement was not forthcoming in time for the work to be undertaken in 2019 as originally planned.
36. It was proposed that we undertake the phased replanting of the avenue with Common Lime (*Tilia x europea*) with work commencing in September 2020 however COVID work commitments and short-term capacity constraints has meant that we could not progress this work. It is proposed that we start work on the phased replacement of the avenue in September 2022.

#### Key Views

37. Surveys of nine key views in Forest were undertaken in 2020 and compared the condition of each view today to earlier photographs. Where work was considered



necessary to maintain or restore a view the work needs were assessed. During 2022 we will compile these work strands into a single plan

### **Strategic Priority - A Resilient Environment**

#### Highway Verge Management

38. Ongoing maintenance of highways edge vegetation is largely contracted out through a three-year agreement with a local provider. In-house teams focus on the more challenging locations where there are significant constraints, such as frequent parked cars, and on maintaining sightlines at path and road junctions.

#### Tree Safety

39. Trees identified for hazard removal will be a significant proportion of spring and summer programmes for the Arborist Teams. The annual tree safety inspection programme is undertaken by contractors, and this is to be retendered this year on a three-year basis. Overall, works to make good hazardous trees takes up the equivalent of one arborist team's year. Staff restrictions due to COVID-19 and short-term staff capacity issues in 2021/22 has meant that the Charity has a significant backlog of work from 2021 to complete this year. Additional contract support has been sought and we are trialling the appointment of casual arborist staff to help improve short-term staff capacity issues. Responding to the backlog on tree safety work will limit time available for additional projects.

#### Wildfire Safety

40. Fire control zones will continue to be mown at Leyton and Wanstead Flats. Along the key routes around the edges of these two large grassland sites, grass will either be cut regularly to ensure a short sward along the routes for a 6m width or grass cuttings will be removed after each main cut (depending on the area mown).

41. Areas of older and dead gorse, which is highly flammable, are cut back as part of the regular flailing work at both Leyton and Wanstead Flats

#### Insurance Claims

42. The root nuisance mitigation will be continued through 2022/23. This work occupies approximately a fortnight each year of an arborist team and contribute to reducing the financial risk arising from subsidence claims. In addition to the case-by-case response process we commenced work in 2019 to reduce the tree cover along Mays Lane, Chingford. Reducing the tree cover will help to reduce subsidence and tree safety liabilities and will also provide the opportunity to improve a currently overlooked part of the Forest. Work on Mays Lane will be ongoing through 2022.

#### Large Raised Reservoirs (LRR):

43. Woody and herbaceous vegetation will be kept cut on raised reservoirs. Further works will follow on from the six-monthly Panel engineer inspections and will be undertaken in association with the Environment Department.

44. The Environment Department will commence work in late summer on the dam at the Deer Sanctuary (Birch Hall Park) Pond. This work was postponed in 2021 and aims to repair and stabilise the dam and improve the spillway. Planning permission has been received for this work and works have been successfully tendered.

45. The Environment Department is developing plans to respond to leaks in the substantial Baldwins Pond dam. It has proved difficult to engage a supplier for this work and following an unsuccessful tender exercise in 2021 a design and build contractor will again be sought in 2022

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

### Strategic implications

46. The work outlined in this work programme will contribute significantly to City of London Corporate Plan 2018-2023 Outcome 2 *People enjoy good health and well-being*; Outcome 11: *We have clean air, land and water and a thriving and sustainable natural environment* and Outcome 12: *Our spaces are secure, resilient and well maintained*.

47. The proposed work programme actions support the Natural Environment Department's (formerly the Open Spaces Department) Vision of enriching people's lives by enhancing and providing access to ecologically diverse open spaces and outstanding heritage assets across London and beyond.

48. The proposed action meets the Natural Environment Department's objective of '*Open spaces and historic sites are thriving and accessible*'. It will also contribute to the Department's performance measures of the condition of our Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), active ancient tree management and income generation.

49. The work programme aims to protect biodiversity whilst improving opportunities for visitors to enjoy the Forest. The programme derives from the new *Epping Forest Management Strategy* the vision of which is: *Epping Forest is a thriving, biodiverse green space that benefits the City of London's communities and enhances the wider environment as part of a larger interconnected landscape*. The proposals meet a wide range of outcomes identified in this Strategy, with the proposals detailed under each of the Plan's five 'Strategic Priorities'.

### Financial implications

50. The work outlined in the proposed work programme is to be covered by the local risk budget of the Epping Forest sub-Division together with both revenue and capital funding provided through the Countryside Stewardship Scheme, administered by the Rural Payments Agency. The work programme for 2022/23 is expected to cost £931,000, including £718,00 for salaries and £141,00 for grounds maintenance costs. The budget will enjoy an additional £250,000 of capital funding from the City of London for COVID-19 lockdown mitigation works.

51. City Surveyor led works are financed through agreed AWP and CWP budgets.

52. Additional grant aid and public fundraising would be sought where available to fund agreed activities.

#### Legal implications

53. Formal consent for some works needs to be sought from Natural England under Section 28E of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) for the SSSI and as required under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 in relation to the SAC. Additional consents for work in locally listed landscapes, APAs and watercourses will be sought during the year.

