

NOTICE OF MEETING

CABINET

**Tuesday, 13th September, 2022, 6.30 pm - George Meehan House,
294 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8JZ (watch the live meeting [Here](#),
watch the recording [here](#))**

Members: Councillors Peray Ahmet (Chair), Mike Hakata, Zena Brabazon, Dana Carlin, Seema Chandwani, Lucia das Neves, Julie Davies, Ruth Gordon, Adam Jogee and Sarah Williams

Quorum: 4

1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

Please note that this meeting may be filmed or recorded by the Council for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by anyone attending the meeting using any communication method. Although we ask members of the public recording, filming or reporting on the meeting not to include the public seating areas, members of the public attending the meeting should be aware that we cannot guarantee that they will not be filmed or recorded by others attending the meeting. Members of the public participating in the meeting (e.g. making deputations, asking questions, making oral protests) should be aware that they are likely to be filmed, recorded or reported on.

By entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings.

The chair of the meeting has the discretion to terminate or suspend filming or recording, if in his or her opinion continuation of the filming, recording or reporting would disrupt or prejudice the proceedings, infringe the rights of any individual or may lead to the breach of a legal obligation by the Council.

2. APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies for absence.

3. URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair will consider the admission of any late items of Urgent Business. (Late items of Urgent Business will be considered under the agenda item where they appear. New items of Urgent Business will be dealt with under

Item 14 below. New items of exempt business will be dealt with at Item 18 below).

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered:

- (i) must disclose the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, and
- (ii) may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting room.

A Member who discloses at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary interest which is not registered in the Register of Members' Interests or the subject of a pending notification must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the disclosure.

Disclosable pecuniary interests, personal interests and prejudicial interests are defined at Paragraphs 5-7 and Appendix A of the Members' Code of Conduct.

5. NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN PRIVATE, ANY REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED AND THE RESPONSE TO ANY SUCH REPRESENTATIONS

On occasions part of the Cabinet meeting will be held in private and will not be open to the public if an item is being considered that is likely to lead to the disclosure of exempt or confidential information. In accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 (the "Regulations"), members of the public can make representations about why that part of the meeting should be open to the public.

This agenda contains exempt items as set out at Item 17: Exclusion of the Press and Public. No representations with regard to these have been received.

This is the formal five clear day notice under the Regulations to confirm that this Cabinet meeting will be partly held in private for the reasons set out in this Agenda.

6. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 28)

To confirm and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 5 July 2022 and 19 July 2022 as a correct record.

7. MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

For Cabinet to note (if any).

8. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/QUESTIONS

To consider any requests received in accordance with Standing Orders.

9. 2022/23 FINANCE UPDATE QUARTER 1 (PAGES 29 - 72)

Report of the Director of Finance to be introduced by the Cabinet Member for Finance and Local Investment.

This report will provide an update on the Quarter 1 budget monitoring and Council's financial position. It will seek approval for any changes to the Council's revenue or capital budgets required to respond to the changing financial scenario and the delivery of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

10. HARINGEY SAFETY VALVE PROGRAMME (PAGES 73 - 86)

Report of the Director of Children's Services. To be introduced by the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools, and Families.

Cabinet approval is required to participate in the national Safety Valve Programme which sets out proposals to achieve an in year balanced budget within the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant.

Please be advised that the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny has agreed that the call-in procedure shall not apply to this decision. This is because the decision is urgent and any delay in implementation caused by the call-in procedure would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests due to the fact that continued growth in High Needs expenditure remains unmitigated, the cumulative deficit is currently estimated at £83m by 27/28. Therefore, this is a critical financial risk to the Council; and entry into the Safety Valve programme is the best option to mitigate this risk. Haringey will be unable to complete a submission to the Department for Education within their deadline if the call-in period is not waived. This decision will ensure that the deadline is met. Accordingly, the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed that the decision is both reasonable in all circumstances and that it should be treated as a matter of urgency. This is in accordance with Part 4, Section H, and Paragraph 18 (a) and (b) of the Council Constitution.

11. APPROVAL TO CONSULT ON A DRAFT PARKS AND GREENSPACES STRATEGY (PAGES 87 - 554)

Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods to be introduced by the Cabinet Member for Communities and Civic Life.

This report seeks approval to consult on a draft Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and its supporting plans.

12. APPOINTMENT OF A PROGRAMME WIDE SALES AND MARKETING AGENT TO SUPPORT THE HOUSING DELIVERY PROGRAMME (PAGES 555 - 564)

Report of the Director of Placemaking and Housing. To be introduced by the Cabinet Member for Council Housebuilding, Placemaking, and Development.

This report seeks Cabinet approval for the appointment of a sales and marketing agent identified through competitive tendering to provide a variety of services in relation to the homes that the Council will build for market sale in order to cross-subsidise the delivery of a new generation of council homes for local residents.

13. MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES (PAGES 565 - 606)

To note the minutes of the following:

Cabinet Member Signing
15 July 2022
22 July 2022
25 July 2022
28 July 2022 (10am)
28 July 2022 (2pm)
1 August 2022
3 August 2022
9 August 2022 (11am)
9 August 2022 (12pm)

14. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

As per item 3.

15. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Note from the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

Items 16 to 18 allow for consideration of exempt information in relation to items 12, 6, and 3.

TO RESOLVE

That the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting as items 18-20 contain exempt information as defined under paragraphs 3 and 5, Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972:

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

16. EXEMPT - APPOINTMENT OF A PROGRAMME WIDE SALES AND MARKETING AGENT TO SUPPORT THE HOUSING DELIVERY PROGRAMME (PAGES 607 - 610)

As per item 12.

17. EXEMPT - MINUTES (PAGES 611 - 612)

To confirm and sign the exempt minutes of the meetings held on 19 July 2022 as a correct record.

18. NEW ITEMS OF EXEMPT URGENT BUSINESS

As per item 3.

Ayshe Simsek, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager / Fiona Rae, Acting Committees Manager
Tel – 020 8489 2929
Fax – 020 8881 5218
Email: ayshe.simsek@haringey.gov.uk

Fiona Alderman
Head of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer)
George Meehan House, 294 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8JZ

Monday, 05 September 2022

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MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 5TH JULY, 2022, 6.30 - 7.10 PM

PRESENT: Councillors Peray Ahmet (Chair), Mike Hakata, Zena Brabazon, Seema Chandwani, Lucia das Neves, Julie Davies, Ruth Gordon, Adam Jogee, and Sarah Williams.

In attendance: Councillor Matt White, Chair of the Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel, and (attending virtually) Councillor Dawn Barnes.

1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred to the notice of filming at meetings and attendees noted this information.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dana Carlin.

3. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN PRIVATE, ANY REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED AND THE RESPONSE TO ANY SUCH REPRESENTATIONS

There were no representations received on the exempt items.

6. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/QUESTIONS

There were no deputations, petitions, or questions.

7. MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Cllr White, Chair of the Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel, introduced the Scrutiny Review on The Future of the Seven Sisters Market Site (Wards Corner), thanking fellow Panel members and co-opted members for their support and participation in the review. He welcomed the fact that all eight recommendations of the Panel were recommended for approval but wanted to clarify some of the recommendations.

In relation to Recommendation 1, it was stated that there did not seem to be a response about the request to actively engage with all parties and be part of any future governance arrangements in the immediate and long term. In relation to Recommendation 2, Cllr White asked that Cabinet sought assurances that the long term leaseholder on the site would bring different groups of traders together.

In relation to Recommendation 3, it was noted that the recommendations requested that the terms of the lease would prohibit the lease being transferred to a party that is neither a community organisations nor a public body. It was also asking the Council to actively engage with TfL to seek assurances and it was queried whether this was identified in the Cabinet response. In relation to Recommendation 5, it was queried whether there may have been some misunderstanding about the definition of public ownership. It was noted that this was defined in the report and that the Panel recommended that the site remained in public ownership.

The Cabinet Member for Council House-Building, Placemaking, and Development welcomed the report and set out the Cabinet response to the scrutiny recommendations, highlighting the following:

- The Council had a long term strategic interest in the site and the area and it was intended to engage with the site and relevant parties in the immediate, medium, and long term.
- The Council would work with whoever obtained the long term lease of the site.
- In relation to Recommendation 2, it was noted that the independent Chair of the Partnership Board was due to be appointed shortly. This Chair would need to sign off on the terms of reference for the Partnership Board and it was expected that their ability to bring different groups together would be tested as part of the assessment criteria.
- In relation to Recommendation 3, it was explained that the Council worked closely with TfL but that it was not possible to direct the terms of the lease.
- In relation to Recommendation 5, it was understood that TfL would retain the freehold ownership of the land. It was added that the Council supported the site remaining as a community asset.

In response to questions from Cllr Barnes, the following responses were provided:

- In relation to community relationships, it was acknowledged that there had been a long running campaign for the site which involved a number of parties and it was inevitable that there had been some challenges. The Cabinet Member noted that this was a positive opportunity to transform the site and the area and that it was aimed to bring people together.

- It was clarified that the Council would not experience a loss in accounting terms from the end of the development agreement with Grainger. It was noted that there likely would have been some costs in terms of officer time but that this was not calculable. It was added that further detail on the proposed acquisition was provided in the Wards Corner: Acquisitions Programme report later in the agenda.
- In relation to the equalities impact, the Cabinet Member stated that the proposal would provide an opportunity to cater for the community, in particular the Latin American community.

RESOLVED

1. To consider the recommendations of the Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel (HRSP) attached at Appendix 1.
2. To agree the response to these recommendations attached at Appendix 2.

Reasons for decision

In September 2021, Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel (HRSP) started a review of the future of the Seven Sisters Market Site following long time developer announcing their withdrawal from the development at Wards Corner.

This report provides a response to the 8 recommendations made by HRSP in their May 2022 Report: The Future of the Seven Sisters Market (Wards Corner).

Alternative options considered

None.

8. WARDS CORNER: ACQUISITIONS PROGRAMME

The Cabinet Member for Council House-Building, Placemaking, and Development introduced the report which set out a delivery approach for the Wards Corner site in Seven Sisters and sought approval to acquire a number of third party land interests within the site, including those held by Grainger Seven Sisters Limited which are subject to the option in favour of the Council, and where necessary make use of the existing Compulsory Purchase Order.

It was noted that the proposal would provide an opportunity to deliver workspace, would provide confidence for retailers about the future of the site, and would allow for the provision of new council homes.

It was highlighted that a minor correction was required in relation to Appendix 7 of the report. The key referred to 'Community Plan' land but it was noted that this should state 'TfL owned land'.

In response to questions from the Cabinet, the following responses were provided:

- It was clarified that the main difference between Option 1 and Option 3, as set out in the report, was the timescale. Option 1 proposed a short term comprehensive

approach where all works would be undertaken in one part. Whereas Option 3 provided an option to deliver parts of the site at different times; this acknowledged that some figures, such as land acquisition costs, improved over time and was considered to provide longer term opportunities for placemaking and co-production.

Following consideration of the exempt information, it was

RESOLVED

1. To approve the Option 3 - alternative council led delivery approach to the Wards Corner site (as set out in paragraphs 5.15 to 5.24 of this report) and the site objectives which will guide this approach (as set out in paragraph 4.11 of this report).
2. To acquire for planning purposes the third-party property and land interests shown coloured pink on the Site Acquisition Plan attached at Appendix 1, all within the Wards Corner site shown edged red on the Site Plan attached at Appendix 2; and
3. To the termination of the Development Agreement dated 3rd August 2007 (as amended by the Supplemental Agreement dated 23rd January 2015) for the reasons set out in paragraph 8.11 of this report, and to acquire for planning purposes the entirety of Grainger Seven Sisters Limited's property and land interests in the Wards Corner site (as set out in the schedule at Appendix 3 in Part B of this Report) by exercising the option contained within the Development Agreement for a total sum set out in Part B of this report; and
4. To acquire for planning purposes any remaining third-party property and land interests as set out in the schedule at Appendix 3 in Part B of this report, by serving the requisite CPO General Vesting Declaration notices or by agreement with third parties on this site for a total sum set out in Part B of this report.
5. To approve a budget for these acquisitions being a total sum set out in Part B of this report, to be funded from the Strategic Acquisitions Fund.
6. To give delegated authority to the Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Local Investment and the Cabinet Member for Council House Building, Placemaking and Development to agree the price for each acquisition and the final heads of terms and legal documentations.
7. To approve a further budget from the Strategic Acquisition Fund, as set out in Part B of this report, to fund the costs associated with developing a strategy which will guide the new council led delivery approach for the Wards Corner site.
8. To consult with the Bridge Renewal Trust and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, to request that the £1,500,000 (plus interest) of New Deal for Communities 'Interim Gap Funding' paid by the council to Grainger Seven Sisters Limited, and recoverable under the termination provisions of the

Development Agreement, is used as a funding contribution to the costs of delivering an alternative development scheme on the Wards Corner site.

9. To note that VAT will be payable on certain of the acquisitions and that the council will recover the VAT.
10. To note that a capital bid as set out in Part B of this report will be submitted for the substantive investment, as part of the next budget setting round.

Reasons for decision

Termination of the Development Agreement with Grainger

In July 2004, the Bridge New Deal for Communities, and the council selected Grainger plc as its development partner to bring forward proposals for the redevelopment of the Wards Corner Site. In August 2007, the council entered into a Development Agreement (varied through a Supplemental Agreement in January 2015) with Grainger Seven Sisters Limited (Grainger), which set out the form of development required at Wards Corner and regulated the relationship between the parties.

In April 2021, Grainger advised the council that they were experiencing viability challenges with the Wards Corner development and subsequently provided the council with information to support their view that the planning approved scheme was not viable as set out in Part B of this report.

The council commissioned BNP Paribas (BNPP) to independently interrogate and analyse Grainger's viability assessment. The outcome of this review is set out in Part B of this report.

As a result, In August 2021 Grainger confirmed that they will withdraw from the Wards Corner development. Grainger's DA with the council included a longstop date of 3rd August 2021 when all preconditions had to be satisfied. As all preconditions were not satisfied, this means that either Grainger or the council can trigger the DA termination provision at any time. Once the DA is terminated, the council has 6 months to exercise its option under the DA to acquire (or nominate a third party to acquire) the entirety of Grainger's property interests in the site.

Following the announcement that Grainger would not be progressing with the Wards Corner development including the temporary SSM at Apex Gardens, TfL indicated their intention to work with SSM traders and the community to secure the SSM and former Wards Corner Department Store buildings as a community asset into the future.

The Wards Corner site represents a significant strategic site above a major transport interchange and has the potential to act as a better gateway to Seven Sisters and West Green Road. The opportunity to complement a refurbished SSM building presents a significant potential to reinforce the local high street Economy.

As a result of the viability issues with the Grainger scheme for the Wards Corner site the council's focus has been on reviewing options for an alternative council led delivery approach to the site.

Three main alternative delivery approaches have been considered. The first is based on externally commissioned feasibility work and envisages the council acquiring the Grainger and remaining third-party property interests for short-term comprehensive redevelopment. The second is a "do not acquire" option. The third option involves the council acquiring the relevant land interests under an alternative council led delivery approach. The main features of each option are set out below with a summary and assessment of these options together with a key risk assessment included at Appendices 5 and 6 respectively of Part B of this report.

Strategic objectives

Further to the vision for the Wards Corner site as set in the 2004 development brief for this site to act as a new high-quality gateway to Tottenham in Seven Sisters, the Tottenham Area Action Plan (2017) sets out the regeneration ambitions for Wards Corner as part of the Seven Sisters/West Green Road neighbourhood area. It identifies it as a key site for redevelopment to deliver a mixed-use development with town centre uses; a replacement market and residential uses.

More recently, the Strategy for Tottenham High Road (2019-29) includes a vision for the wider Seven Sisters area, including West Green Road and Broad Lane that will be identifiable as an exciting and new destination and the gateway to Tottenham; focussing on building on its international food offer inspired by the market; and a high-quality, safe and welcoming atmosphere for visitors and locals alike.

Site development objectives

Given the site's contribution to the wider strategic priorities and the Seven Sisters area, the following four key development objectives have been set out to guide the approach to a new Wards Corner development.

Objective 1 – A Placemaking Approach to Seven Sisters Gateway

- Involve the current occupants and landowners of the site in the project from the outset and as it develops, seek to closely engage with and look to accommodate businesses that wish to remain on site.
- Work with and empower local communities to participate in the design process to ensure that key objectives for the masterplan align with local aspirations/needs.
- Work with local communities, particularly young people and underrepresented groups, to shape the future of commercial, community and public spaces proposed on this scheme. Greater focus on promoting Seven Sisters strengths, such as its unique international food and beverage offer.
- Help to foster strong, vibrant, diverse and culturally rich town centre by celebrating its uniqueness, diversity of communities and their heritage and culture.
- Enhance the reputation and safety of the area, such that it might be competitive with other Victoria Line destinations.

- Improve visitor experience, including through smart technologies and public realm improvements.

Delivering on the above objectives will promote the social wellbeing of the Seven Sisters area

Objective 2 – Delivering a Good Economy

- Deliver on the council's Community Wealth Building Agenda through commissioning.
- Drive wider local benefits relating to place making and social value.
- Enable greater town centre activity with activation of retail on High Road frontage, Seven Sisters and West Green Road to support local employment opportunities.
- Improve linkage between creative clusters on West Green Road and Seven Sisters Road.
- Encourage the development of a suitable day and evening economy.

Delivering on the above objectives will promote the economic wellbeing of the Seven Sisters area

Objective 3 – Delivering council homes

- Provide secure, high quality and affordable housing which residents are proud to call home.
- Aim to maximise the quantum of council rented homes, consistent with a viable scheme.
- Deliver inclusive, mixed and sustainable communities. Mixed tenures should be 'tenure blind' with no distinction in terms of design or space standards.

Delivering on the above objectives will promote the social and environmental well-being of the Seven Sisters area

Objective 4 – Climate change and sustainability at its heart

- Target net zero for new development, prioritising renewable energy sources.
- Retain buildings where possible to enhance local character and deliver on Circular Economy principles.
- Delivering on the Council's 'Health in All Policies' agenda, by responding to air and noise pollution, minimising parking and promoting use of sustainable transport (walking and cycling).

Delivering on the above objectives will promote the environmental well-being of the Seven Sisters area

Alternative options considered

Option 1 – Short Term Comprehensive Redevelopment

This option requires the council to acquire both the DA property and land interests from Grainger, and the acquisition of the remaining property and land interests from third parties either by agreement or using the existing CPO powers. The redevelopment of the site would start as soon as possible thereafter.

The council commissioned architects (Levitt Bernstein) to review comprehensive development options for the site and BNPP to undertake viability testing of those options.

The review considered two main comprehensive development options, the first being a 'moderate' development scheme which was based on an indicative residential development scenario included as part of the 'Community Plan' planning application. The second option is a more intensified 'maximised' development scheme. The two development options are illustrated at Appendix 7.

The options review took into account changes required to the Grainger scheme as a result of the requirement to comply with current building regulations and design standards which have been updated since the scheme received planning approval in 2012. These changes along with generally increasing construction costs have had a substantial negative financial impact on the costs of delivering a scheme on the site. The review allowed for 50% of residential units being provided for council social rent which has also had a negative impact on viability (the Grainger planning approved scheme did not include any affordable housing provision).

The options review process has also afforded the council an opportunity to secure the views of the Planning Authority, with the advice being that it was likely that the 'maximised' development option is excessively ambitious and unlikely to be supported. However, advice was that in planning terms the 'moderate' development option is likely to be supported and that there is some modest opportunity for some limited intensification of that option.

The BNPP viability review of the 'moderate' development option set out the full costs of immediate land assembly, construction and the likely returns on development and identified a substantial viability gap for the comprehensive redevelopment of the site as set out in Part B of this report.

Following the completion of the BNPP viability review the Greater London Authority (GLA) advised the council of a new approach they will be taking to all mixed tenure projects receiving funding from the 2021-2026 Affordable Housing Programme (other than those already approved as 'named schemes'), the new rules are as follows:

1. The GLA's starting position will be that, as a rule, they will not look to fund the first 35% of all homes on a given site.
2. The first 20% of all homes on a given site are not eligible for funding under any circumstances.
3. In exceptional circumstances, the GLA will be willing to hear viability cases that clearly demonstrate that a project requires capital grant funding for all affordable homes above the 20% limit (with the key point being that the project would not be delivered at all without the additional funding).

The impact of the GLA's new approach on the 'moderate' development option viability gap is set out in Part B of this report.

There are specific delivery challenges connected with this option, notably the interaction with the neighbouring TfL scheme to improve the existing SSM buildings, and in particular the need to use some of the land currently owned by Grainger to provide a short-term outdoor market during the development period.

This option is likely to deliver on the council's strategic placemaking objectives in the medium term as it would result in a comprehensive development of the site.

There are some options remaining to be considered which could potentially improve the viability of the scheme (notably on design, construction/delivery and potential external funding options), however the order of deficit is still likely to be significant. As such, at this point in time it is not recommended that given the unknowns and the potential scale of loss to the council, this option is pursued.

Option 2 – 'No Acquisition'

In this scenario, the council would not exercise its option under the DA to acquire Grainger's land interests, nor would it complete the acquisition of remaining third-party land interests by agreement or using existing CPO powers.

A central feature of this option is the lack of control the council would then have over the site (outside of its statutory planning and related powers), and significant uncertainty regarding what would occur in the future. The most likely outcome for the site would be a piecemeal and unstructured evolution, which is very difficult to define with any great certainty.

This option is least likely to secure the delivery of the council's strategic placemaking for the site.

This option does however result in no immediate financial outlay for the council.

Option 3 – Alternative council led delivery approach

The comprehensive development of the Wards Corner site is a long-standing strategic objective of council. In this context, the council will continue to explore further options to improve the viability of a comprehensive redevelopment scheme. However, it is clear from the independent viability review (see paragraphs 5.1 to 5.10 of this report) that a comprehensive redevelopment (i.e. Option 1) has significant viability challenges. Also, there are challenges with securing the council's strategic objectives with Option 2. In this context and having particular regard to the tight timescales dictated by the existing CPO, the council has sought to identify a third alternative council led delivery approach.

This option (as set out in Part B of this report) would see the council acquiring Grainger's and the remaining third-party property and land interests and then developing a more detailed delivery strategy for the site that could include a range of options from demolition and rebuild, to retain and refurbish, to disposal. Each of these

options could apply to some, none or all of the acquired interests and the council would need to keep in mind the protection of its financial interests during this process. It is important to note that the council will not be acquiring the SSM buildings and TfL have indicated their intention to work with SSM traders and the community to secure the buildings as a community asset into the future. The council will need to work with TfL and the community to ensure that the plans for this key part of the Wards Corner site are realised.

The rationale for this delivery approach begins with a number of important deliverability considerations. The first relates to the TfL programme requiring the use of some of the current Grainger land for a period of up to 3 years to facilitate the short-term provision of SSM whilst the substantive works are undertaken to the market hall. The delaying of the delivery of a council led scheme addresses this challenge.

The second is financial (as set out in Part B of this report), where the up-front compensation payable to buy out 3 leasehold property interests is not required and thus reduces the total third-party property acquisition cost (this has been reflected in BNPP's viability assessment of the 'moderate' comprehensive development option).

A slower, more nuanced delivery approach gives the council the time to develop a placemaking approach to implementing a viable development strategy working closely with the local community. It also gives the council the opportunity to explore further external funding opportunities to help bridge the gap between the council's strategic objectives and the current viability of the scheme.

There is a strong likelihood that any delivery strategy will come at a net cost to the council and in the event that these costs are viewed to not represent good value for money in the future it is critical that the council considers what its exit strategy would be. In this event, the council would implement a disposal strategy which could include disposing of all or some of the acquired property interests in order to recoup the capital outlay.

An assessment of a reasonable worst case financial scenario based on the council having acquired the properties, held them for five years, and then disposing (having failed to identify a viable delivery route) of all the property interests acquired has been undertaken. The outcome of this assessment and resulting financial implications is detailed within paragraphs 8.1 to 8.9 of this report.

While in the short term this option is likely to have a reputational benefit, there are significant medium-term risks in the event that the pace of improvements is slower than the community may hope for, or a viable delivery strategy cannot be identified.

This option allows the council to develop a scheme for the Wards Corner site that secures the best likelihood of the council delivering on the strategic placemaking objectives set out at paragraphs 4.9 to 4.11 of this report. Delivering on these objectives will promote the social, environmental and economic well-being of the Seven Sisters area. However, there still remains a risk that the council will not be able to deliver on its objectives for the site.

The total budget to fund the costs associated with developing a strategy which will guide the new council led delivery approach for the Wards Corner site is set out in Part B of this report.

9. WOLVES LANE HORTICULTURAL CENTRE LEASE AMENDMENT

The Cabinet Member for Communities and Civic Life introduced the report which sought approval to amend the proposed lease offered to OrganicLea for the Wolves Lane Horticultural Centre. The new lease would reflect the establishment of the onsite consortium. It would also vary the red line boundary of the site.

It was noted that the proposal would enable the Wolves Lane Consortium to access £2.5 million of funding from the Greater London Authority (GLA) and National Lottery. It was added that this would contribute to the manifesto commitment to identify sites for community food growing programmes.

RESOLVED

1. To authorise that the Council enters into a lease for a period of 25 years in relation to the area of land specified in the report (which is shown coloured red, green and blue in Figure 1 in this report) with Wolves Lane Consortium in a form substantially like the draft lease appended to this report at Appendix A.
2. To delegate authority to the Assistant Director of Property and Capital Projects to make minor amendments to the draft lease and to agree the terms of the lease.

Reasons for decision

The Cabinet resolved in January 2017 to lease the Wolves Lane Horticultural Centre to OrganicLea for a period of 25 years. The bid submitted at that time was on behalf of an informal consortium of partners. The informal consortium in 2019 formed a new legal entity called the Wolves Lane Consortium.

The original bid by OrganicLea always envisaged this new consortium being formed and this is the fulfilment of that intention. The original bid also included a plan to seek significant external funding to develop the site and have a programme of activities that would make the site self-sufficient over a number of years.

OrganicLea and the Wolves Lane Consortium have now secured £2.5m from the GLA and National Lottery. £1.5m of this funding is to improve the facilities on site and £1m is to support programmes of community activity and develop revenue streams to ensure the site is self-sustaining over the next five years.

Without the changes to the name of the lease holder or the expansion of the area included in the lease to the Wolves Lane Consortium, this £2.5m investment into the borough would be lost.

The proposed new facilities and accompanying community food growing programmes can make a significant contribution to the manifesto commitments.

Alternative options considered

The Council could reject the request for change of lease holder name. However, this would risk the loss of £1.9m worth of external funding from the National Lottery. The £600k from the GLA is not dependent on the name change.

The Council has already resolved to lease two parts (the green and blue portions shown in Figure 1 in paragraph 6.7 below) of the site to OrganicLea for a period of 25 years. Therefore, the only option available to the Council is to do something different with the third portion of the site (the red area shown in Figure 1 in paragraph 6.7 below).

The whole of the site and adjacent land is designated as Metropolitan Open Land for planning purposes and therefore its use is limited. The Council originally retained this portion of the site as a possible Parks Service depot. That option has been subsequently investigated and ruled out on the basis of cost. The land is bounded by fencing and is gated and is not accessible by the general public. In addition, it has been confirmed that the land does not come within the definition of “open space” for the purposes of s123(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Council could choose to market the third portion of the site separately. However, this was also discounted because:

- The site’s planning designation is as Metropolitan Open Land and this significantly limits the use of the site for other purposes.
- £2.5m of external investment into the site and the local community development activities would be lost.
- Any income the Council would receive would be significantly less over the 25 years of the lease than the £1.5m investment to improve the site.
- Public access to the site is currently via the green portion of the site (shown in Figure 1 in paragraph 6.7 below).
- Previously interested parties are operating from the site as part of the wider user base.

10. MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES

RESOLVED

To note the minutes of other bodies.

11. SIGNIFICANT AND DELEGATED ACTIONS

RESOLVED

To note the significant and delegated actions.

12. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were no new items of urgent business.

13. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of agenda items 14-15 as they contained exempt information as defined in Section 100a of the Local Government Act 1972; Paragraph 3 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information; Paragraph 5 – information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

14. WARDS CORNER: ACQUISITIONS PROGRAMME

As per item 8.

15. NEW ITEMS OF EXEMPT URGENT BUSINESS

There were no new items of exempt urgent business.

CHAIR: Councillor Peray Ahmet

Signed by Chair

Date

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MINUTES OF MEETING Cabinet HELD ON Tuesday, 19th July, 2022, 6.30 - 7.15 pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Peray Ahmet (Chair), Mike Hakata, Zena Brabazon, Dana Carlin, Lucia das Neves, Julie Davies, Ruth Gordon, Adam Jogee and Sarah Williams

ALSO ATTENDING ONLINE – Cllr Connor

16. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred to the notice of filming at meetings and attendees noted this information.

17. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Seema Chandwani.

18. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no representations received on the exempt items.

21. MINUTES

RESOLVED

To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2022 as a correct record.

22. MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no matters for consideration.

23. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/QUESTIONS

There were no deputations, petitions, or questions.

24. 2021/22 FINANCE UPDATE AND PROVISIONAL OUTTURN

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Local Investment introduced the report, which set out the 2021/22 provisional outturn for the General Fund, HRA, DSG and the Capital Programme compared to budget. It sought approval for any changes to the Council's revenue or capital budgets required to respond to the changing financial scenario and the delivery of the Medium-Term Financial Statement (MTFS). It also included proposed transfers to/from reserves, revenue and capital carry forward requests and any budget virements, adjustments and grant acceptances.

The Cabinet Member referred to:

- The General Fund being on budget.
- As forecast, the direct impact of Covid 19 being largely offset with government support.
- The base budget pressures were offset by budget contingency, although without reserves being drawn down.
- Financial pressures would continue into the new financial year and impact of inflation would continue to be felt by the Council and the community, in particular in social care placements.
- Council reserves continued to provide a level of resilience in addition to growth.
- The coming financial new year required a tight financial grip.
- The £20 million in savings, required in this financial year, whilst considering that the effects of Covid19 were still being felt coupled with extremely uncertain funding environment.

The Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Families highlighted that Haringey had been identified by the Department for Education (DfE) as one of 10 local authority areas to receive £1.28M of targeted funding to tackle serious youth violence over the next three years. The Director of Children's Services was to chair the SAFE Taskforce Board in Haringey to tackle youth violence in this schools led project. This intervention group was likely to include primary transition project and looking at transition to secondary schools. This funding would lead to expanding the outreach and focus on cognitive behaviour. This funding was further good news for expanding social workers in school's scheme.

The Cabinet Member for Communities and Civic life was pleased to report that the Arts Council had awarded the Council £600k for upkeep of Bruce Castle Museum. This was a £1.4531m project helping make Bruce Castle Museum a London destination.

In response to questions from Cllr Connor, the following information was noted:

- The attached report was an outturn report and provided information on the completed budget for 2021/22. The budget monitoring report for the first quarter of this financial year, due for Cabinet consideration in September, would provide information on savings progress with view on this.

- DSG budget management plan was in place. There was a process with the DFE and the Council would enter into a negotiation on what it could deliver going forward. It was noted that this work had not been completed as yet and it was hoped the proposals put forward to the DFE would secure best outcomes for the Council and reduction on the overspend, in year, and long term. However, as yet, there was no long-term position to report on.
- With regards to inflation impacting on Council borrowing, it was noted that the Council had borrowing in various places and over different terms with different levels of risk. Inflation was a risk factor and there would be more updates in quarter 1 budget monitoring report.
- Noted that inflation can impact on capital schemes and revenue budget. It was too early in the financial year to understand the full impact of the inflationary environment. The wider economic impact on borrowing would be reported to the Corporate Committee.

RESOLVED

1. To note the provisional revenue and capital outturn for 2021/22 as detailed in the report.
2. To approve the capital carry forwards in Appendix 3.
3. To approve the appropriations to/from reserves at Appendix 4.
4. To approve the budget virements as set out in Appendix 5.
5. To note the debt write-offs approved by officers in Quarter 4 2021/22 as set out in Appendix 6.
6. To accept the £1.28m SAFE Taskforce (Support, Attend, Fulfil, Exceed) grant funding as set out in Section 7.
7. To accept a grant from the Arts Council under the MEND programme of £588,900 to improve the fabric of Bruce Castle Museum as set out in Section 7.

Reasons for decision

A strong financial management framework, including oversight by members and senior management is an essential part of delivering the Council's priorities and statutory duties.

It is necessary at year-end to resolve the treatment of related balance sheet accounts, in light of the experience during the year and knowledge of the Council's future position and requirements.

Alternative options considered

The Director of Finance, as Section 151 Officer, has a duty to consider and propose decisions in the best interests of the authority's finances and that best support the delivery of the agreed borough plan outcomes whilst maintaining financial sustainability.

This report of the Director of Finance has addressed these points. Therefore, no other options have been presented

25. PROPOSALS FOR RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION FOLLOWING THE INSOURCING OF HOMES FOR HARINGEY

The Cabinet Member for Housing Services, Private Renters, and Planning introduced the report which sought approval to maintain the existing channels for engagement for tenants and leaseholders of the Council. These ensured that tenants and leaseholders were able to actively participate in the work of the Council, as their landlord, and hold the Council to account. It was noted that the administration had an explicit commitment to co-production and to increasing the voice of all residents. Final proposals were being taken forward on how resident engagement would be added to the Council's decision-making structure to ensure even greater participation and broader and more representative engagement.

In response to questions from Cllr Connor, the following was noted:

- Noted that the resident engagement groups concerned putting residents at the heart of decision making and there would be wider proposals on this objective coming forward later in the year. However, the Customer Core group did feed into the Council's decision making, through the directorate currently, and the residents on this group were engaged and determined to have their voice heard.
- The Council would continue to publish housing provision targets and its performance against its targets. The recommendations of the Housing Resident Advisory Panel [formally Tenants Scrutiny Panel] would be published on the website and the Council's scrutiny function would be able to ask for these recommendations to come forward to the Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel and Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED

1. To note and approve the interim resident engagement proposals detailed in paragraph 6.13 of the report.
2. To note that final resident engagement proposals will be brought forward later this municipal year, including proposals for engaging with the Council's tenants and leaseholders.
3. To note that proposals for further involving residents in the Council's decision-making process continue to be developed and that, if any changes are proposed to the Council's Committee structures, they will be developed in consultation with

Members prior to being recommended to Standards Committee, and then to Full Council.

Reasons for decision

It is crucial that social tenants and leaseholders are able to have clear channels of communication with their landlord, to have their voices heard and for social landlords to have clearly set out method to listen to their tenants and leaseholders and respond to their concerns. With the insourcing of housing services, it is important to ensure that the involvement of tenants and leaseholders in the management of their homes is not weakened; and indeed that tenants and leaseholders have both a strong voice and that all participation processes are representative of the broader tenant and leaseholder population.

Alternative options considered

One option was to rethink at this stage the relationship between the Council and its tenants and leaseholders. This was discounted to allow for broader work on the Housing Strategy and the Council's approach to resident participation to be carried out, and to ensure that any change from the current model was considered carefully and with the involvement of tenants, leaseholders and Members.

Another option was to directly involve tenants and leaseholders in the Council's decision making. This was discounted at this stage, and if it is taken forward would be a decision for the Council's Standards Committee to recommend to Full Council.

26. PARTNERING CONTRACTS STRATEGY FOR HOUSING MAJOR WORKS

The Cabinet Member for Housing Services, Private Renters, and Planning introduced the report which sought approval for the Procurement Strategy for long term delivery of major component renewal, energy works, and additional homes to Council homes 2022-32.

The Cabinet Member highlighted that this was an ambitious procurement strategy covering 10 years with 4 long-term partnering contracts, covering distinct geographical areas to deliver benefits to the capital housing build programme and deliver substantial benefits to residents.

It was noted that the proposed decisions would enable the Council to deliver the Housing capital programme effectively with contract management key to achieving outcomes.

Following questions from Cllr Connor, the following information was noted:

- With regards to the £800m spend , it was important to note the context of this sum over 10 years and note that previously Homes for Haringey had underspent in this area. This capital budget allocation was important in supporting provision of the number of repairs that were needed to bring a lot of dated housing stock up to required specifications. It was noted that the Council

were already spending at this level over a longer period of time but not necessarily getting the benefits which will be sought through the procurement strategy.

- Part of the monitoring of the contracts would involve residents, and this will be part of the tenant's strategy and will form part of the contractual arrangements that the partners will sign up to. Assurance was provided that housing services would bring in a team to support the monitoring of the contract and have an officer dedicated to resident engagement and the training of these residents to take this role forward. The Council will look at resourcing this immediately.
- The plan was for a constant stream of apprentices. The current contracts made it difficult to appoint apprenticeships over long term but now with a long-term agreement there was scope for a rolling training programme of apprenticeships. Homes for Haringey had previous good experience in training apprentices to a high standard and this would be utilised.

RESOLVED

To approve the proposed procurement strategy for the delivery of major works to the Council's housing stock as set out in Section 7 of the report.

Reasons for decision

At £800 million, split across four contractors, this will be one of the largest procurements ever undertaken by the Council. It is, therefore, felt appropriate to ask for Cabinet support for the partnering approach at an early stage to enable officers to progress the procurement to resident consultation, tender and award stage over the next 12 months.

The proposed route to market will enable us to address many issues with the current approach including not meeting annual delivery targets, having to undertake full procurements to address urgent issues to blocks, not maximising the social value and community wealth opportunities which should be achieved from this level of investment, the high costs of undertaking regular procurement and that the stock does not appear transformed once investment works have been completed.

Single contract procurement is expensive and resource intensive, requiring the support of external consultants and legal services in most cases. To deliver the current programme of work which is half the annual value of the works proposed under these contracts fifteen to twenty-five contracts are procured annually. This impacts on the delivery of works and diverts resources which could be spent on improving Council owned homes.

In line with the Borough plan objectives, this procurement strategy ensures that these contracts will maximise the benefits of Council investment in the local area. This will be a significant requirement in the tender evaluation and KPIs will be included in the contract to ensure that tender commitments are met or exceeded for the life of the contract.

Long-term area-based contracts will enable the contractors to put roots down in the Borough developing an approach to social value which is based on community needs, working closely with our residents and key stakeholders. This will be especially beneficial for employment and training where these can be seen as long-term opportunities where residents can gain meaningful qualifications and for the local supply-chain where the contractors will be able to guarantee future work. Resident and stakeholder involvement will be at the heart of the procurement process and on-going management and governance of the contracts. Non-compliance with KPI targets in these areas could result in work being allocated to the other contractors.

Long-term supply arrangements enable an environment of continuous improvement to be included in the contract and governance arrangements. Lessons can be learned from each project that is delivered and residents can be fully involved in this process.

Having long-term contractual arrangements enables contractor involvement in the planning stages of work, which will enable co-design and can increase efficiencies and drive savings, through offering better designs and project delivery, understanding resident and client requirements, being able to engage with the wider supply-chain to get the benefits of the quantum of work being delivered. Efficiency and value for money targets will be included within the contract.

The success of this procurement strategy will also depend on the skills within Haringey to manage the contracts and ensure that robust governance is in place to ensure that the outcomes set out in the procurement strategy are achieved once the contracts go live. Whilst the procurement is being undertaken, training and development will be identified for existing team members and recruitment will be undertaken, where required. The consultants who are supporting us on the procurement have also, within their appointment, been providing support on contract mobilisation, which will include setting up governance arrangements for the contracts and wider partnership. Trained residents will be included in the on-going contract governance arrangements.

Alternative options considered

Contractual Options

Continue with procuring contracts individually. This route does not support wider corporate objectives referred to in the cabinet members introduction as it limits the opportunities for co-production and delivery of social value. This approach will be at risk of the uncertain market conditions in the construction industry. When contractors have the certainty of longevity it enables them to invest in the contract, implement social value and drive down supply chain costs, this cannot be achieved when contracts are let individually. The Council are not permitted to segregate contracts to avoid having to tender to the open market for contracts with a value over the public works threshold of £4.733m. There is also the management cost of continuously producing specifications and going out to tender as well as running leaseholder consultation processes. This would allow officers to concentrate resources on contract management.

To put in place a framework with annual contract awards. A framework agreement is a type of contract that is commonly used as a multi supplier agreement, establishing a relationship to deliver works as an approved contractor. This arrangement does reduce some of the risk of single contract procurement because works are delivered through a framework and an annual award is given to contractors. However, because continuity of work is not guaranteed, the wider social value can be reduced, especially in terms of meaningful employment and technical apprenticeships, as decisions are taken annually. Also, as there is an annual award of work it is harder to involve contractors early in the planning stages. One of the advantages of this type of contract is that work can be removed for performance issues on an annual basis, however, this does impact on an environment of continuous improvement. The uncertainty of continuity could also deter the market in uncertain times. Frameworks are limited in timescale, to 4 years, limiting the longevity of the relationship and limiting financial and social value.

Awarding contracts based on type of work. The approved Asset Management Strategy is that works to residents' homes are delivered in a holistic manner, the reason for this is to reduce the impact on residents, as works are undertaken at the same time. If the contracts were let based on work types rather than property it would be a departure from the strategy. The in-house team could undertake works coordination, but this is not a skill set which we currently have and liability for delays would become the Councils responsibility not the contractors if we were going to take on this role. There are significant financial advantages to delivering works holistically as it reduces access, site set up and management costs that are incurred when works are delivered under separate contracts. There can also be an impact on warranties and contractor liabilities if another contractors' work could be seen as the reason for product failures or damage.

Deliver the works in-house. Currently, the Council delivers its housing repairs and maintenance service through an in-house team for a value in the region of £20 million per annum. A small kitchen and bathroom programme, circa £1 million was delivered in-house in 2020/1, this highlighted that at the current time there are not the skills in-house at management or operative level to deliver this type of work. The step change required to deliver this type of work would be significant. Alongside this there is a significant amount of risk attached to this type of work which have implication for Health and Safety, Building Safety, supply-chain, and availability of the labour. There will be a 5-year break option in these contracts, and it can be reviewed at this point as to whether this situation had changed. The contracts will also include the option for some elements of the contract to be delivered in-house, if at any time it is considered that Haringey have developed the capability to do this. Working with contractors in a partnering arrangement will also enable our staff to develop key skills, which if at a future date it was seen as appropriate to move to an in-house delivery model there would have been considerable learning from commercial partners in delivering works of this nature.

Partnering Options Considered

Period of the Contract Across the local authority and housing sector several partnering contracts for major works have recently been awarded or are going through the procurement process. Clarions let their major works partnering contract for 20

years, London and Quadrant are procuring their contract for 15 years and Hackney are currently out to market for a 4-year major works framework. After taking market advice, 10 years with a 5-year break clause was considered appropriate for Haringey. The procurement and full mobilisation of the contract will take in the region of 2 years and therefore the contract needs to be long-enough to be attractive to contractors to want to bid for the work and for the Borough to gain the long-term contractual benefits. It was felt there would be too many changes in the wider environment to commit to a contract in excess of 10 years. The five-year break clause can be used for one or all of the contracts, which gives a high-level of flexibility.

Number of contracts Options were considered for the number of lots which the £800 million pounds worth of work would be divided into. One or two contractors were ruled out due to the capacity of contractors to deliver this level of work per annum and the risks associated with only working with one or two contractors including poor performance and contractor insolvency. More than four contracts were ruled out as it was felt that this would dilute the benefits of long-term agreements with a small number of committed contractors. Alignment with the Localities' Strategy seem to enable the best synergies for the Borough, as the social value elements of the contract can be focused on the priorities of the localities. When the levels of work were reviewed, a decision was taken to split the East of the Borough, due to the concentration of social housing in this area. The contract values also means that two of the lots will be more attractive to medium sized regional contractors which will encourage greater diversity in the number and types of contractors who bid for these contracts.

27. APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR COUNCIL HOMES ON LAND AT WATTS CLOSE, SEVEN SISTERS

The Cabinet Member for Council Housebuilding, Placemaking, and Development introduced the report which sought approval for the appointment of Formation Design & Build Limited to construct 18 new Council homes on Council rent on land at Watts Close N15, and to facilitate this delivery by appropriating the land for planning purposes and then on completion for housing purposes.

The housing provision included four one-bedroom flats, eight two-bedroom flats, four three-bedroom houses and two four-bedroom houses with two of the flats being fully accessible for wheelchair-users. The priority was for a high-quality build, improving public realm and making places which residents can enjoy.

In response to questions from Cllr Connor, the following was noted:

With regards to prioritising green space in new housing schemes, in particular to mitigate the effects of expected rising temperatures, all new housing schemes have included a lot of soft landscaping and encourage biodiversity. In relation to Watts Close, there was: play space included, urban greening which was above the requirements of the London Plan and this was also a zero-carbon scheme.

Following consideration of the exempt information, it was

RESOLVED

1. To approve the appointment of Formation Design & Build Limited to undertake building works to provide a total of eighteen Council rented homes at Watts Close for a total contract sum and to approve the client contingency sum, both of which are set out in the exempt part of the report.
2. To approve the appropriation of the land at Watts Close highlighted in the red line boundary plan attached at Appendix 1 from housing purposes to planning purposes under Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 as it is no longer required for the purpose which it is currently held, and for the purpose of carrying out development as set out in paragraphs 6.1 to 6.4 of the report.
3. To approve the use of the Council's powers under Section 203 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 to override easements and other third-party rights which may be affected by the Watts Close development, under planning permission Ref: HGY/2022/0035.
4. To delegate to the Director of Placemaking and Housing, after consultation with the Director of Finance and the Cabinet Member for Council Housing-Building, Placemaking, and Development, authority to make payments of compensation as a result of any genuine claims of third-party rights affected by the Watts Close development and payable as a result of recommendation 3.1.3, within the existing scheme of delegation.
5. To approve the appropriation of the land at Watts Close (edged red in the boundary plan attached at Appendix 1) from planning purposes back to housing purposes under Section 19 of the Housing Act 1985, after practical completion of the development schedule in December 2023.
6. To delegate powers to the Director of Placemaking and Housing and the S151 Officer (Director of Finance) to approve overspend beyond the contingency of up to 5% of the construction contract value and approve necessary associated contract variations. To note the project on costs and total scheme cost set out in the exempt report (Appendix 2).

Reasons for decision

On 29 September 2019 Cabinet included the land at Watts Close into the Council's housing delivery programme. This scheme has subsequently been granted planning consent and is ready to progress to construction. This report therefore marks the third, and final, Member led decision to develop on this site.

Following a formal procurement process, a contractor has been identified to undertake these works.

Alternative options considered

It would be possible not to appoint a contractor to develop this site for the Council. However, this option was rejected as it does not support the Council's commitment to deliver a new generation of Council homes.

This opportunity was procured via a competitive tender through the Westworks Development and Construction Dynamic Purchasing System, using JCT Design & Build Contract 2016 with amendments. An alternative option would have been to do a direct appointment; however this option was not suitable due to the estimated contract value of the scheme.

The Council could continue with the scheme without appropriating the site for planning purposes, but this would risk the proposed development being delayed or stopped by potential third-party claims. By utilising the powers under Section 203 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 (HPA 2016), those who benefit from third party rights will not be able to seek an injunction since those rights or easements that are overridden are converted into a claim for compensation only. The Council recognises the potential rights of third parties and will pay compensation where a legal basis for such payments is established. The housing delivery team actively engaged with local residents about the development of this site as they proceeded through the feasibility and design stages and any comments or objections raised were taken into consideration by Planning Committee in reaching its decision.

28. HIGH ROAD WEST - APPROPRIATION OF LAND IN THE EARLY PLOTS AND CONSULTATION ON THE USE OF GROUND 10A OF THE HOUSING ACT 1985

The Cabinet Member for Council House-Building, Placemaking, and Development introduced the report which sought approval to appropriate land for planning purposes to enable delivery of the first two development plots as part of the High Road West scheme. It also sought Cabinet approval to consult secure tenants on the Love Lane Estate on the use of Ground 10a of the Housing Act 1985.

It was noted that this was the first phase, 1a, of the High Road West Scheme which was first of all, contingent on the overall Planning decision being sought on the whole scheme this week. This first phase would include the delivery of 60 Council homes.

Approval for consultation was a technical issue required with secure tenants under Housing Act by the Secretary of State so to achieve vacant possession over the site. Assurance was provided that the consultation would be delivered in community languages and translators would be engaged to ensure residents understood what was being consulted on.

In response to a question from Cllr Connor about any impact of the consultation result, this was a technical use of the powers as required by the Secretary of State to achieve vacant possession.

Following consideration of the exempt information, it was

RESOLVED

1. To approve the appropriation for planning purposes of the land edged blue on the plan attached at Appendix 1 of this report to enable the delivery of Plot A of the High Road West Scheme ("the Scheme") pursuant to section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972, which will enable the Council or the developer to rely on

section 203 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 to override any third party easements or rights infringed by the development of Plot A, subject to payment of statutory compensation to those entitled under section 204 of the 2016 Act.

2. To approve the commencement of statutory consultation with all secure tenants on the Love Lane Estate, pursuant to Part 5 of Schedule 2 to the Housing Act 1985, regarding the proposal to seek the Secretary of State's approval for the redevelopment Scheme for the purpose of Ground 10A to support delivery of later plots within the Scheme.
3. To note that following this statutory consultation, there would be a report to Cabinet with a recommendation on whether to proceed with an application to the Secretary of State to seek approval of the redevelopment Scheme for the purpose of Ground 10A.

Reasons for decision

The land to be appropriated for planning purposes to enable the development of the first plot (Plot A) within Phase A of the Scheme, subject to planning permission being achieved. This land is currently held by the Council for a number of different statutory purposes, including housing. The land held for housing purposes is currently used as a footpath and an enclosed fenced area associated with the Whitehall & Tenterden Centre, see Appendix 2. Appropriating the land would enable the Council and its development partner Lendlease to deliver the new homes, through the ability to rely on sections 203 and 204 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 ("2016 Act") to override any easements or other private rights (such as rights to light) which might otherwise impede redevelopment of this land in accordance with planning permission.

The consideration of the potential use of Ground 10A of the Housing Act 1985 is with a view to ensure certainty of delivery of Phase A, which includes the provision of much needed Council homes, in parts of the site where secure tenants are currently in occupation. The Council's Landlord Offer guarantees secure tenants a new Council home in the Scheme that meets the need of their household. Secure tenants also have the option to make an early move to a Council home elsewhere in the borough if preferred. The Council has a dedicated Rehousing team in place to support residents through each stage of the move process.

The Council's aim is to rehouse all tenants by mutual agreement, in line with the Landlord Offer. If this cannot be achieved, Ground 10A is one of the statutory grounds under which possession of a secure tenancy may be ordered by a court if it is seeking to end the tenancy, on the grounds that suitable accommodation is available. This would only be exercised in the event that a tenant was not willing to leave a property even once suitable alternative accommodation had been offered as part of the rehousing process. Further details are provided in paragraphs 6.29 to 6.37.

The Council has a statutory obligation under Part V of Schedule 2 to the Housing Act 1985 to undertake consultation with secure tenants prior to seeking the Secretary of State's approval of a redevelopment Scheme for the purposes of Ground 10A. If approved, statutory consultation would be undertaken with secure tenants on the Love Lane Estate in autumn 2022. Officers will report back to Cabinet on the outcome of

the consultation. Depending on the outcome, Cabinet may be asked for approval to authorise the Council to seek the Secretary of State's approval of the redevelopment Scheme for the purpose of Ground 10A.

Alternative options considered

Not to appropriate the land in Plot A or to do so later

The Council could progress development of Plot A without appropriating the land for planning purposes, but this would risk the proposed development being delayed or stopped by potential third party claims. This could prevent the Scheme from being delivered and the Council from delivering on its commitments set out in the ballot and Landlord Offer.

The Council could also choose to appropriate the land in Plot A for planning purposes at a later date, alongside other parts of Phase A. Plot A is targeted to start on site in autumn 2022, subject to planning consent. If a decision to appropriate the land was not taken at this time, then this would increase the risk of the Council and Lendlease failing to meet this start on site milestone, which is critical to unlocking GLA funding as per the funding agreements and therefore risk the delivery of the wider Scheme.

Not to consult on the proposal to seek approval for use of Ground 10A of the Housing Act 1985

The Council could choose not to undertake statutory consultation with secure tenants on the proposal to seek approval of the Secretary of State for use of Ground 10A of the Housing Act 1985, and accordingly would not (subject to consultation) be able to consider future use of these powers. This would however risk the Council's ability to deliver vacant possession and the delivery of the Scheme, including the delivery of 500 new Council homes for existing residents and those on the housing register.

Based on the consideration of these options, Cabinet is recommended to reject them and approve the recommendations outlined in Section 3 of this report.

29. MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES

RESOLVED

To note the minutes of other bodies.

30. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were no new items of urgent business.

31. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of agenda items 17 to 20 as they contained exempt information as defined in Section

100a of the Local Government Act 1972; Paragraph 3 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information; Paragraph 5 – information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

32. EXEMPT - APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR COUNCIL HOMES ON LAND AT WATTS CLOSE, SEVEN SISTERS

As per item 27 and exempt minutes.

33. EXEMPT - HIGH ROAD WEST - APPROPRIATION OF LAND IN THE EARLY PLOTS AND CONSULTATION ON THE USE OF GROUND 10A OF THE HOUSING ACT 1985

As per item 28.

34. EXEMPT - MINUTES

RESOLVED

To confirm and sign the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2022 as a correct record.

35. NEW ITEMS OF EXEMPT URGENT BUSINESS

There were no new items of exempt urgent business.

CHAIR: Councillor Peray Ahmet

Signed by Chair

Date

Report for: Cabinet – 13th September 2022

Title: 2022/23 Finance Update Quarter 1 (Period 3)

Report

Authorised by: Jon Warlow – Chief Finance Officer & Section 151 Officer

Lead Officer: Frances Palopoli – Head of Corporate Financial Strategy & Monitoring

Ward(s) Affected: N/A

**Report for Key/
Non-Key Decision** Key

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This budget report covers the position at Quarter 1 (Period 3) of the 2022/23 financial year including General Fund (GF) Revenue, Capital, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) budgets. The report focuses on significant budget variances including those arising as a result of the forecast non-achievement of approved MTFS savings.
- 1.2 The 2022/23 Budget and 2022/2027 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) report agreed by Full Council in March 2022 recognised the level of pressures faced by the care services particularly in the light of on-going demand, increased complexity of cases and the exposure to upward inflationary pressures. In response, an additional £13.7m was added to these services (£6.6m Children's; £7.1m Adults). Additionally, due to the upward inflationary trends in the economy, budgetary assumptions for both pay and non-pay were augmented.
- 1.3 Despite this strategy, the economy overall has been impacted by the growing cost of living crisis, rising interest rates and inflation rising significantly in the areas of food, fuel, and utilities therefore, as at Quarter 1 (Qtr1) the overall forecast GF variation from budget for the year stands at **£15.7m** with **£10.1m** attributable to non-delivery of agreed MTFS savings and **£5.6m** base budget pressures. The two care services account for £13.9m of the projected overspend as they continue to be adversely impacted by the direct and indirect consequences of the pandemic on demand as well as increased cost of placements. Identifying mitigations in these predominately statutory services will be challenging however, the service leads continue to review the service provision to reduce demand whilst meeting needs through innovative and efficient ways. Aside this, the Council must intensify its planned actions to identify all possible opportunities to offset this spend as far as possible before year end. Detailed mitigating actions to bring spend in line with budget to be presented at Qtr2.
- 1.4 No new budget reductions were agreed for 2022/23 in line with the agreed financial planning strategy in recognition of the extensive existing savings programme. In total there are £20.5m GF savings to be delivered this financial year and at Qtr1 only 51% is on track, leaving a £10.1m pressure.
- 1.5 In the light of the challenging financial environment in the Council and wider economy, officers are working to identify early opportunities for savings delivery. This is even

more crucial against the cost of living pressures, increasing demand and the backdrop of inflation. The latter is becoming increasingly concerning as it is a pressure outside the Council's direct control but is having very real impacts on both revenue and capital expenditure and plans. This is a national issue but its impact on the financial plans of the authority cannot be ignored.

- 1.6 The Council's resilience to future years challenges will be strengthened by further improvements to the in-year position.
- 1.7 The DSG forecast at Qtr1 is £3.8m above budget an improvement on the position at Qtr1 last financial year (£6.5m). Work is underway on a DSG Management Plan (Safety Valve programme) with the Department for Education (DfE) which looks to identify strategies to bring spend more in line with agreed budgets over the short to medium term. This is covered in a further report to this meeting.
- 1.8 The spend forecast against the 2022/23 capital programme, covering both GF and HRA, at Qtr1 is £421.6m (72.0%) of the revised budget, excluding enabling budgets which are held to allow the Council to respond to opportunities.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1 In my last report on the 2021/22 financial outturn, I highlighted the budgetary pressures expected to bear down on the Council this financial year - predominately from external factors such as the economic landscape and continuing demand for services. Unfortunately, the full year estimated spend levels reported at Qtr1 are showing just how significantly these factors are impacting on our financial plans.
- 2.2 With growing levels of inflation, and wider economic pressures unlikely to abate to any extent this financial year we must ensure that we maximise the delivery of our challenging savings programme whilst focusing on mitigating actions that will bring down the current spend estimates. Directors have been tasked with revisiting all current plans and looking for options to contribute efficiencies as well as re-assessing how they can gain more traction on the delivery of savings programmes. It seems very unlikely that economic stability at a national level will be achieved in the short or even medium term, so we must focus now on actions that are in our control to stabilise the budget position as far as possible this year. Therefore enabling us to have the best starting position for next year's Budget and MTFS.

3. Recommendations

Cabinet is recommended to:

- 3.1. Note the forecast total revenue outturn for the General Fund of **£15.7m** comprising £5.6m base budget and £10.1m (51%) savings delivery challenges. Note that Directors are developing actions to bring the forecast down before the end of the year. (Section 6, Table 1 and Appendices 1 & 3).
- 3.2. Note the net DSG forecast of £3.8m overspend. (Section 6 and Appendix 1).
- 3.3. Note the net Housing Revenue Account (HRA) forecast a breakeven at this time in the year (Section 6 and Appendices 1 and 2).

- 3.4. Note the forecast GF & HRA Capital expenditure of **£337.6m** in 2022/23 (excluding enabling budgets) which equates to **72%** of *the revised* capital budget (Section 8 and Appendix 4).
- 3.5. To note the debt write-offs approved in Quarter 1 2022/23 (Appendix 7).
- 3.6. To approve the extension of the current loan to the Credit Union as set out in section 6.2.10 – 6.2.13.
- 3.7. To approve the drawdowns from the Transformation reserve as set out in sections 6.2.14 – 6.2.16.
- 3.8. To approve the revenue budget virements and receipt of grants as set out in Appendix 6.
- 3.9. Approve the proposed budget adjustments and virements to the capital programme as set out in Table 2 and Appendix 6.

4. **Reason for Decision**

- 4.1 A strong financial management framework, including oversight by Members and senior management, is an essential part of delivering the council's priorities and statutory duties. This is made more critically important than ever as a result of the on-going financial implications placed on the Council by the Covid-19 crisis and the uncertainties surrounding the wider economic outlook.

5. **Alternative Options Considered**

- 5.1 The report of the management of the Council's financial resources is a key part of the role of the Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) in helping members to exercise their role and no other options have therefore been considered.

6. **Revenue Outturn**

- 6.1 Table 1 below sets out full year projections at Directorate level against agreed budgets and MTFS savings and the forecasts against the DSG and HRA budgets.

Table 1 – Revenue Budget Monitoring Forecast for Quarter 1 2022/23**P3 Draft Position**

Management Area	Revised 2022/23 Full Year Budget	Total Full Year Forecast	Base Budget Pressure / (Saving)	Non Delivery- MTFS Savings Challenge	Total Full Year Variance at P3
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Children's Services	64,286	68,989	4,703	0	4,703
Adults, Health & Communities	112,447	121,700	3,494	5,758	9,252
Environment & Neighbourhoods	18,752	18,798	(903)	949	46
Placemaking & Housing	6,825	6,564	(335)	74	(261)
Culture, Strategy & Engagement	11,997	13,693	1,262	433	1,695
Corporate Budgets	48,608	48,868	(2,620)	2,880	260
General Fund Total (before funding & DSG)	262,916	278,612	5,602	10,094	15,696
External Finance	(262,924)	(262,924)		0	
General Fund Total	(8)	15,688	5,602	10,094	15,696
DSG	()	3,814	3,814	0	3,814
HRA				0	
Haringey Total	(8)	19,502	9,416	10,094	19,510

6.2 General Fund Forecasts

- 6.2.1 A forecast budget pressure of close to £16m at Qtr1 is extremely concerning and it is incumbent on all Directors and lead members to focus on increasing the pace in delivery of agreed savings, identifying where spend can be delayed, alternative savings identified or where new initiatives can be brought forward.
- 6.2.2 A detailed piece of work is underway to review the approved capital programme which may deliver some savings against borrowing costs.
- 6.2.3 Some of the forecast overspends are being driven by the inflationary cost pressures in the marketplace, particularly a feature for the care services. Energy cost forecasts in the GF are within agreed budgets however, a further, yet un-forecast pressure is emerging on the officer pay award for 2022/23. The proposal is currently with the Unions but, if agreed, will exceed the current allowance built into the budget by an estimated £1m. Government is being lobbied for additional funding by the local government sector to cover this pressure.
- 6.2.4 The financial planning process leading to the approval of the 2022/23 Budget sought to recognise and respond to the increased demand seen particularly in social care budgets across the previous year as well as a recognition of the inflationary pressures across the piece. Consequently, significant additional resources were built into the budget however, these are now proving insufficient due to the unprecedented rise in cost of living crisis, inflation and interest rate.

- 6.2.5 A detailed analysis at directorate level is attached in Appendix 1 along with relevant commentary.

MTFS Savings Delivery

- 6.2.6 Officers continue to monitor delivery of all agreed MTFS savings as part of their monthly budget monitoring processes. At Qtr1 only £10.1m (51%) of the 2022/23 savings programme is forecast to deliver. Appendix 3 provides a detailed RAG rated analysis by Directorate. Services also continue to monitor deliverability of savings agreed for 2023/24 and beyond.
- 6.2.7 Directors to date have identified close to £5m mitigations to offset the delivery challenges. Of this mitigation, £4m is shown as reducing the base budget pressure with the remaining £1m reducing the non-delivery of MTFS savings in Table 1 above. Senior officers are continuing to actively seek further mitigations.
- 6.2.8 This work will help the Council's resilience and aid future financial planning.

Credit Union Loan Extension

- 6.2.10 The London Capital Credit Union (LCCU) is an organisation which operates in the boroughs of Brent, Barnet, Camden, City of London, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington or Waltham Forest. The credit union aims to provide loans at affordable levels: lower than those that would be offered by other profit making organisations.
- 6.2.11 Haringey has historically provided a subordinated loan to the LCCU. A subordinated loan is a loan which ranks below other debts when an organisation enters into liquidation. This loan was most recently renegotiated in 2017, when a non interest bearing £400,000.00 loan was agreed, repayable in five equal instalments between 2023 – 2027. The LCCU have requested that the Council consider extending the existing loan for 10 years beyond its current end date as commencing repayment next year will reduce the level of savings the credit union can accept and in turn the amount of lending they can provide to their members.
- 6.2.12 The Council has taken a number of measures to support the financial health of residents in recent years, and clearly the Council and LCCU have shared aspirations in the desire to minimise the level of residents' income which leaves the local economy through high cost interest payments to profit making lenders. Continuing the support provided to the LCCU can also be viewed as being aligned to the Council's Community Wealth Building approach. LCCU currently has around 15,000 members, with c. 6,000 or just over 1/3rd being Haringey residents.
- 6.2.13 Given the benefits of the current loan and the ramifications to their ability to lend if the loan is reduced at this time, it is proposed that the loan be extended to 2037 with repayments between 2033 -2037.

Transformation Reserve Drawdown

- 6.2.14 The Director of Finance recommends the following drawdowns from the Transformation reserve. This funding will provide one-off support for delivering some key programmes of activity for the Council.
- 6.2.15 **Waste and Cleansing Services Commissioning review strategy:** The Director of Finance has already approved a drawdown of £0.250m this financial year to enable the work on this programme to commence. Cabinet are requested to approve a further £0.250m which will enable the service to deliver the first two stages of the programme. The Council currently spends c.£19m annually on its current contract with Veolia which has been in place for 11 years. The proposed stage one work will focus on discovery and data collation which will lead to the development of a new Waste Strategy covering the period up to 2032 and identify new service delivery options at which stage a detailed paper will be taken to Cabinet for a decision on how to proceed with proposed new **service model** going live from April 2025.
- 6.2.16 **Safety Valve Programme:** This is a national programme driven by the DfE working with local authorities to address the on-going demand pressures against the current funding for High Needs Block as well as looking to address accumulated deficits on DSG which for Haringey total £21m. This activity cannot be met from existing resources therefore, Cabinet is recommended to approve a drawdown of up to £0.270m from the Transformation reserve this financial year. A case is being made for this cost to be funded by the DfE however, it is imperative that work commences ahead of any decision on this.
- 7 Debt and Write Offs**
- 7.1 Appendix 7 provides a summary of the debts written off in Qtr1 totalling £0.515m. These have been approved by the Director of Finance and / or Lead member for Finance as prescribed in the Financial Regulations and all are adequately provided for.
- 8 Capital Expenditure Forecast at Quarter 1**
- 8.1 The capital budget set by Council in March 2022 has been refreshed to incorporate the carry forwards agreed by Cabinet in July 2022 and the results of a re-profiling exercise. The revised capital programme is set out in Table 2 below, along with the Q1 actual and forecast outturn.

Table 2 - 2022/23 Capital Expenditure Analysis as at Quarter 1

Directorate	2022/23 Revised Full Year Budget	2022/23 QTR. 1 Budget Adjustments	2022/23 Revised Full Year Budget (after adjustments)	2022/23 Qtr. 1 Full Year Forecast	2022/23 Full Year Budget Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Children's Services	40,193	0	40,193	38,278	-1,915
Adults, Health & Communities	26,564	-13,313	13,251	11,119	-2,132
Environment & Neighbourhoods	37,288	-3,419	33,869	27,707	-6,162
Placemaking & Housing (Excl. Enabling Budgets)	104,652	-41,840	62,812	57,244	-5,569
Culture, Strategy & Engagement	61,631	-26,776	34,855	15,818	-19,037
General Fund Total	270,328	-85,348	184,980	150,166	-34,814
HRA - Housing Revenue Account	284,374	0	284,374	187,444	-96,930
Total	554,702	-85,348	469,354	337,610	-131,744
Enabling Budgets					
Placemaking & Housing	259,505	-131,903	127,602	83,962	-43,640
<i>Enabling budgets include the following capital schemes: 421, 429, 4003, 4006, 509 & 512</i>					
OVERALL TOTAL	814,207	-217,251	596,956	421,572	-175,385

- 8.2 As part of the regular management of the capital programme three changes are proposed and are summarised in the following table and show that if agreed, will reduce the overall capital programme by £48.027m over the MTFS period as set out below

Capital Programme Reduction					
		2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	Total £'000
Scheme	Ref. No.				
Headlease Acquisition	4006	7,377	13,000	0	20,377
Wood Green Library & Customer Service Centre	470	14,000	7,000	6,000	27,000
Reimagining Our Library offer	652	650	0	0	650
Total		22,027	20,000	6,000	48,027

- 8.3 The Acquisition of Headleases budget was created to enable the Council to acquire these in an effort to make savings in rent payable. All the head lessors have been contacted and have either declined to sell or demanded sums such that the acquisition would not be financially viable. It is proposed to delete the residual budget of £7.377m for 2022/23 and £13m in 2023/24, an overall reduction of £20.377m.
- 8.4 The Wood Green Library and Customer Service Centre scheme has been superseded by the Civic Centre expansion project and the work reviewing the overall presence of the Council in the Wood Green area. This review work is ongoing and once it has been developed to the appropriate stage, will be brought back to Cabinet for decision. It is therefore proposed to remove this budget of £14.188m in this financial year, and £7m in 2023/23 and £6m in 2024/25.
- 8.5 The Council has invested considerable sums in refurbishing its libraries over the last few years and no further provision is deemed to be required in the programme and it is therefore proposed to remove the £0.650m Reimagining Our Libraries Offer budget in this financial year.

- 8.6 The rationale for the budget adjustments is set out by Directorate in **Appendix 4** along with details of the key drivers of the Qtr1 year end variance.

9 Statutory Officers Comments

Finance

- 9.1 This is a report of the Director of Finance and therefore financial implications have been highlighted in the body of the report. The factors with which the authority is having to contend give rise to this exceptional and concerning level of forecast overspend, and there are growing inflationary and wider economic pressures. Therefore, the Council needs to ensure that it maximises its delivery of its existing savings plans and continues to develop additional mitigating actions in 2022/23 that would help bring the down the in year adverse forecast variance. It is also ensuring that it is increasing its control focus on major costs areas, including staff costs, contract costs and capital spend. These actions are also important to give the Council its best starting position for its new year's Budget and MTFs, which will clearly be very challenging for this and many other councils.

Strategic Procurement

- 9.2 Strategic Procurement notes the contents of this report and will continue to work with services to enable cost reductions.

Legal

- 9.3 The Head of Legal & Governance has been consulted on this report and makes the following comments.
- 9.4 The Council is under a duty to maintain a balanced budget. Pursuant to section 28 of the Local Government Act 2003, the Council is under a statutory duty to periodically conduct a budget monitoring exercise of its expenditure and income against the budget calculations during the financial year. If the monitoring establishes that the budgetary situation has deteriorated, the Council must take such remedial action as it considers necessary to deal with any projected overspends. This could include action to reduce spending, income generation or other measures to bring budget pressures under control for the rest of the year.
- 9.5 The Council must act reasonably and in accordance with its statutory duties and responsibilities when taking the necessary action to reduce the overspend. The Council is facing an unprecedented situation due to the pandemic and there is a risk of the financial impact on the Council if the government does not provide the Council with sufficient funding in year to cover the Council's costs due to the pandemic. That said, Members can take comfort from the assurance on funding set out at paragraph 6.2.6 of the report.
- 9.6 Pursuant to the Executive 'Financial management and resources' function set out at Part Three, Section C of the Constitution, the Cabinet is responsible for approving both virements and debt write offs in excess of certain limits as set out in the Financial Regulations at Part Four, Section I, Regulations 5.31 / 5.32 & 8.15(c) respectively.

9.7 Pursuant to Part Four, Section J (Contract Procedure Rules – Rule 17.1) of the Constitution, the Cabinet is responsible for approving grants from external bodies above £500,000.

9.8 In light of the above, coupled with the Equality Act 2010 comments below, there is no legal reason why Cabinet cannot adopt the Recommendations contained in the report.

Equalities

9.9 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

9.10 The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

9.11 Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

9.12 This budget report covers the position at Quarter 1 (Period 3) of the 2022/23 financial year including General Fund (GF) Revenue, Capital, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) budgets. The report focuses on significant budget variances including those arising as a result of the forecast non-achievement of approved MTFS savings.

9.13 It also includes proposed budget virements or adjustments. The recommendations in the report are not anticipated to have a negative impact on any groups with protected characteristics. In addition to this the Councils saving programme is subject to an equality assessment, which acts to mitigate against any potential impacts for those living and working in the Borough.

9 Use of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Directorate Level Forecast

Appendix 2 – HRA Forecast

Appendix 3 – MTFS Savings Delivery

Appendix 4 – Capital Programme Level Forecast

Appendix 5 – 2021/26 Revised General Fund (GF) Capital MTFS Budget

Appendix 6 – Virements (Revenue and Capital)

Appendix 7 – Debt Write Off

10 Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 For access to the background papers or any further information, please contact Frances Palopoli – Head of Corporate Financial Strategy & Monitoring extn 3896

Directorate Level Forecast P3

Appendix 1

Management Area	Revised 2022/23 Full Yr Budget	P3 Full Year Forecast	P3 Forecast to Full Yr Budget Variance
CORPORATE BUDGETS	48,608,147	48,868,369	260,222
CORPORATE BUDGETS - NON SERVICE	46,348,871	46,470,126	121,255
CORPORATE BUDGETS - SERVICE	2,259,276	2,398,243	138,967
Legal & Governance	2,620,288	2,620,288	0
Chief Executive	303,649	303,649	0
Corporate Finance	-664,661	-525,694	138,967
DIRECTOR OF CULTURE, STRATEGY & ENGAGEMENT	11,997,343	13,692,566	1,695,223
Strategy & Communication	427,183	359,005	-68,178
Human Resources	1,324,004	1,464,719	140,715
Digital Services	85,669	83,957	-1,712
Corporate & Customer services	5,275,323	6,107,183	831,860
Transformation & Resources	451,342	451,342	0
Libraries	3,682,149	4,385,531	703,382
Culture, Museums & Archives	751,673	840,830	89,157
DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT & NEIGHBOURHOODS	18,751,938	18,797,647	45,710
Parking & Highways	-2,546,377	-2,982,663	-436,285
Community Safety, Waste & Enforcement	17,089,793	17,421,494	331,701
E&N Management & Support	2,022,051	1,962,051	-60,000
Parks & Leisure	2,137,664	2,146,682	9,018
Operational Facilities Management	48,807	250,083	201,276
DIRECTOR OF ADULT, HEALTH & COMMUNITIES	112,447,270	121,699,558	9,252,288
Director of Adult & Social Services	71,982,140	79,904,178	7,922,038
Housing Demand	8,440,586	9,730,063	1,289,477
Director of Public Health	17,957,145	17,957,145	0
Assistant Director for Commissioning	14,067,399	14,108,172	40,773
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES	64,286,169	68,989,179	4,703,010
Director of Children Services	2,496,382	2,566,155	69,773
Commissioning	3,336,933	3,466,350	129,417
Prevention & Early Intervention	12,382,105	14,553,972	2,171,867
Children & Families	42,887,506	45,295,302	2,407,796
Assistant Director for Schools	3,183,243	3,107,401	-75,842
PLACEMAKING & HOUSING	6,824,873	6,564,295	-260,578
Director of Housing_Regen_Place	190,862	190,862	0
Capital Projects and Property	-1,578,185	-1,578,185	0
Planning_Building Standards & Sustainability	3,144,358	3,098,962	-45,396
Regeneration & Economic Development	4,716,712	4,516,712	-200,000
Housing	351,126	335,944	-15,182
MANAGEMENT TOTAL	262,915,739	278,611,615	15,695,875

Further detail on the key drivers of the Directorate variances follow:-

CORPORATE BUDGETS

Over budget £0.260m

Corporate Budgets (Service) are projecting an overspend at Qtr1 of £0.260m which is largely due to staffing pressures in Corporate Finance, underachievement of income in Legal services offset by small savings in corporate budget lines.

