

City of London Corporation Committee Report

Committee(s): West Ham Park Committee	Dated: 6 February 2025
Subject: West Ham Park Management Plan (2025 – 2035)	Public report: For Decision
This proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes	-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?	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 provides Members with the final version of the West Ham Park Management Plan (2025 – 2035), subject to final layout. The plan incorporates the comments made by Members at the meeting of 10 December 2024. It also incorporates comments received out of committee to the extent feasible, as summarised herein.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Approve the West Ham Park Management Plan (2025-2035) as attached in Appendix 1, subject to final layout.

Main Report

Background

1. At the meeting of 10 December 2024, Officers presented a draft of the West Ham Park Management Plan (2025 – 2035) 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.
2. At that meeting, Members provided comments for inclusion into the Plan, which Officers have incorporated. In addition, Officers received additional comments out of Committee, the majority of which were also incorporated into the current document.
3. In summary, the incorporated comments include
 - a. Reference to Newham Local Plan in relation to green networks and proposal to seek Borough status for SINC
 - b. Commitment to submit for Green Heritage Award in 2025
 - c. Stronger referencing of heritage status of Park and assets
 - d. Referencing to buildings in the Park was increased, though much of this lies outside the scope of the management plan
 - e. Cross referencing to the City Corporation's Biodiversity Action Plan and species of note
 - f. Amendments to the action plan to remove repetition of actions and additional commitments.
4. Comments that were unable to be incorporated into the plan are noted below, with reasoning from Officers.
 - a. A summary of the Conservation Management Plan's (CMP) Action Plan and specific plans from the CMP. This was not included because some plans in the CMP are now out of date, though the Management Plan now includes a commitment to update them. In addition, the character area mapping relates principally to historic character and does not necessarily reflect management compartments and practice. It was felt that cross referencing to the CMP was more appropriate. The Management Plan does, however, include extensive cross-referencing to the CMP, which was deemed to be more appropriate. In addition, the management plans

have been developed at an agreed high-level and public facing format and developed consistently across NLOS.

- b. Reference to Pollinating London Together. After review, it is understood that this initiative relates primarily to the Square Mile. At this stage, there are no direct links to initiatives in West Ham Park, although much of the work and management in the Park is consistent with the objectives of Pollinating London Together and Officers will continue to monitor its work.
5. Officers now submit the West Ham Park Management Plan (2025 - 2035), amended as noted above, for Committee approval. What remains to be completed is the final layout of the document, which will occur in the coming weeks and will not result in any substantive change to the document.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications

6. The West Ham Park Management Plan (2025 – 2035) establishes the strategic direction of the management of West Ham Park, with alignment to the City Corporation Corporate Plan (2024 – 2029), Natural Environment Strategies (2024 – 2029), and other strategic documents where possible and consistent with the charitable objects of West Ham Park Charity.

Financial implications

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

Resource implications

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

Legal implications

9. 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

10. 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

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

Equalities implications

12. 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

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 West Ham Park Risk Register.

Conclusion

15. 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: West Ham Park Management Plan (2025 - 2035)

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