## **ENV NE - Hampstead Heath Risk Register**

Report Type: Risks Report Report Author: Joanne Hill

Generated on: 19 September 2025



Rows are sorted by Risk Score

#### Risk Level Description Service

Risk Code	ENV-NE-HH 007	Risk Title	Decline in condition of assets
Description	Programme, and limited capital values of staff resources at Hamps Lack of clarity (cross-departmen	works programme at once faults are restead Heath. tally) around roles uildings further de e public or memberational impact. ion of assets.	eported.  and responsibilities for facilities maintenance. cline, becoming unusable and/or unsafe.

Current Risk	Dog Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
16	Likely	Major	
Red	Trend	Constant	

Target Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact	
12	Possible	Major	
Amber	Target Date	31-Dec- 2026	

Original Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impac		
12	Possible	Major	
Amber	Creation Date	10-Aug-2015	

Chief Officers in occupation are typically accountable for asset condition within their functional area. They are responsible for commissioning required work, and ensuring an appropriate funding route is identified. This action is often delivered upon the professional advice of the City Surveyor's Department (CSD). Once a work package is commissioned, it is the responsibility of CSD to deliver those works as agreed and funded within the given cost/timeline/specifications. Documents outlining responsibilities by asset and task are under review, in particular the Division of Responsibilities between CSD and the Environment Department, and the Corporate Controller of Premises Policy. **Latest Note** The Assistant Director Charity Development is taking forward recommendations for changes to ways of working 19-Sep-2025 with CSD and other corporate departments. In particular, Service Level Agreements. The Natural Environment Charity Review is considering alternative funding options to enable charities to have greater influence over management and investment in their assets. Surveys of condition of high priority lodges have been undertaken and have informed further agreements and working with CSD to maximise investment in neglected assets, particularly housing in need of improvement and buildings that have income generation potential.

Work is underway with CSD and other corporate departments to assess, allocate and prioritise backlog funding to areas of most need. Recent progress includes toilet refurbishment works at Golders Hill Park and on Hampstead Heath. Also, further electrical improvements are underway at Golders Hill Park.

Additional projects will be completed through delivery of the 5-year Cyclical Works Programme (CWP). Officers will continue to monitor risk levels as the CWP is delivered and new issues are identified. The risk remains high. The target date has been set to the end of 2026 and we will reassess it at that time, but we do not expect the overall risk for the charity to reduce before the 5-year CWP is complete.

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Reduce
Risk Owner	Bill LoSasso

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
ENV-NE-HH 007b Liaison with City Surveyor's Dept.		The Assistant Property Facilities Manager (APFM) is in regular contact with Natural Environment Division stakeholders. Officers are continuing to work with CSD to resolve service delivery issues.  We are establishing regular project prioritisation meetings with the CWP (Cyclical Works Programme) Team for project oversight.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Dec-2025
		This is an ongoing action and is kept under review.			

ENV-NE-HH 007d Annual building inspections	Annual inspections of all buildings, including residential, carried out jointly by local teams and City Surveyor's Department.	Annual inspections of built assets were undertaken in conjunction with the City Surveyor's Department (CSD) and are now contingent upon there being sufficient capacity and resource. There is currently insufficient resource within the local team to complete all inspections but officers continue to liaise with colleagues in CSD to progress this.  This is an ongoing action and is kept under review.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Dec-2025
ENV-NE-HH 007e Asset review	Asset management review.	The Natural Environment Charity Review (NECR) has compiled a comprehensive list of all assets and determined ownership. Consultants have been appointed to carry out an independent review of complementary land assets – their report is due at the end of 2025 and will be presented to Committees in Q1 2026.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Mar-2026
ENV-NE-HH 007g Delivery of works	City Surveyor's Department to deliver works as agreed and funded either by CWP funds and/or directly by the Environment Department.	The CSD's Operations Group deliver work packages as agreed with the Environment Department, within agreed allocated funds, timelines and specifications. This is delivered either via the Cyclical Works Programme (CWP), capital and/or local risk budget.  Regular liaison meetings are held between Environment and CSD to manage the delivery programme, and to ensure any risks / issues / conflicts / etc are escalated and understood by all parties.	19-Sep-2025	Peter Collinson	31-Dec-2025

Risk Code ENV-NE-HH 014	Risk Title	Impacts of anti-social behaviour on staff and site
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**Description**Cause: Anti-social behaviour of members of the public.

Event: Anti-social, irresponsible or unsafe behaviour an

**Event:** Anti-social, irresponsible or unsafe behaviour and abuse of staff, particularly during extremely busy periods.

Effect: Safety of staff and visitors; damage to sites; reputational damage; disruption to operations; cost of repair and increased

insurance premiums; loss of staff time.

Current Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
16	Likely	Major	
Red	Trend	Constant	

Target Risk	lmpa	ct	
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
8	Likely Seriou		
Amber	Target Date	31-Dec- 2026	

Original Risk	Impact	
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact
16	Likely	Major
Red	Creation Date	16-Jan-2024

Latest Note	A departmental 'Unreasonable Behaviour Protocol' has been developed to tackle abuse of staff, including rapid reporting of incidents. A local process has also been implemented to ensure recording of all incidents and appropriate action is taken as necessary.  There has been a significant increase in drugs and used needles being found on West Heath.  An external security provider was used over the summer to provide supplementary security for the Lido. This was successful and their presence had a positive impact, appearing to have reduced instances of ASB at the Lido.  We have recently installed new roller shutters on the Mixed and Men's Ponds observation huts to protect the windows outside of operational hours, following incidents of trespass and break-ins during previous years.	19-Sep-2025
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Relevant training on conflict management has been provided to North London Open Spaces front-line staff.

