

Progress against the Natural Environment Strategy Action Plans and Business Plan objectives

Quarter 2, 2024-25 (July, August, and September)

1 Nature Conservation & Resilience				
	Theme	Objective	Progress	Also contributes to
1.1	Protect and enhance the biodiversity of our open spaces	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Management plans are in place to ensure that their biodiversity and natural assets are conserved, engaged with stakeholders, and are implemented 2. Volunteer involvement in biodiversity monitoring and habitat restoration 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Officers are updating the management plan for West Ham Park (and all management plans across NLOS), which will be presented to this committee at the December 2024 meeting. A consultant has been retained to support that effort. 2. The gardening team now has a regular volunteer who works twice a week every Tuesday and Thursday. He is an experienced volunteer who studies horticulture and volunteers at one of the Royal Parks. He is helping with tasks such as dead heading the perennials, roses, trimming the informal hedges in the rose garden and carrying out some horticultural research for future landscape projects. 	<p>Community Engagement</p> <p>Access & Recreation</p> <p>Learning & Heritage</p>
1.2	Increase the resilience of our open spaces within a wider, interconnected natural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate resilience plans prepared for each open space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	

1 Nature Conservation & Resilience				
	Theme	Objective	Progress	Also contributes to
1.3	Establish a natural capital-based management process across our open spaces.	Baseline natural capital valuation for NED undertaken	The natural capital audit has been completed and is being reviewed for opportunities of expansion of benefit at West Ham Park. Opportunities will be reflected in the 2025 annual work plan.	Community Engagement Access & Recreation

2 Community Engagement				
	Theme	Objective	Progress	Also contributes to
2.1	Partnership: Creating meaningful and lasting partnerships	Cultivate and support successful partner organisations that support us in mission delivery	Officers continue to work with external groups and partners to engage them in caring for West Ham Park, including Friends of West Ham Park and a community-wide engagement during the 150 th anniversary celebration. The gardening team now have a regular volunteer, as noted above.	Nature Conservation & Resilience Access & Recreation Learning & Heritage
2.2	Removing barriers: Identifying and removing barriers to participation in our spaces and work	Implement a holistic approach to community engagement that encourages active participation	The 150 th anniversary celebration created a community-wide engagement opportunity to deepen connections with the park, demonstrate that West Ham Park is welcoming and accessible to the entire community, showcasing a variety of potential activities possible at the park (tennis, cricket, learning activities, etc) and engaging with the community in a variety of relevant ways.	Nature Conservation & Resilience Access & Recreation Learning & Heritage
2.3	Ownership: Cultivating a sense of deep pride in and attachment to	1. Facilitate a deep sense of pride in and attachment to our open spaces among user groups and communities	1. 150 th anniversary celebration and partnership with FoWHP, and gardening volunteer.	Nature Conservation & Resilience Access & Recreation

Appendix 1

	our spaces amongst users	2. Create opportunities for user groups and communities to provide additional resource to the Corporation to support mission delivery	2. 150 th anniversary celebration and partnership with FoWHP, and gardening volunteer.	Learning & Heritage
2.4	Thriving spaces: Creating spaces that attract people and improve their lives	<p>1. Improve health and wellbeing through our open spaces through successful and effective community engagement</p> <p>2. Deliver well-managed spaces that are widely understood as destinations for improved health and wellbeing</p> <p>3. Provide a diverse mix of opportunities for enrichment at our open spaces</p>	<p>1. 150th anniversary celebration and partnership with FoWHP, and gardening volunteer. Activities of Learning Team.</p> <p>2. 150th anniversary celebration, attainment of Green Flag award in July 2024 demonstrates the best practice management of West Ham Park, success of the free Swing Gym at the park that offers free access to weight-lifting equipment.</p> <p>3. 150th anniversary celebration and partnership with FoWHP. Officers are exploring the potential to install Padel in the park, which would expand the overall offer.</p>	Learning & Heritage
2.5	Knowledge exchange: Continuous transfer of information between the Corporation and its customers	1. Ensure easy access to information about the Corporation, its open spaces, and our management practices	1. Officers are performing an audit of all NLOS webpages on the corporate website. While NLOS does not have control over the website, we are ensuring that information available is as accurate and as accessible as possible in the absence of a modern website being created by the City Corporation.	<p>Nature Conservation & Resilience</p> <p>Access & Recreation</p> <p>Learning & Heritage</p>

		<p>2. Catalyse improved behaviours in our spaces where needed</p> <p>3. Ensure greater understanding among members of the public of the Corporation’s efforts to preserve and care for our spaces</p> <p>4. Improve service delivery by the Corporation at its open spaces through information exchange</p>	<p>2. Officers have been communicating positive behaviours in an effort to reinforce them amidst increased ASB in the park. Officers have further developed an internal NLOS Communications Group to regularly inform our Communications Team of positive behaviours needed/to be promoted in all NLOS spaces, and problematic behaviours to message against (eg, cycling dangerously).</p> <p>3. Communications as per above and 150th anniversary celebration.</p> <p>4. Engagement with stakeholders in creation of the management plan will ensure that local feedback is considered and incorporated.</p>	
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3 Access and Recreation				
	Theme	Objective	Progress	Also contributes to
3.1	Balance the needs of visitors with the requirements of protecting the natural and heritage assets of the open spaces	1. Plan for increased visitor numbers and improve durability of honeypot locations	1. Officers are updating the management plan for West Ham Park, which will be presented to this committee at the December 2024 meeting. A consultant has been retained to support that effort. Visitor numbers are tracked by a paid	<p>Nature Conservation & Resilience</p> <p>Community Engagement</p> <p>Learning & Heritage</p>

3 Access and Recreation				
	Theme	Objective	Progress	Also contributes to
		2. Reduced visitor impact on priority habitats and other important sites through sustainable visitor and mitigation strategies being in place and implemented	<p>service that tracks mobile phone presence in the park. In addition, our communications efforts to influence behaviours furthers this objective.</p> <p>2. Management plan creation as per above. In addition, our communications efforts to influence behaviours furthers this objective.</p>	
3.2	Enable the best possible visitor journey, creating the right information from pre-visit to a stress-free and enjoyable on-site experience	1. Provide easily accessible, clear and exemplary pre-visit information through digital platforms	1. Audit of website as per above, and communications via social media supports the pre-visit journey.	<p>Community Engagement</p> <p>Learning & Heritage</p>
3.3	Provide welcoming places that visitors from all backgrounds and abilities are comfortable to explore	1. Work with partners to develop outreach to ensure wider audiences or are aware of and able to access sites	1. Our partnerships with the Natural Environment Division Learning Team and FoWHP expands the total number and overall quality of activities and opportunities for engagement in the park	<p>Community Engagement</p> <p>Learning & Heritage</p>
3.4	Build understanding and knowledge about the open spaces. Visitors will respect one another and will care for and	1. Respectful use of facilities and sites will be encouraged through engagement and instruction	1. 150 th anniversary celebration, communication of positive behaviours and work of on-site team further this objective. Retention of Parkguard to provide a supplemental enforcement and security presence	<p>Nature Conservation & Resilience</p> <p>Community Engagement</p> <p>Learning & Heritage</p>

3 Access and Recreation				
	Theme	Objective	Progress	Also contributes to
	advocate for the sites.		in the park is necessary to support appropriate behaviours.	

4 Learning and Heritage			
<p>Progress in the performance and delivery of this strategy will be reported by the Culture & Projects Team of the Natural Environment Division. Additional delivery of Learning and Heritage objectives are supported by the partnership with Friends of West Ham Park and strongly supported by the 150th anniversary celebration.</p>			