

Committee	Dated:
West Ham Park Committee	13 February 2023
Subject:	Public
West Ham Park Fees and Charges 2023-24	
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	2, 3, 4, 5, 11 & 12
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of:	For Decision
Juliemma McLoughlin, Executive Director Environment	
Report author: Stefania Horne, Assistant Director - Environment Department	

Summary

This report sets out the proposed fees and charges for a range of sports and services provided at West Ham Park for 2023-24.

The increase is in line with benchmarking and based on cost recovery, considering that the main costs are salary costs and also to continue to facilitate participation, taking account the raising costs of living.

It is proposed that the charges are increased by 5% as set out in appendix 1.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- Members agree the proposed fees and charges for 2023-24, as set out in paragraphs 4-6 and appendix 1 of this report.

Main Report

Background

1. West Ham Park is situated in the London Borough of Newham which has one of the highest obesity and inactivity levels in London. Newham Council heavily subsidises sports provision across the borough to encourage local people to become more active and help reduce these issues.

2. Charges for a wide range of services, recreation and sporting activities provided across the City of London Corporation's Open Spaces are reviewed annually, to ensure that prices and ticket options are relevant and appropriate.
3. Sports fees and charges are not based on full cost recovery and are subsidised by the Charity to promote participation in formal and informal recreation to support health and well-being. The income generated from fees and charges contribute towards the cost of providing sports and recreational facilities at West Ham Park.

Proposed Charges 2023-24

4. It is proposed that the charges are increased by 5%, as set out in appendix 1.
5. The level of inflation is substantially higher (9.2% in December 2022, Office of National Statistics) and the proposal to increase the fees and charges by 5% is aligned with some London boroughs that are increasing around this level to encourage participation and accessibility noting the increased cost of living.
6. The proposed fees and charges include concessionary rates, offering a 40% discount on the standard adult charge.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic Implications

7. The proposed fees and charges support the three objectives and outcomes set out in the Open Spaces Business Plan 2022-23 (a) Open spaces and historic sites are thriving and accessible, (b) Spaces enrich people's lives and (c) Business practices are responsible and sustainable.

Financial Implications

8. The City's Financial Regulations require all Departments to recover full costs when setting charges to persons or external organisations or submit reasons to the appropriate service Committee when that objective is not met. It is therefore at the discretion of individual spending Committees to determine the actual level of fees and charges relative to the services they provide, after taking into account local considerations and priorities.

Legal Implications

9. The objects of the West Ham Park Charity are to "for ever maintain and preserve the park in a proper and ornamental condition as open public grounds and gardens for the resort and recreation of adults and as a playground for children and youth". 22. Under section 76 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907 (as amended by section 56 of the Public Health Act 1925 and applied to West Ham Park by section

4 of the City of London (Various Powers) Act 1933) the City of London Corporation may expressly also:

- a. Set apart any part of West Ham Park for the purpose of any game or recreation, charge reasonable sums for its use and exclude the public from the part set apart while it is in actual use for that purpose.
- b. Provide any apparatus for games and recreations, and charge for their use, or let the right of providing any such apparatus to any person.
- c. Provide and maintain pavilions or other buildings and conveniences and charge for admission

Risk Implications

10. Risks are recorded in the Natural Environment Risk Register, which forms part of the meeting agenda pack.

Equality Implications

11. A Test of Relevance has been completed in relation to the proposed fees and charges. A full Equality Analysis is not recommended.

Climate Implications

12. The City of London Corporation has a Climate Action Strategy which seeks to achieve Net 0 by 2040. There will be a range of measures implemented to realise this including increasing carbon sequestration and storage across the Open Spaces alongside biodiversity enhancement and resilience measures.

Conclusion

13. West Ham Park continues to provide excellent value for money sports and recreational opportunities. The income generated through fees and charges contributes towards the cost of providing sports and recreational facilities and maintaining West Ham Park.
14. It is proposed that the charges are increased by 5%, as set out in appendix 1.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Proposed Fees and Charges for 2023-24

Contact

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