Locally, officers encourage responsible behaviour and put preventative measures in place where possible. Collaboration with the police and other enforcement agencies to minimise incidents is ongoing. Officers will continue to hire in supplemental security resource where necessary.

We are recruiting four additional Constables which will increase the security presence. The target date for this risk has been extended to the end of 2026 to allow for the impact of the additional staff to be assessed.

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Reduce
Risk Owner	Bill LoSasso

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
ENV-NE-HH 014a Departmental 'Abuse of Staff Policy'	Staff Policy'.	An Environment Department reporting system is in place to enable rapid reporting of instances where staff experience abusive or unacceptable behaviour from members of the public. A Departmental 'Unacceptable Behaviour Protocol' has also been introduced.  Locally, all instances of such behaviour are recorded and appropriate action taken. The North London Open Spaces team is also making HR colleagues aware of the practical day-to-day challenges of managing open spaces.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso	31-Dec-2025

		Additional security presence at the Lido and Paddling Pool proved to be effective over summer 2025 and will continue to be monitored.  The 'due date' for this action is the date when it will next be reviewed.			
ENV-NE-HH 014c Enforcement partnerships	Build enforcement partnerships.	This is ongoing with relevant local agencies and partners.  A contract with an external security provider has now been agreed for the provision of supplemental security resource where necessary, including at the Lido for the high-season.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso	31-Dec-2025
ENV-NE-HH 014d Educate visitors	Educate visitors to use the Heath responsibly.	The use of social media messaging, press releases, signage and face to face engagement with members of the public to encourage responsible behaviours is ongoing as appropriate.  This is an ongoing action - the due date is the date of the next scheduled review.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso	31-Dec-2025

Risk Code	ENV-NE-HH 015
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## Description

**Cause:** Insufficient staffing numbers available to meet existing workloads as a consequence of significant cuts to NLOS staffing during the Target Operating Model (TOM2) process and other reductions.

**Event:** Staff are overworked, lone working; critical services are not delivered, procedures are not updated or followed.

**Effect:** Higher staff absence; increased staff turnover; reduced staff wellbeing and mental and physical health; inability to deliver services; reputational damage due to decreased service delivery; increased risk of accident and injury to staff or public.

Current Risk	Impact	
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact	
16	Likely	Major
Red	Trend	Constant

Target Risk	pougge   O   O   O   O   O   O   O   O   O	
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact
12	Possible	Major
Amber	Target Date	31-Dec- 2026

Original Risk	Impact	
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact
16	Likely	Major
Red	Creation Date	30-Apr-2025

Latest	<b>Note</b>

Some members of staff are experiencing overwork due to insufficient staffing levels, and are working additional, unpaid, hours to meet service delivery demands. This is resulting in increased levels of workplace stress and anxiety. The current risk score is assessed as Red 16 (likely to occur with a major impact) to reflect this.

Senior Management are working to address this situation as identified in the actions below.

We aim to reduce the risk score to the initial target of Amber 12 (possible/major) by the end of 2026. We will then reassess the situation to see whether additional resources have been effective in reducing the risk, and we will consider other actions which may enable the score to reduce.

19-Sep-2025

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Reduce
Risk Owner	Bill LoSasso

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
	Improve prioritisation of tasks through the new Five-Year Charity Business Plan.	The business planning process for the charity is being refined and implemented to better prioritise workstreams and reduce overwork where possible. This will be reviewed and improved annually.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso	31-Mar-2026
ENV-NE-HH 015b Staff rotas	Review staff rotas	Staff rotas will be reviewed during 2025 to modernise work schedules and quantify/document staffing gaps where possible.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso	31-Dec-2025
ENV-NE-HH 015c Income generation	Identify additional funding to increase staff resource.	A Head of Development and Partnerships has been appointed to support income generation and fundraising. We hope that the work of this officer will identify funding for additional staff resources. The due date of this action is set for December 2026 to enable time for the impact of the post holder's work to start to be realised.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso	31-Dec-2026
ENV-NE-HH 015d Natural Environment Charity Review	Seek options through the Natural Environment Charity Review.	Senior Managers will advocate, via the Natural Environment Charity Review (NECR), for restoration of funding which was cut during the Target Operating Model (TOM2) process and elsewhere.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso	31-Mar-2026
ENV-NE-HH 015e Provide	Liaise with HR and Occupational Health	Senior Managers will continue to liaise with HR and the Occupational Health service as	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso	31-Dec-2025

support for staff	appropriate to ensure support is provided for staff. Stress Risk Assessments will be considered where appropriate.		
	This is an ongoing action which is kept under regular review. The due date shown is the date of the next review.		