CULTURE, STRATEGY & ENGAGEMENT

Over budget £1.695m

Culture, Strategy and Engagement are projecting an overspend at Qtr1 of £1.695m. The key variances are as follows:

Corporate and Customer Services: £0.832m overspend

The key pressure is in Benefits (£0.631m) where the Service is experiencing COVID/resilience staffing pressures to clear backlogs at the same time as receiving a reduced level of DWP grant. The ongoing demand pressures on the service have also resulted in delays to the realisation of now historic Customer First savings. The other driver of the overspend is in Customer Services (£0.243m) where additional staffing is required to meet demand pressures relating to parking, Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTN's) and the Council Tax/Energy rebate. The Service is seeking to have the majority of these costs funded but is awaiting further clarification.

Libraries: £0.703m overspend

The pressure in Libraries is driven by undelivered MTFS savings for additional income (£0.365m) as a result of the required capital works not proceeding during the pandemic, ongoing staffing pressures to meet operational need (£0.165m) and premises-related pressures (£0.110m) including higher energy costs.

HR: £0.141m overspend

This is a pressure within the Electoral Registration Service where printing and postage budgets are no longer sufficient to address the basic statutory activities that the team must carry out as a result of the individual elector registration process.

ENVIRONMENT & NEIGHBOURHOODS

Over budget £0.046m

Environment & Neighbourhoods Directorate is forecasting an overspend of £0.046m at Qtr1.

Parking & Highways is forecasting an underspend of £0.437m at Qtr1. This is mainly due to an improvement in in-year Moving Traffic Enforcement income; partly off-set by shortfall to pay and display and permit income and non-delivery of clamping and removal savings. These have partly been caused due to delays to implementation of new schemes and systems; for which the service will continue to analysis data to establish whether this will continue beyond this financial year and whether further cost reduction can be achieved to mitigate this.

Community Safety, Waste & Enforcement is forecasting an overspend of £0.342m at Qtr1. This mainly due a shortfall in Fixed Penalty Notice enforcement, CCTV recharges, street trading and licencing income; partly off-set by staffing vacancies and over-achievement in other regulatory service income. The service will continue to review current Service Level Agreements to ensure that they recover all appropriate costs and review current enforcement policy and intelligence to ensure focus on where resources are best concentrated.

Operational Facilities Management is forecasting an overspend of £0.201m at Qtr1. This is mainly due to a delay in implementing a restructure in the service due to on-going harmonisation of staff Terms and Conditions.

ADULTS, HEALTH & COMMUNITIES

Over budget £9.252m

Adults and Health is forecast to spend £121.699m against a budget of £112.447m which is an adverse variance of £9.252m at Q1. Adult Social Services and Housing Temporary Accommodation account for most of the overspend, and Commissioning and Public Health are projected to spend to budget.

Adult Social Care Q1 adverse variance is £7.922m which consists of £2.701m overspend across Older Peoples, £3.195m in Learning Difficulties and £2.347m in Mental Health. There has been substantial demand and activity which has hit the system, including a large portion of backdated packages that is driving the overspend position. High-cost transition clients and high complexity clients are adding to the pressure. The service is projected to deliver £4.839m of the £5.325m combined corporate savings target (22/23 target plus 21/22 slippage), and £0.271m of the £4.449m combined demand mitigation target. There is a further £1.000m one-off recovery of aged debt that will contribute to savings.

Increasing pressures and strain on services has impacted previously agreed savings delivery but the service has persevered to identify other mitigations to address these shortfalls. The service is fully aware of the pressures and complexities in Adult Social Care and has developed a plan to target these.

Learning Disabilities overspend, a review is currently being carried out on the top 30 high-cost packages, the Day Care commitments and the Transport arrangements are also being reviewed.

Mental Health overspend - Two additional members of staff are being recruited, to review the Mental Health care packages, focusing on top 44 high-cost placements and seeking additional joint funding.

Integrated Care – A review on process will be undertaken in August, this will also include the reablement care packages and the transition to long term care.

Several project groups are being set up to monitor and track progress of the above activities. With the changes in Hospital Discharge Funding from the ICB, Hospitals and reablement are ensuring that cases discharged from hospital are appropriate and via the correct pathway. This has seen a significant reduction in new reablement packages of care and a reduction in the average cost per week. Resource has also been increased in the team to progress reablement packages to long term care or end the service. This has seen a positive movement of £0.266 from P1-P2.

Adults Commissioning overall variance at Q1 is £0.042m which is comprised of circular rents.

Adults Public Health is projected to break even.

Housing Demand Temporary Accommodation is £1.289m overspent at Q1. Although the number of households living in temporary accommodation is falling the overall cost of TA is not. This is due to a loss of TA units that sit within the HRA and a challenging TA market. The expectation is that the Homelessness Prevention Grant funding would cover any overspend in the TA budget. However, current commitments held against the HPG mean this isn't possible leading to an overall shortfall of £1.7m.

We are currently reviewing all of our HPG commitments with a view to minimising expenditure within year so that more of the TA overspend can be offset. We expect to see an improved position in P4 as a result of this work. The most significant call on the HPG is the offset of HB subsidy resulting from the way TA rents are treated and a joint piece of work is needed to check that the projected subsidy offset amount of £3.5m is correct.

It should be noted that there is an additional risk of reduced funding from hospital discharge scheme and numerous provider uplifts above budgeted growth. The impact and pressure are likely to change over the coming months as we begin to understand the long-term implications. This poses additional risk to the budget position for 2022/23 and beyond.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Over budget £4.703m

At Qr1, Children and Young People Services reporting a pressure of £4.703m.

Safeguarding and Social Care is reporting a pressure of £2.4m. Data shows that over the last eighteen months our rate of referrals have remained above average and they are currently 24% higher than at the end of March 2022. This is resulting in an increase in social child protection work activity. The service also has more children in need where the primary need is 'families in acute stress' –the proportion of children with this need has risen from 18% in 20/21 to 30% over the last six months.

The key actions are in place to address budget pressures, these include delivering the existing MTFS savings and stretching targets to achieve more wherever possible.

Early Help and Prevention service is reporting a pressure of £2.2m which remains a combination of SEN transport pressures (£2m) and funding for our children centre provision (£0.2m).

We are seeing inflationary pressures across SEN transport driven by more children eligible for transport and rising fuel costs.

PLACEMAKING & HOUSING

Under budget -£0.261m

Placemaking and Housing are reporting a favourable variance at Qtr1 of £0.261m This is mainly due to additional income from eligible expenditure chargeable to capital projects in Regen of £0.200m.

DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT (DSG)

Over budget £3.814m

Using high level assumptions on demand growth, mitigation of demand growth and inflation estimates the DSG is forecasting being £3.814m overspent for 2022/23. The overspend is forecasted solely within the High Needs Block.

The main driver for the pressure in the High Needs block remains the increasing number of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) in recent years. Approximately 25% of our children who are looked after have an EHCP. Where we have children who are looked after with an EHCP and who require an out of borough placements e.g. specialist residential, the social cost is higher than in borough.

Haringey has been invited to make an application to participate in the 2022/23 'safety valve' programme whereby funding is provided to eliminate historic DSG deficits where lasting sustainability and reaching an in-year balance can be demonstrated for its High Needs Funding budget. The cost of the proposed current year's activity has been addressed in recommendation 3.7 of this report. The Safety Valve Programme report, also on tonight's Cabinet agenda, proposes that the ongoing annual cost of this project will be taken into account in the preparation of the next future years' Medium Term Financial Strategy.

The DSG reserve is ringfenced and currently sits outside the council's general fund reserves

Table 4 – DSG Position Quarter 1

Blocks	Revised Full Year Budget	Q1 2022/23 Full Year Forecast	Full Year Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Schools Block	135,050	135,050	0
Central Block	2,785	2,785	0
High Needs Block	50,574	54,388	3,814
Early Years Block	19,217	19,217	0
E40000	-207,625	-207,625	0
Total	0	3,814	3,814

DSG cumulative deficit at Quarter 1

Blocks	Opening DSG deficit at 01/04/22	Q1 2022/23 Full Year Forecast variance	Drawdown request	Q1 Full Year Forecast deficit at 31/03/23
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Schools Block	0	0	0	0
Central Block	0	0	0	0
High Needs Block	21,600	3,800	0	25,400
Early Years Block	-900	0	tbc	-900
Total	20,700	3,800	0	24,500

HOUSING (Housing Revenue Account - HRA)

On budget £0.0m

The Housing Revenue Account at Qtr1 2022/23 reports an end of year Outturn variance of breakeven (nil) variance, the budgeted surplus is £8.889m.

This Qtr1 year to date variance is largely driven by the current rental income collection performance. A wide ranging and fully detailed strategic income collection action plan has been produced to improve, monitor and increase performance in this important area, to bring it in line with the current full year forecast.

Table 3 – HRA Budget Forecast (Quarter 1)

	2022/23 Revised Budget	Q1 2022/23 Forecast	Q1 2022/23 Forecast Variance
<u>HRA Budget 2022/23 - Q1</u>			
	£000's	£000's	£000's
UE0721 Managed Services Income TOTAL	(112,396)	(111,440)	956
UE0722 Managed Services Expenditure TOTAL	14,172	14,410	238
UE0731 Retained Services Expenditure TOTAL	89,335	88,141	(1,195)
Balance excluding HRA budgeted surplus	-8,889	-8,889	0
Surplus HRA Services (within Retained)	8,889	8,889	0
Balance of HRA Account	0	0	0

Appendix 2			
HRA BUDGET 2022/23 - Q1	2022/23 Revised Budget	Q1 2022/23 Forecast	Q1 2022/23 Forecast Variance
	£000's	£000's	£000's
H39404 Service Charge Income - Hostels	(320)	(190)	130
H39002 Rent - Hostels	(2,022)	(1,196)	826
H39001 Rent - Dwellings	(86,598)	(86,598)	-
H39101 Rent - Garages	(744)	(744)	-
H39102 Rent - Commercial	(756)	(756)	-
H39103 CBS - Lease Rental Income	(2,329)	(2,329)	-
H39201 Income - Heating	(641)	(641)	-
H39202 Income - Light and Power	(1,065)	(1,065)	-
H39301 Service Charge Income - Leasehold	(7,850)	(7,850)	-
H39401 ServChgInc SuppHousg	(1,522)	(1,522)	-
H39402 Service Charge Income - Concierge	(1,812)	(1,812)	-
H39405 Grounds Maintenance	(2,290)	(2,290)	-
H39406 Caretaking	(2,015)	(2,015)	-
H39407 Street Sweeping	(2,432)	(2,432)	-
UE0721 Managed Services Income	(112,396)	(111,440)	956
S14400 Supported Housing Central	297	297	-
H31300 Housing Management WG	24	24	-
H32300 Housing Management NT	29	29	-
H33300 Housing Management Hornsey	-	-	-
H33400 TA Hostels	257	289	32
H34300 Housing Management ST	10	10	-
H35300 Housing Management BWF	12	12	-
H36300 Rent Accounts	-	-	-
H37210 Under Occupation	174	174	-
H40001 Repairs - Central Recharges	2	2	-
H40004 Responsive Repairs - Hostels	395	601	206
H40101 Water Rates Payable	32	32	-
H40104 HousMgmtRechg Cent	112	112	-
H40111 Other RentCollection	141	141	-
H40202 Management Special - Nth Tott	-	-	-
H40206 HousMgmtRechg Energy	1,231	1,231	-
H40208 Special Services Cleaning	3,516	3,516	-
H40209 Special Services Ground Maint	1,981	1,981	-
H40212 HRA Pest Control	297	297	-
H40213 Estate Controlled Parking	148	148	-
H40303 Supporting People Payments	1,898	1,898	-
H40309 Commercial Property - Expenditure	-	-	-
H40401 Bad Debt Provision - Dwellings	2,749	2,749	-
H40404 Bad Debt Provision - Leaseholders	188	188	-
H40406 Bad Debt Provisions - Hostels	68	68	-
H40801 HRA- Council Tax	611	611	-
UE0722 Managed Services Expenditure	14,172	14,410	238
H25600 Housing Delivery Team	-	-	-
H38002 Anti Social Behaviour Service	623	623	-
H39601 Interest Receivable	(251)	(251)	-
H40112 Corporate democratic Core	613	613	-
H40301 Leasehold Payments	-	-	-
H40305 Landlords Insurance - Tenanted	843	843	-
H40306 Landlords - NNDR	141	141	-
H40308 Landlords Insurance - Leasehold	1,978	1,978	-
H40500 HfH-Insourcing to LBH	535	535	-
H40501 Capital Financing Costs	14,861	13,667	(1,195)
H40601 Depreciation - Dwellings	20,919	20,919	-
H40805 ALMO HRA Management Fee	43,014	43,014	-
H40900 Community Benefit Society (CBS)	-	-	-
H60002 GF to HRA Recharges	3,330	3,330	-
H60003 Estate Renewal	1,397	1,397	-
H60004 HIERS/ Regeneration Team	1,333	1,333	-
UE0731 Retained Services Expenditure	89,335	88,141	(1,195)
Balance excluding HRA budgeted surplus	(8,889)	(8,889)	-
H49000 Housing Revenue Account budgeted surplus	8,889	8,889	-
Balance of HRA Account	0	(0)	0

Appendix 3 provides progress on savings 2022-23 delivery on a more detailed level.

MTFS Savings Ref	Saving proposal	2021-22 Undelivered	2022/23 £'000s	Total £'000	2022/23 Projected Full Year Savings £'000s	2022/23 Savings (surplus)/ shortfall £'000s	RAG Status (Delivery of 2022/23 Saving)	Comment on Delivery RAG Status & Actions plans to mitigate shortfall
People - Children's Services								
PC2	Reduce operational costs	0	250	250	250	0	Green	
PC3	Reduce the costs of placements	0	90	90	90	0	Green	
20/25-PE03	Invest to Save - Edge of Care	(223)	193	(30)	(30)	0	Green	
20/25-PE06	Invest to Save - Pause Project	(5)	501	496	496	0	Green	
20/25-PE13	Review of spend on transport and taxis		75	75	75	0	Green	
CH102	Maya Angelou Assessment and Contact Centre Traded Service	72	50	122	122	0	Green	
Total: Children's Services		(18)	1,679	1,661	1,661	0		

MTFS Savings Ref	Saving proposal	2021-22 Undelivered	2022/23 £'000s	Total £'000	2022/23 Projected Full Year Savings £'000s	2022/23 Savings (surplus)/ shortfall £'000s	RAG Status (Delivery of 2022/23 Saving)	Comment on Delivery RAG Status & Actions plans to mitigate shortfall
People - Adults, Health & Communities								
B2.7	Haringey Learning Disability Partnership	500	1,430	1,930	1,700	(230)	Amber	Improving staffing retention to create a stable savings delivery team. Interlinking with commissioning team to discover best vfm providers.
B2.8	Mental Health	0	490	490	990	500	Green	
B2.9	Physical Support	0	1,070	1,070	1,070	0	Green	
PA6	Transfer of High Cost Day Opps	15		15	125	110	Green	
PA8	Investment of drug and alcohol savings in preventative services for adults and families, targeting health inequalities	0	100	100	100	0	Green	
PA9	Further savings to be delivered by Adults Services	180	180	360	80	(280)	Red	Changes in original model assumptions have caused delays in delivering reprofiled savings. Currently identifying mitigations.
AS101	Fast Track Financial Assessments	650		650	774	124	Green	
	Adults Delayed Savings - C19	0	710	710	0	(710)	Red	Changes in original model assumptions have caused delays in delivering reprofiled savings. Currently identifying mitigations.
HO1	Temporary accommodation reduction plan	573	0	573	0	(573)	Red	Efficiencies achieved through delivery of the temporary accommodation supply plan are currently minimising the temporary accommodation budget overspend rather than delivering savings against the budget. We are reviewing our approach to sourcing supply given a currently very difficult housing market.
20/25-HO01	Transferring PSLs to the CBS	152	272	424	0	(424)	Red	There is no longer an intention to deliver this initiative.
HO102	HfH taking over the lease of PSL properties on their expiry	209	68	277	190	(87)	Amber	This years programme will only focus on New Acquisitions and PSL void properties - therefore reducing the expected savings as originally forecasted savings of £340. Total annual future savings £190k
Total: Adults, Health & Communities		2,279	4,320	6,599	5,029	(1,570)		
Demand Management activities		2,273	2,176	4,449	261	-4,188	Red	Directors are continuing to work on their plans to deliver this
Total: Adults, Health & Communities		4,552	6,496	11,048	5,290	-5,758		

MTFS Savings Ref	Saving proposal	2021-22 Undelivered	2022/23 £'000s	Total £'000	2022/23 Projected Full Year Savings £'000s	2022/23 Savings (surplus)/ shortfall £'000s	RAG Status (Delivery of 2022/23 Saving)	Comment on Delivery RAG Status & Actions plans to mitigate shortfall
Placemaking & Housing								
20/25-EC01	Head Lease Acquisition Programme	0	100	100	50	(50)	Amber	We are expecting to mitigate part of this in the current year with backdated rent review income.
EC101	Additional Recharge to Housing Services	0	300	300	300	0	Green	On target
EC102	Additional Planning income from introducing new charges	200		200	200	0	Amber	Being mitigated from additional CIL admin Income
EC103	Reduction in Energy Consumption on corporate buildings	50		50	50	0	Amber	With energy prices on the rise it is difficult to mitigate this
HO101	Housing Team Salaries - increase HRA contribution	274	0	274		(274)		
Total:Placemaking & Housing		274	400	674	600	(74)		

MTFS Savings Ref	Saving proposal	2021-22 Undelivered	2022/23 £'000s	Total £'000	2022/23 Projected Full Year Savings £'000s	2022/23 Savings (surplus)/ shortfall £'000s	RAG Status (Delivery of 2022/23 Saving)	Comment on Delivery RAG Status & Actions plans to mitigate shortfall
Culture, Strategy & Engagement								
A6.3	FOBO - SSC		252	252		(252)	Amber	Directors are continuing to work on their plans to deliver this
20/25- YC10 - YC1	Additional sites for on street digital advertising & Out of home advertising income generation	26	56	82	82	0	Amber	Comms are projecting they will reach their £370k income target in this budget which includes £56k MTFS saving (and 21/22 shortfall). This does not show in SAP however, because there is a staff post in the budget line which is deducted from the income total. They will be looking to identify additional income opportunities in year with the aim of increasing income to off-set the cost of the post.
YC109	HR Savings		240	240	240	0	Green	
20/25- YC06	Libraries - Re-imaging our Libraries offer for a better future.	0	181	181	0	(181)	Red	The service secured capital to invest in libraries which was then intended to create revenue generation. However, due to the impact of Covid, the capital budget was not able to be drawn down due to lock-down and therefore the work was not taken forward. The impact post-Covid now means that a reassessment of priorities has identified that the original proposals are no longer applicable and there are no further plans to mitigate the shortfall this year.
Total: Culture, Strategy & Engagement		26	729	755	322	(433)		
	Digital Together	660	2,250	2,910	50	(2,860)	Red	Work is underway to re-define the programme to better realise the benefits and re-assess the timeframe for delivery.
		686	2,979	3,665	372	(3,293)		

MTFS Savings Ref	Saving proposal	2021-22 Undelivered	2022/23 £'000s	Total £'000	2022/23 Projected Full Year Savings £'000s	2022/23 Savings (surplus)/ shortfall £'000s	RAG Status (Delivery of 2022/23 Saving)	Comment on Delivery RAG Status & Actions plans to mitigate shortfall
Corporate Budgets								
A6.2	Audit and Risk Management	20		20	0	(20)	Red	The saving proposal was set many years ago with the intention of increasing assurances from other sources. This would require audit to provide assurances on fewer areas, thereby reducing the cost of internal audit. The Head of Audit and Risk Management has reviewed the level of assurances sought from audit which has increased - the savings cannot be achieved.
Total:Corporate Budgets		20	0	20	0	(20)		
		20	0	20	0	(20)		

2022/23 Capital Monitoring @ Quarter One (Jun. 2022)				
Projection Sheet				APPENDIX 4
SCHEME REF	SCHEME NAME	22/23 Full year Revised Budget (£'000)	22/23 Qtr.1 Forecast Outturn (£'000)	Budget Variance (Underspend) / Overspend (£'000)
101	Primary Sch - repairs & maintenance	6,238	4,984	(1,254)
102	Primary Sch - mod & enhance (Inc SEN)	23,884	23,875	(9)
103	Primary Sch - new places	0	21	21
109	Youth Services	75	0	(75)
110	Devolved Sch Capital	531	531	0
114	Secondary Sch - mod & enhance (Inc SEN)	3,456	5,380	1,924
117	Children Safeguarding & Social Care	26	26	0
118	Special Educational Needs Fund (New Provision Fund)	1,024	1,024	0
121	Pendarren House	2,684	911	(1,773)
122	Alternative Provision Strategy	600	0	(600)
123	Wood Green Youth Hub	1,050	1,019	(31)
124	In-Borough Residential Care Facility	500	500	0
199	P1 Other (inc Con't & Social care)	125	7	(118)
Children's Services		40,193	38,278	(1,915)
<p>The quarter one forecast outturn is showing an underspend variance of £1.9m against budget. This is largely due to £1.8m anticipated slippage and delays in works being carried out within the Pendarren House project budget. There are other variances within the major capital works on both Primary and Secondary School Modifications & Enhancements budgets.</p>				

201	Aids, Adap's & Assistive Tech -Home Owners (DFG)	3,288	3,288	(0)
208	Supported Living Schemes	865	820	(45)
209	Assistive Technology	1,944	1,944	0
211	Community Alarm Service	177	177	0
213	Canning Crescent Assisted Living	1,930	1,641	(289)
214	Osborne Grove Nursing Home	1,685	1,376	(309)
217	Burgoyne Road (Refuge Adaptations)	316	285	(31)
218	Social Emotional & Mental Health Provision	1,458	0	(1,458)
221	Social Care System Implementation	1,588	1,588	(0)
222	Wood Green Integrated Care Hub	0	0	0

Adults, Health & Communities	13,251	11,119	(2,132)
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Adults capital programme budget has decreased by £13.3m in quarter one. The main reason for the decrease is due to the following capital schemes budget being reprofiled to future years, as a result of project delays: (i) Osborne Grove Nursing Home - £5m, (ii) Supported Living Schemes - £4m, (iii) Burgoyne Road - £2.6m, (iv) Social Care System Implementation (liquidLogic) - £1.2m & (v) Wood Green Integrated Care Hub - £1m. In contrary to the above, Aids & Adaptations scheme budget has increased by £0.486m. The increase is an adjustment to the provisional budget to actual DFG 2022/23 grant award.

Adults quarter one position is reporting an underspend variance against budget of £2.1m. Reason for the variance can be attributed to the following capital programme schemes: Canning Crescent Assisted Living - £0.3m, Social Care System Implementation - £1.5m & Osborne Grove Nursing Home - £0.3m. There are other minor budget variances.

301	Street Lighting	1,630	1,630	0
302	Borough Roads	9,565	9,565	(0)
303	Structures (Highways)	460	460	0
304	Flood Water Management	1,009	1,009	0
305	Borough Parking Plan	441	439	(2)
307	CCTV	1,024	766	(258)
309	Local Implementation Plan(LIP)	1,000	1,000	0
310	Developer S106 / S278	250	250	0
311	Parks Asset Management:	1,926	1,926	0
313	Active Life in Parks:	1,620	1,620	(0)
314	Parkland Walk Bridges	550	550	0
317	Down Lane MUGA	12	12	0
321	MOPAC - Crime & Disorder Reduction	49	0	(49)
322	Finsbury Park	304	304	(0)
323	Parking Strategy	898	898	0
325	Parks Vehicles	720	360	(360)
328	Street & Greenspace Greening Programme	250	250	0
329	Park Building Carbon Reduction and Improvement Programme	600	600	0
331	Updating the boroughs street lighting with energy efficient Led light bulbs	640	640	0
332	Disabled Bay/Blue Badge	433	429	(4)
333	Waste Management	468	307	(161)
334	Parks Depot Reconfiguration	400	400	0
335	Streetspace Plan	4,971	0	(4,971)
336	New River Sports & Fitness	451	451	0
337	OFM Assets	36	6	(30)
338	Road Casualty Reduction	1,600	1,600	0
339	Wildflower Meadow Planting	80	80	0
119	School Streets	1,116	987	(129)
444	Marsh Lane	1,366	1,166	(200)

Environment & Neighbourhoods	33,869	27,707	(6,162)
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Environment & Neighbourhoods capital programme budget has decreased by £3.4m in quarter one. The main reason for the decrease is due to the following capital schemes budget being reprofiled to future years: (i) Parkland Walk Bridges - £1.4m & (ii) Parks Building Carbon Reduction & Improvement - £1.75m. Similarly, Finsbury Park budget has been reduced by £300k, due to the anticipated level of revenue income.

Environment & Neighbourhoods quarter one position is reporting an underspend variance against budget of £6.2m. This can be largely attributed to the Streetspace Plan capital programme, which is still under review. There are other minor budget variances.

401	Tottenham Hale Green Space	2,702	2,701	(0)
402	Tottenham Hale Streets	7,430	7,431	0
404	Good Economy Recovery plan	987	982	(5)
406	Opportunity Investment Fund	491	625	134
411	Tottenham Heritage Action Zone (HAZ)	3,031	3,031	0
415	North Tott Heritage Initiative	360	360	(0)
418	Heritage building improvements	267	267	0
452	Low Carbon Zones	164	164	0
454	HALS Improvement Programme	45	45	0
455	Replacement Cloud based IT solutions for Planning, Building Control & Land Charges	393	4	(389)
457	Future High Street Project	8,927	8,926	(0)
458	SIP - Northumberland PK BB & WorkSpace/Biz Support	1,601	710	(891)
459	Wood Green Regen Sites	281	281	(0)
465	District Energy Network (DEN)	300	95	(205)
471	Tailoring Academy Project	15	10	(5)
473	Enterprising Tottenham High Road (ETHR)	3,100	3,100	(0)
474	Tottenham High Road Strategy	211	211	0
475	Heart of Tottenham (HOT)	15	15	0
478	Wood Green Good Growth Fund	1,142	1,140	(2)
479	54 Muswell Hill Health Centre	100	0	(100)
480	Wood Green Regen (2)	1,888	1,886	(2)
481	Strategic Investment Pot	2,796	2,250	(546)
482	Strategic Property	0	0	0
483	Productive Valley Fund (SIP)	1,097	1,097	0
488	Liveable Seven Sisters (LSS)	0	0	0

493	Bruce Grove Yards (BGY)	0	0	0
4001	Maintenance of Tottenham Green Workshops	486	20	(466)
4002	Northumberland Park estate area public realm	995	750	(245)
4005	SME Workspace Intensification	3,971	2,150	(1,821)
4007	Tottenham Hale Decentralised Energy Network (DEN)	1,500	1,062	(438)
4008	Wood Green Decentralised Energy Network (DEN)	800	215	(585)
4009	Additional Carbon Reduction Project	0	0	0
4010	Selby Urban Village Project	820	818	(2)
4011	Commercial Property Remediation	4,918	4,918	(0)
4993	Pride in the High Road (PITHR)	0	0	0
316	Asset Management of Council Buildings	11,979	11,979	(0)

Placemaking & Housing	62,812	57,244	(5,569)
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Placemaking & Housing capital programme budget has decreased by £46.3m in quarter one. The main reason for the decrease is due to the following capital schemes budget being reprofiled to future years: (i) Selby Urban Village Project - £24.8m, (ii) North Tottenham DEN - £6.4m, (iii) Tottenham Hale DEN - £1.7m, (iv) Wood Green DEN - £2.2m, (v) Additional Carbon Reduction Project - £3.5m, (vi) Wood Green Regen - £6m, (vii) Good Economy Recovery Plan - £1m & (viii) Enterprise Tottenham High Road budget - £0.8m.

There are other inyear budget realignments mainly within the South Tottenham area and Wood Green regen budgets.

Placemaking & Housing quarter one position is reporting an underspend variance against budget of £5.6m. This can be largely attributed to various capital schemes which are being reviewed for completeness and validity, with the largest variance reported against SME Workspace Intensification £1.8m.

Placemaking & Housing (Enabling Budgets)				
421	HRW Acquisition	50,908	46,318	(4,590)
429	Site Acq (Tott & Wood Green)	40,000	22,000	(18,000)
4003	Tottenham Hale Housing Zone Funding	11,021	11,021	0
4006	Acquisition of head leases	12,000	4,623	(7,377)
509	CPO - Empty Homes	8,673	0	(8,673)
512	Wholly Owned Company	5,000	0	(5,000)
Placemaking & Housing Enabling Budgets		127,602	83,962	(43,640)
<p>The Enabling Budget capital programme has decreased by £122.8m in quarter one. The main reason for the decrease is due to the following capital schemes budget being reprofiled to future years: (i) HRW Acquisition - £95m & (ii) Site Acquisition - £27.8m.</p> <p>Furthermore, there is £9.143m budget transfer to Tottenham Hale Street budget, as part of the inyear budget realignment exercise proposed by the South Tottenham team.</p> <p>Placemaking & Housing quarter one position is reporting an underspend variance against budget of £43.64m. This can be largely attributed to the following Enabling budgets: (i) Site Acq (Tott & Wood Green) - £18m, (ii) CPO Empty Homes - £8.7m, (iii) Acquisition of Head Leases - £7.4m, (iv) Wholly Owned Company £5m & (v) HRW Acquisitions - £4.6m</p>				

601	Business Imp Programme	65	35	(30)
602	Corporate IT Board	2,650	2,640	(10)
604	Continuous Improvement	1,162	1,162	(0)
605	Customer Services (Digital Transformation)	448	0	(448)
606	Hornsey Library Refurbishment	0	16	16
621	Libraries IT and Buildings upgrade	1,246	1,246	0
623	Wood Green Library	2,000	545	(1,455)
607	Financial Management System Replacement	949	949	0
622	Customer First	70	35	(35)
624	Digital Together	500	500	0
639	Ways of Working	0	22	22
650	Connected Communities	1,258	0	(1,258)
652	Libraries - Re-imaging our Libraries offer for a better future	650	0	(650)
653	Capital Support for IT Projects	750	750	0
655	CCTV & Data Centre Move	1,500	500	(1,000)
698	Responsiveness Fund	2,000	2,000	0
447	Alexandra Palace - Maintenance	470	470	0
464	Bruce Castle	651	651	(0)
470	Wood Green Library & Customer Service Centre	14,188	0	(14,188)
472	JLAC Match Fund	114	114	0
330	Civic Centre Works	2,651	2,651	(0)
699	P6 - Approved Capital Programme Contingency	1,533	1,533	(0)

Culture, Strategy & Engagement	34,855	15,818	(19,037)
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Culture, Strategy & Engagement capital programme budget has decreased by £26.8m in quarter one. The main reason for the decrease is due to the following capital schemes budget being reprofiled to future years: (i) Civic Centre Works - £18.5m, (ii) Bruce Castle Museum - £5.9m, (iii) Capital Support for IT Projects - £0.144m, (iv) Financial Management System Replacement - £1.24m & (v) Corporate IT Board - £1m.

Culture, Strategy & Engagement quarter one position is reporting an underspend variance against budget of £19.04m. This can be largely attributed to the Wood Green Library & Customer Service Centre budget variance of £14.1m, which is under review. There are other variances within Wood Green Library of £1.5m, CCTV & Data Centre Move of £1m and Connected Communities - £1.26m.

TOTAL GF CAPITAL PROGRAMME		312,582	234,128	(78,455)
HRA				
202	HRA - P2 Aids, Adap's & Assist Tech -Council	1,100	1,100	(0)
550	New Homes Acquisition	37,613	42,180	4,567
551	Existing Home Acquisitions - TA	34,216	15,537	(18,679)
552	HRA – P5 Carbon Reduction	7,407	4,398	(3,009)
553	HRA – P5 Fire Safety	6,120	6,930	810
554	Broadwater Farm Project	15,214	8,525	(6,689)
590	HRA - P5 Homes for Haringey (HFH)	43,981	44,060	79
599	New Homes Build Programme	138,723	64,715	(74,008)
TOTAL HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME		284,374	187,444	(96,930)
<p>The Quarter 1 annual spend forecast is reporting an underspend of £96.93m compared to budget. This is due to anticipated reduction in spend within both the New Homes Build Programme (£74m) & TA Existing Home Acquisitions budget (£18.7m).</p> <p>The forecast recognises the impact current cost inflation and rises in borrowing cost is having on the viability of schemes and ability to proceed with them in a timely manner.</p>				
OVERALL CAPITAL PROGRAMME		596,956	421,572	(175,385)

The section below provides further information by Directorate on the Qtr 1 projected variances along with rationale for the proposed budget adjustments now presented

Children's Services. There are no adjustments required to this budget and there is a minor forecast variance of £1.915m in the corporate landlord budget which is being held as a contingency for emergency works.

Adults, Health & Communities. The Adults, Health & Communities budget has been reprofiled by £13.3m. The Osbourne Grove Nursing Home project has an adjustment of resources of £4m into future years and the Burgoyne Road (refuge adaptation) has reprofiled £2.6m into future years. The majority of the forecast variance relates to the Social, Emotional & Mental Health Provision scheme which is running behind schedule.

Environment & Neighbourhoods. The Environment & Neighbourhoods has revised its programme by £3.419m. The Parkland Walk Bridge scheme has been reviewed and this adjustment will more accurately align budgets with anticipated spend. The Park building Carbon Reduction and Improvement Programme is being aligned with the wider Council review of its buildings. The forecast variance is largely attributable to the Streetspace Plan, £4.971m. However, the budget is being reviewed and it is likely that the profiled spend will be amended in the next budget monitor.

Placemaking & Housing (scheme budgets). The Placemaking & Housing budget (excluding the enabling budgets) is being reprofiled by £41.840m. The most significant elements of this are: Selby Urban Village, £24.870m, which is to reflect anticipated spend; DEN programme, £10.248m, again to reflect anticipated spend; and Asset Management of Council Buildings, £4.7m, to correct an incorrect allocation. The residual forecast variance of £5.569m is related to a large number of small projected underspends where it is not proposed to reprofile as there could be an improvement in the projected expenditure. The Bruce Grove Public Convenience scheme is reporting a pressure of c£0.44m which arises from delays to the programme caused by Network Rail not providing approvals and to the poorer than surveyed state of the building. It is proposed to increase the budget by a virement from scheme 411 (Tottenham Heritage Action Zone - £3.031m budget), which will be a permanent reduction in that scheme's budget.

Placemaking & Housing (enabling budgets). The Placemaking & Housing enabling budgets are being reprofiled by £131.9m. The most significant elements of this are: the HRW scheme is being reprofiled by £95m to reflect the likely level of spend this year; the Strategic Acquisitions budget is being reprofiled by £27.760m which takes into account the acquisition of the Wards Corner properties and leaving a residual budget for any further acquisitions should they arise; and the Tottenham Hale Housing Zone budget is being reprofiled to reflect anticipated spend, £9.143m, (the totality of spend is grant funded).

The Acquisition of Headleases budget was created to enable the Council to acquire these in an effort to make savings in rent payable. All the head lessors have been contacted and have either declined to sell or demanded sums such that the acquisition would not be financially viable. It is proposed to delete the residual budget of £7.377m for 2022/23 and £13m in 2023/24, an overall reduction of £20.377m. It is also proposed that the Strategic Property scheme project budget is transferred to the Commercial Property Remediation project and the Strategic Property scheme will be deleted as this better describes the purpose of the budget.

Culture, Strategy & Engagement. The Culture, Strategy & Engagement budgets are being reprofiled by £26.776m. The major changes are to the Civic Centre budget which is reprofiling £18.45m into future years and the Bruce Castle Museum self-financing scheme is reprofiling £5.9m into future years.

A pressure has been identified in the replacement IT solution for the social care case management systems. The pressure is in part driven by legislative change and in part to adding functionality that will reduce the manual administrative processes. Including a request for a contingency of £0.2m, there is a cumulative pressure of £0.8m and it is proposed to fund this from the approved capital programme contingency which has a budget of £1.533m. The Wood Green Library and Customer Service Centre scheme. This scheme has been superseded by the Civic Centre expansion project and the work reviewing the overall presence of the Council in the Wood Green area. This review work is ongoing and once it has been developed to the appropriate stage, will be brought back to Cabinet for decision. It is proposed to delete this budget of £14.188m in this financial year, and £7m in 2023/23 and £6m in 2024/25. Reimaging Our Libraries Offer. The Council has invested considerable sums in refurbishing its libraries over the last few years and no further provision is required in the programme and it is proposed to delete the £0.65m budget in this financial year.

HRA The Quarter 1 annual spend forecast is reporting an underspend of £96.93m compared to budget. This is due to anticipated reduction in spend for this within both the New Homes Build Programme (£74m) & TA Existing Home Acquisitions budget (£18.7m). The underspend in the New Homes Build Programme is largely due to timing issues, with slippage on a number of key projects that were expected to spend heavily from the beginning of this year. The underspend in the TA Existing Homes Budget is due to changes in the way Right to Buy receipts can be used which has reduced the amount that can be spent on the acquisition of existing homes.

2022/27 (GF) CAPITAL MTFS BUDGET (INCLUDING 2021/22 C/F's) STORY BOARD AS AT QUARTER ONE - APPENDIX 5

		2022/23 Revised Budget	2022/23 (IN-YEAR) Budget Virement	2022/23 (FUTURE YEARS) Budget Virement	2022/23 Revised Budget (after Virement)	2023/24 Budget	2024/25 Budget	2025/26 Budget	2026/27 Budget	2022/23 - 26/27 Total
SCHEME REF	SCHEME NAME	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000
101	Primary Sch - repairs & maintenance	6,238			6,238	5,000	5,000	5,000	1,000	22,238
102	Primary Sch - mod & enhance (Inc SEN)	23,884			23,884	13,480	11,000	4,000	0	52,364
103	Primary Sch - new places	0			0	0	0	0	0	0
109	Youth Services	75			75	0	0	0	0	75
110	Devolved Sch Capital	531			531	531	531	531	531	2,655
114	Secondary Sch - mod & enhance (Inc SEN)	3,456			3,456	270	270	270	0	4,264
117	Children Safeguarding & Social Care	26			26	0	0	0	0	26
118	Special Educational Needs Fund (New Provision Fund)	1,024			1,024	0	0	0	0	1,024
121	Pendarren House	2,684			2,684	2,913	70	0	0	5,667
122	Alternative Provision Strategy	600			600	1,800	4,800	4,500	300	12,000
123	Wood Green Youth Hub	1,050			1,050	0	0	0	0	1,050
124	In-Borough Residential Care Facility	500			500	2,700	3,000	0	0	6,200
199	P1 Other (inc Con't & Social care)	125			125	0	0	0	0	125
Children's Services		40,193	0	0	40,193	26,694	24,671	14,301	1,831	107,688
201	Aids, Adap's & Assistive Tech -Home Owners (DFG)	2,802	486		3,288	2,193	2,193	2,200	2,200	12,074
208	Supported Living Schemes	4,865		(4,000)	865	3,000	3,000	4,000	0	10,865
209	Assistive Technology	1,944			1,944	0	0	0	0	1,944
211	Community Alarm Service	177			177	177	177	177	177	885
213	Canning Crescent Assisted Living	1,930			1,930	0	0	0	0	1,930
214	Osborne Grove Nursing Home	6,685		(5,000)	1,685	34,504	2,545	1,094	5,000	44,829
217	Burgoyne Road (Refuge Adaptations)	2,916		(2,600)	316	2,600	0	0	0	2,916
218	Social Emotional & Mental Health Provision	1,458			1,458	600	600	0	0	2,658
221	Social Care System Implementation	2,787		(1,199)	1,588	1,199	0	0	0	2,787
222	Wood Green Integrated Care Hub	1,000		(1,000)	0	0	1,000	0	0	1,000
Adults, Health & Communities		26,564	486	(13,799)	13,251	44,273	9,515	7,471	7,377	81,887

119	School Streets	1,116			1,116	600	600	0	0	2,316
301	Street Lighting	1,630			1,630	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,539	7,069
302	Borough Roads	9,565			9,565	10,029	10,909	10,909	7,858	49,270
303	Structures (Highways)	460			460	0	0	0	0	460
304	Flood Water Management	1,009			1,009	710	0	0	0	1,719
305	Borough Parking Plan	441			441	321	321	321	0	1,404
307	CCTV	1,024			1,024	550	0	0	0	1,574
309	Local Implementation Plan(LIP)	1,000			1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	5,000
310	Developer S106 / S278	250			250	250	250	250	250	1,250
311	Parks Asset Management:	1,926			1,926	775	300	300	300	3,601
313	Active Life in Parks:	1,620			1,620	230	230	230	230	2,540
314	Parkland Walk Bridges	1,923		(1,373)	550	3,458	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,008
317	Down Lane MUGA	12			12	0	0	0	0	12
321	MOPAC - Crime & Disorder Reduction	49			49	0	0	0	0	49
322	Finsbury Park	600	(296)		304	600	1,000	0	0	1,904
323	Parking Strategy	898			898	0	0	0	0	898
325	Parks Vehicles	720			720	0	0	0	0	720
328	Street & Greenspace Greening Programme	250			250	175	175	75	75	750
329	Park Building Carbon Reduction and Improvement Programme	2,350		(1,750)	600	2,800	0	0	0	3,400
331	Updating the boroughs street lighting with energy efficient Led light bulbs	640			640	0	0	0	0	640
332	Disabled Bay/Blue Badge	433			433	0	0	0	0	433
333	Waste Management	468			468	0	0	0	0	468
334	Parks Depot Reconfiguration	400			400	0	0	0	0	400
335	Streetspace Plan	4,971			4,971	0	0	0	0	4,971
336	New River Sports & Fitness	451			451	420	533	533	533	2,470
337	OFM Assets	36			36	200	0	0	6	242
338	Road Casualty Reduction	1,600			1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	8,000
339	Wildflower Meadow Planting	80			80	80	0	0	0	160
444	Marsh Lane	1,366			1,366	0	0	0	0	1,366
Environment & Neighbourhoods		37,288	(296)	(3,123)	33,869	25,098	20,218	18,518	15,391	113,094

119	School Streets	1,116			1,116	600	600	0	0	2,316
301	Street Lighting	1,630			1,630	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,539	7,069
302	Borough Roads	9,565			9,565	10,029	10,909	10,909	7,858	49,270
303	Structures (Highways)	460			460	0	0	0	0	460
304	Flood Water Management	1,009			1,009	710	0	0	0	1,719
305	Borough Parking Plan	441			441	321	321	321	0	1,404
307	CCTV	1,024			1,024	550	0	0	0	1,574
309	Local Implementation Plan(LIP)	1,000			1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	5,000
310	Developer S106 / S278	250			250	250	250	250	250	1,250
311	Parks Asset Management:	1,926			1,926	775	300	300	300	3,601
313	Active Life in Parks:	1,620			1,620	230	230	230	230	2,540
314	Parkland Walk Bridges	1,923		(1,373)	550	3,458	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,008
317	Down Lane MUGA	12			12	0	0	0	0	12
321	MOPAC - Crime & Disorder Reduction	49			49	0	0	0	0	49
322	Finsbury Park	600	(296)		304	600	1,000	0	0	1,904
323	Parking Strategy	898			898	0	0	0	0	898
325	Parks Vehicles	720			720	0	0	0	0	720
328	Street & Greenspace Greening Programme	250			250	175	175	75	75	750
329	Park Building Carbon Reduction and Improvement Programme	2,350		(1,750)	600	2,800	0	0	0	3,400
331	Updating the boroughs street lighting with energy efficient Led light bulbs	640			640	0	0	0	0	640
332	Disabled Bay/Blue Badge	433			433	0	0	0	0	433
333	Waste Management	468			468	0	0	0	0	468
334	Parks Depot Reconfiguration	400			400	0	0	0	0	400
335	Streetspace Plan	4,971			4,971	0	0	0	0	4,971
336	New River Sports & Fitness	451			451	420	533	533	533	2,470
337	OFM Assets	36			36	200	0	0	6	242
338	Road Casualty Reduction	1,600			1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	8,000
339	Wildflower Meadow Planting	80			80	80	0	0	0	160
444	Marsh Lane	1,366			1,366	0	0	0	0	1,366
Environment & Neighbourhoods		37,288	(296)	(3,123)	33,869	25,098	20,218	18,518	15,391	113,094

401	Tottenham Hale Green Space	4,978	(2,276)		2,702	2,055	4,849	0	0	9,606
402	Tottenham Hale Streets	111	7,319		7,430	800	1,319	0	0	9,549
4003	Tottenham Hale Housing Zone Funding	20,164	(9,143)		11,021	0	3,203	0	0	14,224
404	Good Economy Recovery plan	2,037		(1,050)	987	1,150	0	0	0	2,137
406	Opportunity Investment Fund	491			491	0	0	0	0	491
411	Tottenham Heritage Action Zone (HAZ)	1,072	1,959		3,031	1,200	0	0	0	4,231
415	North Tott Heritage Initiative	76	284		360	0	0	0	0	360
418	Heritage building improvements	267			267	0	0	0	0	267
421	HRW Acquisition	145,908		(95,000)	50,908	38,180	12,200	4,600	112,600	218,488
429	Site Acq (Tott & Wood Green)	67,760		(27,760)	40,000	10,000	12,000	27,760	0	89,760
452	Low Carbon Zones	191	(27)		164	0	0	0	0	164
454	HALS Improvement Programme	0	45		45	0	0	0	0	45
455	Replacement Cloud based IT solutions for Planning, Building Control & Land Charges	393			393	0	0	0	0	393
457	Future High Sreet Project	3,124	8,011		11,135	0	0	0	0	11,135
458	SIP - Northumberland PK BB & WorkSpace/Biz Support	1,601			1,601	0	0	0	0	1,601
459	Wood Green Regen Sites	213	68		281	0	0	0	0	281
465	District Energy Network (DEN)	6,672		(6,372)	300	3,500	1,771	6,372	0	11,943
471	Tailoring Academy Project	15			15	0	0	0	0	15
473	Enterprising Tottenham High Road (ETHR)	3,086	(1,442)	(752)	892	752	0	0	0	1,644
474	Tottenham High Road Strategy	587	(376)		211	0	0	0	0	211
475	Heart of Tottenham (HOT)	0	15		15	0	0	0	0	15
478	Wood Green Good Growth Fund	215	927		1,142	0	0	0	0	1,142
479	54 Muswell Hill Health Centre	100			100	0	0	0	0	100

480	Wood Green Regen (2)	8,873	(995)	(5,990)	1,888	7,750	8,664	7,627	5,990	31,918
481	Strategic Investment Pot	3,981	(1,185)		2,796	0	0	0	0	2,796
482	Strategic Property	4,918	(4,918)		0	0	0	0	0	0
483	Productive Valley Fund (SIP)	(88)	1,185		1,097	0	0	0	0	1,097
488	Liveable Seven Sisters (LSS)	2,250	(2,250)		0	1,019	0	0	0	1,019
493	Bruce Grove Yards (BGY)	1,670	(1,670)		0	218	0	0	0	218
4001	Maintenance of Tottenham Green Workshops	486			486	0	0	0	0	486
4002	Northumberland Park estate area public realm	995			995	0	0	0	0	995
4005	SME Workspace Intensification	3,971			3,971	4,000	0	0	0	7,971
4006	Acquisition of head leases	12,000			12,000	13,000	0	0	0	25,000
4007	Tottenham Hale Decentralised Energy Network (DEN)	3,223		(1,723)	1,500	5,000	7,000	7,500	1,723	22,723
4008	Wood Green Decentralised Energy Network (DEN)	2,953		(2,153)	800	2,500	7,500	7,500	2,153	20,453
4009	Additonal Carbon Reduction Project	3,500		(3,500)	0	6,500	3,000	4,000	0	13,500
4010	Selby Urban Village Project	25,580		(24,760)	820	25,000	15,000	21,416	24,760	86,996
4011	Commercial Property Remediation	0	4,918		4,918	3	0	0	0	4,921
316	Asset Management of Council Buildings	16,679	(4,700)		11,979	4,381	5,500	6,100	2,000	29,960
4993	Pride in the High Road (PITHR)	432	(432)		0	0	0	0	0	0
Placemaking & Housing		350,484	(4,682)	(169,060)	176,742	127,007	82,006	92,875	149,226	627,856
509	CPO - Empty Homes	8,673			8,673	1,000	0	0	0	9,673
512	Wholly Owned Company	5,000			5,000	0	0	0	0	5,000
Placemaking & Housing		13,673	0	0	13,673	1,000	0	0	0	14,673

330	Civic Centre Works	21,101		(18,450)	2,651	31,950	14,000	3,750	500	52,851
601	Business Imp Programme	65			65	0	0	0	0	65
602	Corporate IT Board	3,650		(1,000)	2,650	3,000	500	0	0	6,150
604	Continuous Improvement	1,162			1,162	950	950	950	950	4,962
605	Customer Services (Digital Transformation)	448			448	0	0	0	0	448
607	Financial Management System Replacement	2,186		(1,237)	949	1,237	0	0	0	2,186
622	Customer First	70			70	0	0	0	0	70
624	Digital Together	500			500	0	0	0	0	500
639	Ways of Working	0			0	0	0	0	0	0
650	Connected Communities	1,258			1,258	0	0	0	0	1,258
653	Capital Support for IT Projects	894		(144)	750	450	450	450	144	2,244
655	CCTV & Data Centre Move	1,500			1,500	1,000	1,500	500	0	4,500
698	Responsiveness Fund	2,000			2,000	0	0	0	0	2,000
464	Bruce Castle	6,551		(5,900)	651	8,500	5,000	5,900	0	20,051
447	Alexandra Palace - Maintenance	470			470	470	470	470	470	2,350
470	Wood Green Library & Customer Service Centre	14,188			14,188	7,000	6,000	0	0	27,188
472	JLAC Match Fund	114			114	0	0	0	0	114
606	Hornsey Library Refurbishment	0			0	0	0	0	0	0
621	Libraries IT and Buildings upgrade	1,246			1,246	0	0	0	0	1,246
623	Wood Green Library	2,000			2,000	0	0	0	0	2,000
652	Libraries - Re-imaging our Libraries offer for a better future	650			650	0	0	0	0	650
699	P6 - Approved Capital Programme Contingency	1,578	(45)		1,533	0	0	0	0	1,533
Culture, Strategy & Engagement		61,631	(45)	(26,731)	34,855	54,557	28,870	12,020	2,064	132,366
TOTAL GF CAPITAL PROGRAMME		529,833	(4,538)	(212,713)	312,582	278,629	165,279	145,185	175,889	1,077,564

Virements for Cabinet Approval							Appendix 6
Transfers from Reserves & Contingencies (2022/23) - for noting							
Period	Directorate	Service/AD Area	Rev/ Cap	In year	Next year	Reason for budget changes	Description
Virements for Approval (2022/23)							
5	Corporate Finance	Non-Service Revenue	Rev	3,907,000	3,907,000	Budget Alignment	Realignment of Treasury budgets to reflect where actual costs are charged to
5	Various	Various	Rev	59,671,710	59,671,710	Budget Allocation	Transfer of Homes for Haringey budgets into the Council
		Total 2022/23		63,578,710	63,578,710		

n.b. the virement in relation to the Transfer of Homes for Haringey budgets is purely a technical one to enact the Council's decision to insource Homes for Haringey functions. Where appropriate, costs will be recharged to the HRA.

Proposed GF Capital Virements for Quarter One (2022/23)

Priority	Scheme Number	Scheme Description	Budget Adjustment (Virement) (£'000)	Scheme Description
Adults, Health & Communities	201	Aids, Adap's & Assistive Tech -Home Owners (DFG)	486	Increase in provisional budget in alignment to 2022/23 DFG grant award
Adults, Health & Communities	208	Supported Living Schemes	(4,000)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Adults, Health & Communities	214	Osborne Grove Nursing Home	(5,000)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Adults, Health & Communities	217	Burgoyne Road (Refuge Adaptations)	(2,600)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Adults, Health & Communities	221	Social Care System Implementation	(1,199)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Adults, Health & Communities	222	Wood Green Integrated Care Hub	(1,000)	Budget reprofiled to future years
			(13,313)	
Environment & Neighbourhoods	314	Parkland Walk Bridges	(1,373)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Environment & Neighbourhoods	322	Finsbury Park	(296)	Reduction to provisional budget inline with anticipated level of Finsbury park revenue income
Environment & Neighbourhoods	329	Park Building Carbon Reduction and Improvement Programme	(1,750)	Budget reprofiled to future years
			(3,419)	

Placemaking & Housing	401	Tottenham Hale Green Space	(2,276)	South Tottenham inyear budget realignment across various capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	402	Tottenham Hale Streets	7,319	South Tottenham inyear budget realignment across various capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	4003	Tottenham Hale Housing Zone Funding	(9,143)	South Tottenham inyear budget realignment across various capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	411	Tottenham Heritage Action Zone (HAZ)	1,959	South Tottenham inyear budget realignment across various capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	473	Enterprising Tottenham High Road (ETHR)	(1,442)	South Tottenham inyear budget realignment across various capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	474	Tottenham High Road Strategy	(376)	South Tottenham inyear budget realignment across various capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	475	Heart of Tottenham (HOT)	15	South Tottenham inyear budget realignment across various capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	415	North Tott Heritage Initiative	284	South Tottenham inyear budget realignment across various capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	457	Future High Street Project	8,011	South Tottenham inyear budget realignment across various capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	488	Liveable Seven Sisters (LSS)	(2,250)	South Tottenham inyear budget realignment across various capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	493	Bruce Grove Yards (BGY)	(1,670)	South Tottenham inyear budget realignment across various capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	4993	Pride in the High Road (PITHR)	(432)	South Tottenham inyear budget realignment across various capital schemes, in line with service delivery

Placemaking & Housing	473	Enterprising Tottenham High Road (ETHR)	(752)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Placemaking & Housing	404	Good Economy Recovery plan	(1,050)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Placemaking & Housing	421	HRW Acquisition	(95,000)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Placemaking & Housing	429	Site Acq (Tott & Wood Green)	(27,760)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Placemaking & Housing	452	Low Carbon Zones	(27)	Budget deletion to reflect the loss of TfL LIP funding in this FY
Placemaking & Housing	454	HALS Improvement Programme	45	Budget transfer from Capital Contingency
Placemaking & Housing	459	Wood Green Regen Sites	68	Inyear budget realignment across Wood Green Regen capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	478	Wood Green Good Growth Fund	927	Inyear budget realignment across Wood Green Regen capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	480	Wood Green Regen (2)	(995)	Inyear budget realignment across Wood Green Regen capital schemes, in line with service delivery
Placemaking & Housing	480	Wood Green Regen (2)	(5,990)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Placemaking & Housing	481	Strategic Investment Pot	(1,185)	Budget transfer to Productive Valley Fund (SIP)
Placemaking & Housing	483	Productive Valley Fund (SIP)	1,185	Budget transfer from Strategic Investment Pot
Placemaking & Housing	482	Strategic Property	(4,918)	Budget transfer to Commercial Property Remediation
Placemaking & Housing	4011	Commercial Property Remediation	4,918	Budget transfer from Strategic Property
Placemaking & Housing	465	District Energy Network (DEN)	(6,372)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Placemaking & Housing	4007	Tottenham Hale Decentralised Energy Network (DEN)	(1,723)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Placemaking & Housing	4008	Wood Green Decentralised Energy Network (DEN)	(2,153)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Placemaking & Housing	4009	Additional Carbon Reduction Project	(3,500)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Placemaking & Housing	4010	Selby Urban Village Project	(24,760)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Placemaking & Housing	316	Asset Management of Council Buildings	(4,700)	Technical virement error correction
			(173,742)	

Culture, Strategy & Engagement	699	P6 - Approved Capital Programme Contingency	(45)	Budget transfer to HALS Improvement Programme
Culture, Strategy & Engagement	330	Civic Centre Works	(18,450)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Culture, Strategy & Engagement	602	Corporate IT Board	(1,000)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Culture, Strategy & Engagement	607	Financial Management System Replacement	(1,237)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Culture, Strategy & Engagement	653	Capital Support for IT Projects	(144)	Budget reprofiled to future years
Culture, Strategy & Engagement	464	Bruce Castle	(5,900)	Budget reprofiled to future years
			(26,776)	
		OVERALL TOTAL =	(217,251)	

APPENDIX 7**Write off Summary Report - Quarter 1**

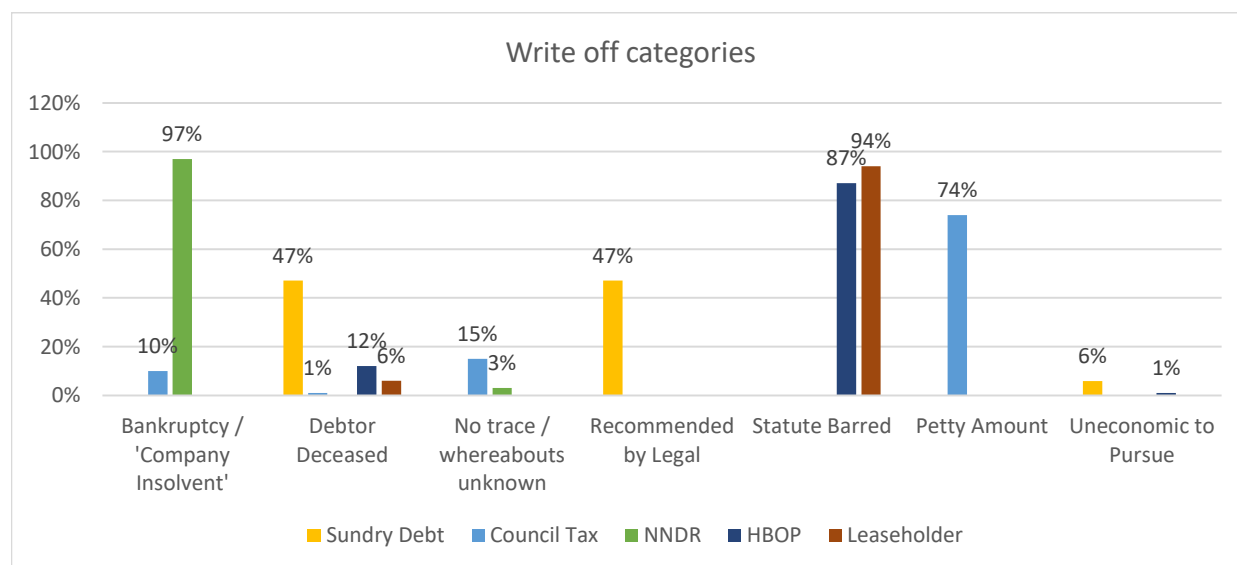
All Council debt is considered recoverable; the Corporate Debt Management Service makes every effort to collect charges due to the Council. However, in some circumstances it is appropriate to write off a debt when all forms of recovery action have been exhausted.

This quarterly report is for information purposes only, which details the debts that were submitted for write off for the Financial Period 1st April 2022 to 30th June 2022 (**Q1**). These relate to delinquent accounts where all forms of recovery action had been fully exhausted.

Council Debt is written off in line with the instructions set out within the Financial Regulations, following Legal advice, Court instruction or in accordance with the Limitations Act 1980. These sums have all been approved by the Director of Finance under his delegated authority and, where appropriate, the Lead Member for Finance. They have been adequately provided for in the Council's Bad Debt Provisions. The table below summarises the Q1 write off by service type, value and volume.

Quarter 1 Write Off, Financial Period 1st April 2022 - 30th June 2022									
Service	Council Tax	NNDR (Business Rates)	HBOP (Housing Benefit Overpayments)	HRA Rent	Leaseholder	Commercial Rent	Sundry Debt	Parking	Total
Under £50k	£27,855.44	£364,445.06	£47,397.82	£0.00	£18,930.30	£0.00	£56,364.07	£0.00	£514,992.69
Volume	145	33	128	0	17	0	17	0	340
Over £50k	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Volume	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Value	£27,855.44	£364,445.06	£47,397.82	£0.00	£18,930.30	£0.00	£56,364.07	£0.00	£514,992.69
Total Volume	145	33	128	0	17	0	17	0	340

The category composition of the above write offs is shown below:



A significant write off submission is expected from Parking services this year relating to legacy uncollectable debts.

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Title: Haringey Safety Valve Programme

Report authorised by: Ann Graham, Director: Children's Services, Jon Warlow, Director: Finance

Lead Officer: Jackie Difolco, Assistant Director: Early Help, Prevention and SEND

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 Haringey has been invited to make an application to participate in the 2022/23 'safety valve' programme whereby funding is provided to eliminate historic DSG deficits where, lasting sustainability and reaching an in-year balance can be demonstrated for its High Needs Funding budget. This paper reports on the proposals developed for consideration and approval.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

2.1 The DfE have asked Haringey to apply to become part of the 2022/23 Safety Valve Programme which is designed to assist local authorities in reducing overspends in their High Needs Block expenditure – the funding which is provided for SEND. Currently Haringey is predicted to have a huge overspend in SEND by 2027/28, which, if left unchecked, could seriously undermine council finances. The government offer, whereby historic deficits could be eliminated, is predicated on LBH developing a series of detailed plans for systemic change, and service transformation.

2.2 This is a challenge for the Service, and one which I believe we can meet as we are already engaged on that change process of wider strategic transformation of SEND Services in Haringey. This process, underpinned currently by our Written Statement of Action is underway, in partnership with our key stakeholders in our schools, the wider education, health and care sectors, children, young people, and their families. This work provides a springboard for more extensive and longer-term change whereby SEND resources will be prioritised for early intervention, and support; and where changes as to how and where SEND services are provided are linked to a wider education strategy.

2.3 Key strands of this approach are set out in this report and provide the basis for a SEND service which aims to intervene early and provide support required without an EHCP; providing services locally in borough.

3. Recommendations

3.1 To approve the application based on the indicative workstreams and projects outlined in this report and further note that the indicative workstreams and projects are not yet agreed by DfE.

- 3.2** To delegate authority to the Director of Children's Services and Director of Finance, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools, and Families and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Local Investment, to make the initial application to the Department for Education (DfE) to enter the "Safety Valve" Intervention programme by 15 September 2022.
- 3.3** To delegate to the Director of Children's Services and Director of Finance, after-consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools, and Families and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Local Investment, to make final changes to the proposals following feedback from the DfE in advance of the final submission on the 6 October 2022.
- 3.4** To approve, that, as part of the involvement in the 'Safety Valve' intervention programme, a request for capital will be submitted to the DfE, by 10 October 2022, to develop SEND provision in the Borough to aid delivery of the programme which will be incorporated into the strategic education master sites programme.
- 3.5** To note that the Quarter 1 Corporate Monitoring Report addresses the Safety Valve project funding within the General Fund for the current year, and that the ongoing annual cost of this project will be taken into account in the preparation of the next future years' Medium Term Financial Strategy.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1** As part of the Department of Education (DfE) work to address long term challenges in High Needs funding within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), a number of identified local authorities, including Haringey, have been invited to have a financial agreement known as a 'Safety Valve.'
- 4.2** The agreement will require Haringey to achieve an in year balanced budget, currently £4.6m in deficit, within five years. If achieved, the DfE will provide assistance with funds to address the cumulative deficit, currently £21.5m, subject to Ministerial approval. If continued growth in High Needs expenditure remains unmitigated, the cumulative deficit is currently estimated at £83m by 27/28 and is therefore a critical financial risk to the Council; entry into the Safety Valve programme is the best option to mitigate this risk.
- 4.3** The Safety Valve programme is part of the wider strategic transformation of SEND Services in Haringey with our key stakeholders within education, health, care sectors, children, young people, and their families. As part of this transformation, resources will be prioritised for children and young people with SEND which will improve overall outcomes by having a clear focus on early intervention, service improvement, reduce overall demand for EHCP's and financial pressure on the High Needs Block.
- 4.4** This item has been properly notified on the Forward Plan with the required 28-day notice period as set out in Part Four, Section D, Rule 13 of the constitution and complies with the 5-day notice period for agenda publication. However, the initial application to the DfE must be made by 15 September 2022. Cabinet is due to consider the item at its meeting on 13 September 2022 and this would not leave sufficient time for the ordinary call-in period. This report could not have been considered earlier due to the short timescales provided to complete the substantial work required to inform the proposals alongside initial consultation with key stakeholders. It is therefore proposed that the call-in procedure shall not apply to this decision in order to submit the application by the deadline of 15 September 2022. This would be subject to the Cabinet decision on 13 September 2022.

4.5 Given the above, it is not practicable to comply with the call-in period requirement. The Chair of Overview and Scrutiny has agreed that the call-in procedure shall not apply to this urgent decision. This is because the decision is urgent and any delay in implementation caused by the call-in procedure would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests due to the fact that Haringey will be unable to complete a submission to the Department for Education within their deadline. This decision will ensure that the deadline is met. Accordingly, the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed that the decision is both reasonable in all circumstances and that it should be treated as a matter of urgency. This is in accordance with Part 4, Section H, and Paragraph 18 (a) and (b) of the Council Constitution.

5. Alternative options considered

5.1 The Council has previously produced a DSG Management Plan, coproduced with various stakeholders, with detailed actions in place to manage the deficit. The DSG management plan is underpinned by the High Needs Block recovery plan which is led by the Local Authority SEND service. This plan sets out a number of projects which are already in progress and subject to scrutiny at the DSG Steering Group chaired by the Director of Children's Services. Monitoring of progress is reported to the Schools Forum and SEND Executive (which has parent and carer representation) on a quarterly basis, this is also published on our SEND local offer and referenced within our SEND newsletter. Parents and carers are also represented on development sub groups delivering against a number of priorities that inform this work eg) Preparation for Adulthood, EHCP/Annual Review processes, Co-production and Health.

5.2 This plan has been further developed since the meeting with DfE and it is this revised plan which forms the basis of our initial proposal. The plan is a live document which we will continue to share with the DfE as the proposal further develops.

5.3 It is in the best interests of the Council to work towards a mutually agreed Safety Valve agreement as the ring fencing of the High Needs deficit may be removed, at which point the full deficit would have to be addressed in full in the Council's MTFS.

6. Background information

6.1 Haringey Council has continued to implement its improvement programme for SEND Services which was launched with its new SEND strategy (2021- 2024). The Council have invested significant funding to improve SEND Services and remains committed to working in co-production with parents, carers, and other key stakeholders to deliver improved programmes of support for children and young people with SEND and those who care for them. Key priorities are:

- a) we will support children at the earliest opportunity to access the intervention they need to achieve and thrive.
- b) wherever possible we will meet the provision needs of Haringey's children and young people locally.
- c) we will work together to prepare children and young people for their adult lives

- 6.2** The SEND improvement programme involves significant reallocation of resources, with increased investment from the General Fund and Capital Programme to support new SEND initiatives and to reduce systemic pressures on the high needs block. For example, by investing SEND provision capital funding at Riverside School, The Grove School, and The Mulberry School, resulting in increased provision within the borough, children being able to access good quality education locally and decreasing the need for out of borough education placements which are also more costly. Other improvements include revision of the Home-School transport policies and investment in the Statutory Assessment Team and Education Psychology Services.
- 6.3** Our recent performance data indicate that children and young people with SEND in Haringey continue to achieve good education outcomes. The national Safety Valve Programme offers an opportunity to utilise DfE expertise and investment to create further systemic changes in Haringey's allocation of resources to support children and young people with SEND.
- 6.4** The DfE began the safety valve intervention programme in 2020/21 and have extended this programme in 2021/22, targeting the local authorities with the highest DSG deficits. The programme requires local authorities to develop and agree to substantial plans for reform to their high needs budget and escalating demands on SEND services, with support and challenge from the DfE's expert team, to work at pace to address and create systems and processes which support the creation of an in-year balanced budget. When a local authority can demonstrate sufficiently that their DSG management plan creates lasting sustainability and delivers good outcomes for children and young people, including reaching an in-year balanced budget within 5 years then the DfE will enter into an agreement with the authority.
- 6.5** The financial plan must be based on an agreed programme to achieve a financially sustainable High Needs service over a period of up to five years, up to 2027/28. This together with annual delivery plans would form the basis of the Safety Valve agreement, which would essentially reflect a contract between the Council and DfE, the successful delivery of which would move the service into an in-year balance budget position by the end of the five years.
- 6.6** The agreed plan will be subject to quarterly monitoring reports, if there is any doubt that the proposals set out in the agreement will not be achieved, it may lead to the withholding payments, or reducing previously agreed future instalments, which contribute to decreasing the deficit.
- 6.7** Last year's (2021-2022) deficit position was £4.6m (in year), without a mitigation strategy this will increase annually, projected to be £19m in year by 2027/28. The present aggregated deficit to date is £21.5m and this will inevitably increase each year until a balanced budget is achieved. The latest forecast, using inflation and grant factors provided by the DfE, indicate that the cumulative deficit might rise, before any further mitigations put in place as part of this programme, to approximately over £80m. The negotiations will lead to the DfE proposing how much of that eventual deficit they will meet. Any remainder would fall on the Council's General Fund, and DfE have been made aware of the difficulty that would present to the Council.
- 6.8** Haringey have been asked to submit an initial proposal to DfE by the 15 September 2022 and, after feedback, a final proposal by 6 October 2022. Subject to Haringey Cabinet and Ministerial approval, Haringey would then enter the Safety Valve programme. An application for DfE capital funding to support Haringey's programme will also be submitted by 10 October 2022.

6.9 Significant work has been completed over the past year on internal housekeeping, with a number of projects underway to mitigate against the increasing overspend, providing increased confidence in the council's DSG financial position as we continue to engage with the DfE.

7. Report

National Context

7.1 While Haringey's position is concerning, it is not unique. The recently published National DSG Report highlighted the following key findings:

- a) high needs deficits exceeded £1.35bn for 80 respondents in March 22, forecast to be £2.6bn in March 2025. As a projection, if all LA's had responded, nationwide this could reach almost £3.6bn.
- b) on average, High Needs overspends are 7-8% per year, Haringey is 10%
- c) in general, Safety Valve arrangements are forecasted to make significant improvements, but significant deficits and uncertainty remain,
- d) significant variation exists between respondents with approximately half (£1.35bn) of March 2025 deficits being comprised from just nine respondents,
- e) whilst the aggregate deficit figures reported above are inflated by a few respondents, the general trend of ever-increasing High Needs Deficits is seen in a vast majority of cases,
- f) significant deficits are being reported by London Boroughs,

Haringey Context

7.2 Haringey services and schools are identifying an increasing number of children with SEN needs as evidenced by the increasing demand for statutory assessments and EHC plans. The number of children and young people with an education, health, and care plan (EHCP) was 2,637 at the beginning of August 2022 compared with 1,820 in 2018 and 2,398 at the end of 2021.

7.3 Analysis of data indicates that Haringey has increased demand for services for children and young people with ASC (autistic spectrum condition) and SEMH (social, emotional, and mental health) as their primary need. Whilst the authority has increased its provision for children with ASC by increasing school places. Haringey has no designated provision for children and young people who require special school provision to meet their SEMH needs. This can result in the use of expensive out of borough independent provision, creating pressure on the high needs block.

7.4 Haringey receives approximately £201m in Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for maintained schools. The DSG is split into 4 blocks: Schools, High Needs, Early Years and Central School Services. The DSG reserve is ringfenced and outside the council's general fund reserves. The cumulative DSG deficit is significant at £21.5m, is continuing to increase and unsustainable. This pressure is entirely due to pressures in the High Needs Block. Under present regulations, this deficit cannot currently be funded from the General Fund without ministerial approval, even if the Council could afford it, but must be dealt with from future DSG income.

7.5 The DSG current management plan is based on estimations of 10% annual demand increase in EHCP's. Whilst for the first time since 2016/17 we are starting to see the number of requests for EHCP's reduce, the overall number of plans continue to increase (7% increase for 21-22 compared with previous year). Through the Safety Valve action plan, we need to introduce measures to alleviate that trajectory via different and more affordable care routes, reducing High Needs costs generally. This is challenging as pressures include complexity of plans, lack of in borough provision for children with social, emotional, and mental health (SEMH) and Autism, and the need for a graduated early intervention response to meet the needs of children and young people earlier.

Draft Safety Valve programme proposal

Key Influences on programme development

7.6 The DfE has issued guidance and case studies from Local Authorities already engaged in the Safety Valve programme outlining two principal goals which are critical to reach sustainable positions, which are appropriately managing demand and effective commissioning arrangements.

7.7 DfE guidance also advised that areas of focus are interlinked, a joined-up and co-produced commitment to sustainability with local authority leaders working together to give the high needs system the priority and focus it requires. As such families should be at the heart of decision making to ensure viability of any plans, reflecting the statutory duty to co-produce SEND services with parents, carers, and providers. Officers from finance and education have been working closely together with joint responsibility for the delivery of the High Needs Recovery plan. Progress against the plan is reported to parents and carers via the SEND Executive Board, but also by involving parents and carers in the key programmes developing the SEND improvement plans.

