

Committee:	Date:
Open Spaces & City Gardens	16 July 2018
Subject: City Gardens Update	Public
Report of: City Gardens Manager	For Information
<p>Summary</p> <p>This report provides an update to Members of the Open Spaces & City Gardens Committee on management and operational activities across the City Gardens section since April 2018.</p> <p>Recommendation</p> <p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the report 	

Main Report

Finance

1. At the point of writing the budgets for both City Gardens and Bunhill Fields are on target to have no significant over or underspend at the end of year.

Personnel

2. A new apprentice has started working within the City Gardens office assisting with back office transformation work and will be carrying out an audit of all City Gardens sites. This brings the total number of apprentices within City Gardens to four; 11% of our workforce.

Operational Activities

3. The late delivery of the Aldgate project required a large amount of our resources at a time that coincided with good weather and the public starting to use our sites heavily. The good weather also increases horticultural maintenance as we try to stay on top of watering during what is becoming a rather protracted dry spell. The summer bedding has now all been planted, and we are busy preparing for London and Britain in Bloom.
4. **Oak Processionary Moth (OPM)** We have had our first outbreak of Oak Processionary Moth (OPM) caterpillar in the city. First found in London in 2012,

this caterpillar poses a human health risk as its hairs can cause skin rashes and respiratory problems. It has now spread to most of London and west into Berkshire. A single nest has been found in an Oak tree on Cheapside and has now been disposed of.

5. **Break ins at Depot**

There have been two break ins at the City Gardens Castle Baynard Depot, in both instances vehicles were used to ram the front shutters. In total only four blowers were stolen, but considerable damage was caused to the front shutters. This caused some operational disruption as we were not able to open the shutters for some days. Steps are being taken to install new CCTV and security bollards.

6. **Rough Sleeping at St Botolph's Bishopsgate**

The problem with rough sleepers at St Botolph's Bishopsgate is continuing to be a challenge. The City Gardens Team have been working with the Outreach Team who have been engaging with the rough sleepers, and have provided regular rough sleepers with accommodation, however they are choosing not to use it. At the time of writing there are two tents on site. We will continue to focus on resolving this and exploring all options for tackling this problem. This is challenging for the gardeners who take great pride in their sites.

Project Updates

7. The following project updates are current at the point of writing.

8. **West Smithfield:** Completed

9. **Tower Hill Gardens:** Completed

10. **Cleary Gardens:** Completed

11. **Barbican Planters:** Following the success of previously installed concrete planters, City Gardens have been commissioned to install another four on Willoughby Podium.

12. **Aldgate gyratory:** Now completed and opened to the public. The site will be officially opened on the 4th July by the Lord Mayor. A Christmas Tree for this site will be funded by the Dorsett City Hotel.

13. **St Alphage's Garden:** Currently under construction following a major refurbishment as part of the London Wall Place development, it is anticipated that this site will be planted in late 2018/ early 2019.

14. **2-6 Canon Street (phase 1)** City Gardens have been involved with the design of this scheme. This garden will be installed by a sub-contractor under the developers' remit which will then be maintained for one year before being handed over to City Gardens to maintain.

15. **Stonecutter Street – Goldman Sachs development:** This project involves the planting of 13 street trees and 17 multi-stemmed trees and several raised

planters. All of these will be planted and maintained for one year by City Gardens before handing over 3 of the street trees to TFL and 12 of the multi-stemmed trees to the developer.

16. **Artizan Street:** Former car park ramp turned in to a sloping garden along with raised planters and screen planting to enhance the street and Middlesex Street Estate. This is due for completion this winter.
17. **Senator House:** The design and construction package are currently being finalised and once approved construction will start with planting taking place over this coming winter.

Planning

18. A list of planning applications that have been received since the last Committee meeting can be found in Appendix 1.
19. **Survey of Private Trees:** Contact has been made by either way of written or personal contact with the owners of 56 of the 84 private trees that were found to be either poor or dead during this survey. We will continue to establish contact with the remaining owners.