Risk Code ENV-NE-HH 001		Risk Title	Budget pressures
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Description	Cause: Reduced budgets; running costs of the Heath exceed income generation; expanding demand on services; and aging assets requiring investment.  Event: Adequate funds are not available to maintain sufficient staffing levels, provide services and maintain the built assets.  Effect: Failure to deliver statutory duties. Failure to meet strategic objectives. Decline in range, and quality, of services. Closure of facilities. Decline of the built environment. Reputational damage to the City of London.
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Current Risk	Impact			
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact			
12	Possible	Major		
Amber	Trend	Constant		

Target Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact	
8	Unlikely	Major	
Amber	Target Date	31-Dec- 2026	

Original Risk	Impact			
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact			
8	Likely	Serious		
Amber	Creation Date	29-Jan-2019		

	The new operational structure devotes staff resource to develop income generation - we have appointed a Head of Development and Partnerships to support income generation and fundraising.	19-Sep-2025	j
	The date by which we aim to reduce this risk to the target score has been extended to December 2026 to allow time for the results of the new post holder's work to begin to be realised.		

Reducing budget pressures is strongly linked to the amount of the annual grant provided to the charity under the grant funding model under the Natural Environment Charity Review. The Hampstead Heath charity will transition to a grant funding model from 2026/27 (moving from the current deficit funding model).

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Reduce
Risk Owner	Bill LoSasso

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
ENV-NE-HH 001a Budget monitoring	· ·	Regular review and forecasting of the budget position is undertaken with the Chamberlain's Department.  The new Head of Development and Partnerships will focus on developing income generation opportunities.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Mar-2026
ENV-NE-HH 001c Appoint Head of Development and Partnerships	Appoint Head of Development and Partnerships	The new operational structure includes the role of 'Head of Development and Partnerships' for North London Open Spaces which has now been appointed to. The post holder will focus on income generation.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso	31-Mar-2026
ENV-NE-HH 001d Service reductions	Consider reduction of service provision if necessary.	From the present until the end of the next fiscal year, officers will assess the need to review, and consider reduction of, service provision.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso	31-Mar-2027
ENV-NE-HH	Ensure cost recovery for services	Ensure cost recovery for services provided	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso	31-Dec-2026

001e Cost recovery	where appropriate.	where appropriate.		
recovery		This is an ongoing action and will be kept under regular review.		

Risk Code ENV-NE-HH 00	4 Risk Title	e Adverse impacts of extreme weather and climate change	
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Description	Cause: Climate change: more frequent and severe storms, wind, rainfall, snow or drought.  Event: More frequent and severe storm damage, flooding, and fires.  Effect: Injury or death to staff, visitors, contractors and volunteers. Damage to flora and fauna. Damage to property (City of London owned property and that of neighbours and service users). Disruptions to service delivery. Temporary site/area closures. Increased demand for staff resources to respond to incidents and maintain site safety. Increased costs for reactive management and insurance claims.
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Current Risk	Impact  Likelihood Impact	
Risk Score		
12	Possible	Major
Amber	Trend	Constant

Target Risk	Impact	
Risk Score	Likelihood Impa	
6	Possible	Serious
Amber	Target Date	31-Mar- 2026

Original Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impad		
8	Likely	Serious	
Amber	Creation Date	10-Aug-2015	

	The current risk score remains Amber 12 (possible / major) due to the increased frequency of extreme weather events. The target date has been extended to the end of the financial year to enable time for mitigating actions to be completed.	19-Sep-2025	
	There is an increased chance of flash flooding at Golders Hill Park and South End Green due to run-off from the		

ponds, although some minor works have now slightly reduced the risk of flooding.

Extreme weather events continue to be managed. The Extreme Weather Protocol will be reviewed by the end of March 2026.

- MET office Storm Centre warnings are monitored.
- MET Office Flood Alerts and Warning are monitored. This includes monitoring for potential flash flooding caused by summer sudden convection storms and heavy rain falling on dry ground. Action is taken to manage pond levels. In a major storm with very high levels of rainfall there would still be flooding downstream, but the risk of dam failure has been reduced significantly as a result of the 2015 Ponds Project.
- The MET Office Fire Severity Index is monitored.

Officers will seek more accurate weather warning and monitoring sources over the coming months.

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach Reduce	
Risk Owner	Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
ENV-NE-HH 004a Review Met Office information	warnings.	MET Office Data is reviewed weekly and responded to accordingly by the Duty Manager and Duty Supervisor.  Officers will be seeking more accurate sources of weather warnings and monitoring over the coming months.	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Mar-2026
ENV-NE-HH 004b Review of site	appropriate, following an	An Emergency Action Plan is in place. It is reviewed regularly by the District Surveyor's Engineering Team and/or after an emergency	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares; Charlotte	31-Dec-2025

emergency plans	Reviews usually conducted in September and agreed later in the year.	incident. The 2024 review was completed.  The statutory inspection of Hampstead Heath's reservoirs is conducted every six months.  This is an ongoing action. The due date shown is the date of the next review.		Williams	
ENV-NE-HH 004c Extreme Weather Protocol	Ensure compliance with the Extreme Weather Protocol and keep the protocol under regular review.	In accordance with the Extreme Weather Protocol, sites are closed during extreme weather events, such as high winds, lightning/storms or flooding.  The Protocol will be reviewed along with the Environment Department's Tree Safety Policy in the coming months.  We are working with LB Camden and LB Barnet Climate Resilience Teams to reduce the impact of localised flooding around the Heath.	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Mar-2026

Risk Code ENV-NE-HH 002	Risk Title	Negative impacts of visitor pressure
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# Cause: An increase in visitor numbers to Natural Environment sites, with commensurate increases in littering, other antisocial behaviour and general damage to the natural environment. Event: Long-term environmental damage, with a particular focus on protected landscapes which are not designed for such high visitor numbers.

