

Natural Environment Cross-divisional Risk Register

Generated on: 28 September 2023



Rows are sorted by Risk Score

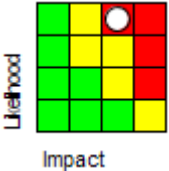
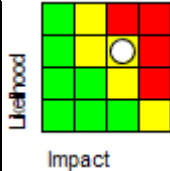

Risk no, title, creation date, owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Current Risk score change indicator
ENV-NE 003 Repair and maintenance of buildings and structural assets	<p>Cause: Inadequate planned and/or reactive maintenance; failure to identify and communicate maintenance issues; failure to retain expertise necessary to maintain complex buildings / sites. Reduced CWP budget and limited capital programme.</p> <p>Event: Fail to meet statutory regulations and checks. Operational, residential or public buildings deteriorate to unusable/unsafe condition.</p> <p>Impact: Potential serious health and safety risks including fatality or serious injury to users. Service capability disrupted; ineffective use of staff resources; damage to corporate reputation and poor customer satisfaction; increased requirement and costs for reactive maintenance and lack of budget to replace. Delays will have operational impact. Poor condition of assets, loss of value, permanent closure.</p>		<p>32</p>	<p>This risk has been assessed as Red 32 (Likely; Extreme) due to ongoing and increasing concerns about inadequate repair and maintenance of operational property across all Natural Environment sites.</p> <p>The Environment Department is Lead Client for its operational property with inspections managed and records kept by the City Surveyor's Department (CSD).</p> <p>The Corporation has acknowledged the significant maintenance backlog, including for the Natural Environment Division. We will produce a comprehensive asset register and investigate different options for tackling this backlog.</p> <p>Officers also continue to seek</p>		<p>24</p>	<p>31-Dec-2024</p>	

Appendix 1

30-Aug-2017 Emily Brennan				alternative funding or other opportunities to enable repair and maintenance works to be undertaken outside the Cyclical Works Programme (CWP). 28 Sep 2023			Reduce	Constant
------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--------	----------

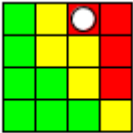
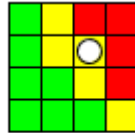

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE 003a	Liaise with City Surveyor's Department and other internal departments to press for action to be taken especially in regard to the most urgent issues.	We continue to work with the City Surveyor's Department to resolve service delivery issues.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Dec-2024
ENV-NE 003b	Keep risk under regular review and monitor the actions and progress of each Natural Environment site.	This is a standing agenda item for discussion at all Senior Leadership Team meetings.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Dec-2024
ENV-NE 003d	Create a comprehensive asset register.	A full review of Natural Environment assets is underway. The outcome will be the compilation of a comprehensive, accurate asset register which will enable us to identify ownership of our assets.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Dec-2024

Appendix 1

Risk no, title, creation date, owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Current Risk score change indicator
ENV-NE 004 Pests and diseases 30-Aug-2017 Emily Brennan	<p>Causes: Inadequate biosecurity; purchase or transfer of infected trees, plants, soil and/or animals; ‘natural’ spread of pests and diseases from neighbouring areas.</p> <p>Event: Sites become infected by animal, plant or tree diseases e.g. Oak Processionary Moth (OPM), foot and mouth, Massaria, Ash Die Back, <i>Salmonella</i> (DT 191a), Bleeding Canker of Horse Chestnut.</p> <p>Impact: Service capability disrupted; public access to sites restricted; tree decline; reputational damage; increased cost of monitoring and control of invasive species; risk to human health from OPM or other invasive or indigenous species; loss of key native species; threat to existing conservation status of sites particularly those with woodland habitats.</p>		16	<p>This risk is currently scored as Red 16 (likely/ major) due to the potential biodiversity, financial and human health impacts associated with this risk across many of our Natural Environment sites.</p> <p>The regional and national situation is monitored on a regular basis. Staff across all Natural Environment sites are carrying out a range of actions, such as inspections, spraying and pest removal to mitigate the impact of this risk and with the aim of reducing it to the target score.</p> <p>28 Sep 2023</p>		12	31-Mar-2024	 Constant
							Reduce	

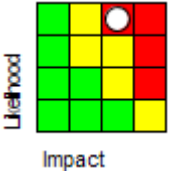
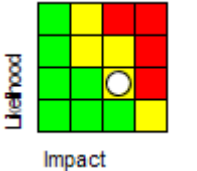
Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE 004a	Cooperation and coordination across the Natural Environment Division and wider Department.	Natural Environment sites collaborate to share information and knowledge. This ongoing cooperation and coordination includes other parts of the Environment Department such as City Gardens and the Cemetery and Crematorium.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Mar-2024
ENV-NE 004b	Regular review and monitoring of sites' local risks.	The risks of each individual site are kept under regular review.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Mar-2024

