

## City of London Corporation Committee Report

<b>Committee(s):</b> Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood, and Queen's Park Committee	<b>Dated:</b> 3 December 2024
<b>Subject:</b> Update to Management Plans for Highgate Wood and Queen's Park	<b>Public report:</b> For Decision
<b>This proposal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes</b></li></ul>	-Diverse Engaged Communities -Dynamic Economic Growth -Leading Sustainable Environment -Vibrant Thriving Destination -Providing Excellent Services -Flourishing Public Spaces
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	No
<b>If so, how much?</b>	N/A
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	N/A
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b>	Katie Stewart, Executive Director Environment
<b>Report author:</b>	Bill LoSasso, Assistant Director (Superintendent), North London Open Spaces

### Summary

This report summarises the work done to update the management plans for both Highgate Wood and Queen's Park, which are attached in near-final form as appendices, and seeks Committee approval to finalise the documents and prepare for layout and publication.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the provided reports and attached Highgate Wood Management Plan and Queen's Park Management Plan.

- Authorise the Superintendent, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to finalise the update to the management plans for Highgate Wood and Queen's Park.

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. As previously reported to this Committee, officers are updating all four management plans for the four open spaces that NLOS is responsible for (Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood, Queen's Park, and West Ham Park). Officers have retained a consultant with extensive experience in developing management plans and strategies for open spaces to support in that effort (Land Management Services).
2. As part of that effort, officers are completing updates to the management plans for Highgate Wood and Queen's Park. In addition to both plans being due for review, this exercise was needed to ensure that both management plans remained aligned with recent strategies that have been developed across the City Corporation in recent years, including the new Corporate Plan (2024-2029), new Natural Environment Strategies (2024-2029), and Climate Action Strategy (2020-2027), as well as reflected world events, newly developed best practice, and experience gained in managing both spaces under the existing management plans.
3. While these new strategies and plans provide broad direction to NLOS in managing its sites and indeed will be furthered and delivered by our work at NLOS, the Highgate Wood Management Plan and Queen's Park Management Plan will remain the primary plans for the management of these spaces, respectively.

### **Consultation**

4. The consultative groups that are made up of and represent local stakeholders for each space (Highgate Wood Consultative Group and Queen's Park Consultative Group, respectively) attended participatory engagement sessions during the development of the plans with officers, Land Management Services, and this committee's chairman. Contributions were incorporated into the plans. In addition, members of these respective consultative groups also provided additional written comments on circulated drafts of the plans while under development.

### **Finalisation of the Management Plans**

5. Appendix 1 provides the current draft of the Highgate Wood Management Plan. Appendix 2 provides the current draft of the Queen's Park Management Plan.
6. These drafts are now in near-final form, subject to final comments of officers and this Committee and formal layout of the document for publication in alignment

with relevant standards. Land Management Services will provide a presentation and overview of each plan for Members at the meeting on 3 December 2024.

7. Members are asked to note the work done to date, review the near-final drafts, provide any final comments, and delegate to the Superintendent in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair authorisation to finalise the management plans for Highgate Wood and Queen's Park and prepare them for publication.

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

### **Financial implications**

8. None from these plans. Future projects and initiatives in furtherance of the plans will have to be delivered in alignment with funding constraints.

### **Resource implications**

9. Delivery of the management plans will have to be delivered in alignment with funding constraints.

### **Legal implications**

10. Highgate Wood and Queen's Park are separate open spaces administered under a single charity, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Kilburn (Charity Number 232986), with the City of London Corporation acting as the trustee. The City Corporation is responsible for ensuring that the charity fulfils its charitable purpose, which is "the preservation in perpetuity by the Corporation of London, of the open spaces known as Highgate Wood, Highgate and Queens Park, Kilburn as public parks or open spaces, for the perpetual use thereof by the public for exercise and recreation". Upon approval and implementation, the management plans will assist the trustee in discharging this duty in accordance with the charity's objectives.

### **Risk implications**

11. Risks are identified, regularly reviewed, and managed through the Highgate Wood & Queen's Park Risk Registers.

### **Equalities implications**

12. Inclusion is specifically incorporated into both management plans, with actions for officers to ensure and increase access and participation in both Highgate Wood and Queen's Park.

### **Climate implications**

13. The management plans were developed in consideration of the City Corporation's Climate Action Strategy.

## Security implications

14. Risks are identified, regularly reviewed, and managed through the Highgate Wood & Queen's Park Risk Registers.

## Conclusion

15. The Highgate Wood Management Plan and Queen's Park Management Plan have been updated, in consultation as noted herein. The plans are now in near-final form, and authority is sought for the Superintendent, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to finalise and publish the documents.

## Appendices

- Appendix 1: Highgate Wood Management Plan (2025 - 2035)
- Appendix 2: Queen's Park Management Plan (2025 - 2035)
- Appendix 3 (via hyperlink): City of London Corporation Corporate Plan (2024-2029)
  - [Our Corporate Plan 2024-29 - City of London](#)
- Appendix 4 (via hyperlink): Natural Environment strategies (2024-2029)
  - [Natural Environment - City of London](#)
- Appendix 5 (via hyperlink): Hampstead Heath Management Strategy (2018-2028)
  - [Hampstead Heath Management Strategy](#)

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