**Effect:** Ecological and environmental damage; negative press coverage; loss of grants related to preservation; increased spend required to maintain sites / mitigate damage.

Current Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
8	Likely Serious		
Amber	Trend	Constant	

Target Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
6	Possible	Serious	
Amber	Target Date	31-Mar- 2027	

Original Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
12	Possible	Major	
Amber	Creation Date	01-Dec-2020	

Latest Note	The current risk remains at the same level.  Damage to the natural environment has increased due to higher visitor numbers. The risk score is commensurate to this damage. Nature recovery/ground restoration works continue as part of the Annual Works Programme. The most ecologically sensitive areas are fenced off to prevent access - this is funded through the Climate Action Strategy (CAS), along with aeration and compaction monitoring work.  Achievement of target score is contingent upon funding and support for restoration works. The target date to	19-Sep-2025	
	reduce the risk has been extended to the current end date of the CAS Carbon Removals and Resilience Projects.		

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Reduce
Risk Owner	Bill LoSasso

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
ENV-NE-HH 002a Mitigation Actions	Ongoing actions to mitigate this risk.	<ul> <li>Additional monitoring and ecological assessments required.</li> <li>Surveys to monitor visitor numbers and evaluate environmental impacts on the Heath.</li> <li>Messaging via social media asking visitors to use the site responsibly.</li> <li>Regular Ranger and Constabulary activity.</li> <li>Programmed restoration work is ongoing.</li> <li>Seeking ways to improve visitor infrastructure to encourage visitors to stay on designated routes and minimise damage.</li> <li>Carrying out educational and messaging campaigns to encourage the public to use the site responsibly.</li> <li>Very severely affected areas are temporarily fenced off to enable recovery.</li> <li>We expect this to be a long-term mitigation exercise: the action 'due date' is the date of the next review.</li> </ul>	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares	31-Mar-2027
ENV-NE-HH 002b Seek additional funding	Seek funding for restoration work.	Officers continue to seek funding for future restoration works, particularly through the Climate Action Strategy (CAS).	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares	31-Mar-2027

Risk Code ENV-NE-HH 006	Risk Title	Risk to health and safety
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Description	Cause: The operation of a large public green space, such as Hampstead Heath, carries a range of potential health and safety implications for members of the public, staff, volunteers and contractors.  Event: Incident or accident with health and safety implications.  Effect: Injury or death of a member of the public, volunteer, staff or contractor.  Financial penalty as a result of insurance claims, or non-compliance with health and safety legislation.  Reputational damage.
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Current Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
8	Unlikely	Major	

Target Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact	
4	Rare	Major	
Green	Target Date	31-Mar- 2026	

Original Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
8	Likely	Serious	
Amber	Creation Date	10-Aug-2015	

Latest Note	The current risk score remains unchanged, but we aim to reduce it the over coming months by further increasing proactive Health and Safety (H&S) management, including audits, inspections, communications and staffing. The target date has been extended to the end of September.  Officers continue to proactively address H&S issues and work closely with the departmental and corporate H&S	19-Sep-2025
	teams.  The new Corporate Safe365 Health and Safety system is now being used across the North London Open Spaces.	

H&S Workshops for staff were recently held at Parliament Hill and Heathfield House to discuss health and safety; raise awareness of the importance of H&S compliance; and to ensure that staff are fully aware of their responsibilities.	
The target date has been extended to reflect the timeline of the mitigating actions.	

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Reduce
Risk Owner	Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
ENV-NE-HH 006a Annual health and safety site audits	Continue to undertake regular health and safety assessments.	Fire Risk Assessments and water safety audits are undertaken by an external contractor. A Water Safety Audit was carried out in Spring 2025 across all four sites (the three ponds and the Lido). A Reservoir Panel Engineer inspection was also undertaken. A full review of Safe Systems of Work (SSoW) has been, and continues to be, undertaken by CoL staff.  A North London Open Spaces fleet audit has been undertaken by the CoL's Transport Policy Team - the result was largely positive, and the few resulting recommendations are being addressed. A re-audit will take place to reassess and check progress.	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Dec-2025
		This is an ongoing action which is reviewed			

		regularly. The due date shown is the date of the next review.			
	Relevant officers to participate in Departmental Health and Safety Improvement Group meetings. Hold regular Divisional and Sub-Divisional Health and Safety meetings. Keep staff informed, consulted and updated on health and safety matters.	The Head of Operations and Parks chairs regular North London Open Spaces Health and Safety meetings; and represents NLOS at the Divisional and Departmental Health and Safety Group meetings.  This is an ongoing action: the 'Due Date' is the date of the next review.	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Dec-2025
ENV-NE-HH 006d Risk management culture	Continue to develop a culture of proactively reporting accidents, incidents and near misses.	Officers continue to report accidents and near misses. Accidents are subject to investigation and reviewed by the site supervisor and the Departmental Health and Safety Improvement Group. A local process has also been implemented to ensure recording of all incidents. Relevant training is being organised for staff.  H&S Workshops were recently held for staff to discuss H&S raise awareness of the importance of H&S compliance; and to ensure that staff are fully aware of their responsibilities.  This is an ongoing action which is kept under	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Dec-2025
		regular review. The due date shown is the date of the next review.			
ENV-NE-HH 006e	Annual RoSPA inspections of all playgrounds.	Annual RoSPA inspections of all playgrounds are carried out; the next ones are scheduled to	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares;	31-Dec-2025

