

<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>
West Wickham Commons Consultative Committee Coulsdon Commons Consultative Committee Ashtead Common Consultative Committee	22 January 2014 12 February 2014 18 February 2014
<b>Subject:</b> City Commons – Management Priorities for 2014-15	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> The Superintendent of Burnham Beeches, Stoke Common and the City Commons	<b>For Information</b>
<p><b>Summary</b></p> <p>This report presents the management priorities for the City Commons Division that will guide the annual work programme during the period 01 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b></p> <p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the report.</li> </ul>	

### **Main Report**

#### **Background**

1. The City Commons are managed through three charities: Ashtead Common (Charity Reg. No. 1051510); Coulsdon Commons (Charity Reg. No. 232988); and West Wickham Commons (Charity Reg. No. 232989).
2. The annual work programme for City Commons Division is guided by the business plan for the Open Spaces Department, which links to the Corporate Plan.
3. The organisational priorities contained therein were cascaded through one Divisional Plan to separate management plans and annual work programmes for each of the seven open spaces.

#### **Current Position**

4. The Management Priorities balance our activity across four areas: to provide a service to visitors; to protect and conserve open spaces; to manage our people; and to make connections with our stakeholders.
5. The priorities are presented as headlines from the annual work programme to the respective consultative committees for information. They represent priority or key projects and not core duties or routine work activities.

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

6. The management priorities support the five themes of the City Together Strategy and reflect the charitable status of our open spaces.

## **Implications**

7. The projects and tasks outlined in this report will be funded by the local risk budgets of the City Commons Division.
8. Management options for nature conservation will be funded by grant income from the Environmental Stewardship Scheme, whilst maintaining the land in good agricultural and environmental condition will be funded by the Single Payment Scheme. Both schemes require Cross Compliance standards and regulations to be applied to all our agricultural holding.
9. The annual work programme addresses soft landscaping issues and poses no direct implications for the City Surveyor's property maintenance, nor impacts on the revenue works programme.

## **Conclusion**

10. This report presents the proposed management priorities for the City Commons Division for the period 2014 to 2015.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – City Commons Management Priorities for period 2014-15
- Appendix 2 – Ashted Common work programme for 2014-15

## **Andy Thwaites**

Head Ranger, City Commons

T: 01372 279083

E: [Andrew.thwaites@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.thwaites@cityoflondon.gov.uk)