

# Management priorities for the City Commons — Working together to care for our open spaces, now and for the future 2013 - 2014

<p><b>OUR SERVICE — Provide our customers with a visible, accessible and approachable service</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rangering</b> — increase our visible presence on the City Commons by implementing Rangering Specification</li> <li>• <b>Visitor experience</b> — develop and implement system of inspections to assess condition of our sites against the Green Flag criteria and create a programme of work so that all our sites are maintained at the GFA standard 365 days a year</li> <li>• <b>Marketing</b> — deliver marketing for City Commons so that we share a consistent message with stakeholders using new technology to engage with a wider audience</li> <li>• <b>Condition Assessments</b> — develop and implement a system to assess condition of our sites against the ESS, SSSI &amp; Cross Compliance criteria</li> </ul>	<p><b>OPEN SPACES — Protect and conserve distinctive and valued places</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Conservation Grazing</b> — produce a business plan for grazing in sustainable way so that we continue to meet our needs, apply the constraints of ESS &amp; SPS and maintain them in favourable condition</li> <li>• <b>Tree Health</b> — work in partnership with others to monitor our trees and woods for known diseases so that we prevent harm being caused to the biological, historical and cultural interest of our sites or our visitors</li> <li>• <b>Kenley Revival</b> — continue working in partnership with English Heritage, Kenley Airfield Friends Group and the City so that we can fund conservation work and interpretation of the important heritage features of Kenley Common</li> </ul>	<p><b>OUR PEOPLE — Encourage and support our team to achieve our vision and values</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Business Plan</b> — produce a Divisional Business Plan for City Commons reflecting the balanced scorecard approach, the leadership charter, our psychological contract, key projects and management priorities</li> <li>• <b>Visitor Survey</b> — complete analysis of two years of survey data and prepare a report for stakeholders so that we can identify target audiences and make better informed decisions about how we promote our services to local communities</li> </ul>	<p><b>MAKING CONNECTIONS — Forge strong partnerships with our communities, volunteers and stakeholders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Consultation</b> — put in place changes to consultative committees for three charities so that we work more effectively with local communities, elected members and officers from other organisations</li> <li>• <b>Volunteers</b> — implement the Open Spaces Department strategy, policy &amp; procedures so that we provide and sustain new opportunities and improve the quality of experience when volunteering across City Commons</li> <li>• <b>Education, Recreation &amp; Events</b> — co-ordinate delivery to reflect policy, the balanced scorecard and key performance indicators and put in place procedures for providing activities in a sustainable way</li> </ul>
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<p><b>OUR STANDARDS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sustainability</b> — deliver our Local Sustainability Improvement Plan for 2013/14 - reducing use of energy, fuel &amp; water; installing Photo-voltaic Cells; printing less; and reducing our environmental footprint</li> <li>• <b>Finance</b> — meet the City of London Corporation's requirement in the current climate to deliver 1% efficiency savings on our local risk budget in 2013 and 2014; and to seek new sources of income</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Health &amp; Safety</b> — deliver H&amp;S Improvement Plan for 2013/14, audit and review our performance</li> <li>• <b>Personnel</b> — develop PID for restructuring, create job descriptions &amp; person profiles, set core behaviours &amp; PDR objectives to reflect the vision, balanced scorecard, leadership charter and psychological contract</li> <li>• <b>Communication</b> — deliver structured approach for meetings to help improve our decision-making and internal communication so that we work together to achieve our vision and annual work programme</li> </ul>
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<p><b>ASHTHEAD COMMON (Charity Reg. No. 1051510)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Oak pollards</b> — set up annual condition monitoring system to review the ESS special project</li> <li>• <b>Grazing</b> — maintain grazing across restored pasture to keep them in favourable condition</li> <li>• <b>Welcoming site</b> — carry out work from audit to create a clear message across entrances</li> <li>• <b>Special Project</b> — halo release but review crown reduction after condition assessment</li> <li>• <b>Bracken control</b> — roll/mow areas restored as pasture and maintain routes designated as firebreaks</li> <li>• <b>Successional areas</b> — continue scrub work to maintain favourable condition for breeding birds</li> <li>• <b>Woodland edge</b> — maintain rides and glades with ecotones for benefit of wildlife and safe access</li> <li>• <b>Roman Villa</b> — ensure condition of scheduled monument &amp; surrounding land is restored to high standard; and develop plan of future work including interpretation of data gathered</li> <li>• <b>Amenity areas</b> — maintain rural/urban boundaries, rides, public right of way and other amenity areas</li> <li>• <b>Boundaries</b> — review fencing to ensure site protected, safety of people and management of livestock</li> </ul>
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<p><b>WEST WICKHAM COMMONS (Charity Reg. No. 232989)</b></p> <p><u>Spring Park</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Limewood Project</b> — plan, fund &amp; deliver joint project with Limewood Working Group to restore coppice cycle and lay branches to promote regeneration within localised population of Small-leaved Lime</li> <li>• <b>Coppicing</b> — continue the programme of restoring traditional management to the woodland with next phase of cutting lapsed coppice stools of other species of trees e.g. sweet chestnut, hazel and oak</li> <li>• <b>Boundaries</b> — review fencing to ensure site protected, safety of people and management of landscape</li> </ul> <p><u>West Wickham Common</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Oak pollards</b> — set up annual condition monitoring system to review restoration work</li> <li>• <b>Heathland</b> — restore, maintain and monitor our relic heath lying above the ancient earthworks</li> <li>• <b>Pedestrian crossing &amp; bus stop</b> — report to Epping Forest &amp; Commons Committee about proposals from TFL and the Highway Authority to improve safe access and egress to open space</li> <li>• <b>Boundaries</b> — review fencing to ensure site protected, safety of people and management of landscape</li> </ul>
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<p><b>COULSDON COMMONS (Charity Reg. No. 232988)</b></p> <p><u>Farthing Downs &amp; New Hill</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Grassland</b> — restore open areas on Farthing Downs and New Hill to achieve ESS agreement</li> <li>• <b>Scrub</b> — manage blocks of retained scrub on Farthing Downs and restore succession on New Hill</li> <li>• <b>Visitor hub</b> — complete and maintain car park and the facilities as a gateway to the London Downlands</li> <li>• <b>Friends of Farthing Downs</b> — support this local group in developing a programme of projects</li> </ul>	<p><u>Coulsdon Common</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Grove</b> — continue with programme restoring wood pasture, including planning permission for roadside fencing &amp; boundary work</li> <li>• <b>Drainage</b> — resolve flooding issue in Stites Hill Road so that foul water sewage no longer pollutes site</li> <li>• <b>Merlewood</b> — agree aims for area behind Estate Office and agree a future programme of work</li> </ul>	<p><u>Kenley Common</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heritage conservation</b> — vegetation management around the historic features</li> <li>• <b>Boundaries</b> — ensure site protection and safety by establishing boundary at Whyteleafe Bank so hazards reduced and access created and maintained</li> <li>• <b>Grassland</b> — restore open areas of species rich grassland on Whyteleafe Bank</li> </ul>	<p><u>Riddlesdown</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scrub</b> — restore successional areas on Norfolk Bank, Famet and Quarry</li> <li>• <b>Grassland</b> — restore open areas on Norfolk Bank, Famet, Bull Pen, Butterfly Glade and Quarry</li> <li>• <b>Boundaries</b> — review fencing to ensure site protected, safety of people and management of livestock</li> </ul>
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