Appendix 1

Risk no, title, creation date, owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Current Risk score change indicator
ENV-NE 010 Budget pressures 16-Dec-2022 Emily Brennan	Cause: Reduction in income and the need for greater investment in order to deliver services. Event: Inability to generate income results in insufficient financial resources to maintain the quality of service. Impact: Decline in quality of services; inability to respond to the impacts of other business risks.	 Likelihood Impact	16	<p>The new role of Assistant Director, Commercial and Charity Governance Fundraising is being recruited to. The post holder will work on development of a Fundraising Strategy, collaborating with colleagues across the Corporation to identify funding sources. The Strategy will include clear targets, define priority income streams and help to develop a coordinated approach.</p> <p>The Natural Environment Charity Review will also aim to restrict funds for specific use within the Natural Environment Division.</p> <p>28 Sep 2023</p>	 Likelihood Impact	12	31-Dec-2024	 Constant
							Reduce	

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE 010a	Develop an Income Generation Strategy.	When recruited, the new Assistant Director Charity and Commercial will take this forward and seek approval for the final version.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Dec-2024

Appendix 1

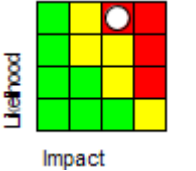
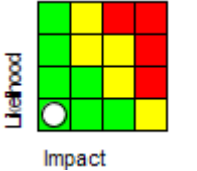

Risk no, title, creation date, owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Current Risk score change indicator
ENV-NE 012 Wildlife management 22-Aug-2023 Emily Brennan	<p>Cause: Control of wildlife is necessary across the Natural Environment sites to ensure populations remain healthy and in balance with their environment, to conserve biodiversity and protect carbon stocks. For example, deer culling and grey squirrel control. Humane despatch of injured wildlife may also be necessary. These activities often require the use of firearms.</p> <p>Event: Failure to maintain and/or follow robust plans and policies to undertake deer culling and other wildlife controls responsibly, to a sufficiently high standard, in compliance with legal requirements, and with due regard to health, safety and animal welfare.</p> <p>Effects: Injury to staff or members of the public due to non-compliant use of firearms, lone working etc; risk to human health; road traffic accidents; damage to property. Detrimental impact on stakeholder relationships; negative publicity; reputational risk.</p>		16	<p>Deer management is a key issue at Epping Forest - contractors are due to be appointed to carry out a cull in the coming months. This will be managed carefully to ensure the work is undertaken by responsible contractors and in accordance with local policies and legal requirements. We will work with the Media Team to manage communications.</p> <p>Other wildlife management actions and associated policies are in place across the division and are kept under regular review to manage the risk.</p> <p>28 Sep 2023</p>		8	31-Dec-2024	Constant
							Reduce	

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE 012a	Deer management at Epping Forest	<p>Appoint contractors to undertake a deer cull at Epping Forest.</p> <p>Contractors to be carefully selected to ensure the work is carried out responsibly, safely, and compliantly.</p> <p>Ensure robust management of staff and contractors and maintain a detailed, accurate, audit trail.</p>	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Mar-2024
ENV-NE 012b	Monitoring programme to assess the impact of grey squirrels.	Undertake a monitoring programme to assess the impact of grey squirrels. Use the outcomes to formulate an appropriate action plan if necessary.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Mar-2024
ENV-NE 012c	Work with the Media Team to manage communications.	Work closely with the Media Team to manage communications about deer management and other wildlife control.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Mar-2024

Appendix 1

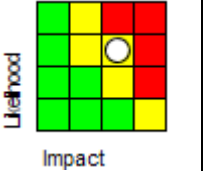
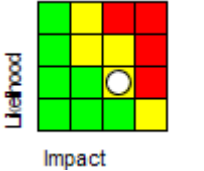

ENV-NE 012d	Keep relevant policies under review.	Review and update Divisional and site-specific Firearms and other relevant policies (e.g. lone working) on a regular basis, and ensure they are communicated to appropriate staff.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Dec-2024
-------------	--------------------------------------	--	---------------	-------------	-------------

Appendix 1

Risk no, title, creation date, owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Current Risk score change indicator
ENV-NE 014 Lack of asset register 22-Aug-2023 Emily Brennan	Cause: We do not hold an accurate, comprehensive, asset register for the Natural Environment sites. Event: We do not know the ownership details of all our assets. Effect: Potential to be non-compliant with Charity Commission requirements.		16	A full asset review is underway which will result in the compilation of a comprehensive, accurate Asset Register. This will enable us to identify the ownership of our assets and ensure compliance with Charity Commission requirements. Once ownership is determined, we will also be able to consider wider opportunities for income generation, repurposing and/or disposal. 28 Sep 2023		1	31-Dec-2024	 Constant
							Reduce	

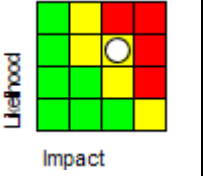
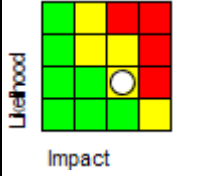
Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE 014a	Carry out Natural Environment Asset Review	A full review of Natural Environment assets is underway. The outcome will be the compilation of a comprehensive, accurate asset register which will enable us to identify ownership of our assets.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Dec-2024
ENV-NE 014b	Establish and monitor protocols to ensure compliance with Charity Commission requirements.	Establish and monitor protocols for ensuring compliance with Charity Commission requirements in relation to charity-owned assets.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Dec-2024