54. Subject to the provisions of the Epping Forest Acts 1878 & 1880 the Conservators are under a duty at all times to keep Epping Forest uninclosed and unbuilt on as an open space for the recreation and enjoyment of the public. They are also under a duty at all times as far as possible to preserve the natural aspect of the Forest.

55. The Epping Forest Act 1880 includes an additional power at section 5 to maintain "*ornamental inclosed lands*" which most probably reflects the City Corporation's purchase of Wanstead Park in 1880 and requires the Conservators to make proper provision for securing the enjoyment thereof by the public for exercise and recreation at all reasonable times during the day.

#### Charity Implications

56. Open Spaces Charity: Epping Forest is a registered charity (number 232990). Charity Law obliges Members to ensure that the decisions they take in relation to the Charity must be taken in the best interests of the Charity.

#### Risk implications

57. Individual work programme operations would be subject to current rigorous Health and Safety Risk Assessments and method statements.

58. The CSS work programme elements would be subject to external inspections to ensure cross compliance standards, known as Good Agricultural and Environmental Conditions (GAEC) have been adhered to and work completed as specified. Failure to meet standards or to complete certain work prescriptions as defined in the CSS agreement may be subject to financial penalties. For non-CSS works within the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), conditions of any Natural England (NE) consents must be met.

59. Short-term staff capacity issues have led to a backlog of tree safety works that has been compounded by additional works following Storm Eunice. It is likely that the backlog will lead to predictable tree failures in high hazard areas, with potentially increased insurance liability issues.

## Equalities implications

60.No negative equality impacts were identified for this work programme.

## Climate implications

61.The work programme has not been reviewed overall but as the City Corporation's Climate Action Strategy and the Open Spaces Carbon Removals Project get underway some assessment work will be carried out in relation to the wood-pasture and pollarding operations and their wood products in particular.

## Security implications

62.None.

## Conclusions

63.The habitat work programme outlined above reflects the key priorities for the protection of the SSSI and Special Area of Conservation (SAC). It incorporates the habitat conservation proposals which have been approved by your Committee and assented by Natural England as part of a new 10-year Countryside Stewardship grant application running until 2030.

64.The access and risk management work proposals reflect the outcome of detailed fieldwork and assessment of the condition of the Forest's infrastructure and boundaries. Short-term staff capacity issues has resulted in a significant backlog of tree safety works from 2021.

65.Volunteers will continue to be instrumental in delivering a significant proportion of the work on key projects in 2022/23, including wood-pasture, wet heath and bog restoration, and species protection, including Skylarks and butterflies and path monitoring. Their important and integral contribution to the Forest Management Strategy's Strategic Objectives is gratefully acknowledged.

66.Specialist in-house teams will deliver most of the work detailed in the report. Contractors will be used to for tree-felling where 100% grant support through CSS is available and separately will also contribute significantly to the implementation of the grass-cutting and highway vegetation management works across the Forest and the Buffer Land grasslands.

67.Substantial financial support has been achieved for key projects through external grant aid to the City Corporation or through partner organisations and is subject to external audit and inspection.

## Appendices

- **Appendix 1:** proposed Grazing Programme (subject to weather & ground conditions)

## **Background Papers**

- A Strategy and Management Plan for Epping Forest 2020-30
- SEF13/21 Epping Forest & Commons Committee Report: The 2019 Countryside Stewardship Grant Agreement Amendment. 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.
- SEF28/19 Epping Forest & Commons Committee Report: Countryside Stewardship Grant 2019 Proposals. 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019.
- The Barn Hoppitt Wood-pasture Restoration Plan 2006-2011.
- The Lords Bushes and Knighton Woods Integrated Site Plan 2004-2010.
- High Beach Individual Site Management Plan (2020)
- The Wanstead Flats Individual Site Management Plan (2020).
- Theydon Bois Green Individual Site Management Plan (2018)
- Highams Park, Little Sale and Oak Hill Woods ISMP Plan (2019)
- Leyton Flats Individual Site Management Plan (2019)
- Path Management Policy Development Note (2020)
- The Grotto Conservation Management Plan (2020)
- *Branching Out* Project (Nov 2008) – Keystone Tree & Grazing Strategies.
- SEF 01/13 Epping Forest & Commons Committee Report: Grazing Expansion Plan for Implementing the Epping Forest Grazing Strategy. 13th Feb 2013.
- Wanstead Park Conceptual Options Plan (2019).
- SEF 50/16 Epping Forest & Commons Committee Report: Epping Forest Grazing Expansion Plan Continuity Arrangements. 21st November 2016
- The Topology and Vegetational History of Some Epping Forest Sphagnum Bogs (Report to EF Conservators - K.J. Adams 2017).
- Highway Verge Management Policy Development Note (2018)

## **Geoff Sinclair**

Head of Operations

T: 020 532 1010

E: [geoff.sinclair@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:geoff.sinclair@cityoflondon.gov.uk)