

## City of London Corporation Committee Report

<b>Committees:</b> Epping Forest and Commons	<b>Dated:</b> 17/07/2025
<b>Subject:</b> Assistant Director Epping Forest Update Report May-June 2025 (SEF 15/25)	<b>Public</b> For Information
<b>This proposal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes</b></li> <li>• <b>provides statutory duties</b></li> <li>• <b>provides business enabling functions</b></li> </ul>	Diverse Engaged Communities  Leading Sustainable Environment  Vibrant Thriving Destination  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, Environment Executive Director
<b>Report author:</b>	Jacqueline Eggleston, Assistant Director, Epping Forest and Geoff Sinclair, Assistant Director, The Commons

### Summary

This report presents updates on business activity delivered in Epping Forest for the period May to June 2025. The activities are delivered against the objectives outlined in the Epping Forest Management Strategy (charitable objectives), Epping Forest Business Plan and the Natural Environment Strategies.

## **Recommendation**

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

## **Main Report**

### **Current Position**

1. Appendix A provides updates on service delivery in Epping Forest and its buffer lands in the period May – June 2025. Information for this period should be read in conjunction with separate reports on financial activity, risk management and high-level business planning to provide an overview of progress made against Charity, Corporate and Natural Environment objectives.

Of particular note;

2. Works on the new surfaced path 'The Gloucester Ride' linking Connaught Water and the Visitor Centre has commenced and will complete the Brambly Hedge Trail.
3. Volunteers Week was celebrated with a number of events focussed on recognising the important contribution made by our volunteers.
4. Officers have been attending local events and festivals with a 'roadshow' information stall, showcasing the new 'cow locator card' which links to a live tracking of where the cattle are present in the Forest.
5. Recruitment efforts continue to fill remaining vacancies.

### **Proposals**

6. Completion of the Gloucester Ride and tendering for the spur path to link with Bury Road will be commenced.
7. Woodland Management Plans to be tendered.
8. Summer events programme including outdoor theatre and roadshows to be delivered.
9. Roll out of new out of hours phone service and new visitor mobile phone data gathering service.

## **Key Data**

10. April/May (April/May 2024)

- Total fly tips: 108 (118)
- Total fires/barbeques: 20/11 (3 / 7)
- Grazing days: 1063 Forest / 6172 Buffer (520 / 929)
- Visitor Centre: 15,407 (10,325)
- 8 filming licences: Total of £3,599 ( 7 / £149,483.50)
- 17 fitness licences: Total of £3,270 (17 / £2,953)
- 12 utilities licences: Total of £32 (6 / £0)
- Dog incidents: 7 (8)

## **Conclusion**

11. Considerable progress against Natural Environment Strategy Objectives and Epping Forest management plan objectives have been delivered during the reporting period.

## **Appendices**

Appendix A – Progress against key objectives / actions (categorised by Natural Environment Strategy). Further detail of how the activities align to these objectives is shown in the Epping Forest Business Plan.

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