7.8 Changing the culture from one in which a lack of confidence or access to services drives the demand for EHCP's for children and young people with SEND to one in which there is confidence in the provision ordinarily available in schools and will be a key requirement of a successful safety valve programme. Working in collaboration with elected members, school leaders, parents & carers will be essential to developing cultural change, sustainability, and confidence in the SEND system.

7.9 The DfE have also provided authorities entering the programme several case studies as examples of how some local authorities have approached the Safety Valve objectives. Areas of focus include early intervention, increased SEN support offer for children without an EHCP, robust assessment processes and application of thresholds, cultural change and shared ownership with partners, parents and carers and thorough provision mapping to ensure there is sufficient high-quality provision for young people.

Demand and cost alignment of EHCP's.

7.10 To identify and inform projects included in our proposal it is critical to understand points of significant demand in terms of the principal need for C&YP's EHCP's and the cost of the provision of the services associated with them. Table 2 below shows the demand and growth since 2018.

Table Two: Demand by Primary Need 2018 – 2022

EHCP numbers growth from 2018/19 with average percentage growth shown							
Type of Need	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Average Annual Growth	2021-22 Annual Growth
Autistic Spectrum Disorder	711	768	921	1,035	1,121	14%	8%
Hearing Impairment	45	49	59	63	72	15%	14%
Moderate Learning Difficulty	358	350	375	402	407	3%	1%
Multi- Sensory Impairment	2	1	1	1	1	-13%	0%
Physical Disability	101	96	104	108	109	2%	1%
Profound & Multiple Learning Difficulty	39	41	40	49	50	7%	2%
Social, Emotional and Mental Health	205	210	227	289	284	10%	-2%
Speech, Language and Communications needs	242	255	317	340	419	18%	23%
Severe Learning Difficulty	55	50	45	49	40	-7%	-18%
Specific Learning Difficulty	42	37	54	41	43	1%	5%
Visual Impairment	19	20	21	21	21	3%	0%
Other Difficulty/Disability	0	0	0	0	0	N/a	N/a
SEN support but no specialist assessment of type of need	1	0	0	0	0	N/a	N/a
Total number of EHCPs by primary need	1,820	1,877	2,164	2,398	2,567	10%	7%

- ASC is the area of highest need and demand has grown by 14% on average and 8% in 2021/22
- SEMH has grown by 10% on average but demand reduced slightly in 2021/22
- Speech, Language & Communications is the second largest group in absolute terms but has the highest continuous growth being 8% on average and 23% in 2021/22
- Average annual growth over 5 years is 10.3% compared with growth of 7% in 2021/22
- Haringey also has a higher growth in children with Hearing Impairment, the reasons for this are being further explored, but numbers of children remain low and could be correlated with Haringey having a specialist provision for Hearing Impaired children (Blanche Neville School) creating demand in this area.

7.11 From our detailed analysis and costings, we have evaluated all of our interventions to ensure that they will improve outcomes for children and young people, through inclusive local provision of services, including early intervention in schools, and savings associated with these improved outcomes.

7.12 The development of the Councils initial proposal has been shaped by the influencers discussed earlier and consists of three workstreams each of which consists of individual projects that will have their own objectives and savings targets.

7.13 Three workstreams and projects developed are consistent with DfE recommendations for areas of focus to manage the demand for EHCP's, reduce costs by more effective commissioning and the use of capital to develop in borough provision.

7.14 Workstream A (Demand Management) has several projects that will increase the level of early support and interventions for children with needs associated with Autism, Speech, Language & Communication and Social Emotional and Mental Health, which will reduce the escalation to requiring an EHCP, in our primary and secondary school settings. Similarly earlier interventions and support will strengthen provision in Early Years setting with the overall objective that no child under 5 will require a EHCP to fully meet their needs. All of these projects will help reduce the demand for EHCP's and therefore reduce costs.

7.15 Workstream B (Commissioning) will focus on creating in borough provision for Social Emotional and Mental Health needs below and above the threshold of a EHCP and similarly develop resources in local primary and secondary schools to meet the needs of children requiring support for Autism. Projects will also ensure value for money for all other services including our Alternative Provision offer. It will also include a project to address our expenditure on top ups for C&YP with EHCP's where our expenditure of approximately £21m is seen as an outlier nationally. An additional significant area to help reduce costs will be the use of capital to enable inclusivity in mainstream schools by investing in Special Units and reducing the need for out of borough expensive provision. Our capital strategy is discussed in more detail below.

7.16 Workstream C (Culture, Governance and Leadership) projects will not produce savings in themselves, but they will act as enablers for other projects and provide the leadership and cultural change necessary to ensure sustainability in systems and processes. These projects will involve collaboration with school leaders, parents, parents and C&YP.

7.17 Work is ongoing to determine if these measures will suffice or whether other avenues will also need to be pursued and this will become clearer over as the projects continue to be developed prior to submission of Haringey's proposal.

7.18 A summary of the key projects are outlined below:

Proposed Safety Valve Projects

Creating in- borough provision

- We will create specialist resource units for children with ASC within existing good or outstanding mainstream schools to encourage inclusivity in mainstream and thereby reducing the demand for out of borough expensive provision. There will be 10 resource units in primary settings and 25 units in secondary.
- We will develop an in-borough provision or resource provisions in mainstream schools for children and young people who have social, emotional, and mental health needs (SEMH). There will be 10 units in primary settings and 25 units in secondary.
- Increasing provision to respond to sufficiency for children and young people with complex needs.

Therapies investment (jointly with the Integrated Commissioning Board)

- We will develop a graduated response need and therapies toolkit for SENDCOs, review & expand therapeutic support for Speech & Language and Social, Emotional Health (SEMH) and develop training and outreach teams to support C&YP with Autistic and SEMH needs. Both these projects will reduce escalation to EHCP's in primary and secondary schools.

Investment in early years and supported internships and apprenticeships for young people with SEND

- We will address the number of EHCP's, where Haringey is an outlier, by reforming our Early Years offer to ensure only children with the most complex needs aged under 5 will require a EHCP to secure appropriate support and ensure that all YP over the age of 16 have appropriate employment and internship opportunities where this is the most appropriate offer.

Investment in Early Intervention

- We will develop an earlier response to identified needs and a timelier response through the investment in early intervention services. This will have the impact of reducing the number of EHCP's in Haringey in accordance with national averages.
- We will embed SEND support tools and core standards and expectations within schools and settings.

Effective commissioning and brokerage arrangements

- We will review of our current Alternative Provision (AP) model and funding and create more cost-effective commissioning of services e.g, moving away from spot purchasing.
- We will develop a primary and secondary SEMH outreach team.
- We will rationalise our overall £21m spend on "top ups" for EHCP's by remodelling our support to mainstream schools and in- borough special schools to reduce the number of children and young people moving into Special and Independent Schools. This is an area where Haringey is an outlier in terms of spend for special schools per capita.
- Where we have young people who are placed in education, out of borough, where appropriate, we will work with them, their parents, and carers at key transition points to support them to access post 16 education within Haringey.
- We will review financial contributions from health to ensure they are appropriate and equitable.

Robust decision making and application of thresholds and upskilling the multi-agency workforce.

- We will continue to improve consistency and rigour in our Statutory Assessment Team to ensure that thresholds are appropriately applied and that our annual plan review processes are reflecting improved outcomes with appropriate cessation of plans.
- We will undertake process mapping and analysis that will improve quality and efficiencies.
- Working in collaboration with Haringey Education Partnership (HEP), we will develop a comprehensive and robust workforce development programme for mainstream schools.

Block transfer from other parts of DSG

To ensure a more sustainable system, whilst we review and remodel the distribution of High Needs funding, we will request approval from the Schools Forum for a block transfer of funds from other blocks within the dedicated schools grant to reduce the high needs block overspend over a number of consecutive years. This is an approach that has been used by other local authorities to reduce the overspend position as part of a longer-term approach alongside transformation work, reallocating resources to directly invest in the delivery of SEND services, impacting on improved outcomes for children and young people and meeting our statutory duty.

- 7.19** In meetings with DfE Advisers on 27 July and 24 August 2022, it was noted and agreed that the approach taken to date was robust and that the projects we had identified were the type of projects they would expect to see of this scale.
- 7.20** To support effective implementation of the programme, £400k per annum for three years has been allocated from the general fund, to fund a 'Programme Team' which will consist of programme management, business, data, and financial analysis.
- 7.21** Any associated costs for implementation of the individual projects will be funded within the high needs block where they are eligible for spend as per the terms and conditions of the high needs block, and the Safety Valve financial proposals will take account of the estimated spend levels. It is yet to be evaluated as to whether the measures currently be explored will suffice or whether other avenues will also need to be pursued and this will become clearer over as the projects continue to be developed prior to submission of Haringey's draft and final proposals.

Capital Funding Opportunity

- 7.22** In support of the Safety Valve programme, Haringey has been invited to make an application for capital funding which will need to be submitted by 14 October. Whilst the DfE have not applied any financial restrictions, they have advised that applications agreed with other Local Authorities on the programme have averaged circa £5.0m and to consider that as part of our proposals.
- 7.23** As part of the Asset Management Plan in 2020, SEND and Alternative Provision were identified as a key area of focus to explore. This has resulted in the development of the strategic education sites masterplan outlining a series of options and proposals for consideration by Cabinet. The Council's capital programme presently includes £12m to support the development of Alternative Provision.
- 7.24** A further £3.5m SEND Provision Capital Funding has been allocated to Haringey for the next 2 academic years. This will be offset against the Education Sites Masterplan for SEND provision. Therefore, combined, the potential capital funding for SEND/AP provision may be in the region of £20m which would have a significant impact in delivering a successful safety valve programme. This will include the capital bid for the resource units for children in primary settings and resource units in secondary setting referred to above. Other potential capital opportunities to support the Safety Valve programme, for inclusion in the application for funds to DfE continue to be identified as plans progress.

Next Steps

- 7.25** An initial bid proposal will be submitted to the DfE on 15 September 2022. There will be continued discussion and support from the DfE throughout the process leading up to the final submission of our proposal on 6 October 2022. Approval would then be expected from the Secretary of State by December and the agreement published in March.
- 7.26** A communications plan is being developed to build on existing mechanisms in place (as outlined at 5.1) to engage our stakeholders including parents and carers further in this work in more detail.

8. Contribution to strategic outcomes

8.1 The proposals outlined, align with the priorities within Haringey's Early Help Strategy, Haringey's SEND Strategy and the 'Borough Plan – Priority 2 (People)' specifically:

- Happy childhood: all children across the borough will be happy and healthy as they grow up feeling safe and secure in their family, networks, and communities
- Every young person, whatever their background, has a pathway to success for the future
- All adults are able to live healthy and fulfilling lives, with dignity, staying active and connected in their communities

9. Statutory Officers comments

Finance

9.1 The DSG cumulative deficit currently totals £21.5m and with assumptions on demand growth, mitigation of demand growth, inflation estimates and grant income projections the DSG is forecasting a cumulative deficit of over £80m by 2027/28. This deficit is forecasted solely within the High Needs Block.

9.2 The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), requires DSG deficits to be held in a separate reserve in local authorities' accounts. Regulations are in force to allow this accounting treatment up to and including the accounts for 2022/23. The forecasted cumulative deficit needs to be addressed as once the regulations to show deficits separately are removed, this will impact the Council's General Fund, resulting in a profound impact on statutory services in other areas.

9.3 There has been £250K investment in 2022/23 to fund the Safety Valve programme team, with the costs factored into the 2022/23 Q1 monitoring. Ongoing costs of the programme team from 2023/24 onwards totals £400K per year which is recommended to be accommodated through the MTFS.

9.4 Additional Capital Funding will be sought from the DfE to invest in key proposals to deliver revenue savings to the DSG through the Safety Valve Programme. This additional funding and existing capital funds results in a potential £20m of capital funding for SEND/AP Provision for Haringey.

Procurement

9.5 Strategic Procurement note the contents of the report. There are no current procurement implications associated with the report and recommendations. Strategic Procurement will work with the service area to support the delivery of any procurement activity.

Head of Legal & Governance

The Head of Legal & Governance has been consulted on this report and makes the following comments:

9.6 The Dedicated Schools Grant [DSG] is payable to local authorities under s14 of the Education Act 2002 to support the schools budget including provision made by the council for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities. The DfE strongly encourages all authorities to have plans in place to ensure the sustainable management of their high needs systems, for the benefit of the children and young people they serve.

The Safety Valve programme requires local authorities to develop DSG management plans. The DfE will enter to an agreement with authorities whose plans demonstrate lasting sustainability. Local authorities demonstrating progress will receive incremental funding to eliminate their historical deficits, with funding being withheld if milestones are not met.

9.7 In June 2022 the DfE published guidance entitled *Sustainability in high needs systems, guidance for local authorities*, designed to assist local authorities to review their SEND and consider their strategic approach to high needs funding and develop their DSG management plans. The guidance makes clear that plans must have the support and engagement of local leaders, schools, parent and carer forums and other key stakeholders. The Education & Skills Funding Agency operational guidance 'Schools revenue funding 2022 to 2023' (Updated December 2021) provides that DSG management plans should be discussed with the schools forum on a regular basis and should set out the local authority's plans to bring the DSG spend back into balance.

9.8 The Education and Skills Schools operation guidance: 2023 to 2024 updated August 2022 provides that Local authorities require school forum approval in order to move up to 0.5% from the schools block to another blocks. Local Authorities considering a transfer of funds out of the high needs block should ensure adequate consultation with the relevant representatives on the schools forum and with any providers likely to be affected by the transfer.

Equalities

9.9 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not
- foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

9.10 The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. The first part of the duty applies to marriage and civil partnership status only. *Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.*

9.11 The provision of services for children and young people with SEND and their parents and carers ensuring that the Council is meeting its statutory duties in relation to increasing the participation and equality of young people with special education needs and disabilities, via their access to education, health and care services.

9.12 The proposed decision is to approve engagement in the Safety Valve Programme, whereby upon successful proposals to reduce the in-year financial overspend is achieved, funding is provided to eliminate historic DSG deficits with lasting sustainability and reaching an in-year balance. All the projects will affect:

- children and young people with SEND
- parents and carers of children and young people with SEND
- partners within education, health and care sector impacted by delivery of the proposals
- workforce capacity to respond to delivering the projects

9.13 The objective of the proposals is to alongside the SEND service improvement programme as underpinned by Haringey SEND Strategy 2022- 2025, implement a transformation programme across the SEND system, that will both create positive change and improved outcomes for children and young people with SEND and achieve a balanced in year budget for the High Needs Block within the Dedicated Schools Grant.

9.14 The duty to co-produce services with children and young people with SEND and their families is recognised and specifically addressed within the SEND Strategy 2022 - 2025.

The SEND strategy recognises that SEND affects children and young people differently according to age, gender, and socio-economic background and as such the strategy and proposals intend to ensure that the specific inequalities which affect these groups and that these actions are accountable.

9.15 The proposals represent a range of measures taken to achieve the level of savings required in the short term, however this is balanced against wider benefits and improved outcomes for children and young people with SEND and their families; advance equality of opportunity for children and young people with SEND and their families and specifically to work closely via co-production to ensure that the necessary service improvements fulfil the needs of this cohort particularly those with protected characteristics.

9.16 An equalities impact assessment is underway to understand the key groups who will be affected by the proposals, how they will be impacted by these, and any mitigations that might be needed in order to ensure that the public sector duty is met. This will be finalised and monitored with any emerging issues identified and addressed. The Council will take steps to collect demographic data on service users in order to identify any inequalities in service provision that may arise and to inform future equalities analysis.

10. Use of Appendices

Department for Education case studies - Sustainable High Needs systems.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1003162/Case_studies_-_Sustainable_high_needs_systems_16July2021.pdf

11. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

N/A

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Report for: Cabinet – 13 September 2022

Title: Approval to Consult on a Draft Parks and Greenspaces Strategy

Report authorised by: Eubert Malcolm, Interim Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Lead Officer: Simon Farrow – simon.farrow@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/

Non-Key Decision: Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1. Over the last two and half years, the Council and stakeholders have collaborated to identify a vision, aims and actions for the parks and greenspaces in the borough. The collective work has resulted in the development of a new strategy and a range of supporting documents which include:
- A new Parks and Greenspaces Strategy for 2023 – 2038 entitled “People need Parks” (attached at Appendix 1).
 - Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan (attached at Appendix 2)
 - Parks and Greenspaces Policy Pack (attached at Appendix 3)
 - Parks and Greenspaces Service Standards (attached at Appendix 4)
 - Parks and Greenspaces Asset Management Plan (attached at Appendix 5)
 - Biodiversity Action Plan (attached at Appendix 6)
 - Tree and Woodland Plan (attached at Appendix 7)
 - Watercourse and Flood Risk Plan (attached at appendix 8)
- 1.2. The new documents support the Local Plan, the Climate Change Action Plan and a future Nature Recovery Plan.
- 1.3. Permission to consult is being sought to seek further input into the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and its supporting documents before bringing a final version back to Cabinet in March 2023 for adoption and implementation.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1. The development of the draft Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and the supporting documents represent a major step forward in setting out the Council and communities’ priorities for our award-winning parks and greenspaces in the borough.
- 2.2. The service has worked hard to engage many groups in the development of the plans and the drafts reflect the input received from those both actively involved

in our parks and greenspaces and those who currently feel excluded or cannot use parks because there are barriers for them. The documents reflect our 2022-26 manifesto commitments and set out how they will directly or indirectly contribute to achieving the manifesto goals.

- 2.3. The strategy sets out a clear and simple vision for the boroughs parks and green spaces to be:-

“That Haringey’s parks and greenspaces become fully inclusive shared spaces that deliver our key aims of inclusion and wellbeing, climate change and sustainability and a quality service.”

- 2.4. Whilst all parts of the vision are important, of greatest importance is that our parks and greenspaces become fully inclusive. Over the next 15 years we expect to make a significant step change in how inclusive our parks and greenspaces are.
- 2.5. We recognise that our ambition will be limited by the availability of funding, but I believe a partnership approach with all stakeholders will ensure we achieve as much progress as possible.
- 2.6. I commend these drafts to the Cabinet for approval and look forward to opening up the draft documents for wider public consultation and engagement.

3. Recommendations

Cabinet is asked to:

- 3.1. Approve the draft Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and the other plans identified in para 1.1 for consultation.
- 3.2. Delegate authority to the Assistant Director Direct Services, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Communities and Civic Life, to make minor amendments to the draft documents and to agree the final consultation materials.
- 3.3. Note that the consultation period will commence in the week beginning the 26th September 2022 and end at least eight weeks later on Sunday 27th November 2022.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1. Previous strategic documents have all expired and therefore this means the borough has no agreed strategy for the management, improvement and enhancement of the parks and greenspaces in the borough.
- 4.2. The documents have the support of many stakeholders who collaborated with the Council to identify the priorities, needs and aspirations which are embodied in the new Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and its supporting plans, policies, and standards.

- 4.3. The Parks and Greenspaces Strategy is aspirational, seeking to make the parks and greenspaces in the borough truly inclusive for the whole community in Haringey. If achieved, then everyone will have the opportunity to benefit from the uplift in their wellbeing, have spaces that have adapted to climate change and enjoy a quality experience for all.
- 4.4. Funding and sustaining the outcomes hoped for in this strategy will always be a challenge in the current local government climate. However, as has been witnessed in Haringey on numerous occasions, starting from a position of collaboration can achieve much greater outcomes.

5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1. The only other option would have been to not produce a new strategy or the supporting plans. This would have weakened the Council's position. There would have been no clear policy framework within which Councillors and officers could work. Decisions and opportunities would have to be weighed against their merits and not in relation to the agreed strategic aims and objectives. Without a strategy, the Council is in a weaker position to bid for external funding.

6. Background information

- 6.1. The Council's policy framework for parks and greenspaces has a number of lapsed strategies and plans which require renewal and updating. These include:
 - Open Space Strategy – 2006
 - Biodiversity Action Plan – 2009
 - Haringey Tree Strategy – 2008-2011
- 6.2. In addition, a number of new documents have been identified that either address emerging issues or support other Council plans.
 - Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan
 - Parks and Greenspaces Policy Pack
 - Parks and Greenspaces Service Standards
 - Parks and Greenspaces Asset Management Plan
 - Watercourse and Flood Risk Plan
- 6.3. Two further existing plans support and complete the strategic landscape for parks and greenspaces in the borough. These plans are:
 - Outdoor Events Policy 2014
 - Physical Activity and Sport Strategy 2019-2023
- 6.4. From the outset of developing the new documents, a clear goal has been to include a wide range of people in the development and definition of the vision, aims, and actions that run throughout the suite of documents. The engagement has been challenging throughout the pandemic, but it was also a period when people connected with their local park or greenspace in a new and more meaningful way. Over the course of the last two and half years, contributions have been gathered from the following parts of the Haringey community:
 - Councillor Working Group

- A range of Council services
 - Haringey Climate Forum
 - Faith communities
 - Disabled people and Disability Action Haringey
 - LGBTQI Community
 - Friends of Parks and Allotment Forum
 - Primary and secondary school children
 - Older people
 - People from ethnic communities
- 6.5. The engagement work culminated in March 2022 with a Parks Summit at Alexandra Palace attended by over 70 stakeholders which endorsed the work to date. However, that engagement journey will continue and is not limited to the production of these documents but will be an ongoing part of the future work of the Council.
- 6.6. In June this year the Council brought Homes for Haringey back within the direct control of the Council. As such the strategy and its supporting plans do not currently cover the greenspaces within the Housing Service controlled areas of the borough. Therefore, a Housing Greenspace Plan will be developed with residents to ensure the housing greenspaces are developed in line with the overall Parks and Greenspace vision and aims.

7. Documents

7.1. Parks and Greenspaces Strategy – People need Parks

- 7.1.1. This is the overarching strategic document from which all of the other new plans and policies flow. It is an overall summary of the shared ambition for the borough's parks and greenspaces over the next 15 years. The strategy includes a new vision and three key aims which will help to steer the work of all involved.

Vision: That Haringey's parks and greenspaces become fully inclusive, shared spaces that deliver our key aims of inclusion and wellbeing, climate change and sustainability and a quality service.

Key Aims

- 1. Inclusion and Wellbeing** - Providing inclusive parks and greenspaces that all communities in Haringey can benefit from so that usage and enjoyment of our parks and greenspaces reflects the communities living in Haringey and contributes to improved wellbeing.
- 2. Climate Change and Sustainability** - Supporting the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency by reducing the carbon footprint of parks and greenspaces, protecting and promoting biodiversity, and helping educate everyone in Haringey about contributing towards saving the planet.
- 3. A Quality Service** - Securing investment, improving standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes.

7.2. Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan

7.2.1. This plan is at the heart of how the Council will work to develop its relationships with stakeholders. This could include:

- Supporting existing groups to diversify their membership, to put on activities or to help in citizen science projects.
- Encouraging groups that feel excluded or unwelcome in parks to tackle the barriers that results in those feelings.

7.2.2. This plan was produced in advance of the development of the Haringey Local Deal. Thus, it is expected that this plan will be further developed to align with the Haringey Local Deal.

7.3. New Policies for Parks and Greenspaces

7.3.1. This document seeks to codify current working policies and practices in parks. At present there are 17 policy areas set out. Over time more will be added. Policies will be updated to reflect changes in thinking, legislation, and best practice.

7.4. Service Standards for Parks and Greenspaces

7.4.1. This document sets out the service standards the Council aims to provide in parks and greenspaces. Details are provided on how the service standards alter according to three different park categories.

7.5. Parks and Greenspaces Asset Management Plan

7.5.1. The Parks and Greenspaces Asset Management Plan documents seven key types of assets. These are: buildings; vehicles, plant, machinery & tools; underground and overhead utilities & infrastructure; sports facilities; play & outdoor gyms; furniture, fittings & infrastructure; and soft assets. Over a 20-year period, the capital replacement value of the assets is £40m.

7.5.2. In addition, there are some special assets such as bridges where the replacement cost is over a much longer period e.g., 120 years. One-off cost for this kind of asset is in addition to the twenty-year period costs. The Parks and Greenspaces Asset Management Plan will help to inform the wider Council Asset Management Plan.

7.6. Biodiversity Action Plan

7.6.1. The Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) has a wider role in that its applicable to the whole borough. The BAP plays an important role in supporting the planning process. The Environment Act 2021 contained new requirements for local authorities to develop 'Local Nature Recovery Strategies'. The Biodiversity Action Plan will form the platform for the borough's Local Nature Recovery Strategy. The plan will support the manifesto commitment to three new local nature reserves and an increase in the number of sites of importance for nature conservation (SINC).

7.7. Tree and Woodland Plan

7.7.1. The Tree and Woodland Plan sets out the Council's aspirations to develop the urban forest in Haringey. Increasing the urban forest will help more residents

benefit from the improvements in air quality, reduced localised flooding and reduction in temperature. The Council has set out targets to increase tree canopy cover to 30% in all wards and plant at least 10,000 trees by 2030 to kick start this process. The Tree and Woodland Plan also sets out how the Council will manage its trees in a variety of settings, including the management of trees implicated in insurance claims.

7.8. Watercourse and Flood Risk Plan

- 7.8.1. This plan acts as a supporting document to the Council's approved Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The plan details the role that parks and greenspaces can play in helping to manage the risk of flooding of people's homes and businesses. Also, the plan sets out how flood mitigation measures can help to broaden the biodiversity of a park or greenspace whilst providing flooding protection.

8. **Funding and Resources**

- 8.1. The strategy and supporting plans span a fifteen-year period and set out the aims and aspirations for the parks and greenspaces in the borough. When the last Open Spaces Strategy was developed, no one could foresee twelve years of austerity, a worldwide pandemic and cost of living crises.
- 8.2. However, within the limited resources of the Council, parks and greenspaces are a priority. Access to resources (both people and money) will always be a limiting factor on the pace at which change can happen. The Council does have a good track record of securing external funding, developing alternative funding streams and securing improvements through development. Much of this has been achieved in partnership with the Friends of Parks network in Haringey.
- 8.3. In the last two years, the Parks and Leisure Service has been restructured to ensure more staffing resources are available to deliver the strategy. Additional capital funding has been made available to deliver key elements such as:
- decarbonising the fleet and buildings;
 - renewing the bridges along Parkland Walk;
 - tree planting;
 - depot improvements; and
 - the creation of wildflower meadows.
- 8.4. In addition, there is ongoing support for the important basics in parks such as bins, benches, fences, paths, play areas, outdoor gyms and the like. The Parks and Greenspaces Asset Management Plan sets out the need in this area and identifies a need for additional funding which will need to be considered alongside the other priorities of the Council during the life of the strategy.

9. **Proposed Consultation & Engagement**

- 9.1. It is proposed to run a boroughwide consultation and engagement exercise. The period of consultation and engagement will commence in the week beginning

the 26th September 2022 and end at least eight weeks later on Sunday 27th November 2022.

- 9.2. At its simplest level, the draft documents will be published online and made available through the libraries and parks cafes for people to feedback any comments that they wish to make. Accessible versions will be available to ensure everyone can access the documents.
- 9.3. The opportunity to feedback will be promoted through the Council's website, social media channels and through banners and posters in parks and other locations. In addition, direct contact will be made with existing environmental networks and resident organisations.
- 9.4. Beyond the open feedback afforded to everyone, the existing engagement will be continued with the groups outlined in para 6.4. This will be delivered through face-to-face sessions throughout the consultation and engagement period.
- 9.5. The new strategy and supporting plans are relevant to a range of Council directorate services and partner organisations. They will be afforded a further opportunity to provide their feedback.
- 9.6. The consultation and engagement will seek to gain answers to the following key questions:
 - Do you agree with the overall vision for the future of parks and greenspaces?
 - Is there something important that has not been sufficiently considered in the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and its supporting documents?
 - How can parks be made safer and help users to feel safer?
 - What actions could be taken to help reduce tensions between different user groups?
 - Can you be a partner and work with Haringey Council in the future to help it overcome key issues and challenges and deliver against its actions and targets?

10. Contribution to strategic outcomes

Building a fairer, greener borough – Haringey Labour Manifesto 2022-26

- 10.1. Following the local elections in May 2022 the Council's ambition and priorities are based on putting residents at the heart of everything the Council does. For the remainder of 2022 and into 2023, the Council will work with residents to develop the Haringey Local Deal. The Haringey Local Deal will seek to empower communities to make change, putting local people at the forefront of decision-making. The Parks and Greenspaces strategy will support the delivery of the Haringey Local Deal and in turn the manifesto commitments.
- 10.2. Below we have included extracts from the Manifesto that this strategy and its supporting plans will help to either directly deliver or support: -

Inclusion and Wellbeing Aim

Directly deliver: -

- Community gardening and tree planting on estates and trees
- Co-produce designs for pocket parks, community gardens and street side verges
- Women at the heart of designing parks
- Increase access to sports and exercise classes for disabled people
- Keep fit Haringey campaign for over 50's

Support: -

- Participatory budgeting to help the council set its spending priorities
- Contribute to the development of the Young Voices Programme
- Assist in developing a community health and wellbeing network

Climate Change and Sustainability Aim

Directly deliver: -

- Decarbonise all parks vehicles by 2027
- Plant street trees until each ward reaches 30% canopy cover
- Plant 10,000 new trees by 2030
- Invest in sustainable drainage systems to reduce flooding
- Work to create three brand new nature reserves by 2026 and introduce Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Increase recycling in parks to 50% by 2030

Support: -

- Reduce and eliminate the use of single use plastics.
- Install green pollution barriers on schools on main roads
- Explore green energy production in parks
- Identify sites for local food growing can take place
- 50% of council contracts to local business to keep more wealth in the borough

Quality Parks Aim

Directly deliver: -

- Host or support more music festivals and events
- Install more LED Parks lighting to keep people safe

Support: -

- Apprenticeships
- SEND opportunities
- Turkish and Kurdish theatre festival

11. Statutory Officers' Comments

11.1. Finance

- 11.1.1. There are no financial implications on the Parks Strategy at this stage. However, adoption of the individual plans within this Strategy could arise to financial implications and would require further work to ascertain the financial impact Any funding requirements would be subject availability of funds (Externally or Internally) and form part the bidding via the MTFS Budget setting process.

11.2. Procurement

- 11.2.1. Strategic Procurement note the contents of this report and confirm there are not procurement related matters preventing Cabinet approving the recommendations in paragraph 3.

11.3. Legal

- 11.3.1. The Council is seeking to agree a Parks and Greenspaces Strategy to better manage its public open spaces. This report seeks authority to carry out a consultation on that strategy. In carrying out the consultation the Council must comply with certain principles. These are:

- That consultation must be at a time when proposals are still at a formative stage;
- That the proposer must give sufficient reasons for any proposal to permit of intelligent consideration and response;
- That adequate time must be given for consideration and response; and
- That the product of consultation must be conscientiously taken into account in finalising any proposals.

- 11.3.2. The consultation must also be carried out in line with the Council's charter on consultation.

- 11.3.3. Following the consultation, a further report will be brought back to Cabinet to agree the new Parks and Greenspaces Strategy.

11.4. Equality

- 11.4.1. The council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not

- 11.4.2. The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex, and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

- 11.4.3. Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

- 11.4.4. The EQIA for the previous Borough Plan identified that people from Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities are "less likely to visit the natural

environment than White British residents and less likely to participate in physical activity...” (Borough Plan EQIA, 2019, p.33. Appendix 5)

- 11.4.5. Stakeholder engagement undertaken in the development of the Strategy has led to Inclusion and Wellbeing being identified as one of the three core Aims to be achieved through the Strategy
- 11.4.6. Officers have also investigated what takes place within other parks management and strategic organisations and what academic studies and examples of good practice exist.
- 11.4.7. Good practice examples have been found to be limited as have UK based academic studies though some examples have been found and have helped to inform the Strategy
- 11.4.8. Engagement to help inform how the Inclusion and wellbeing Aim could be actioned has been undertaken with a range of diverse groups and communities including older people, disabled people, younger people, faith communities, LGBTQI people, people with mental health conditions, Friends of Parks, and other Council services.
- 11.4.9. This engagement has taken the form of meetings and focus groups and has resulted in a series of draft actions being included in the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and in the supporting documents.
- 11.4.10. Examples of this include:
 - Over time, adapting the parks workforce to become representative of who lives in Haringey
 - Recruiting a Community Engagement Officer whose main priority is to work with seldom heard from groups to ensure that new and different voices can contribute to future service delivery
 - Developing additional open space in areas of deficiency, particularly in the east of Haringey
 - Identifying changes in the design of parks and green spaces and facilities offered by parks and green spaces to make them more attractive, safer, more welcoming, and more accessible to seldom heard from groups
 - Supporting the development of new user groups and developing a programme of activities and events that showcase and support increased usage and involvement by seldom heard from groups, including activities to involve communities in nature, to improve health and wellbeing and activities to support thoughtful behaviour
 - Communicating with key partners and stakeholders to help them understand and support the Priority of more inclusive and healthier parks in Haringey
 - Reviewing internal and external funding options to further support inclusive parks

- 11.4.11. The service will collaborate with officers within the Council with specialist knowledge and expertise to assist in progressing the Inclusion and Wellbeing Aim
- 11.4.12. This joint working will include their input and support in seeking to formalise working relationships with organisations such as Disability Action Haringey to enable the Service to incorporate the views of disabled people in the implementation of projects and the development of policy.
- 11.4.13. The service is proposing to explore options for external funding to assist with the short -medium term (years 1-3) delivery of the Inclusion Aim.
- 11.4.14. A full Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out and is included at Appendix 9. The EQIA found that overall, the impacts on groups with protected characteristics are expected to be positive because of the proposals included in the draft strategy and supporting plans. The further engagement that will take place during the consultation will help to identify any additional impacts. The EQIA will be updated with any changes following the consultation period. The proposals in the final document will be amended if required prior to the final strategy and supporting documents coming forward for approval.

12. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1 - Parks and Greenspaces Strategy.
Appendix 2 - Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan
Appendix 3 - New Policies for Parks and Greenspaces
Appendix 4 - Service Standards for Parks and Greenspaces
Appendix 5 – Parks and Greenspaces Asset Management Plan
Appendix 5.1 – List of parks and greenspaces
Appendix 5.2 – List of parks buildings
Appendix 5.3 – List of assets by type and condition
Appendix 5.4 – A1804 Haringey CNCA report final 210412
Appendix 5.5 – Accessibility v2
Appendix 5.6 – Project management process guide
Appendix 5.7 – Haringey Outdoor Sport and Play Facility Framework Summary v2
Appendix 5.8 – Action Plan
Appendix 6 - Biodiversity Action Plan
Appendix 7 - Tree and Woodland Plan
Appendix 8 - Watercourse and Flood Risk Plan
Appendix 9 – Equalities Impact Assessment

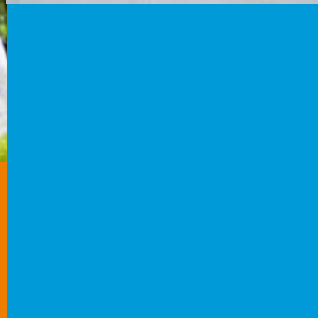
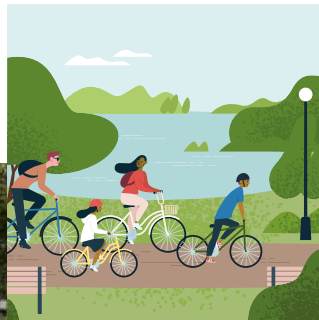
13. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- Haringey Open Spaces Strategy 2006 - [Introduction \(haringey.gov.uk\)](http://haringey.gov.uk)
- Haringey Biodiversity Action Plan 2009 - [untitled \(haringey.gov.uk\)](http://haringey.gov.uk)
- Haringey Tree Strategy 2008-2011 - [Tree Strategy | Haringey Council](http://haringey.gov.uk)
- Haringey Local Plan 2013 onwards - [Local Plan | Haringey Council](http://haringey.gov.uk)

- Haringey Climate Change Action Plan 2021 -
final_haringey_climate_change_action_plan_-_march_2021.pdf



HARINGEY'S PARKS AND GREENSPACES STRATEGY



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1. Foreword



Public parks were developed to improve the health of communities at a time when the industrial revolution led to a growth in urbanisation and a decline in air quality. This vision of our predecessors enabled communities living in cramped and badly

ventilated housing to take outdoor exercise in green open spaces.

The council is the custodian of some wonderful parks across the borough. We have a civic duty to put plans in place to ensure that our residents get the most out of them and that they play their rightful role in the life of the borough. People need parks.

We found out during the pandemic exactly how much our residents needed our parks. People locked down in their homes took daily exercise in local parks, walked dogs, bought bicycles, relaxed and became more active. Local parks, big and small, became far busier and, for many of our residents, they provided a much-needed respite from a world where things were extremely difficult. Covid disrupted lives, and took lives. Very few of us were left unscathed. The safety valve offered by our green spaces helped a lot of people cope with anxiety and grief. Good mental health was as recognised to be as important as good physical health.

Life is unlikely to return to how it was before the pandemic and many people in our community are living healthier and simpler lives now, staying closer to home, volunteering more, valuing their communities, neighbours, family and friends. There is a renewed interest in our green spaces and what they can offer. However, greater use of parks



has led to more informal social gatherings, damage from higher footfall and increased litter and waste, which the council needs to manage.

The council has re-evaluated its approach to parks and used the new evidence we have gathered from residents to develop a draft strategy for the next 15 years. Our parks give us a chance to show our commitment to tackle climate change, promote biodiversity and develop a greener approach to civic life and council services. Our parks can help us manage climate change impact such as warmer temperatures, reduced air quality, increased flooding and carbon capture.

We are also making a commitment to tackle inequality through this strategy. Haringey's parks and greenspaces should be key shared spaces for all our communities. This strategy is intended to explore and dismantle the barriers that prevent some of our residents from using our parks and feeling included and welcome. Some sections of the community do not feel comfortable or even safe in

parks and green spaces. We have taken soundings from a wide range of residents on what needs to change before they see their local park as a space they feel they can use.

We are proud to offer a strategy for discussion which encourages wider sharing of this fantastic public asset, handed down to us from people who understood the importance of parks to mental and physical health and to their contribution towards a sense of who we are as a community.

Through this strategy and the plans and documents that explain and support it, we will set out our vision and priorities for Haringey's parks and greenspaces for the next 15 years between 2023-2038. Please make your views known to us.

Councillor Julie Davies
Cabinet Member for Communities and Civic Life



2. Introduction

From around the 1840s onwards, designated greenspaces were considered to be the answer to the rapid expansion of towns and cities. Prior to the mid-19th century, public parks did not exist as we know them today. However, there were public walks, pleasure grounds, and public access to Royal Parks.

Concerns grew about urban overcrowding and the condition of the poor as the industrial revolution took hold – from this, the public parks movement was born. Two public parks in Haringey at Alexandra Palace (1863) and Finsbury Park (1869) were amongst the earliest to be created. The statutory power to create parks was originally contained in the Public Health Act of 1875 and since then there has been further legislation that has built upon and extended the original Act.

In June 2018, a coalition of 12 national organisations (38 Degrees, The Parks Agency, Fields In Trust, Llais y Goedwig, Unison, The Gardens Trust, The Parks Alliance, Greenspace Scotland, Friends of the Earth, Keep Britain Tidy, The Conservation Volunteers, and the National Federation of Parks and Greenspaces) launched The Charter for Parks (June 2018), collectively calling for the halt and reverse of the decline of parks and local public greenspaces – particularly acute through the 1980s and 1990s, as well as post-austerity - across the UK. They set out their views in a charter, the six points of which were:

- Celebrate the central role well-run parks play in our neighbourhoods for all sections of our communities

- Recognise the right of every citizen to have access within walking distance to a good quality public green space
- Endorse a legal duty for all public green space to be managed to a good standard
- Embed effective protection from inappropriate development or use, or loss of any part of our parks
- Ensure adequate long-term resources for on-going maintenance, management and improvements
- Encourage and enable community involvement and empowerment of local people and park users

This Strategy sets out Haringey Council's intentions for the future of its parks and greenspaces, which resonate strongly with much of the above. It's important, however, to have a clear understanding over what is meant by 'greenspace.' For the purpose of this Strategy, the following definition is drawn from the Public Health England document, 'Improving access to greenspace: a new review for 2020':

Greenspace is 'Any area of vegetated land, urban or rural. This includes both public and private spaces such as parks, gardens, playing fields, children's play areas, woods and other natural areas, grassed areas, cemeteries and allotments, green corridors, disused railway lines, rivers and canals, derelict, vacant and contaminated land which has the potential to be transformed.'



3. Scope of Strategy

There are 151 parks and greenspaces in Haringey, 148 of which are managed by Haringey Council. There are also 59 sites of importance for nature conservation, 27 Council-owned allotment sites, 5 local nature reserves and two cemeteries.

There are approximately 11,500 street trees, 9,000 in parks and greenspaces and 8,000 in housing sites. It is estimated there are at least another 5-6,000 in woodlands, schools and nature conservation sites that are not currently recorded.

The oldest tree on public land in Haringey is probably the veteran oak tree in Bruce Castle Park, which is estimated to be around 500 years old.

There are 37 play areas and 10 outdoor gyms, 56 buildings in parks including 15 cafes as well as toilets and bases for Parks Service staff, who operate 19 Parks Service vehicles. There are also 83 hard sports facilities, 4 skateboard facilities, 22 grass sports pitches, 804 rubbish bins, 1,033 benches, 1,261 bollards, posts and barriers, 754 gates, 39 memorials, 949 signs, 3 rivers, 2 lakes, 5 wildlife ponds and 2 streams.

Parks are key community spaces that anyone in Haringey can enjoy and are very popular with residents. In the 2021-22 Residents Survey (4), 83% reported that they were either satisfied or very satisfied with parks and greenspaces.

The Council has been discussing with partners and stakeholders about the future of its parks and greenspaces.

Over the space of three years there has been a series of meetings with Council Members, with other Council services, with friends of parks, with the Haringey Climate Forum, primary and secondary school heads, faith communities, disabled people, older people, people from BAME communities, people from the LGBTQI community and focus groups with people with disabilities, older people, secondary school pupils and LGBTQI people. Their input and feedback are drawn upon in setting out this draft Strategy.

These discussions have been about a range of topics including future priorities, making parks safer and more welcoming and about funding.

Now, through this draft Strategy, the conversations about the future of parks are being opened out to everyone in Haringey. The Council is seeking input and feedback on a number of questions including:

- Do you agree with the overall Vision for the future of parks and greenspaces?
- Is there something important that has not been sufficiently considered in the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and its supporting documents?
- How can parks be made safer and help users to feel safer?
- What actions could be taken to help reduce tensions between different user groups?
- Can you be a partner and work with Haringey Council in the future to help it overcome key issues and challenges and deliver against its actions and targets?

The Council is seeking to take a comprehensive approach towards the new Strategy. It has drafted a range of new plans, policies and standards that support and provide critical detail and context for the main Strategy. These documents are summarised later.

The recommendations of the 2017/18 Scrutiny Review of Parks have been drawn upon, as well as two externally commissioned studies that covered:

- How to improve health outcomes from the design and programming of parks
- Accessibility audits of Finsbury Park, Lordship Recreation Ground and Queens Wood

As the final Strategy is being consulted on, we will develop a further supporting plan about the resourcing of the Strategy and will be developing an additional plan for the development of the workforce to support the implementation of the Strategy.

4. Vision and Strategic Aims for Haringey's Parks and Greenspaces Strategy

Vision

That Haringey's parks and greenspaces become fully inclusive shared spaces that deliver our key aims of inclusion and wellbeing, climate change and sustainability and a quality service.

Key Aims

Inclusion and wellbeing

Providing inclusive parks and greenspaces that all communities in Haringey can benefit from so that usage and enjoyment of our parks and greenspaces reflects the communities living in Haringey and contributes to improved wellbeing.

Climate Change and Sustainability

Supporting the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency by reducing the carbon footprint of parks and greenspaces, protecting and promoting biodiversity, and helping educate everyone in Haringey about contributing towards saving the planet.

A Quality Service

Securing investment, improving standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes.

The Council proposes to use the following measures to help track progress towards achieving these three key aims.

For the Inclusion and wellbeing Aim

- The profile of park users compared to that of the population of the borough
- The overall number of visitors to a representative sample of parks
- The number of community groups active in parks and greenspaces

For the Climate Change and Sustainability Aim

- Increase tree planting across the borough and develop strategies to increase canopy cover across public and private land in the borough.
- To establish new local nature reserves and sites of importance for nature conservation and create new wildlife habitat every year in parks and greenspaces
- Decarbonise the core operational buildings and all transport related activities for service delivery

For the Quality Service Aim

- The number of parks and greenspaces with a Green Flag accreditation
- The proportion of park users who are very satisfied or satisfied with Haringey parks
- Percentage of park assets that are graded good or excellent
- The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) parks staff per hectare of managed greenspace



5. Main Issues and Challenges to be addressed in the delivery of the Key Aims of the Strategy

The Council has talked with a range of partners and stakeholders about what its Aims for the Strategy should be and what needs to be done, as well as what needs to change, to achieve the Aims.

Relevant research and the experience of other organisations involved with parks and greenspaces has also been reviewed.

These activities have helped to identify a number of key issues and challenges that, if not addressed, may prevent the Strategy from achieving its Aims.

Key issues and challenges for parks becoming more inclusive places that promote wellbeing

Haringey's parks are wonderful assets for its communities and extensively used by the majority of residents.

The profile of users is not known, however, or the extent to which the current parks offer meets the needs of different users such as those with disabilities, older people, younger people, women and girls, LGBTQI people and people from BAME communities.

Conversations held in developing the Strategy indicate that parks need to be doing more to better address the needs of these groups.

This is particularly important because people from these groups tend to more frequently experience the adverse health conditions that are described later under the section on Benefits of using parks and greenspaces.

Safety including, feeling safe, can have a significant influence for many different users on whether or not people use parks. Young people have raised safety issues including about the presence of other hostile young people, about knives being carried and being concerned that bikes or phones might be stolen from them.

Parks can also be contested spaces where the presence and behaviour of different groups of users can be off-putting for other groups.

The initial key challenge is to engage more with groups to better understand their needs and thereafter to identify the resources and support needed to improve provision.

These and other identified key issues and challenges for progressing the Inclusion and Wellbeing Aim are summarised below:

- Long-established focus by the Council on the physical condition of parks and greenspaces rather than on users and outcomes
- The parks profession as a whole has limited expertise about inclusion and wellbeing issues
- A need to engage with a broader and more diverse group of stakeholders and support them to influence the Haringey parks 'offer' including by advocacy and engagement, through new or reconfigured provision of facilities, management, activities and marketing
- A lack of resources to address and overcome barriers, a lack of partnerships with relevant organisations and physical barriers can also be obstacles that get in the way of communities enjoying parks and greenspaces in the borough
- There is limited shared knowledge and experience as to what is meant by an inclusive park so training and support may be required for staff and stakeholders to develop their understanding of what it means to provide inclusive parks
- Officer capacity is needed to take this agenda forward and make inclusion and wellbeing become an important part of everyone's role
- Parks are not felt to be welcoming for some communities
- The current workforce needs to become more representative of the Haringey community, otherwise it may undermine the achievement of the Inclusion and Wellbeing Aim
- Obtaining relevant baseline data about the profile of park users and then being able

to monitor progress over time to see how this changes

- Establishing and maintaining mutually beneficial and meaningful relationships with groups

Key issues and challenges to mitigate climate change and promote sustainability through parks, greenspaces and biodiversity

Parks are thought of as 'green' spaces and they are major contributors in supporting nature and biodiversity.

One important area to address is to obtain more and better information about Haringey's natural areas and the habitats and species that exist in them so that there is a better level of insight and understanding.

There is also the need to try and better protect those natural spaces from both inappropriate usage and overuse.

But the management, maintenance and usage of parks also adds to the borough's carbon footprint at a time when it is very clear that this footprint must be reduced or eliminated to save the planet for future generations.

To meet this Aim, the Council needs to progress a series of actions (for areas such as park buildings, vehicles and plant and machinery) that will lower carbon emissions. In addition, the council will seek to diversify its maintenance regimes and plant types to capture more carbon.

Feedback from engagement meetings has strongly communicated an expectation that the Council acts in a more strategic and joined-up way to achieve gains for nature and biodiversity.

This and other key issues and challenges to progress the climate change and sustainability aim are set out below.

- Improved inter-service coordination / joint working to achieve a more strategic and joined up approach
- Biodiversity has not been a historic priority for government and has been poorly resourced so there is a need to seek to generate enhanced resourcing of carbon reduction / biodiversity within parks and greenspaces
- A lack of reliable baseline data for SINC's, species and habitats and having the resource capability

to continue to undertake and/or facilitate the updating and review of data at regular intervals

- Obtaining the active support of the wider Parks and Leisure Service workforce
- Resourcing carbon reduction from the use of park buildings, vehicles, plant and machinery and for the overall target of a net carbon neutral service
- The need to better protect natural spaces from inappropriate use through clearer policy with enhanced enforcement to support policy
- Obtaining the support and buy-in of other key stakeholders, including other Council services, Friends of parks and the wider community to help in delivering the key actions
- Improving access to nature for BAME communities to address unequal access.
- Residents sometimes do not know what the Council is doing and why it is doing it so there is a need to better inform and educate residents about what the Council does and why, in order to better manage resources
- Developing alternative strategies to remove the need to use herbicide in parks and greenspaces to protect the environment



Key issues and challenges to secure investment, improve standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes by improving service quality

Since 2011, when public sector austerity started to occur, parks have been severely affected by cutbacks in expenditure.

As a non-statutory service, the Parks Service was one of the service areas most immediately impacted. It had to achieve savings to a scale and at a speed that was damaging for parks and for the relationship between the Parks Service and its stakeholders.

Subsequently, there has been some excellent work done to mitigate and reverse the previous cuts. However, the service continues to be challenged today by the available levels of both capital and revenue funding and from the impact this resource availability has had on the way the Council works with the community. Those challenges are:

- Increased usage of parks requiring additional ongoing capital investment to maintain park fabric and assets in good condition
- Seeking to ensure that the range and quality of facilities within parks supports usage by all sections of the community
- Addressing issues of skill shortages and core competencies within the operational workforce so that they are a significant contributing factor in achieving the future Aims

- Greater use of headline KPI's to help the service to focus on key priorities in its use of resources.
- The Council's resources will always be limited so seeking to make more use of /developing corporate volunteering and similar schemes offering social and practical benefit can add value to Council funding
- There is limited usage made of external intelligence and best practice, mainly because of the limited current resource availability which tends to have to prioritise immediate operational issues.
- Feedback indicates that a much greater commitment to communication and informing residents would help to promote better public involvement and understanding as well as to support behaviour change/behaviour modification
- There is relatively little current project management capacity to help drive key operational change (such as for waste and litter)
- There has been limited frontline gardener resources for over a decade and this limited resource directly impacts on the ability of the service to maintain parks to a decent/good standard.
- There has been consistent feedback from users and stakeholders about the need to have enforcement capacity to assist in encouraging appropriate and sociable behaviour in parks.



6. Policy Context

In 2018, the Government published its 25-year environment plan whose goals were 'cleaner air and water; plants and animals which are thriving; and a cleaner, greener country for us all'. The aspiration was 'using our land more sustainably and creating new habitats for wildlife, including by planting more trees, we can arrest the decline in native species and improve our biodiversity.'

The Environment Act 2021 has sought to advance these goals by setting targets for the recovery of the natural world in four priority areas: air quality, biodiversity, water and waste, as well as including an important new binding target to reverse the decline in species abundance by the end of 2030.

The Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and its supporting documents must appropriately align with this new legislative framework; However, the Strategy must also take account of the wider issues for which the Council is responsible within Haringey. In that respect, the most important piece of current legislation is probably the Local Government Act 1999 that provides local authorities with the powers to promote the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of their communities.

Building a fairer, greener borough – Haringey Labour Manifesto 2022-26

Following the local elections in May 2022 the Council's ambition and priorities are based on putting residents at the heart of everything the Council does. For the remainder of 2022 and into 2023, the Council will work with residents to develop the Haringey Local Deal. The Haringey Local Deal will seek to empower communities to make change, putting local people at the forefront of decision-making. The Parks and Greenspaces strategy will support the delivery of the Haringey Local Deal and in turn the manifesto commitments.

Below we have included extracts from the Manifesto that this strategy will help to either directly deliver or support

Inclusion and Wellbeing

Directly deliver:

- Community gardening and tree planting on estates and trees
- Co-produce designs for pocket parks, community gardens and street side verges
- Women at the heart of designing parks
- Increase access to sports and exercise classes for disabled people
- Keep fit Haringey campaign for over 50's

Support:

- Participatory budgeting to help the council set its spending priorities
- Contribute to the development of the Young Voices Programme
- Assist in developing a community health and wellbeing network

Climate Change and Sustainability

Directly deliver:

- Decarbonise all parks vehicles by 2027
- Plant street trees until each ward reaches 30% canopy cover
- Plant 10,000 new trees by 2030
- Invest in sustainable drainage systems to reduce flooding
- Work to create three brand new nature reserves by 2026 and introduce Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Increase recycling in parks to 50% by 2030

Support:

- Reduce and eliminate the use of single use plastics.
- Install green pollution barriers on schools on main roads
- Explore green energy production in parks
- Identify sites for local food growing can take place

- 50% of council contracts to local business to keep more wealth in the borough

Quality Parks

Directly deliver:

- Host or support more music festivals and events
- Install more LED Parks lighting to keep people safe

Support:

- Apprenticeships
- SEND opportunities
- Turkish and Kurdish theatre festival

Equalities

The council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not

The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic."

There are two further high-level strategic documents that have a major influence on our parks. These are:

The Local Plan

<https://www.haringey.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy/local-plan>

The Local Plan, which is currently being updated, sets out how all land in Haringey will be used including the approach to be taken towards the provision of parks and greenspaces, sites of importance for nature conservation (SINC's), sports, play, allotments and trees as well as for housing, employment, transportation etc

The Haringey Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2020 – 2024

The Haringey Health and Wellbeing Strategy seeks to "improve the health and wellbeing of people in Haringey, so that people can thrive and contribute to their communities."

It is organised around five key themes: These are:

- Creating a healthy place
- Start Well
- Live Well
- Age Well
- Violence prevention



A key challenge for the Strategy is to address the gap in healthy life expectancy between the richest and poorest areas which is 15 years for men and 17 years for women.

The Strategy recognises that air quality, communal facilities, good quality housing and greenspaces all contribute to healthy, connected communities and prevention of mental and physical long-term conditions and aligns strongly with the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy in seeking to improve access to greenspace and improve air quality.

As is highlighted in the next section on "Benefits," there are multiple benefits for health and wellbeing associated with use of greenspace.

Other relevant policies

Each of the supporting documents for this Strategy has its own specific policy section that can be found in that document. These policies cover areas such as the provision of trees, biodiversity, watercourses and flooding, and volunteering as they all impact on parks.



7. Benefits of Parks and Greenspaces

This section of the Strategy is mainly drawn from the previously referenced Public Health England document 'Improving access to greenspace, A New Review for 2020'.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/904439/Improving_access_to_greenspace_2020_review.pdf

This report contains a range of evidence of the benefits associated with use of greenspace including:

Improved physical health including better heart health, lower blood pressure and cholesterol levels, a lower incidence of diabetes, a higher chance of maintaining a healthy weight, lower obesity levels and a healthier immune system.

Being more physically active helps lower the risk of type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cognitive impairment and some cancers. There is strong evidence that regular physical activity supports both individual and community outcomes such as increasing educational attainment, improving self-esteem and reducing social isolation. Physical inactivity is a top 10 cause of the disease burden in England (117). It is responsible for one in 6 UK deaths and is estimated to cost the UK £7.4 billion annually (including £0.9 billion to the NHS alone) (118). www.gov.uk/government/publications/physical-activity-applying-all-our-health/physical-activity-applying-all-our-health. 2019

Mental health benefits that include emotional wellbeing, reduced stress and improved resilience for children and young people as well as reduced rates of hyperactivity and inattention.

In adults, higher life satisfaction and reduced mental distress, reduced levels of depression, anxiety and fatigue with the greatest benefits being for socioeconomically deprived groups.

Evidence indicates that people who report feeling more 'connected to nature' tend to have a more positive outlook on life (positive affect), increased vitality, life satisfaction, feelings that life is worthwhile and of personal growth compared to those who feel less connected. There is also an association with more pro-environmental and pro-conservation behaviours (5).

Community and social cohesion benefits that include improving social cohesion and bringing communities closer together, communities coming together to engage in social activities and formal and informal interactions with people from different cultural backgrounds, and this in turn potentially leading to increased social cohesion and inclusion.

Environmental benefits such as improved air quality, the reduction / removal of background environmental noise that has been linked to sleep disturbance, type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease, reducing temperatures and flood risk.



8. Partners

There are lots of different groups and organisations that work either directly or indirectly with the Council in helping to improve the management and usage of parks and greenspaces.

Their contributions make a big difference to our enjoyment of parks as they add value through being able to offer additional activities such as engagement with nature, enjoying sport, learning more about the environment and undertaking practical volunteering.

Partners are particularly important in generating the community and social cohesion benefits described above. Partners in Haringey include:

Friends of parks groups

There are at least 50 Friends of parks groups in Haringey who have joined together to help promote, animate, improve and protect their local park. Friends' groups improve parks through undertaking practical tasks, fundraise for and provide events and activities, bring local people together and tend to know what is happening in their local parks. They report maintenance issues, fundraise for improvements, help develop long-term vision for a site, and generally engage with management.

There is also a Haringey Friends of Parks Forum, set up in 2001, that meets at least every two months where representatives of the different Friends' groups meet up to discuss matters of mutual interest, and to engage with Council officers and representatives present.

The Conservation Volunteers

More commonly referred to as TCV, they are long standing partners of the Council who have a lease to look after Railway Fields Local Nature Reserve and lead volunteer activity on a number of other sites to carry out practical volunteering. TCV run practical training courses to train and upskill volunteers in our parks and nature reserves. TCV also help by preparing Conservation Management Plans for sites including each Green Flag Park.

In the last couple of years this relationship has extended to include being part of the efforts to develop The Paddock to become designated as a new Local Nature Reserve. It is proposed that in partnership with the Friends, TCV's role at The Paddock will continue once the physical improvement works currently being progressed are completed.

Parks-Based Organisations

There are lots of organisations based in parks who provide both services and additional opportunities for community involvement. These include: park cafés, Wolves Lane Consortium who manage the former Wolves Lane Nursery, Trees for Streets who are partners with the council to support street trees, Living Under One Sun, who involve local people in nature, the environment and local regeneration, Furtherfield, an arts charity based in Finsbury Park, The Finsbury Park Sports Partnership who provide a range of sports opportunities for the community, Pedal Power, a cycling club for teenagers and adults with learning disabilities and a whole myriad of other organisations.

Additionally, there are many other organisations who add value to the borough's parks and greenspaces.

9. Key Documents Supporting the Overall Strategy

In this section we describe and provide links to the other key plans and policies that inform the overall Strategy.

The approach being taken is:

- To introduce and describe the scope of the Plan
- To state the Objectives
- To describe some of the key issues and challenges that the Plan or Policy is seeking to address
- To set out a small number of the key actions contained in the Plan

Each of the following plans are available in full for review and comment.

Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan

The Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan has been developed to inform how the council will seek to further extend the ability of communities to work with the council in shaping the design, management, activity offer and marketing of Haringey's parks and greenspaces and to build on and strengthen the current levels of community and corporate volunteering.

Haringey's parks and greenspaces already benefit from the existence of the many (50+) Friends of parks groups that help to make parks significantly better than they would otherwise be, by contributing in a number of ways including through practical volunteering, by providing activities and events, by providing feedback to the council on problems and by offering a means for local people to become involved.

However, the people currently attracted to become involved with Friends groups tend to be older, from the white community and have above average educational achievement.

The voices of other communities, such as from BAME communities, people with disabilities and younger people, are rarely asked and hence have limited opportunity to influence what is provided and what happens in Haringey's parks.

Through the Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan, the Council describes how it will seek to broaden engagement and to strengthen volunteering.

As part of this Plan, the Council also wants to develop new opportunities to look after smaller and more local spaces and features, such as neighbourhood greenspace, street planters and street tree planting.

Objectives

Inclusion and wellbeing

- To create a framework that will help the Council work cooperatively with all park users and stakeholders, including targeted engagement with seldom heard from communities
- To better understand, appreciate and celebrate the role of Friends Groups and other key stakeholders
- To work with partners to identify and reduce areas of conflict in parks and greenspaces
- To develop a Plan with identified actions and targets to support community engagement and volunteering in parks, greenspaces and street planting
- To expand on the range of groups that contribute to the design, management, marketing and usage of parks and greenspaces by developing regular and ongoing engagement with BAME communities, faith, younger, older, disabled and LGBTQI communities
- Developing more active, independent community groups in parks and greenspaces
- Engaging a more diverse group of people in volunteering in parks and greenspaces and in street-based volunteering

Climate Change

- Improving access to nature for BAME and other seldom heard from communities
- Offering skills and knowledge training for volunteers to enable them to better contribute towards meeting targets for biodiversity

Service Quality

- To develop more opportunities for corporate volunteering and similar schemes that provide social benefit
- To celebrate the achievements of the parks and greenspaces sector
- To improve communications between the council and key stakeholders to enable better partnership working for the benefit of Haringey's parks and greenspace users

Selected key issues and challenges that the Volunteering and Community Engagement Plan is seeking to address

1. Inclusion and diversity

Natural England research indicates people from BAME communities are less likely to have visited the natural environment with 44.2% of people from white communities reported as visiting the natural environment in the last 7 days, compared with 26.2% from black communities.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/monitor-of-engagement-with-the-natural-environment-2015-to-2016>.

The former council wards of Tottenham Hale, Tottenham Green, Bruce Grove and Northumberland Park have the highest % of black residents and are also amongst the wards with the poorest access to green space. Pollution levels are higher in areas where BAME communities live.

https://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/documents/s107023/_Borough%20Plan%20EQIA_FINAL.pdf

A recent report from Groundwork UK stated that for access to urban nature that 'people from low-income households or areas, people from ethnic minority backgrounds and disabled people are among the groups currently missing out.

<https://www.groundwork.org.uk/about-groundwork/reports/outofbounds/>

Currently there is little engagement with seldom heard from communities such as BAME communities, disabled people and young people to better understand how they use parks and what improvements or activities might help them to increase their use and engagement in the development of parks and greenspaces.

The Council would also wish to see the development of more autonomous community groups in parks and greenspaces who broaden the range of organised activities on offer and the people engaging in these opportunities.

2. Usage and behaviour in parks

Parks can be contested spaces, with the use and behaviour of different groups being off putting to, or unappreciated by other users. Conflicts can arise between different groups for a variety of reasons; young people being loud can make older people feel unsafe, dogs are seen as unclean by some religious groups and are frightening to other groups: cyclists and joggers 'taking over' footpaths and moving too fast for users with less or limited mobility and lighting being requested by some users to make people feel safer but opposed by others because of the potential impact on wildlife for example. Tackling these conflicts will be challenging and require engagement with and support from a range of stakeholders including Friends, seldom heard from groups and from the council's Communications and Enforcement Services.

3. Supporting the development of volunteering

Volunteering plays an important role in the improvement and development of parks and greenspaces. A 2019 survey of Haringey's Friends of parks groups revealed that an estimated 45,000 volunteer hours were spent improving parks and greenspaces worth approximately £600,000 of in-kind value annually.

The council believes this can, with the support of partners and particularly Friends groups and TCV, be further developed in several areas including:

- Improving training support to groups to widen their ability to undertake more activity
- Expanding TCV's role across more sites in the borough e.g. The Paddock
- Expand doorstep volunteering including to support new parklets and street greening
- Celebrating the community's contributions to the usage and quality of Haringey's parks

Selected key actions from the Community Engagement and Volunteering

- Employing a Community Engagement and Partnerships Officer to identify groups or organisations and partners that already have relationships with seldom heard from communities, so that the council better understands and can work towards overcoming barriers to usage and involvement
- Develop a programme of activities and events that showcases and supports increased usage and involvement by seldom heard from groups including activities to involve communities in nature
- To recruit a Greenspace Volunteer Coordinator to develop volunteering opportunities for new groups, to develop an improved corporate volunteering offer and to support volunteering amongst existing groups.
- Supporting the development of more active, independent community groups in parks and greenspaces
- Hold an annual celebration of community involvement and activity in parks
- Review internal and external funding options to further support inclusive parks

- Supporting the emergence of greenspace champions from seldom heard from communities

Final link to be inserted

Physical Activity and Sport Strategy 2019-2023

This Strategy was adopted in 2019 to inform the future approach towards the provision of physical activity and sport.

The Strategy has its own Vision to:

- 'create and embed a culture of activity so that Haringey becomes one of the most physically active and healthy London boroughs.'

The approach taken in the document is based on three overarching themes of Active People, Active Place and Active Economy.

Through the Active People theme the council is seeking 'to get more people, of all ages, backgrounds and abilities, regularly active; and use physical activity and sport to connect communities and improve health and wellbeing.'

Through the Active Place theme, the strategic outcome is 'to position physical activity at the heart of place shaping and ensure a network of



high quality, safe and accessible environments exist to make it easier for people to be active.'

Through the Active Economy theme, the aim is 'to maximise the sector's contribution to economic growth through training, skills development, employment and the creation of more healthy, productive work environments.'

The Strategy has a strong emphasis on Inclusion with a focus on tackling inactivity. This is much more prevalent in the east of the borough and is strongly linked with deprivation.

It contributes toward the Climate Change and Sustainability aim by taking a 'whole systems approach' where physical activity is a natural and sustainable way of life for the majority of residents through increased levels of active travel, visits to parks and greenspaces and interaction with a high quality animated public realm.

Objectives

There are 12 objectives overall for the Strategy, with four under each theme.

Active People

- **Active Mindsets:** people are motivated and empowered to change their behaviours and physical activity is considered a normal part of everyday life
- **Children, Young People and Families:** every child, young person and family, whatever their background, will be engaged, confident and able to be active every day
- **Opportunities to be Active:** a wide range of partners provide and promote high quality opportunities to engage residents and sustain activity across the life-course
- **Care Pathways:** physical activity is visible and pro-actively used in health and social care pathways to improve physical and mental health and well-being

Active Place

- **Accessible and Active Environments:** protect, enhance and provide a network of well-planned and accessible environments for formal and informal physical activity, active play and sport



- Walking and Cycling: improve air quality and increase the number of people walking, cycling and scooting via continued promotion and public realm improvements
- Safer Communities: ensure more people feel safe being active in public spaces and use physical activity and sport as a positive diversionary tool amongst people vulnerable to risky behaviours
- Animated Places: activate the community by making activity more engaging and visible in community setting

Active Economy

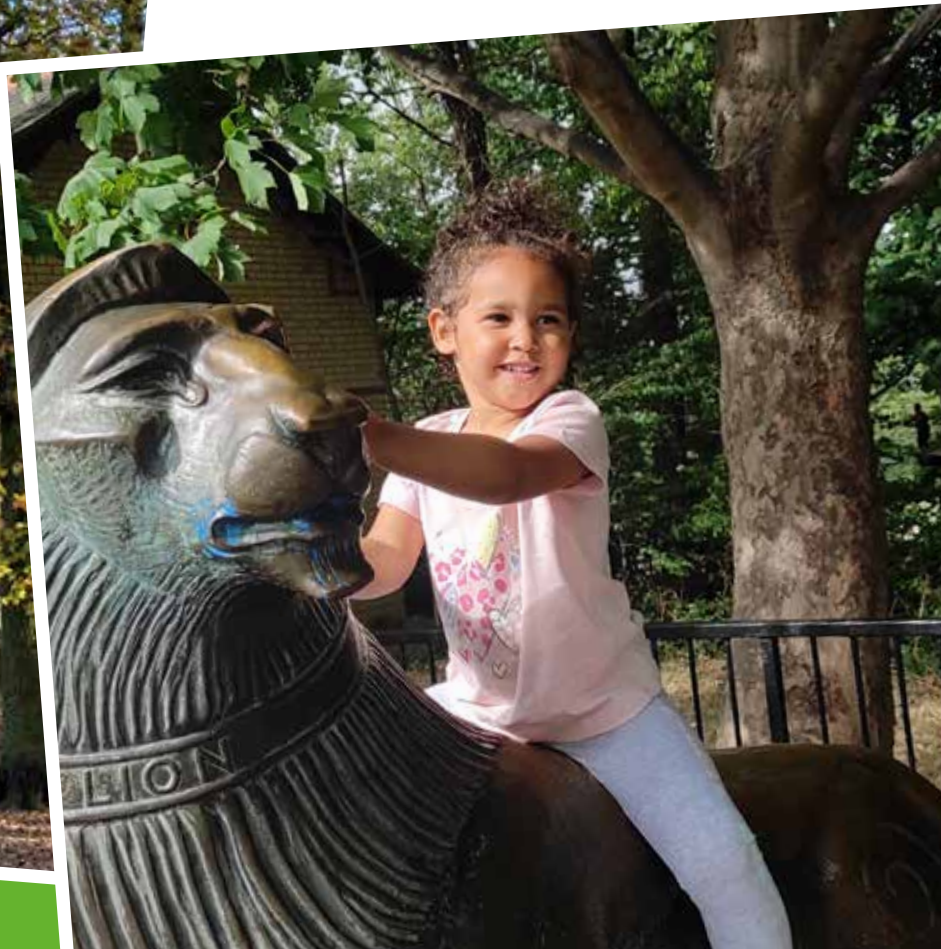
- Strong, Resilient Workforce: strengthen, grow and diversify the sector's paid and volunteer workforce to ensure they are equipped to promote and deliver physical activity and sport at all levels
- Training, Skills and Jobs: use physical activity and sport as a tool to enhance self-efficacy, training, skills development and routes into employment
- Active Workplaces: create active workplaces and promote the benefits of a more active, healthy and productive workforce
- Open for Business: support Haringey's talent and champion the borough as a destination for sector businesses, providers, events and investment

Selected key issues and challenges that the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy is seeking to address

1. Inclusion

There is a strong correlation between physical inactivity and deprivation and between being active as a child and continuing to be active into adult life.

The Strategy is seeking to involve organisations who may be in a position to provide a positive influence and encourage active lifestyles and is taking a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary approach that involves GP surgeries, Public Health, Social workers, family support workers, educators etc supporting the people they work with to be physically active.



2. Improving access to good quality, active environments

Activity takes place across a range of environments including in parks and greenspaces, play facilities, leisure centres and as part of our day-to-day life by walking and cycling.

Access to parks and greenspaces is poorer in the east of Haringey and the street environment is also less attractive for walking and cycling because of high traffic flow and greater housing density so physical improvements are required to create better conditions and facilities and improve access.

3. Budgets

The Strategy identified that budgetary support would be needed to better engage with and provide activities for people who were physically inactive and resolved to seek to collaborate more closely with colleagues from a range of Council services such as Health, Regeneration, CYPS etc to better align budgets for tackling disadvantage.

Selected key actions from the Physical Activity and Sport

- To work with health colleagues to deliver projects that utilise a 'community solutions' approach to attracting underrepresented groups to visit and enjoy parks and greenspaces more
- Utilise available budgets (from across the council e.g., Leisure, Health, Regeneration, CYPS etc) to deliver programmes that encourage and enable inactive residents to enjoy parks and greenspaces more
- To exploit all available communication channels to promote physical activity opportunities as effectively as possible for residents

[Insert link to strategy](#)

New Policies for Parks and Greenspaces

The Council proposes to adopt policies to both help inform its approach to the future management of parks and greenspaces and to provide clarity about behaviour that is permitted or not permitted, to ensure that parks can be enjoyed by everyone.

The policies cover a wide range of topics but are not set in stone and policies may be amended or added to over time. Further policies may also be developed in response to new challenges or issues. It is intended to review each policy from time to time to ensure it remains relevant and appropriate.

The purpose of having policies is to ensure that everyone – park users, staff, residents, councillors, partners etc - is clear about how the Council is seeking to manage parks and greenspaces. The policies also seek to set out the behaviour that is permitted (or not permitted) to ensure that parks and greenspaces are places that can be enjoyed by all.

A rationale for the policy position is set out in each policy document.

As noted above, whilst some policies are about the management of parks and greenspaces, others are about the behaviour of the people within these parks and greenspaces.

While it is the Council's intention to engage, educate and encourage everyone to comply with the policies set out below, it may sometimes be necessary to take enforcement action to ensure compliance. A policy for the approach to enforcement has been included within the overall range of policies. Enforcement will be preceded by engaging, educating and encouraging people to comply with the policies.

In many cases policy is underpinned and / or driven by legislation, bye laws or public spaces protection orders (PSPOs), such as in relation to littering, fly-tipping or the behaviour of dog owners (and their dogs) in parks and greenspaces. In such cases enforcement action may take the form of fixed penalty notices or legal action.

Where necessary bye laws or PSPOs may be sought to enable policy to be enforced.

Below is the list of proposed new policies together with a link to the full documents.

PGSS1	Barbecues and fires in parks and greenspaces
PGSS2	Alcohol in parks and greenspaces
PGSS1	Barbecues and fires in parks and greenspaces
PGSS2	Alcohol in parks and greenspaces
PGSS3	Smoking and vaping in parks and greenspaces
PGSS4	Dogs and dog control in parks and greenspaces
PGSS5	Boundaries and security in parks and greenspaces
PGSS6	Chemicals and pesticides in parks and greenspaces
PGSS7	Invasive non-native species in parks and greenspaces
PGSS8	Lighting in parks and greenspaces
PGSS9	CCTV in parks and greenspaces
PGSS10	Vehicles in parks and greenspaces
PGSS11	Sustainable waste management in parks and greenspaces
PGSS12	Amplified music and speech in parks and greenspaces
PGSS13	Camping and sleeping rough in parks and greenspaces
PGSS14	Toilets, urination and defaecation in parks and greenspaces
PGSS15	Permitted activities for commercial gain in parks and greenspaces
PGSS16	Graffiti, fly posting and banners in parks and greenspaces
PGSS 17	Enforcement in parks and greenspaces

Final link to Introduction and the Policy pack to be inserted



Service Standards for Parks and Greenspaces

As part of the overall approach towards the future provision of parks and greenspaces in Haringey, the Council proposes to introduce three new measures to help in establishing the standards, amenities and management progress in meeting the overall Strategy Aims through the provision of parks.

