# City Gardens Risk Register

**Report Author:** Joanne Hill **Generated on:** 10 April 2025



#### Rows are sorted by Risk Score

Risk no, Title, Creation date, Owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Sco	core	Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & S	Score	Target Date/Risk Approach	Flight path
ENV-CO-GC 011 Tree and plant diseases and other pests 24-Feb-2022 Nicola Smith; Jake Tibbetts	Cause: Inadequate biosecurity, purchase or transfer of infected plants and soil. Invasion of pests and diseases from neighbouring areas e.g. Oak Processionary Moth, Massaria, Xyella; Box blight.  Event: Sites become infected by plant or tree diseases.  Effect: Threat to human health, either directly or indirectly; service capability disrupted; ineffective use of staff resources; damage to corporate reputation; loss of species; site closures (temporary) and associated access; increased costs for reactive maintenance.	Impact		This risk includes plant diseases such as Xyella which, while not known to be present in the UK, has spread in Europe, including France.  City Gardens have moved away from using box hedging and are trialling alternative species as appropriate.  The target date shown is the date of the next review.  10 Apr 2025	Impact	12	30-Jun-2025 Accept	

Action no, Title,	Action description			Latest Note Date	Due Date
		Provision of staff training is continuing. Information on training is shared through the Departmental Health and Safety Group, Equalities Board, SLT, and other avenues.	Nicola Smith	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025

training	pests and knowledge of correct treatment/ prevention.				
	Ongoing action: Annual tree inspections undertaken by qualified personnel through framework contract.	An annual programme is in place for cyclical inspections and targets are being met.	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025
011c Information	industry bodies, internal CoL departments, and neighbouring local authorities to ensure free flow of information.	Relationships with industry bodies, internal partners and neighbouring local authorities continue to be maintained.	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025

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ENV-CO-GC 016 Staff resources 04-Aug-2022 Jake Tibbetts	Cause: Aging workforce combined with difficulties in recruitment and retention of younger workforce due to remuneration and benefits package becoming increasingly uncompetitive for the market sector.  Event: Reduction in skill and human resources within the service.  Effect: Increased staff absence due to sickness; inability to deliver the necessary level of service or meet business objectives; increased number of complaints from the public; negative publicity/reputational damage.	Impact	12	Gardening resource has been increased in recognition of the greater volume of work and we have secured additional funding for resources through the On-Street Parking Reserve (OSPR).  We aim to reduce the score of this risk when the Ambition 25 programme outcomes are realised.  10 Apr 2025	Ulefrood market	8	30-Sep-2025 Reduce	

Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note		Latest Note Date	Due Date
016a Job		The new Corporate People Strategy has been published. We will re-evaluate the situation as the reward and development elements are clarified (Ambition 25).	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025
016c		We recruited four new levy-funded apprentices in January 2024. The next recruitment of apprentices will take place in September 2025.	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025

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ENV-CO-GC 017 Decline in condition of assets 04-Aug-2022 Jake Tibbetts	Cause: Poor maintenance of assets; failure to implement recommendations.  Event: Failure to meet statutory regulations and checks. Built assets deteriorate to unusable/unsafe condition.  Effect: Poor condition of assets; service failures; loss of value; cost of repair; potential fines from statutory bodies and insurance claims.	Impact	12	Funding to address the backlog of maintenance works has been approved. We are working with City Surveyor's Department (CSD) to identify priority works.  We aim to reduce the risk score further once priority works are underway.  10 Apr 2025	Impact	8	30-Sep-2025 Reduce	

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ENV-CO-GC 017a Investment and maintenance	programme of investment and maintenance of	The 20-year works programme is reviewed on an annual basis.	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025
017b Regular	Carry out inspections and report defects as they arise. Ensure that unresolved actions are highlighted to City Surveyor's Department.	This is an ongoing action. All necessary inspections are carried out and any defects are reported to City Surveyor's Department.	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025
ENV-CO-GC 017c Review and monitoring		Internal checks are carried out on an ongoing basis. These are monitored every quarter to ensure they have been completed.	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025

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ENV-CO-GC 018 Negative impacts of public behaviour	Cause: Problematic, anti-social and criminal behaviour.  Event: Litter; public urination and defecation (human and dog); dog fouling, dog attacks, street drinking; drug use; vandalism; wanton damage and theft.  Effect: Damage and loss of assets; reduction in user experience and satisfaction; increased costs of cleaning and repairing damage; reputational harm.	Inpact 12	Actions are in place to address anti-social, criminal, and other problematic behaviours in and around our sites  We recently recruited a Keeper who has enforcement duties and have monitored the impact of this role over subsequent months. The post holder has built good relationships with dog owners at Bunhill Fields and this has resulted in more responsible dog ownership and reduced the likelihood of anti-social behaviour.  We have, therefore, now reduced the likelihood score of this risk from 'likely' (4) to 'possible' (3), bringing the overall risk score down to Amber 12 (possible / major). We will continue to implement the other mitigating actions with a view to achieving the target score (Amber 6) in due course.		30-Sep-2025	

Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note		Latest Note Date	Due Date
018a	ASB offenders, and the Outreach Team in regard to rough sleepers.	We continue to work to identify a solution and improve the situation.  We continue to work in partnership with Parkguard to engage with ASB offenders, and with the City's Outreach Team to engage with rough sleepers. We are feeding into the ASB Working Group and providing data to them.	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025

ENV-CO-GC 018b Enforcement of byelaws	powers of the new Keeper to encourage	The newly recruited Keeper who has enforcement duties has had a positive impact - the post holder has formed good relationships with dog owners who frequent Bunhill Fields and the resultant improvements have enabled the risk score to be reduced.	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025
		We will work with City Solicitor's Department to assess how appropriate it would be to introduce PSPOs across the City Gardens.			

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ENV-CO-GC 009 Risk to health and safety  24-Feb-2022  Nicola Smith; Jake Tibbetts	Cause: Failure to adhere to health and safety policies and procedures. Failure to link work activity with adequate procedures; risk assessments and safe systems of work not complied with; inadequate appropriate training; failure to implement the results of audits.  Event: Staff, volunteers, contractors or licensees undertake unsafe working practices, notably working at roadside or at height in City.  Effect: Injury to staff, volunteers, contractors or member of the public; prosecution and fine by HSE and/or Police; increased insurance premiums; reputational damage.		8	While we cannot remove this risk, we continue to take actions to mitigate it as far as possible and maintain the score at the current level.  Health and safety procedures are kept under regular review and the Emergency Plan will be reviewed and updated during the coming months.  A recent review of City Gardens' health and safety procedures produced positive results. Some additional practices were recommended, such as increasing the number of external audits that are carried out, and we are working to implement these.  The target date shown is the date of the next review.  10 Apr 2025		8	30-Sep-2025 Accept	

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009a Accident		fficers continue to report accidents, incidents and near misses. Accidents are subject to vestigation and review by the Departmental Health and Safety Group.		10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025
	contractors (City Surveyor's and external)	The Contractor Protocol covers works undertaken by City Surveyor's Department and external contractors. All contractors are required to sign up to, and comply with, the Protocol: it has been implemented with existing contractors and is rolled out to new contractors as required. Regular	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025

protocol	review documentation and processes in light of investigation findings and changes in legislation.	progress meetings are held with City Surveyor's Department and other service areas when working on larger projects.			
009d Training	Ongoing action: Essential and desirable training needs are identified for each staff role. All staff are required to undertake security and terrorism training, e.g. Project Griffin, Argus and Prevent. Completion of appropriate training is kept under review.	The staff training programme is reviewed regularly, and individual training is monitored.	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025
ENV-CO-GC 009h Improvements to processes	Seek improvements to process and monitoring.	Use Safe 365 feedback to identify areas for improvement and draw on internal Corporate and Departmental health and safety expertise to enhance processes and monitoring.	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025

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ENV-CO-GC 012 Climate and weather 24-Feb-2022 Nicola Smith; Jake Tibbetts	Cause: Severe wind events; prolonged drought conditions; extreme temperatures; prolonged precipitation or restricted precipitation. May be climate change influenced.  Event: Severe weather/climate at one or more sites.  Effect: Service capability disrupted; fire, flood and storm events (potentially increasing in frequency); increased demand for staff resources to respond to incidents and maintain site safety; damage/loss of habitats and species; temporary site closures and associated access; increased costs for reactive management; injury or death to staff, visitors, contractors and volunteers; in the case of extreme temperatures, direct negative impact on the health of members of staff.		The Extreme Weather Policy is in place and improves our ability to reduce risk by closing sites before extreme weather events occur.  The 'working in heat' risk assessment incorporates current guidance from the HSE regarding working in heat. The staff 'Working Safely' manual has been updated to reflect the changes in the risk assessment.  We have now produced a plant species list which is being employed on all projects as business as usual.  The target date shown is the date of the nex review.  10 Apr 2025	Impact	30-Sep-2025 Accept	

Action no, Title,	Action description			Latest Note Date	Due Date
		We have produced a plant species list which we will review and improve annually as lessons are learnt. We will also share the list with external partners and ask for their feedback. This is captured in strategic documents e.g. CoL Tree Strategy SPD.	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025
weather warnings	water situation reports. Use staff email to advise on reactive reporting of weather	7 11 1	Jake Tibbetts	10-Apr-2025	30-Sep-2025