Playground inspections	take place in October 2025	Charlotte Williams
	Training has been provided to relevant staff to enable them to carry out monthly inspections of playgrounds. A Playground Working Group has been established, and meets quarterly, to discuss ongoing maintenance of playgrounds.	
	A best practice guide for the design, creation, installation and maintenance of playgrounds has been developed.	

Risk Code ENV-NE-HH 009	Risk Title	Water facilities - safety
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# Cause: Improper use of water facilities: members of the public swimming in unauthorised areas; swimming outside of designated zones/times; fail to pay attention to acclimatisation requirements. Insufficient signage; poor maintenance of banks. Event: Unable to effect safe rescue of swimmer/person in pond. Effect: Death or serious injury of member of public contractor or staff in ponds. Possible legal challenge. Emotional impact on

**Effect:** Death or serious injury of member of public, contractor or staff in ponds. Possible legal challenge. Emotional impact on staff. Reputational risk. Financial penalty.

Current Risk	Impact  Likelihood Impact		
Risk Score			
8	Likely	Serious	
Amber	Trend	Constant	

Target Risk	Impact	
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact
6	Possible	Serious
Amber	Target Date	31-Mar- 2026

Original Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact	
16	Unlikely	Extreme	
Red	Creation Date	10-Aug-2015	

	The current risk score remains Amber 8 (likely / serious) due to the increased popularity of the facilities and continued incidents of unauthorised access.	
Latest Note	safety of staff and visitors, but there is additional pressure during peak seasons when attendance increases.  Additional staff were recruited to cover the extended hours over the peak summer season.	19-Sep-2025
	This risk is partly mitigated by the continuation of the booking system which controls the number of people who are	

admitted during the busiest periods. Staffing levels are increased during busier periods.

An independent auditor undertakes an annual water safety audit of health and safety compliance for the Lido and ponds - this is next due in October 2025. All operational activity is compliant with health and safety requirements.

**Unsupervised water facilities:** These water bodies are not designated swimming facilities and suitable signage is erected and maintained. However, members of the public still enter the water, thereby increasing the risk of drowning and injury. Staff are alert to the issue and carry out regular patrols, subject to staff capacity.

The Winter Swimming Club is permitted to swim at the Mixed Pond without supervision, subject to a written agreement that transfers risk to members of the club who follow procedures and have suitable insurance cover.

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Reduce
Risk Owner	Charlotte Williams

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
training	stewards and operational / maintenance staff to ensure the safety of water bodies and swimmers.	Ongoing training needs and requirements are identified in staff performance reviews and 1:1 meetings throughout the year.  The due date shown is the date of the next scheduled review.	·	Paul Jeal; Charlotte Williams	31-Dec-2025
009b Signage	Rangers check signage weekly. They also check gates are locked	This is actively monitored. Signage, specifically at water bodies, is checked by the Ranger Team as part of their weekly patrols and defects are reported for repair or replacement.	·	Paul Jeal; Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Dec-2025

		The due date shown is the date of the next review.			
ENV-NE-HH 009c Safety equipment	Safety equipment accessible at ponds. Weekly checks by lifeguards. Monthly safety equipment checks by Rangers.	This is actively monitored. Safety equipment is checked weekly by lifeguards and monthly by Rangers as part of their patrols. Defects are reported for repair or replacement.  An annual contract with a company has been agreed to carry out LOLER inspections on all equipment and carry out repairs as necessary.	19-Sep-2025	Charlotte Williams	31-Dec-2025
ENV-NE-HH 009e Ponds and lido management	unauthorised access and health and safety incidents.	Front line staff continue to patrol non-lifeguarded ponds, particularly during extreme weather conditions. Stewards are available during operating hours at the ponds and the Lido to promote customer safety. Casual staff are used to bolster the full-time workforce and FTC staff are employed during the busy summer period.  The non-lifeguarded facilities are heavily signed; this is done prior to the beginning of the summer season, emphasising that people should not be swimming in these ponds. We also have regular patrols by both Constabulary and Heath Rangers to monitor and to help with compliance.  Supplemental security resource is employed during peak periods to help ensure the health and safety of staff and members of the public.		Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Dec-2025

	The due date shown is the date this action will next be reviewed.		
	next be reviewed.		ĺ

Risk Code ENV-NE-HH 010	Risk Title	Deterioration of water bodies
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Description

Cause: Climate change; intermittent contamination from drainage of neighbouring properties.

Event: Deterioration in water quality of the ponds and wetlands on the Heath, and increased likelihood of flooding.

Effect: Decrease in ecological conditions, habitat diversity and species diversity. Damage from flooding.