These measures are:

1. A statement to help inform what visitors to a Haringey Park or green space can expect in terms of amenities and overall management, maintenance and investment and to inform longer term aspirations for development and improvement.
2. Service standards that will help to define what park users can expect from the day-to-day management of a park and remind management and staff of the challenges and obligations that they should meet in delivering the service as well as informing longer term aspirations for development and improvement.
3. A smaller number of quality measures that link directly to the strategic priorities of the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and help to assess the extent to which parks and greenspaces are meeting the needs and aspirations of residents and providing wider environmental benefits.

1. What you can expect when you visit a Haringey Park

Haringey's parks offer a different range of facilities and management depending upon the size and character of the park. Large parks will tend to offer more facilities and be looked after to a higher standard because they are used by more people

and from a wider catchment area. Smaller parks will offer less facilities and receive less management. Sites vary in character and may be nature reserves, recreation grounds, woodlands, or a combination of varying character and facilities.

Sites designated as nature reserves are not included as part of the Standards and should have their own site-specific management plans.

Investment levels will also differ as the larger parks will be providing more, so will need more expenditure to support this level of provision.

Below is a table setting out what visitors to a Haringey Park or green space can expect in terms of amenities and overall management, maintenance and investment. The table describes three different types of parks: district, local and small local.

The district parks are the largest sites in Haringey such as Finsbury Park and Lordship Recreation Ground.

Local parks are smaller, likely to be offering less facilities than district parks but significant within their local area. Parks such as Priory, Markfield, Russell and Ducketts Common fall into this category.

Small parks would serve a predominantly local audience and offer less facilities again than district or local parks. Examples of small parks include Brunswick Park, Chapmans Green, Fairland Park and Stationers Park.

An appendix listing all 148 parks managed by the Council can be found in the Asset Management Plan (insert link to appendix for list of parks).

High level 'offer'	A2. District Parks	A3. Local Parks	A4. Small parks
High level 'offer'	A2. District Parks	A3. Local Parks	A4. Small parks
Overall 'standard'	Green Flag	Green Flag or future Green Flag sites	Aspire to Green Flag or Community Green Flag
Amenity	Toilets and cafe	Toilets and café where appropriate	Toilets and/or café (only if currently provided)
Staffing	Permanent staffing presence	Mobile/occasional staffing presence and aim for dedicated on-site staffing subject to available resources.	Occasional visits by parks staff and/or Veolia and aim for regular visits subject to available resources
Horticulture	Good standard	Good standard	Acceptable standard

High level 'offer'	A2. District Parks	A3. Local Parks	A4. Small parks
Recreation	Managed and informal opportunities	Active and informal opportunities	Passive recreation / travel routes
Habitats	Range of habitats	Limited habitats	Simple habitat
Investment	Priority for annual investment	Aim for planned regular investment	Occasional Council investment and Community-led investment
Asset inspections	Undertake at least quarterly	Undertaken at least quarterly	Undertaken at least twice a year
Visitors	Attracts visitors from inside and outside the borough	Serves local needs and predominantly local visitors	Serves local needs

2. Service Standards

The Council is proposing to introduce Service Standards for Haringey parks. These cover areas of management and maintenance that are important for most park users such as grass cutting, horticulture, litter and the inspection of play facilities.

The areas that the proposed Service Standards would cover are set out below. The more detailed Standards are contained within the Service Standards in Haringey parks and greenspaces main document and include columns that state what the standard is, how it will be measured or assessed, and whether the results will be reported at a park, area or Haringey-wide level.

Service area	Detailed aspect of service
Horticulture and turf	Grass cutting and maintenance
	Bulb maintenance within grassy areas
	Hedge maintenance
	Tree maintenance
	Flower beds
	Shrub and shrub bed maintenance
	Wildflower and meadow maintenance
Sports pitches and courts	Football and rugby pitch maintenance
	Sports courts and multi-use games areas
Infrastructure	Playground equipment and surfaces
	Hard assets (e.g. paths, benches, lamps, fences etc)
Cleansing	Litter management
	Hygiene and cleansing
	Fly-tipping and dumped rubbish
	Graffiti
Site security	Preventing and deterring unauthorised and inappropriate access to and behaviour within parks (e.g. gates, entrances, buildings, lighting)

3. Quality measures

The quality measures will be used to monitor progress against a limited number of key areas that indicate progress towards meeting the Strategy Aims.

Strategic Aim	Quality measure	Purpose
Inclusion	Profile of park users compared to that of the population of the borough	To identify any gaps in provision/use.
Inclusion	Number of visitors to a representative sample of parks	How well-used/popular are parks.
Inclusion	Number of community groups active in parks and greenspaces	Community involvement, engagement and partnership
Climate Change and sustainability	Increase tree planting across the borough and develop strategies to increase canopy cover across public and private land in the borough.	Conservation and environmental stewardship
Climate Change and sustainability	To establish new local nature reserves and sites of importance for nature conservation and create new wildlife habitat every year in parks and greenspaces	Supporting wildlife and biodiversity
Climate Change and sustainability	The core operational buildings and all transport related activities for service delivery to be net zero carbon by 2027.	Reducing the carbon footprint of parks
A Quality Service	Number of parks and greenspaces with a Green Flag accreditation	An independent measure of quality
A Quality Service	The proportion of park users who are very satisfied or satisfied with Haringey parks	Shows perceived quality of parks
A Quality Service	Percentage of park assets that are graded good or excellent	Indication of asset quality over time
A Quality Service	The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) parks staff per hectare of managed greenspace	Staffing numbers as a proxy for investment and visible presence in parks. Track over time

Insert link to final Standards doc

Asset Management Plan

Haringey has 148 parks and greenspaces and 27 allotment sites that are directly managed by the Council. Within these spaces there are a range of hard and soft assets.

Hard assets include buildings, bins and benches, fences and railings, paths and hard surfaces, play equipment, outdoor gyms, hard sports courts, paddling pools, bridges and structures, lighting and signage.

Soft assets include sports pitches, areas of grassland, shrub beds, hedges, and areas of woodland.

Based upon the most recent survey completed to help inform the new Strategy, there are 10,662 hard assets and 2,995 soft assets within parks, greenspaces and allotments. The replacement value of these assets, based upon replacement over a 20-year period, is estimated at £40m.

The Asset Management Plan (AMP) has been developed to help inform decision making about the level of funding that can be made available for asset repairs and replacement between 2022 and 2036 informed by an analysis of costs and available resources.

The final AMP will also include a Parks Style Guide, which sets out the approach to the type, style and design of assets that the council proposes should be used both by the Council and any other organisation wanting to provide a new or updated asset in parks and greenspaces.

To help inform decision making for future investment in parks and greenspaces, the Council has also commissioned a Natural Capital account that estimates over the life of the account, calculated from 2020 to 2080, that the borough's parks and greenspaces, covering both hard and soft assets, will have produced over £1,000m of benefits in terms of carbon sequestration, reductions in air pollution and, making up 80% of the total, health and wellbeing benefits through physical activity and recreation.

Objectives

- To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities
- To establish and maintain an up-to-date digital record of all parks and greenspaces infrastructure & assets



- To establish an accurate understanding of the financial value of existing parks assets, as well as identifying reasonable estimates of the likely ongoing costs associated with managing and maintaining parks assets to a good level for the next 15 years
- To use the AMP data to recommend and prioritise where to best focus finite existing resources and targeted funding bids, through the establishment of an annual asset repair & replacement programme
- To use the AMP data to better target resources and procurement practices for renewal or renovation (replacement or repair)
- To reduce insurance claims and provide a robust insurance defence evidence base (subject to an effective inspection process)
- To ensure that parks and greenspaces, buildings and structures meet Government legislative and health and safety requirements, including for sustainability and climate change
- To ensure that Haringey's parks and greenspaces have a clear and legible infrastructure of standardised assets, whilst retaining their own individuality and character
- To ensure that all parks development schemes and asset replacement schemes (as well as regeneration / development schemes) adhere to this standard, and that over time, as budgets allow, all parks and greenspaces assets adhere to the style guide, whilst retaining their own unique sense of identity.
- To ensure that the design and installation of assets supports biodiversity and nature conservation interests
- To ensure that all new planting schemes are in line with a standard set of criteria, reflect seasonal changes, are sustainable in terms of their procurement, adaptation to climate change, and 'right plant for right place,' and can be maintained within existing maintenance resources

The proposed objectives for the Parks Style Guide are:

- To set out a consistent set of standards, design guidance, and quality criteria for new assets and asset repairs
- To ensure the standards reflect the available resources, robust anti-vandal criteria, accessibility and sustainability



Selected Key issues and challenges that the Asset Management Plan is seeking to address

1. Inclusive and accessible

We want our parks and greenspaces to be safe, welcoming and accessible places for all Haringey communities.

Research and feedback indicate that communities from black and Asian ethnic backgrounds have different preferences about the facilities they most want to use in parks than people from a white ethnic background but that parks are overwhelmingly designed based upon the preferences of people from a white ethnic background.

Feedback from people with disabilities and from people from LGBTQI communities indicates that parks can be or can feel inaccessible and unwelcoming. Feedback from women and girls indicates that parks can feel unsafe.

The Council wants parks to be used by the whole community and in the future may develop new facilities that encourage usage by specific communities such as deaf and disabled people or BAME communities, women and girls,

LGBTQI communities, people with dementia, or people for whom English is not their first language.

2. Contributing to the mitigation of climate change

Though we think about our parks and greenspaces as 'green' spaces that support nature and our ability to enjoy the natural environment, parks are currently contributing to the overall carbon footprint of Haringey through areas such as buildings, machinery, maintenance vehicles, paths, lighting and the day-to-day footprint generated by management and maintenance activities, including the need of staff to travel to work and to travel around the borough.

As part of the AMP, we will be seeking to take forward schemes for the replacement or refurbishment of buildings, vehicles, plant and machinery as part of an overall commitment towards seeking to make the management and maintenance of our parks carbon neutral by 2041 that supports the council's overall Strategy for Climate Change mitigation.

3. Improving service quality

Two of the main components that improve service quality are:

- Ease of maintenance
- The sufficiency of resources available for maintenance and replacement

Through the AMP we are seeking to adopt a more standardised approach so that, for instance, all waste bins in parks are from the same supplier and have been correctly installed so that they are less likely to be damaged, are easier to empty and have been tested as robust with long life expectancy.

For other assets such as paddling pools we will need to consider updating and replacing these features with more modern water-based play that can also support our Climate Change and Sustainability Aim.

Parks are valued and valuable assets which if created today from scratch would cost tens of millions of pounds to provide.

The council recognises the importance of parks and greenspaces in making Haringey the place it is, and their role in supporting the health and wellbeing of our residents, workers, students and visitors; and will seek to provide additional funding both from its own funding and through the generation of

external funding to manage and maintain parks to a high standard.

Selected key actions from the Asset Management Plan

- To identify changes in the design of parks and greenspaces to make them more attractive, safer, more welcoming and accessible for everyone and particularly for seldom heard from groups
- To carry out carbon audits of the fourteen parks operations buildings and then to undertake alterations, adaptations, and retrofitting to reduce their consumption of energy and water as well as to propose new ways of generating energy to become self-sufficient
- That future capital and revenue funding needs are identified and a Funding Plan is developed to address those needs

[Link to final AMP and appendices to be inserted](#)

Biodiversity Action Plan

Haringey Council seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity value across the borough for the benefit of all those that live and work in Haringey, and in doing so support regional, national, and global efforts to halt the decline in biodiversity and support the delivery of carbon reduction projects in line with the Haringey Climate Change Action Plan.

https://www.haringey.gov.uk/sites/haringeygovuk/files/final_haringey_climate_change_action_plan_-_march_2021_accessible_version_0.pdf

The Council made a declaration of Climate Emergency in 2019 with a target of being net carbon zero by 2041 and the Biodiversity Action Plan will make an important contribution towards achieving this target, by protecting and improving Haringey's natural environment and helping to remind everyone about the fundamental importance of biodiversity of species and habitats to our futures.

Haringey has a wealth of natural assets including designated Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and 5 Local Nature Reserves. Key elements of this infrastructure are:

- The Lee Valley Regional Park that straddles the eastern boundary of the borough and is home to European designated sites and many Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- 148 Council managed parks and greenspaces
- 59 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC's)
- 27 Council managed allotments (plus 3 externally managed)
- Alexandra Palace and Park and Highgate Woods

The Plan considers all land within the borough, including the contribution that can be made by the built environment in supporting nature, and seeks to describe a detailed picture of current biodiversity and the issues affecting it and then proposes a series of conservation actions.

The actions take a cross themed agenda towards biodiversity with the intention that this approach is integrated into the delivery of all Council services.

Objectives

- Promote community participation to raise awareness about the importance of wildlife, climate change and wellbeing to increase access to the natural environment that involve the local community
- Enhanced climate resilience by developing habitat management plans that diversify habitats and enhance priority species
- Ensure the protection of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) focusing on key areas of improvement
- Restore and enhance the boroughs biodiversity and habitats helping wildlife populations to grow and move
- Inform future projects and strategies around the built environment and the greening of the urban environment to increase green connectivity across the borough
- Identify operational management opportunities for biodiversity enhancement work programmes to raise quality and standards needed to protect our parks and open spaces from ecological degradation

Selected key issues and challenges that the Biodiversity Action Plan is seeking to address

1. Engagement

Biodiversity can be viewed as something mainly of interest to people of a predominantly white and middle-class background. As part of the BAP, the Council wants to engage with a wider range of communities, including people from BAME communities, disabled people and young people, in discussion, activities and volunteering that supports the natural environment.

2. Obtaining and then building on good quality baseline information

There is a lot of nature in Haringey and having good quality information about sites, habitats and species is an ongoing challenge that requires input and joint working from a range of partners.

The Council is currently updating its baseline information for SINC's and is also strengthening its approach towards improving support for nature through the planning process.

Combined, these two activities will provide better baseline information about the natural environment which will then need to be sustained by the support of the Council and partners including the community who can help by undertaking future surveys.

3. Improved inter service coordination / joint working

Feedback from engagement sessions undertaken to inform the development of the Strategy has highlighted frustration by some members of the community at what is perceived as a lack of joined up working between Council departments to protect and improve biodiversity.

The Council acknowledges this feedback and is taking steps to address it as part of its wider commitment to address Climate Emergency.

Selected Key Actions from the Biodiversity Action Plan

- To establish an interdepartmental coordinating group with representation from Parks, Planning, Housing, Highways, Flood Management and Regeneration to ensure effective collaboration between services in the development and

ongoing management of programmes and policies that support the Council's approach towards Climate Emergency with regards to green and blue infrastructure, climate vulnerability and the natural environment

- Engaging a new officer to strengthen the role of new development in contributing to biodiversity gain including new tree planting
- Support and encourage Friends groups and the wider public to carry out wildlife surveys and send data to GIGL
- Creating new Local Nature Reserves, 10 additional SINC's and creating 250sqm new wildlife habitat areas each year in parks and greenspaces
- Engage Haringey residents and raise awareness of biodiversity through public events in parks, nature reserves and housing estates
- Restore and enhance the management and maintenance of local nature reserves, ancient woodlands and sites of importance for nature conservation

Final link to BAP to be inserted

Tree and Woodland Plan

The urban forest, which includes both public and privately owned trees, plays a key role in making cities habitable environments for people. Trees remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, filter air pollution and produce oxygen.

They play a role in combating Climate Change and extreme weather events by providing shade, cooling the air and absorbing storm water.

Trees and greenspaces also provide a range of social, cultural and health benefits and have a positive impact on people's physical and mental wellbeing.

On Haringey's streets, trees help to create an attractive environment that encourages sustainable travel through walking and cycling.

Many people care passionately about trees and the Trees and Woodlands Plan will consider the management of all trees in the borough on council land and the management of private trees covered by Planning Legislation e.g., Tree Preservation Orders or those trees within Conservation Areas.

As well as parks and greenspaces, the Plan will consider the ancient woodlands in the borough and the management of trees on the public highway and other council owned sites.

The plan will also explore the opportunities for partnership working to improve standards within our woodlands and for the management of individual trees.

Objectives

- Provide a document that details how Haringey aims to manage our trees and woodlands in a sustainable way
- Ensure Haringey's tree population is healthy, varied in age and diverse in species
- Increase tree canopy cover in Haringey, particularly in areas of deficiency, with the aim of achieving a minimum of 30% cover in each ward
- Secure greater levels of external funding and increase public sponsorship of new trees to address areas with low tree canopy cover
- Ensure that trees on private land have the best protection through new guidelines, existing legislation and the emerging Local Plan
- Improve our proactive tree maintenance programme to reduce subsidence claims and allow for the retention of more trees
- Quantify the value and benefits that Haringey's expansive urban forest provides
- To enhance engagement and communication with the public to create a better understanding

Selected key issues and challenges that the Trees and Woodland Plan is seeking to address

1. Increasing tree canopy cover in wards that are below the 30% target

Haringey's tree canopy cover is much greater in the west of the borough than in the east of the borough where health outcomes are also much poorer.

Given the health benefits associated with trees, there is a need to plant more trees in those wards highlighted in red below that are below. Achieving more tree planting will contribute towards achieving better health outcomes for people living in the east of Haringey.

Ward name	Hectares	Canopy cover %	Ward name	Hectares	Canopy cover %
Alexandra	261.4	31.9	Northumberland Park	188.8	16.4
Bounds Green	138.6	21.4	Seven Sisters	129.5	18.7
Bruce Grove	93.7	14.9	St. Ann's	109.4	18.7
Crouch End	144	32.9	Stroud Green	109.4	30.6
Fortis Green	199.1	32.7	Tottenham Green	135.9	17.2
Harringay	156.7	23.3	Tottenham Hale	191.2	22.8
Highgate	249.5	45.5	West Green	139.9	19.1
Hornsey	105.4	17.0	White Hart Lane	169.9	21.6
Muswell Hill	165.3	39.1	Woodside	149.7	16.2
Noel Park	122.6	13.8			

Note. Changed Council ward boundaries have now been implemented and the number of wards has increased from 19 to 21. This table will be updated for the final strategy document to show canopy cover based upon the new ward boundaries.

2. Better engaging with and informing the public about the reasons for tree pruning or removal

People are, with good reason, very passionate about trees and do not want to see trees removed or significantly pruned.

However, there are occasions, overwhelmingly either because of insurance claims or for safety reasons, where removal or large-scale maintenance may be needed.

The Council wants local people to understand and support its approach to trees. The Council is passionate about trees and is proposing to introduce a Tree Management Policy that clearly states the circumstances under which trees will not be removed or pruned, and the circumstances under which they will be.

3. Seeking to improve the overall quality of management and maintenance of trees

Excluding trees in private gardens, there are approximately 34,000 trees in Haringey that will be looked after by a team of 4 people plus a manager who is also responsible for other service areas including nature conservation and allotments.

This team is responsible for inspections and surveys, managing planned and reactive tree works, new tree planting, dealing with planning applications that involve trees, managing any

existing or proposed new Tree preservation orders and dealing with enquiries and complaints.

Climate Change has put trees under increased strain both because of more extreme weather and because of new pests and diseases previously only found in Europe that have affected some of our most commonly found tree species such as Oaks, Ash, Horse chestnut and London plane.

Our plans for seeking to respond to these pressures includes the development of new partnerships, seeking more community involvement in tree care and generating more funding for trees.

Selected key actions from the Trees and Woodland Plan

- Increase tree planting across the borough and plant at least 10,000 new trees by 2030.
- Achieve a minimum of 30% canopy cover across all Council wards
- Review the current tree maintenance programme to determine if an increased pruning regime will result in a reduction in tree root claims and greater tree retention
- Create new areas of woodland, including mini-forests and expand our hedge network
- Review and update information on tree management procedures on the Council website as part of an overall approach to providing more and better information for the public
- Seek to establish a Tree Forum, where residents groups and other organisations can meet to

discuss important issues and seek to cooperate on joint initiatives

Final link to be inserted

Watercourse and Flood Risk Plan

Water bodies and features are an important part of the overall parks and green space offer and key contributors to wildlife and the natural environment.

They provide a range of benefits including for nature and biodiversity, cooling, flood management and relief and supporting flora and fauna.

As the impacts of Climate Change become more noticeable with heavier rainfall and increased flooding etc, the role of parks and greenspaces in helping to mitigate these impacts has increased in importance.

Through the Watercourse and Flood Risk Management Plan the Council is seeking to provide information and direction for the future approach to water and water management in parks and greenspaces, to identify issues and challenges that impact on the management, maintenance, development and usage of water bodies, to set this against a policy framework associated with water and to identify different agencies involved with water and their roles.

Two of the most important underpinning documents for the Watercourses Plan are:

- The Haringey Flood Risk Management Strategy and
- The Haringey Integrated Catchment Management Study

Objectives

- To increase access to nature by seldom heard from groups
- To help residents and users better understand water features and their value by developing education and interpretation materials
- To develop more water features in parks and greenspaces that support nature, increase biodiversity and contribute to flood relief and urban cooling
- To develop a volunteer training programme that enables volunteers to take on enhanced

roles in the development and management of water features

- To improve staff knowledge, skills and performance through guidance and training
- To promote better coordination, communication and liaison between Council departments involved in SuDS schemes in parks and greenspaces, as well as the wider management of water and flood relief
- To improve access to amenities and facilities through a reduction in flooding incidents
- To improve the quality of water features through regular maintenance, water quality testing and appropriate signage

Selected key issues and challenges that the Watercourse and Flood Risk Management Plan is seeking to address

1. Adapting parks and greenspaces

Climate Change and urban growth have combined to make weather patterns more extreme and the ability of the built environment to deal with these overwhelmed. Further, and again as a result of Climate Change, more extreme weather and the growth of the built environment, we are losing valuable habitat and species.

Parks and greenspaces can help to mitigate these impacts by providing opportunities for natural drainage systems that can support nature and help with urban cooling.

Water features can also play a role in helping to educate and expand wider understanding and support for the roles that water features in parks can contribute.

2. Developing skills and resources to better manage and maintain water features

Managing water and water features is a specialist area requiring knowledge and training.

The Council needs to address this within its own workforce and wants to support its partners, especially community organisations such as Friends' groups who play an important role in maintaining some of the water features in Haringey, by offering training.

3. Increasing access to water features and habitats.

There are limited opportunities for the community to access water features in parks and greenspaces, particularly in the east of Haringey.

Arising from the Watercourses and Flood Risk Plan, we will be seeking to develop a programme of activities and events that will include activities to increase the involvement of communities in nature.

Selected key actions from the Watercourses and Flood Risk Management Plan

- Developing further water features in parks and greenspaces as opportunities arise including further SuDS schemes and de-culverting
- Developing greater skills, knowledge and expertise amongst the Parks Service workforce and our key partners
- Providing new educational and interpretation materials that help in broadening understanding

of the importance of water in supporting nature and mitigating Climate Change

- To establish an interdepartmental coordinating group with representation from Parks, Planning, Housing, Highways, Flood Management and Regeneration to ensure effective collaboration between services in the development and ongoing management of programmes and policies that support the Council's approach towards Climate Emergency with regards to green and blue infrastructure, climate vulnerability and the natural environment

Final link to be inserted



10. Additional Studies

Haringey Green Space Health Strategy Pilot Report

This report was commissioned by the Council in 2019. It is based upon a survey of four parks, Belmont, Downhills, Chestnuts and Lordship Recreation Ground and uses a methodology called the Parks for Health toolkit.

The report identifies the incidence of a range of health conditions for the communities living within access of these parks that could be mitigated or improved by access to greenspaces.

These conditions include cardiovascular disease, diabetes, childhood obesity, adult obesity and hypertension

It then looks in detail at the facilities and activity programmes offered at each of the four parks as well as the opportunities they could offer for GP referral and makes a series of recommendations for changes that would improve health outcomes for these conditions.

The Council will draw on the findings of this report to help inform future changes and improvements to improve health outcomes for parks and greenspaces.

Final link to be inserted

A Natural Capital Account for Haringey

Natural capital is 'the stock of renewable and non-renewable natural resources (e.g., plants, animals, air, water, soils, minerals) that combine to yield a flow of benefits to people' (6).

The Council commissioned a Natural Capital Account for Haringey to help to demonstrate the contribution and benefits made by the borough's natural capital assets. These are benefits that would not be captured in mainstream capital accounts.

Using what is still fairly new and still emerging methodology, the account, which is presented in balance sheet format, shows:

- Over the 60-year period of the account (2020-2080), the borough's greenspaces will produce benefits of over £1,000 million in present value terms
- 90% of this value is for public benefits including carbon sequestration, reduction in air pollution, and physical health and wellbeing from recreation
- The most significant benefits are physical health and wellbeing benefits from recreation which make up around 80% of the value
- The benefit estimates reflect the assumption that these natural capital assets of the borough will be maintained, and the population will increase. The value would go down if the assets are not maintained to meet the needs of the existing or growing population. Different future scenarios could be tested using the baseline natural capital accounting approach followed here.

The Council did not include the impact on property values in calculating the account as it wanted to identify the public benefits accruing to the wider community. Had property values been added, they would have significantly increased the overall value.

Further information about the Haringey Natural Capital Account can be found in the Asset Management Plan.

Access audits for Finsbury Park, Lordship Rec and Queens Wood

Making Haringey's parks more accessible and welcoming for everyone is one of the three Aims of the Strategy.

To help in identifying what changes are needed in parks and greenspaces to make them more accessible, access audits have been carried out in the three District Parks at Finsbury Park, Lordship Recreation Ground and Queens Wood.

These audits have made a number of recommendations covering the areas of:

- Facilities and Design
- Management and Operations
- Activities and Behaviour
- Marketing and Communications

The main recommendations from the reports will be summarised into a single document that will be used by the Council to inform the range of adjustments or procedures that could be implemented by the Council and its partners to make the borough's parks and greenspaces as accessible as it can to as many people as possible.



11. Actions Proposed to Deliver the Key Aims

Overall Outcome of Inclusion and Wellbeing

Providing inclusive parks and greenspaces that all communities in Haringey can benefit from, so that usage and enjoyment of our parks and greenspaces reflects the communities living in Haringey.

The 10 main actions to achieve more inclusive parks

1. Over time, adapt the parks workforce to become representative of who lives in Haringey
2. Recruit a Community Engagement Officer whose main priority is to work with seldom heard from groups to ensure that new and different voices can contribute to future service delivery
3. To develop additional open space in areas of deficiency, particularly in the east of Haringey
4. Undertake an annual survey to identify the profile of park users and use this survey as the basis for monitoring changes in usage
5. Identify changes in the design of parks and greenspaces and facilities offered by parks and greenspaces to make them more attractive, safer, more welcoming and more accessible to seldom heard from groups
6. Support the development of new user groups and develop a programme of activities and events that showcase and support increased usage and involvement by seldom heard from groups, including activities to involve communities in nature, to improve health and wellbeing and activities to support thoughtful behaviour
7. Develop a Marketing and Communications Plan that supports increased usage and involvement by seldom heard from groups
8. Communicate with key partners and stakeholders to help them understand and support the Priority of more inclusive parks in Haringey
9. Hold an annual celebration of community involvement and activity in parks
10. Review internal and external funding options to further support inclusive parks

Overall Outcome of Climate Change and Sustainability

Supporting the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency by reducing the carbon footprint of parks and greenspaces, protecting and promoting biodiversity, and helping educate everyone in Haringey about contributing toward saving the planet.

The 10 main actions to mitigate Climate Change through parks, greenspaces and biodiversity

1. To work towards making the management of Haringey's parks net zero carbon by 2041, by reducing or eliminating carbon generation from buildings, plant, vehicles and machinery and the overall delivery of the Parks Service
2. To establish an interdepartmental coordinating group with representation from Parks, Planning, Housing, Highways, Flood Management and Regeneration to ensure effective collaboration between services in the development and ongoing management of programmes and policies that support the council's approach towards the Climate Emergency with regards to green and blue infrastructure, climate vulnerability and the natural environment
3. To increase the overall area of greenspaces in Haringey in new developments and through the delivery of pocket parks by 250sqm each year, supported by the new Local Plan

4. To recruit a new officer to strengthen the contribution made from planning applications for trees and biodiversity through enhanced protection and biodiversity net gain
5. To undertake a review of all current SINC's with a view to updating SINC designations and habitat and species information for SINC's
6. To develop updated management plans for Local Nature Reserves
7. To increase tree canopy cover in Haringey from 25% (2020) to 30% and plant a minimum of 10,000 new trees by 2030 in order to reduce carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, improve air quality and reduce ambient temperature.
8. To develop new Local Nature Reserves and ten new SINC's.
9. To encourage biodiversity improvements to be delivered through sustainable urban drainage systems
10. Provide activities and events that help promote access to the natural environment to people from BAME communities

Overall Outcome of Service Quality

Securing Investment, improving standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes.

The 10 main actions to deliver better service quality

1. Increase the number of parks and greenspaces with a Green Flag accreditation from 22 to 30
2. To secure additional capital funding for parks to maintain assets to a good standard
3. To adopt clear policies to inform the management, operation and usage of our parks for a range of areas including toilet provision, vehicles in parks, lighting and CCTV, use of herbicides, dogs and dog control, smoking and alcohol
4. To have more and better targeted enforcement activity in parks and greenspaces and sites of importance for nature
5. To secure resources to provide more front-line gardening staff
6. To provide more information in parks and via council, Friends and other partner websites that support the Strategy priorities of Inclusion, Climate Change and Sustainability, and improving Service Quality
7. To reduce the costs of managing litter and waste in parks and reinvest the savings in support of parks feeling safer and more welcoming
8. To recruit a Green Space Volunteer Coordinator to develop volunteering opportunities for new groups, to develop an improved corporate volunteering offer and to support volunteering amongst existing groups.
9. Increase the resources available to manage high risk trees to ensure more can be retained and not implicated in insurance claims, giving rise to damage to residents' homes
10. To ensure the protection of all parks and greenspaces in Haringey via a 5-year programme of Fields in Trust dedications

11. References

- (1) disabled people have accounted for 59% of all COVID deaths
- (2) and unsurprisingly more have also indicated a greater impact on their lives
- (3) In May 2020, 36% of people responding to the People and Nature Survey by Natural England said they were spending more time outside during the pandemic than before.
- (4) Veolia Haringey survey report 2020-2021
- (5) Richardson M, Hunt A, Hinds J, Bragg R, Fido D, Petronzi D, et al. A Measure of Nature Connectedness for Children and Adults: Validation, Performance, and Insights. Sustainability. 2019;11(12):3250
- (6) Natural Capital Protocol <https://naturalcapitalcoalition.org/natural-capital-protocol/>



Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan

August 2022

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Introduction

The Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan sets out how the Council proposes to take forward its plans for Community Engagement and Volunteering to support the overarching Haringey Parks and Greenspaces Strategy priorities of inclusion, climate change and service quality.

Haringey's Parks are used by all communities and are a major source of social interaction and cohesion. You can get a good idea about who lives in Haringey by spending time at one of our bigger sites such as Finsbury Park or Lordship Recreation Ground.

However not all communities have the same level of access to parks and some communities may feel that parks are neither welcoming nor meet their needs.

The Covid 19 enforced lockdown highlighted the importance of parks for health and wellbeing whilst also highlighting the importance of ensuring that they can meet the needs of all communities and particularly the needs of communities most affected by Covid, BAME, people with disabilities and older people.

Health benefits can include lower rates of heart disease, diabetes and obesity as well as better mental health and wellbeing.

Haringey has a proud and positive history of working with Friends of Parks groups and other volunteers and the recently completed NESTA project to develop and share good practice for Community Empowerment and Co-Management in greenspace between Friends and local authorities is a good example of this.

There are an estimated 45 Friends groups in Haringey generating over £400,000 per year in added value for Haringey Parks and communities through practical volunteering, events and activities and by providing opportunities for local people to get involved.

However, the people involved in Friends groups currently tend to be older people from the white community and often have an above average level of educational attainment and experience fewer social and economic barriers.

Covid and the re-emergence of the Black Lives Matter movement have highlighted the importance of parks as communal social spaces and the importance of these spaces being able to benefit everyone.

We want to extend usage and involvement by encouraging more people to take an active interest in our parks, particularly young people, people from BAME communities, disabled people, women and girls and young people.

As part of this Plan, the Council also wants to work with residents to develop new opportunities to look after smaller and more local spaces and features, such as street planters and street tree planting.

There is considerable expertise already existing between the Council, Friends groups, stakeholders, and partners, both existing and emerging, for volunteering in our parks

and greenspaces and we will be seeking to build on the excellent foundations these provides.

Haringey is relatively green with over 148 parks and greenspaces creating 382.87 hectares of open space which represents 12.8% of total area of the borough. Many of these are supported by community organisations such as Friends of Parks groups, Residents Associations or special interest groups like Tottenham Trees and the Haringey Rivers Forum.

This is one of several plans and policies supporting the overall Parks and Greenspaces Strategy (PGSS).

It will:

- Provide information and direction for how the Council will work with stakeholders, including seldom heard from communities and Friends of Groups for the next 15 years in order to maximise the benefits for our local communities and provide the highest possible quality of greenspaces
- Identify which policies support this plan including those that inform the wider Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and those that are part of the wider policy framework
- Look at benefits from community engagement and volunteering
- Identify issues and challenges that impact on community engagement and volunteering
- Identify agencies and organisations involved and their roles
- Provide an action plan to inform the future approach towards community engagement and volunteering
- Provide information about current parks and greenspace volunteering and links to key supporting and reference documents

Aims

The Aims are taken from the overall Parks and Greenspaces Strategy.

Inclusion and Wellbeing: Providing inclusive parks and greenspaces that all communities in Haringey can benefit from so that usage and enjoyment of our parks and greenspaces reflects the communities living in Haringey and contributes to improved wellbeing.

Climate Change and Sustainability: Supporting the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency by reducing the carbon footprint of parks and greenspaces, protecting and promoting biodiversity, and helping educate everyone in Haringey about contributing toward saving the planet.

A Quality Service: Securing investment, improving standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes

Objectives

Inclusion and Wellbeing

- To create a framework that will help the Council work cooperatively with all park users and stakeholders, including targeted engagement with seldom heard from communities
- To better understand, appreciate and celebrate the role of Friends Groups and other key stakeholders
- To work with partners to identify and reduce areas of conflict in parks and greenspaces e.g. between dog walkers and footballers or between cyclists and walkers
- To develop a Plan with identified actions and targets to support community engagement and volunteering in parks, greenspaces and street planting
- Expand on the range of groups that contribute to the design, management, marketing and usage of parks and green spaces by developing regular and ongoing engagement with BAME, faith, younger, older, disabled and LGBTQI communities
- Developing more active, independent community groups in parks and green spaces
- Engaging a more diverse group of people in volunteering in parks and greenspaces and in street based volunteering

Climate Change and Sustainability

- Improving access to nature for BAME and other seldom heard from communities
- Offering skills and knowledge training for volunteers to enable them to better contribute towards meeting targets for biodiversity.

A Quality Service

- To develop more opportunities for corporate volunteering and similar schemes that provide social benefit
- To celebrate the achievements of the parks and greenspace sector
- To improve communications between key stakeholders to enable better partnership working for the benefit of Haringey's parks and green space users

Benefits

Engaged, informed, and supported communities have a greater sense of ownership of their parks and greenspaces. This sense of ownership improves the facilities and wider park environment as conversations between groups, communities and the Park's Service are open and based on trust, so the outcomes are more likely to be mutually agreed and beneficial for all, which also encourages greater use by a wider range of people.

Many studies have been done looking at the benefits of volunteering in parks and greenspaces. These include the social, health and environmental benefits.

Another benefit of engaging in volunteering is that communities feel empowered and develop a sense of ownership of their public spaces, which in turn helps to build resilience within the parks sector, an area of public service that has had to deal with budget cuts and the resulting resource shortages.

Anyone that volunteers has their own reasons for wanting to. Some volunteers see it as a way to give back to their communities using skills they already have, for others it is an opportunity to learn new skills and meet new people in their community. Although their reasons for volunteering may be different, everyone that gives their time wants to make a positive impact for their local park, feel a sense of reward for their efforts and have engaging projects and activities to take part in.

Benefits from community engagement

Parks are one of the best and most effective areas available to us for building a sense of community and improving quality of life. They provide spaces that inspire us to connect and interact over a shared passion and can channel positive community participation by getting diverse people to work together in support of a shared vision.

As a free to use community resource, parks are a great leveller and users from all socio-economic backgrounds come together to enjoy them and make use of the facilities. Our 50 Friends groups in Haringey involve and engage literally 1000's of residents and are amongst the strongest voluntary groups in the borough. Their activity helps build community resilience and empowerment.

Social benefits

Haringey parks and greenspaces offer a great opportunity for residents from our diverse communities to come together and support a shared community space, helping to break down barriers and learning from each other.

“Many report social benefits from their volunteering. Almost nine in ten volunteers say they have met new people. Young people aged 18–24 (77%) and 25–34 (76%) are the age groups most likely to say their volunteering helped them feel less isolated.” (Time Well Spent: NCVO national survey on volunteering, January 2019)

Health benefits

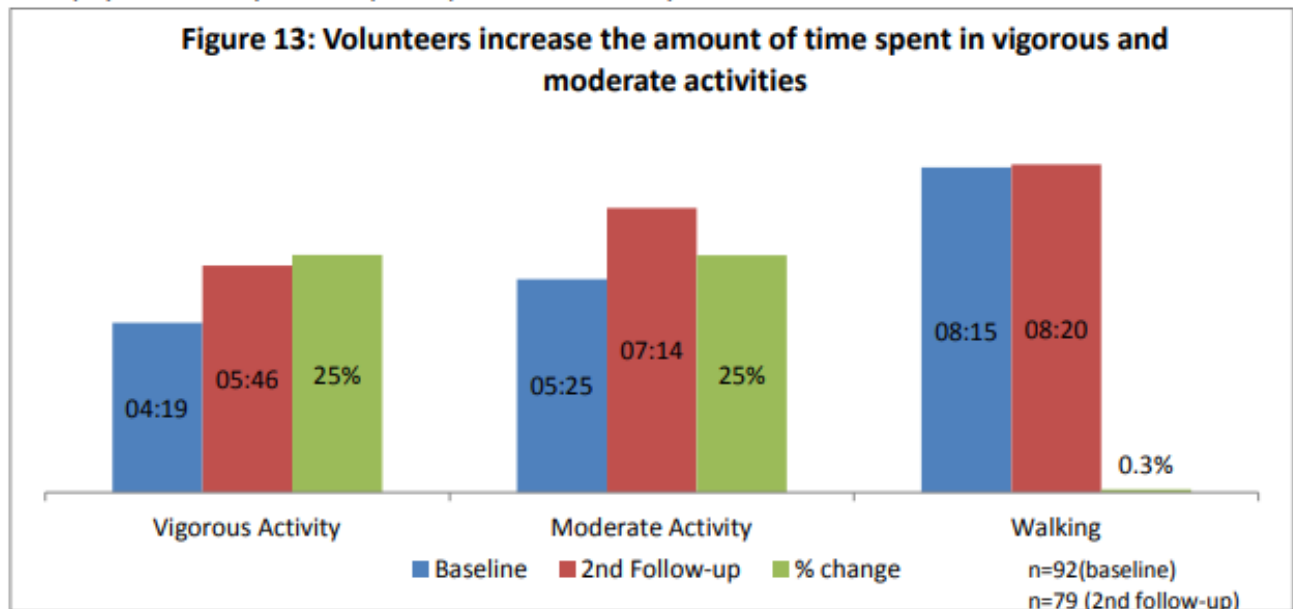
Haringey's Annual Public Health Report 2019 details the health inequalities and inequities across the borough, some of which can be improved by 'having easy access to safe and enjoyable outdoor spaces...and doing some physical activities' (*Haringey's Public Health Report 2019: Tackling health inequalities for a healthier and fairer Haringey, p.3- Environment, Appendix 1*)

There is a wealth of research that supports the health benefits of volunteering. The overall findings recognise that, along with the social benefits of meeting others in your community that mental and physical health benefits can be substantial if the volunteering activities are rewarding, challenging and well supported.

‘Over three-quarters (77%) of volunteers agreed that volunteering had improved their mental health and wellbeing. This compares with just over half (53%) who agreed their

physical health had improved' (*Time Well Spent: NCVO national survey on volunteering, January 2019.p.57 Appendix 2*)

On average, volunteers spent 50% more time engaged in vigorous and moderate activities over a week at the end of the three month study period when compared with the time spent at the start of the study period. Volunteers were spending a little more time walking too. Nine out of ten attribute their physical activity level to participation in Green Gym.



The Conservation Volunteers: Green Gym National Evaluation, 2016, p 21. Appendix 3

Environmental Benefits

Parks and greenspaces are vital to supporting biodiversity. The Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) for parks and greenspaces will provide details of how improvements can be made to help support existing habitats and species create more.

Volunteers, especially from Friends Groups and The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) play an important role in ensuring that biodiversity is supported, many activities are centred around the creation of new habitats such as bird and bat boxes, planting and caring for native species and campaigning for wild areas.

TCV are a major delivery partner in this area, supporting the Council to develop nature conservation volunteering opportunities across a variety of parks and greenspaces in Haringey.

Empowering Communities

Parks and greenspaces are key resources accessible to everyone. They are available for a wide variety of activities from litter picking with a handful of volunteers to more involved activities such as community events with dozens of volunteers and more intricate planning.

Better supporting the process of volunteering in parks and greenspaces will help to further the relationships we already have with many groups as well as opening up the opportunity to volunteer for others.

The Council also supports communities and groups to expand their reach and volunteering opportunities through providing facilities, resources and buildings in parks and greenspaces to use as hubs and bases. This helps to raise the profile of the groups and the role of volunteering as part of the park and greenspace experience. Moving forward, we will also seek to support other opportunities to engage residents in volunteering in the community including adopting street trees and the installation of community planters in suitable locations on the public highway.

Building resilience

Engaged and empowered park users feel greater ownership of their community.

Identifying the assets, opportunities and strengths within the community will help the Council to focus resources on enabling park users to achieve and decide their own outcomes, seeing people as the answer rather than trying to fix everything for them.

A Community Engagement officer will help to facilitate this community development, give voice to those seldom heard from groups and current park groups, supporting them as active users rather than as passive consumers. This approach will also ensure that the Council can focus on the quality of its parks service as it will support improvements agreed through collaborative working with park groups and communities, who have grassroots knowledge vital to achieving the things that people know their places need.

Continuing to identify Council assets, such as buildings in parks, that can be used by third sector groups and organisations to support their work, will help to build their resilience and volunteer base. Empowering grassroots organisations, making them more visible and accessible in parks and greenspaces will enable communities to engage directly in making their neighbourhoods better places to live.

Current engagement in Haringey's parks and greenspaces

In previous years, the development of Haringey's Community Engagement Framework gave guidance on best practice with the 'You said, we did' approach and the principles still hold true.

- Work in partnership to join up our engagement activities
- Engage when it will make a difference
- Be clear about what we are asking
- Be inclusive and aim to engage with all communities
- Communicate the results of engagement activity
- Build capacity of communities to take part in engagement activities

The Parks Service currently engages and consults with key stakeholders, including Friends Groups, Residents Associations and internal colleagues, when planning or proposing improvements to parks and greenspaces.

Spotlight meetings are an interactive way that the Parks Service engages with stakeholders. These take place while a Parks Project Officer carries out an inspection of the park and so gives the stakeholders an opportunity to raise questions about planned repairs, improvements and concerns as the inspection takes place.

Bi-monthly meetings of the Haringey Friends of Parks Forum are also attended by Parks Service Officers, usually Senior Managers, giving the Forum a platform to speak directly to the service and hear first-hand about improvements and changes to the service.

The Council also supports the activities of voluntary groups through provision of resources that support their own community engagement activities, such as: litter pickers, waste bags, waste collection, woodchip, access to notice boards, waving event fees for small community events and rental for banner space on park railings.

Other current examples of how the Parks Service is engaging with communities through parks are through the provision of parks buildings with community leases for third sector organisations and charities such as;

- Wolves Lane Centre, N22. Home to the Wolves Lane Consortium, offering training and volunteering across a range of horticultural disciplines through social enterprise. <https://www.wolveslane.org/>
- Lordship Rec Eco- Hub (Lordship Hub), Lordship Rec, N17. The base for the Friends of Lordship Rec and the Lordship Rec Eco-Hub Co-op. They manage the award-winning Passive Haus building which also has a community café and rooms for hiring. It is run by volunteers and paid staff. <https://lordshiphub.org.uk/>
- Edible Landscapes, Finsbury Park, N4. This organisation manages a space to show how sustainable, permaculture techniques can be used to grow fruit and vegetables. <https://ediblelandscapeslondon.org.uk/>

Most recently, we have begun to develop new stakeholder groups such as the Parks Accessibility Steering Group, which comprises of representatives from disability action groups in Haringey; The SEND Parents Group, Haringey Wheelchair Users Group, Haringey over 50's Forum and accessible activity group Pedal Power, along with internal colleagues from Adult Services and Council Members. They were formed during the consultation process to install a Changing Places facility in Finsbury Park in the spring of 2021.

We are also exploring the use of Manor Lodge in Finsbury Park to be used by the Museum of Homelessness as a base for their program of activities to tackle homelessness and housing inequality through research, events, workshops, campaigns, and exhibitions. <https://museumofhomelessness.org/>



Finsbury Park Changing Place Toilet being opened by users and Councillor Hearn

Current volunteering in Haringey's parks and greenspaces

The 2019 survey of Haringey Friends of Parks Forum shows the important role they play and the benefits of working with and supporting them. This is backed up by the minuted discussions with Council officers at the bi-monthly Friends Forum meeting. Although every site and every group have their own character, there are some common activities. Their top three activities which help to achieve the aims identified in this plan tend to include:

Litter picking

- Taking an active and, sometimes, leading role in tackling litter and helping raise awareness about the effects of litter on the biodiversity and natural areas. Promoting recycling to help combat the climate emergency

Community Events

- Grassroots events either promoting awareness of an issue affecting the park e.g. Wildlife, Youth Sports, Rivers and water bodies, or to support and encourage the cultural diversity within the immediate community through music, arts and food.

Planting

- Increasing, managing, and maintaining the biodiversity in parks and greenspaces.

Promotion and news

- Managing parks notice boards, e-lists, websites, social media

Development

- Discussing and proposing ideas and projects to improve a site and develop a vision for its future

Liaison

- Liaising with staff and managers regarding maintenance and repairs, anti-social behaviour etc
- Linking up with local stakeholders e.g. sports team, adjacent school, site café, nearby residents association

Within the Friends 2019 survey, the groups identified that they would like more Council resource to support them with their administration and fundraising capacity, as well as better and more direct communications with the Parks Service. In response to this the Parks Service will be introducing two new posts to support engagement and volunteering in parks and greenspaces.

Haringey has a very strong and well-established Friends network that has played a significant role in helping to establish the National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces, the umbrella organisation for the 7,000 local Friends groups throughout the UK.

The Friends of Lordship Recreation Ground (FLR) have also established the Parks Community UK platform as a subsidiary of the National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces. Parks Community received NESTA Lottery funding to develop and share good practice, case studies and advice guides for Community Empowerment and Co-Management of green space between Friends and local authorities based. This was based upon the successful working relationship they developed with the Council for the regeneration of Lordship Rec that was completed in 2012. One of the outputs from the NESTA project was a 'Ladder of Involvement' to help Friends Groups identify their current relationship with their local authority Park's service. (Appendix 2)



The State of UK
Parks: Heritage
Lottery Fund
report 2016

Current resources

The Parks and Leisure Service comprises of a number of teams, each has a role in supporting community engagement and volunteering.

Park Project Development Team

The Park Project Development team focuses on improvements to infrastructure. They inspect hard assets in parks such as paths, fences, bins, benches and lead on larger funded project work such as installation of new play areas and sports courts. They are also the primary contact for park stakeholders and groups, liaising and communicating on a day-to-day basis about plans, concerns, and meeting stakeholders to enable a better communication.

Park Operations Team

The Park Operations Team deals with the day-to-day horticultural maintenance of all our parks and greenspaces. They also manage and organise all the litter and waste clearance. They are the front-line staff and are often approached by members of the public and members of the friends for support. They are key to providing on the ground support when working with large corporate volunteer groups or waste collections after volunteer led litter picks and horticulture sessions.

Active Communities Team

The Active Communities Team oversee and develop partnerships with sports and leisure providers and produce a framework for sports and play improvements based on evaluated need. Their aim is to find ways to encourage people to lead more active lives, particularly those from seldom heard from groups. They regularly work closely with small local sports providers to support the work they are doing and produce a timetable of holiday activities.

Events and Partnerships Team

The Events and Partnerships team are responsible for managing the booking of parks for all types of events, from small community led to large music and performance events. They also coordinate the Green Flag inspections with Keep Britain Tidy and liaise regularly with Friends groups and stakeholders on usage of parks and greenspaces. This team also manage the Small Parks Grant scheme, which is a pot of funding open to stakeholders to support events and activities they organise themselves.

Arboriculture and Nature Conservation

The Arboriculture and Nature Conservation team are responsible for all the trees in the borough, with a focus on trees in parks and greenspaces, highways and schools. This includes managing inspections, maintenance, felling, planting and care. They are

looking at furthering the involvement of residents in the planting, maintenance and care of street trees.

Part of their team focus on Nature Conservation which includes increasing and managing biodiversity across the borough and supporting the work of friend's groups and stakeholders to do the same. The development of the Biodiversity Action Plan is part of their remit as is managing the partnership with The Conservation Volunteers (TCV). TCV work with us to create a program of volunteer opportunities within nature reserves and natural areas across the borough, they also offer training, education and technical input.

Haringey's policies and plans

Building a fairer, greener borough – Haringey Labour Manifesto 2022-26

Following the local elections in May 2022 the Council's ambition and priorities are based on putting residents at the heart of everything the Council does. For the remainder of 2022 and into 2023, the Council will work with residents to develop the Haringey Local Deal. The Haringey Local Deal will seek to empower communities to make change, putting local people at the forefront of decision-making. The Biodiversity Action Plan will support the delivery of the Haringey Local Deal and in turn the manifesto commitments.

Below we have included extracts from the Manifesto that the BAP will help to either directly deliver or support.

Inclusion and Wellbeing

Directly

- Community gardening and tree planting on estates and trees
- Co-produce designs for pocket parks, community gardens and street side verges

Support

- Participatory budgeting to help the council set its spending priorities
- Contribute to the development of the Young Voices Programme

Climate Change and Sustainability

Directly

- Plant street trees until each ward reaches 30% canopy cover
- Plant 10,000 new trees by 2030
- Invest in sustainable drainage systems to reduce flooding
- Work to create three brand new nature reserves by 2026 and introduce Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

Support

- Reduce and eliminate the use of single use plastics
- Install green pollution barriers on schools on main roads
- Explore green energy production in parks
- Identify sites for local food growing can take place

Quality Parks

Directly

- Install more LED Parks lighting to keep people safe

Support

- Apprenticeships
- SEND opportunities

Other plans within the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy also support these objectives

- **The Water Course and Flood Risk Plan** provides details of opportunities for engaging with park communities on supporting the care and maintenance of local rivers and bodies of water.
- **Biodiversity Action Plan** gives guidance regarding the needs of our local environment and how the Council can help, both as a service but also as a community. It includes opportunities for engaging communities in increasing biodiversity, reducing our carbon footprint, and tackling the climate crisis.
- **Tree and Woodland Management Plan** details the role trees have in shaping our landscape, the positive impact of trees on carbon emissions and scope that communities can engage in a boroughwide tree planting

Wider policy context

Haringey

- The Local Plan (In development) <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy/local-plan>
Haringey's dedicated plan for land use policy including parks and greenspaces
- Equalities Profile for Haringey <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/local-democracy/about-council/equalities-haringey> These documents present a summary of the characteristics of the borough's population against the protected characteristics defined in the Equality Act 2010. Along with the Borough Plan Equality Impact Statement they help the Park Service to understand the wider context of the inequalities that are faced by people from these protected communities as well as detailing the specific challenges and their impact on health outcomes across communities and areas of Haringey
- The Climate Change Action Plan <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/environment-and-waste/going-green/net-zero-carbon-haringey> This plan covers the approach that

the Council intends to take to become a Net Zero Carbon borough by 2041. It received significant community interest and engagement during its development. The document details the impact of higher emissions on our ecosystems and some of the actions the Council can take to reduce these impacts, such as encouraging sustainable travel and offsetting carbon output with street greening and sustainable planting in Parks and Greenspaces

- The Health and Wellbeing Strategy <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/health/health-and-wellbeing-strategy> This document is in draft form at time of writing, but looks at the facilities that are already available to residents to help improve their health and wellbeing, including being more active.

Regional

- The London Plan 2021 <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning/london-plan> The London Plan 2021 is the Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London. It sets out a framework for how London will develop over the next 20-25 years and the Mayor's vision for Good Growth. While Parks and Greenspaces feature within the plan in chapter 8- Green Infrastructure and Natural Environment, it also sets out the vision for building strong and inclusive communities as one of the main tenants of the plan. Haringey's Borough Plan is informed by the vision of the London Plan
- Good Parks for London 2020- <https://parksforlondon.org.uk/resource/good-parks-for-london/> This document assesses each London Borough's Parks Service against ten criteria to enable comparison between them. It is a marker for what is working well, helping to improve performance across London's Parks Services.

National

- Heritage Lottery-The State of Our Parks- <https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/publications/state-uk-public-parks-2016>
This is the second report of this type. It shows a growing deficit between the rising use of parks and the declining resources available to manage them. It is vital that reports like this are considered when planning community engagement as it will help to support requests for additional resources and broaden the understanding of the relationship between the condition of parks and how people use them.
- Improving Access to Greenspace: A new review for 2020 - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/904439/Improving_access_to_greenpace_2020_review.pdf
This document was produced by Public Health and looks at the benefits of green space and the associated health outcomes. It also identifies the barriers that some communities face when accessing greenspace and the work they are doing to combat this.
- Advice Guides for Friends Groups - from Parks Community UK
Setting up a Friends Group: <https://parkscommunity.org.uk/starting-a-friends-group/lets-be-friends/>
Making our groups stronger and more diverse: <https://parkscommunity.org.uk/community-involvement/making-our-groups-stronger-and-more-diverse/>

Improving relationships among user groups sharing a green space:

<https://parkscommunity.org.uk/community-involvement/how-to-user-groups/>

Partnership Working between Friends Groups and Landowners and Managers:

<https://parkscommunity.org.uk/park-green-space-management/partnership-working-with-landowners-and-managers/>

What is community empowerment, and how can we make it happen?

<https://parkscommunity.org.uk/community-involvement/what-is-community-empowerment-and-how-can-we-make-it-happen/>

'Better Friends' Strength Checker

<https://parkscommunity.org.uk/betterfriends>

Key issues and challenges

This section identifies the key issues and challenges to community engagement and volunteering in parks and greenspaces. These issues and challenges have been identified from engagement undertaken to help inform this plan and the wider PGSS as well as by drawing on the wider policy context. The action plan will reflect how we aim to approach these.

Community engagement issues and challenges

Enablement

Widespread community engagement and volunteering depends on having a supportive, enablement infrastructure in place at site level and across the borough.

This includes a dedicated community or Friends Group at each site committed to generating appropriate and effective volunteering initiatives and opportunities in the long term.

Such groups need an effective and ongoing support infrastructure. This includes:

- peer-to-peer communication, encouragement and sharing of good practice, as provided by the Haringey Friends of Parks Forum
- regular communication and liaison with the relevant operational and project staff and management through a supportive Parks Service
- additional expert and capacity support from additional Parks Service officers and a third sector body, such as The Conservation Volunteers

Inclusion and diversity

As mentioned previously Haringey is a culturally diverse borough and this can be seen in the usage of our parks and greenspaces. There is little to no targeted engagement with seldom heard from communities to understand how they use parks and what improvements, or activities might help them to increase their use and engagement in the development of parks and greenspaces.

There is emerging research that indicates that many in BAME communities are less likely to visit the natural environment for leisure and that their preferences for usage

often differ to those that the areas are designed by and for, who are usually older, educated and from white ethnic backgrounds. (*Weeds, Wildflowers and Whiteness, Snaith.B, 2016. Appendix 6*)

The Council do not currently understand all the barriers that prevent seldom heard from communities from engaging as stakeholders in parks and greenspaces. Parks can be potentially contested spaces, with the demands on their resources coming from several different groups. Often those with the loudest voice or most obvious interest can be heard above others.

The Park's Service currently has limited resources to support the sort of targeted engagement needed to ensure that seldom heard from communities are meaningfully included in park development and improvement conversations as key stakeholders.

Our current and main form of engagement is through key stakeholders such as Friends of Park Groups, but the Council acknowledge that these groups and indeed our own parks staff could be more representative of our diverse community. Many Friends Groups' core activists tend to be predominantly older, white, more educated residents with English as a first language, but they are also challenged by their lack of time and capacity to target seldom heard from communities as they are voluntary groups themselves. Many of the groups try hard to attract a representative membership through a range of means, including the development of social media and a focus on building relationships with local stakeholder and user groups.

The Council do not have a clear and meaningful plan detailing our approach to targeted, active engagement with park users and seldom heard from communities.

Budgets and resources

Each of the 50 Friends Groups has an identified officer from the Park Projects Development Team who they have direct contact with. They are also invited to spotlight inspections with officers to engage with the program of repairs and improvements.

The introduction of two new roles, a Community Engagement and Partnerships Officer and a Volunteering Officer, will help the Council to focus resources on engaging with seldom heard from groups to better understand the needs of those communities within our parks and greenspaces and create a toolbox of resources to help strengthen existing and support emerging groups and partnerships. Additional resources are needed to provide further targeted activities such as an annual celebration of volunteering, a funding stream dedicated to promoting physical activities aimed at seldom heard from groups and those most in need of improving their health outcomes and supporting the continued growth of stakeholder groups interested in increasing biodiversity, natural areas and community food growing projects.

Resources are also needed to help develop a process for capturing usage and data as there is currently no consistent method for achieving this.

It would also be beneficial to provide a program of training on inclusion and engagement, for staff and stakeholders, to start the behaviour change needed to ensure the changes made to the service are fundamental and long lasting. The new

posts will also enable investigation and application for matched funding to support targeted engagement.

How parks are used and by who

The impact of Covid 19 and the subsequent lockdowns on parks and greenspaces is a national issue. The usage of parks, and their public profile and appreciation, greatly increased. Resources were focused on keeping parks and green spaces safe and open for daily exercise and socialising, as such the Council were only able to provide a reactive service. This highlighted the importance for better investigating, understanding and provision for the needs of seldom heard from communities, particularly as the Council do not currently have reliable and consistent data usage. This is something that needs to be developed.

Parks can sometimes be contested spaces, with the use and behaviour of different groups being off putting or unappreciated by other users. Conflicts can arise between different groups for several reasons; young people being loud can make older people feel unsafe, dogs are seen as unclean by some religious groups who may feel they should not be in public spaces, cyclists and joggers “taking over” footpaths and moving too fast for users with less or limited mobility for example. Tackling these potential conflicts can be very challenging and require engagement with and support from a range of stakeholders including Friends, Parks Service Staff, seldom heard from groups and from the Council’s Communications and Enforcement services

Volunteering issues and challenges

Volunteering plays an important role in the improvement and development of parks and greenspaces. A 2019 survey of Haringey’s Friends of Parks Group (*appendix 7*) revealed that an estimated 45,000 volunteer hours were spent improving parks and greenspaces, these convert to the equivalent of approximately £600,000 of economic value. The same survey revealed several issues and challenges to volunteering for these groups and on a wider scale.

Other than this survey in 2019, there is currently no regular method for collecting this information from Haringey Friends of Parks Groups on a regular basis. TCV collect data from the session that they lead across the borough, for the period between 1st April 2019 and 31st March 2020:

- 206 Conservation volunteering sessions run by TCV Haringey
- 1,789 volunteers attended those sessions
- 90 school sessions run by TCV Haringey

In addition, many Friends groups fundraise and apply for grants for improvements to park features and facilities, or for activities. This brings in much needed extra resources that the Council is unable to access or manage. National Heritage Lottery Fund research in 2016 estimated that Friends Groups nationally raised over £70m pa this way, around £12,000 per group at that time – which would equate to around £600,000 pa in Haringey. This community volunteering effort needs to be encouraged, supported, and celebrated.

Many groups find getting started to be one of the barriers to engaging in parks and greenspaces. Creating a clear route to getting involved in a park or greenspace will help ensure that a group starts with the good understanding of roles and responsibilities as well as setting out aims and objectives. More established groups need understanding of their needs to supporting their growth, along with clear communication routes.

Communication

While the current Park Project Development Officer roles have helped to create clearer communications routes for Friends Groups and other interested parties, there remains some misunderstanding and confusion about which team in the Parks Service deals with which issues. This leads to delays in replying or taking action and subsequently the relationship between the voluntary group and the Parks Service can become strained.

There is no formal agreement or understanding with the Park Service. This adds to the pressures on the service to accommodate the needs of the groups and for the groups to understand their role within the parks. The development of a Memorandum of Understanding is intended to help to define the roles and responsibilities of the Council and voluntary organisations.

Developing Corporate Volunteering

The Council do not currently have the resource in the Park Service to support Corporate Volunteering, which usually brings with it funding and groups of people that can take on larger projects such as tree planting, mulching, and watering etc, this means the Council miss out on providing impactful improvements and potentially a source of income.

Corporate volunteer groups are also sometimes able to offer specialist support and training, which could upskill Friends or other voluntary groups, again the Council do not currently have the resource to take advantage of this potential offer.

A strong Friends Group may be able to take up this option. The Friends of Lordship Rec have a 5yr MOU agreement with Trees for Cities (TfC) to hold corporate volunteering sessions in the park. The Friends get some payment from TfC for preparing and being present during each session, but TfC undertake the supervision of the extra volunteers.

Dedicated resource is needed to pursue and build the relationship with potential corporate volunteers. Projects will need to be identified and costed to incorporate any resource needed to support the organisation and logistics. The costing should be included in the offer to corporate volunteers to ensure the projects have a positive financial outcome for the Parks Service.

Resources

Without a clear idea of the type and amount of volunteering opportunities in parks and greenspaces or the support systems needed to see them completed it will be

increasingly difficult to be able to engage communities, including seldom heard from communities in a meaningful and long-term way.

Further investigation and the development of a tool kit to enable groups to record and report back on the work that they are doing, as well as their aspirations for future development will help to build a clearer picture of the resources and support needed from the Council.

Opportunities

The challenges that the Council faces can be met by identifying the opportunities to make real and lasting changes, such as:

- developing a system for capturing and sharing volunteer input data between the Council, partners, stakeholders and park groups
- developing a structured programme of engagement to ensure the Council are hearing from all groups, with specific focus on seldom heard from groups and those that rarely use parks
- expanding the role of TCV so they can provide greater opportunities for volunteering, training and education, and the management of nature reserves and wild areas, to support the need for better managed and increased biodiversity
- developing a training offer to volunteer groups to help them to expand their base, increase their output and reach and to identify funding streams to support the work they do
- investigating, developing and implementing a program of micro volunteering opportunities in response to the hybrid working arrangements as a result of the impact of Covid 19
- expand the offer of doorstep volunteering through working with partners to offer more opportunities for parklets, street planting and greening projects
- investment in resources that will help to supply colleagues, partners and groups with plants and trees for greening projects, such as the nursery at Finsbury Park
- developing a program of meaningful engagement activities focused at seldom heard from groups
- supporting the emergence of greenspace champions from seldom heard from communities
- organising events that celebrate the role of volunteers in parks and greenspaces, including those that focus on inclusion from seldom heard from groups and engage with both park users and non-users.
- expanding our work with partners to ensure the Council are making best use of existing networks and providing opportunities for their contacts to engage with parks
- identifying funding streams and opportunities to increase income through partnership working e.g. Public Health programs, Corporate Volunteering, facility hire etc
- increasing investment across the Parks and Leisure Teams so they are better resourced to fulfil the demand for green, safe, and accessible parks and greenspaces

Partners

The Council already has several formal partnerships with organisations that support volunteering in Haringey. The Council also work with other Council departments to provide volunteering opportunities to their customers and clients. The Council want to build on these relationships and use these informal agreements to work with Friends groups and continue enhancing parks and green spaces.

The Council have also identified new potential partnerships that will help to achieve the aims and objective set out in this plan.

Current partners

Friends of Parks Groups

50 voluntary groups that have formed to support and champion Parks and Greenspaces across Haringey, from large district parks, such as Finsbury Park, Lordship Recreation Ground and Queens Wood to smaller local parks and gardens such as Nightingale Gardens, Palace Gates planters and Albany Crescent. The groups and senior Council representatives meet bi-monthly through the Haringey Friends of Parks Forum.

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) Haringey, are based at Railway Fields in Harringay Ward. They are the local branch of a national charity that has been working with volunteers for over 60 years. They have an inclusive approach to their volunteering activities and work with children and adults from all backgrounds. They have a formal agreement with the Council to manage and maintain areas of nature conservation in the borough and to support some Friends groups in their parks.

They run sessions across the borough in several locations where interested people can join for a few hours and be supported to take part in a manual volunteer session to improve an area of special interest for nature conservation. They hold regular practical work sessions at several parks and greenspaces across the borough, including The Woodland and Spinney at Lordship Rec, Tunnel Gardens, Queens Wood, The Paddock, Parkland Walk, Palace Gates Embankment and Railway Fields. Full details are on their website.

They also work with local schools and offer site visits to their conservation site at Railway Fields where the children can enjoy a practical experience in a natural environment.

They provide specialist training and advice to Friends Groups.

Youth Offending Team- Reparation (YOS)

The Youth Offending team is a multidisciplinary team of people who are responsible for the supervision of young people in custody and in the community from police

officers to outreach workers and parents. They aim to stop young people reoffending and the reparation program helps with this aim. Reparation is similar to Community Payback, but the session may only see one or two young people engaged at a time.

Currently the team have regular sessions at four parks throughout the week, Bruce Castle Park, Downhills Park, Chapmans Green and Wood Green Crown Court. They coordinate with the Park Operations staff to agree a range of work and access to tools and resources.

On speaking with the Youth Offending team they would like to have access to more opportunities across the borough and have a direct line of communication with Park Development Team to enable them to widen their offer to the young people that they work this.

Emerging partners

Parks Accessibility Steering Group

This group has come together primarily to discuss and guide the installation of Changing Places facilities in some of our district parks. Members include parents of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), the Haringey Wheelchair Users Forum, Pedal Power, an accessible bike organisation and Disability Action Haringey. They have provided invaluable expertise and insight about the needs of disabled people.

Public Health

Over past year the Park Service has been working with colleagues in the CCG, Adult Services and Public Health on the “Parks and Ageing Well” Pilot aimed at finding out and understanding the barriers that older people face when thinking about facilities in parks as means support their physical and mental wellbeing. This initial work has shown that there is significant interdependence between the two services in terms of needing to improve reach into the seldom heard from communities and understanding their needs.

Bridge Renewal

The Bridge Renewal Trust is a charity based in Chestnuts Community Centre, Tottenham. Their mission is to deliver programmes and projects that enable people to live healthier, long and fulfilling lives- thus playing our part in working towards reducing health inequalities and building stronger communities.

They welcome the partnership approach adopted in the Borough Plan and are committed to working collaboratively to improve the health and wellbeing of Haringey residents through the delivery of the following services:

- Strategic Partner Services (Community Impact Haringey) - a vibrant, inclusive, viable and self-sufficient voluntary and community sector well placed to meet the needs of local people
- Volunteer Centre Haringey - promoting good volunteering practice and matching volunteers and organisations together

Bridge Renewal also organise an annual expo for voluntary organisations, along with an award ceremony. There is currently nothing specific to Friends Groups or others that volunteer within a park or greenspace.

The Bridge Renewal Trust welcome the opportunity to support Friends Groups and the Friends Forum with volunteering activities in parks and greenspaces and can offer informed support about governance, administration and information regarding funding applications and finance management for groups.

Trees for Streets

Trees for Streets is a not-for-profit enterprise, set up by the charity, Trees for Cities, and the civic innovator, Start with Local. It's supported by the Mayor of London and funded by the City Bridge Trust. In Haringey Trees for Streets works with the Council to support residents to sponsor street trees and celebration trees in parks. Trees for Streets have an ambition to plant ¼ million street trees over the next ten years. A new online portal for sponsorship has been launched to make it easier for residents to sponsor a tree. Sponsors are encouraged to help maintain the tree by watering it regularly for a reduced sponsorship cost. Trees for Streets are also able to directly fund some tree planting in the borough through national funding agreements.

Probation Services - Community Payback (PSCP)

Community Payback is a facility used by the Probation Services for offenders to complete any hours they have been given as part of their sentence. It gives offenders the opportunity to contribute to their communities in a constructive way. For example, they may pick litter, remove graffiti, redecorate public spaces and buildings, clear waste land. They will always be supervised by a member of the Probation Services. They do not provide tools or equipment to undertake these tasks.

Initial discussions have been had with this organisation but were curtailed by the lockdowns through 2020.

Tree Wardens

The Tree Warden initiative is something that the Council will revisit as it was successful in engaging and supporting resident led groups, such as Residents Associations and Neighbourhood Watch Schemes to take on some responsibility for tree identification, inspection and care.

Street Planters and Highways

Street planting is something that has seen a surge across London, and the Council have also seen instances across the Haringey. The Highways Team have identified opportunities for engaging with communities and have a draft plan for taking this forward. They have been working with the Regeneration Teams on several projects supported through GLA funding, such as the Gladstone Avenue pocket park and the Mayes Road Linear Park. There are many Residents Associations throughout Haringey who are supportive of improving their local street scene. They can be contacted through the Haringey Federation of Residents Associations.



Action Plan

The following Action Plan uses the three aims from the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy to inform how best these can be achieved.

Aim	Objective	Issue/Challenge	Action	Resource
Inclusion	To create a framework that will help us work cooperatively with all park users and stakeholders, with targeted engagement with seldom heard from communities	Engagement with communities generally, including Friends Groups and seldom heard from communities	<p>Identify groups or organisations and partners that already have relationships with communities</p> <p>Identify the barriers these groups most commonly face when attempting to engage</p> <p>Develop a framework of proactive and purposeful engagement</p>	<p>Community Engagement and Partnership Officer</p> <p>Zonal Officers</p> <p>Park Development Team</p> <p>Operational Team</p>
Inclusion	To better understand and appreciate the role of Friends Groups and other key stakeholders	Behaviour change and buy in from internal and external stakeholders	Develop a program of training and mentoring support to develop greater understanding and more inclusive work practices	<p>Community Engagement and Partnership Officer</p> <p>Greenspace Volunteering Officer</p> <p>Workforce Plan</p>
Inclusion	To work with partners to identify and reduce areas of potential concern and conflict in parks and green spaces.			
Inclusion	To develop a Plan with identified actions and targets to support community engagement and volunteering in parks, green spaces and street planting	Formalise the relationship between the Friends Groups and Park Service	Co-produce a Memorandum of Understanding or similar guiding document to bring together the already supportive relationship	Greenspace Volunteering Officer

Aim	Objective	Issue/Challenge	Action	Resource
Inclusion	Expand on the range of groups that contribute to the design, management, marketing and usage of parks and green spaces by developing regular and ongoing engagement with BAME, faith, younger, older, disabled women and girls and LGBT communities	Champion volunteering and scope of our reach into seldom heard from communities and groups	Develop a program of events and activities that celebrate volunteering, including a focus on reaching seldom heard from groups	Community Engagement and Partnership Officer Greenspace Volunteering Officer Zonal Officers Operational Team
Inclusion	Developing more active, independent community groups in parks and green spaces	Partners, stakeholders and community groups may be struggling to achieve, or are resistant to change and will need support and targeted resources to help them feel more prepared and open to the changes needed to be more inclusive in their practices	<p>Communicate with internal stakeholders, initially about why the Council is taking this community engagement approach and thereafter in support of implementing and sustaining the approach</p> <p>Develop a Marketing and Communications Plan that supports increased usage and involvement by seldom heard from groups.</p>	Community Engagement and Partnership Officer Greenspace Volunteering Officer Parks and Leisure Communications and Marketing Officer
Inclusion	Engaging a larger and more diverse group of people in volunteering in parks and green spaces and in street based volunteering	Need to build on present understanding of the groups, communities and needs, with additional focus on seldom heard from communities	Recruit a Community Engagement and Partnership Officer	Workforce Plan

Aim	Objective	Issue/Challenge	Action	Resource
Inclusion	Developing more active, independent community groups in parks and green spaces	Partners, stakeholders and community groups may be struggling to achieve, or are resistant to change and will need support and targeted resources to help them feel more prepared and open to the changes needed to be more inclusive in their practices	Communicate with internal stakeholders, initially about why the Council is taking this community engagement approach and thereafter in support of implementing and sustaining the approach	Community Engagement and Partnership Officer Greenspace Volunteering Officer Parks and Leisure Communications and Marketing Officer
			Develop a Marketing and Communications Plan that supports increased usage and involvement by seldom heard from groups.	