Appendix 1

Risk no, title, creation date, owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Current Risk score change indicator
ENV-NE 002 Extreme weather and climate change 30-Aug-2017 Emily Brennan	<p>Causes: Climate change causes more frequent and severe weather events: storms, wind, rainfall, snow, drought.</p> <p>Event: More frequent and prolonged periods of drought, flooding, storm damage, wildfires etc.</p> <p>Impact: Service capability disrupted; incidents increase demand for staff resources to respond and maintain public and site safety; temporary site closures; increased costs for reactive management. Strong winds cause tree limb drop; prolonged heat results in fires; snow disrupts site access; rainfall results in flooding and impassable areas. Damage/loss of rare/fragile habitats and species. Risk of injury or death to staff, visitors, contractors and volunteers. Damage to property and infrastructure.</p>		12	<p>The Environment Department's Health and Safety Manager is actively engaged in assisting sites to identify and manage their health and safety risks.</p> <p>Relevant staff are members of departmental and divisional health and safety groups at which issues are discussed, knowledge shared, and advice and support provided.</p> <p>28 Sep 2023</p>		8	31-Dec-2024	 Constant
							Reduce	

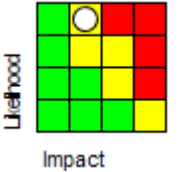
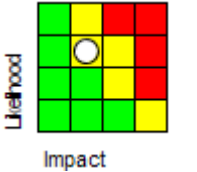

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE 002a	Develop a Climate Resilience Plan for the Natural Environment Division.	We are working with the Department's Environmental Resilience Team to identify specific climate change related risks and actions for the Natural Environment Division.	Simon Glynn	28-Sep-2023	31-Mar-2024
ENV-NE 002b	Regular review and monitoring of climate and weather risks held by each Natural Environment site.	The risks held by each site on this subject are kept under regular review.	Simon Glynn	28-Sep-2023	31-Mar-2024
ENV-NE 002d	Seek funding for and, if successful, progress the Carbon Removals Project.	Seek funding from the central Corporate fund for a proposed Carbon Removals Project. The project will protect the carbon stored on our open spaces and provide additional carbon storage. If funding is received, the actions within the proposal will be progressed and implemented. These include fencing to protect vulnerable trees; tree and hedge planting, and deer management.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Mar-2024

Appendix 1

Risk no, title, creation date, owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Current Risk score change indicator
ENV-NE 005 Impact of development 30-Aug-2017 Emily Brennan	<p>Cause: Pressure on housing and infrastructure in London and South East; failure to monitor planning applications and challenge them appropriately; unsuccessful challenges; lack of resources to employ specialist support, carry out necessary monitoring/research or consult on Local Plans; lack of partnership working with, and engagement from, Planning Authorities.</p> <p>Event: Major development(s) have a negative impact on our sites through loss and damage to habitats. Increase in visitor numbers.</p> <p>Impact: Loss, damage, destruction or fragmentation of habitats. Increased damage through high visitor numbers. Encroachment/loss of land.</p>		12	<p>Staff at all Natural Environment sites work with their neighbouring local authorities and consult with stakeholders. They seek out opportunities to integrate sustainability into proposed developments, e.g. asking for CIL funds from developers to mitigate the impact where possible. They also do what they can to limit the impact of increased visitor numbers.</p> <p>28 Sep 2023</p>		8	31-Dec-2024	Constant
							Reduce	

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE 005a	Regular monitoring of the risks held by individual sites and action taken.	The Director keeps the risks held by individual sites under review and is notified by her Assistant Directors of any specific planning issues and concerns that arise.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Dec-2024

Appendix 1

Risk no, title, creation date, owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Current Risk score change indicator
ENV-NE 013 Increased visitor pressure 22-Aug-2023 Emily Brennan	<p>Cause: Continual increase in number of visitors due to greater popularity of natural environment sites, population growth and new housing in local areas.</p> <p>Event: Long-term environmental damage, with a particular focus on protected landscapes and Sites of Special Scientific Interest and SACs which are not designed for such high visitor numbers. Increased use of car parks and parking on adjacent roads and land.</p> <p>Effect: Ecological and environmental damage; negative press coverage; loss of grants related to preservation; increased spend required to maintain sites / mitigate damage.</p>		8	<p>Works to improve visitor infrastructure are being undertaken where possible and/or funding to enable this work is being sought.</p> <p>Education of visitors to encourage responsible use of sites is carried out via publicity, social media messaging and signage. Opportunities to increase this will be sought and taken up.</p> <p>28 Sep 2023</p>		6	31-Dec-2024	 Constant
							Reduce	

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE 013a	Improve visitor infrastructure.	Seek ways to improve visitor infrastructure to encourage visitors to stay on designated routes and minimise damage.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Dec-2024
ENV-NE 013b	Carry out education and messaging campaigns to encourage responsible use of the sites.	Carry out education and messaging campaigns at our sites to encourage the public to use sites responsibly in order to conserve them for the future.	Emily Brennan	28-Sep-2023	31-Dec-2024