Current Risk	Impact	
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact	
8	Likely	Serious

Target Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
6	Possible	Serious	
Amber	Target Date	31-Dec- 2025	

Original Risk	Impact	
Risk Score	Likelihood Impad	
8	Likely	Serious
Amber	Creation Date	12-Aug-2022

	Ponds are dynamic landscape features which require ongoing management to allow conservation for the future. The ponds and wetlands on Hampstead Heath provide a core component to the Heath's overall ecological value in terms of habitat diversity, and consequently species diversity.  The 'Ponds and Wetlands Plan' makes a series of recommendations for future management which are implemented as appropriate.	19-Sep-2025
	A new diffuser system has been installed in the Ladies Pond to improve water quality. Funding has been confirmed to install diffuser systems at the Men's Pond, Mixed Pond, Hampstead No. 2, and the Model Boating Pond. Works are due to commence in October 2025. This is critically important to protect income streams, comply with bathing water regulations, and ensure a healthy ecosystem. The target date of the risk has been extended to after the works are due to be complete.	

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Reduce
Risk Owner	Jonathan Meares

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
010a Ponds	•	The Ponds and Wetlands Plan makes a series of recommendations for future management. Officers, in consultation with stakeholders, will discuss and, where appropriate, implement recommendations.  The due date shown is the date this action will next be reviewed.	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares	31-Dec-2025
ENV-NE-HH 010b Install aeration equipment		A new diffuser system has been installed in the Ladies Pond to improve water quality. Funding has been confirmed to install diffuser systems at the Men's Pond, Mixed Pond, Hampstead No. 2, and the Model Boating Pond. Works are due to commence in October 2025. This is critically important to protect income streams, comply with bathing water regulations, and ensure a healthy ecosystem.	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares	31-Dec-2025

Risk Code ENV-NE-HH 011	Risk Title	Recruitment and retention of suitable staff
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Description	Cause: Difficulties in recruiting and retaining suitable individuals. Reduced affordability of living in or near London.  Event: Lack of appropriately skilled and capable staff retained to deliver ongoing management and maintenance of the spaces.  Effect: Inability to maintain Hampstead Heath to an acceptable standard. Increased number of complaints regarding the services.  Decline of natural and built environment.  Decline in quality of assets.  Closure of facilities.  Reputational damage to the Corporation.  Pressure on existing staff to cover vacancies and absences.
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Current Risk	Impact  Likelihood Impact		
Risk Score			
8	Unlikely Maj		
Amber	Trend	Constant	

Target Risk	Liefnood	ct
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact
4	Rare	Major
Green	Target Date	31-Dec- 2025

Original Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
8	Likely	Serious	
Amber	Creation Date	12-Aug-2022	

Latest Note	The current risk score remains as Amber 8. The new organisational structure has been confirmed and recruitment is underway. We have made good progress; this has required a considerable amount of investment in recruitment advertising. The risk will reduce as vacancies are filled with suitably qualified candidates - the target date has been set to the end of the year accordingly.	
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Succession planning will be considered as part of future recruitment, ensuring adequate handover periods.	
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Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Reduce
Risk Owner	Bill LoSasso

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
ENV-NE-HH 011b Recruit to vacant posts	·	Recruitment to vacant posts across the NLOS is progressing well. It is hoped that the remaining vacancies will be filled by the end of 2025.	·	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Dec-2025
	structure.	Support and training are being provided to existing and new staff to enable the creation of strong, supportive teams with consistent management support and good development opportunities.  This is an ongoing action. The due date shown is the date the action will next be reviewed.	·	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Dec-2025

Risk Code ENV-NE-HH 013	Risk Title	Tree event or failure
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Description	Cause: Large numbers of older, more vulnerable trees across Hampstead Heath and Golders Hill Park, which require regular inspection and works to prevent failure. Extreme weather conditions, particularly high winds, heavy/prolonged rain and snow, and hot, dry conditions exacerbate the risk.  Event: More frequent tree failures. Greater risk during high winds, particularly when accompanied by heavy rainfall, and when trees are in leaf. Additional risk of summer branch drop in hot, dry conditions.  Effect: Public safety - people (serious injury/death) and property; loss of trees; loss of habitat; insurance claims; reputational damage; increased expense for the City of London.
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Current Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
8	Likely	Serious	
Amber	Trend	Constant	

Target Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact	
8	Likely	Serious	
Amber	Target Date	31-Dec- 2025	

Original Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
8	Likely	Serious	
Amber	Creation Date	01-Feb-2023	

	Robust tree management systems are in place to address this risk. These include regular inspections of trees to identify any which are more likely to fail due to structural or health issues. Works are prioritised to ensure the most urgent issues are addressed quickly.	
L	The Extreme Weather Protocol contains criteria for closing relevant parts of the Heath or Golders Hill Park in extreme weather conditions. The Protocol will be reviewed by the end of March 2026.	19-Sep-2025
	An annual review by external consultants of the North London Open Spaces' Tree Safety Systems was undertaken	

in January 2025. Actions and recommendations are being taken forward. Due to the increase in instances of tree failures, associated with ongoing climate change, we accept that we are unable to reduce this risk further than the current score of Amber 8 ('Likely/Serious). The risk is kept under ongoing review and actions taken to maintain it at the current level, ensuring the safety of staff and site users.

The target date shown is the date of the next risk review.