Aim	Objective	Issue/Challenge	Action	Resource
Service Quality	To improve communications between key stakeholders to enable better partnership working for the benefit of Haringey's parks and green space users	Much greater commitment to communication and informing to promote better public understanding and to support behaviour change/behaviour modification	To provide more information in parks and via Council and Friends websites/media that supports the strategy priorities of inclusion, mitigating climate change	Community Engagement and Partnership Officer Zonal Team Projects Team Operations Team
		Supporting staff to fully understand the role of Friends Groups and how better communications and partnership working supports the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy	Develop in-house training on improving communications and a shared understanding of the role of Friends Groups	
Service Quality	To celebrate the achievements of the parks and green spaces sector	Building resilience and capacity of existing groups to meet the needs of the wider community and park users	Plan and organise a calendar of events to help promote, celebrate and recognise achievements across different sectors	Greenspace Volunteering Officer Community Engagement and Partnership Officer

Aim	Objective	Issue/Challenge	Action	Resource
Service Quality	To develop more opportunities for corporate volunteering and similar schemes that provide social benefit	Building resilience and capacity of existing groups to meet the needs of the wider community and park users	Expand the role of TCV so they are able to provide more opportunities for volunteering, training and education	Greenspace Volunteering Officer
		Finding alternative sources of income and funding to support engagement and volunteering in parks	To recruit a Greenspaces Volunteer Officer to work with Friends groups and other volunteering partners and to develop an improved corporate volunteering offer.	Community Engagement and Partnership Officer Greenspace Volunteering Officer
		Resources needed for the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy	Develop a prioritised program of growth and development and training to up skill staff and partners	Workforce Plan
		Work towards creating a more diverse Operational workforce	Advertise role opportunities through the Friends Groups, Forum and Stakeholders	Workforce Plan

Aim	Objective	Issue/Challenge	Action	Resource
Climate Change	Improving access to nature for BAME and other seldom heard from communities	Need to develop a better understanding of the place of the natural environment to different cultural and ethnic groups and how to make it more accessible for them	<p>Provide activities and events that help promote access to the Natural Environment to people from BAME and other communities</p> <p>Develop a programme of activities and events that showcases and supports increased usage and involvement by seldom heard from groups including activities to involve communities in nature and activities</p>	Community Engagement and Partnership Officer Greenspace Volunteering Officer
Climate Change	Offering skills and knowledge training for volunteers to enable them to better contribute towards meeting targets for biodiversity.	The need for additional support and information about climate change issues, challenges and the means to mitigate them	To provide more information in parks and via Council and Friends websites/media that supports the strategy priorities of inclusion, mitigating climate change	Community Engagement and Partnership Officer

Appendices

1. Haringey's Public Health Report 2019

https://www.haringey.gov.uk/sites/haringeygovuk/files/health_inequalities_public_health_report_2019_a4.pdf

2. National Council for Voluntary Organisations

https://www.ncvo.org.uk/images/documents/policy_and_research/volunteering/Volunteer-experience_Full-Report.pdf

3. The Conservation Volunteers- Green Gym Evaluation

<https://www.tcv.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/green-gym-national-evaluation-2016-full.pdf>

4. Taken from the Parks Community website- <https://parkscommunity.org.uk/>

5. Haringey Council- Borough Plan, Equality Impact Assessment 2019-2023-

https://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/documents/s107023/Borough%20Plan%20EQIA_FINAL.pdf

6. Shape Landscape Architects, Bridgit Snaith- Weeds, Wildflowers and Whiteness.

https://issuu.com/shapelandscapearchitects/docs/the_queen_elizabeth_park_w_hose_val

7. Also discussed at the Future of London roundtable webinar-

<https://www.futureoflondon.org.uk/2020/10/20/parks-and-green-space-does-everyone-feel-welcome/>

LADDER OF INVOLVEMENT

for a Friends of the Park Group at a site, or part of site

In Control	You run your site, or the parts of it you want to.
Key partner	You are fully informed about all matters you want to know about. Involved in all the decision-making you are interested in.
A partner	Regularly informed about some key issues. Involved in some of the decision-making
Consulted Regularly	Informed about some things. Consulted sometimes.
Consulted occasionally	Only contacted when it suits the management, maybe on one issue. Your emails and phone calls are replied to.
Existence noted	Your activities and views are noted but carry little weight.
Ignored	Your efforts and views are ignored.

parkscommunity.org.uk

8. Volunteering in Parks

The picture of volunteering in Haringey Parks and Green Spaces

As part of the information gathering for this plan a survey was sent out to the Haringey Friends of Parks Forum. There were fifteen questions which covered governance, membership, offer and need. Twenty-one groups filled in the survey, of that twenty-one, twelve were groups from a park or green space with a Green Flag. The results of the survey are reproduced as an appendix.

The majority of groups are constituted, which helps to give a clear message that they have a mandate to represent parks users and apply for external funding.

Three quarters of the groups have a website and most use Facebook and /or Twitter as additional forms of communication to members and the wider community. Four groups also use WhatsApp and Instagram. But under half regularly update social media platforms.

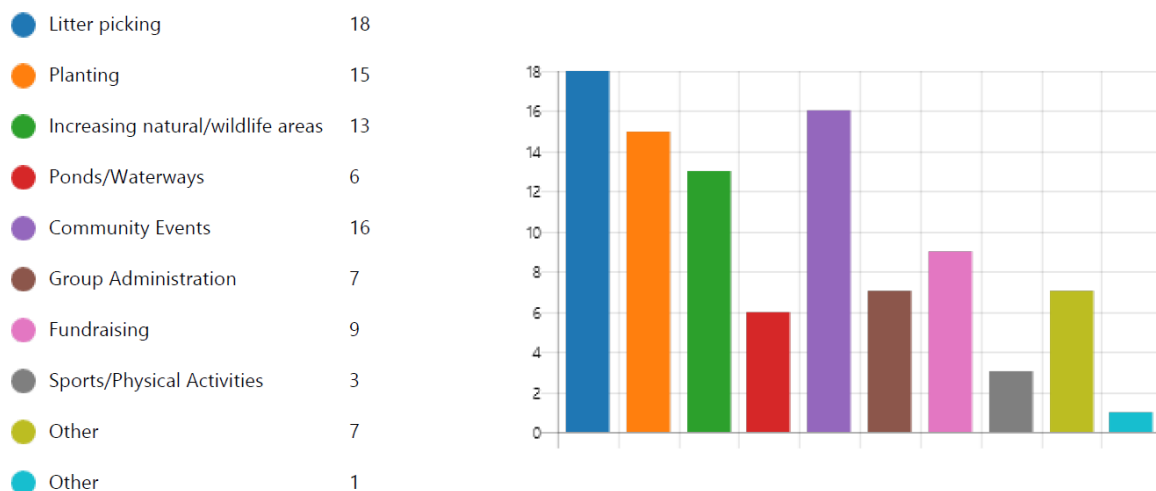
Eleven of the groups have action plans.

Seventeen of the groups have a membership between 1-200, the majority of those have between 1-50 members. The remaining four groups have 200 - 500>.

The membership results contrast greatly when looking at the number of active members within the groups. Eight groups have only 1-10 active members, twelve groups have 11-30 active members, with only one group reporting that they have more than 30 active members.

The following charts are reproduced here as the information they contain is easier to discuss with the results present. These questions had the option to select multiple answers.

What types of volunteering activity does your group focus on?

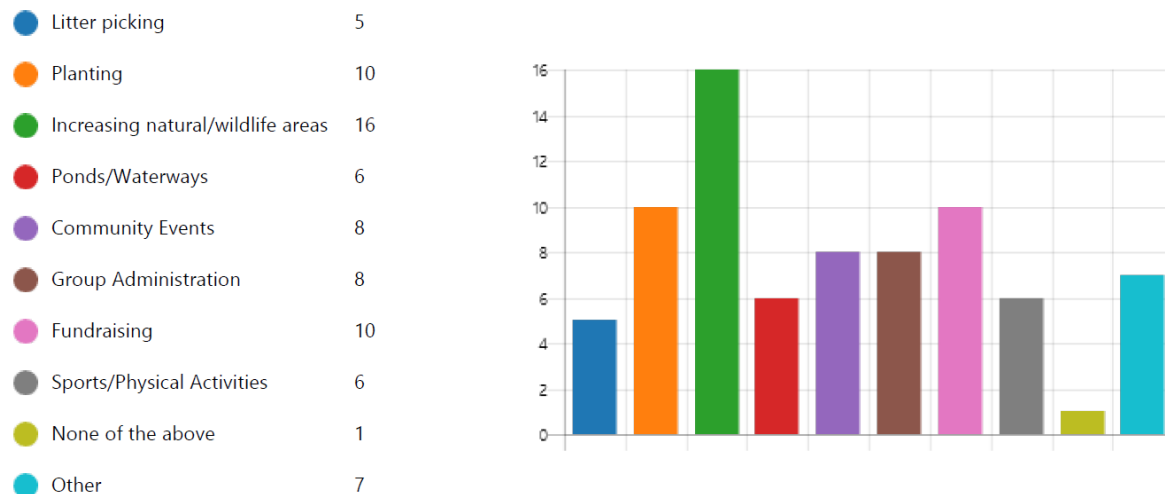


The majority of groups organise litter picking, community events, planting and increasing natural/wildlife areas. Less than half the groups fundraise or do a considerable amount of administration.

Six groups have pond/waterways that they use to offer volunteering and three take part in sports/physical activities as part of their volunteering.

The option of “other” had additional comments including Promotion, raising awareness of a space, liaising with the Council, therapeutic gardening, working with local schools and colleagues, community food growing, bee keeping, art projects

What type of volunteering activities would your group like to develop?



In comparison to the current offer of volunteering in parks and green spaces the results above show significant increases in the Friends groups desire to do more to increase natural/wildlife areas, planting, and fundraising.

“Other” activities that groups identified they would like to increase are indicated below

Protect both green spaces and increase biodiversity

More liaison with community groups in the area. Promoting safe streets project. Education and training in

Increased use of the Church Tower and increased awareness of the existence of both Tower and Churchyard

Turning bowls pavilion into a community hub

More activities for families introducing them to the natural environment and wildlife in the park

Improving footpaths

Community food growing, Bee keeping, Eco Arts, Cycling, walking, environmental cafe and campaigns up cycling and reuse, books, paint wood and clothes

Groups were asked to estimate how many hours volunteering they believe their groups does in a 12-month period. Over half the groups estimate they volunteer

between 1-500 hours a year, six groups volunteer between 501-1500 hours, with the remaining three groups estimating volunteer hours between 1500 to over 2000.

The groups weren't asked if they keep accurate records of all the volunteering that they do, but if the list of current volunteering, the hours spent and active members are compared, there is a discrepancy that suggests the groups have under estimated their volunteering hours in the main. Further analysis of the results, in discussion with the Friends Groups, are needed to understand if this is the case.

The total economic value of these volunteer hours is estimated to be just under £600,000 for an estimated 45000 hours over the year

The calculation used in this instance was based on the assumption that half of the hours would be used fulfilling basic manual work in the park or green space and half would be used for either skilled manual or skilled administration work. The current London Living Wage was used to calculate the basic manual wage total and a higher figure of fifteen pounds was used to calculate the skilled manual and administration.

45000 hours divided by 2 equals 22500 hours

22500 hours multiplied by £10.95 per hour = £224,375 basic manual work

22500 hours multiplied by £15 per hour = £337,500 skilled manual and administration work

Giving an estimated total of £583,875 worth of work in our parks and green spaces.

On the question of funding over half the groups accessed the Small Parks Grant available through the Council. The next largest source of income for the groups is through community events that they organise. Only four groups accessed external funding listed, with one group receiving funding from four different sources. Six groups did not make any funding applications.

Other sources of funding were from the Tottenham Grammar School Foundation, a local developer, Veolia, subscriptions, and crowdfunding.

The final section of the survey asks questions about further support, what the groups would like support with and other organisations that they would like to or would consider working with.

Would you like more information and support from the Council for any of the following areas?

As can be seen majority of groups would like further information and support on fundraising, increasing natural/wildlife areas and planting, organising community events. The results here basically reflect the answers to the previous question about areas the groups would like to develop.

"Other" answers include

Support to develop the pavilion

More information and support from the Council in every area of parks maintenance

Training

Capturing rainwater for use in the park and toilet access

Art

Council collaboration is essential

Safety of trees

Lights and security, installation of notice boards, cycle path and bike racks for locking bikes, public seating area

A further question allowing groups to expand on their needs revealed that training, attracting, and retaining volunteers, support with administration and promotion and procuring new facilities were important to many groups. Having a strong connection and commitment from parks staff, particularly the nature conservation officer, was also a common theme.

The following question gave groups the opportunity to give a longer written answer. These can be seen in full in the appendix.

What could the Council do to improve the relationship with your group?

The common theme to these replies was about the level of communication with the Council both at a project officer level and within different departments. Groups recognise there are resource and capacity issues but would like to see more consistent and proactive communications. Many want parks to receive more investment, both in the park and at officer level.

The final three questions were regarding working with outside organisations to deliver projects or for one off volunteer sessions in their park or green space.

Twelve of the groups had worked with organisation like Trees for Cities and Probation services in their park, nine groups had not worked with any other organisations in their Park or Green Space. All twelve groups found working with other organisations to be a positive experience.

Those groups that hadn't worked with other organisations in their park or green space were asked if they would be interested in developing additional support for their space, 8 groups said they would be interested in developing those relationships and seven replied 'maybe'.

Next Steps

The answer to the survey will help to inform the actions for this plan and the action plans for the individual parks. They will also help officers to understand the needs of the Friends Groups and how they can best support the growth and resilience of the group, through the provision good communication and opportunities for the group to grow.

Communication

- Clear point of contact- Project Officer roles have helped with this, but there should be a liaison/support officer for the forum
- Open, honest communication
- More awareness about the role of Friends groups in parks within other departments
- Proactive Councillors and Cabinet members
- Championing the work of the Friends: Improving parks/green spaces, fundraising, community events etc.
- Regular meetings with all Friends groups, not just those with Green Flags
- Management Plans for all parks and green spaces, not just Green Flag parks

Needs

Support with.

- Training and capacity building: admin, funding, safeguarding, risk assessing, project planning. Perhaps through workshops
- Recruiting and retaining new members e.g. young people
- Working with other organisations: corporate groups, schools, TCV
- Finding experts and professional presence e.g. Youth service, probation service, school sessions

Other needs.

- Memorandum of Understanding with the Council
- Understanding and visiting other parks and locations to see what is possible
- Understanding how to work with local schools
- Codify the priorities for Friends

9. Draft Expression of Interest – Shared Spaces Scheme

Supported/Shared Spaces

Expression of Interest

Thank you for contacting Haringey Councils Parks Team regarding our Shared Spaces programme.

The Council are hoping to empower residents to take ownership of areas or facilities within parks and green spaces, with the view that working together we can have a truly positive impact on our environment.

So let's get started!

	Name/Description	Nearest postcode
Park Name or location description if not a park		

	Group Name and contact information	Your position in the group
Your group details		

Does your group have a constitution?	Yes	No
Does your group have insurance for the activities that you would like to carry out?	Yes	No

(tick as appropriate)

Tell us about your idea and plans for the park or green space

--

Please send the completed form to parkprojects@haringey.gov.uk with the subject line Shared Spaces and one of our officers will be in touch soon with information on the next step.

We look forward to working closely with you on this journey!

10. Draft Expression of Interest - Shared Spaces Scheme

Memorandum of Understanding

Between XXXXXXXXXXXX and Haringey Council for the area known as XXXXXXXXXXXX

Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU) forms the basis of the agreement between XXXXXXXXXXXX and Haringey Council.

The MoU is not a contractual agreement and does not impose any legal obligations on any party. The relationship between the XXXXXXXX and Haringey Council is based on mutual consent and understanding that this is based on a voluntary arrangement.

Aim

This document is designed to enable and empower Friends of Parks groups, Residents Associations and site-specific groups to take on shared responsibility of a park, area within a park or other green space with the Council.

Outcome

To build resilience in the volunteer communities within our Parks and Green Spaces in order to secure their future, increase biodiversity and potentially positively impact on the health and wellbeing of residents using and visiting the spaces.

Responsibilities

XXXXXXXXXX will be responsible for:

1. Providing designs and plans for any proposed work. These can be in the form of a simple sketch, or for more intricate works more detailed designs may be required
2. Providing an annual action plan of maintenance for the space
3. Providing an annual update regarding the activities of the group/association in the space, including numbers of volunteer hours
4. Having a constitution
5. Ensuring the group has the correct insurance for carrying out the activities planned
6. Ensuring risk assessments are completed for activities

XXXXXXXXXX will not be responsible for:

1. Any works that continue to be the remit of the Park Operations team within the Park or Green Space such as: grass cutting, litter, play equipment, paths, furniture, tree felling, hedge trimming, weed maintenance, unless it forms part of the agreed action plan.

Haringey Council will be responsible for:

1. Working collectively with the Friends Group/Residents Association/site specific Group to support the action plan and maintenance of the space
2. Providing support and guidance to the group when completing risk assessment and other compulsory obligations
3. Providing support to any funding applications the group may make for assistance in developing and/or maintaining the space
4. Maintaining a clear line of communication including providing the relevant information, conducting joint site visits and/or attending meetings as required
5. Maintaining all areas around and outside of the 'Shared Space' as well as any areas within the space that remain under their remit of work such as: grass cutting, tree felling, hedge trimming, weed maintenance etc
6. Requiring that any works within the space are within health and safety regulation and do not pose a danger to the general public that will also be using the space and raising any concerns with the group, giving them an opportunity and clear timeline for making any changes or improvements.

Haringey Council will not be responsible for:

1. Maintaining any additional features within the Shared Space unless agreed, or they pose a risk to the Health and Safety of the general public
2. Providing insurance cover for the activities of the group

Communication

Both parties agree to communicate openly and with the best interests of the 'Shared Space' at heart. They also agree to have open and transparent communications with other key stakeholders that may have a vested interest in the wider Park or Green Space.

Ending the MoU

The MoU may be ended by any party giving a two-month notice period. Notice must be given in writing, including the reasons for the termination.

Signed on behalf of XXXXXXXX _____

Name in block capitals _____

Position _____

Date / /

Signed on behalf of Haringey Council _____

Name in block capitals _____

Position _____

Date / /



Parks and Greenspaces Policy Pack

August 2022

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Introduction

This document seeks to codify current working policies and practices in parks. Whilst the policy position is set out to give park users a clear position on a range of issues there may still be further work to complete to empower officers to enforce the policies under relevant legislation.

Each policy position statement has been built up by careful review of the context around the issue, practice elsewhere, and legal position.

The policy position statements all have proposed review frequencies and a next scheduled review date. It may be the case that a review is required sooner than the date indicated.

Once a policy position has been reviewed the agreement of the relevant Cabinet Member will be sought to approve the revised policy position if one is proposed.

At present there are 17 policy areas set out. Over time more will be added. Policies will be updated to reflect changes in thinking, legislation, and best practice.

Name	Barbecues and fires in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS1
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Review frequency	Initially annually
Next scheduled review date	December 2023 (annually)
Policy position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBQs are not permitted in any park or greenspace under the management of Haringey Council (unless they are part of a permitted event authorised under the Outdoor Events Policy) • Open fires (including bonfires and braziers) are not permitted in any park or greenspace under the management of Haringey Council. This applies to Council staff and their contractors as well as to park users • Sky lanterns must not be launched from any park or greenspace • Fireworks must not be launched from any park or greenspace (unless part of a permitted event authorised under the Outdoor Events Policy) • Bonfires and barbecues are permitted on Council allotments provided they comply with the existing guidance on good practice and safety
Definitions	<p>For the purposes of this policy a barbecue (BBQ) is any method of grilling/cooking food. It includes disposable foil BBQs and portable/reusable BBQs and includes both charcoal/coal and gas fired BBQs.</p> <p>Open fires (including bonfires, braziers and fire pits) are also the subject of this policy document, whether or not used for cooking.</p> <p>Sky lanterns (sometimes called “Chinese lanterns”) are usually made of paper with a wire or bamboo structure and ‘float’ by means of an open flame burning within.</p>
Context	<p>The Council recognises that a lot of residents without a garden would like the opportunity to have a barbecue. For many the local park seems like a suitable location, especially if they see others having barbecues in the park.</p> <p>Barbecues have proved very popular where permitted in parks by other local authorities, but they bring their own problems including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • litter and the additional cost of litter clearance • damage to park furniture and grass • risk of burns to people or dogs • risk of larger fires (of vegetation, bins etc)

- smoke and carbon particulates emitted by barbecues
- smells that can be offensive to some park users

Haringey Council has not previously had a written policy on BBQs but the custom and practice has been to say that BBQs are not permitted. Signs to this effect have been displayed in several parks, but last summer BBQs could regularly be seen in Haringey parks at the weekends. Little enforcement action has been taken in recent years due to budget cuts and a lack of capacity within the enforcement team.

During summer months park operations staff can regularly point to the excess litter generated by such BBQs that are not cleared up, and even bagged waste is often ripped open by foxes who can smell the meat/bones within. Burn damage to parks furniture from disposable barbecues is common as are scorch marks on the grass. There is also a risk of summer grass fires that can become serious incidents.

Practice elsewhere

Most London boroughs do not permit BBQs in their parks. The general resistance to BBQs amongst councils is primarily a combination of food waste and litter, damage to grass and tables/benches (from portable BBQs) and a concern about fire risk. None of these objections appears insurmountable. Concerns about smoke, particulate pollution and intrusive or (for some) offensive smells (especially if meat and perhaps significantly pork is being cooked) are much more difficult to mitigate.

However, the experience in London Fields (which is managed by Hackney Council) is relevant. BBQs had been permitted on London Fields. It became a very popular destination for people - not just a few locals - wanting to have BBQs. The popularity of the park resulted in vast amounts of waste and damage to the park and anti-social behaviour from loud music to public urination. The Council calculated that the additional cost of managing litter, damage and enforcement was £200,000. Their response was to ban BBQs in London Fields in 2019.

In 2019 Camden Council responded to a similar problem by restricting BBQs to two areas in Waterlow Park away from the main meadow and the facilities at Lauderdale House. At the time of writing (June 2021) barbecues are not permitted anywhere in Camden.

In one of Southwark's larger parks (Burgess Park), however, there are eight purpose-built barbecues and 10 more spots for disposable ones. Barbecues are currently not permitted in any Southwark parks, but before Covid-19 restrictions there were clear guidelines as to what is and is not permitted. For example, BBQs had to be extinguished by 9pm and all rubbish cleared. The area was designed for small groups, but could become very busy, and as fewer parks permit BBQs it does mean that those who do are more likely to attract people from further afield.

Cultural and social considerations

As previously stated, BBQs are popular with people of all backgrounds, but the grilling of meat on an open charcoal fire (called a *manga*) is particularly important to the Turkish, Kurdish and other middle eastern communities. It may also be a rare opportunity for those without gardens and/or with small flats to be able to meet and eat socially with family and /or friends. This illustrates the difficulty in finding a solution that is acceptable to everyone.

It is also easy to demonise BBQs as creating litter, causing damage and attracting anti-social behaviour. Picnics and other social gatherings in parks can cause as much litter and noise nuisance. A picnic is also much easier to clear away (and to take home the rubbish afterwards) than a hot barbecue. Picnics are also less likely to result in damage to park furniture or grass and do not cause smoke and smells that can interfere with others' enjoyment.

Reviewing the policy

The Parks Service will undertake to review this policy on barbecues annually in the context of the policy, practice and experience of other London boroughs.

However, if BBQs are to be permitted in some parks or designated areas of parks at some point in the future, it is essential that there is a code of conduct to avoid problems such as litter, damage to the park, smoke pollution and nuisance and anti-social behaviour; and that this is **strictly enforced**.

Bonfires and open fires

Fires are not permitted in parks for a range of reasons.

They damage the ground and are a potential danger to other park users, dogs and other animals in the park. They can also result in uncontrolled fires that could cause significant damage to vegetation, trees or buildings. Embers from a fire can be transported on the wind and cause a fire elsewhere, especially in dry conditions.

Even when a fire has died down the embers can be hot for hours afterwards and can injure unsuspecting humans or animals.

Fires also generate smoke which is hazardous to health and unpleasant for other park users. Open fires and bonfires also contribute to air pollution and climate change.

Sky lanterns

Sky lanterns are banned on all Council land in Wales but not yet in England. However, they aren't safe for the environment as they present a fire risk especially after a dry period, they cause litter when they land and they can cause injury to animals as a result of entanglement or entrapment.

	<p><u>Fireworks</u></p> <p>It is unlawful to set off fireworks (including sparklers) in any public place. This includes public parks and greenspaces.</p> <p><u>Allotments</u></p> <p>It is permitted to have bonfires and barbecues on allotments (though no bonfires between April and September). The policy and guidance is set out in appendix 2 of the notes for allotment holders.</p>
Legal position	<p>The Council should consider reviewing and updating its byelaws, or consider a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO), as there currently (as of August 2022) is no explicit reference to barbecues in the existing byelaws.</p> <p>Fireworks - www.gov.uk/fireworks-the-law</p>
Penalties and enforcement	Any byelaw (or PSPO) should include the scope to issue a fixed penalty notice and/or prosecution.
References	<p>Where to have a BBQ in London's Parks in 2019 - https://londonist.com/london/food/barbecue-bbq-london-parks-where-which-when-rules</p> <p>Time Out guide to BBQs in London parks in 2019 - https://www.timeout.com/london/things-to-do/eight-smokin-london-spots-you-can-barbecue-in-this-summer</p> <p>London Fields BBQ ban 2019 - https://www.hackneygazette.co.uk/news/environment/barbecues-banned-in-london-fields-for-2019-1-5964499</p> <p>Highbury Fields BBQs cause particulate pollution - https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/28/barbecues-make-popular-london-park-more-polluted-than-city-stree/</p> <p>RSPCA, www.rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/litter/chineselanterns</p>

Name	Alcohol in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS2
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Review frequency	Every three years (12 months before expiry of extant Public Spaces Protection Orders for alcohol control)
Next scheduled review date	October 2023 (12 months before next PSPO consultation)
Policy position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is permitted for people aged 18 or over to drink alcohol in parks and greenspaces in Haringey. However, it should be consumed responsibly and in moderation. This means the consumption of the alcohol should not have a detrimental effect on the enjoyment or well-being of others using the park or greenspace. • Under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, the Council has obtained Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) relating to the consumption and carrying of alcohol in 11 of the council's 19 wards. Where a park or greenspace is included within the alcohol control zone PSPO any person who is causing nuisance or behaving anti-socially can be asked by an authorised officer to stop drinking, and their alcohol can be confiscated within that park or greenspace. A person who has been asked to stop drinking or to surrender the alcohol can be given a Fixed Penalty Notice (a fine). Failure to pay within the prescribed time may result in prosecution. The wards covered by the PSPO are listed here. • In those parks and greenspaces that are not subject to PSPOs, the principle remains the same, i.e. that alcohol may be consumed responsibly (by over 18s). However, if the consumption of alcohol results in anti-social or nuisance behaviour the perpetrator may be asked to leave the park. Failure to do so may result in being arrested under other legislation. • People bringing and consuming alcohol in parks and greenspaces must take the containers home or dispose of them in a bin. Failure to do so can result in fines for littering. • Alcohol may <u>not</u> be consumed in children's playgrounds, designated sport courts, and paddling pools. Signs at the entrances to playgrounds, sports courts, paddling pools and some other facilities state that alcohol (or glass bottles) is not permitted. • Most cafes in parks are not licensed for the sale of alcohol; alcohol should not be taken into them or consumed at tables or areas managed by the café. • Those holding official events in parks may apply for a temporary events notice (TEN) or a premises license to serve alcohol. If granted the serving and consumption of alcohol will be regulated by that TEN / premises licence.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular street drinkers in the borough will continue to be offered advice and support into treatment services to help them address their addictions, move out of the 'street lifestyle' and address their anti-social behaviour. However, the Council will also use the powers listed above to prevent alcohol related anti-social behaviour from street drinkers in parks or greenspaces. This includes the confiscation of alcohol in parks or greenspaces if necessary.
Definitions	Alcohol means any drink (or other substance) containing at least 0.5% alcohol by volume. This includes beer, cider, wine, spirits, cocktails and pre-mixed drinks containing alcohol.
Context	<p>Parks are places to enjoy leisure and for some that may be a picnic with a shared bottle of wine; for others it may be a can of beer on a bench while soaking up the sunshine.</p> <p>The effects of drinking alcohol in volume are well known, and one consequence can be loud, offensive or anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>We are also aware that some people are not comfortable with alcohol or those who are consuming it even if their behaviour is unaffected. This may be based on their personal experience of alcohol or for religious or cultural reasons for example.</p> <p>Striking the right balance is difficult which is why we refer to drinking "responsibly and in moderation" in this policy.</p> <p>The Parks Service would like to see alcohol control public spaces protection orders (PSPOs) introduced in all parks and greenspaces managed by the council. Currently the alcohol control PSPOs in Haringey do <u>not</u> include many of the borough's parks and greenspaces.</p> <p>The Council provides advice and support to people who misuse alcohol (or for those affected by others' misuse of alcohol). Information can be found at https://www.haringey.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/health/public-health/alcohol-and-drugs</p>
Legal position	<p>It is unlawful for people under 18 to drink alcohol in any public place (which includes all parks and greenspaces).</p> <p>Where an Alcohol Control Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is in force, a person guilty of an offence may be given a Fixed Penalty Notice of £100 and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale (£500). If alcohol is confiscated, it can be disposed of by the person who confiscates it.</p> <p>If the Fixed Penalty Notice is paid within the required timescale no further action will be taken. Failure to pay within this time may result in prosecution for breach of the Order.</p>

	<p>The Order can be enforced by police officers, police community support officers (PCSOs) and authorised persons representing the London Borough of Haringey.</p> <p>These Orders remain in force for a period of three years. The current orders were created in October 2020.</p> <p>Alcohol cannot be confiscated nor can fines be levied in parks and greenspaces that are not within the boundaries of areas subject to an alcohol control PSPO.</p>
Penalties and enforcement	<p>As set out in PSPOs where present.</p> <p>None where PSPO not in operation.</p>
References	None.

Name	Smoking and vaping in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS3
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoking and vaping are not permitted in designated play areas or in enclosed or substantially enclosed structures and buildings in parks and greenspaces • Smoking and vaping are not permitted within 10m of the curtilage of enclosed or substantially enclosed structures and buildings within parks and greenspaces. • Smoking of illegal drugs (including cannabis) is not permitted in any park or greenspace. • Smoking of cigarettes, cigars, e-cigarettes and vaping is permitted - but strongly discouraged - elsewhere in parks and greenspaces. • Those who do smoke in parks and greenspaces should be considerate of those around them who have a right to expect clean air in a park or greenspace • Smoking and vaping are not permitted within any Council vehicle (including parks vehicles) at any time. • Council staff and contractors undertaking work for the Council should not smoke or vape whilst engaged in their duties for the council.
Context	<p>Smoking (and inhaling second-hand smoke) is deleterious to health, and many people find the smell of second-hand smoke unpleasant. Cigar, shisha and cannabis smoke are particularly strong and noxious.</p> <p>Children in particular are harmed by second-hand smoke.</p> <p>Legislation prohibits smoking in public buildings and workplaces.</p> <p>Haringey Council's public health service provides information on the hazards of smoking and advice on how to get help to quit at www.haringey.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/health/public-health/smoke-free</p>
Legal framework	<p>The Health Act 2006 requires enclosed or substantially enclosed parts of premises that are public places or workplaces to be smoke-free.</p> <p>The Health Act 2006 also includes powers to make non-enclosed places smoke-free if there is a significant risk that people there might be exposed to significant quantities of smoke.</p> <p>Smoking cannabis (and other illegal drugs) is covered by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.</p>
Penalties and enforcement	TBA

Name	Dogs and control of dogs in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS4
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Review frequency	At least every three years, 12 months prior to expiry of existing borough-wide PSPOs relating to dog control
Next review date	January 2023
Policy objective	To encourage responsible dog ownership that allows owners and their dogs to enjoy parks and greenspaces in the borough without infringing on the enjoyment and safety of others.
Preamble	<p>The Council recognises that the majority of dog owners are responsible and that most interaction between dogs and the public is positive. It is also recognised that dogs can and do play a positive role in society and provide enjoyment and health benefits for their owners and their families.</p> <p>Dog owners are one of the most common and most frequent users of parks and greenspaces in Haringey. Their presence adds to the general sense of safety within parks, they are the daily eyes and ears within parks and are often the first to report issues and damage to equipment, trees etc. Many are actively involved in friends of parks groups and other voluntary groups within parks.</p> <p>However, the policy on dogs and dog control also acknowledges that not all dog owners are responsible, and some dogs represent a risk (actual or perceived) to other park users. A significant number of children and adults are uncomfortable in the presence of dogs and can easily be frightened by dogs of any size. It is important to acknowledge this so that a balance can be struck in ensuring the enjoyment of parks and greenspaces by dogs, dog owners and other park users including those who are less at ease with dogs.</p> <p>It is also important to acknowledge that some cultures do not traditionally have dogs as pets and their presence can be unnerving or frightening. In our multi-cultural and diverse borough, it is important that dog owners are aware of, and respect, this too.</p> <p>The policy therefore seeks to achieve a balance between the control and behaviour of dogs in parks and greenspaces and recognition of the community benefits and the benefits of supporting responsible dog ownership.</p>
Policy position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dogs taken into parks and greenspaces in Haringey must be under control and they must obey commands from their owner, whether on the lead or off the lead. Being under control means they do not cause damage, distress or harm to people, other dogs or wild animals. Dogs may only enter Haringey parks and greenspaces with a responsible, supervising person who is able to control the dog. The minimum age for this is 10.

- All dogs in parks and greenspaces in Haringey must wear a collar and be microchipped and/or wear a name tag with the owner's contact details.
- A person in charge of a dog must pick up their dog's poo and dispose of it in a waste bin. A person in charge of a dog must also carry the appropriate means to pick up dog poo. In practice taking a few plastic bags (rather than one) is recommended.
- Dogs must be kept on a lead not more than 2m in length at all times in all parks and greenspaces smaller than half a hectare in area, and in all greenspace owned by Homes for Haringey. A list of the parks and greenspaces under half a hectare can be found in Annex 1 below.
- Well-behaved dogs may be walked or exercised freely (off a lead) in all large parks and greenspaces (over half a hectare in area). This promotes healthy exercise for dogs and takes into consideration the needs of the borough's dog owners and the welfare of their dogs. However, dogs that are exercised or walked off-lead must not behave in a way that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other park users, or to birds or other animals. A person in charge of a dog should put and keep their dog on a lead if they do not feel they can control the dog or if requested to by other park users, and they must do so if requested to by an authorised officer of the council.
- No more than four dogs should be walked or exercised by a single person in parks and greenspaces, whether or not they are on a lead. The exception to this is licensed dog walkers who may walk up to six dogs provided they can be identified as a licensed dog walker. The licensing scheme is to be developed (see policy PGSS15 on permitted activities in parks and greenspaces).
- Dogs must not enter areas designated as "dog exclusion areas". This includes all fenced/enclosed/designated children's play areas and some other enclosed areas such as picnic areas, sports courts, outdoor gyms and other designated places (unless signage explicitly permits dogs).
- Dog owners must not instruct nor encourage their dogs to cause damage to trees, furniture or other inanimate items in parks and greenspaces, nor to harm people, other dogs or wild animals. Doing so indicates that the dog owner is not being responsible and is therefore not in control of their dog.
- Enforcement of the policies relating to dog fouling, control of dogs, the number of dogs under an individual's supervision, dogs on leads and dog exclusion areas in parks and greenspaces will be undertaken under the council's [Dog Control Public Spaces Protection Order](#).
- Park users who are concerned about the behaviour of specific dogs (or dog owners) are encouraged to report this to the council's enforcement team or to the police via 101 or via the [ASB pages of the Council website](#). Other contact details can be found on signage at park entrances.
- Assistance dogs for people with visual disabilities should be under control, but owners are not required to pick up after them, and they may be taken into areas that are prohibited for other dogs.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The parks service encourages dog owners and others to organise events in parks to celebrate and showcase their dogs as a way of demonstrating the benefits of responsible dog ownership to the community.
Definitions	<p>Dog control public spaces protection orders (PSPOs) are powers given to local authorities under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Police Act 2014 to control the behaviour of those in charge of dogs in public spaces.</p> <p>Parks and greenspaces over half a hectare are those that are larger than 5,000 square metres which is a little larger than half a full-size football pitch.</p>
Context	<p>Dog ownership</p> <p>There are an estimated nine million dogs in the UK with about a quarter of households owning a dog. However, dog ownership in London is much lower. According to statistics from the Pet Food Manufacturers Association (PFMA) fewer than a tenth (9%) of London households own a dog. Applied to Haringey this still represents around 10,000 households with one or more dogs.</p> <p>Dog ownership has been reported as increasing by 16% since the onset of Covid-19. This suggests that the number of dogs using Haringey parks will increase.</p> <p>Dogs under supervision</p> <p>The rationale for the requirement for dogs in Haringey parks and greenspaces to be supervised with a responsible, supervising person who can control the dog is two-fold. Firstly, it is about ensuring the dog is safe and under control. Responsibility of the dog's behaviour must rest with a person who is able to control and restrain the dog (if necessary) and to clear up the dog's waste.</p> <p>The second reason is to identify and remove stray dogs. Any dog without a responsible person will be assumed to be stray.</p> <p>The lower age for being responsible for a dog in parks or greenspaces (or elsewhere) must be at least 10 as this is the age of criminal responsibility. However, some children aged 10 or more may be clearly unable to control the family dog(s). Their parent or carer should not allow their child to exercise a dog in parks or greenspaces over which the child does not have full control.</p> <p>Collars and micro-chipping</p> <p>All dogs in parks and greenspaces in Haringey must wear a collar as this is a requirement of all dogs in public spaces. Similarly, all dogs 8 weeks or older should be microchipped.</p> <p>Dog owners are also required by law to tag their dogs when out in a public place. The parks service therefore expects any dog in its parks to be identifiable by name tag and contact details attached to the collar. This is in addition to being microchipped, which has been a legal requirement since 2016. This means an unaccompanied dog can be identified as such and reunited with its owner. A dog that cannot be identified in this way will be assumed to be a stray. This may</p>

result in kennelling or other fees and after seven days it may be transferred to All Dogs Matter.

Dog poo (faeces)

Over the years the amount of dog poo in parks and greenspaces has substantially reduced. Nowadays most dog owners pick up their dog's poo, bag it and bin it. This is to be welcomed. However, some owners do not do this. Everyone knows how unpleasant it is to step in dog poo. Indeed, it can be - and is - the cause of slips and falls.

Dog poo can cause infection and illness and there is a very small risk of serious parasitic infections (such as toxocariasis round worms).

Responsible dog owners accept their public duty to pick up after their dogs. The same duty should be observed by less responsible dog owners in the interest of public health and clean parks. This is why the public spaces protection order requires dog owners/walkers to pick up after their dog(s).

The policy also requires dog owners/walkers to carry with them a bag (or other means) to pick up if their dog does a poo in parks and greenspaces. This was added to the dog control PSPO in October 2020.

Number of dogs walked

How many dogs is it safe and responsible for one person to walk or exercise in a park or green space? It depends on all sorts of things such as the behaviour, size and breed of the dogs to the physical strength, age, experience and/or control the person in charge of them has. Other factors such as the presence of children, hazards or other dogs or animals can add to the complexity of the issue.

The current dog control PSPO for Haringey specifies that up to six dogs may be walked by a single person. This expires in October 2023, which will be an opportunity to align the policy objective with a new PSPO (subject to wider consultation on the PSPO at the time).

The Kennel Club argues that "an arbitrary maximum number can legitimise and encourage people to walk dogs up to the specified limit, even if at a given time or circumstance, they cannot control that number of dogs".

Despite this the Council takes the view that there should be an upper limit. Most London boroughs specify a maximum number in their dog control public spaces protection orders (though some do not). These vary from four (for example in the Royal Parks or in parks in Newham) to up to six in Waltham Forest and on Hampstead Heath just to the west of Haringey (which is administered by the City of London Corporation). Lee Valley Park on Haringey's eastern borders limits the number to five.

A significant consideration is whether the dogs are on leads or not. Those that are off lead are much more difficult to control and in woodland in particular (such

as Coldfall Wood or Queens Wood) it can be extremely difficult to keep an eye on all of them, let alone exercise control over them.

It is worth examining the data on the number of households that own more than four dogs. The PFMA figures suggest that well below one percent of all dog owning households nationally have more than four dogs, and it is reasonable to assume the great majority of these are in rural areas. Applying this to Haringey it is likely that the number of households with over four dogs is well below 100, possibly only a dozen or two.

The reason for this calculation is to understand who might want to exercise more than four dogs in Haringey's parks or greenspaces. There will be very few dog owners with over four dogs. Professional dog walkers on the other hand are much more likely to have more than four dogs in their charge (as their income is in proportion to the number of dogs they walk).

The parks service would like to ensure that anyone wanting to walk more than four dogs (but not more than six) in Haringey parks and greenspaces is licensed. They would need to demonstrate they were able to do this safely and responsibly and they would be required to wear an armband indicating that they are licensed whenever they are walking five or six dogs in a Haringey park or greenspace. The detail of this proposal will be developed as part of the permitted activities policy (PGSS15).

The Council has considered reducing this figure to four as, both the Professional Dog Walkers Association (PDWA) and the National Association for Pet Sitters and Dog Walkers (NARPS) recommend that dog walkers should walk no more than four dogs at a time. However, while this is an ideal maximum a licensing scheme for up to six – subject to future review – reflects the position taken by the Council in the past (and many other councils currently) in respect of the number of dogs that can be walked.

Parks for London also support a maximum of four dogs.

The National Association of Pet Sitters and Dog Walkers (NarpsUK) have terms and conditions in place for its dog walking and pet sitting members. Two of these conditions are that no more than four dogs should be walked at one time and that only dogs where you can guarantee their recall should be let off leads.

Dogs on a lead in specified locations

The requirement to keep dogs on a lead in smaller parks (under half a hectare) is because of the size of the space. This has been a condition of the dog control orders and PSPOs for several years.

Dogs on a lead by direction

This requirement has also been a condition of the dog control orders and PSPOs for several years. It is in place to ensure the safety and well-being of other park users, dogs or animals due to the perceived risk or danger presented by the dog(s) in question. Where necessary the authorised officers have the powers to

	<p>direct people to keep their dog on a lead even in spaces bigger than half a hectare.</p> <p>Dog exclusion areas</p> <p>Dogs are not permitted into designated areas with or without a lead. These places are listed on the dog control PSPO. Such places include children's playgrounds, multi-use games areas (MUGAs) enclosed sports pitches and ball courts, fenced picnic areas, fenced paddling pools and ponds.</p> <p>Dogs may not go into children's play areas as these areas are exclusively for play. Children should feel safe to run around and play. The presence of a dog (on a lead or not) may frighten or intimidate the child. Dog faeces and urine should not be present in a play area as they could carry infection as well as being unpleasant if encountered. The urine can also damage the soft surfacing that is found in play areas.</p> <p>Some dog owners exercise their dogs in fenced areas such as fenced tennis courts or picnic areas etc. These are intended for these specific purposes and not for exercising dogs. However, it can be difficult for someone wanting to sit in a picnic area or children wanting to use a tennis court to ask a dog owner (who may be older or whose dog may be intimidating) to leave the area.</p> <p>Many sports courts have been built with external funding and the agreements are that they are to be used for intended purpose only.</p> <p>Existing signage in some fenced sports pitches, picnic areas or enclosed sensory or contemplative gardens can be ambiguous, but the presumption is that these should not be used by dogs. The signage should be modified where there is ambiguity.</p> <p>Promoting dogs and dog ownership</p> <p>This policy document does not seek to demonise dogs or dog ownership. Indeed, the parks service is keen to encourage events in parks and greenspaces that promote or showcase local dogs (and their owners!) and it supports the Alpha Dog Training School in Finsbury Park.</p> <p>Other issues</p> <p>If dogs are permitted into park buildings, they must be kept on a short lead at all times. The leases of the buildings may (or may not) make reference to dogs. However, if the building is leased to a third party it is at their discretion whether they permit dogs to enter.</p> <p>Assistance dogs must be granted access (with their owner) to any public building in parks during their normal opening hours.</p>
Legal position	The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Police Act 2014 (gives local authorities the power to make public spaces protection orders (PSPOs). The relevant sections are s59-s75.

	<p>The current Dog Control PSPO can be found at https://www.haringey.gov.uk/community/community-safety-and-engagement/anti-social-behaviour/control-dogs-public#PSPO</p> <p>Dogs Act 1871</p> <p>Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 (and amendments in 1997 and 2014)</p> <p>The Control of Dogs Order 1992</p> <p>The Microchipping of Dogs (England) Regulations 2015</p> <p>Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 introduced dog control orders but this was replaced by the ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (PSPOs)</p>
Penalties and enforcement	<p>A person who is guilty of an offence under the Dog Control PSPO may be liable to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale (currently up to £1,000).</p> <p>A Fixed Penalty Notice of £100 may be issued to offenders, which would discharge any liability to conviction for an offence under Section 67(1) of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Police Act 2014.</p>
References	<p>LB Haringey dog control orders - https://www.haringey.gov.uk/environment-and-waste/noise-and-animal-control/dog-control-orders</p> <p>https://www.camden.gov.uk/dog-fouling-control#ipvt</p> <p>https://www.brent.gov.uk/services-for-residents/culture-leisure-and-parks/parks-and-allotments/dog-control-orders/</p> <p>https://walthamforest.gov.uk/content/dog-control-orders</p> <p>https://hackney.gov.uk/dogs-in-parks and https://hackney.gov.uk/dog-control-orders</p> <p>Paper on recommended maximum number of dogs walked, Kirsten Dillon (A.Dip CBM), via Parks for London, https://parksforlondon.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/IMPACT-STUDY-NUMBER-OF-DOGS-THA-MAY-BE-WALKED-SAFELY-AT-ONE-TIME..pdf</p> <p>Narps(UK) terms and conditions, 2014 https://parksforlondon.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/NARPSUK-Responsible-DogWalking-January-2014.pdf</p> <p>Professional Dog Walkers Association</p> <p>https://www.pfma.org.uk/dog-population-2019</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/age-of-criminal-responsibility</p> <p>https://professionaldogwalkersassociation.co.uk/index.html</p> <p>https://www.narpsuk.co.uk/static/terms-and-condition</p> <p>http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/12/part/4/chapter/2/crossheading/supplemental/enacted</p>

Annex 1: Parks and greenspaces managed by Haringey parks service that are under 5,000 sq m (half a hectare) in area

Park or green space	Postcode	Notes
Adams Road To Lordship Lane	N17	Side of footpath
Archway Beds	N6	Archway Rd Opp Police Station
Aylmer Gardens	N6	Junction of Aylmer Rd, Sheldon Ave & North Hill
Barratt Gardens	N22	Junction of Station Road and Mayes Road
Bidwell Gardens	N11	Side of Sunshine Garden Centre Durnsford Road
Blaenhaven Gardens	N22	Junction Fortis Green and Eastern Road
Bounds Green Baptist Church	N22	Front of church jnct Bounds Green Rd and Braemar Ave
Brook Street Playground	N17	Stoneleigh Road
Brunswick Road Open Space	N15	Open Space
Campsbourne Bank	N8	Rectory Gardens/High Street
Caxton Terrace	N22	Station Road / Parkland Road
Chapmans Green	N22	Junction Lordship Lane and Perth Road
Chapmans Green	N22	
Christchurch Hedge	N8	Crescent Road/Crouch End Hill
Cline Road	N22	Cline Road Bounds Green Road
Clyde Road South	N15	Junction Lawrence Road and Bedford Road
Coleridge Gardens	N6	Shepherds Hill/Archway Road
Colney Hatch Lane	N10	Roadside verge
Crescent Road Gardens	N19	Junction Crouch End Hill
Doran Manor Strip	N2	Great North Road Opp Woodside Ave
Durnsford Road Verges	N11	Durnsford Road including Rhys Ave frontage
Durnsford Rockery	N11	Junction of Durnsford Road and Wroxham Gardens
Falkland Fairfax Open Space	N8	Junction Wightman Road and Falkland Road
Finsbury Gardens	N22	Finsbury Road btwn Nightingale and Truro Roads
Florence Gardens	N4	Junction Upper Tollington Park
Graham Road	N15	Triangle
Granville Road Gardens	N4	Granville/Stapleton Hall Road
Granville Road	N22	Open space
Great North Rd Islands	N2	Gt Nth Rd/Aylmer Rd/Archway Rd
Green Gate Common	N15	Opp Ducketts Common
Greenridings Telephone Exchange	N22	High Road/Bounds Green Rd
Grove Lodge Gardens Frontage	N10	Grove Lodge Gardens Frontage Muswell Hill
Harcourt Gardens	N22	Junction Durnsford Road/Albert Road opp Albert Rec
High Road No 294	N22	Corner of Canning Crescent

Park or green space	Postcode	Notes
High Road Gardens	N22	Opposite Civic Centre, Between High Rd/Stuart Crest
High Street Enclosure	N8	High Street Cross Lane
High Street Playground	N8	Hornsey High St opp Middle Lane. Site relandscaped
Hornsey Lane Triangles	N19	Junction Hornsey Lane and Crouch End Hill
Hospital Common	N15	Between Tottenham Green East and High Road.
Ivatt Way to Belmont Road	N22	Space between Ivatt Way/Belmont Rd
Kingsley Place	N6	Junction Southwood Lane
Lordship Recreation	N17	Outside Main Gates
Lydford Road Island	N15	Oulton Road
Lynton Gardens	N11	Junction Blake Road
Marsh Lane	N17	Roadside verge
Middlesex Cricket Entrance	N8	Park Road
Midhurst Gardens	N10	Junction Fortis Green and Midhurst Ave
Muswell Hill Banks	N10	Near subway north and south
Muswell Hill Peace Gardens	N6	Junction Archway Rd/Muswell Hill Road
Neville Place	N22	Neville Place/High Rd N between Trinity and Commerce Rds
New Road Recreation Ground	N22	Between New Road and Norman Avenue
Newnham Slips	N22	Behind Woodside Park from school to White Hart Lane
Page Green Common	N15	Between Ashmount Road and Broad Lane
Page Green Terrace Borders	N15	High Road rom Pembroke Road to Townsend Road
Palace Gardens	N22	Junction of Albert Rd/Alexandra Park Rd
Palace Gates Road	N22	Palace Gates Road junction Crescent Road
Park Grove	N11	Open space
Park House Passage	N6	Park House Passage off North Hill
Park Rd Beds & Maynard Gdns	N8	Junction Park Road and Palace Road
Priory Common	N8	Priory Rd verge from Park Ave North to Redston
Pulford Rd	N15	North End Open Space
Rangemoor/ Herbert Rd	N15	Open Space
Rectory Gardens	N8	Hornsey High Street/Rectory Gardens
Rokesly Gardens	N8	Tottenham Lane/Rokesly Avenue
Russell Park	N22	Russell Avenue
Ryecroft Way	N17	Open space
Manchester Gardens	N15	Between Manchester and Heysham Rd
Shelbourne Junction	N17	Jnct Lansdowne Road
Sheldon Avenue	N6	North end open space
Shepherds Hill Gardens	N6	Shepherds Hill
Somerford Grove Play Area	N17	Adjacent green space
Somerset Gardens	N6	Roadside verge
Southwood Lane	N6	
Springfield Park	N11	Park Road

Park or green space	Postcode	Notes
St Georges Hall	N8	Cranley Gardens / Park Road
St. Albans Crescent	N22	Junction Cranbrook Park
Stainby Road	N15	Junction Monument Way
Stanley Road	N15	Open space

Source: [extension of alcohol dog control pspos.pdf \(haringey.gov.uk\)](#)

Name	Boundaries and security of parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS5
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Review frequency	Initially annually (after the summer period)
Next scheduled review date	October 2023
Policy position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether a park or greenspace is fenced or not, a record of the boundaries are maintained by the Council and by the Land Registry. • Parks and greenspaces will usually have a physical boundary, often a fence, hedge or railings, with gates or entrances at appropriate points to enable park users to enter and leave the park at such points. However, the Council does not undertake to ensure each park boundary is fenced (or otherwise secured) in its entirety. Many parks have significant lengths of their boundary that are unfenced. • Open spaces, greens, commons and verges etc are much more likely to be unfenced or partially fenced. This is often a historic legacy, but it also means people can use the space as a route between two places (such as home and a transport node or shops) rather than as a destination. The Council treats each open space on a case-by-case basis, but the presumption is that it will be unfenced or partially fenced. • Only those entrances indicated by a sign (or otherwise specified) are the official entrances to parks and greenspaces. • Boundaries will be maintained by the Council to the best standard possible within available budgets. Priority will be given to maintaining boundaries with roads, railways and other potential hazards to park users. Boundaries with private properties will be maintained at the discretion of the parks service, but with a presumption that the neighbouring property owner will maintain the boundary to meet their own needs for security or privacy. • Gates and gaps in boundary fences and walls that provide access from adjacent private property onto parks or greenspaces will be resisted by the council. Accessing parks and greenspaces from private property, without permission, may be treated as trespass. Such access points from private property will be particularly resisted where the green space is a local nature reserve or has other ecological importance. • Action may involve the installation of a physical barrier. Legal action may also be taken against property owners who create direct access from their property into a park or open space that is not an entrance designated as such by the council. • Action may also taken against property owners in respect of a gate or entrance that was installed in the past, possibly by a previous property owner.

- Unauthorised encroachment by individuals into parks and greenspaces from adjoining properties will not be tolerated. Legal action will be taken if required.
- Park gates providing pedestrian (and cycle and wheelchair) access will not, as a rule, be locked at night.
- In exceptional circumstances the Council may choose to lock a park at night (or at other designated times). In such circumstances a gate locking schedule will be drawn up and published and the reason for locking the park will be stated. However, even where there is a published schedule to lock a specific park at night it may not always be possible to do so, in which case the park may be left unlocked.
- Vehicle gates will be kept locked at night and during the day except where specifically identified in the park management plan as being open for vehicle access. This may include vehicle access for leaseholders of properties accessible only via the park or green space.
- Height barriers will be used to prevent caravans and mobile homes from accessing parks at entrances that are considered to be vulnerable to such intrusions.
- Some entrances may be protected by bollards rather than a gate where it is desirable to enable pedestrian and bicycle access but to deter vehicles. The choice of bollard (permanent or removable) will depend on whether authorised vehicle access is permitted by the council.
- Where vehicle access to a park is needed by an authorised vehicle user (such as by parks staff, contractors, leaseholders or for event set up etc) the bollard and/or vehicle gate and height barrier (if opened) should be locked again immediately after the vehicle has passed through in each direction.
- In exceptional cases pedestrian entrances may be protected by special entrance treatments to prevent motorcycles, but the access needs of disabled and other park users must be considered in such circumstances, as must the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and associated legislation.
- Emergency services vehicles must be able to enter parks and greenspaces without notice if required. At least one designated vehicle entrance in each park will be secured with a lock (or similar) to which the emergency services have a key. The standard we are seeking to develop across all parks is Gerda security locks at all single-opening vehicle gates.
- In exceptional circumstances it may be necessary to lock one or more parks (or park entrances) to prevent public access during the day. Once locked the reasons for closure will be posted at entrances and via social media and other electronic means.
- In the event that a person finds themselves locked in a park they will find contact telephone numbers on park noticeboards including the Council out of

	<p>hours number 020 8489 1000. If they are unable to raise the alarm, they can call 101 or – in an emergency - 999.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where new park boundary fences are installed by the Council these will generally be at least 1.2m high to deter people from climbing over and of the design set out in the style guide. Boundary fences pre-dating this policy document may be of a different specification. • All designated under XX playgrounds within parks should be fenced and gated as specified in the Asset Management Plan style guide.
Definitions	Encroachment refers to unauthorised acquisition of land achieved by extending a fence or other boundary marker and to access to greenspaces achieved by entrances other than those designated by the council.
Context	<p>It is important to keep a balance between making parks and greenspaces available to users while protecting them from damage or abuse. Unauthorised vehicle access can cause serious problems including travellers occupying the land, 'joyriding', unauthorised parking, dumping and fly tipping. It is particularly important that vehicle entrances are secured to deter all unauthorised vehicles. However, it is much more difficult to prevent motor cycles and powered two-wheel vehicles.</p> <p>Many public open spaces from canal and river towpaths to national parks are open 24/7; so too are many (but not all) other local authority parks and greenspaces. In Haringey the default position is that parks and greenspaces should be open unless there is a compelling, short term local reason for this not to be the case.</p> <p>It is important to state that at the time of developing this policy position some parks and open spaces have little or no fencing (such as Tottenham Green) and/or are without gates at several entrance points (such as Parkland Walk or Hartington Park) while others are enclosed fenced areas that can easily be secured (such as Priory Park or Tower Gardens). Many fall between these descriptions with perhaps bollards or a chicane at entrances that cannot easily be locked to prevent pedestrian access.</p> <p>Although the policy presumes that parks and greenspaces will not be locked at night (or at other times) this document also considers the question of whether - and if so which – parks and greenspaces should (or could) be closed to users and if so when.</p> <p>The first consideration is the circumstances in which it might be desirable to close, lock, fence or secure parks (or areas within parks). Such circumstances might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To establish clear boundaries so that it is clear to everybody which land is park land and which land belongs to others - To prevent or deter damage to parks and their assets - To prevent unauthorised access to or use of parks and greenspaces (such as a rave or other event not sanctioned by the council) - To prevent nuisance to those living near to parks at night (or other times) such as from noise or vehicle movements

- To prevent the risk of harm coming to park users (from a number of possible causes) such as the risk of trees falling in the event of a predicted extreme storm.
- To ensure that areas designated for specific purposes (such as play, picnics, sport or peaceful reflection) are separated from other activities in the park that could interfere with the enjoyment or safety of users.
- To protect or encourage wildlife.

If there are powerful reasons why a park or greenspace (or part of it) is to be locked, at what times and/or on what days this should occur? And how will this be done? It may only be necessary occasionally due to a scheduled large event for example or in response to a sudden spate of crime at night, or perhaps in winter only.

The practicalities of gate locking should not be overlooked: In the summer if parks are to remain from dawn to dusk the gates must be locked late in the evening and opened very early in the morning.

Neighbouring properties and security issues

It is also worth noting that although many parks have council-owned fencing along their outer perimeter, not **all** boundary fencing belongs to the council. And while the Council aims to maintain its park fencing as far as is practicable, we do not have the resources to keep it all in its original condition or to always be able to quickly repair sections that have become damaged. Instead, the Council has to consider its fencing work alongside other priorities, focusing on the most urgent and important tasks.

The Council recommends that owners of properties bordering parks do not depend on Council fencing. The Council does not have a responsibility to provide security or fencing for neighbouring private property. In most cases it is advisable for owners to maintain the fencing along the boundary (on their own land) of a nature that suits their own security needs.

Encroachment

The council's position is set out in the Cabinet minute (no 174) from the report on Encroachments and Expired Leases on Council Land that was considered on 22 April 2008. In summary it was agreed that:

- enforcement action [should] be taken against all homeowners who had encroached on to Council land at Parkland Walk Local Nature Reserve and Palace Gates Embankment such action to proceed on a case-by-case basis with advice from the Head of Legal Services.
- That as leases of Council land [on Parkland Walk] to private homeowners expired these be re-offered but at full 'market' value and if not taken up then the land be returned to the nature reserve with the advice of the Head of Legal Services.
- the course of action for dealing with encroachments would be applied not only to the two sites identified in the report but to other Council owned land including that being managed by Homes for Haringey.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - there might be small parcels of land where granting leases or disposal might be considered and such sites should be considered on a case by case basis. <p>This resolution provides a clear guideline for the approach to encroachment on all Council parks and greenspaces.</p> <p>On some sites - especially nature reserves - encroachment can also be considered to include dumping of garden waste, rubble or other materials on greenspaces. Fly-tipping is covered by policies on enforcement as it is a criminal offence attracting fines on a sliding scale up to £50,000.</p> <p>Prevention of vehicle access to parks and greenspaces makes large-scale flytipping and dumping less likely.</p> <p><u>Vehicles in parks</u></p> <p>This is dealt with in more detail in a separate policy document (PGSS10). However, it is worth noting the nuisance caused in some parks by motorcycles/mopeds using them as a short cut. This has been reported more frequently since the widespread use of satnav systems especially by people working for food delivery services.</p> <p>Electrically powered cycles and scooters also pose a risk to park users if operated at high speed. It is not lawful to ride such vehicles in public places,</p> <p>Unfortunately measures to prevent them from [easily] accessing parks and greenspaces also impacts on pedestrians, cyclists, wheelchair users people with children in buggies and other perfectly legitimate users. Historically a few entrances (such as at Coldfall Wood and Muswell Hill Playing Fields) have been designed to prevent motorcycle access but this is at the expense of access for other groups. It is preferable to try to prevent this through a combination of education and enforcement.</p>
Legal position	<p>Councils are not required under law to lock parks at night.</p> <p>Encroachment without permission on parkland by a neighbouring landowner is a trespass enforceable by injunction and eventually, on continued trespass, by committal to prison.</p> <p>Access to parkland is by licence of the local authority, and there is no automatic right to cross the boundaries at a point of the accessors choice. The Council is entitled to designate access points, and to refuse access elsewhere on the basis that that access is similarly a trespass.</p>
Penalties and enforcement	As above.
References	<p>Cabinet report and minutes from 22/408 (agenda item 174)</p> <p>https://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=118&MId=2261&Ver=4</p>

Name	Pesticides and chemicals policy in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS6
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Review frequency	At least every three years and sooner if there is any change to UK regulations or guidance in respect of glyphosate
Next review date	December 2024
Policy statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The parks service aims to minimise the use it makes of inorganic chemical pesticides and herbicides when managing and maintaining parks and greenspaces (including land managed on behalf of Homes for Haringey). • Where possible and practicable the parks service will use traditional methods of weed control (such as hand weeding, mulching, hoeing etc) but these can be expensive or impractical which may necessitate the use of chemical alternatives. • The parks service will only consider the use of chemicals or pesticides that have a current license (under UK law) and which are approved for use by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). • The parks service aims to reduce its use of chemical and pesticides in managing its parks and greenspaces, with a long-term aspiration of avoiding the use of inorganic chemicals and pesticides altogether. • Pesticides and chemicals (including glyphosate-based herbicides) will only be used in parks and greenspaces where there is an identified need to manage pests or weeds and viable, safe, cost-effective alternatives are not available. • Staff and contractors using chemicals and pesticides will be appropriately trained and provided with appropriate personal protective equipment and clothing. • Extreme care will be taken when applying chemical herbicides and pesticides to ensure that only the identified areas for treatment are actually treated. • Unless effective, safe, new treatments are developed the Council will continue to use glyphosate or other inorganic chemicals for the treatment of invasive species that are resistant to other treatments (such as Japanese knotweed) and dangerous pests (such as oak processionary moth). The treatment will be by injection (rather than spraying) wherever possible to maximise the efficacy of the treatment and to minimise the volumes used. • Eco-plugs, that contain a crystalline form of glyphosate, may be used by the Council to prevent growth re-emerging from tree stumps after trees are felled. They are inserted into the tree stump close to ground level.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The parks service will only use or permit its contractors to use chemicals and pesticides in the following particularly sensitive sites following consultation with the relevant Friends group (if any) and with the agreement of the Nature Conservation Officer. This might be in the event, for example, of an invasive species or dangerous pest being identified in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ancient woodlands – Sites of importance for nature conservation (SINCs) – Local nature reserves – Children’s playgrounds – Watercourses and water features • The parks service will review and report on its use of glyphosate (and that of its contractors) annually and will monitor and react to any changes in the guidance (or legal position) in relation to the use of glyphosate. • The parks service will monitor and pilot the use of alternative technologies and non-chemical treatments for pests and weeds, to include a cost benefit analysis of such alternatives. The Council will seek to use alternatives where they are efficacious and cost-effective. • If Friends Groups wish to pilot designated chemical-free parks or greenspaces, the parks service, subject to other workload demands, will work with them to set out how this will be achieved including which traditional or experimental methods of weed and/or pest control will be undertaken and when and how often Friends/volunteers will support weed and/or pest control on the site. • To develop a detailed local weed management plan for greenspaces, based on the principles set out here and with reference to the Parks for London guidance, by the end of 2023.
Definitions	<p>A pesticide is any substance that is intended to prevent, destroy or repel any pest, including weed and fungal growth. The definition therefore includes herbicides (which target weeds), pesticides (which target insects and small animal pests) and fungicides (which target fungal infection).</p> <p>Glyphosate is a specific chemical and the primary active ingredient used in most chemical herbicides. It has been subject to considerable debate about its safety which is explored in detail in the context section below.</p>
Context	<p><u>Chemical and pesticide usage</u></p> <p>There is growing concern about the use of chemicals and pesticides and their impact on human health and the environment both locally and globally. The growth of organic agriculture and the demand for organic food in the UK is testament to a shifting in attitudes, though this still remains under 10% of UK food sales by value.</p>

The parks service in Haringey has made limited use of chemical weedkillers and pesticides as an effective and cost-effective method of managing weed growth, invasive plant species (e.g. Japanese knotweed) and for the control of harmful insects and other pests (e.g. oak processionary moth).

Typically one (or two) applications of glyphosate-based herbicides per year may be made in areas where weed growth needs to be controlled. The parks service use a pre-mixed chemical containing glyphosate that is applied by controlled droplet applicators. Staff must be certified before handling the chemicals and spraying any areas. This approach means for the operator there is very limited interaction with the chemical and the amount actually sprayed is limited.

Once sprayed the chemical dries quickly on the area and is inert to humans or pests after its dry, so should someone decided to sit next to a tree that had been recently sprayed around there should be no transfer unless they sit down immediately afterwards.

The parks service has also used traditional methods of weed control such as hand weeding, mulching and hoeing, but they are not as effective in preventing weed growth than glyphosate and are much more labour intensive (and therefore costly).

Acetic acid (vinegar) and nematodes (small round worms that feed on insect pests) have been used on a limited basis as methods tested in Haringey to deter pests and weed growth respectively but neither appears to be as efficacious as chemical alternatives.

Usage elsewhere

A few English local authorities have made commitments to avoid the use of all pesticides (Brighton and Hove) or glyphosate in particular (e.g. Hammersmith and Fulham, Glastonbury) and there are some examples of pesticide free authorities elsewhere in Europe (e.g. Aalborg in Denmark and Munster in Germany). However, most councils use a range of pest and weed control methods including the use of non-organic chemicals.

Glyphosate

Glyphosate is the active ingredient in the most widely used herbicides over the last forty years, and currently routinely used within Haringey Parks service in a range of products. Glyphosate has been in the public eye for some time, but especially since a court finding in the United States in 2018.

Monsanto (which is now owned by Bayer) is the manufacturer of the main glyphosate treatment which is marketed as a product called Roundup. Monsanto was found guilty by a US jury in August 2018 and

ordered to pay \$289m in damages because Round Up had caused Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma cancer in a former groundskeeper.

It should be noted that the formulation of Roundup in the USA includes POE-tallowamine. This substance was banned by the EU for use in glyphosate-based herbicides in 2015. The ban followed EU research that found that POE-tallowamine was found to be more hazardous than glyphosate. This suggests that the formula used in Europe is different to that used in the US.

Glyphosate is licensed for use in the EU (and in the UK subject to any post-Brexit changes to legislation or regulations). When the EU licence for glyphosate expired in 2017, it was not renewed (which would have given a licence until 2032), but it was extended for 5 years up until December 2022.

An application was made [by glyphosate manufacturers] in December 2019 for an extension to the license. An extension to the license for the use of glyphosate will be subject to an EU regulatory process taking into account progress in science and technology and experience gained since the active substance was last reviewed. Glyphosate will be assessed in terms of its safety for humans, animals and the environment. It is unclear how – or when - the UK government will respond.

Austria went glyphosate-free from 1 January 2020 and France has set a target to phase out its use by 2021 except where no viable alternatives existed. Other countries, including Belgium and Germany are looking to ban glyphosate.

There have, however, been over 800 studies done which fail to show a direct link between glyphosate and cancer, although in 2015 the WHO's International Agency for Research on Cancer concluded that glyphosate 'probably' causes cancer – the same year that the European Food Safety Authority concluded it 'unlikely' to do so. It is worth noting that while the carcinogenic properties of glyphosate are unproven several foodstuffs, such as processed meat, alcohol and acrylamide (in coffee) etc, are acknowledged carcinogens.

Several studies have looked the association between glyphosate and the risk of non-Hodgkin's-lymphoma (NHL). [A meta-analysis conducted in 2019](#) concluded that there was an increased risk of NHL for those with the very highest levels of exposure to glyphosate. Many of these studies look at the rate of adverse events in those with high levels of exposure, for example agricultural workers or glyphosate handlers.

Haringey Council's public health team, in reporting to the Friends of Parks Forum, reached the conclusion that "on balance, the risk to park users is very low. Those using Finsbury Park for leisure purposes [for example] are unlikely to come into contact with high levels of this chemical".

They added that “risks to park staff using glyphosate herbicides are mitigated using modern systems and safety measures to keep the operative away from the chemical”.

They also cited evidence and FAQs collated by the Health and Safety Executive which is listed in the references below.

If glyphosate were to be phased out of use in Haringey, effective alternatives will need to be found. The Parks Service has already reduced dependence on mechanical weed control (strimming for example) due to the hand and arm vibration syndrome (HAVS) implications. Effective chemical alternatives do not appear to be available, with the possible exception of Chikara, which is effective on pre-emerged weeds but not suitable for actively growing weeds, when it is recommended to combine with glyphosate which would defeat the object.

There appears little evidence that the use of glyphosate is directly harmful to humans and large animals, although this does depend on which literature is read. According to the website www.glyphosate.eu (possibly not the most independent source), the way that glyphosate works is as follows:

“Plants absorb glyphosate through their leaves and other green parts. From here, the glyphosate moves to the growing points of shoots and roots, where it interferes with the enzymatic production of certain amino acids that are essential for plant growth. This pathway exists only in plants, fungi and bacteria, so the toxicity to animals is low”.

Alternatives to glyphosate

The Pesticide Action Network UK publication *Alternatives to glyphosate in weed management* – includes a range of non-chemical alternatives, but does not suggest alternative chemical products, suggesting that replacing one chemical for another is not a favoured option – by that group at least.

Many local authorities have tried alternatives. However, unless weeds are removed manually - and we don't have the resources to do this - then the alternatives introduce new issues. For example, the most common alternative is a hot foam system that encases the weeds in a hot foam and damages the plant due to the applied heat. This system whilst removing the chemical introduces a vehicle with emissions, a large diesel generator on the truck to heat the water, large amounts of water and then palm oil to produce the foam.

Equally, thermal control (flamers and steamers) raises questions over the use of fossil fuel when we are seeking to reduce carbon impact and also the safety of use.

