

<b>Committee(s):</b> West Ham Park Committee	<b>Date(s):</b> 11 July 2024
<b>Subject:</b> Update on planning for the 150 <sup>th</sup> anniversary for West Ham Park	<b>Public</b>
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan (2024-2029) does this proposal aim to impact directly?	Diverse engaged communities Leading sustainable environment Vibrant thriving destination Providing excellent services Flourishing public spaces
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	<b>Yes</b>
If so, how much?	<b>£55,000</b>
What is the source of Funding?	<b>As discussed in paragraph 4</b>
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Bill LoSasso, Assistant Director (Superintendent) North London Open Spaces	<b>For Information</b>

## Summary

This report provides Members with an update on matters relating to the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of West Ham Park's transfer to the City of London Corporation since the last Committee meeting on 16 May 2024.

## Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the content of the report.

## Main Report

1. Since the last report from officers, the Events Manager has continued to work with the steering group of Members, officers, and local stakeholders to deliver

a diverse and varied programme of entertainment, workshops and sporting and wellbeing activities this spring and summer.

2. Several events have taken place this spring, including several successful activities and programmes hosted by the Learning Team in the Education Garden. The Green Fair, organised by Sustainable Newham and branded with the West Ham Park 150<sup>th</sup> logo, took place on 6 May and was well attended despite poor weather.
3. The programme of events for the large summer events on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> July are nearing finalisation. An update is presented below.
  - a. 20 July: This flagship event will mark the anniversary of the official transfer date of West Ham Park 150<sup>th</sup> years ago. It will include a civic reception, managed by the Remembrancer's, with invited guests from the City of London Corporation and London Borough of Newham. The day will begin at 12.30pm with a specially curated music event on a main stage which will include high-profile artists and Bollywood-inspired dancing, followed by a high-quality community music event at 3.00pm hosted by the Friends of West Ham Park on the bandstand. In addition, the day will include nature arts and crafts, heritage tours, photography exhibitions, sustainability workshops, and a children's fair.
  - b. 21 July: This sports and health and wellbeing focused day will begin at 8.00am with the start of the 'London to Southend Bike Ride'. This will help us start our 'Give it a Go' event, which offers an opportunity for people to participate in a number of free activities, possibly for the first time. At 11.30am, we will have a medley of sports and health and wellbeing focused activities, featuring football activities sponsored by West Ham United Foundation, cricket workshops led by Capital Kids Cricket and the England and Wales Cricket Board, tennis coaching, tai chi, athletics, children's fun activities and meditation. We will finish at 4.30pm.
4. With the support of Members and executive leadership, officers have secured and allocated £55,000 to ensure sufficient resources for the celebration programme. This funding will be used to support added event and programming delivery costs, including first aid, security, and bespoke gazebos. This will also cover the costs of additional grounds maintenance and reinstatement supplies and materials, as well as the hiring of occasional casual staff required for additional tasks related to the increase in activities. Officers were successful in an application to City Bridge Foundation on an application for £20,000 to fund an outdoor interpretive exhibition to raise awareness and understanding of the park and the City Corporation's commitment. This will also include the history of the site and its historic

transfer to the City Corporation in 1874, similar to the successful and impactful exhibition displayed for Hampstead Heath's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

5. Officers invite all Members of the West Ham Park Committee to join this celebration, and an invitation will follow shortly.

#### Financial Implications

6. As noted above, officers have sourced and been successful in obtaining £55,000 of additional funding for the West Ham Park charity 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

#### Resource Implications

7. The anniversary celebration will require additional operational resource as noted within this report.

#### Climate Implications

8. Included within the annual plan for 2024-25 are a series of projects which contribute towards achieving the City of London's Climate Action Strategy, which was launched in October 2020. A key part of the strategy is conserving and enhancing biodiversity alongside reducing carbon emissions. The Climate Action Strategy will be embedded into future strategies which are currently being drafted within the Natural Environment Division.

#### Legal Implications

9. No implications.

#### Risk Implications

10. Risks are monitored and recorded through the Departmental Risk Register.

#### Equality Implications

11. No impact.

#### Charity Implications

12. West Ham Park is a registered charity. Charity Law obliges a trustee to ensure that the decisions taken in relation to the Charity are taken in the best interests of the Charity.

#### Security Implications

13. Security implications are monitored and recorded through the Departmental Risk register.

Bill LoSasso  
Assistant Director (Superintendent)  
Natural Environment (North London Open Spaces)  
[bill.losasso@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:bill.losasso@cityoflondon.gov.uk)