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Accept
Risk Owner	Jonathan Meares

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
013a Tree	systems.	A tree management system is in place which includes regular inspections. Trees with issues/features that require action are identified and works are prescribed based in order of priority (high, medium and low) with all urgent works undertaken straight away. The North London Open Spaces' (NLOS) Tree Team works across all NLOS sites.  A tree failure database is maintained to record significant tree failures at Hampstead Heath and Golders Hill Park. The database is reviewed throughout the year by Tree Management Group which meets quarterly.	19-Sep-2025	David Humphries; Jonathan Meares	31-Dec-2025
013b Extreme	Weather Protocol and site	An Extreme Weather Protocol is in place which requires relevant sites/parts of sites to be closed during extreme weather events,	19-Sep-2025	David Humphries; Jonathan	31-Mar-2026

Protocol	ENV-NE-HH 004: Climate and Weather)	such as high winds, lightning/storms or flooding. The Protocol will be reviewed by the end of March 2026.		Meares	
ENV-NE-HH 013c Annual tree management audit	Annual tree management audit carried out by external consultant.	An annual review by external consultants of North London Open Spaces' Tree Safety Systems was undertaken in January 2025. Actions and recommendations are being taken forward.	19-Sep-2025	David Humphries; Jonathan Meares	31-Dec-2025
ENV-NE-HH 013d Tree Safety Policy	Review Natural Environment Division's Tree Safety Policy	The Natural Environment Division Tree Safety Policy sets out the requirements and processes that must be in place at all sites for proactive tree inspection programmes, based upon prioritisation criteria, and reactive inspections following incidents such as severe weather events. The Policy is based upon guidance issued by the National Tree Safety Group (NTSG) and has proven effective when tested following previous incidents.  The Natural Environment Division's Tree Safety Group will review the Policy to check that it is being implemented fully across the Division and will amend the content as necessary to reflect any changes.  The NTSG has now released revised guidance - the CoL was actively involved in the NTSG review and contributed to this new guidance. The Divisional Group will further review the Divisional Tree Safety Policy to ensure it aligns with the National Guidance.	19-Sep-2025	David Humphries; Jonathan Meares	31-Mar-2026

Risk Code ENV-NE-HH 003	Risk 7	Outbreak of Fire in Woodland / Heathland
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Cause: Extreme hot weather and a lack of rain leads to dry grass and woodland. Visitors improperly using site for barbeques, disposing of cigarettes, campfires, arson.

Event: Large-scale fire / increased frequency of fires.

Effect: Possible loss of life; serious injury to staff, visitors, contractors and volunteers; damage to site; ecological damage caused to environment; service capability is disrupted; increased demand for staff resource to respond to incidents and maintain safety of site and visitors; loss of species; temporary site closure and associated access; increased costs for reactive management; damage/loss of fragile/rare habitats and species.

Current Risk	Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
6	Possible	Serious	
Amber	Trend	Decreasing	

Target Risk	Impact	
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact
6	Possible	Serious
Amber	Target Date	31-Dec- 2025

Original Risk	Impact			
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact			
12	Possible Major			
Amber	Creation Date	10-Aug-2015		

Latest Note	Due to climate change, hotter, drier summers and increased visitor numbers, the frequency and severity of fires is forecast to increase.  Members of staff have attended Vegetation Fire Foundation and Wildfire Management Plan training courses. A Fire Fogger is also being purchased through the Carbon Removals Project and relevant staff have been trained on use of this equipment.	19-Sep-2025	
	A range of preventative actions are being undertaken. There were no significant fire events over the summer, and		

this along with the acquisition of, and training on, the additional equipment, has led to the risk being reduced to the target score of Amber 6 (possible / serious). The risk is now accepted at the new score as we cannot reduce it further, but actions will continue to be taken to maintain it at that level.	
The target date shown is the date of the next risk review.	

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Accept
Risk Owner	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
Fire	weather events and 'Trigger Events.' Managers and Supervisors receive weather warnings and this information is shared with staff.	This is an ongoing action. Fire Safety Plans cover wildfire/heath fires; they are reviewed annually and will be reviewed again before summer 2026.  Funding secured by the Carbon Removals project team has enabled members of staff to receive training on Vegetation Fire Foundation and Wildfire Management Plans. A Fire Fogger has been purchased through the Carbon Removals Project and relevant staff have been trained on the use of this equipment.  We remain in regular contact with the London Fire Brigade and arrange site visits when needed to obtain advice on fire prevention.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-May-2026

	The Duty Supervisor/Duty Manager monitors weather warnings for high temperatures/major weather events and briefs staff accordingly.			
and social media messaging.	Signage is displayed at key locations reminding visitors not to light fires or barbeques. Social media messaging has also been used to deliver this message.  This is an ongoing action - the due date shown is the date of the next review.	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares; Charlotte Williams	31-Dec-2025

Risk Code ENV-NE-HH 005	Risk Title	Negative impacts of pests and diseases
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Cause: Inadequate biosecurity, buying of infected trees, plants or animals. Oak Processionary Moth (OPM) is endemic across England.

Event: Tree disease including Massaria, Ash Dieback, OPM. Sites become infected by animal, plant or tree diseases.