Tolerance of weeds

	<p>One way to reduce the use of herbicides is to take a more tolerant approach to weed management. This should be an early consideration in any weed management policy. Considerations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is the weed invasive, and is its removal essential to prevent ecological harm or damage to assets such as pathways or buildings? - Does the weed growth have a detrimental effect on the aesthetics of a space (such as a formal garden)? - Does the weed growth accumulate detritus or litter that may result in adverse impacts such as blockage of gutters or drains? - Is the weed growth benign and can therefore be tolerated? - If the weed cannot be tolerated can it be designed out (though planting, mulching or other approaches)? <p><u>Parks for London's Guide for Integrated Weed Management</u></p> <p>Parks for London published <i>A Reference Guide for Integrated Weed Management in Amenity Spaces and Public Realm</i>¹ in March 2020. This document provides a thoughtful and considered approach "to help landowners and managers to prepare [their own] integrated weed management plans".</p> <p>This is a substantial document with plenty of good advice. A simplified approach to integrated weed management is set out on pages 5 and 6. It is about exploring other options, such as mechanical, biological, or horticultural weed control methods before considering chemical or herbicidal weed control methods. The approach is simplified below into four questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can the weed be tolerated or managed? If not ... - Can the weeds be designed out (such as mulching or a weed-suppressing membrane? If not - Can the weeds be managed without the use of chemicals such as manual or mechanical methods (such as hoeing), thermal methods and/or biological weed control methods? If not ... - Is chemical control the only suitable method?
Legal position	<p>The Council only uses chemicals and pesticides that are licensed for use in the UK.</p> <p>Glyphosate is the active ingredient of most herbicides of which Roundup is the best known. Glyphosate is currently approved as an active substance on the EU Pesticides Database until 15 December 2022. Local authorities are therefore legally permitted to use glyphosate at the time of Brexit, and remain permitted to do so subject to any post-Brexit change of UK regulations). Its use remains subject to Health and Safety regulations about its storage, supply and use.</p>

Penalties and enforcement	Not applicable for all licensed chemicals and pesticides.
References	<p>Parks for London, A Reference Guide for Integrated Weed Management in Amenity Spaces and Public Realm, March 2020</p> <p>Issues associated with the use of the herbicide glyphosate, Health and Safety Executive website</p> <p>APSE briefing: 'Glyphosate- Where do local authorities stand?', APSE, 2019</p> <p>World Health Organisations, International Agency for Research on Cancer, Q&A on glyphosate, March 2016</p> <p>London Environment Directors Network briefing on Glyphosate, unpublished, Oct 2019</p> <p>Reducing the use of pesticides, Brighton and Hove Council (ETS Committee), 26 November 2019.</p> <p>A Reference Guide for Integrated Weed Management in Amenity Spaces and Public Realm, parks for London, March 2020</p> <p>Organic Food and Drink Sales in UK, The Guardian, Feb 2020</p>

Name	Invasive non-native species (INNS)
Policy ref no.	PGSS7
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Review frequency	At least every three years and sooner if there is any change to UK regulations or guidance.
Next review date	December 2025
Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nature Conservation Officer will maintain a list of known INNS that are permanently present in the borough • To alert the Nature Conservation Officer to the presence of significant occurrences of any INNS. • Where possible and practicable to manage the presence of unwanted INNS with biological and organic interventions. • To maintain a record of the location of Japanese knotweed and giant hogweed on land owned or managed by the Parks Service. • To remove (or monitor the growth of) Japanese knotweed that is identified in parks and greenspaces. The preferred method for removal of Japanese knotweed is chemical injection of a suitable herbicide by an approved contractor. • Where Japanese Knotweed is being monitored it will be fenced off with appropriate signage to mitigate the risk of being accidentally spread., • Any Japanese knotweed or giant hogweed that is removed from parks or greenspaces managed by the Parks Service will be disposed of in accordance with Defra regulations. This includes that removed by private contractors. • To chemically treat infestations of oak processionary moth on trees in parks and greenspaces where this represents a significant hazard to park users. Where the hazard is considered significant, signage should be erected to warn users of its presence. • Known infestations of oak processionary moth above 3m high, or those lower than 3m that are not considered a hazard to park users, will not be treated. but will be reported to the Forestry Commission. • Action will be taken to improve plant health and biosecurity management systems into parks or greenspaces in the borough. • Enforcement or criminal action will be taken against anyone deliberately introducing INNS to Haringey parks and greenspaces.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The parks service will seek to educate and inform park users and residents about the risks associated with the introduction of INNS in parks, greenspaces (and the associated waterways). • The parks service will seek to raise awareness of the presence, risks and management of INNS by developing guidelines and advice for staff, contractors, partners and Friends groups.
Context	<p>The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 recognised the need to control certain species of invasive plants and animals already causing a problem in the UK, listing them in Schedule 9. Originally only giant hogweed (<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>) and Japanese knotweed (<i>Fallopia japonica</i>) were listed. However, in April 2010 a further 36 plants were added onto Schedule 9 on the Act. The full list can be found here.</p> <p>Many of the listed plants are common species (such as the Spanish bluebell, virginia creeper and montbretia) often seen growing in the wild and and/or cultivated in gardens.</p> <p>Some invasive species can be particularly hazardous such as giant hogweed (which can cause series sunlight-induced burns to skin) and Japanese knotweed (whose roots can damage buildings or other built structures including paths in parks).</p> <p>Oak processionary moth (OPM) larvae (caterpillars) can also be hazardous to humans (and animals) if disturbed. The caterpillar has toxic hairs that can cause severe skin (or eye) irritation or lung irritation if inhaled. Contact is most likely to occur between May and August.</p> <p>Both plant species are known to be present in parks and greenspaces in Haringey and OPM has been found on park trees. To treat each and every occurrence would be extremely costly. A typical treatment cycle for either of these plants by a specialist contractor requires annual visits over 3-5 years and can cost in the order of £1,400+ (depending on the extent of its presence). The cost of treating OPM varies according to the size and location of the tree and the extent of the infestation.</p> <p>It is important to note that Japanese knotweed was introduced to Britain in the eighteenth century, but it still remains relatively unusual. It can survive dormant (or undetected) for decades, and may burst into life as a result of the ground being disturbed. Or it can be imported into a park in top soil or through the illegal dumping of garden waste or even inadvertently on a shoe.</p> <p>The judgement call for the parks service to make is whether there is a likelihood that any given INNS will – or may - cause harm. For Japanese knotweed this is primarily related to its proximity to buildings (or to sensitive nature conservation sites) while for giant hogweed and oak processionary moth it is the risk that people will come into contact with it.</p>

	<p>The policy position reflects the fact that the site, size, scale and risk of inadvertent spreading of any given strand of Japanese knotweed or giant hogweed or infestation of OPM should inform the action that is taken.</p> <p><u>Aquatic invasive species</u></p> <p>The Be Plant Wise campaign and guidance identifies a range of biological interventions that can be used to treat some of the word offending aquatic plants like floating pennywort and azolla..</p> <p><u>Protecting local biodiversity</u></p> <p>To support and influence the Biodiversity Action Plan, the Local Plan policies and targets etc the Council should develop and provide guidelines for Council staff, contractors, partners and friends groups.</p> <p>Such guidance might cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk and liability - Avoiding civil liability and lessons learnt from 'case studies' • Budget. - understanding and estimating the cost of INNS control and choosing the right method (wrong method=more expense) • Biodiversity net gain (or loss) - Species recovery. • Planning and Development - conditions for planning applications. • Environmental impact - impact of inappropriate use of herbicide etc • INNS surveying – include in borough habitat and species survey; future-proof against encroachment onto Council land. • Ecological value and impact • Building resilience - working with key and statutory partners.
Legal framework	<p>Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (with special reference to schedule 9)</p> <p>Environmental Protection Act 1990</p> <p>Anti-Social behaviour Crime and Policy Act, 2104</p> <p>Infrastructure Act 2015 (for species control orders)</p> <p><u>Guidance on preventing the spread of Japanese knotweed</u></p>
Penalties and enforcement	<p>Allowing Japanese knotweed or soil contaminated with the plant to spread into the wild is an offence and could result in a fine of up to £5000, or a prison sentence of up to 2 years.</p> <p>Homeowners who fail to control Japanese knotweed on their property can face a fine of up to £2,500.</p>

Name	Permanent lighting in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS8
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Review frequency	Every three years
Next scheduled review date	December 2024
Policy position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the benefit of nature conservation parks will remain unlit unless there is a compelling reason to provide lighting • Some parks (Ducketts Common, Woodside Park, Downhills Park etc) include public footpaths maintained by Highways and these paths are lit as standard. • All decisions to install new park lighting will take account of habitats, wildlife (including bats) and nature conservation • Parks will only be lit along important pedestrian routes and between facilities in the park that are open at night and one or more park entrances • External down-lighting may be fitted to buildings in parks (including leased buildings) and temporary structures (for events etc) as a security feature • The nature of temporary lighting for events in parks will be set out in the event management plan and is managed separately to this policy. • Upward and lateral light spillage from all lights in parks will minimised through the choice of suitable lighting designs and/or shielding • All new lights will have LED bulbs and all existing lights will have LED bulbs fitted when the existing bulb fails or as part of routine maintenance • Where possible and cost-effective solar (or dual solar battery) powered lighting should be used • New floodlighting on sports courts will minimise light spillage and have motion detectors or use other technology to prevent lighting the courts when they are not in use. • Modern floodlighting will be provided at sports courts and operated within the hours specified for within the granted planning permission.
Definitions	Lighting refers to all artificial, night time illumination in parks and greenspaces
Context	<p>Most people use parks during daylight hours when artificial lighting is not necessary. However, some parks are lit at night. This is usually for one of two reasons. Firstly, to illuminate a popular route – usually a short-cut – through a park during hours of darkness, and secondly to illuminate a route between a facility (such as a sports court or a community centre) in a park and one or more of the park entrances to enable people to attend and leave the facility.</p> <p>Twenty-two Haringey parks have at least one ‘street’ light and in total there are 278 in Council parks.</p> <p>Floodlights are also used to enable sports facilities in parks to be used at night. There are 58 floodlights across 11 parks sites.</p>

Animals that live, forage and hunt in parks at night are affected by any artificial lighting. It can affect their sleeping, feeding and their safety at night. Parks and greenspaces should be oases of night darkness in a highly-lit urban environment such as that found in Haringey.

It is because of the impact on habitats, wildlife and nature conservation that the Parks Service starts with a presumption of not having lighting in parks unless there is a compelling reason to provide it.

Where there is a request for new lighting in parks consideration must be given to the impact on habitats, wildlife and nature conservation. Any potential impact on bats in particular must be considered as they are protected by law. This includes any impact on their roosts, travel or feeding corridors. It may be necessary to undertake a preliminary ecological assessment to understand the impact that new lighting may have on bats and other wildlife.

Where lighting is provided in parks it should be provided “in a safe and efficient manner” and in accordance with British Standards. This to ensure that people can see – and avoid – hazards. All lighting in parks will be installed/commissioned by, or with the advice of, the council’s street lighting team.

Light spillage

This refers to light that is directed away from where it is required, such as light that ‘escapes’ towards the sky where it serves no beneficial purpose and may have a damaging impact on bats, birds or insects. All lighting in parks should be directed downwards and onto the surfaces where illumination is required. Light shields may be used to prevent lateral spillage if the lantern design does not achieve this.

Other options considered

Bollard lighting is used in Finsbury Park but it is used to show a routeway rather than to provide more general illumination. The Finsbury Park bollard lighting is designed to show users of the athletics track the route to the park exit with minimal impact on wildlife. Bollard lighting does light up anything above the height of the bollards and does not enable facial recognition, and is therefore less safe than lighting on lamp posts.

A case can be made not to light parks at all, and that they should not be used for short cuts at night (or in the early morning while it is still dark). There would be a benefit to wildlife, and indeed most parks are not lit. But some are and will be used at night, and not lighting them would present a risk to the safety and wellbeing of those who choose to walk through.

Park lighting at night could be limited to set hours, so that there is no lighting between, say, 1am and 5am (roughly when the Underground stops and start running). Remotely controlling individual lights will

	become possible, subject to funding, once the Centralised Lighting Management System(CMS) is implemented. It may be possible to pilot this approach once the CMS system is functioning.
Legal position	The Council is not required to provide lighting in parks or greenspaces. Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017
Penalties and enforcement	Not applicable.
References	Campaign for Rural England campaign for dark skies

Name	Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS9
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Review frequency	Every three years or if relevant legislation changes
Next scheduled review date	October 2025
Policy position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCTV camera surveillance will be avoided in parks unless there is an identified need to support community safety and/or to tackle localised crime or anti-social behaviour or to protect buildings or structures in parks. • CCTV will be utilised at operational depots to deter theft from depots and buildings. • Temporary CCTV cameras may be used in parks to deter and/or collect evidence in relation to fly-tipping, anti-social behaviour or suspected criminal behaviour in parks. • Temporary CCTV cameras may be used during permitted events in parks. • Permanent CCTV cameras will only be used in parks where there is a clear need for a permanent installation. • The use of CCTV in parks will be in agreement with the council's Community Safety team. • All Council CCTV cameras in parks should be part of the corporate CCTV system and linked to the borough CCTV control room. • Signage will be displayed where Council CCTV cameras may capture images of park users. • CCTV cameras should be removed (or decommissioned) if they are no longer needed in that location. • Where leased buildings or facilities in parks are protected by CCTV cameras on local or private networks, the leaseholder is responsible for ensuring that the use of CCTV is compliant with data protection legislation and guidance from the Information Commissioners Office.
Definitions	A CCTV camera is any recording device used to collect images that may be stored for a defined period.
Context	There are an estimated 4-6 million CCTV cameras in the UK. They can be found in most public places, such as in shopping centres, tube stations, buses, museums, sports stadia and numerous public buildings.

Generally public parks have few, if any, CCTV cameras. This is because parks are safe places without the need for CCTV surveillance of park users. Survey evidence indicates that the vast majority of park users feel safe in parks, especially during the day, so CCTV cameras are rarely needed.

However, there are some circumstances in which it may be appropriate to install CCTV in parks. The more likely reasons are:

- To deter flytipping in 'hotspots' and/or to collect evidence about fly tippers
- To deter anti-social behaviour in 'hotspots' and/or to collect evidence about perpetrators
- To deter suspected criminal behaviour and/or to collect evidence about perpetrators
- To protect parks buildings by acting as a deterrent and/or to provide evidence about perpetrators.

Permanent CCTV cameras have been located in Finsbury Park, Down Lane Park, Ducketts Common and Russell Park. These are all in response to crime prevention and community safety. In terms of parks and greenspaces these are very much the exception rather than the rule.

Temporary (or "redeployable") CCTV cameras have been (or are) deployed in some parks to address local issues. These include a site in Markfield Park that has regularly been used for unlicensed music events (UMEs) that cause noise and nuisance to local residents and litter and damage within the park. Another example is associated with a pattern of drug dealing and anti-social behaviour within and by the entrance to another park. In both cases the planned deployment is temporary.

CCTV cameras have long been used in fly-tipping hotspots around the borough and have been used to spot and/or deter flytipping in hotspots near park entrances such as on Netherton Road by the entrance to Tewkesbury Road Open Space in Seven Sisters.

Decisions to deploy temporary CCTV cameras are usually made through the joint council/police Partnership Problem Solving Group if other solutions to address anti-social behaviour, crime etc have not been effective. At the time of writing the Council has 26 redeployable cameras for such use for the whole borough, so the opportunity for using redeployable cameras in parks will be limited by their availability.

Where CCTV is installed, there should be a presumption that it is temporary unless otherwise stated at the time. If a problem is resolved through the use or presence of a CCTV camera it can be removed and redeployed to another site (in parks or elsewhere) where the camera can be put to better use.

Public support for CCTV in parks has not been formally tested borough-wide, but 77% of people responding to a survey in 2019 about

	<p>improvements in Finsbury Park agreed or strongly agreed with the introduction of CCTV in the park.</p> <p><u>Use of CCTV evidence</u></p> <p>The use of CCTV evidence is carefully controlled and subject to legislation and guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The Council will provide the CCTV images to the police if they are needed for the investigation or prosecution of a crime. The Council will not provide them to anyone else, unless they are entitled to them under the Data Protection Act. More detail on CCTV and data protection can be found on the council web site.</p> <p><u>Council policy and practice</u></p> <p>Haringey Council uses CCTV cameras in various locations in the borough to help prevent and detect crime, antisocial behaviour and disorder and to help enforce traffic and parking regulations. CCTV images may be provided to the police if they are needed for the investigation or prosecution of a crime. It is Council policy not to provide CCTV images to anyone else unless they are entitled to them under the Data Protection Act. The images collected from any Council CCTV cameras in parks are subject to this policy.</p> <p><u>Leased buildings in parks</u></p> <p>In some parks, buildings are leased to third parties, such as cafes or community centres. The leaseholders may choose to use CCTV to protect their property etc. Where this is the case the leaseholder is responsible for ensuring they are complying with the requirements of the Data Protection Act and the requirements of the Information Commissioner's Office. This includes ensuring that the CCTV cameras do not collect images of park users who are not within the curtilage of the leased premises.</p>
Legal position	<p>The Data Protection Act 1998 governs the use of CCTV equipment and any data produced or stored by it.</p> <p>Where covert surveillance by CCTV is intended or anticipated, this requires authorisation under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000</p>
Penalties and enforcement	Not applicable.
References	<p>CCTV, freedom of information and data protection in Haringey, LB Haringey, Nov 2020 (last updated)</p> <p>Installing CCTV: things you need to do first, Information Commissioners Office</p>

Name	Vehicles in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS10
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Review frequency	Every three years
Next scheduled review date	December 2025
Policy position	<p><u>Strategic outcomes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a safe walking experience for users of our parks • Promote safe and responsible cycling within our parks • Minimise the movement of private and operational vehicles within our parks • Reduce the speed of all vehicles within our parks <p><u>General</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We encourage people to visit our parks and greenspaces using sustainable modes of transport (ideally by foot or cycle or using public transport) • The safety of pedestrians and wheelchair users is the primary obligation of anybody in control of a vehicle inside a park or greenspace. • The speed of all vehicles in parks should not exceed 10mph, except Finsbury Park where there is an old bye law stipulating a 12mph limit <p><u>Powered vehicles</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powered vehicles (including cars, vans, motorcycles are personal powered vehicles) are not permitted in parks and greenspaces with the following exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and other Council service vehicles driven by authorised staff • Parks staff arriving at or leaving work who are driving to an authorised parking bay within a dedicated staff depot • Contractor vehicles where works are being undertaken on behalf of the parks service • Third party contractors and utilities where access has been agreed in writing with authorised parks staff • Event set-up or take-down where access has been agreed in writing with authorised parks staff • Authorised filming in parks and greenspaces • Leaseholders of premises in parks where this is permitted in the lease <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliveries to leaseholders where this is permitted in the lease

- Contractors working on behalf of site leaseholders where this has been agreed in writing with authorised parks staff
 - Other permitted events and activities (such as for filming or special event) where access has been agreed in advance in writing with authorised parks staff
 - Blue badge holders and taxis who are transporting disabled people to or from organised activities/events in parks (or to an authorised parking bay)
 - Emergency services' vehicles
 - Public use where car parking is permitted and only on the roadway to and from the car park
 - Mobility scooters.
- Drivers of permitted powered vehicles should be mindful of other park users, and must be in full control of their vehicle, at all times.
 - Journey distances and the time spent within parks and greenspaces should be minimised and/or confined to wide carriageways.
 - Powered vehicles must be driven at no more than 10mph in parks except Finsbury Park where there is a bye law stipulating a 12mph limit
 - Powered vehicles on footpaths should have hazard lights on at all times, and right of way must always be given to pedestrians (and cyclists).
 - Vehicles should not be driven on grass or other soft surfaces except where this is required to undertake work in the park.
 - Authorised vehicles should park in dedicated parking bays/places where available.
 - The engine of any authorised parked vehicles must be turned off when stationary, waiting or parked in a park. Keys should be removed from the ignition.
 - Where public car parking is provided, parking bays must be used and the owner/driver of the vehicle must not leave the park while the vehicle remains parked.
 - Vehicles must not be left overnight (other than within a locked, secure area or other area as agreed in writing in advance with the council).
 - The Parks Service does not provide car parking for park users, though it may provide parking for authorised on-site users and blue badge holders.
 - Blue badge holders (or taxis carrying a disabled passenger) may only enter the following parks and must use an authorised parking bay or drop off point:

- Finsbury Park
- Markfield Park
- Lordship Recreation Ground (for activities at the Hub only)
- Chestnuts Park (to access Chestnuts Community Centre only)

- Caravans and camper vans are not permitted in any park or greenspace, unless they are part of a permitted event, managed through the Outdoor Events Policy.
- Parking enforcement services may be used to manage parking in parks.

Bicycles

- Bicycles and cyclists are welcome in all Council parks and greenspaces, but cycling is not permitted in local nature reserves and ancient woodland (Parkland Walk, Queens Wood, Railway Fields, Coldfall Wood and Bluebell Wood) that are managed by the council, other than on permitted, signed routes. These sites are not to be used for mountain biking, BMX or other 'off-road' cycling.
- Cyclists should stick to roadways and paths or other designated areas for cycles. Cycling on the grass or other soft surfaces should be avoided, especially in wet or muddy conditions.
- Bicycles must not be cycled in excess of 10mph anywhere within Council parks and greenspaces.
- Cyclists should be mindful of other park users, and in full control of their cycle, at all times. At night they should have lights and be visible to other park users.
- Bicycles should be locked if left unguarded. Bicycle stands are provided in most larger parks.
- Hire cycles (such as Santander, Uber, Lime cycles etc) should not be left in parks. They may be left on highways near the park entrance.

E-scooters, power assisted bicycles and other powered personal transport

- Electric scooters, and other powered personal transport methods are not permitted.
- Power assisted bicycles are permitted provided they are cycled responsibly and within specified speed limits.

Skateboards, roller blades and roller skates

- Skateboards, roller blades and roller skates should only be used in designated skate parks, or locations away from pedestrians and other park users.

	<p><u>Scooters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Push scooters may be used on pathway in parks but with care and attention and at no more than 5mph. • Young children on push scooters should be supervised by a responsible adult.
Definitions	<p>Vehicles relate to all wheeled vehicles or means of propulsion with the following categorisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Powered vehicles - all powered vehicles for one or more person. This includes, but is not limited to, motorcycles and mopeds, e-bikes, electrically assisted cycles, Segways and e-scooters, cars and taxis, camper vans, caravans, vans, trucks and lorries, quad bikes and powered buggies ii) Cycles - pedal-powered vehicles including bicycles, tricycles, cargo bikes etc iii) Other self-propelled 'vehicles' - including push-scooters, skateboards, roller blades and roller skates.
Context	<p>The principle underlying this policy document is that the safety and enjoyment of parks by pedestrian and wheelchair users is of primary importance. Vehicle users in parks (including cyclists) must ensure that this principle is achieved.</p> <p>This policy sets out the purposes for which vehicles may use parks and how such vehicles should be driven (and parked) responsibly and safely.</p> <p>Most motorised vehicles are noisy, and all can be driven at speeds that could be a danger to park users. However, it would not be practical (or desirable) to ban all motorised (or unmotorised) vehicles from parks. Service vehicles are essential to the smooth-running of parks as are those of contractors and others providing a service.</p> <p>Private motorised vehicles are not permitted in parks unless they have been explicitly authorised (e.g. to undertake planned works or in connection with an authorised event or activity) or if this is explicitly permitted via signage. Currently only Markfield Park has vehicle parking on site.</p> <p>Most park users live within walking distance. We encourage people to travel to and from parks by foot or cycle as these are the most sustainable and greenest forms of transport. A survey in 2020-21 found that nine in ten park users walk or cycle to the park. Five percent of those surveyed said they drive. Park visitors who do choose drive to our parks should find a car park or street parking nearby.</p> <p>Caravans and camper vans are not permitted in parks at any time. This is also covered by the policy on camping (and rough sleeping) in parks.</p>

Disabled park users who hold a blue badge may park in designated areas in a small number of parks. Blue badge holders may also park, without charge, close to park entrances park in resident parking bays, pay by phone bays, and in shared use bays administered by Haringey Council.

Authorised vehicles in parks

The drivers of authorised vehicles in parks must be highly alert to park users (including children and dogs) and adhere to speed limits at all times. Park users do not expect to encounter vehicles and may be unaware of its presence. The responsibility for the safety of park users is entirely with the driver of the vehicle.

As well as being a potential hazard to park users, vehicles can cause damage to the grass and other soft areas if driven across them. Tyre tracks are sometimes seen on the grass adjacent to narrow paths especially after wet weather. Although the grass will recover it is unsightly, often becomes muddy and attracts puddles after further rain. The driver of all authorised drivers in parks must keep to roads and tarmac paths wherever possible to minimise this damage. Where this is unavoidable mats or other temporary protection should be used to protect the grass.

Disability access

In two of the larger parks (Finsbury and Markfield) blue badge drivers are able to enter the park and park in a designated parking bay. Taxis carrying disabled passengers are also able to enter these parks to drop off (and collect). They may take disabled passengers to events at the Hub in Lordship Recreation ground and the community centre in Chestnuts Park provided they adhere to the guidelines set out above. Access should be pre-arranged with the service provider at the Hub or Chestnuts Community Centre.

Bicycles and cyclists

As well as destination for cyclists, parks are often used as a safe, off-road short cut and some parks are part of established cycle networks. While cyclists are welcome in parks, they must respect other users and travel at low speed, especially on shared paths when other pedestrians (or dogs, children etc) are nearby.

Electronic cycles have the capacity to go at high speed. They are permitted in parks if cycled responsibly and at low speed.

Skateboards, roller blades and roller skates may not be thought of as 'vehicles', but the user may be travelling fast and may not be in control. A collision with a pedestrian could result in serious injury (for both parties). Some larger parks have dedicated skate parks which are intended for such activities. There is byelaw prohibiting roller skating on public footways in Haringey.

	<p>Small children may ride a bike or a push-scooter in parks, but they must be supervised by a responsible adult who is mindful of other park users. Even a small child at low speed can cause a serious trip or fall. If there isn't space, or a path is busy, the responsible adult should not permit the scooter or bicycle to be used.</p> <p><u>Local nature reserves and woodland</u></p> <p>Off-road cycling is not permitted in the council's local nature reserves and woods. This is to protect the habitats of such sites but also for the safety of other users. Cycling is presumed not to be permitted in such sites, though cycling may be allowed where signage specifically permits cycling.</p> <p><u>Powered transporters</u></p> <p>By law powered transporters including e-scooters, Segways, hover boards etc are permitted neither on roads nor on pavements or other pedestrian areas (by section 34, Road Traffic Act 1988). These vehicles are therefore not permitted in parks and greenspaces.</p>
Legal position	<p>Park roads are roads accessible to the public and therefore relevant traffic laws apply. Where there are no lamp posts, park roads are not automatically restricted roads; but the Council as highway authority can by order under s84 of the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 impose speed limits on such roads (where it has not already done so), with appropriate signage.</p>
Penalties and enforcement	<p>Members of Council staff who do not comply with the vehicle policy will be warned about future behaviour and may be subject to disciplinary action.</p> <p>Contractors and other authorised users who do not comply with the policy will be warned and may be subject to penalties under the terms of their contract or to have their contracts terminated.</p> <p>Unauthorised users of motorised vehicles in parks will be reported to the police and may be subject to criminal proceedings.</p> <p>Where covered by legislation or bye-laws enforcement action may be taken by the council's Enforcement Team.</p> <p>Unauthorised parked vehicles in parks may be clamped or towed away without warning.</p> <p>LB Haringey Byelaws, January 1976 do not prohibit cycling on footpaths (unless there is visible signage to this effect)</p>
References	<p>Powered transporters - www.gov.uk/government/publications/powered-transporters/information-sheet-guidance-on-powered-transporters</p>

	Guidance on electrically assisted bicycles - www.gov.uk/government/publications/electrically-assisted-pedal-cycles-eapcs
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Name	Sustainable waste management policy for parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS11
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Review frequency	Every three years
Next scheduled review date	December 2025
Policy position	<p>The Council aims to keep its parks and greenspaces clean, tidy and predominantly free of litter.</p> <p>The policy position underpinning this aim is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To minimise the amount of waste generated in parks (including green waste) • To maximise the amount of waste recycled or taken home by park users • To minimise the cost of collecting and disposing of waste in parks • To review processes so that litter and waste is dealt with more efficiently • To work with the community to educate and encourage people not to litter in parks • To encourage community groups and volunteers to litter pick and act as champions for non-littering • To take action against those who drop or leave litter in parks • To take action against those who fly tip and dump bulky waste in parks • To remove all dog waste bins (as all waste goes into the same waste stream)
Definitions	<p>Waste – items (such as containers, wrappers, bottles) brought to (or purchased in) parks by park users that are no longer wanted by the user</p> <p>Litter – unwanted waste in parks that is not taken home or disposed of in an appropriate receptacle.</p> <p>Waste stream – the process by which waste reaches the point where it is eventually destroyed (though burning or landfill etc)</p> <p>Recycling – waste that can be removed from the waste stream and reused or repurposed before it is eventually destroyed</p> <p>Green waste – loose waste resulting from the vegetation growing in (or beside) the park such as leaves, twigs, seed pods that is locations where it is unwanted</p>
Context	<p>This policy will be underpinned by a delivery plan that is under development (as June 2022).</p> <p>The delivery plan will be in relation to all waste (both unwanted and recyclable/reusable) that is generated in parks and greenspaces managed by the Parks Service. This includes waste brought to the park or generated by:</p>

- users and visitors to parks and greenspaces (including those passing through)
- by cafes and other food and drink outlets in parks and greenspaces
- events held in parks and greenspaces.
- dog owners (bagged dog poo)
- council staff and contractors in parks and greenspaces
- grounds maintenance and tree works in parks and greenspaces.
- fly tipping or dumping of waste inside parks and greenspaces that was generated outside the park or green space.
- existing waste that is currently stored/accumulated within parks and greenspaces.

The aim is to reduce (and minimise) the amount of waste in parks the Council has to process, and to reduce (or minimise) the cost of processing that waste.

Name	Amplified music and speech in parks
Policy ref no.	PGSS12
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loud amplified music is not permitted in parks or greenspaces unless previously agreed as part of a permitted event or activity in the park. • Unlicensed music events in parks or greenspaces are not permitted. • Other loud and continuous noise in parks or greenspaces are not permitted unless they are caused by machinery required for maintenance of the park or its assets, or the set up (or take-down) of a permitted event. • Anti-social noise in parks or greenspaces should be reported to the council's noise team or by calling the police on 101.
Context	<p>People visit parks for lots of reasons, but one is for peace, tranquillity and relaxation. They do not want to be subjected to continuous sounds – especially continuous, loud sounds – that they would not expect to hear when they set out on their journey to the park. This includes amplified music arising from other park users.</p> <p>The other view of this is that some people may want to listen to music whilst enjoying the park, perhaps with a couple of friends on a warm day with a cooling breeze and a cold drink.</p> <p>However, the Parks Service view is that if someone plays amplified music in a park, they may be the only person enjoying it but many of those within the radius that the music can be heard are likely to be disturbed and/or annoyed by it. It is not enough to say that those people who don't like it should move away or complain. The whole park is for the enjoyment of all and should not be spoiled by a minority. It is a matter of respecting other park users.</p> <p>The same applies to buskers or those entertaining themselves with musical instrument(s) and/or a microphone attached to an amplifier.</p> <p>This is the interpretation of Council byelaw 5 that says that "any person [causing] a noise which is so loud and so continuous or repeated as to give reasonable cause of annoyance to other persons ... shall be guilty of an offence".</p> <p>The Council view is that private individuals should not play loud amplified music (or speech – see below) in parks unless they have obtained a permit to do so in advance – for example for a permitted outdoor exercise class.</p> <p><u>Amplified music at licensed events</u></p> <p>The Council permits events in parks from small community gatherings to music festivals with 50,000 in attendance. Amplified music (and speech) is permitted if the event organiser has requested it and it has</p>

been agreed in advance by the parks service as an agreed condition of the event, subject to the start and end times in the agreement.

Where a premises license is required to provide regulated activity for a major event, the council's licensing team will always specify the times (and dates) between which amplified music may be played and how loud it may be. They may monitor the volume and insist it is turned down or off if it breaches pre-agreed sound levels or timings.

Unlicensed music events (UMEs) in events

Parks have sometimes been used as locations for unlicensed music events, such as parties or raves, usually at night. These events often involve loud music and a large - usually paying - clientele. They are not licensed or authorised by the Council and should be stopped, ideally before the loud music starts. Anybody witnessing (or suspecting) a UME in a park or green space should report it to the council's noise team on 020 8489 1335 (or 020 8489 1000 at night) or the police on 101.

Amplified speech

Nuisance to park users can be caused by amplified speech such as radios or podcasts that are played through a loudspeaker to political or social campaigning that may be made through a megaphone or a microphone. If it is amplified, it is likely to cause nuisance.

As with loud amplified music if it has been authorised as part of a planned event in a park it is permitted.

Other loud sounds

It is worth noting that a visit to a park is rarely noise-free. There may be shouts from children playing or a dog being called back; or the scream of a siren from a passing emergency vehicle. These are for the most part short-lived bursts of sounds and to be expected in any park in an urban setting.

If maintenance works are being undertaken in the park there may be the hum of a mower or even the scream of chainsaw. These are unavoidable if the park is to be well maintained.

It is possible that other loud and ongoing sound that is not amplified (such as drumming or repeated chanting) causes annoyance to park users. This policy cannot legislate for every sound in parks but if it can reasonably be considered to cause annoyance to others (ie as set out in the byelaws for the borough) it is not permitted.

Noise reporting

Parks staff may ask people to turn off loud music but they do not have the powers to prevent the noise or to fine or arrest the perpetrator.

	<p>The council's noise team will respond to complaints about noise throughout the borough including in parks. They can be contacted on 020 8489 1335 during office hours and on 020 8489 0000 between 6pm to 2am Thursday to Sunday. More details are available at https://www.haringey.gov.uk/environment-and-waste/noise-and-animal-control/noise-control</p> <p>Anti-social behaviour can be reported to the police on 101 but the speed of response will depend on other calls and priorities at the time.</p>
Legal framework	<p>Noise Act, 1996 (relates to buildings and licensed premises) Environment Protection Act, 1990 (s79-80) LB Haringey byelaws – Good Rule and Government 14th November 1975</p> <p>The council's byelaws include a byelaw relating to “Wireless sets, gramophones etc” which is still relevant as it states that:</p> <p>“Any person who by operating or causing or suffering to be operated any wireless set, gramophone, amplifier or similar instrument in or on any street or public place makes or causes or suffers to be made any noise which is so loud and so continuous or repeated as to give reasonable cause of annoyance to other persons ... shall be guilty of an offence”.</p> <p>Byelaw 5 under s.235 of the 1972 Local Government Act , confirmed by the Secretary of State on 14 November 1975. Under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014) a Community Protection Notice can be served on an individual (or body) where the conduct of the individual (or body) is having a detrimental effect, of a persistent or continuing nature, on the quality of life of those in the locality, and the conduct is unreasonable. This particularly applies, but not solely, where it is commercial.</p>
Penalties and enforcement	

Name	Camping and sleeping rough in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS13
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Review frequency	Every three years
Next scheduled review date	October 2026
Policy position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tents may not be pitched for overnight use in parks and greenspaces owned by Haringey Council without the express permission of the council. • Parks staff will try to engage with anyone with a tent pitched in a park or greenspace to establish if they are experiencing homelessness or not. • Any person experiencing homelessness known or seen to be sleeping overnight in a park or green space (whether or not in a tent) should be reported to local outreach services via StreetLink (London). The report can be made by anyone including park users and parks staff. • Following a visit(s) by outreach workers, enforcement action will be taken against any person sleeping rough in a park or greenspaces who refuses to leave having been offered help. • Vacated/abandoned tents and other discarded items (mattresses, clothing etc) used by people experiencing homelessness should be reported to the Hygiene Team to clear. If known to the service, the person sleeping rough should be given the opportunity to clear the site within 24 hours after which time the Hygiene Team will clear the site. Anything that has been abandoned and/or that may present a danger to park users will be removed immediately. • Any person camping in a park or greenspace (who is not homeless) must take their tent down and leave immediately on being asked to do so by an authorised officer. Refusal to remove the tent may be treated as fly tipping (and treated accordingly); refusal to vacate the tent will be regarded as trespass (and will be treated accordingly). • Caravans and camper vans are not permitted in parks at any time (see vehicle policy) and therefore may not be used for overnight stays.
Definitions	<p>Sleeping Rough is defined by the Government as “people sleeping, or bedded down, in the open air (such as on the streets, or in doorways, parks or bus shelters); people in buildings or other places not designed for habitation (such as barns, sheds, car parks, cars, derelict boats, stations, or ‘bashes’)”.</p> <p>Homeless – There are many forms of homelessness, but for the purpose of this document it is defined the same as “Sleeping Rough” above.</p> <p>Camping is defined as an outdoor activity involving overnight stays away from home in a shelter, such as a tent.</p>

	<p>Many homeless people use a tent for shelter. For the purposes of this document this is considered to be sleeping rough as the homeless person is not camping “away from home”.</p> <p>An authorised officer is a police officer or an officer of the Council employed by the enforcement team.</p>
Context	<p>During 2021-22 a total of 268 people were seen by outreach services to have slept rough in Haringey. This was 34% less people than the previous year. 62% were new to the borough and nearly all (87%) were men.</p> <p>People sleeping rough are often found in parks and greenspaces. More are found in parks and greenspaces in summer than in winter.</p> <p>The council’s Rough Sleeping Strategy 2018 provides more detail on the causes of (and action that can be taken to address) people sleeping rough. What is clear is that a variety of issues and reasons may lead a person to sleep rough in a park or green space. The most obvious reason is that they have no permanent place to sleep and they are homeless. A park or green space may offer more safety, privacy or tranquility to a person who is homeless than many other outdoor places.</p> <p>However, this should not be a reason to encourage people to sleep rough in parks and greenspaces.</p> <p><u>Why don’t we let people sleep rough in our parks?</u></p> <p>People sleeping rough are often without income and risk being drawn into exploitative situations such as prostitution, begging, anti-social behavior, or crime. It is a dangerous and isolating experience. People sleeping rough are more likely to be victims of crime and almost 17 times more likely to have been victims of violence (in the past year compared to the general public). Women are particularly vulnerable, nearly 1 in 4 have been sexually assaulted whilst rough sleeping.</p> <p>35% of known people sleeping rough in Haringey in 2021-22 misused alcohol and 33% had drug dependency. Alcohol and drug misuse can lead to anti-social behavior and for broken glass and drug paraphernalia (including syringes) to be discarded in the park. This again represents a health and safety risk to park users and to animals.</p> <p>Nearly half (48%) of people sleeping rough who had an assessment following outreach contact had mental health concerns. Prolonged periods of rough sleeping have a significant impact on someone's mental and physical health. The longer someone experiences rough sleeping for, the more likely it is they will develop additional mental and physical health needs and substance misuse issues.</p> <p>Most parks do not offer toilets (and those that do are usually closed at night). A person sleeping rough in a park may have no choice but to use the grounds as a toilet. This is not acceptable and represents a risk to</p>

the health of other park users and a cost to the Parks Service in clearing up (see policy on toilets, defecation and urination).

Historically, if one person sets up a tent, then other people will do the same nearby (often as this give a sense of security /safety in numbers) The unfortunate result is that all the issues outlined above are compounded, and it becomes far more difficult to engage with them and move them into accommodation.

However, even if a person who sleeps rough presents none of the concerns listed above, we still have a duty of care towards them. There are a range of services and support for individuals in these circumstances (see below). Outreach workers can link them to these, which range from temporary housing solutions to help with benefits, treatment for physical and mental health problems and support for drug and alcohol misuse and more.

Most people who sleep rough in Haringey (56%) are not from the UK. Many become homeless simply because they do not have the language skills to access services. The sooner they are reported via StreetLink, the sooner their specialist outreach teams are able to communicate and link them to services that they had hitherto been unable to access.

What to do if you encounter somebody sleeping rough

The following is provided for anyone wanting to know how to contact outreach services. If you are sleeping rough or are aware of somebody sleeping rough, you can either:

1. Alert the local authority and outreach services by making a referral to Streetlink on 0300 500 0914 or via the StreetLink phone app. Streetlink is run in partnership between Homeless Link and St. Mungo's that connects members of the public and their knowledge of rough sleepers, to the local services.
2. Support or advise the person to present as homeless at a Haringey Council Customer Service Centre at either Wood Green Library or Marcus Garvey Library
3. Mulberry Junction, 332 High Road, N15 4BN provides a range of drop-in services for single homeless people aged (18-50) from a hot shower to advice and support.

Camping in parks

Occasionally people set up have set up unauthorised overnight camps in parks. Most commonly this is during major events in the vicinity (such as a major music event in Finsbury Park or a concert at the Emirates Stadium for example) and takes place in the summer.

In addition to the hygiene and safety issues referred to in the section on sleeping rough, camping may cause damage to the park through the pitching of a tent and trampling of vegetation. It is likely to lead to littering

	<p>and potentially to the use of fires or cooking in the park, both of which are not permitted.</p> <p>Camping may be permitted as part of an arranged event under the Outdoor Events Policy. This is only with the express permission of the council.</p>
Legal position	<p>The Vagrancy Act 1824 still applies.</p> <p>A Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) could be developed to create a clear framework of penalties and enforcement for unauthorised camping</p>
Penalties and enforcement	See Legal position.
References	<p>Haringey Rough Sleeping Strategy, 2018</p> <p>Combined Homelessness and Information Network reports, https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/chain-reports</p>

Name	Toilets, urination and defaecation in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS14
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Review frequency	Every three years
Next scheduled review date	December 2025
Policy position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public toilets, including at least one accessible toilet, will be provided in the three district (A2) parks (Finsbury Park, Lordship Recreation Ground and Queens Wood). Public toilet facilities will be provided in local (A3) parks where possible Public toilets will not be provided in A4 (small site) parks and greenspaces but may be available nearby. Changing Places toilet facilities will be provided in A2 (district parks) from 2022. Access may be via key, keypad or other means. Toilets in parks should be clean, working, serviced and safe and inspected as part of routine park inspections. Toilets in parks will include contact details for reporting defects or missing consumables New toilets in parks will be provided and maintained by on-site providers or leaseholders (e.g. café or community centre etc). The opening hours of toilets in parks will vary from park to park, with the normal opening hours published, but they will be locked at night unless otherwise stated Smoking, drinking, drug use, sexual activity and other anti-social behaviour are not permitted in park toilets. Signage to and information about public toilets in (or near) to parks will be provided Defaecation in parks and greenspaces is neither permitted nor tolerated Urination in parks is not permitted Human faeces found in parks will be removed within 24 hours if reported to the Parks Hygiene Team.
Definitions	<p>An “accessible toilet” is designed for people with physical disabilities and/or mobility impairment. The toilet is larger than a standard cubicle (to provide movement for a wheelchair and/or space for a carer) has a raised toilet bowl, grab rail(s) and a wide door.</p> <p>“Changing Places” toilets are designed for people who are unable to weight-bear and who therefore need to be changed or help to use the toilet. As well as a toilet with support bars, Changing Places units have a changing bench and a hoist to assist with lifting. They also have a shower and wash basin</p>
Context	<p>This policy document deals with two related issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The provision of toilets in parks The use of parks by some people as a toilet

Toilets in Parks

We recognise that for many the provision of toilets in parks is an access issue. Without toilets, suited to the needs of the individual, a park becomes inaccessible to many residents.

In an ideal world all local parks would have public toilets for their users. Over the years some have closed due to vandalism, misuse or an inability to maintain it. Other parks were too small to justify the expense of a public toilet and never had one.

We have retained public toilets in some parks and have ensured that toilets are available to park users in other by making them available in cafes or community buildings in the parks.

We aim to provide toilets in the larger parks as they are more likely to be destinations to which users travel more than, say, 10 minutes from home. For this reason we try to provide toilets , at least during the main body of the day, in our larger parks.

Public toilets should be safe, lockable, clean, well-lit and supplied with the essentials (paper, soap and water and a means of drying hands and disposing of towels (if offered) as a minimum. Where possible we aim to provide sanitary waste disposal facilities and if space permits a baby change area and suitable disposal arrangements.

Where possible the Council will try to provide separate male and female toilets, but this is not always possible because of limitations of existing buildings and/or cost. Where shared-use toilets are provided cubicles will be lockable, secure and private. Accessible toilets in parks are not gender-specific may be used by anyone.

Where male and female toilets are provided in a park, trans-gender people may use the toilet that they feel is most appropriate to them.

We are aware of the importance of the need for suitable facilities for adults and children with disabilities who are unable to weight-bear or who cannot use a toilet and have to be changed. We have committed to installing a Changing Places toilet and changing facility in two of our three main parks - Finsbury Park and Lordship Rec - before the end of 2022. A facility will be provided in the third (Queens Woods) when funding permits. We think this will improve the quality of lives of numerous people and that these parks will become destinations for people with such disabilities and their families and friends.

Where we have cafes in parks with toilets, the café leases always include a clause permitting public use of toilets during the advertised opening hours, whether or not the user is a customer of the café. This currently includes: Bruce Castle Park ,Chestnuts Park, Downhills Park, Down Lane Park, Ducketts Common (from 2021), Finsbury Park, Lordship Rec, Markfield Park, OR Tambo Rec, Priory Park, Queens

Wood and Russell Park. The lease requires the toilet to be kept clean, hygienic and supplied with consumables.

Most park toilets are, and will be, within staffed buildings (such as cafes) and only open during the building opening hours. This improves the security and management of the toilets, but the downside is that they may not be available early or late in the day. The normal opening hours of the toilets will be published.

Planned or unplanned closure of toilets may be unavoidable due to anything from planned repairs to floods or other unexpected events. The Council will try to alert park users and signpost the nearest alternative toilets in these circumstances.

People should know whether a park has toilets and where they are. Signage and information should be provided at obvious locations (such as on noticeboards). If toilets are in cafes signage should explain that any park user may use the toilet. The Council will provide such information, but the extent of signage may be subject to available budgets.

Many parks without toilets are located within reach of other places with public toilets, such as libraries and community centres that provide public toilet facilities. For example, [Hornsey Vale Community Centre](#), which is less than 100m from Stationers Park, offers its toilet facilities to park users when the centre is open, and [St Ann's Library](#), which is about 500m from both Chestnuts Park and Paignton Park. Where there is no toilet in the park, the Council will try to signpost other nearby facilities and opening hours. Local cafes and restaurants are usually willing to offer their toilets to non-paying customers who are in distress.

Inappropriate use of toilets in parks

Over the years public toilets nationally have attracted some more negative connotations such as being dirty, broken vandalised or being associated with drug use or sexual activity. One of the reasons for aiming to locate park toilets in staffed buildings is to avoid any of these issues.

To deter inappropriate use of and vandalism to self-contained toilets in parks (such as those in Finsbury Park) they will be locked at night and visited daily to ensure they are functioning and suitably supplied.

Temporary toilets

When events are held in parks it may be necessary to temporarily increase the toilet capacity to meet the needs of the expected attendees. This will be considered at the time the event is planned. The event organiser will be required to make additional provision and to empty and remove the temporary toilets after the event. This is covered by the event application process

Covid and public toilets

During the lockdowns of 2020 and early 2021 most public toilets were closed including those in parks. They were only kept open where social distancing and adequate hygiene precautions could be exercised. This included sanitising taps, handles, doors and other touch points. Inevitably this meant that many park toilets remained closed, and the consequences – especially in the summer of 2020 – was that the park became used as toilets.

Managing the provision of toilets in the event of future lockdowns will require consideration of the future design of toilets and toilet facilities.

Alternatives toilet facilities considered

Consideration has been given to building self-contained toilet blocks in some larger parks, but the capital and maintenance costs are prohibitive.

The use of prefabricated, stand-alone toilet units in parks (such as the 'sanisette' and other brands) has been considered but again the purchase cost and maintenance are too high. They need to be sited near to power and water and sewerage lines, which in parks is usually close to existing buildings. Many people also feel uncomfortable with toilets with automated doors. On the plus side they are available 24/7 (unless vandalised or broken) and arguably are less likely to be a source of Covid infection, but on balance using existing buildings seems to be the better option.

Defecation in parks

Surprising as it may be to some, defecation (pooing) in parks is not unusual. During the lockdown of 2020, when park toilets were mostly closed, there was a marked increase in this. The locations are usually hidden away in bushes or undergrowth or in quiet areas of the park.

Apart from the smell and inherent disgust that it generates in others, human faeces are a vector for parasites and bacteria that can cause anything from diarrhoea and vomiting (norovirus) to severe conditions such as hepatitis A and parasitic gut infections such as threadworms or *cyclospora*.

There is also the matter of human decency and respect of others. Defecating in parks shows neither of these qualities and risks a park user having an unpleasant - and potentially unhealthy – encounter.

Those defecating in parks include rough sleepers in parks and park users who are 'caught short' or who cannot be bothered to go elsewhere. There is some evidence to suggest that passers-by, delivery drivers etc use green space near roads for this purpose.

Use of cocaine and cocaine derivatives is associated with an urgent need to defecate (though opiates, like heroin, tend to cause constipation)

and the frequent presence of drug paraphernalia near human faeces in parks indicates that this is a cause.

The rather shocking photograph below shows an enclosed area in bushes in a Haringey park that was used as a toilet by a rough sleeper.



As suggested earlier, park users who are neither sleeping rough nor using drugs defecated in parks last summer because toilets were closed or queues were too long.

None of this is an excuse and the parks service will take action against anyone found defecating in Haringey parks.

Urination in parks

It is unhygienic to urinate in parks, especially if the same spot is regularly used, and there are issues of public decency associated with public urination as well as the strong smell from sites that are frequently used. Parks users, if asked, do not want their parks used as a toilet.

Urination in parks (and other public places) can be an offence but there is not a law against urination in public. The Public Order Act, 1986 can be enforced, enabling a fine to be levied. Other legislation could be used depending on the circumstances (such as public decency or exposure).

However, the Parks Service acknowledges that some people have medical conditions that may cause them to need to urinate urgently or frequently, and small children often leave it too late to make a visit to a public toilet. In such circumstances judgement will be used by parks or enforcement officers, but public decency must be respected at all times.

Legal position

There is no current byelaw that explicitly covers defecation or urination in parks or public spaces. However, Haringey byelaw 12 states that: "No person shall in any street or public place to the annoyance of residents or passengers commit any nuisance contrary to public decency or propriety".

	<p>There is a case for seeking a borough-wide Public Spaces Protection Order for all Haringey parks including specific reference to defecation and urination. It could cover highways and other public spaces. Evidence of the scale of the problem and the likelihood of it being an ongoing problem would need to be provided to secure a PSPO.</p> <p>Although they are last-resort powers, it is also open to the Council to adopt (with the consent of the Secretary of State) byelaws specifically addressing the issue.</p>
Penalties and enforcement	<p>Taking enforcement action against urination and defaecation in parks is difficult unless someone is caught 'in the act' by a police officer or an authorised officer of the council.</p> <p>PSPOs – if adopted - are enforceable by prosecution, with a maximum fine on scale 3; a Fixed Penalty notice of £100 can be issued allowing an offender the opportunity to avoid prosecution.</p> <p>Byelaws are publishable by a fine on scale 2; and, again, an Fixed Penalty Notice can be issued.</p>
References	<p>Best Practice Advice, British Toilet Association, 2010</p> <p>Changing Places web site (and links) www.changing-places.org</p> <p>Impact of toilet closures during lockdown, The Guardian, June 2020.</p>

Name	Permitted activities for commercial gain in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS15
Date adopted	TBA (March 2023)
Next review	Every three years
Next scheduled review date	March 2026
Policy	To ensure that commercial activities that take place in the borough's parks are 'permitted' within a transparent framework that ensures that these activities contribute financially to the parks service and that that safety and comfort of park and greenspace visitors is properly considered when assessing applications for Permitted Activities.
Context	<p><u>Introduction</u></p> <p>Haringey's parks and greenspaces are for the enjoyment of all residents and those who work within the borough. There are a diverse range of leisure and sport activities that take place within these spaces. These activities are generally free and include formal and informal sport, walking, dog walking, enjoying nature, picnicking, meeting friends and family, play and relaxing.</p> <p>In more recent times Haringey's parks and greenspaces have also been utilised by individuals and organisations for commercial gain. These activities include (but are not necessarily confined to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal training of groups or individuals • Group exercise classes • Dog walking • Forest Schools • Specific training for sport e.g., tennis coaching, football academies <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Haringey wants parks and greenspaces that are well used by all sections of the community, particularly the most disadvantaged. This is because, all our residents and particularly disadvantaged residents, will gain health and social benefits that accrue from visiting a park.</p> <p>Parks and greenspaces cost a considerable amount to be welcoming, safe and attractive. We also know that to widen participation and attract the most disadvantaged residents to enjoy the benefits of visiting parks; a budget is required to carry out the engagement work with these residents, that is vital to ensure they get the maximum benefit from this universal free service.</p> <p>The overall Parks and Greenspaces budget is primarily focussed on ensuring that our portfolio is safe and welcoming. Therefore, other funding needs to be generated for engagement activity. One of the tenets of the developing Parks and Greenspaces Fees and Charges Policy is that those using Haringey parks and greenspaces for commercial gain should pay a fee. Furthermore, to ensure that this activity is carried out safely and that the Council is not put at risk there must be a due diligence process undertaken for these commercial activities.</p>

Fees generated from charging those engaged in commercial activities in the borough's parks and greenspaces (and other fees generated from sports park hire etc) can be utilised to provide for engagement activity and in some cases improve maintenance regimes on sports courts and pitches.

Haringey has had a price list for 'Park Based Organised Exercise / personal training'. The fees are graduated dependent on the numbers attending the sessions over the course of a year.

Benchmarking and Pricing

Around 50% of London boroughs charge fees for commercial activity such as personal training. While all the boroughs that charge for these activities, structure their pricing slightly differently, overall Haringey's price list is generally in line with what other boroughs charge:

It is proposed, with some minimal tweaking, that the price list (see Appendix C) is also used for other commercial activities carried out in parks – except for Forest Schools.

Forest Schools are charged on a percentage basis related to the fees that the schools charge the students for attending. This was set at 7.5% of the overall child rate charged by the schools in the 2021-22. Prices will rise to 10% of the child rate in 2022-23. Environmental Activities are charged per session 7.5% of the per day child rate charged by the schools in the 2021-22. Prices will rise to 10% of the per day child rate in 2022-23.

Activities, Qualifications, and other Due Diligence

Park based organised exercise/Personal Training: This activity is carried out by companies or individuals in any part of a park that is suitable. Generally, the training is on a 1 to 1 basis but there is also group training (Group Exercise/Circuit Training outdoors).

Those carrying out this activity must have the following and make it available to the Parks and Leisure Team for scrutiny and filing so that a 'Permit' can be issued to the individual/organisation:

- Suitable British Personal Training Qualification or British Group Exercise Qualification depending on the activity undertaken
- Valid and comprehensive first aid training certificate e.g. First Aid at Work adapted for Sports
- Public Liability Insurance - £5M
- Employer Liability Insurance - £5M (if employing staff or utilising volunteers)
- DBS – issued in the last 3 years (number and date of issue required)
- Permit Application Form completed
- Customer SAP form (the Council's Finance System) completed
- Method Statement/s and Risk Assessment/s completed

Dog Walking: This activity is carried out by companies or individuals who use Haringey parks to walk dogs, other than their own, for commercial gain. A Dog Walker with a Permit from the Council may walk up to 6 dogs at a time. The Permitted Dog Walker must comply with all relevant aspects of the Dogs and Control of Dogs: Parks and Greenspaces Policy (PGSS4).

Those carrying out this activity must have the following and make it available to the Parks and Leisure Team for scrutiny so that a 'Permit' can be issued to the individual/organisation:

- Public Liability Insurance - £5M
- Employer Liability Insurance - £5M (if employing staff or utilising volunteers)
- Risk Assessment and Method Statement related to the activity location/s
- Customer SAP form (the Council's Finance System) completed
- Method Statement/s and Risk Assessment/s completed
-

Forest Schools and Environment Sessions: This activity is carried out by private and Haringey schools. Where a school charges a fee for overall school attendance or for an environmental session then as detailed above, charges will be applied on a percentage basis.

With this category, of more importance than payment, is ensuring the school groups are treating the borough's ancient woodlands and other areas of Special Scientific Interest with due care. Thus, it is important that all schools wishing to undertake this activity on a regular or one-off basis, contact the Parks and Leisure Service for a 'Permit' which will outline the rules of use and good practice. Furthermore, such is the delicate state of some of these areas the system of contacting the Department will ensure that sensitive areas are not overwhelmed with visitors and that visits are rationed as appropriate. Where possible schools will be directed to less environmentally sensitive areas within our portfolio to conduct these activities.

In terms of due diligence Haringey schools will be required to submit the following to the Parks Team for scrutiny and filing so that a 'Permit' and the 'Forest School Code of Practise' can be issued to the school:

- Name and contact details including mobile phone number of the staff member in charge of the group
- Numbers and age group of the students
- Risk Assessment and Lesson Plan related to the activity completed
- Permit Application Form completed
- Customer SAP form (the Council's Finance System) completed

For private fee charging schools the above information is required as well as:

- Public Liability Insurance - £10M
- Employer Liability Insurance - £10M
- OFSTED registration details

Sports Specific Training and Other Commercial Activity

Generally, the system detailed under 'Park based organised exercise/Personal Training' applies to this group. Exceptions are pitch based team sports who should refer to the 'Terms & Conditions of Pitch and Other Park Sports Facility Hire' and the 'Parks Pitch and Sports Facility Prices.'

General Conditions

Personal Trainers, Dog Walkers and similar providers should wear a tabard (or other highly visible clothing) with the permit number visibly and clearly displayed. This enables other park users to see that they are permitted to be carrying out the activity and to be able to make a formal complaint if they have cause for concern about the behaviour.

If appropriate the Council may advertise those individuals and organisations permitted to deliver activities in the borough's parks and greenspaces.

The engagement with individuals and organisations utilising the parks and greenspaces for their business will also afford the Council the opportunity to monitor the delivery with reference to Safeguarding, health and safety, general behaviour standards and ensuring respect for the park environment. As well if it is considered for a range of reasons that too many permits are requested for particular activities in certain locations e.g., Forest Schools, then the Council can choose not to permit a business to be conducted on the borough's premises. Reasons to refuse or terminate a Permit include:

- Applicant does not pass the due diligence requirements
- Environmental concerns related to overcrowding in sensitive areas
- Overcrowding on facilities e.g., Outdoor Gyms
- Non-payment of fees
- Non-compliance with conditions of the permit

Permits must be renewed annually. Renewal applications can be made up to six weeks before the expiry date of the permit. Renewal applications will be considered within 40 days of receipt of the application.

Charities/Activities Delivered for Free/Low Cost

All organisations no matter how constituted must pay the appropriate fee to carry out commercial activities in Haringey's parks and greenspaces.

If activities are being delivered free, then subject to all the due diligence being satisfactory a Permit will be issued, and no payment taken for the period of free delivery.

If activities are being delivered at below market rates the appropriate deduction will be calculated to arrive at the relevant fee. Once this fee is agreed and the due diligence is satisfactory a Permit will be issued for the period of discounted delivery.

Communications

Individuals and organisations issued permits may advertise their activities via social media. For physical advertising at park locations (banners, leaflets,

	<p>posters etc) specific permission must be sought and generally an additional fee paid.</p> <p>The Council may choose to advertise those with Permits and the activity their Permit is valid for; to demonstrate to the public that those with Permits have passed due diligence requirements</p> <p>From time to time the officer responsible for issuing Permits will send a list of Permit Holders to all other relevant Parks and Leisure staff.</p>
Legal framework	<p>The Council has the power under the Public Health Act 1925 to charge for use of the park/open space to and there is an existing pricing schedule.</p> <p>The Council also has a duty under various Acts of Parliament to ensure that any business carried out on Council land is compliant in terms of safeguarding, possession of public liability insurance, and in addition complies with the byelaws and policies the Council has in place and as determined from time to time. Where any business involves unsupervised contact with vulnerable adults or children an up-to-date Disclosure and Barring (DBS) certificate is required.</p>
Penalties and enforcement	<p>Parks and Leisure staff as part of their normal duties will approach those conducting activity to check if they have a Permit. If no Permit is produced the individual will be asked to stop conducting their business on Council property.</p> <p>Ideally the staff member will also give the 'Parks Commercial Activity – Initial Contact Letter' (Appendix E) to the individual.</p> <p>At key times, e.g., spring/early summer; staff will carry out specific 'sweeps' of the main parks to check Permits and to engage those without Permits.</p> <p>If an individual or organisation repeatedly refuses to either stop their commercial activity or refuses seek a Permit the Council will consider taking that individual or organisation to court.</p> <p>If it is considered that commercial activity without a Permit is becoming endemic in a particular park the Council may consider a programme of continuous checks to disrupt the activity allied with publicity warning the public against being trained by people without the Council checking their credentials.</p>
Appendices	<p>The detail of these is to be developed:</p> <p>Appendix A: Permit Application Form</p> <p>Appendix B: Customer form for SAP (the Council's Finance system)</p> <p>Appendix C: Summary Parks Fees & Charges</p> <p>Appendix D: Terms and Conditions for Personal Training and Park Based Exercise</p> <p>Appendix E: Forest School and Environmental Activities Code of Practise for Schools</p> <p>Appendix F: Parks Commercial Activity – Initial Contact Letter</p>

Name	Graffiti, flyposting, advertising and banners in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS16
Date adopted	TBA
Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graffiti is not permitted on any surface in parks and greenspaces • Art graffiti may be tolerated in those locations identified in Annex 1 to this policy document. • Graffiti in parks and greenspaces will be removed within 5 days of being reported; offensive and racist graffiti will be removed within 24 hours of being reported • Fly posting is not permitted in any park or greenspace. • Fly posted notices and signs in parks and greenspaces will be removed within 5 days of being reported; offensive and racist fly posters and notices will be removed within 24 hours of being reported • Banners and publicity material by third parties may only be put up in parks and greenspaces with the written permission of the Parks Events Team. A fee may be charged. • Action may be taken against those that put up notices, banners and signs in parks and greenspaces without the permission of the council.
Context	<p><u>Graffiti</u></p> <p>Graffiti comes in many forms but is generally unwanted marks on physical assets in public places. The marks are often, but not necessarily, made with a permanent or semi-permanent material such paint.</p> <p>Some graffiti is valued for its artistic, creative and/or other qualities. Most famously street art graffiti by Banksy would fall into this category.</p> <p>However, most graffiti in Haringey's parks and greenspaces is unwanted, unauthorised and unattractive. Most commonly it is in the form of 'tagging' - initials, symbols or names of the perpetrator.</p> <p>In some parks and greenspaces graffiti has occurred over many years, such as by the BMX/skate area in the NE corner of Markfield Park where it becomes a feature of the urban environment. This does not mean it is permitted, but it may be tolerated in some places.</p> <p>Graffiti that is obscene, offensive or racist is always unacceptable and will be prioritised for removal. It is the council's target to remove such graffiti within 24 hours of being reported.</p> <p>In order to deter further graffiti criminal action may be taken against those who are caught putting graffiti in parks and greenspaces.</p>

	<p><u>Fly posting, banners and advertising</u></p> <p>Putting up posters, signs, banners or messages in or on the boundary of parks and greenspaces is not permitted unless agreed in advance with the parks service.</p> <p>As well as keeping the park free of visual clutter and confused messaging it is to ensure that unlawful, racist, offensive, political and other unwanted messaging is not present in parks.</p> <p>Such notices may be taken down or removed immediately.</p> <p>Banners may be put up in parks with the agreement of the parks service. A fee may be charged to do so.</p> <p>Park noticeboards may only be used by the parks service and the relevant friends of parks group.</p> <p>Enforcement action may be taken against those who persistently or wilfully put up banners, signs or fly post in parks or on park boundaries.</p>
Legal framework	<p>Anti-Social Behaviour Act, 2003</p> <p>Town and Country Planning Act, 1990</p>
Penalties and enforcement	

Name	Enforcement in parks and greenspaces
Policy ref no.	PGSS17
Date adopted	TBC (March 2023)
Review frequency	Every three years (aligned with Public Spaces Protection Orders renewal cycle)
Next scheduled review date	January 2023
Policy position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council will seek the compliance with park policies through the engagement, education and encouragement of park users. • If engagement, education and encouragement is not effective the council may take enforcement action to secure compliance. • Authorised enforcement officers will have a presence in parks and greenspaces across the borough to engage, educate, encourage and if necessary, and where lawful, to enforce compliance with park (and Council) policies. • A police response will be sought where an unlawful activity or behaviour occurs in a park or greenspace that is not within the powers of Council officers to act. • Enforcement action will only be taken where the powers to enforce are present in the form of legislation, byelaws or public spaces protection orders (PSPOs). • Where necessary the Council will seek further powers in the form of additional byelaws or PSPOs.
Definitions	<p>Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) – is a legal Order that gives a local authority powers “to tackle activities carried on in a public place which have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in its locality”. PSPOs were first introduced in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Police Act 2014. They are for a maximum period of three years, but may be renewed for a further three year period.</p> <p>Byelaw – a local law applying within some or all of the local authority area. Any new byelaw requires the personal authorisation of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government</p> <p>Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) - An FPN is in effect a fine that must be paid within a fixed period. Failure to pay the FPN can result in criminal prosecution.</p>
Context	<p>The council has policies relating to parks and greenspaces. While some are concerned with how the council manages and maintains parks, many deal with those activities and behaviour that is not permitted in parks and greenspaces. These include things such as littering, lighting fires or camping.</p> <p>Where a particular behaviour is not permitted it is necessary to set out what action – including enforcement action – may be taken if, and when, such behaviour occurs. These can loosely be described as the four E’s – engagement, education, encouragement and enforcement.</p> <p>Engagement is simply about talking to the person. It can be followed up with education to explain why the behaviour is not permitted. Encouragement is used to try to achieve a change in that behaviour.</p>

Finally **enforcement** is the last resort which can take form of a penalty such as a fine or potentially a criminal conviction.

Education and encouragement is often communicated to park users through signage and notices such “Do not feed the ducks” or “No cycling”. Sometimes there will an explanation to encourage behaviour change.

This policy document is primarily concerned with **enforcement** of the policies, laws, byelaws and public spaces protection orders (PSPOs) that apply in council parks and greenspaces.

Breaches of laws that apply anywhere (but which may occur in parks), such as drug dealing or robbery, are not included. These are a police matter and should be reported to the police by calling 101 or, in an emergency, 999.

Who can take enforcement action in parks and greenspaces?

Enforcement action may only be taken where a law, a byelaw or a public spaces protection order (PSPO) explicitly says the behaviour is unlawful or not permitted in that location.

Whilst any employee of the parks service can seek to engage, educate and encourage people in parks and greenspaces to change their behaviour (such as to pick up a piece of discarded litter), they do not have the power in law to issue fines or take other enforcement action.

The parks service is keen to establish a permanent, trained and authorised staffing resource to take enforcement action in parks and greenspaces.

At present the council has an anti-social behaviour (ASB) enforcement team. Council ASB enforcement officers have the power in law to issue fixed penalty notices (FPNs) and in some case confiscate or remove items (such as alcohol) from people in breach of laws, byelaws or PSPOs. However, their responsibilities are for the whole borough, and not just parks and open spaces, and inevitably they are more often than not engaged in dealing with enforcement issues elsewhere in the borough.

Other council enforcement officers – such as the civil enforcement officers who are usually seen dealing with traffic and parking violations – have the same powers as the ASB enforcement officers. Again, their role is directed towards road traffic issues.

Police officers and police community support officers also have powers, which they may exercise in parks and greenspaces. Police officers also have the power to arrest people who are in breach of laws, byelaws or PSPOs in parks and greenspaces.

	Appendix 1 sets out how those policies relating to the behaviour of people in parks and greenspaces may be enforced.
Legal position	Enforcement action may only be taken where a law, a byelaw or a public spaces protection order (PSPO) explicitly says the behaviour is unlawful or not permitted in that location.
Penalties and enforcement	See Appendix 1
References	PSPOs: Guidance for Councils , Local Government Association

Appendix 1: Enforcement action that may be taken in parks and greenspaces

Policy	Ref	Basis for enforcement	Penalty	Ease of enforcem't	Priority for action	Who to act/enforce	Notes
BBQs in parks	PGSS 1	Encouragement	None	varied	High	???	Target bigger parks on sunny weekends. Needs PSPO
Fires in parks	PGSS 1	Encouragement	None	Difficult	High	???	Often after dark. Needs PSPO
Release of sky lanterns	PGSS 1	Encouragement	None	Difficult	Low	???	After dark so difficult
Discharge of fireworks	PGSS 1	Fireworks Act 2003	FPN £90 to six months prison	Difficult	Low	Police?	After dark so difficult
Alcohol-related ASB in parks in Alcohol Control Zone	PGSS 2	PSPO	Confiscation/FPN	Medium	High	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	Only where current PSPO applies
Alcohol-related ASB in parks <u>not</u> located in Alcohol Control Zone	PGSS 2	Criminal Justice act 1967, s90.	FPN	Medium	High	Police only	Where PSPO does not apply, law for drunken behaviour in a public place can be applied
Not disposing of alcohol containers – littering	PGSS 2	EPA, 1990	FPN	Medium	Medium	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	
Consumption of alcohol in playgrounds, MUGAs etc	PGSS 2	Varies	None	Difficult	Medium	Parks staff	Depends if a PSPO is in place.
Sale of alcohol by park cafe	PGSS 2	Licensing law	???	Easy	Low	Licensing	This has not been an issue in parks
Consumption of alcohol brought to the park, in cafes or on outdoor café tables	PGSS 2	Persuasion	None?	Medium	Low	Café leaseholder	Café owner should deal with this. Possible licensing issue

Policy	Ref	Basis for enforcement	Penalty	Ease of enforcement	Priority for action	Who to act/enforce	Notes
Sale of alcohol at unlicensed and/or unauthorised events in parks	PGSS 2	Licensing law	???	Medium	High	Licensing or police?	This does happen but such events tend to be after dark.
Smoking in enclosed buildings	PGSS 3	Health Act 2006		Medium	Medium	Police?	Although covered by law encouragement should be used if this occurs.
Vaping in enclosed buildings	PGSS 3	Encouragement	None	None	Medium	Parks staff	Encouragement should be used if this occurs.
Smoking or vaping within 10m of buildings	PGSS 3	Encouragement	None	None	Low	Parks staff	Encouragement should be used if this occurs.
Smoking or vaping in playgrounds	PGSS 3	Encouragement	None	None	Low	Parks staff	Encouragement should be used if this occurs.
Smoking of cannabis in parks	PGSS 3	Issue of Drugs Act 1971	FPN for possession	Medium	Low	Police	Police can issue a warning or an on-the-spot fine if you're found with cannabis.
Consideration of others when smoking in parks	PGSS 3	Encouragement	None	None	Medium	Parks staff	Encouragement to desist should be used if this occurs.
Smoking or vaping within council vehicles	PGSS 3	Health Act 2006; terms and conditions of employment	Management action	Easy	Medium	Parks management	Agency staff should be warned and may have contract terminated
Smoking or vaping by parks staff or contractors while working	PGSS 3	conditions of employment	Management action	Easy	Low	Parks management	How are breaks treated?
Dogs must be under control	PGSS 4	PSPO (Dog control)	FPN	Easy	Medium	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	This might apply to adults and children over 10 who are not physically able to control their dog
Dogs must not be supervised by anyone under 10	PGSS 4	Encouragement	None	Easy	High	Parks staff	The age of criminal responsibility is 10. For anyone

Policy	Ref	Basis for enforcement	Penalty	Ease of enforcement	Priority for action	Who to act/enforce	Notes
							under 10 the responsible adult must be identified or contacted.
All dogs in parks to be microchipped and/or wear a name tag	PGSS 4	Microchipping of Dogs regulations, 2015	Fine (up to £500)	Difficult	Low	Enforcement	Legislation says it is not for the police to enforce this law
All dogs in parks to wear a collar	PGSS 4	Control of Dogs Order 1992 (Animal Health Act 1981)		Easy	Medium	Enforcement	
Dog fouling	PGSS 4	PSPO (Dog control)	FPN	Easy	Medium	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	
Dogs on a lead in parks and greenspaces under 0.5 hectare,	PGSS 4	PSPO (Dog control)	FPN	Easy	Medium	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	
Dogs on a lead by direction	PGSS 4	PSPO (Dog control)	FPN	Easy	Medium	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	
Number of dogs walked by a single person	PGSS 4	Permitted activities policy; PSPO (Dog control)	FPN	Easy	Medium	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	Current PSPO is for walking up to six dogs. The permitted activities policy requires a permit for anyone walking

Policy	Ref	Basis for enforcement	Penalty	Ease of enforcement	Priority for action	Who to act/enforce	Notes
							more than four dogs (but no more than six)
Dogs in dog exclusion areas	PGSS 4	PSPO (Dog control)	FPN	Easy	Medium	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	
Dogs damaging trees or assets in parks	PGSS 4	PSPO (Dog control)	FPN			Police and authorised council enforcement officers	This is covered by the dogs under control element of the dog control PSPO.
Access via gates and gaps in boundary fences	PGSS 5	Trespass	Civil action	Medium	Varies	Enforcement Team	Enforcement priority given to local nature reserves and ancient woodlands. Access can be blocked on the 'park side' of the boundary.
Unauthorised encroachment by individuals	PGSS 5	Trespass	Civil action	Hard	Low	Parks staff or enforcement team	Parks staff to advise the individual if seen but to refer repeated or reluctant transgressors to the Enforcement team
Vehicle gates left open by staff	PGSS 5	Encouragement	Disciplinary action (see notes)	Easy	Low	Parks management	Disciplinary action is an option for managers if it is repeated behaviour
Vehicle gates left open by contractors	PGSS 5	Encouragement	None	Easy	Low	Client for the contract	Ultimate sanction is to not award future work
Vehicle gates left open by leaseholders	PGSS 5	Encouragement	None	Easy	Low	Park Projects Officer (PPO)	Ultimate sanction is to ask for the keys or to change the locks

Policy	Ref	Basis for enforcement	Penalty	Ease of enforcement	Priority for action	Who to act/enforce	Notes
Vehicle gates left open by events staff or management	PGSS 5	Encouragement	None	Easy	Low	Events manager	Ultimate sanction is to not award future work.
Enforcement or criminal action will be taken against anyone deliberately introducing INNS to Haringey parks and greenspaces	PGSS 5	The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	Up to £5,000 fine or up to two years in prison	Hard	High	NCO/PPO to instruct Legal or report to police	Nature Conservation Officer (NCO) / Nature Conservation Manager would need to support or request enforcement action
Habitat degradation	PGSS 1 PGSS 5 PGSS 11	Various (see notes)	Various	Hard	High	Depends (NCO, PPO or Enforcement Team)	This covers degradation of local nature reserves or SINCS (e.g. by having fires, fly tipping, cycling on protected areas etc)
Maximum speed of authorised vehicles in parks	PGSS 10	Contracts with staff, contractors etc	None?	Easy	Low	Parks management (staff or contractors speeding); others???	Requires PSPO or byelaw in all parks except Finsbury where an old GLC byelaw is in place.
Unauthorised powered vehicles in parks and greenspaces (inc motorcycles)	PGSS 10		None?	Easy	Medium	???	Requires PSPO or byelaw.
Caravans and camper vans in parks and greenspaces	PGSS 10		None?	Easy	High	???	Requires PSPO or byelaw.
Use of hazard lights by authorised vehicles	PGSS 10	Encouragement		Easy	Low	Parks staff	Requires PSPO or byelaw.
Not driving on grass	PGSS 10	Encouragement	None?	Easy	High	Parks staff	Requires PSPO or byelaw.
Turning engines off while stationary	PGSS 10	Encouragement	None?	Easy	Low	Parks staff	Requires PSPO or byelaw.