Community, Volunteering, Outreach and Events

20. Open Squares weekend was held on the 9th and 10th June. This is an annual event involving over 230 private, secluded and little-known gardens across London. Entries from within the Square Mile included Beech Gardens, Postman's Park and Barbican Wildlife Garden in Fann Street. City Gardens staff also delivered several guided walks.
21. Seething Lane was officially opened by the Chairman on 28th June.
22. City Gardens will be judged for Britain in Bloom on the 3rd August and for London in Bloom on the 12th July.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Planning consultations considered by City Gardens officers

Jake Tibbetts

City Gardens Manager

T: 020 7374 4127

E: jake.tibbetts@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Appendix 1 - Planning Application Open Spaces Consultations April – June 2018

Application number	Location	Description
18/00337/TCA	Amen Court London EC4M 7BU	Works to 11 trees (Gleditsia, Mulberry, Cherry, False Acacia x2, Lime x3, Laurel x2 and Cotoneaster). Felling of a False Acacia.
18/00378/FULLR3	St Helen's Bishopsgate Great St Helen's London EC3A 6AT	Temporary installation of a sculpture 'Crocodylius Philodendrus' by Nancy Rubins for a period of up to one year, to be taken down on or before 01.06.2019.
18/00375/FULLR3	Fenchurch Place London EC3M 4AJ	Extension the temporary time period for the installation of the sculpture 'Synapsid' by Karen tang to 01.06.2019.
18/00395/FULLR3	Mitre Square London EC 3A 5DH	Temporary installation of a sculpture 'Climb' by Juliana Cerqueira Leite for a period of up to one year, to be taken down on or before 01.06.2019.
18/00451/FULEIA	London Bridge London EC4	The installation of fixtures, fittings and ancillary equipment and associated works to illuminate the bridge in conjunction with the Illuminated River Project.
18/00486/FULL	Cheapside Traffic Island Cheapside London EC2V 6AA	London Festival of Architecture art installation on the Cheapside Traffic island outside St Paul's Tube Station for a temporary period of one year.
18/00452/FULEIA	Blackfriars Railway Bridge Puddle Dock London, EC4	The installation of fixtures, fittings and ancillary equipment and associated works to illuminate the bridge in conjunction with the Illuminated River Project.
18/00453/FULEIA	Southwark Bridge London EC4	The installation of fixtures, fittings and ancillary equipment and associated works to illuminate the bridge in conjunction with the Illuminated River Project.
18/00455/FULEIA	Blackfriars Bridge London EC4	The installation of fixtures, fittings and ancillary equipment and associated works to illuminate the bridge in conjunction with the Illuminated River Project.
18/00457/FULEIA	Cannon Street Railway Bridge Cousin Lane London, EC4	The installation of fixtures, fittings and ancillary equipment and associated works to illuminate the bridge in conjunction with the Illuminated River Project.
18/00458/FULEIA	Millennium Bridge London EC4	The installation of fixtures, fittings and ancillary equipment and associated works to illuminate the bridge in conjunction with the Illuminated River Project.
18/00597/FULMAJ	Inner Temple Garden & Car Park Inner Temple London EC4Y 7HL	Erection of two temporary buildings for a period of 22 months to facilitate the development proposed under 17/00077/FULMAJ (one located within the Inner Temple Garden (1100sq.m GEA) and one located within the Inner Temple Car Park (770sq.m GEA) to provide temporary accommodation for the displaced Treasury Building, Inner Temple Hall and Library functions (Sui Generis use comprising Offices, Education and Training, Hall

		and Library relating to the Bar and Inner Temple). Associated works to include the dismantling, storage and re-erection of one listed and one unlisted gas lamp and plinth and the provision of a temporary substation and creation of a service compound. http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=P9XX5CFHISJ00
18/00629/TCA	The Inner Temple Car Park 2 King's Bench Walk Inner Temple London EC4Y 7DE	Works of pruning to a London Plane tree in a Conservation Area.
18/00630/TCA	Paper Buildings - East Pathway London EC4Y 7HL	Removal of a Davidia involucrata in a Conservation Area. Sorbus aria 'Lutescens' planted as a replacement.
18/00639/TCA	Stationers Hall Stationers Hall Court London EC4M 7DD	Works of pruning to a Plane tree in a Conservation Area.