Effect: Service capability disrupted; public access to sites restricted; tree decline; reputational damage; substantial cost of

Current Risk	Down State of the		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
6	Possible	Serious	
Amber	Trend	Constant	

removal of OPM; risk to human health from OPM.

Target Risk	Impact			
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact			
6	Possible	Serious		
Amber	Target Date	31-Dec- 2025		

Original Risk	Down Impact		
Risk Score	Likelihood Impact		
16	Likely	Major	
Red	Creation Date	10-Aug-2015	

	Environmental factors, specifically drought and hotter summers increase vulnerability of trees to pests and diseases. As these factors are beyond our control, we accept that we are unable to reduce this risk, but we will continue to keep the situation under review and take action to maintain the current score. The target date shown is the date the risk will next be reviewed.	
Latest Note	The threat of OPM across the North London Division is reducing. We have now moved almost entirely to the use of nature-based solutions for OPM management.	19-Sep-2025
	Staff continue to manage Massaria and Horse chestnut bleeding canker.	

The Tree Team works with the Forestry Commission in conjunction with the London Tree Officers Association on an annual inspection program looking at 53 plots around London for the presence of Canker Stain of Plane (Ceratocystis platani) and Xylella fastidiosa.

Sooty Bark Disease is becoming more common, due to warmer, drier summers.

Staff continue to be vigilant and inspect for these and all the other tree pest and diseases on the list. We have Chalara dieback of ash at NLOS which currently is not a major concern. The Division has a Severe Weather Protocol which requires staff to actively review tree canopies for storm damage. Sites may be closed in high winds to reduce incidents with tree damage (which may be associated with pests/disease).

Staff monitor reports of dead or injured birds across Hampstead Heath and, where appropriate, birds are tested for Avian Influenza.

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Accept
Risk Owner	Jonathan Meares

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
		Tree provenance is considered. Planting stock is sourced and used in accordance with best practice guidance. This is an ongoing action - the due date shown is the date the action will next be reviewed.	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares	31-Dec-2025
005b Monitor	tree diseases.	The threat of OPM across the North London Division is reducing. We are now using almost entirely nature-based solutions for OPM management.	19-Sep-2025	Jonathan Meares	31-Dec-2025

Staff remain vigilant for all tree pests and diseases.	
This is an ongoing action - the due date shown is the date the action will next be reviewed.	

Risk Code ENV-NE-HH 008	Risk Title	Negative impacts of development and encroachment
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Description

Cause: Planning Authorities obligation to meeting housing demand. Fail to monitor and challenge planning applications. Lack of resource to employ specialist support or carry out monitoring/research. Lack of partnership working with relevant Planning Authorities.

Event: New houses, buildings or other developments on land affecting Hampstead Heath.

Effect: Potential increase in visitor numbers and recreational pressure. Increased air, light and noise pollution and consequent potential decline in biodiversity and tranquillity. Further increases in traffic volumes on local road network. Ground compaction and resulting associated effects on tree and plant health. Wear and tear to sports pitches. Lack of budget to facilitate repairs.

Negative impact on heritage value; high-rise developments may be detrimental to aesthetics and sightlines.

Current Risk	Jeg-pood Jeg	ict
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact
4	Unlikely	Serious
Green	Trend	Constant

Target Risk	Impact  Likelihood Impact	
Risk Score		
4	Unlikely	Serious
Green	Target Date	31-Dec- 2025

Original Risk		et
Risk Score	Likelihood	Impact
16	Likely	Major
Red	Creation Date	23-Jun-2016

ı	Latest Note		19-Sep-2025	
		We continue to liaise with partners and stakeholders regarding planning applications which may impact upon Hampstead Heath and the wider Division.		

Southern borders of Hampstead Heath may see significant development and there is public concern about the
impact of this. Officers will engage with relevant parties if and when development occurs to reduce the impact on
green space. They will also work in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Risk Level	Service
Department	Environment

Risk Approach	Accept
Risk Owner	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares

Ref No:	Description	Latest Note	Note Date	Owned By	Due Date
008a Local	Maintain a close partnership with Planning Authorities. Assistant Director and Officers are in contact with neighbouring local authorities in regard to planning issues which may impact Hampstead Heath. Work collaboratively with local community and civic societies.	This is an ongoing action, the NLOS Division makes representations as necessary.  Stakeholders, e.g. Consultative Committee and Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee, are updated as necessary.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares	31-Dec-2025
ENV-NE-HH 008b Local planning documents	Respond to consultation on the local plans to help influence the content of the documents.	This is an ongoing action; we respond to planning issues as necessary. The 'Due Date' is the date of the next review.  Stakeholders, e.g. Consultative Committee and Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee, are updated when necessary.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares	31-Dec-2025
ENV-NE-HH 008c Planning	The North London division monitors planning activity in	This is an ongoing action, the 'Due Date' is the date of the next review.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan	31-Dec-2025

applications	Officers respond to planning issues as necessary. Relevant planning applications are monitored.  Stakeholders, e.g. Consultative Committee and Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee, are updated when necessary.		Meares	
ENV-NE-HH 008d Engage planning consultant	Officers will contract with a planning consultant to support continued monitoring of development proposals surrounding the Heath.	19-Sep-2025	Bill LoSasso; Jonathan Meares	31-Dec-2025