Policy	Ref	Basis for enforcement	Penalty	Ease of enforcement	Priority for action	Who to act/enforce	Notes
Parking in marked bays only	PGSS 10	Parking enforcement arrangements	FPN	Easy	Low	Parking enforcement contractor	Parking regulations (where applicable)
Cycling in prohibited places	PGSS 10	Encouragement LBH Byelaw 24	FPN	Medium	Medium	Authorised council enforcement officers	Bye laws say no cycling on footpaths where notices say it is prohibited
Cycling over 10mph	PGSS 10	Encouragement	None	Easy	Medium	???	Requires PSPO or byelaw.
Cyclists with lights/visible when dark	PGSS 10	Encouragement	None?	Easy	Low	Parks staff	Not appropriate to enforce
Leave hire cycles outside parks	PGSS 10	Encouragement	None?	Medium	Low	Parks staff	Not appropriate to enforce
Use of personal powered transport devices in parks (e.g. e-scooters)	PGSS 10		Fine	Medium	Low	???	Requires PSPO or byelaw.
To take action against those who drop litter in parks	PGSS 11	Environment Protection Act 1990, s.87	FPN	Medium	High	Authorised council enforcement officer	Best achieved by targeted action at pre-determined times and places
To take action against those who fly tip in parks	PGSS 11	Environment Protection Act 1990	Unlimited fine; imprisonment	Difficult	High	Authorised council enforcement officer	Use of CCTV in hotspots to collect evidence
Amplified music or speech	PGSS 12	Environment Protection Act 1990 and byelaws	FPN	Easy	High	Authorised council enforcement officer	Encouragement should be used before considering enforcement action.
Unlicensed music events	PGSS 12	Environment Protection Act	FPN	Easy	High	Police and authorised council	These often take place late at night

Policy	Ref	Basis for enforcement	Penalty	Ease of enforcem't	Priority for action	Who to act/enforce	Notes
		1990 and byelaws				enforcement officers	
Other loud or continuous anti-social noise	PGSS 12	Environment Protection Act 1990 and byelaws	???	Easy	High	Authorised council enforcement officer	Encouragement should be used before considering enforcement action
Tents may not be pitched for overnight use	PGSS 13			Varies	High	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	Requires PSPO or byelaw. Encouragement should be used before considering enforcement action. Refusal to take down and remove a tent could constitute fly tipping
Smoking, drinking, drug use, sexual activity and other anti-social behaviour in park toilets.	PGSS 14	Various		Difficult	High	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	Requires PSPO or byelaw. The basis for enforcement depends on the activity. Most park toilets are within cafes and should be managed by the leaseholder;
Defaecation in parks and greenspaces	PGSS 14	Byelaw 12	FPN	Difficult	High	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	There is a case for a PSPO on defaecation in parks and greenspaces. The current Byelaw 12 says "No person shall in any street or public place to the annoyance of residents or passengers commit any nuisance contrary to public decency or propriety".
Urination in parks and greenspaces	PGSS 14	Encouragement	FPN	Difficult	High	Police and authorised council	There is a case for a PSPO or byelaw on defaecation in parks and greenspaces.

Policy	Ref	Basis for enforcement	Penalty	Ease of enforcem't	Priority for action	Who to act/enforce	Notes
						enforcement officers	Encouragement should be used before considering enforcement action.
Graffiti	PGSS 16	ASB Act 2003	FPN	Difficult	Medium	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	
Flyposting	PGSS 16	Town and Country Planning Act 1990	FPN	Difficult	Medium	Police and authorised council enforcement officers	

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Parks and Greenspaces Service Standards

August 2022

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Introduction

The purpose of this document is to set out the standards that the Parks Service aims to meet in delivering a quality service that meets the needs and expectations of park users over the next 15 years. It proposes 25 service standards and nine quality measures that link directly to the strategic priorities of the parks and greenspaces strategy.

What are service standards?

Service standards help to define what park users can expect from the day-to-day management of a park. They also remind management and staff of the challenges and obligations that they should meet in delivering the service. Council service standards are usually built around timeliness and accuracy of services. In the context of parks, **timeliness** could be about whether bins are emptied at a specified frequency or on a pre-defined day(s) of the week, while **accuracy** could be about whether grass is kept short enough.

They are important for various stakeholders including park users (and potential users), members, parks staff and the service managers.

Why do service standards matter?

Service standards provide park users with a clear sense of what they can expect their park to be like. How often will litter be cleared? When will the grass be cut? How will shrubs and flowers be maintained? How quickly the service responds to a reported defect?

They also give park users a clear basis for challenge if the park (or the parks service) does not meet the specified standards.

However, service standards should also encourage park managers to improve and innovate by setting out an aspiration of excellence - even if it cannot be achieved immediately.

Service standards can also help to manage user expectations and to recognise that finite resources are available for the management of parks.

What else determines how 'good' a park is?

Different people have different views of what makes a park good or excellent.

Park users may judge a park by how safe it feels, how welcome they feel, is it accessible to them, how clean it is, whether it has particular amenities or if the grass or flower beds are well-maintained. These can be quite subjective judgements, sometimes made without any thought about the cost or difficulty of always meeting these expectations.

Parents of young children may be looking for play facilities and a safe and clean environment for their children, while some older people may be more interested in a stimulating range of varied planting with thoughtfully located seating. Teenagers may want informal sports facilities and places to hang out with friends.

Others may be looking to green spaces to provide a range of wildlife and biodiversity and to be relatively informal in the way they are presented.

Understanding the different needs for each group in more detail is a key challenge to be addressed by the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy over the next fifteen years. Gaining this

understanding will ensure that our parks and greenspaces are as welcoming and inclusive as possible.

Service standards are not always appropriate for measuring the success in meeting these aspirations. This document also proposes other ‘quality measures’ of the extent to which parks and greenspaces meet the community’s needs in Haringey.

How are service standards assessed?

A standard is of no use if performance against it cannot be measured. Has the standard been achieved or not? Service standards should therefore be measurable, and the process of measurement should be simple, easy and unambiguous.

Should all parks and greenspaces meet the same standards?

This is a matter for great debate, but the conclusion that we have drawn is that while certain minimum standards should be met for all parks and greenspaces, in some cases it is reasonable to set higher standards for some green spaces than others.

For example, Finsbury Park is the borough’s largest, best known and most used park. It is not unreasonable to expect the emptying of bins and management of its assets to be to a higher frequency/standard than a pocket park or small greenspace that has much less use.

The Mayor of London has developed a typology of parks and greenspaces. In effect it is a way of describing and categorising different types of parks based on their size and place within the community. This approach is used to determine the service standards that should be achieved in each park and greenspace within Haringey. Table 1 (below) summarises the typology with examples of such parks in Haringey.

Table 1: Typology of parks in Haringey

Type	Description	Area (ha)	Proximity (walk time)	No. in Haringey	Examples in Haringey
A1	Metropolitan sites	60-400	15 mins	1	Alexandra Park (<u>not</u> managed by the council)
A2	District sites	20-60	5 mins	5	Finsbury Park, Queens Wood, Lordship Rec (council-managed) Highgate Wood and Tottenham Marshes (not council-managed)
A3	Local sites	2-20	<5 mins	17	e.g. Bruce Castle Park, Woodside Park, Parkland Walk, Priory Park
A4	Small sites	<2	< 5 mins	35	e.g. Tottenham Green, Stanley Culross Open Space, Stationers Park, Hartington Park,

Sites such as local nature reserves and ancient woodlands are approached in a different way with a view to protecting and enhancing nature value. These sites are not included within this typology and should have their own management plans setting out how they will be managed.

Within Haringey we have also identified a category we have called A5 for borders, beds and similar very small sites that are maintained by the parks service. There are nearly 100 such sites dotted around the borough, often within residential streets or areas.

What is the offer to park users?

Table 2 (below) sets out the high level 'offer' that we aim to make for each type of park. This is, in effect, what a visitor to the park or greenspace can expect in terms of amenities and overall management, maintenance and investment.

These are not the service standards but describes the **type of experience** users can expect from each type of park. The service standards should help to demonstrate that the 'offer' to park users is being achieved.

Table 2: What can users expect from their parks and greenspaces

High level 'offer'	A2. District Parks	A3. Local Parks	A4. Small parks
Overall 'standard'	Green flag	Green flag or future Green Flag sites.	Aspire to green flag or community green flag
Amenity	Toilets and cafe	Toilets and café where appropriate	Toilets and/or café (only if currently provided)
Staffing	Permanent staffing presence	Mobile/occasional staffing presence	Occasional visits by parks staff and/or Veolia
Horticulture	Good standard	Good standard	Acceptable standard
Recreation	Managed and informal opportunities	Active and informal opportunities	Passive recreation / travel routes
Habitats	Range of habitats	Limited habitats	Simple habitat
Investment	Priority for annual investment	Aim for planned occasional investment	Community-led supported investment
Asset inspections	Undertake at least quarterly	Undertaken at least quarterly	Undertaken at least twice a year
Visitors	Attracts visitors from inside and outside the borough	Serves local needs and predominantly local visitors	Serves local needs

Source: Future Parks, 2019

Green Space Quality Manual Service Standards

The London Benchmarking Group and Parks for London developed a [Green Space Quality Manual](#) in 2018. It was designed 'to be a guide towards setting, maintaining and improving quality standards across [London's] parks and green spaces'. It focuses on how parks and greenspaces are maintained and managed.

The manual identifies 38 aspects of the day-to-day management and maintenance of greenspaces from universal services like amenity grass maintenance to niche areas of service provision (such as aspects of golf course management – which is not undertaken in Haringey). For each area four levels of standard are described in detail with photographs to illustrate each standard. The four headline standards are excellent, good, acceptable and not acceptable.

This is an effective approach and one that can be used as a guideline for the quality that park users can expect. However, it is quite technical and detailed. Time, training and judgement is required to assess what standard a particular area of greenspace achieves.

The Haringey approach is to take the best bits from the service standards but to distil them down to a simpler approach as set out below.

Which service standards to adopt in Haringey?

The danger of too many service standards is that it is easy to lose focus on what matters.

The service standards set out in this document focus on five aspects of park and greenspace management from the *Green Space Quality Manual*. These have been broken down into 14 more detailed areas (rather than the 38 in the quality manual). They are set out in the table below.

Table 3: What can users expect from their parks and greenspaces

Service area	Detailed aspect of service
Horticulture and Turf	Grass cutting and maintenance
	Bulb maintenance within grassy areas
	Hedge maintenance
	Tree maintenance
	Flower beds
	Shrub and shrub bed maintenance
	Wildflower and meadow maintenance
Sports pitches and courts	Football and rugby pitch maintenance
	Sports courts and multi-use games areas
Infrastructure	Playground equipment and surfaces
	Hard assets (e.g. paths, benches, lamps, fences etc)
Cleansing	Litter management
	Hygiene and cleansing
	Fly-tipping and dumped rubbish
	Graffiti
Site security	Preventing and deterring unauthorised and inappropriate access to and behaviour within parks (e.g. gates, entrances, buildings, lighting)

High level service standards

Table 4 sets out a simple set of 25 standards that Haringey parks service aims to achieve at all times. Each of these relates to one of the aspects of the management of parks and greenspaces set out in Table 3.

Table 4: The 25 service standards for Haringey parks and greenspaces

Activity	Ref	Service standard
Grass cutting	1	To publish an annual grass cutting schedule for each park, and to display it in the park noticeboard where there is one.
	2	To cut ornamental, amenity and sports pitch grass before it is over 60mm high
	3	To remove litter from grass before cutting
	4	To wait at least six weeks after bulbs have finished flowering before cutting the grass in areas planted with bulbs

Activity	Ref	Service standard
	5	Unless a different agreement is in place, to only cut designated wildflower meadows once a year, after the meadow has flowered, and to remove the cuttings from the area.
Horticulture	6	To cut shrubbery and hedges at the boundary of parks at least once a year
	7	To prune shrub beds and bushes at least twice a year
	8	To prune rose beds at least twice a year
	9	To provide herbaceous border or flower beds in all district and some local parks
	10	To support friends and community groups to undertake bulb planting and other voluntary horticultural activities
Play and exercise	11	To undertake an independent inspection of play equipment, outdoor gyms and sports courts in parks twice a year.
	12	To maintain play, outdoor gym equipment and sports courts to safe standards, and to repair or take out of service any equipment that presents a significant risk to safety.
Physical assets	13	To inspect and make a condition assessment of all physical assets within district and local parks at least four times a year and at least twice a year in small parks and green spaces.
	14	To urgently repair or remove from service any physical assets that are unsafe
Litter and hygiene	15	To publish the weekly frequency that the litter bins in each park and green space will be emptied and to display it in the park noticeboard where there is one.
	16	To empty the bins at least as often as set out in the scheduled frequency.
	17	To clear litter that has over-spilled from bins and side waste from each bin that is emptied
	18	To remove dog poo and waste that is hazardous to human health in parks within 48 hours of being alerted to it
	19	To remove fly-tips and dumped rubbish within two working days of being alerted to its presence in a park; or to arrange specialist removal within two days where required.
	20	To remove offensive graffiti within 24 hours and other graffiti on park assets within 10 working days of being alerted to its presence.
Park security	21	To ensure that vehicle entrances to parks and greenspaces are secured at all times to prevent unauthorised vehicle access (see policy PGSS5).
	22	To lock and unlock the gates of those parks which the Head of Parks and Leisure has agreed should be locked overnight (see policy PGSS5)
Working with the community	23	To hold at least three Spotlight visits in all Green Flag parks and greenspaces each year, to which the friends of the park, ward members and other key stakeholders are invited.
	24	To respond to reports of defects or issues within parks within 10 working days of being reported
	25	All parks staff will wear identifiable clothing and/or an identification badge when they are on duty in parks and green spaces.

Measuring performance against the draft service standards

As stated previously a standard is of no use if performance against it cannot be measured. The table below sets out how performance against each of the 25 standards can be measured.

The purpose of such reporting is both to identify and intervene where the standards are not being met, and to acknowledge and recognise those areas in which high standards have been achieved.

The data will be collated by a nominated officer (to be identified) and a quarterly update report will be prepared for the Parks Service management team setting out performance against each standard and any known issues, mitigating factors etc.

Where possible the data will be reported on a park-by-park basis. Where this is not appropriate the data will be aggregated/reported at a zonal level to reflect the management and zonal team arrangements within the service. The zones and parks within each zone are set out in Appendix 1.

The reporting arrangements are yet to be developed in detail, but in line with any good performance management framework there should be a feedback loop. This should identify management actions that will be taken to improve performance in any area where the standards have not been met. The action plan should identify interventions that will be taken and the impact of these should be assessed at the next quarterly performance reporting meeting.

Table 5: How the performance against the 25 service standards will be assessed

Ref	Service standard	How measured/assessed	Reporting level
1	To publish an annual grass cutting schedule for each park, and to display it in the park noticeboard where there is one.	Evidence of published up-to-date schedule (on park noticeboard and/or web site).	Park by park
2	To cut ornamental, amenity and sports pitch grass before it is over 60mm high	Unannounced checks in parks; alerts from friends and community groups; complaints.	Park by park
3	To remove litter from grass before cutting	Unannounced checks in parks; alerts from friends and community groups; complaints.	Park by park
4	To wait at least six weeks after bulbs have finished flowering before cutting the grass in areas planted with bulbs	Unannounced checks in parks; alerts from friends and community groups; complaints.	Park by park
5	To only cut designated wildflower meadows once a year, after the meadow has flowered, and to remove the cuttings from the area.	Unannounced checks in parks; alerts from friends and community groups; complaints.	Park by park
6	To cut hedges and shrubbery at the boundary of parks at least once a year	Review of completed grounds maintenance schedules; alerts	Park by park

Ref	Service standard	How measured/assessed	Reporting level
		from friends and community groups; complaints.	
7	To prune shrub beds at least twice a year	Review of completed grounds maintenance schedules; alerts from friends and community groups; complaints.	Park by park
8	To prune rose beds at least twice a year	Review of completed grounds maintenance schedules; alerts from friends and community groups; complaints.	Park by park
9	To provide herbaceous borders or flower beds in all district (A2) and local (A3) parks	Unscheduled visits during May-August.	Park by park
10	To support friends and community groups to undertake bulb planting and other voluntary horticultural activities	Feedback from friends and community groups; evidence of publicity/promotion of relevant events	Borough-wide
11	To undertake an independent inspection of play equipment, outdoor gyms and sports courts in parks twice a year.	Copies of inspection reports.	Park by park
12	To maintain play, outdoor gym equipment and sports courts to safe standards, and to repair (or to take out of service) any equipment that presents a significant risk to safety.	Copies of inspection reports; follow up visit to any equipment reported as unsafe; reports through Confirm asset database.	Park by park
13	To inspect and make a condition assessment of physical assets within district parks (A2) at least four times a year and at least twice a year in local and small parks and green spaces (A3 and A4).	Records of inspection reports; Confirm Connect	Park by park
14	To urgently repair or remove from service any physical assets that are unsafe.	Inspection visits, records of repairs undertaken	Park by park
15	To publish the weekly frequency that the litter bins in each park and green space will be emptied and to display it in the park noticeboard where there is one.	Evidence of published up-to-date schedule	Park by park
16	To empty the bins at least as often as set out in the scheduled frequency.	Alerts from friends and community groups; review of bin collection schedules.	Zonal
17	To clear litter that has over-spilled from bins and side waste beside each bin that is emptied	Spot checks; alerts from friends and community groups; complaints.	Park by park
18	To remove dog poo and waste that is hazardous to human health in parks within 48 hours of being alerted to it	Confirm reporting system.	Zonal

Ref	Service standard	How measured/assessed	Reporting level
19	To remove fly-tips and dumped rubbish within two working days of it being alerted to its presence in a park; or to arrange specialist removal within two days where required	Confirm reporting system.	Zonal
20	To remove offensive graffiti within 24 hours and other graffiti within 10 working days of being alerted to its presence	Confirm reporting system.	Zonal
21	To ensure that vehicle entrances to parks and greenspaces are secured at all times to prevent unauthorised vehicle access.	Spot checks; alerts from friends and community groups; complaints.	Park by park
22	To lock and unlock the gates of those parks which the Head of Parks and Leisure has agreed should be locked overnight; and a schedule of the closing and opening times to be displayed in the park noticeboard.	Spot checks; alerts from friends and community groups; complaints.	Park by park
23	To hold at least three Spotlight visits in Green Flag parks and open spaces each year to which the friends of the park, ward members and other stakeholders are invited.	Records of meetings.	Park by park
24	To respond to reports of defects or issues within parks within 10 working days of being reported	Confirm reporting system.	Zonal
25	All parks staff will wear identifiable clothing and/or an identification badge when they are on duty in parks and green spaces.	Spot checks; alerts from friends and community groups; complaints.	Park by park

Aligning service standards and park typology

Whilst the Parks Service will aim to meet all of the service standards for all parks and greenspaces, more resources are generally directed to larger greenspaces. For some of the service standards the frequency or quality of the activity may be higher.

The standards and targets should reflect the greater priority given to A2 and A3 parks, while still setting minimum standards for A4 (and A5) parks and greenspaces. The *aspiration* is to always meet the stated standards, but in reality it is acknowledged that this cannot always happen. Success will be measured by how much of the time the standards are achieved.

For example to achieve a litter-free park “*at all times*” is not achievable because it is not realistic to expect parks to be litter-free at the end of a sunny, summer weekend or on a warm but windy autumn day. People will bring in food or drinks with packaging, and other

items, and some of these will be left in the park. No parks service can pledge to clear litter as soon as it appears.

Equally, it may not be possible to meet our stated grass cutting standards 100% of the time, for example during prolonged periods of rain when the ground is wet or waterlogged etc.

The draft service standards set out above reflect this.

Developing measures of the quality and importance of greenspaces

The service standards relate to the **management** of greenspaces, but some other measures are being developed to assess the extent to which parks and greenspaces are meeting the needs and aspirations of local residents and providing wider environmental benefits. Some of these measures will be easier to collect than others. Where possible figures will be benchmarked (ie compared) with other London boroughs.

These measures reflect the strategic priorities for the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy which are:

- **Inclusion and Wellbeing:** providing inclusive parks and greenspaces that all communities in Haringey can benefit from so that usage and enjoyment of our parks and greenspaces reflects the communities living in Haringey and contributes to improved wellbeing.
- **Climate Change, and Sustainability:** supporting the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency by reducing the carbon footprint of parks and green spaces, protecting and promoting biodiversity, and helping educate everyone in Haringey about contributing toward saving the planet.
- **A Quality Service:** securing investment, improving standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes.

For clarity they have been collectively described as "quality measures" below. This is to differentiate them from "service standards". Table 6 sets out these broad areas and the proposed measures to be used. It also sets out why each quality measure has been included.

Table 6: Quality measures to show that parks and green spaces are meeting local needs and providing environmental benefits

Strategic Aim	Quality measure	Purpose
Inclusion	Profile of park users compared to that of the population of the borough ¹	To identify any gaps in provision/use .
Inclusion	Number of visitors to a representative sample of parks	How well-used/ popular are parks.
Inclusion	Number of community groups active in parks and greenspaces	Community involvement, engagement and partnership

¹ Methodology to be developed.

Strategic Aim	Quality measure	Purpose
Climate change and sustainability	Increase tree planting across the borough and develop strategies to increase canopy cover across public and private land in the borough.	Conservation and environmental stewardship
Climate change and sustainability	To establish new local nature reserves and sites of importance for nature conservation and create new wildlife habitat every year in parks and greenspaces	Supporting wildlife and biodiversity
Climate change and sustainability	The core parks operational buildings and all transport related activities for service delivery to be net zero carbon by 2027.	Reducing the carbon footprint of parks
A Quality Service	Number of parks and greenspaces with a Green Flag accreditation	An independent measure of quality
A Quality Service	The proportion of park users who are very satisfied or satisfied with Haringey parks ²	Shows perceived quality of parks
A Quality Service	Percentage of park assets that are graded good or excellent	Indication of asset quality over time
A Quality Service	Number of full time equivalent (FTE) parks staff per hectare of managed greenspace.	Staffing numbers as a proxy for investment and visible presence in parks. Track over time.

As with the service standards more work will be required to develop systems for collecting and reporting on the data for the proposed quality measures. It is important that the data is collected as part of the day-to-day running of the service and not as an additional 'job'.

The quality measures will not vary much over the short term, so annual reporting against each measure is recommended. Over time improvement should be sought in each quality measure. Where benchmarking data exists, or can be developed, this should be undertaken with a view to improving the council's standing relative to other London boroughs.

Some of these quality measures may benefit from deeper research and analysis. For example the inclusion measures could be used to understand which demographic groups within the community are not visiting parks. This might inform campaigns and programmes of activities to attract the under-represented groups to the borough's parks and green spaces. However, the first task should be to collect accurate, high level data for each measure.

Appendices

² Methodology to be developed.

Appendix 1	Haringey parks and greenspaces by Mayor of London typology
Appendix 2	Service standards by park type

Appendix 1: Haringey parks and greenspaces by Mayor of London typology.

A1: Metropolitan Parks and gardens	A2: District parks and gardens	A3: Local Parks and Gardens	A4: Small Parks and Gardens	
Alexandra Park (non-council)	Finsbury Park Lordship Recreation Ground Queens Wood Highgate wood (non-council) Tottenham Marshes (non-council)	Belmont Recreation Ground Bruce Castle Park Chestnuts Park Coldfall Wood Down Lane Park Downhills Park Ducketts Common Markfield Park Muswell Hill Playing Field OR Tambo Recreation Ground Priory Park Russel Park The Paddock Tunnel Gardens White Hart Lane Rec Woodside Park	Avenue Gardens Barratt Gardens Bowes Park Community Gardens Brunswick Park Chapmans Green Civic Centre Gardens Durnsford Road Verges Fairland Park Finsbury Gardens Granville Road Spinney Green Gate Common Grove Lodge Gardens Hartington Park Manchester Gardens Nightingale Gardens Page Green Common Paignton Park Palace Gates (Station Road)	Priory Common Railway Fields Nature Reserve Rectory Gardens Rokesley Gardens Shepherds Hill Gardens Somerford Grove Open Space Springfield Community Park St Mary's Churchyard Stanley Culross Open Space Stanley Road Pocket Park Stationers Park Tewkesbury Road Open Space Tottenham Green (including Tottenham Green East) Tower Gardens Trinity Gardens Wood Green Common
	3 (plus 2 non-council)	17	35	

Note: there are almost 100 very small sites (including verges and islands) managed by Haringey parks service that are not listed in the above table

Local nature reserves and ancient woodlands such as Parkland Walk and Bluebell Wood have not been included in this table.

Appendix 2: Service standards by park type

Ref	Service standard	Target performance level by type of park		
		A2 District parks and green spaces	A3 Local parks and green spaces	A4 Small parks and green spaces
1	To publish an annual grass cutting schedule for each park, and to display it in the park noticeboard where there is one.	Published on noticeboards, web site and in park management plan (PMP)	Published on web site and noticeboards and PMP where available	Published on web site and noticeboards and PMP where available
2	To cut ornamental, amenity and sports pitch grass before it is over 60mm high	At all times	At all times	At least 80% of the time
3	To remove litter from grass before cutting	At all times	At all times	At all times
4	To wait at least six weeks after bulbs have finished flowering before cutting the grass in areas planted with bulbs	At all times	At all times	At all times
5	To only cut designated wildflower meadows once a year, after the meadow has flowered, and to remove the cuttings from the area.	At all times	At all times	At all times
6	To cut hedges and shrubbery at the boundary of parks at least once a year	At least twice a year	At least twice year	At least once a year
7	To prune shrub beds and bushes at least twice a year	At least twice per year	At least twice per year	At least twice per year
8	To prune rose beds at least twice a year	At least twice per year	At least twice per year	At least twice per year
9	To provide herbaceous border or flower beds in all district and local parks	Yes	Yes	If possible
10	To support friends and community groups to undertake bulb planting and other voluntary horticultural activities	Yes	Yes	Yes
11	To undertake an independent inspection of play equipment, outdoor gyms and sports courts in parks twice a year.	Yes	Yes	Yes
12	To maintain play, outdoor gym equipment and sports courts to safe standards, and to repair to	Yes	Yes	Yes

Ref	Service standard	Target performance level by type of park		
		A2 District parks and green spaces	A3 Local parks and green spaces	A4 Small parks and green spaces
	take out of service any equipment that presents a significant risk to safety.			
13	To inspect and make a condition assessment of all physical assets within district and local parks at least once a month and at least once a quarter in small parks and greenspaces.	At least four times a year	At least four times a year	At least twice a year
14	To urgently repair or remove from service any physical assets that are unsafe	Yes	Yes	Yes
15	To publish the weekly frequency that the litter bins in each park and greenspace will be emptied and to display it in the park noticeboard where there is one.	Published on noticeboards, web site and in management plan	Published on web site and noticeboards and PMP where available	Published on web site and noticeboards and PMP where available
16	To empty the bins at least as often as set out in the scheduled frequency.	Always	At least 95% of the time	At least 90% of the time
17	To clear litter that has over-spilled from bins and side waste by each bin that is emptied	Always	Always	Always
18	To remove dog poo and waste that is hazardous to human health in parks within 48 hours of being alerted to it	Aim to clear within 24 hours	Within 48 hours	Within 48 hours
19	To remove fly-tips and dumped rubbish within two working days of it being alerted to its presence in a park; or to arrange specialist removal within two days where required	Aim to clear within 24 hours	Within two working days	Within two working days
20	To remove offensive graffiti within 24 hours and other graffiti within 10 working days of being alerted to its presence	Offensive graffiti within 24 hours and other graffiti within 10 working days	Offensive graffiti within 24 hours and other graffiti within 10 working days	Offensive graffiti within 24 hours and other graffiti within 10 working days
21	To ensure that vehicle entrances to parks and green spaces are secured at all times to prevent unauthorised vehicle access.	Always	Always	Always

Ref	Service standard	Target performance level by type of park		
		A2 District parks and green spaces	A3 Local parks and green spaces	A4 Small parks and green spaces
22	To lock and unlock the gates of those parks which the Head of Parks and Leisure has agreed should be locked overnight; and a schedule of the closing and opening times to be displayed in the park noticeboard.	100% of those gates scheduled to be locked overnight	100% of those gates scheduled to be locked overnight	100% of those gates scheduled to be locked overnight
23	To hold at least three Spotlight visits in Green Flag parks and green spaces each year to which the friends of the park, ward members and other key stakeholders are invited.	Three per year	Three per year	At least two per year (where there is a Friends group)
24	To respond to reports of defects or issues within parks within ten working days of being reported	Always	Always	At least 80% within 10 days
25	All parks staff will wear identifiable clothing and/or an identification badge when they are on duty in parks and greenspaces.	Always	Always	Always



Parks and Greenspaces Asset Management Plan (AMP)

August 2022

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Introduction

The purpose of this asset management plan is to contribute towards informed decision making by the Council in order to support the ongoing management of the assets within the borough's parks and greenspaces, and to help inform decision making about the level of funding that can be made available for asset repairs and replacement between 2023 and 2038 based on an analysis of costs and available resources.

The Plan sets out the Council's proposed approach to the management of the assets in Haringey's parks and greenspaces including providing the costs and benefits associated with providing any agreed standard of service, and to minimize the whole-life costs, including the operation, maintenance and replacement or disposal of each asset in the portfolio.

Haringey is a relatively green borough with 148 parks and greenspaces that are directly managed by the Parks and Leisure Service. These, along with the 27 Council-managed allotments, create 383 hectares of open space which represents 12.8% of the total area of the borough.

Our commissioned surveys have identified that Haringey has 10,662 hard assets and 2,995 soft assets within these parks, greenspaces and allotments.

Hard assets range from buildings, bins and benches, fences and railings, paths and hard surfaces to play equipment, outdoor gyms, hard sports courts, paddling pools, bridges and structures, lighting and signage, and include underground and overhead utilities. Vehicles, plant, tools and machinery are additional to the 10,662.

Soft assets include sports pitches, areas of grassland, shrub beds, hedges, and areas of woodland.

Each asset is at a different point in its lifecycle, with some in need of repair or replacement, whilst others will last many years before they need replacing.

In all cases regular cleansing, servicing and maintenance will extend an asset's lifespan.

The capital replacement value of the assets within Haringey parks over a twenty-year period is £40m. Representing an annual requirement of circa £2m capital funding. This is against a current capital allocation of £530k per year.

In preparing its Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and this Asset Management Plan, the Council commissioned a Natural Capital Account, which indicates that over the life of the account, i.e., from 2020 to 2080, the borough's parks and greenspaces, covering both hard and soft assets, will have produced over £1,000m of benefits in terms of carbon sequestration, reductions in air pollution and, making up 80% of the total, health and wellbeing benefits through physical activity and recreation.

This is based on assumed annual average capital and revenue expenditure totalling just over £11m.

Haringey's Parks Asset Management Plan sits, along with the following other plans, policies and service standards, within its new 15-year Parks and Greenspaces Strategy (2022-2037):

- Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan
- Biodiversity Action Plan
- Policies
- Service Standards
- Tree and Woodland Management Plan
- Watercourse and Flood Risk Plan

The Asset Management Plan is about the design and facilities of Haringey's parks and greenspaces whereas other documents informing the Strategy are about biodiversity, usage and behaviour.

The Asset Management Plan is made up of several interconnected parts:

- this document, which sets out the key principles, the aims and objectives, the scope and exclusions
- a Parks Style Guide, which sets out the approach to the type, style and design of assets that we want to see in our parks and greenspaces (this document remains under development)
- an Action Plan, which includes recommendations made in the main AMP document that reflect the key strategic issues and challenges and link back to the aims and objectives. Each recommendation is translated into an action in the action plan
- appendices, which provide more detail on some of the issues discussed in the main document
- spreadsheets and an electronic database, which hold detailed information on each asset, recording its unique reference code, condition, location, photographs, specification, manufacturer, make and model, as well as unit and lifecycle costs for maintenance, repair, and replacement over the life of the strategy and beyond

The Asset Management Plan for Haringey's parks and greenspaces will sit alongside other style and design guides the Council has for Regeneration and Highways streetscape assets and will guide the specification of assets for use in Haringey's parks and greenspaces.

Aims and objectives

The objectives of the Asset Management Plan laid out below are linked to the following three underlying aims for parks and green spaces:

Inclusion and Wellbeing: Providing inclusive parks and greenspaces that all communities in Haringey can benefit from so that usage and enjoyment of our parks and greenspaces reflects the communities living in Haringey and contributes to improved wellbeing. Examples for the AMP include provision of accessible toilets, disabled parking, inclusive signage, play, pathways and seating opportunities.

Climate Change, and Sustainability: Supporting the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency by reducing the carbon footprint of parks and greenspaces, protecting and promoting biodiversity, and helping educate everyone in Haringey about contributing toward saving the planet. Examples for the AMP include reducing the carbon footprint of parks buildings, machinery and fleet, de-culverting of rivers and provision of sustainable urban drainage schemes.

A Quality Service: Securing investment, Improving standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes. Examples for the AMP include the undertaking of a regular schedule of asset inspections and the introduction of an asset replacement schedule.

For the Asset Management Plan (AMP), the objectives are to:

- provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities
- establish and maintain an up-to-date digital record of all parks and greenspaces infrastructure and assets
- establish an accurate understanding of the financial value of existing parks assets, as well as identifying reasonable estimates of the likely ongoing costs associated with managing and maintaining parks assets to a good level for the next 15 years
- use the AMP data to recommend and prioritise where to best focus finite existing resources and targeted funding bids, through the establishment of an annual asset repair and replacement programme
- use the AMP data to better target resources and procurement practices for renewal or renovation (replacement or repair)
- reduce insurance claims and provide a robust insurance defence evidence base (subject to an effective inspection process)
- ensure that parks and greenspaces, buildings and structures meet Government legislative and health and safety requirements, including for sustainability and climate change

For the Parks Style Guide (which is a separate document), they are to:

- set out a consistent set of standards, design guidance, and quality criteria for new assets and asset repairs
- ensure the standards reflect the available resources, robust anti-vandal criteria, accessibility and sustainability
- ensure that Haringey's parks and greenspaces have a clear and legible infrastructure of standardised assets, whilst retaining their own individuality and character
- ensure that all parks development schemes and asset replacement schemes (as well as Regeneration/Development schemes) adhere to this standard, and that over time, as budgets allow, all parks and greenspace assets adhere to the style guide, whilst retaining their own unique sense of identity
- ensure that the design and installation of assets support biodiversity and nature conservation interests

- ensure that all new planting schemes are in line with a standard set of criteria, reflect seasonal changes, are sustainable in terms of their procurement, adaptation to climate change, and ‘right plant for right place’, and can be maintained within existing maintenance resources

Scope and exclusions

The scope of this Asset Management Plan covers all the assets within the borough’s Council-managed parks and greenspaces.

Those 148 parks and greenspaces include formal public parks and gardens, recreation grounds, areas of amenity grassland ancient woodlands, Local Nature Reserves, Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and 27 of the borough’s allotments.

It does not include areas owned or managed by others, such as Alexandra Palace and Park, Highgate Wood or greenspace that come under the ownership of Lea Valley Country Park. It also does not include cemeteries or greenspace owned by Haringey’s Housing or Highways teams.

The assets covered within this Asset Management Plan can be split into the following 7 key asset types:

- buildings
- vehicles, plant, machinery and tools
- underground and overhead utilities and infrastructure
- sports facilities
- play and outdoor gyms
- soft assets
- furniture, fittings and infrastructure
 - bins and recycling
 - benches and seating
 - bollards and barriers
 - lighting, photovoltaics and CCTV
 - paths and hard surfaces
 - railings and boundary treatments (including gates, locks and gate counters)
 - signage and interpretation
 - artwork and statues
 - pergolas and bandstands
 - paddling pools and water features
 - bridges
 - miscellaneous assets

Policy context (local, regional, and national)

Local context

Building a fairer, greener borough – Haringey Labour Manifesto 2022-26

Following the local elections in May 2022 the Council's ambition and priorities are based on putting residents at the heart of everything the Council does. For the remainder of 2022 and into 2023, the Council will work with residents to develop the Haringey Local Deal. The Haringey Local Deal will seek to empower communities to make change, putting local people at the forefront of decision-making. The Parks and Greenspaces strategy will support the delivery of the Haringey Local Deal and in turn the manifesto commitments.

Below we have included extracts from the Manifesto that this strategy will help to either directly deliver or support

Inclusion and Wellbeing

Directly deliver: -

Community gardening and tree planting on estates and trees

Co-produce designs for pocket parks, community gardens and street side verges

Women at the heart of designing parks

Increase access to sports and exercise classes for disabled people

Keep fit Haringey campaign for over 50's

Support: -

Participatory budgeting to help the council set its spending priorities

Contribute to the development of the Young Voices Programme

Assist in developing a community health and wellbeing network

Climate Change and Sustainability

Directly deliver: -

Decarbonise all parks vehicles by 2027

Plant street trees until each ward reaches 30% canopy cover

Plant 10,000 new trees by 2030

Invest in sustainable drainage systems to reduce flooding

Work to create three brand new nature reserves by 2026 and introduce Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

Increase recycling in parks to 50% by 2030

Support: -

Reduce and eliminate the use of single use plastics.

Install green pollution barriers on schools on main roads

Explore green energy production in parks

Identify sites for local food growing can take place

50% of council contracts to local business to keep more wealth in the borough

Quality Parks

Directly deliver: -

Host or support more music festivals and events

Install more LED Parks lighting to keep people safe

Support: -

Apprenticeships

SEND opportunities

Turkish and Kurdish theatre festival

Equalities

The council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act

Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not

Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not

The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

Outdoor Sports and Play Facilities Framework (2016-2026) (incorporating the Playing Pitch Strategy (2016-2026))

The overarching aim of the OSPFF is to ensure that there is a range of accessible, high quality and well used outdoor sports facilities across Haringey.

The OSPFF will guide strategic planning and investment decisions relating to outdoor sports and play facilities during the 2016-2026 period.

The Physical Activity and Sport Framework sets out how the Council intends to work with partners to get more people physically active and playing sport through a variety of methods. Specifically, the document includes plans and proposals ‘to enable local people and organisations to make physical activity and sport a positive lifestyle choice for all Haringey residents in order to reduce health inequalities, improve wellbeing for all, and create a more sustainable community.’ Playing pitches are an important element of the facilities infrastructure which makes physical activity and sport possible in Haringey. The Council and its partners are therefore committed to ensuring that sufficient high-quality playing pitches are accessible to the community for sporting purposes. The long-term protection and enhancement of playing pitches and associated ancillary facilities are key aims for the borough as the population changes and the number of individuals, groups, clubs, and organisations involved in pitch sports grows.

Regional context

GLA London Plan: Chapter 7, London’s Living Spaces and Places

The London Plan sets out that ‘London should be a city of diverse, strong, secure and accessible neighbourhoods to which Londoners feel attached, which provide all of its residents, workers, visitors and students – whatever their origin, background, age or status – with opportunities to realise and express their potential and a high-quality environment for individuals to enjoy, live together and thrive’.

‘A city that delights the senses and takes care over its buildings and streets, having the best of modern architecture while also making the most of London’s built heritage, and which makes the most of and extends its wealth of open and green spaces, natural environment and waterways, realising its potential for improving Londoners’ health, welfare and development’.

It aims to encourage local distinctiveness, create an inclusive environment where crime is designed out and where parks and green spaces are protected and deficiencies in open space provision is addressed.

National context

National Planning Policy Framework

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the government’s planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally prepared plans for future land use can be produced.

It sets out that planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which:

- promote social interaction, including opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other – for example through mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres, street layouts that allow for easy pedestrian and cycle connections within and between neighbourhoods, and active street frontages
- are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion – for example through the use of clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high-quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas
- enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs, for example through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities, local shops, access to healthier food, allotments and layouts that encourage walking and cycling

It allows for the protection of open spaces from development at the same time as acknowledging that access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities.

Links to other PGSS plans

Biodiversity Action Plan

The scope of this document will be in line with the mission of the current national strategy, which is to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people. The scope of the document also needs to ensure that the Council meets its duties under the Natural Environment and Rural

Communities Act 2006 in respect of biodiversity. Unlike the rest of the strategy the BAP will consider all land within the borough. The plan will build on the existing BAP 2010-2015. Only those elements relevant to Haringey parks and greenspaces will be drawn into the main strategy.

Parks Policies

Documents are scheduled to be developed in these areas:

- Dog control, revised policy position to feed into thinking on renewal of the Public Spaces Protection Order for Dog Control in October 2020
- Licensed activities, new policy to cover licensable activities in parks including dog walkers and fitness instructors
- Park Safety, a new policy which considers an appropriate approach to elements, like CCTV, Lighting and gate locking
- Enforcement, a new policy on enforcement within parks, vehicle access, parking, bicycles, powered scooters, fixed penalty notices, byelaws and PSPO's
- Barbecues, a new policy that considers if BBQs should be allowed and or controlled in some way
- Sustainable waste management in parks and green spaces
- Herbicides, building on the Amenity Forums Integrated Weed Management guidance this new policy will set where and when herbicides will be used in parks and greenspaces. It will also cover issues such as management of invasive species
- Sustainable design and planting to enable parks and greenspaces to adapt to climate change and the need to mitigate increased production of carbon dioxide
- Toilets, urination and defaecation in parks and green spaces
- Project development and prioritisation policy to set out how new projects will be developed with stakeholders and how prioritisation decisions will be made

Service Standards

The Service Standards will build on the London Greenspace Quality Manual and the Mayor of London's Typology of Parks and Gardens and set out the service standards to be achieved in the three main types of parks, district local and small. It will also set out what residents can expect in terms of a service standard, how this will be monitored and how this will be rectified if the standard falls below the required level. It will include proposals to publish performance data.

Tree and Woodland Management Plan

The scope of this document will consider the management of all trees in the borough on Council Land and the management of private trees such as those covered by Planning Legislation e.g., Tree Preservation Orders or those trees within Conservation Areas. As well as parks and greenspaces it will also consider the ancient woodlands in the borough and the management of trees on the public highway and other council owned sites.

The plan will explore the opportunities for partnership working within our woodlands and with individual trees. The plan will build on the existing Tree Management Plan

2014-2018 but will also include a forward-looking view of tree planting in parks and greenspaces to ensure continued tree canopy for future generations. Only those elements relevant to Haringey parks and greenspaces will be drawn into the main strategy.

Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan

The scope of this document will seek to identify opportunities for new volunteering and enhance existing volunteering opportunities in order to maximise the benefits from this growing area of community involvement. The scope will include how people can engage from the maintenance of the tree pit outside their house thorough to examples of park co-management models. The plan will also include how we engage in volunteering with third party organisations such as TCV, Trees for Cities and corporate volunteering.

The Council is seeking to engage with a wider audience, including with seldom heard from communities, to ensure its thinking for parks and greenspaces represents the views of, and provides opportunities for, all of Haringey's diverse communities.

Watercourse and Flood Risk Plan

The scope of this document will draw on the Borough Wide Flood Risk Management Strategy and the Haringey Integrated Catchment Management Study with the addition of the management of the sections of watercourses within parks and greenspaces. It will also set out the approach to SUDs and green roofs.

Key strategic issues and challenges

Inclusion

We want our parks and greenspaces to be welcoming places for all Haringey communities. This will mean that in the future we seek to develop new facilities that support and encourage usage by specific communities such as Black and Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) (as referred to in the Borough Plan's Equalities Impact Assessment 'visiting nature by Black and Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities versus white communities'), LGBTQI+ communities, people with disabilities and impairments, people for example with dementia, or people for whom English is not their first language.

Evidence from recent University of Sheffield research (Bridget Snaith, 'Green Space or White?') indicates that many green spaces are favouring UK white preferences and practices through design and management, and not providing well for people with different ideals or social needs.

Snaith's research at Lloyd Park in Croydon found that whereas 50% of the park's catchment were from BAME heritage, usage surveys of the park on one sunny day in July 2017 showed that 75% of people visiting the site claimed white ethnicities and less than 1% claimed BAME ethnicities.

This under-representation was supported by English Nature's MENE annual survey 2009, which found that whereas 74% of under 16-year-olds from white households visit parks and greenspaces once a week, the number for BAME households reduced to 56%.

CABE's 2010 Community Green report also highlighted under-representation of BAME communities in parks and greenspaces across the UK.

Snaith's research suggested that whereas people from white backgrounds in the main have preferences for parks and greenspaces that offer quiet escape from modern life, through walking and dog-walking in wilder more biodiverse and informal landscapes, people from BAME backgrounds are looking for their parks and greenspaces to be formally laid out, very well maintained, and provide activities for all ages, such as opportunities for children's play and exercise.

People from BAME communities cited dogs off leads as being a major barrier to their visiting parks and greenspaces, whereas people from all backgrounds felt that they preferred to visit parks where toilets were provided.

As the Council engages with more people there is likely to be an increase in demand for new facilities.

Accessibility

All parks and greenspace assets should be designed with accessibility and inclusion in mind. The Council has a duty under the Disability Discrimination Act and Equalities Act to ensure its parks and greenspaces do not present barriers to access for people with disabilities and difficulties.

Access audits commissioned by the Parks and Leisure Service recommend the adoption of the Social Model of Disability. The Social Model of Disability is a way of viewing the world, developed by disabled people, which says that people are disabled by barriers in society, not by their impairment or difference. Barriers can be physical, like buildings not having accessible toilets. Or they can be caused by people's attitudes to difference, like assuming disabled people can't do certain things.

The social model helps us recognise barriers that make life harder for disabled people. Removing these barriers creates equality and offers disabled people more independence, choice and control.

From ensuring that information is available for people with impairments, at the right height, in the right format, to ensuring that play areas, seating provision, exercise equipment, path widths etc do not discriminate against people with disabilities or other difficulties.

Access Audits have been undertaken at Finsbury Park, Lordship Recreation Ground, Queens Wood and the Parkland Walk, the four largest of Haringey's Council-managed parks.

Their findings can be categorised into:

- access statement and benchmarking against Universal Design criteria

- physical improvements, such as creation of new and adjustments to existing paths, railings, steps and ramps etc
- car parking provision for disabled people
- improvements to signage, interpretation and way marking, including size, height, colour and texture of assets etc
- specific provision for people with disabilities and difficulties, such as Changing Places toilets and welfare facilities, accessible seating areas, play and What 3 Words
- consultation and engagement with people with disabilities and groups, promotion and marketing of facilities and opportunities

A protocol to help inform provision for people with disabilities in future change and improvement projects will be developed in partnership with Disability Action Haringey.

Whereas some of the current parks play areas include specific provision to accommodate disabled young people, this plan will increase such provision to the extent that over the next 10 years 50% of all play areas will be fully accessible.

Accessibility and inclusive design

The seven principles of Universal Design underpin the approach in Haringey's parks:

- equitable use
- flexibility in use
- simple and intuitive use
- perceptible information
- tolerance for error
- low physical effort
- size and space for approach and use

Climate Change and Sustainability

Parks and greenspaces can help mitigate some aspects of climate change, such as through the urban heat island effect, contributing toward a cooling effect to counteract the heat of urban and residential areas, through providing natural flood management and SuDs and rain garden schemes, effectively capturing, storing and slowing down rainwater release into storm drainage systems.

Such schemes, including the daylighting of river courses within the borough, are actively being pursued by the Flood Defence team and a range of partners such as the Environment Agency, Thames Water, Thames 21 and the Haringey Rivers Forum. Completed schemes can be seen at Lordship Recreation Ground, Crescent Gardens, Rectory Gardens and Priory Common, with planned schemes being explored at Queens Wood, Chestnuts Park and Coldfall Wood.

Haringey's focus on solar lighting for its parks is driven by the climate change agenda, as are the proposed improvements to the management of its buildings portfolio to maximise energy efficiency and the revitalising of its approach to paddling pools provision to reduce water waste.

Guidance will be developed on acceptable species to guide the design of planting schemes to reflect the changing climate as well as to help improve air and water quality through filtering out pollutants, not to mention the provision of tree cover for shade and the use of indigenous species wherever possible.

Projects and assets as part of any proposed developments should be considered in terms of their impact on biodiversity and nature conservation importance, site designations, e.g., LNRs, SINCs, Ancient Woodlands etc.

Works that might affect trees or shrubs should not take place during the bird nesting season or if they do there should be ecological assessments carried out beforehand with works to be risk-assessed and approved by the Nature Conservation Officer and appropriately qualified and experienced contractors.

Nature conservation should be considered when deciding on lighting type, e.g., low level bollard lighting in known bat corridors.

Assets such as bridges, buildings and structures should be kept free of vegetation, including a 'cordon sanitaire', to protect the assets from root penetration and eventual water ingress which would cause millions of pounds of damage, e.g., Parkland Walk, where the site's management plan and the advice of specialist consultants recommended a cordon sanitaire of 5m, plus ensuring bridge embankments are maintained, where possible as meadows, to prevent vegetation return through regular maintenance regimes captured in management plans and workstreams.

Assets such as barriers and signage should be installed in areas of sensitive nature conservation interest to keep people on paths and not wandering and trampling over fragile ecosystems.

Licensed activities should be limited and controlled so they do not damage fragile ecosystems and soft or hard assets.

Educational interpretation should be designed, installed and appropriately located to explain, promote, enhance and protect what biodiversity already exists or is planned.

Encroachment cases should be responded to swiftly and comprehensively to protect nature conservation sites.

The Council must ensure that park buildings meet Government legislative requirements, including for sustainability and climate change.

Service Quality

Assets must adhere to British Standards, manufacturers warranties and other criteria and works undertaken by contractors and other third parties in Haringey's parks and greenspaces must be in line with Council specifications, terms and conditions and where appropriate legal agreements such as leases, licences and other contracts.

The management and maintenance of our hard and soft assets is undertaken in line with our Parks Policies and Service Standards.

The quality of our hard and soft assets will always be a balance of the appropriate specification of asset set against the up-front and on-going costs and availability of resources to manage and maintain them to the agreed standards.

Meeting wider Council outcomes (health and equalities)

Parks and greenspaces are a wonderful free resource for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds and as such provide opportunities for physical and mental health improvement, such as through access to fresh air, access to nature, provision of informal and formal places for people to undertake exercise and physical activities, as well as quiet contemplation.

Informal opportunities for walking, running and cycling are provided for through path networks as well as through dedicated and way-marked routes.

Formal and informal opportunities for play are provided for through age-specific play areas, natural play areas as well as level changes and informal playful landscapes.

Outdoor gyms provide exercise equipment otherwise only found through subscription to gym membership.

Hard sports areas such as basketball courts, tennis courts, multi-use games areas provide the opportunity for formal and informal booked and paid-for as well as free community sports uptake.

Grass sports pitches for football, rugby, and cricket etc again provide free or bookable/paid-for sports access for individuals and clubs. However, most pitches are maintained to a lower standard than we would like.

Haringey has 37 play areas across its 148 parks and green spaces, 10 outdoor gyms, 131 hard sports areas, 4 skateparks and 22 grass sports pitches.

Provision, management, and maintenance of these vital facilities require these assets to be part of a planned Asset Management Plan.

The impact of COVID 19

Parks and greenspaces were thrust into the spotlight during the Covid-19 outbreak, with the government encouraging people to use their local parks and greenspaces for their daily exercise requirements. The Council spent an additional £250,000 over and above normal budget allocations and lost over £1m of income over the Covid period.

The increased usage resulted in significant amounts of increased litter, requiring additional resources and installation of additional larger bins at key locations. More usage and increased importance highlighted conflicts between users and certain deficiencies in current designs.

Additional resources were also required for signage, posters and banners to explain social distancing rules as well as for security measures to deal with the increased number of unauthorised music events and night-time gatherings.

Additional resources may be required to enable more permanent future social distancing measures to be installed, such as path widening, changes to seating

arrangements, signage requirements, dimensions of bin apertures and proximity of hand-washing facilities etc.

Waste/litter

The Council aims to provide an appropriate number of bins of the optimum size and at the most appropriate locations to ensure that people can dispose of litter when using parks and greenspaces and that the operational maintenance teams can adequately service them.

The Council spends over half a million pounds a year on waste collection across its parks and wishes to see a reduction in these costs.

The Council continues to provide litter and recycling bins in its parks and greenspaces, however in addition to providing the physical infrastructure and maintenance resources to enable litter to be properly disposed and collected, signage and educational campaigns are also required to encourage people to use these facilities rather than leaving their litter in-situ or stacked up against already overflowing bins.

Marketing and communications

The Council wants Haringey's parks to be used by the whole community and to be safe, welcoming, and accessible.

This will impact on the future approach to signage in parks, as well as to how the service is marketed and how the Council communicates.

We will be seeking to develop a revised approach to signage that is inclusive, welcoming and informative with an emphasis on all the positive ways in which parks and greenspaces can be enjoyed, rather than on the negative of what can't happen or is prohibited.

Future signage will need to have clear messages, be accessible for people with disabilities and/or learning difficulties and for people for whom English isn't their first language.

It should also be welcoming for the whole community including for all groups with protected characteristics.

Specific signage and interpretation within parks should explain unique, historical and natural site features, including the use of digital and social media to attract a wider audience and have relevance for modern park users.

Signage and interpretation should be installed to provide information about rivers, biodiverse and sensitive habitats, to deter anti-social behaviour and unauthorised activities as well as guidance about licenced activities.

Also from an Asset Management Plan perspective, the provision of signage will be considered and used to resolve unlicensed activities in parks such as sports clubs, school groups, exercise and e.g., yoga groups using parks as a free place to undertake their charged activities.

Specific signage is also required in all parks and green spaces setting out what activities will and will not be permitted and what enforcement action is to be expected from contraventions, as advice from the Police and Enforcement team indicates that having signage in place helps with enforcement action and prosecution.

Need for ongoing capital funding

The CIPFA guidelines describe a local authority's capital expenditure as the money it spends on providing, acquiring, constructing, or improving tangible and non-tangible assets, which include land, buildings and equipment, which will be of use or benefit in providing services for more than one financial year.

Capital expenditure is usually spending of a 'one-off' nature and results in the construction or improvement of an asset such as a play area or MUGA.

There is on the one hand a need for ongoing capital funding to maintain the assets within the borough's parks and greenspaces, and on the other hand there is the issue of the availability of funding, where the Council has limited funds and a variety of demands for prioritising spending.

The capital replacement value of the assets within Haringey parks over a twenty-year period is £40m. Representing an annual requirement of circa £2m capital funding. This is against a current capital allocation of £530k pa.

The AMP is therefore seeking a tripling of the resources currently allocated across both play, sport and outdoor gyms as well as more money for the basics to ensure we have a good quality range of assets and allowing us to focus more on the activation of parks and greenspaces.

The AMP will recommend that over the life of the strategy the current ten outdoor gyms are replaced at least once and eight more outdoor gyms are provided in parks and greenspaces.

Capital resources will also need to be made available to support the replacement and introduction of new outdoor gyms to benefit more residents, many of which would never visit a traditional indoor gym.

Parks 'operational' buildings, ie those that provide depots and bases for staff, were constructed at a time when the Council's approach to management and maintenance was very different to what it is today. These buildings were also designed based upon much lower energy efficiency standards. The Council now needs to undertake a review of its operational buildings to meet the needs of the twenty first century.

All leased properties need to be brought up standards, so they meet at least EPC grade E in line with the change in law. Eight properties not yet in formal leases or other appropriate formal agreements need to be regularised asap to provide both the Council and its business partners with the assurances of regularised letting arrangements.

Those who are responsible for health and safety compliance of Haringey's parks buildings, whether they be private leaseholders, Corporate Landlord, Strategic

Property or parks staff, need to fully understand their roles and requirements and have sufficient resources in place to ensure compliance across the portfolio of buildings in parks.

The Parks Operational Building Review needs to be completed, to include recommendations for sports pavilion improvements and ensure that sufficient capital and revenue funds are made available to repair, upgrade or replace buildings so they are safe, energy efficient and reflect the Council's priorities for Inclusion, Climate Change and Service Quality.

Suitable and sufficient budget provision needs to be made available to expand the number of Changing Places toilets in parks.

The Parks and Leisure service is also seeking some special one-off funds like £10m to finish Parkland Walk Bridges and resurface the walk when all the bridges are done, plus further monies to convert all lights in parks and green spaces to LED and have these added to the central management system.

The Council has worked hard to maintain assets, including approving specific programmes for assets such as bridges and utilising additional sources of funding such as Community Infrastructure Levy or event income in the case of Finsbury Park. In recent years the Council has been able to support the capital needs of parks in the following ways:

- by securing one off council capital for specific schemes such as Parkland Walk Bridges
- Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy
- Community Infrastructure Levy
- Sport England
- London Marathon Trust
- Greater London Authority
- The National Lottery
- funding raised by Friends Groups
- event income

However, in the main this has been towards the cost of providing additional assets rather than the replacement of existing parks infrastructure such as paths, bins, benches etc. Covid has had a significant impact on the ability of external funders to make grants available and it is expected that external funding will remain in short supply for some time.

Combined, this has enabled the Council to obtain Green Flag standard for 22 of its parks however many of the assets such as pathways, drainage systems and other essential infrastructure are old and in need of replacement as parks usage and the Borough population are both increasing so additional capital will be needed to pay for this.

Whereas external funding is available to support some aspects of parks improvements, it is difficult to obtain for day-to-day issues such as the replacement of smaller assets. In all cases, applying for external funding is resource-heavy and

always comes with conditions that must be weighed up against the benefits they may bring.

Provision, management, and maintenance of parks as vital free facilities requires its assets to be part of a planned Asset Management Plan.

This AMP seeks to ensure that future capital funding is aligned with the key Strategy priorities, actions and recommendations and that public expectations are managed in line with available capital resources.

Availability of revenue funding to support AMP

Prior to the start of each financial year, the Council is required to set a budget for its day-to-day expenditure. This is called the Revenue Budget and is the amount of money the Council requires to provide its services during the year, considering grants it receives from the Government.

Examples of revenue expenditure include staff salaries, building maintenance costs, parks maintenance operations such as grass cutting and litter picking, and the costs of running parks vehicles.

It is a legal requirement of the Council to set a balanced budget i.e., expenditure cannot be more than the Council's income.

The right balance needs to be struck between the Council's overall position of having to achieve ongoing reductions in revenue funding both for the Council as a whole and specifically for parks, which is a non-statutory service, versus the need to spend money on maintaining assets for health and safety, functionality, and longevity.

The Council's revenue budgets for parks enable only basic maintenance to take place, such as essential grass cutting and litter collection, however they do not allow for the attention to detail required to make the parks feel well presented and cared for. They also do not allow for the borough's existing pitches to be managed and maintenance to sufficiently safe or chargeable standards.

The Council currently finds itself in the position where it only has the resources to undertake urgent repairs that unless addressed immediately would cause injury to park users, with non-urgent repairs simply being collated into a long list to be addressed 'as budgets allow'. It also does not have the resources to undertake regular asset cleansing and maintenance, therefore the condition of assets is deteriorating at a faster rate than is entirely necessary.

This leaves the Council at risk of increased insurance claims from accidents and having to respond to a large volume of customer enquiries about the state of its park's assets.

Using the example of every bin and bench being located on a hard base, the asset management plan aims to reduce maintenance costs by reducing the need for strimming around features, also thereby also reducing hard arm vibration risks for operational staff.

This AMP seeks to ensure that future revenue funding is aligned with the key Strategy priorities, actions and recommendations and that public expectations are managed in line with available revenue resources.

Operational use

Assets should be designed to reflect operational requirements.

Examples of where this has historically been ignored and has led to problems, are:

- paths not being wide enough for parks vehicles to undertake essential maintenance operations without damaging path edges, especially at turning points
 - paths are not currently sufficiently wide to accommodate parks vehicles so parks vehicles may need to be reduced in width to match path dimensions or withdrawn from use
 - the assumption in this asset management plan is that the current fleet of transit-type vehicles will be replaced with smaller buggy-type vehicles, which will cause less damage to grass edges etc. The alternative would be to increase the width of paths
- bins at angles, with broken doors, grass growing up around them
 - by creating a base under each bin (equally necessary for all other assets) the lifespan of assets such as bins can be greatly extended
 - the historical problem is that bins have been specified previously so that their fixings are insufficiently robust, so that if knocked they soon end up at a tilt. This can be solved through robust/appropriate specification of in-ground fixings and foundations
 - broken doors are often the result of bins tilting, but also through not being raised off the ground and because maintenance such as strimming around bins rarely occurs, so grass grows up in the way of doors
 - fogs then urinate on the bins leading to them rusting at the base faster than they otherwise would
 - all this can be avoided by the installation of carefully designed, appropriate bases that remove the need for strimming and enabling the flow of mowers to get close enough to remove long grass without knocking not the assets
- benches should be situated on hard standing or individual bases
 - historically this has not happened and has led to the ground underneath benches becoming eroded, muddy puddles
 - this is readily avoided through the introduction of appropriately designed bases
- gates, bollards and barriers at park entrances are regularly left open or down, leaving sites at risk of unauthorised access and occupation, which can from time-to-time result in fly-tipping that can be time consuming and expensive to resolve
 - such gates, bollards and barriers therefore should be carefully designed so they are easy to operate at the same time as being difficult to misuse
- assets should be located at sufficient distances from other assets or features to enable them to be properly used. For example, bike racks located too close to buildings so there is no room for a bike to be secured are obsolete assets

Vandalism and damage

Under perfect conditions assets such as bins, benches, pathways, fences or statues etc can last for a specified period in line with the manufacturers' warranties, and this time can be extended through regular cleansing, servicing and maintenance.

However, damage to assets can also occur due to vandalism or accidental damage. In such cases redress may be sought through insurance claims or through finding and making the perpetrators of such damage pay, however ultimately it will come to the Parks Service to undertake unplanned repair or replacement of damaged assets. A percentage will need to be allowed for in the costings of the AMP to account for damage and vandalism.

Inadequate enforcement resource

One of the problems that parks face is the lack of enforcement resources to ensure that when people do break the rules, for example through littering, drug and alcohol use, noise and the undertaking of unlicensed activities, encroachments, trespass, criminal damage or unauthorised access or activities, there is a robust follow up in terms of enforcement action.

Of these, addressing unlawful access, criminal damage to assets and encroachment are of significance for the Asset Management Plan.

Unlawful access to parks can be deterred at least to some extent through the installation of signage, bollards, barriers, gates and locks etc but determined lawbreakers will always find a way of gaining entry.

Safety

Hard and soft assets within Haringey's parks need to be considered in terms of whether they contribute toward an increase or reduction in the likelihood of crime or anti-social behaviour.

Policy 7.3 of the London Plan states as a strategic objective that:

- Boroughs and others should seek to create safe, secure and appropriately accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion. From the perspective of Haringey's Parks this statement needs to be balanced against other considerations, in particular biodiversity and nature conservation.

Planning decisions

Development should reduce the opportunities for criminal behaviour and contribute to a sense of security without being overbearing or intimidating. In particular:

- routes and spaces should be legible and well maintained, providing for convenient movement without compromising security
- there should be a clear indication of whether a space is private, semi-public or public, with natural surveillance of publicly accessible spaces from buildings at their lower floors

- design should encourage a level of human activity that is appropriate to the location, incorporating a mix of uses where appropriate, to maximize activity throughout the day and night, creating a reduced risk of crime and a sense of safety at all times
- places should be designed to promote an appropriate sense of ownership over communal spaces
- places, buildings and structures should incorporate appropriately designed security features
- schemes should be designed to minimise on-going management and future maintenance costs of the safety and security measures proposed

The above measures should be incorporated at the design stage to ensure that overall design quality is not compromised.

Practical examples from a Parks perspective might include:

- lighting and CCTV are sometimes requested to be installed to support safety in parks and greenspaces, however a balance needs to be struck between safety with protecting nature:
 - lighting will only be supported in parks where there is a strong evidence-based argument from community safety/police records or on adopted highways through parks
 - selection of low-level bollard lighting where bats are known to be present
 - selection of solar lighting to reduce environmental impact and revenue costs by avoiding the need for underground excavations for cabling etc
 - 80% of all parks lighting columns will be replaced between 2022 and 2024, along with 100% of all lanterns. 100% of lanterns will be linked to the central management system (CMS). Research is underway to see whether solar lights can also be added to the CMS
 - hard bases under any lighting or CCTV assets to reduce maintenance burdens such as strimming and associated HAV impacts
 - CCTV is to be specified, sourced and managed by the Council's Community Safety team, so asset location is the main area that the Parks Service can influence this
- assets should be designed and located so they allow good levels of visibility and natural surveillance to help park users feel safe and secure
- reducing the height of shrubs, raising tree canopies, removing clutter and hiding places
- Locating seating in high footfall areas

It should be noted that the Parks and Leisure Service's ability to comment upon planning applications has been increased since 2022 through the appointment of a dedicated Officer in the Tree team. In addition Parks Officers are provided by the Planning team with a list of weekly planning applications, for and checking regarding proximity to parks sites.

Increasing population

As the population of Haringey continues to grow there is potential for a dual impact on parks and greenspaces.

Firstly, an increasing population will result in an increased usage of parks and greenspaces, thereby placing more pressure on the underlying infrastructure and assets.

Secondly, an increasing population will require new land to develop for residential housing.

Parks will need to be protected from these threats in two ways.

- To protect against the impacts of increased parks usage, this AMP allows for a managed and planned approach to asset inspection, monitoring, repair and replacement.
- To protect against the pressures of development, the Council will register all its designated parks and greenspaces with Fields In Trust.

Increased dog ownership

The number of households owning a pet increased from a relatively stable percentage of between 45% and 47% from 2011/12 to 2017/18 to 62% in 2021/22. This is identified as occurring as a result of pets providing comfort and company during a period when people were spending far more time at home. Dogs are owned by 34% of all pet owning households meaning they are the most owned pets. (Statista Research Dept, Apr 2022.)

Dogs require regular exercise and need to use parks and greenspaces as well as people, however the increased numbers in parks of both people and dogs can lead to conflict and can also put some people off using parks. Feedback in particular from young people and people with a Muslim faith, indicates that the potential of encountering a dog is a barrier to using parks.

The Council will need to consider the usage of parks and greenspaces by dogs in greater depth to plan for the future.

Style Guide

Over the last few decades, several different styles of hard assets have been specified for use in Haringey's parks and in many parks evidence of this variety can still be seen.

Because of this and staff changes over the years, there is currently no visibly coherent Haringey parks style.

A recommendation of the AMP is the development of a Style Guide to provide a future framework setting out the types of assets that we want to see in Haringey's parks and green spaces, for there on the one hand to be a recognisable 'Haringey Park style', recognisable in hard assets and planting styles, and on the other hand reflecting history, unique characteristics and avoiding uniformity.

Whereas it is beneficial to have one style of bin and two types of bench across all parks and greenspaces, we recognise the value of our parks having unique features

to give them their own identity. Good examples of unique features include the Model Traffic Area at Lordship Recreation Ground, the Philosopher's Garden at Priory Park, the historic walls and Beam Engine Museum from the former sewage plant at Markfield Park and the McKenzie Garden at Finsbury Park, to name a few examples.

The Council recognises that the borough's Ancient Woodlands and Local Nature Reserves have their own unique character and the Haringey style should allow for this.

Procurement and project management systems

Procurement

Currently, procuring contracts for works and services is laborious, overly bureaucratic and exposes the Council to unnecessary risk.

The approach to procurement for parks needs to be re-examined with a view to making it simpler, less time intensive and better able to protect the Council's interests.

This includes the need to always have contracts in place for major works to reduce the potential for claims by appointed contractors, and to enable swift action to undertake emergency works.

Project management

Parks and Leisure projects should be managed in a consistent way, with recognised processes to guide project identification and scope, start-up approval, budget allocation, highlight reporting, stage sign-off and implementation. Similar guidance will also cover project stages, such as engagement, consultation and co-production, wider permissions and approvals, specification, procurement, and contractor management.

A guide will be developed to Haringey's approach to the management of parks capital projects and tree works.

Trees and Woodland

Due consideration should be given to the protection of trees and root protection zones when planning parks projects and asset installations.

Similar consideration should be given to the potential impact on parks projects and works contractors due to limited vehicle access to, for example, ancient woodland sites and LNRs.

Generally, assets in woodlands and nature conservation sites will be the same style as for other parks and greenspaces, however a separate style of seating can be accommodated.

There is broad acceptance, including for example with Green Flag judges, that the standard of path surfacing in some woodland and Local Nature Reserve sites can be of a less urban standard and quality compared to parks.

A protocol will be developed for managing both tree works and capital projects in parks.

Community engagement and volunteering

Friends Groups and other community partners should be encouraged to propose improvements/changes to parks; however, this should be within a framework of agreed asset types (including planting schemes) and should in every case be proposed for Parks Service approval prior to installation.

Educational interpretation (e.g., designing and installing appropriately located and worded signage assets) should be provided to explain and promote Friends' and Volunteer-led schemes within parks.

Watercourses and flood management

The physical infrastructure of lakes, ponds, watercourses and SuDs schemes such as culverts and grills, aeration systems, liners, banks and edges is considered within the AMP and the Style Guide.

Guidance will be developed on acceptable plant species for lakes, ponds, SuDs schemes and watercourses.

Educational interpretation (e.g., designing and installing appropriately located and worded signage assets) should be provided to explain, promote, enhance and protect watercourses.

Lifecycle planning and pace of change

An important issue for the Council is what level of investment to make when, for example whether to invest heavily now, to achieve an overnight sea-change in the borough's parks, or whether to invest over time and accept that many of the borough's parks assets will therefore remain in poor condition for some years to come.

The PGSS and the AMP are 15-year plans, therefore the more urgent repairs and replacements will be prioritised within the early years.

The AMP must therefore be aligned with the appropriate level of resourcing within the Parks Development team, in terms of ensuring that the number of Parks Projects Officers and Zonal Officers matches the planned AMP implementation timeline.

Maintenance and repair

For this Asset Management Plan to be a success, it is strongly recommended that appropriate levels of regular asset maintenance are provide in support.

A well-managed park with well-maintained assets helps send a positive message to the public that Haringey's parks are regularly tended and cared for. This helps create a feeling of personal safety that leads to increased usage and self-policing.

Regular cleansing can extend the life of an asset and helps present it in its best light to the public.

Revenue budgets must therefore be aligned with the full range of activities that are required to manage the parks and greenspaces in line with the requirements of the

AMP (as well as the Parks Policies, Service Standards and the requirements of the others plans that form the PGSS).

Gate locking

All gate-locking within Haringey's parks and green spaces has ceased. This is proposed to be formalised into Council policy with the adoption of the PGSS. The Parks and Leisure service will however use locking as a temporary measure from time to time to combat persistent anti-social behaviour and crime.

Asset inspection and reporting

Knowing what condition each asset within each park and greenspace is in, enables the Council to plan when maintenance, repair or replacement needs to take place and helps ensure that assets do not deteriorate to such an extent that they pose a risk to the health and safety of parks users. To enable this the Parks and Leisure Service undertake asset inspections.

Parks asset inspections are undertaken on a regular basis, dictated by size, in line with the Mayor of London's typology for parks.

The Council currently prioritises its resources on its larger parks and greenspaces, as these generally contain a wider variety of facilities that attract higher footfall than some of the smaller spaces. Larger sites tend to be those with cafes and toilets, play and sporting areas, active Friends Groups and are more likely to attract national accreditation such as Green Flag awards. There are 56 such spaces in Haringey, 22 of which have Green Flag.

Smaller spaces tend to have fewer assets, perhaps limited to paths, benches and bins. Some may be as small as raised roadside planting beds and have no assets other than the bricks or stones that form the raised planter. There are 92 such spaces in Haringey.

The largest sites in the Mayor of London's typology are the Metropolitan parks. These are over 60 hectares in size. The only such site in Haringey is Alexandra Park which is not managed by Haringey Council and is therefore not included in the scope of this Asset Management Plan.

The next largest sites are the District Parks, between 20 and 60 hectares. Haringey has three such Council-managed sites: Finsbury Park, Lordship Recreation Ground and Queens Wood. These are inspected quarterly.

Haringey has 17 Local Parks, between 2 and 20 hectares. These are inspected quarterly.

Small and Small Local sites are under 2 hectares.

Haringey's 36 Small sites are inspected every six months and it's 92 Small Local sites are inspected annually.

The inspection of play areas is contracted out to a specialist RoSPA-approved play inspection company, with the inspections being linked to insurance policies. Issues are rated according to risk rather than the A-E condition rating used for other parks assets.

Spotlight Meetings

Spotlight meetings are site visits arranged with the Parks Zonal Officer, a colleague from the Parks Operations team (and representatives from other relevant Council teams, as required), along with representatives from the Friends Group, other stakeholders based in the park and Ward Councillors.

Spotlight meetings are timed to coincide with quarterly asset inspections for Green Flag sites (please see Appendix 1 which lists all the parks and greenspaces and highlights those that have Green Flag status).

The advantage of holding regular meetings with key stakeholders is that each stakeholder can meet the relevant parks staff face to face (subject to Covid restrictions) and help prioritise asset-related issues and be part of the solution to jointly address them.

Reporting

Asset inspections are currently captured on a Word template document. At some point in the future this will be superseded by digital media via handheld tablets that can be used live in the field and connect directly with a digital database.

During these inspections assets are given a condition rating, where A is for excellent, B for good, C for acceptable, D for in need of repair and E for in need of urgent repair and immediate make safe.

Asset condition and intervention

If an asset's condition is deemed to be rated as A, B or C the only interventions required are regular cleansing and servicing maintenance operations.

If an asset's condition is rated D, then over and above the regular maintenance operations, a repair is required to be undertaken within three months of the inspection, as budgets allow. The three-month period gives time to put in place the necessary procurement and contractor mobilisation.

If an asset's condition is rated E, an emergency make-safe must be made as soon as possible/immediately, with the full repair to be made within three months of the inspection, as budgets allow.

A defect is deemed to be rated E when it presents a significant risk of injury to park users.

The 2018 Green Spaces Quality Manual, produced by Parks for London and the London Parks Benchmarking Group, gives clear guidance to help decide what rating to give an asset.

- An asset in A/excellent condition would be one that is 'as good as new', with no visible defects or deterioration.
- B/Good assets have very little in the way of defects or deterioration.
- C/Acceptable assets may have several defects and show signs of deterioration, but from an operational and safety perspective have quite a bit of serviceable life left in them.
- D/Improvement required assets are clearly not in the best condition, have visible defects and clear signs of deterioration and need repair or replacement, however they do not pose an immediate threat to park users. The list of D-rated assets will inform future years' replacement cycles.
- E/Urgent repairs pose a threat to park users and unless addressed immediately would lead to physical injury and potential insurance claims.

Where regular asset inspections can be evidenced and linked to a clear policy and set of guiding principles as set out above, and follow-up actions are taken in accordance with those policies, the Council will be better able to successfully defend against future asset-related insurance claims.

