

## City of London Corporation Committee Report

<b>Committee:</b> Natural Environment Board	<b>Dated:</b> 3/7/2025
<b>Subject:</b> Environment Department high-level Business Plan 2024/25 – Year-End Progress Report	<b>Public report:</b> For Information
<b>This proposal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes</li><li>• provides business enabling functions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Diverse engaged communities</li><li>• Vibrant thriving destination</li><li>• Providing excellent services</li><li>• Flourishing public spaces</li><li>• Leading sustainable environment</li></ul>
<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>	Joanne Hill, Environment Department

### Summary

This report provides an update on progress made by the Natural Environment Division and the City Gardens Team towards delivery of the Environment Department's high-level Business Plan 2024/25.

The report summarises the progress that has been made against major workstreams and performance measures during the last year. Overall, the majority of workstreams have remained on track and all have supported the delivery of the Corporate Plan outcomes and other cross-cutting strategies and programmes.

### Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the content of this report and its appendices.

### Main Report

#### Background

1. The Environment Department's high-level Business Plan provided a strategic overview of the key areas of work that would be undertaken across the whole

department during 2024/25. On 19 February 2024, the Natural Environment Board approved the content of the Business Plan that related to the service areas within its remit, i.e. the Natural Environment Division and City Gardens.

2. Detailed business plans for each of the Natural Environment charities are now in place; these plans set out the specific priorities and activities of each charity and progress against them is reported regularly to the Charity Management Committees.
3. To ensure the Natural Environment Board is kept informed, progress made against the high-level Business Plan is reported every six months. This approach allows Members to ask questions and have an input into areas of particular importance to them.

## **Current Position**

### **Major workstreams**

4. The high-level Business Plan set out the Natural Environment Division and City Gardens priority workstreams for 2024/25. For the Natural Environment Division, the workstreams aligned with the Natural Environment Strategies.
5. Throughout the year, Members were kept informed of the progress of specific workstreams by way of regular Assistant Director update reports and/or separate detailed reports. Overall, teams made good progress against delivery of the workstreams: a detailed update is provided at Appendix 1.

### **Performance Measures**

6. Each of the priority workstreams had one or more associated Key Performance Indicators to measure progress against the target. These measures were monitored throughout the year and details of performance is provided at Appendix 2. For any indicator which slipped or did not meet its target by the end of the year, an explanation is given.

## **Corporate and Strategic Implications**

**Strategic implications** – The monitoring of key workstreams and performance measures links to the achievement of the aims and outcomes set out in the Corporate Plan 2024-29.

**Financial Implications** – Financial implications will be addressed in a separate Chamberlain's Revenue Outturn report.

**Resource implications** – Recruitment to vacant posts across the service areas continued throughout the year and is now progressing well.

**Risk implications** - Risks to achieving the objectives set out in the Business Plan are identified and managed in accordance with the City of London Risk Management

Framework. Risk Registers are reported to the Natural Environment Board and the Charity Management Committees quarterly.

**Climate implications** – The Climate Action Strategy is supported by a range of workstreams being undertaken by the Natural Environment Division and City Gardens. Progress against these is regularly reported to Members.

**Charity implications** - The Natural Environment sites are registered charities. Any decisions must be taken in the best interests of the relevant charity.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Progress against key workstreams

Appendix 2 – Progress against key performance indicators

## **Background Papers**

- Draft High-Level Business Plan 2024/25 – Environment Department' (Natural Environment Board, 19 February 2024)

## **Contact**

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