

City of London Corporation Committee Report

Committee(s): West Ham Park Committee	Dated: 10 December 2024
Subject: Update to Management Plan for West Ham Park	Public report: For Decision
This proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes	-Diverse Engaged Communities -Dynamic Economic Growth -Leading Sustainable Environment -Vibrant Thriving Destination -Providing Excellent Services -Flourishing Public Spaces
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
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:	Katie Stewart, Executive Director Environment
Report author:	Bill LoSasso, Assistant Director (Superintendent), North London Open Spaces

Summary

This report summarises the work done to update the management plan for West Ham Park, which is attached in near-final form as appendices, and seeks Committee approval to finalise the document and prepare for layout and publication.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the report and attached draft West Ham Park Management Plan.
- Authorise the Superintendent, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to finalise the update to the management plan for West Ham 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 plan for West Ham Park. In addition to the plan being due for review, this exercise was needed to ensure that the management plan remained aligned (as appropriate) 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 reflecting world events, newly developed best practice, and experience gained in managing West Ham Park 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 West Ham Park Management Plan will remain the primary plan for the management of West Ham Park.

Consultation

4. Officers hosted a consultation session for this committee with Land Management Services, and contributions were taken into account in drafting the plan. The Friends of West Ham Park attended a separate participatory engagement session during the development of the plan with officers and Land Management Services and then provided additional written comments for consideration. Their contributions were taken into account in drafting the plan.

Finalisation of the Management Plans

5. Appendix 1 provides the current draft of the West Ham Park Management Plan.
6. This draft is 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 the plan for Members at the meeting on 10 December 2024.
7. Members are asked to note the work done to date, review the near-final draft, provide any final comments, and authorise the Superintendent in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair to finalise the West Ham Park Management Plan and prepare it 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. West Ham Park is a registered charity (Charity Number 206948), of which the City of London Corporation is the trustee. The City Corporation, as trustee, is responsible for ensuring that the charity fulfils its charitable purpose, which in summary is: 'the maintenance of West Ham Park as open public grounds and gardens for the resort and recreation of adults and as playgrounds for youth and children'. Upon approval and implementation, the management plan will assist the trustee in discharging this duty in accordance with the charity's objectives.

Charity implications

11. As noted above, West Ham Park is a registered charity. Charity Law obliges Members to ensure that the decisions they take in relation to a charity are taken in the best interests of that charity.

Risk implications

12. Risks are identified, regularly reviewed, and managed through the West Ham Park Risk Registers.

Equalities implications

13. Inclusion is specifically incorporated into the management plan, with actions for officers to ensure and increase access and participation at West Ham Park.

Climate implications

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

Security implications

15. Risks are identified, regularly reviewed, and managed through the West Ham Park Risk Register.

Conclusion

16. The West Ham Park Management Plan has been updated, in consultation as noted herein. The plan is 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 document.

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Draft West Ham Park Management Plan (2025 - 2035)
- Appendix 2 (via hyperlink): City of London Corporation Corporate Plan (2024-2029)
 - [Our Corporate Plan 2024-29 - City of London](#)
- Appendix 3 (via hyperlink): Natural Environment strategies (2024-2029)
 - [Natural Environment - City of London](#)

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