The Council is putting in place an in-house team to address all E-rated asset repairs and to carry out routine regular asset cleansing and maintenance to extend asset lifespans.

Guiding principles on hard assets

As set out in above section Scope and Exclusions, the assets in parks and greenspaces can be split into the following 6 key asset types:

- buildings
- vehicles, plant, machinery and tools
- underground and overhead utilities and infrastructure
- sports facilities

- play and outdoor gyms
- furniture, fittings and infrastructure
- soft assets

Each of the above key asset types is discussed in more detail below:

Buildings and land

Parks and greenspaces in Haringey are home to a range of buildings whose use is largely ancillary to provision of recreation in these spaces. There are, however, also some notable exceptions such as Bruce Castle Museum, the Beam Engine house in Markfield Park or the Chestnuts Community Centre. None the less these buildings provide valuable additions to the park in which they are located.

In total there are 58 buildings in the borough's parks and green spaces.

Commercial and Community Leases

There are thirty-six buildings in parks in this category. Twenty-eight buildings are currently leased to tenants and include parks café, sports pavilions and facilities, children's nurseries and one-off provision such as the commercial properties under the arches of St James Lane Viaduct, part of Parkland Walk, Railway Fields Nature Reserve or places like Wolves Lane Horticultural Centre. In most cases the lease is on a full repairing and insuring basis. Therefore, the Council's ongoing involvement in these buildings is limited. These locations benefit from either private investment to improve the premises as part of the lease holder's business or from external funding from the likes of the National Lottery or Sport England.

There are eight properties, with exception of one all based in Finsbury Park that have existing occupiers for which updated tenancy arrangements are required, the Parks Service remains fully responsible for these buildings in the meantime.

Non-Parks Buildings: there are eight buildings which although within parks, the Parks Service is not responsible for the arrangements to manage or maintain those buildings.

Operational Buildings: fourteen buildings are for the direct operational use of the Parks Service and include both depots, sports pavilions, a plant nursery and one public toilet block. In addition, the Parks Service operates from two other locations at New River Sports and Fitness Centre and Ashley Road Depot. The Ashley Road depot is home to the park's machinery workshop and in due course will relocate to Marsh Lane when that new facility comes on stream.

Park cafés and toilets: there are thirteen park cafes within the commercial and community leases in parks and except for one each café also provides public toilet provision within the park as part of their lease conditions. The exception to this are the public toilets in Finsbury Park and in the future, it is intended to extend the lease and include the public toilet provision.

Leases on land

There are two categories in which leases of land might be considered (1) land leased by the Council and (2) land leased by the council.

Land leased by the Council: this can be either on a whole site basis, such as has been done at Tottenham Cemetery, Wood Green Cemetery and Enfield Crematorium or at Railway fields.

In the case of the cemeteries and crematorium the Council decided in 2011 to withdraw from the provision of burial and cremation services and disposed of the land on a long lease (50 years) and sold the ongoing concern to Dignity UK Ltd. Dignity have invested in all three sites and the Park Services receives a significant annual income that is used to support the provision of parks in the Borough.

In the case of Railway Fields different factors are at play as The Conservation Volunteers, a long-term partner of the Council, were best placed to deliver the nature conservation outcomes of the site at no cost to the Council. It has also provided a base from which The Conservation Volunteers can undertake their borough wide volunteering activities.

In other situations, land has also been leased to other organisations where there is a benefit to park users or it allows the continuation of activities that the Council cannot afford to provide. Examples of would include external space for park cafes or the leasing of the Finsbury Park Athletics Track. In the example of the athletics track the transfer of the management of this area to a new local partnership has resulted in over £1m of investment that the Council would not have been able to access.

Leases of land by the Council: in limited circumstances the Council also leases land to provide greenspace for residents. The best example of this is Avenue Gardens / Nightingale gardens and Tunnel Gardens where these areas have been leased from other organisations such as Thames Water to make these site available to the public.

New Leases: where new leases are proposed resulting in a change of use of a building or land key considerations will be:

- what benefit will park users gain from the proposed use?
- how will it help people enjoy the park?
- will it make the park busier because a busy park is a safe park?
- what improvements to the park will the proposal deliver?
- will it complement or detract from existing provision in a park
- can the proposal only be delivered in a park setting?
- will the proposal help encourage people to be more active?
- will it help to make the park more inclusive?

Key Challenges

Energy Efficiency - From the 1 April 2023 all leased buildings will need to meet the Energy Performance Certificate Grade E. The Council and not the tenant will be responsible for the costs and undertaking the works to reach this EPC rating. Any new leases on the eight properties currently not leased will need to meet the EPC grade E

before being leased. Additional capital funding will be required from April 2022 to ensure these targets are met.

Building Compliance – The safety and statutory compliance of each building is currently split across several services within the Council. It is not currently possible to obtain an up-to-date view of compliance across the Park's portfolio.

Carbon Reduction – Within the operational portion of the building stock work is under way to complete zero carbon audits of all fourteen operational properties. These audits will assess what alterations, adaptations, and retrofitting is required to these properties to reduce their consumption of energy and water and to propose new ways of generating energy to become self-sufficient and not to be reliant on energy coming from the grid. A broader review will also be undertaken to consider how parks more generally can become carbon neutral or potentially carbon positive. This will support the Council's objectives in its Climate Change Action Plan to be zero carbon by 2027.

Operational locations – A review is underway of the locations at which parks staff are based and operate from. There are several changes proposed because of other projects, for instance, as the regeneration of Down Lane Park progresses, moving the depot out of this park will provide an increased amount of green space that will be able to support some of the growing population in this location. The Keston Road depot adjacent to Downhills Park is at end of life and therefore consideration needs to be given to its future use. The insourcing of New River sports ground presents an opportunity to consider future use of this location as a larger operational base. The review of operational locations will be combined with the zero-carbon audit to inform future operational depot strategy.

Direct Sports Pavilion Provision - The council is directly responsible for two sports pavilions in the borough (others are managed by third parties). The pavilion at Muswell Hill Playing Fields is at the end of its life and needs to be replaced. The other at Markfield Park is in reasonable condition. Football is the most popular sport in the borough. The new Football Development Plan for the borough will put a significant emphasis on promoting Women and Girls football and therefore the layout and provision of facilities within sports pavilions will need to respond to this shift in playing participation.

Inclusive toilet provision - One of the three key aims of the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy is to increase the inclusivity of the borough's parks. The Council has already opened its first Changing Places toilet in Finsbury Park and aims to open its second facility in Lordship Recreation Ground in the next 12 months. New projects at Down Lane Park and The Paddock will have this requirement built in from the outset. Other Changing Places facilities are being planned at Alexandra Park and New River.

However there remain key parks within the borough that are not accessible to those that need the additional facilities provided by a Changing Places toilet. Further provision needs to be made at least within:

- Bruce Castle

- Muswell Hill Playing Fields
- O.R. Tambo Recreation Ground
- Priory Park
- Queens Wood

Recommendations

- Additional funding needs to be made available in 2022/23 to ensure all leased properties can meet at least EPC grade E in line with the change in law
- That for the eight properties not yet in formal leases or other appropriate formal agreements are swiftly entered into
- That those who are responsible for health and safety compliance of Haringey's parks buildings, whether they be private leaseholders, Corporate Landlord, Strategic Property or parks staff, fully understand their roles and requirements and have sufficient resources in place to ensure compliance across the portfolio of buildings in parks
- Complete the Parks Operational Building Review, including recommendations for sports pavilion improvements and ensure that sufficient capital and revenue funds are made available to repair, upgrade or replace buildings so they are safe, energy efficient and reflect the Council's priorities for Inclusion, Climate Change and Service Quality
- Make suitable and sufficient budget provision available to expand the number of Changing Places toilets in parks

Vehicles, plant and machinery

There are ninety-six frontline operatives with the parks team who require vehicles, plant and machinery to keep their duties.

Vehicles

The Council last had a new fleet of vehicles in the Parks Service in 2007 and has successfully utilised that fleet of vehicles for at least ten years and in the last three years vehicles have reached their end of life to the point that only three of the original fleet are in operation and those three will have to be removed from service prior to the expansion of the London Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in October 2021.

The current fleet is now largely made up of hire vehicles and the three remaining vehicles will be replaced by further short-term hirers. A new fleet of parks vehicles is therefore required, and these will be procured during 2022/23. This new fleet will be powered by a mixture of EV's and the latest Euro 6 compliant diesel engines. The new diesel vehicles will deliver at least a 30% reduction in emissions compared to the 2007 fleet vehicles. The EV's will be those vehicles that spend the majority of time in parks and greenspaces. It is not possible at this stage to move wholly to an alternative fuel as a viable option is not available in our most common format. However, wherever possible electric options will be selected where they are available. A full transition to

an alternative zero emissions fleet will be completed by 2027 in line with the Councils Published Climate Change Action Plan.

Overall, the Parks Service has the requirements for a fleet of 19 road going vehicles and 3 site based buggies.

In line with the Parks Policy Pack newer vehicles are being sorted with narrower wheelbases to enable vehicles to be better accommodated on the existing road and path network within parks.

Plant and Machinery

The Council requires a total of 190 pieces of motorised plant and equipment as detailed below.

Item	Number	Replacement Cycle
Tractor	3	7 years
Tractor Mounted grass cutting Equipment	4	7 years
Ride-on mowers	11	5 years
Large pedestrian mower (Ferris/Bobcat type)	21	5 years
Small pedestrian mower (Husqvarna type)	37	2 years
Strimmer/brush cutters	32	2 years
Hedge trimmers	32	5 years
Long reach hedge trimmers	8	5 years
Hand blowers	34	4 years
Backpack blowers	8	5 years

As technology permits machinery is moving to battery powered and by 2023/24 all handheld equipment will be battery powered and in 2024/24 the transition of small pedestrian mowers to electric will commence. Other equipment will follow as new technology is developed for alternative zero emission fuels. The transition is expected to be complete by 2027 in line with the Councils Climate Action Plan.

The Council currently has no structured replacement plan for its horticultural plant and machinery. Like the park vehicle fleet much of the equipment is well over the replacement cycles indicated above and although some newer equipment is in use this is largely down to replacements due to theft of older equipment. There is therefore an urgent need for a catch-up year to ensure staff have good reliable, low vibration and low noise emitting equipment to keep them safe and ensure the minimum noise intrusion to the public alongside maintaining productivity levels.

The lack of funding available has also meant that items of equipment used for cutting large areas of grass across the parks has been hired annually at a cost of £65k per year. A recent exercise has indicated that if purchased rather than hired the costs could be paid back in as little as 3 ½ years, half the expected lifespan. The cost of investing in this equipment is estimated to be between £200-£250k once every seven years. As opposed to £455k in hire costs. Whilst the hire cost includes a level of

servicing, running repairs and replacement equipment if repairs cannot be completed in 24 hours there remains a significant variance between both costs.

Recommendations

- Vehicles - over the next six years the Councils parks fleet will transition to zero emission vehicles to meet the Climate Change Action Plan objective for the whole Council fleet to be zero emissions by 2027
- Machinery and Plant – that all machinery, commencing in 2022/23 transition to zero emission fuel by 2027 in line with the Climate Change Action Plan objective for the whole Council fleet to be zero emissions
- Machinery and Plant – that a regular allocation for machinery replacement is included in the Councils capital programme at a cost of £105,000 pa and that in year one this amount be increased to £195,000 to allow an element of catch to take place
- Machinery and Plant – that an allocation for large grass cutting machinery of £250k be included in the capital programme in 2022/23 and 2029/30

Underground and overhead utilities and infrastructure

Public utilities

The Parks and Leisure Service are from time to time approached by utility companies looking to locating their utilities/assets in Haringey's parks and greenspaces.

Such assets include utilities such as water, electricity, gas, cable TV, Wi-Fi etc, and are managed by recognised providers such as Thames Water, UK Power Networks, National Grid, Cadent, Virgin Media etc.

In all cases legal agreements such as wayleaves, easements, and licences or leases must be drawn up through the Council's Property and Legal teams plus additional information such as risk assessments, method statements, detail plans and programmes, and evidence of insurance need to be scrutinised on a case-by-case basis by Parks teams to decide on which proposal to accept and which to reject. In some cases, hire fees will be levied to cover costs of compounds being installed and taking parts of sites out of public use for periods of time.

Care should be taken when giving approval to electricity and gas cables. High voltage oil-filled cables have been linked to increased incidences of leukaemia, so for example the location of new play or other facilities should not be approved in the vicinity of such underground assets.

Underneath Finsbury Park there is a huge de-commissioned water reservoir that has been used as a filming location in the past. Other large-scale water reservoirs are at Priory Park, Woodside Park and O.R Tambo Recreation Ground. Utility companies retain liability for their infrastructure and this detail is captured in the formal agreements put in place by Haringey's Legal/Property teams.

The Parks teams will not approve the locating of unsightly above ground assets unless there are clear and evidenced benefits for doing so that outweigh the loss of benefits caused by the asset being in the park.

Each of the utility companies hold electronic records, also accessible via LineSearch, DigDat and other online platforms, of the locations and depths of their assets and have strict guidance that prevents excavations with certain distances of their assets or the locating of parks assets in proximity to their underground assets that need to be borne in mind when developing parks schemes.

The Council's ability to manage its assets is sometimes impacted upon by problems with assets owned by others, such as burst pipes etc.

Other underground assets

Apart from the pipes and public utilities described above, the Council has in many cases installed its own underground services, such as for lighting columns as well as to service parks buildings and facilities with water, electricity and Wi-Fi. Although records of these are held within the Parks service for its more recent installations, historic records are in many cases unavailable, therefore care and due diligence checks always needs to be taken when undertaking any excavations in parks.

Council-owned water pipes are of particular concern as these are old and in need of renewal. The Council spends significant sums per year on repairing burst pipes and water leaks in parks.

Recommendations

- That all Council owned underground services are surveyed on a phased basis related to need, for their location, assessed to establish their condition and a forward plan costed and, subject to future budget availability, replaced with modern provision.
- That programmes be developed to enable all public and private underground and overhead pipes and utilities to be surveyed for each of Haringey's parks and green spaces, in line with project development and delivery.
- That the above surveys are provided to anyone seeking to undertaken excavations or works in Haringey's parks prior to any works being undertaken
- That sufficient resources are allocated to enable such surveys to be undertaken
- That project planning reflects the time and costs of such surveys

Sports facilities

Hard sports areas

There are 102 hard sports facilities in Haringey's parks, of which all are condition-rated A-C.

Facility	Total	Managed by others
All weather pitch	2	
Badminton	1	
Basketball (Full Court)	9	2
Basketball (Half court)	8	

Bike Track	3	
Mini Tennis	6	4
Multi use games area	13	
Netball	2	
Skate boarding	4	
Table Tennis	15	
Tennis	36	19
Volleyball	3	
Total	102	25



Most of the above facilities are provided free of charge to residents and an important part of a park for children and young people.

Twenty-five of the facilities are managed independently and charges do apply on those courts. Booking and charging is also in place for the all-weather pitches. Booking is now required on tennis courts and at one site the booking system controls the flood lights as well. The booking system for tennis is already providing valuable information that will help the Council to diversify the usage of tennis courts and make them more inclusive. Under the proposed charging policy tennis courts would become chargeable at peak times. However, courts are managed there is always a significant portion of the day available for free use.

An exclusive coaching agreement is in place for the council operated tennis courts and provides a level of income to the council. this funding and funding from the two all-weather pitches will be utilised to provide improved court maintenance and free tennis coaching for those most in need.

The Council has set out its plans to refurbish and expand the hard-court provision in the borough within the Outdoor Sports and Play Facilities Framework 2016-2026 (OSPFF) (see Section 5 and Appendix 9).

The capital programme includes provision of £230k per annum, to support the objectives of the Outdoor Sports and Play Facilities Framework. Costs have been further developed as part of this Asset Management Plan. Costings use Sport England's standard costing model. This amount is for all sport provision, outdoor play, and outdoor gyms. This amount represents broadly 1/3 of what is required to meet the needs of replacing sports courts and play areas and replacing outdoor gyms and a modest expansion programme.

A forward programme of refurbishment and replacement requires the following funding over the next 15 years.

Asset Type	Quantity	Measure	Life cycle	Replacement cost	Plan Cycle = 15 Years	Total Cost	Annual Cost
MUGA	13	No	25	£ 160,000	0.6	£ 1,248,000	£ 83,200
Other Hard courts	31	No	25	£ 110,000	0.6	£ 2,046,000	£ 136,400
Skate Parks	4	No	25	£ 160,000	0.6	£ 384,000	£ 25,600
Sports Pitches - Artificial	2	No	10	£ 80,000	1.5	£ 240,000	£ 16,000
						£ 3,918,000	£ 261,200

Typically, the Council would expect 50% of key projects to funded through external funding. Due to the pandemic this external funding has largely dried up, but over the life of this Asset Management Plan is likely to become more available again. Therefore, it should be expected that some external funding from the likes of Sport England and The London Marathon Charitable Trust would be available. In addition, funding could be available from Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy or raised by Friends groups as has been the case in the past.

A key issue in the provision of these types of courts is to keep the playing surfaces free from leaves, moss, and algae. It is also important to the playing experience that the correct nets and posts are in place and that the court lines are clearly demarcated. Whilst resources are available to refurbish / replace courts there have been a lack of

available resources to address some of the regular maintenance tasks. This is currently being addressed and later in 2021 a new maintenance team will be established with the vehicles, plant and machinery to implement a regular programme of jet washing, relining, net and post maintenance and other minor repairs to fencing and gates.

The current mix of hard courts is quite typical for a parks setting, but over the life of the plan it is anticipated that developments could come forward that introduce new hard court sports areas, such as crazy golf or Padel (a mixture of tennis and squash played outdoors under a roof cover) likewise there could be further development of existing courts such as at Ducketts Common to include a roof covering to extend its use throughout the winter months.

In some instances, it will be necessary for the Council to put on activities to encourage more or different use of the hard courts as part of its efforts to increase the inclusivity of parks facilities. Two current examples are StreeTT and Inspire a Generation.

StreetTT is a mobile and web application to connect table tennis players into online table tennis leagues. Haringey residents can download the application, register with minimal details, find a local table, and arrange to play against other local players.

Inspire a Generation is a British Wheelchair Basketball initiative to introduce regular wheelchair basketball on basketball courts in the borough for both disabled and able-bodied players. It will be necessary to install storage at several locations to ensure suitable wheelchairs are available for all players.

Recommendations

- Continue to ensure that a variety of free court access is provided across parks.
- Continue to upgrade tennis courts to include bookings, access control and floodlighting.
- Implement the new sports court maintenance team to improve the maintenance and presentation of courts.
- Explore additional hard court sporting facilities to include in parks either directly or in partnership with others.
- Secure additional Council funding to upgrade and renew the existing courts within the borough. Where available maximise this funding by securing external funding from a variety of funders.
- Continue to provide opportunities for community and sporting activation of hard courts to increase the inclusivity of courts, recognising that in some instances this may require additional hard assets such as storage to facilitate this.

Grass sports areas

There are 29 grass sports areas in Haringey's parks and greenspaces, all of which are low quality and in poor condition.

Facility	Total	Managed by others
Adult Football	9	
American Football	1	1
Aussie Rules	1	
Baseball	1	1
Bowling Green	3	3
Gaelic Football	1	
Junior Football	5	
Mini Football	7	
Rugby	1	
Total	29	5

All the above facilities need to be booked and a charge is levied for their use. Outside of when bookings take place those managed by the Council are free for people to use for walking, exercise, or other forms of recreation. Demand for such facilities outstrips supply in the borough. Generally, the grass pitches are in a poor condition and often become waterlogged during the winter leading to cancelled games and more intensive use later in the season to catch up.

Haringey's underlying soils are heavy clay which is prone to shrinkage in summer and heave in winter. This combined with heavy sports usage results in defective playing surfaces that require drainage and regular pre-, in- and post-season maintenance to enable them to be provided as safe playing surfaces.

The kinds of hard assets associated with grass sports pitches include underground drainage infrastructure such as French drains, slit drains etc, line marking and goal posts which should be managed in accordance with the published advice from sport's governing bodies.

Playing football is the number one sporting activity in the borough. Demand is only set to grow as the population rises and as more women and girls' teams are established. Creating capacity for the increase in women and girls' football is a top priority of the new Football Development Plan. The Football Foundation has developed a ten-year investment plan for each borough and in contrast to many other external funders they do have money to support investment in line with this the local investment plans. It is reasonable to expect that for football pitches that up to 50% match funding could be available for the right scheme that delivers good sporting outcomes. Resources are now required to address the many years playing pitch infrastructure has not been updated and appropriate maintenance has not taken place.

Although some positive benefits can be achieved quite cheaply in the short term to temporarily address such problems, the recommended approach would be to carry out more comprehensive replacement and renewal of the underlying drainage and improvements to the playing surfaces to all the borough's playing pitches.

An uplift in day-to-day pitch maintenance can be achieved through investment in a robotic pitch marking equipment. Such an investment will free up the groundsman's time from pitch marking to enable them to undertake maintenance of goal areas, the wing areas of pitches and address any damage to the pitches such as that created by foxes and other borrowing animals.

The purchase of our own large tractors will mean that they will be available through the winter period rather than being returned from hire. This winter availability will mean that existing turf maintenance equipment can be utilised to further improve the in-season maintenance of pitches.

Whether goal posts are provided by the Council or by the clubs that use and hire its pitches, the provision and maintenance requirements of goal posts are guided by advice from governing bodies.

There remain two publicly available bowling greens in the borough only one of which is being actively used by a club which is in Finsbury Park. The bowling green at O.R. Tambo Recreation Ground is used for casual bowls activity.

A forward programme of refurbishment and replacement requires the following funding over the next 15 years.

Asset Type	Quantity	Measure	Life cycle	Replacement cost	Plan Cycle = 15 Years	Total Cost	Annual Cost
Sports Pitches - Adult	9	No	25	£ 100,000	0.6	£ 540,000	£ 36,000
Sports Pitches - Junior	5	No	25	£ 80,000	0.6	£ 240,000	£ 16,000
Sports Pitches - Mini	7	No	25	£ 25,000	0.6	£ 105,000	£ 7,000
						£ 885,000	£ 59,000

Recommendations

Secure additional Council capital and revenue funding to upgrade and renew the existing pitches within the borough. Where available maximise this funding by securing external funding from a variety of funders. Improve in season maintenance via the investments in robotic line marking equipment and the ownership of our own tractors to undertake a higher level of pitch maintenance. Continue to work with clubs and partners to develop the sports pitch offer in the borough.

Play and outdoor gyms

Play equipment

There are 37 sites in Haringey's parks and greenspaces that have play provision, the condition of which are based on a risk assessment.

Play is fundamental to children's development and a good quality, challenging, inclusive play area needs to be at the heart of every park. Play equipment in Haringey's parks varies from play area to play area and site to site, encompassing a range of different types, different manufacturers, provision for different age groups and each at a different point in its lifecycle. A play area can be expected to last on average twenty years with the replacement of its safety surfacing every ten years.

All outdoor gyms in Haringey are RoSPA-inspected on a quarterly basis by the Play Inspection Company. Each item of equipment is given a risk rating.

All new play equipment and safety surfacing in the UK, must adhere to BSEN1176 and 1177.

All new equipment will have to be signed off with a post installation inspection as compliant with RoSPA requirements.

Designs and works must conform to the following three specifications:

- play installation
- play inspection
- hard landscape



When procuring new or replacement play equipment, the Council looks for that equipment and schemes that reflect the following key criteria:

- high quality

- reflecting public consultation
- inclusive design, providing access for all/disabled provision
- providing a range of exciting, challenging and stimulating play experiences, a large amount of play value, an appropriate level of risk and provision for a large number of children at the same time
- age-appropriate play
- natural play
- robust and sustainable materials
- only steel or highest quality Robinia footings/in the ground
- bonded rubber mulch safety surfacing (no grass matting)
- fencing and gates to adhere to relevant British Standards
- gates to be self-closing, free of finger-traps, inward opening and have dog-controls
- extended guarantees/warranties
- RoSPA inspected

Until recently the Council has fenced all children's playgrounds for the twin purposes of keeping the areas dog free and to contain children within the spaces. However, over the last eight years there has been a move away from fencing for over 8's play spaces in favour of a more open landscaped edge to play areas. This has been implemented successfully in Finsbury Park for instance in 2019. Fencing will be considered on a site-by-site basis but omitting it for over 8's play area helps to both blend the areas into the landscape but also invest more money in playable facilities.

Play for young people with disabilities: The Council has an aspiration to provide that 50% of play areas are fully accessible over the next ten years. From an asset management perspective, this would require considerable replacement of existing play equipment and reconfiguration of play areas.

A forward programme of refurbishment and replacement requires the following funding over the next 15 years.

Asset Type	Quantity	Measure	Life cycle	Replacement cost	Plan Cycle = 15 Years	Total Cost	Annual Cost
Play Areas	37	No	20	£ 115,000	0.75	£ 3,191,250	£ 212,750
Play surfacing	17,200	M2	20	£ 75	0.75	£ 967,500	£ 64,500
						£ 4,158,750	£ 277,250

Outdoor gyms

There are 10 outdoor gyms in Haringey's parks and greenspaces.

Outdoor Gyms are an accessible, free facility for residents of all ages and abilities to take part in fitness activities, in their own time, in a local outdoor space. This helps to improve their own health and wellbeing and encourages the use of parks and greenspaces by a wide range of residents, helping to support community engagement

and greater community cohesion. Exercising outside has also grown in popularity because of the pandemic. Outdoor gyms are a relatively new park asset the first ones being introduced into Haringey in the run up to the 2012 Olympic Games.

As with play areas generally, all new outdoor gym equipment must be signed off as compliant with RoSPA requirements.

Designs and works must conform to the following three specifications:

- play installation
- play inspection
- hard landscape

When procuring new or replacement outdoor gym equipment, the Council looks for that equipment and schemes that reflect the following key criteria:

- high quality
- reflecting public consultation
- inclusive design, providing access for all/disabled provision
- providing a range of exciting, challenging and stimulating exercise experiences, accommodating as many people at the same time as possible
- robust and sustainable materials
- only steel footings
- bonded rubber mulch safety surfacing (no grass matting)
- fencing and gates to adhere to relevant British Standards
- gates to be self-closing, free of finger-traps, inward opening and have dog-controls
- extended guarantees/warrantees
- RoSPA inspected

All outdoor gyms in Haringey are RoSPA-inspected on a quarterly basis by the Play Inspection Company. Each item of equipment is given a risk rating.

The life expectancy of each item of outdoor gym equipment is broadly ten years and the surfacing below the equipment has a similar lifespan, although different approaches have been used in over the years including, grass matting, coloured tarmac, resin bound stone and most recently bonded rubber mulch. Over the life of this plan each of the existing outdoor gyms will need replacing and there is demand also to grow the number of sites that offer outdoor gyms.

Smart technology is now being introduced into the equipment and usage information can be shared both with the user and the Council. In addition, the energy generated from equipment can be harvested to run lighting or charge personal devices.

Recommendations

- That over the life of the strategy the current ten outdoor gyms are replaced at least once and eight more outdoor gyms are provided in parks and green spaces
- Capital resources are made available to support the replacement and introduction of new outdoor gyms to benefit more residents, many of which would never visit a traditional indoor gym.

Asset Type	Quantity	Measure	Life cycle	Replacement cost	Plan Cycle = 15 Years	Total Cost	Annual Cost
Outdoor Gym - existing	10	No	10	£ 30,000	1.5	£ 450,000	£ 30,000
Outdoor Gym - New	8	No	10	£ 40,000	1.5	£ 480,000	£ 32,000
						£ 930,000	£ 62,000

Furniture, fittings and infrastructure

This section details the following items of parks furniture, fittings and infrastructure:

- bins and recycling
- benches and seating
- bollards and barriers
- lighting, photovoltaics and CCTV
- paths and hard surfaces
- railings and boundary treatments (including gates, locks and gate counters)
- signage and interpretation
- artwork and statues
- pergolas and bandstands
- paddling pools and water features
- bridges and culverts
- gate counters
- soft assets: Grass, plant beds, hedges, woodland

Bins and recycling

There are 804 bins in Haringey's parks and greenspaces (50 Wybone, x, xxx Sentinel, xxx other) but none in its allotments. Of the 804, 589 are rated A-C and 215 are rated D or E.



The Council is committed to keeping its parks and greenspaces clean and well presented, and as such provides opportunities for people to dispose of their waste. It is also committed to recycling and therefore provides recycling opportunities along with general waste collection.

The Council spends over half a million pounds a year on waste collection across its parks and wishes to see a reduction in these costs.

Since 2019 it has been Council policy to remove all dog waste bins from parks. Dog waste legislation has enabled dog waste to be disposed of in mixed waste bins since 2005.

In providing litter bins for general waste and recycling the Council has to consider the following issues and principles:

- as part of our plans to present a recognisable style for Haringey's parks, we are proposing to use just one type of bin across all of Haringey's parks and greenspaces. This also aids with streamlining and a reduction in procurement costs
- locating bins on existing or new hand bases will reduce maintenance costs through a reduction in the need for strimming, with the knock-on benefit of reducing hand-arm vibration for operational staff
- locating bins at key areas, such as just in from entrances, near junctions and near high footfall areas such as play areas and cafes etc and reducing the overall number of bins across the park's portfolio
- installing new signage setting out the rules about the responsible use of parks, the impact of littering and the enforcement response for people who ignore the advice (therefore also the requirement for additional resources to enable the required enforcement response)
- a knock-on impact of ensuring we have adequate bin provision is ensuring that the maintenance and service of bins is properly provided for. This will in many places require widening paths and redesigning path junctions to accommodate bin collection vehicles (as well as to accommodate social distancing)

- at some of our largest parks such as Finsbury Park, where millions of people visit each year, larger bins will be provided in addition to the standard bin type

Recommendations

- That the Wybone bin is adopted across all of Haringey's parks and greenspaces
- That all bins shall be on hard bases
- That priority is given to rolling out the adopted bins to all sites as an early action upon adoption of the Strategy, to help reinforce the Haringey style
- That refuse collection schedules are geared to ensuring that bins are not left overflowing for days on end
- That litter campaigns are undertaken to spread the message about responsible use

Benches and seating



There are 1,033 benches in Haringey's parks along with other forms of seating provision, of which 875 are rated A-C and 141 are rated D or E.

To enable parks and greenspaces to be accessible, especially by older people and people with limited mobility, provision has to be made for people to sit. For parks to be vibrant community facilities that people want to visit, they need to have facilities to

encourage people to visit, stay and make return visits. Older people, disabled people and younger people have requested that seating be organised to facilitate interaction, is triangular so people can face each other whilst sitting.

Part of this offer revolves around having adequate seating provision.

Seating in parks is traditionally seen in terms of the 'park bench' and Haringey's offer is in line with this view, however less traditional seating is also provided, examples of which can be seen at Paignton Park, where there are concrete block seats, at Tottenham Green West, where there are concrete and timber seats, at Brunswick Park where there are concrete chess tables with in-built seating, at the Richard Hope Play Space at Finsbury Park where there is amphitheatre seating.

The preferred bench for Haringey's parks is the Eastgate Anti-vandal with metal slats. Nature conservation sites can use the Eastgate Anti-vandal bench with timber slats and/or solid timber chunky beam seats

The Council operates a memorial bench programme whereby people can commemorate loved ones by funding the supply and installation of a bench on a base with a plaque. Details for this programme are on the Council's website and are subject to the Fees and Charges Policy.

Recommendations

- That the Eastgate Anti-vandal bench with metal slats is adopted for use across Haringey's parks
- That for the nature conservation sites the Eastgate Anti-vandal bench with timber slats or a chunky solid wood bench will be the standards
- That benches should be on hard bases and sufficient space for wheelchair access to seating areas is allowed for at key locations
- That priority is given to rolling out the adopted bench style to all sites as an early action upon adoption of the Strategy, to help reinforce the Haringey style

Bollards and Barriers

There are 1,261 bollards, posts and barriers in Haringey's parks (static, collapsible and coffin), of which 1,029 are rated A-C and 138 are rated D or E.



Haringey's parks not only need to be welcoming, attractive, well maintained and adhere to DDA requirements, they also need to be kept secure, to reduce the risk of unauthorised and illegal access and usage, to protect against that damage that such access may create.

At the same time as needing to prevent unauthorised access, Haringey's parks need to allow public access, disabled access, push chair and cycle access, vehicle access for its own maintenance teams, as well as access for leaseholders, sports clubs, contractors, volunteers and Friends Groups.

Not all of Haringey's parks and greenspaces have or need secure boundaries, and in fact all gate-locking other than at Finsbury Park has ceased, to be reviewed along with the adoption of the PGSS. For those parks and greenspaces that do have secure boundaries, whether through railings, fences or walls, certain additional security measures are allowed for at park entrances, such as height barriers, bollards and gates.

Paramount to the success of such physical interventions is the day to day use by operational staff and parks stakeholders, in ensuring that these assets are kept locked and in place at all times and not left open and vulnerable to incursion. Design of entrance features needs to consider all the above issues along with ease of operation.

Recommendations

- That the Kent light-weight coffin bollards are used at park vehicle entrances to prevent unauthorised vehicle access but allow authorised vehicle access
- That certain entrances to identified sites have robust height barriers
- That such assets are kept in the closed position at all times other than for allowing access and egress and are not left open between such times
- That regular cleansing, servicing and maintenance of such items is undertaken

Lighting, Photovoltaics and CCTV

Lighting within parks is managed by the Council's Highways Lighting team, within their own asset management database.



Feedback from the police and local communities indicates a demand for increased lighting in parks and greenspaces for safety purposes, however there is a need for compliance with biodiversity and nature conservation requirements to provide dark skies for wildlife such as bats and nesting birds.

Where a strong case can be made for lighting in parks, such as where there is sufficient police evidence to justify it, or where there is high demand for extended hours of use, lighting may be approved subject to certain criteria.

Traditionally lighting in Haringey's parks has been standard columns, often on adopted footpaths managed by Highways. This type of lighting requires excavation works for cabling and ducting and has high ongoing costs.

Solar/photovoltaic and LED (Light Emitting Diodes) lighting, although sometimes more expensive to install initially, has far less excavation work required, no cabling or ducting and low ongoing costs.

This is the preferred option for the future of Haringey's parks. Although this removes the option for the lighting to be linked to the central management system and therefore a decision will be made on a case by case basis.

Where bats are known to be present, lighting should be low level bollard type lighting.

Where the Police and the Community Safety team advise that CCTV is recommended to aid the fight against crime in our parks and greenspaces, such provision will be located on hard standing and will be managed and maintained by the CCTV team.

The cost of replacing all the lighting in parks and greenspaces with LED and adding to a central management system is £870k. This is being funded over two financial years 2022/23 and 2023/24.

With energy tariffs increasing and High Intensity Discharge (HID) lamps being phased out over time, the Council is looking to replace 80% of lighting columns and 100% of

lanterns in parks with LED provision. LED lamps are more energy and lumen efficient, require reduced maintenance regimes and can be controlled digitally.

		Qty	Node Cost	Installation cost	Total
1	Parks Lighting assets requiring CMS nodes	398	£ 81.25	£ 76.87	£ 62,931.76
2	Parks Lighting assets requiring Led lanterns	340	£ -	£ 450.00	£ 153,000.00
3	Parks Lighting assets 'Aluminium Column Replacement'	6	£ -	£ 2,275.00	£ 13,650.00
4	Parks Lighting assets 'Concrete Column Replacement'	1	£ -	£ 1,775.00	£ 1,775.00
5	Parks Lighting assets 'Column Replacement RJ Survey 2014'	280		£ 2,275.00	£ 637,000.00
6	CMS System costs(software etc)	0	£ 2,452.38		£ 2,452.38
					£ 870,809.14
Notes:					
The above costs are based on asset inventory data November 2020, a full detailed survey of Homes for Haringey & Parks assets will be required to confirm the works required.					
Annual costs for CMS 'From Tender Documents		£ 104,750.00			
Average cost per lighting asset		£ 6.16			

Recommendations

- That generally lighting is not approved for installing in parks, because of the impact on nature such as birds and bats
- For lighting to be approved in parks and greenspaces there needs to be sufficient police and community safety evidence that lighting would reduce crime rather than lead to an increase
- That where lighting is approved it is to be linked to the Central Management System
- Solar powered lighting is preferred and where bats are present or other nature conservation interests apply it is to be low-level bollard-type lighting
- That generally CCTV is not approved for installing in parks
- For CCTV to be approved in parks and greenspace there needs to be sufficient police and community safety evidence that lighting would reduce crime rather than lead to an increase
- That where CCTV is recommended for installation in parks and greenspaces, it is assumed that it will be on a temporary basis until crime levels return to acceptable levels
- That where CCTV is recommended for installation in parks and greenspaces, the resources to install, manage and maintain it are to be provided by the Community Safety or CCTV teams and are at no cost to the Parks and Leisure Service
- That the location of CCTV must be approved by the Parks and Leisure Service and avoid the need to cut back vegetation or trees to accommodate it
- Signage will be displayed where council CCTV cameras may capture images of parks and greenspaces users

Paths and hard surfaces

There are 2,237 hard surfaces/paths in Haringey's parks and greenspaces of which 2,026 are rated A-C and 201 are rated D or E.

Paths and hard surfaces in parks and greenspaces serve a number of different purposes and require different design solutions.

For Haringey's parks and greenspaces, the standard material used is tarmac and most paths are generally footpaths for pedestrians and cyclists, however some paths are

used by vehicles and need to be constructed to a greater depth and width than other paths, including where vehicles turn.

Where budgets allow and such aesthetics are favoured, a chipping finish is recommended.

It is acknowledged that the Council's own maintenance vehicles have over the years caused damage to our footpath network and adjacent grass because footpath widths are not adequate for vehicles and yet vehicles need to access parts of each park where there are no paths suitable for vehicles. Also, approval has been required to enable contractors, partners and event organisers to use the footpath network and grass, which has over time led to a deterioration of both.

A prime example of this is where paths are set out at right angles to each other and maintenance vehicles use these to turn, damaging the grass and the path edges.

An assessment should be made of each park or greenspace to determine which paths vehicles are allowed to continue to use and these paths should be upgraded to vehicle-grade standard.

There is a case for the widening of all primary paths in district and local parks to accommodate all users, protect path edges and help with social distancing.

The Council recognises that footpaths in Ancient Woodlands and Local Nature Reserves may need to be constructed from different materials to those generally within parks, however the fundamental principles of providing accessibility for all remain.

Hard surfaces

Simply by placing hard assets on hard surfaces or specially created bases, many problems are greatly reduced leading to better presented and longer lasting assets. Also, by careful design of such bases, the need for staff to undertake strimming is avoided, as grass maintenance by vehicle is sufficient, thereby also reducing maintenance implications.

Hard bases for parks assets should reflect the type of hard surfacing elsewhere in the individual park and should be designed to sufficient dimensions to allow for the necessary operation and servicing of the assets. An example of this is that bin bases should be long enough to enable doors to be opened and inner liners to be removed and returned with ease.

Regarding bench bases, sufficient space should be allowed to prevent soil/grass erosion by dangling feet and provide sufficient space for wheelchairs and disabled access.

Edging

Paths that have edges are more robust than those that do not, as they provide a strong edge that is less likely to deteriorate over time and more able to withstand wear and tear. These should ideally be brick or concrete edges on concrete haunches.

Where budgets allow paths should be edged.

Steps and ramps

For DDA compliance and as a more accessible alternative to steps, ramps should be provided to enable older and less mobile people to have as much access to parks and greenspaces as able-bodied people.

Car parks

The Council's preference for the public to access parks is on foot, by bicycle or via public transport.

Although the Council has a wider policy of not allowing the public to drive into or park in parks, provision of disabled parking and parking spaces for parks vehicles, parks leaseholders, event organisers and parks contractors will be provided where considered appropriate. Please refer to the Vehicles Policy for full details.

Such provision will be constructed to the appropriate widths and depths and be marked clearly.

Recommendations

- That vehicle access to parks and greenspaces shall be in line with the Vehicles Policy and be limited to authorised vehicles and blue badge holders only
- That blue badge parking pays are created where blue badge access is authorised, in line with Access Audit recommendations
- That certain paths should be allocated for vehicular use and these should be constructed to accommodate vehicles, in their width, depth and space for turning at junctions etc
- That paths that allow for vehicular use should also allow for pedestrian use, through being wide enough to accommodate both safely
- That there should be an identifiable hierarchy of paths in Haringey's parks, where primary pedestrian paths shall for example have a more natural looking finish such as through rolled chippings
- That maintenance of path edges to prevent vegetation encroachment is undertaken on a regular scheduled basis

Railings and boundary treatments

There are 2,751 boundary railings and fences in Haringey's parks, of which 2,480 are rated A-C and 236 are rated D or E.



Boundary treatments to parks should be sufficiently robust to prevent unlawful access at the same time as presenting as attractive features in their own right.

Where new park boundary fences are installed, they will generally be at least 1.2m high and designed to deter people from climbing over.

There is a wide range of boundary treatments used in Haringey's parks, including various types of railings, fencing and walls. For new boundaries the Council favours a black steel railing.

From a legal perspective, not all park boundaries belong to Haringey Council, some belong to neighbouring properties. The rule of thumb is that if the majority of fencing type is the same across multiple properties, it is Council owned, whereas if the majority of property boundaries are different, they are owned by the neighbouring properties.

Gates need to open and close effectively. Where they are required to be locked the Council favours the Gerda lock as this is more secure than other options.

There are 754 gates in Haringey's parks and greenspaces of which 674 are rated A-C and 57 are rated D or E.

The locking of parks is discussed in the Policies section of the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy documentation.

Recommendations

- That boundary surveys are undertaken as part of regular asset inspections and issues are identified and rectified to prioritise safe provision and prevention of unauthorised access
- That the Gerda lock is installed as standard across the parks portfolio where such locks can readily be installed and robust key management measures are place
- That when repairing existing parks boundaries, they should be repaired on a like for like basis
- That when creating new parks boundaries, the adopted standard should be a simple, black, 1.8m high steel railing

Signage and interpretation

There are 949 signs in Haringey's parks of which 824 are rated A-C and 125 are rated D or E.

All signage and noticeboards etc in Haringey's parks are required to adhere to Corporate Communications standards and all works to provide these are via a single corporate contractor, i.e., Boldens Signage Solutions. Orders for such work are raised through the Panacea system which is managed by the Corporate Communication team.

There is a standard suite of templates for all parks signage, although in many cases older style signage is still present in many parks. Signs are generally A1, A2 or A3 sizes.



Signage should be clear and concise, should reflect the Council's corporate branding requirements, provide key parks messages and contact details and be positioned at strategic locations such as entrances. places. Materials used should be hard wearing to withstand weather conditions and abuse, and readily cleansable to remove graffiti etc.

Interpretation boards are installed at specific locations to provide more detailed information about specific issues. Examples can include interpretation to explain rain gardens and SuDs schemes, birds, trees and wildlife habitats, heritage and arts features. The design of interpretation boards is usually consulted upon with Friends Groups or other stakeholders but will also reflect the Council's corporate branding and communications style.

Noticeboards are provided to give visitors important and changing information about events, activities and other relevant information about parks. They are use both by the

parks service as well as certain authorised local groups such as Friends Groups and the Safer Neighbourhoods and Neighbourhood Watch teams.

The left-hand side of each noticeboard is for use by the Council's Parks teams

The right-hand side is for use by Friends Groups and other organisations.

Noticeboards are not allowed to contain anything that may cause offence,

Signage and interpretation boards should be provided at a height that can be easily seen by children and people in wheelchairs.

Raised text, large text and braille should be used to provide accessible signage for blind and partially sighted people

Signage will include recognised international symbols for people with disabilities

Fingerposts and Waymarkers

Fingerposts are currently used at a small number of parks for in-park directional signage. These can be found in Finsbury Park, Markfield Park and Queens Wood, although in future they could be installed more widely. They should be located at junctions and high footfall areas. The preferred style for Haringey's parks and greenspaces is the Kingston Finger Post with a black heritage column and green aluminium fingerposts.

Waymarkers are used to signal running or walking circuits and distances, and have been installed where requested by running groups in parks such as Finsbury Park. They provide simple but useful information for people to judge how far they have run and are usually located close to ground level.

Recommendations

- That all older style entrance signs are updated to reflect the current branded style as a priority action upon adoption of the Strategy, to help reinforce the Haringey style
- That where new biodiverse maintenance regimes are introduced, or other significant changes are implemented in parks and green spaces, new signage shall be installed to interpret the changes, to help with people's understanding about the reasons and benefits
- That signage is welcoming and accessible for everyone, to address perceptions that currently not all communities (e.g., LGBTQ+ and BAME) feel welcome in parks

Artworks and statues

There are 59 memorials and monuments in Haringey's parks of which 44 are rated A-C.

There is room for a great deal of flexibility in terms of style of artworks and statues etc.

The key issues for the AMP and Style Guide are that these items should be:

- robust and fit for purpose

- designed and located following consultation and engagement with parks stakeholders
- appropriate to the place and specifics of each individual case
- any amendments or changes will be subject to Conservation Planning and Cultural/Heritage team advice
- as these are high profile items, they may be subject to individual conservation management plans and be required to be maintained to high standards in advance of specific occasions

Examples of statues in Haringey's parks include the life-size bronze and bronze bust of Oliver Tambo in O.R. Tambo Recreation Ground.



Artworks include the Battle of Wood Green panels on UK Power Network's substation in Ducketts Common.

Memorials and Historic features

Memorials and historic features are individual in nature and contribute toward the unique character of the parks in which they are set.

There are 39 memorials in Haringey's parks, of which 37 are rated A-C and 2 are rated D.

War memorials are located at Crescent Gardens.

War memorials and other historic features are often made from granite and require specialist cleaning schedules.

Historic features include the fountain at Priory Park, a gift from the Bishop of London, and the Temperance memorial in Trinity Gardens. A Windrush memorial is located at West Green Common.

Pergolas and bandstands

The borough has only 1 bandstand, at Markfield Park, and 2 pergola structures, at Rectory Gardens and Barratt Gardens, **x are rated A-C and x are rated D.**



These types of assets in Haringey's parks, which include pergolas, bandstands and other kinds of canopies, tend to be individual in nature, however they need to be fit for purpose and robust. The style needs to fit in with the overall look and feel of the individual park location etc.

Regular inspection is important as they have overhead elements that could cause injury if left to deteriorate.

Paddling pools and water features

Haringey's parks include several water features, including 3 paddling pools and 1 splash play facility, as well as a number of rivers, lakes, ponds, SuDS assets and underground reservoirs.

Rivers, lakes, ponds, SuDS and rain gardens are covered in more detail in the Watercourse and Flood Risk Plan, however where those features include assets such as inlet and outflow pipes, culverts, aeration systems, constructed edges, pond liners or other features, the management of such assets falls within the remit of the Asset Management Plan. There are 2 lakes and 7 ponds in Haringey's parks and greenspaces.

Parks which have rivers in or under them include Chestnuts Park, Coldfall Wood, Down Lane Park, Lordship Recreation Ground, Queens Wood, Markfield Park and Woodside Park.

Subject to the outcome of feasibility studies, Haringey is seeking to daylight (take rivers out of culverts and open them up to become part of the park environment) rivers such as the Moselle and Stonebridge Brook and is actively engaging with key partners and stakeholders to develop plans to do so. Where plans are developed to daylight rivers in parks and greenspaces, it is essential that a programme to investigate and resolve all upstream misconnections is also agreed and that misconnections continue to be investigated after the works to prevent future pollution events.

There are a number of water assets that belong to others, for which leases and licences are in place. An example is the New River which passes, visibly or underground, through Finsbury Park, Finsbury Gardens, Trinity Gardens, Nightingale Gardens and Avenue Gardens that is the responsibility of Thames Water.

Lordship Recreation Ground is an example of where the Moselle was successfully daylighted.

For SuDS and rain gardens, the ongoing management and maintenance responsibility for the drainage infrastructure sits with the Highways Flood Defence team, whereas the day-to-day maintenance of the above ground SUDS vegetated channels and other SuDS assets sits with the Parks Operations team. There are 8 SuDS schemes in Haringey's parks and greenspaces.

Thames Water also have underground reservoirs at Finsbury Park, O.R. Tambo Recreation Ground, Priory Park and Woodside Park.

Paddling pools and water play

Water play, when temperatures allow, is a very popular feature of parks. The Council currently provides opportunities for water play via three paddling pools at Bruce Castle Park, Lordship Recreation Ground and Priory Park and via the splash play facility at Finsbury Park.

However, the 3 paddling pools are old and expensive to maintain and operate and are also bad for the environment in terms of single use of water. Residents also wish for them to be open for longer periods in the summer. Capturing and reusing the water will be an important priority in any future provision.

In the future the Council wants to reconsider the paddling pools offer, to ensure that we continue to provide exciting water play but in a manner that is not detrimental to the environment or our revenue budgets. The Council plans to renovate the paddling pools at Bruce Castle and Priory park between Autumn 2022 and Summer 2023.

There is one splash play facility at Finsbury Park. When it is working well and in good condition, it provides a valuable and interesting element to the play dynamics of the site, however resolving issues when it goes wrong can be time-consuming and expensive.

Water fountains

The boating lake at Finsbury Park contains the only water fountain in Haringey's parks. It has been installed to manage water quality and consists of three water aerators and one re-circulating pump.

Water irrigation and storage systems

Although there is one plant nursery in Finsbury Park, all the watering is undertaken by hand and there is no irrigation or water storage tanks. All watering is direct via hosepipe from the main water tap. This will change when a new polytunnel is installed as part of our nursery upgrade works, as the plans for this include an irrigation system.

Additional irrigations systems may need to be invested in and installed at future 'jewels in the crown' sites once they have been identified, rather than having to transport water via bowser around the borough.

Water troughs and water taps

Each of the allotment sites has water taps and troughs to make water available to allotment holders for watering their plants.

Although usually in diluted quantities and therefore unlikely to present much of a risk, Legionella is commonly found in all sorts of water settings, including in rivers and ponds.

Where the following circumstances apply the HSE recommend that it is important to undertake regular Legionella testing via a competent person where:

- water is stored and re-circulated.
- the temperature of water is between 20 and 45 degrees Celsius
- water contains nutrients such as rust, sludge, scale or organic matter
- conditions are present for bacteria to multiply
- it is possible for water droplets to form, such as irrigation systems and water fountains
- employees, residents or visitors are likely to have weakened immune systems

Two drinking fountains have recently been installed in Haringey's parks, at Tottenham Green and Page Green Common. These have been funded jointly by the GLA and Thames Water and all ongoing liabilities sit with Thames Water for at least the next 25 years.

Recommendations

- That regular Legionella testing by a competent person is undertaken on all water sources that meet the listed criteria in line with the HSE guidance
- That sustainable and energy efficient forms of paddling pool and splash play provision are explored to replace the existing assets
- That additional investment is made to support the introduction of irrigation systems at 'jewel in the crown' sites, rather than having to transport water via bowser around the borough

Bridges

There are a range of bridges in Haringey's parks and greenspaces, of various sizes and styles dictated by need. The most significant of these are those along Parkland Walk.

Of the 12 bridges along Parkland Walk (a former railway line), two come under the remit of Islington Council and three come under the remit of Haringey's Highways team, leaving Parks and Leisure Services responsible for the management and maintenance of the remaining seven bridges.

Parks and Leisure are also responsible for the abutments of a former railway bridge at Park Avenue.

Smaller bridges of various types are also present at Coldfall Wood, Hartington Park, Lordship Recreation Ground, Queens Wood and Stationers Park.



Parks and Leisure (park-side drainage) share responsibility with Highways (bridge deck/surfacing) and Network Rail (bridge structure and drainage) for the footbridge over the railway at the Oxford Road entrance to Parkland Walk and Finsbury Park.

The bridges are subject to visual inspections every 2 years and Principal Inspections every 6 years, undertaken by Building Control's Structural Engineers.

Vegetation encroachment, root damage and subsequent water ingress is a major source of damage to bridges and structures.

£3.6m has been allocated to the repair of 3 of the 7 Parkland Walk bridges and a programme of repairs to the other 4 Parkland Walk bridges will follow subject to the availability and award of further Council funding. Vegetation encroachment has been cited as one of the main contributory factors in the deterioration of Parkland Walk's bridges.

The 12 bridges along Parkland Walk are as follows:

Islington

- Mount View Road
- Crouch Hill

Highways

- Crouch End Hill

- Muswell Hill Road
- Muswell Hill

Parks

- Upper Tollington Park
- Stapleton Hall Road
- Vicarage Path
- Mount Pleasant Villas
- Stanhope Road
- Northwood Road
- St James' Viaduct

Only the 7 bridges that come under the Parks heading are covered in this AMP. Upper Tollington Park, Vicarage Path and Stanhope Road are currently being addressed in the course of 2021 and 2022 within existing capital and a further £10m is required to address the remaining four and to resurface the entire Walk.

Recommendations

- That a 5m vegetation and tree clearance zone is maintained around each of the Haringey-owned bridges along Parkland Walk and elsewhere in the borough's parks and greenspaces. This is in line with the management plan for Parkland Walk and follows the specific advice of bridge engineers engaged on the Parkland Walk Bridges project. Whereas it is recognised in the case of Parkland Walk that there have been community protests about the removal of trees from bridges to accommodate this requirement, the safety of the public and protection of the bridges from further deterioration from tree root damage and water ingress is paramount. In such cases biodiversity mitigatory measures will be required, and is already the case at Parkland walk, to offset any essential tree removals
- That meadow and other biodiverse plantings are considered at bridge locations as mitigation for any tree losses
- That the above works are overseen by Nature Conservation and Tree Officers

Miscellaneous assets

This section covers miscellaneous assets that don't have a section of their own.

Storage containers

There are many operations, whether carried out by parks staff, Friends Groups or parks stakeholders such as sports groups etc involved in the management and maintenance of parks and green spaces, that require items to be stored on site.

Most items required by the Parks Operations team can be stored in depot buildings, depot yards and in steel shipping containers, however for other items separate storage containers will need to be provided elsewhere in parks.

Storage containers come in a variety of different shapes and sizes and although the Council would seek to avoid where possible the introduction of such items into parks, where there is sufficient evidence in support of their need, we would want any such

containers to be as visually sympathetic and appropriate as possible for a parks environment.

Storage containers should therefore be of sympathetic design, located on hard bases, should be of robust construction and should be made secure against unauthorised access.

Also shipping containers can be used as temporary or permanent buildings (see section on Buildings).

The permitted development rules within the planning process allow for parks buildings and containers to be provided where they are part and parcel of the management and maintenance of the parks, ie: 'If the application is submitted on the behalf of the local authority, permission would not be required for 'any small ancillary building, works or equipment on land belonging to or maintained by them required for the purposes of any function exercised by them on that land otherwise than as statutory undertakers.'

Raised planters

Raised planters are used where raised height is important for example to give people with limited mobility access to planted areas, where a separation from the existing soil conditions is required, such as where contaminants are present and clean soil is imported and isolated above such ground, or where temporary or moveable planters are required rather than planting permanently and directly into the ground.

In such cases where underlying soils are thought to be contaminated, planters should be lined to ensure there is no pathway for the source contamination to reach the users, whether that be members of a friends or volunteering group, or staff, contractors or the public.

Where planters are being raised to make planted areas more accessible and inclusive, consideration of the height and depth of the bed and the circulation of wheelchairs shall be considered.

Where temporary or moveable planters are proposed, these should be designed in such a way that they do not decompose over time and can be lifted and moved safely.

With all raised beds, there is an additional maintenance burden to prevent plants from drying out, so they should only be installed where such additional maintenance is able to be provided.

Cycle infrastructure

Cycle racks are provided in some but not all of Haringey's parks and greenspaces.

The preferred style is the Sheffield cycle stand. Such assets should be located on hardstanding but set back from and parallel to a main pedestrian thoroughfare, so they do not present as a tripping hazard. Reflective strips can aid their visibility for partially sighted people.

Flagpoles

Haringey has secured and retained 22 Green Flag awards and therefore has 22 flagpoles to fly these proudly in the relevant parks. From time-to-time flagpoles may be used to fly other flags, for example for special ceremonial occasions.

Flagpoles should be located on hardstanding, where they will be best seen from all directions whilst not present a tripping hazard. The preferred style is the House of Flags standard 10m pole with halyard.

Performance spaces

A new dedicated performance space has been created at the Richard Hope Play Space in Finsbury Park. This is within an over 8s play area and although it is mainly for use by children during the day, will also be made available for bookings by schools and groups for small-scale performances. The performance space includes 5G Wi-Fi, electrical power, a small timber stage with a removable sail-type cover and wet-pour rubber-crumb amphitheatre seating.

Assets proposed by Friends Groups

The Council recognises the important role performed by Friends Groups in support of the borough's parks and greenspaces and from time-to-time Friends Groups may want to introduce new elements to the park.

These elements must adhere to the same standards that would apply to any other assets in parks, in terms of their suitability and appropriateness, robustness and quality either where they are managed and maintained by the Friends Group or by the Council.

Examples may include bug hotels, specific interpretation panels, ponds and nature or wildflower areas.

We welcome ideas from Friends Groups for additional assets in line with the above.

Recommendations

- That all new assets in parks must be approved by the Council
- That storage containers should be of sympathetic design, located on hard bases, should be of robust construction and should be made secure against unauthorised access
- That raised planters should only be installed where there are agreements with third parties (e.g., Friends Groups) covering their maintenance and future liabilities
- That raised planters should be filled with clean inert soil and lined to remove the pathway between potentially contaminated soils and the end user, and to prevent deterioration of the planter structure

Summary

The following is a summary of the overall estimated costs associated with the implementation of the Asset Management Plan.

The constituent parts of the funding of the plan are made up of:

- Capital Schemes
 - Park Assets (£300k)
 - Active Life in Parks (£230k)
 - Parkland Walk Bridges – Phase 1: £3.6m. Phase 2: £10m
 - Finsbury Park Improvements
 - Street and greenspace Greening Programme
 - Park Building Carbon Reduction and Improvement Programme
 - Parks Lighting: £870k
- £901k Neighbourhood CIL
- £690k Strategic CIL (subject to report being agreed)
- £413k Section 106
- £1.8m Events Income
- £333k External tree planting grants
- £1.95m of revenue funding of capital
- Regen Led Schemes £10.2m
 - Down Lane Park Improvements £6m
 - The Paddock Improvements £3m
 - Page Green Common £1m
 - Ducketts Common Café £331k
- Partner led schemes £1.43m
 - OrganicLea – Wolves Lane Nursery £1m
 - OrganicLea – Pocket Parks £28k
 - Access to Sport – Finsbury Park Tennis Courts £400k
- Asset replacement costs:

Asset Type	Quantity	Measure	Life cycle	Replacement cost	Plan Cycle = 20 Years	Total Cost	Annual Cost
Benches	868	No	15	£ 750	1.3	£ 868,000	£ 43,400
Bins	780	No	10	£ 600	2.0	£ 936,000	£ 46,800
Signs	869	No	10	£ 160	2.0	£ 278,080	£ 13,904
Fencing - Metal	33136	M	40	£ 184	0.5	£ 3,048,512	£ 152,426
Fencing - Wood	10374	M	15	£ 80	1.3	£ 1,106,560	£ 55,328
Fencing - Brick / Stone	26900	M	50	£ 225	0.4	£ 2,421,000	£ 121,050
Bollards	889	No	25	£ 495	0.8	£ 352,044	£ 17,602
Gates	751	No	20	£ 1,000	1.0	£ 751,000	£ 37,550
Paths	244400	M2	25	£ 45	0.8	£ 8,798,400	£ 439,920

Soft landscaping renewals	119000	M2	20	£ 20	1.0	£ 2,380,000	£ 119,000
Parks Equipment and Machinery	1	No	7	£ 750,000	2.9	£ 2,142,857	£ 107,143
Water Bodies	4	No	25	£ 100,000	0.8	£ 320,000	£ 16,000
Accessible Toilet upgrades	5	No	20	£ 85,000	1.0	£ 425,000	£ 21,250
Miscellaneous (Pipes, flag poles, water fountains, historic features)	1	No	20	£ 1,000,000	1.0	£ 1,000,000	£ 50,000

£ 24,827,453 **£ 1,241,373**

Current Allocation £ 300,000

Additional Required £ 941,373

Guiding principles on soft assets

Park management plans list out the following categories of soft assets within the borough:

- Beds:
 - Shrubs
 - Roses
 - Seasonal (spring/summer) bedding
 - Herbaceous
- Bulb planting
- Grass
 - General amenity
 - Sports pitches
 - Meadow

- Woodland
 - Woodland
 - Woodland scrub
 - Ancient woodland
- Hedges
- Invasive species

Beds

There are 1,411 rose, shrub and herbaceous beds in Haringey's parks and greenspaces of which 1,267 are rated A-C and 113 are rated D or E.

All planting beds should be delineated clearly from surrounding land uses, ideally with a hard edging such as steel, or otherwise through neat and regular edging with an edging moon.

Beds should be kept free of weeds and maintained through the regular topping up of ameliorants and mulching, both for aesthetic impact and soil and plant health.

Species should be chosen in line with the criteria laid out in the sustainable planting guide, e.g., to reflect seasonal changes, 'right plant right place' and based on resource availability.

Bulb planting

At the time the surveys were undertaken, when not all bulb planting was visible, 201 areas of bulb planting were identified, of which 162 were rated A-C.

Grass

There are 1,060 areas of grass in the borough's parks, of which 886 are rated A-C and 174 are rated D or E.

Haringey's underlying soil and geological conditions are clay based, meaning that in the winter months they become heavily waterlogged and 'heave' and summer they shrink and crack. Add to this intensive sporting usage and you quickly have pitches that are unplayable at certain times of the year.

To be able to successfully charge sports clubs for playing on park grass sports pitches they need to be fit for purpose. This will be achieved through regular inspection addressing defects and undertaking regular maintenance.

There are 29 grass sports pitches in Haringey's parks. These include football (24), rugby (x3), Aussie rules (x1), cricket (0), hockey (0), and bowling greens (x1).

To create playable sports pitches on clay soils two inputs are required. Adequate drainage systems to prevent waterlogging and to allow water to drain off into drainage systems, and regular seasonal maintenance.

For heavy clay soils, sports pitches require a large amount of pre-season, in-season and post-season maintenance operations, including specific operations for Spring (end of playing season: renovation), Summer (closed season and pitch preparation), Autumn (start of playing season: care and maintenance) and Winter (playing season: care and maintenance), with additional in-season requirements, i.e., Spring (playing season). Resting and relocation or re-orientation of pitches for a season is also recommended.

Thought should be given to spring resources. Plan early for equipment replacement, facility improvement and possible pitch dimension alterations. Where space permits a slight variation in the positioning of a pitch layout will help protect those areas most vulnerable to wear and tear such as sidelines, goalmouths and penalty spots.

Meadows

Areas of meadow should be encouraged at key locations, for example near entrances, high footfall areas and site boundaries, where they provide seasonal colour and variety.

Meadows are discussed in more detail in the Biodiversity Action Plan.

Woodland

There are 183 woodlands in the borough of which 182 are rated A-C and 1 rated D.

Haringey has three Ancient Woodlands at Queens Wood, Coldfall Wood and Bluebell Wood. Ancient Woodland is woodland that has existed continuously since 1600 or before.

The PGSS includes a separate Tree and Woodland Plan which sets out the Council's position on woodland, however it is important to note that from the perspective of the AMP whereas it is the Council's overall aim to increase tree planting in the borough, there are times when it is necessary to remove trees as part of the development of projects and to protect assets. The Council recognises that the removal of trees is a highly sensitive matter for local communities and prior to any removals full assessment will be undertaken.

Hedges

There are 140 hedges in the borough of which all 140 are rated A-C.

Hedges are generally used to enclose areas of parks and greenspaces and provide a living and biodiverse alternative to fencing and railings etc, however, to ensure they are presented in their best light and kept in good health they need to be maintained on a regular schedule, as they can become unsightly and the cause of community concern if left to grow unchecked.

Invasive species

The Nature Conservation Officer will maintain a register of a list of known invasive species that are permanently present in the borough in line with Parks Policy PGSS 8.

Horticultural Management and Maintenance

Haringey's approach to horticultural management and maintenance standards is set out in its Service Standards and within individual park management plans, against the Mayor of London's typology for parks and the London Parks Benchmarking Group's Green Space Quality Manual.

Within District parks (A2: 20ha–60ha), we aspire to have good horticultural standards and a broad range of habitats.

Within Local parks (A3: 2ha-20ha), we should expect to have good horticultural standards and a limited range of habitats.

Small parks (A4: under 2ha) and Small Local parks (A5: Under 2ha) would have acceptable horticultural standards and simple habitats.

In line with the London Parks Benchmarking Group's Green Space Quality Manual, District and Local parks would be maintained to Grade B and Small and Small Local parks would be maintained to Grade C, where A is excellent, B is good, C is acceptable, and D is unacceptable.

In addition to this Haringey is proposing a Sustainable Planting Style Guide to ensure that our approach to planting, plants are selected so they are the right plant for the right place, so they provide as much seasonal interest and variety as possible without being too high maintenance, by rationalising obsolete planting by replacing with grass or meadow planting and creating 'jewels in the crown' where resources can be focused for high impact.

- The Sustainable Planting Style Guide will ensure that all new planting schemes are in line with a standard set of criteria, reflect seasonal changes, are sustainable in terms of their procurement, adaptation to climate change and 'right plant right place', and can be maintained within the available budget envelope
- Existing planting schemes will either be simplified or rationalised, thereby reducing maintenance requirements, or identified as 'jewels in the crown' and receive higher standards of maintenance. Interventions will lead to:
 - multi-impact
 - sizing to resources
 - improving seasonality
 - increasing visibility and safety
 - supporting biodiversity
 - reducing maintenance frequency and maintenance regimes
 - low maintenance renewal
 - volunteer-friendly
 - removal of features

- simplification in line with Typology and Service Standards
 - maintaining 'jewels in the crown'
- Plants for Haringey's parks will be selected against the following section criteria which the functionality of the Sustainable Planting Style Guide will provide, eg:
 - character, plant type, habit, pH, soil-type, shade, more indigenous species
 - seasonal interest, biodiversity, 'right plant, right place', low maintenance
 - ability to soak up pollutants, toxic to humans and animals
 - meadows, rain gardens, SUDS
 - procurement, sustainability, drought tolerance

Recommendations

- That a Soft Assets Management Plan is prepared, setting out the borough's landscape and horticultural strategy covering the following issues:
 - horticultural standards
 - sustainable planting style guide
 - the involvement of Friends and volunteers
 - expectations to match available resources
- That grass sports pitches are surveyed and prioritised for upgrading to make them fit for purpose for free or charged usage
- That goal post management is undertaken in line with governing body guidance
- That sports pitches on clay soils have adequate drainage systems to prevent waterlogging and to allow water to drain off into drainage systems, and regular seasonal maintenance
- That sports pitch maintenance includes pre-season, in-season and post-season maintenance operations, including specific operations for Spring (end of playing season: renovation), Summer (closed season and pitch preparation), Autumn (start of playing season: care and maintenance) and Winter (playing season: care and maintenance), with additional in-season requirements, i.e., Spring (playing season). Resting and relocation or re-orientation of pitches for a season is also recommended. (Thought should be given to spring resources. Plan early for equipment replacement, facility improvement and possible pitch dimension alterations. Where space permits a slight variation in the positioning of a pitch layout will help protect those areas most vulnerable to wear and tear such as sideline, goalmouths and penalty spots).

Working with partners

Where significant changes are planned to park assets, consultation will be undertaken prior to decisions being reached.

This will normally include any Friends Groups or other recognised user groups that we know of, plus key stakeholders related to the specific issues in questions.

Examples include where major works and park makeovers are planned to take place, and the borough-wide replacement of an asset type.

Where parks schemes are funded as part of Regeneration schemes or are of a specialist engineering nature or impact on the Highway, the Parks Development team

will work closely with colleagues in the Regeneration and Highways teams. Examples of this include Parkland Walk Bridges, Down Lane Park, The Paddock, Ducketts Common and Page Green Common.

Other examples of partnership working include working with colleagues in the Legal, Procurement and Business Support teams.

We also work from time to time with external partners such as funding bodies, sport's governing bodies and regional government on specific projects.

Action plan

An action plan has been prepared to support the Asset Management Plan.

It is set out against the following headings:

- Finance/
- Design/facilities
- Management/Operations
- Activities/Behaviours
- Marketing/Communications

Actions within this Action Plan are generated from the Key Strategic Issues and Challenges and link back to the Aims and Objectives.

Appendices

- A1: List of parks and greenspaces sites
 - including which are Green Flag and Local Nature Reserve status
 - including allotments
- A2: List of parks buildings and their stewardship
- A3: Summary of assets by type and condition
- A4: NCA Report
- A5: Access Audit summary
- A6: Project management process guide
- A7: Haringey Outdoor Sports and Play Facilities Framework
- A8: Asset Management Action Plan

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Appendix 1: List of Haringey's parks and green spaces

Asset Management Plan

There are 148 parks and green spaces sites and 27 allotment sites owned and managed by Haringey Council's Parks & Leisure Service.

Regional Parks (over 400 hectares)

There are no regional parks in Haringey.

Metropolitan Parks (over 60 hectares)

The only metropolitan parks in Haringey are owned and managed by others, therefore do not form part of this Asset Management Plan.

District Parks (over 20 hectares):

Haringey has three district parks, all of which have Green Flag (GF) status and one of which has Local Nature Reserve (LNR) status:

- Finsbury Park
- Lordship Recreation Ground
- Queens Wood (LNR)

Local Parks and Open Spaces (over 2 hectares)

Haringey has 17 local parks and open spaces, of which 13 have Green Flag status. Some of these have additional designations as Local Nature Reserves (LNR) or Ancient Woodland.

- Belmont Park (GF)
- Bruce Castle Park (GF)
- Chestnuts Park (GF)
- Coldfall Wood (LNR) (GF)
- Downhills Park (GF)
- Down Lane Park (GF)
- Ducketts Common (GF)
- Markfield Park (GF)
- Muswell Hill Playing Field
- O.R. Tambo Recreation Ground (GF)
- Parkland Walk (North and South) (LNR) (GF)

- Priory Park (GF)
- Russell Park (GF)
- The Paddock
- Tunnel Gardens
- White Hart Lane Recreation Ground
- Woodside Park (GF)

Small Open Spaces (under 2 hectares)

There are 36 small open spaces in Haringey, of which 6 have Green Flag status

- Avenue Gardens
- Barratt Gardens
- Bluebell Wood
- Bowes Park Community Garden
- Brunswick Park
- Chapman's Green (GF)
- Civic Centre Gardens/Crescent Gardens
- Durnsford Road Verges
- Fairland Park (GF)
- Finsbury Gardens
- Granville Road (Spinney) Open Space
- Greengate Common
- Grove Lodge
- Hartington Park
- Manchester Gardens
- Nightingale Gardens
- Page Green Common
- Paignton Park (GF)
- Priory Common
- Railway Fields (LNR)(GF)
- Rectory Gardens
- Rokesley Gardens
- Shepherd's Hill Gardens
- Somerford Road Open Space
- St. Mary's (Hornsey) Churchyard
- Springfield Community Garden
- Stanley Culross Open Space
- Stanley Road Open Space
- Stationers Park (GF)
- Station Road/Palace Gates
- Tewkesbury Close
- Tottenham Green (East) (GF jointly with TGW)
- Tottenham Green West (GF jointly with TGE)

- Tower Gardens
- Trinity Gardens
- Wood Green Common

Small Local Parks, Open Spaces and Pocket Parks

There are 92 small local parks, open spaces and pocket parks in Haringey, none of which have Green Flag standard

- Adams Road to Lordship Lane
- Albert Road Planter
- Archway Beds
- Aylmer Gardens
- Bidwell Gardens
- Bounds Green Baptist Church
- Bounds Green Slips
- Bridge Road beds
- Brook Street Playground
- Campsbourne Bank
- Caxton Terrace (Station Road)
- Christchurch Hedge (Crescent Road)
- Cline Road
- Clyde Road South
- Coleridge Gardens (Archway Road)
- Colney Hatch Lane
- Crescent Rise (Durnsford Rd Rose Bed)
- Crescent Road Beds
- Crescent Road Gardens
- Doran Manor Strip
- Elizabeth Place
- Florence Gardens
- Fortis Green Court Bed
- Graham Road Triangle
- Grand Avenue
- Great North Rd Islands
- Greenridings Telephone Exchange (High St/Bounds Green Rd)
- Grosvenor Gardens
- Harcourt Gardens
- High Road Gardens
- Hillcrest Estate Borders
- Holt Close
- Hornsey Lane Gardens N6
- Ivatt Way to Belmont Road
- Kingsley Place

- Lydford Road Island
- Lynton Gardens
- Marsh Lane
- Middlesex Cricket Entrance (Park Road)
- Midhurst Gardens
- Milton Park
- Monkridge
- Muswell Hill Banks (North & South) N10
- Muswell Hill Peace Gardens N6
- Neville Place
- Newnham Slips
- Oakfield Road
- Page Green Road Shrub Bed
- Page Green Terrace Borders
- Palace Gardens (Albert Road)
- Park Grove
- Park House Passage (North Hill)
- Park Lane Beds
- Park Road Beds & Maynard Gardens
- Perth Road Playing Field
- Princes Gardens (on corner of Princes Ave)
- Pulford Rd North End Open Space
- Pulford Road playground
- Queens Flower Beds
- Railway Beds
- Red Cross Bed
- Ryecroft Way open Space
- Shelbourne Junction
- Sheldon Avenue
- Shepherds Hill (Outside Highgate Station)
- Somerset Gardens
- Southwood Lane
- Spurs Gardens
- St Georges Hall
- St James Lane
- St Marys Road
- St Regis Close
- St. Albans Crescent
- Stainby Road
- Stanley Road Pocket Park
- Tariff Road
- Tewkesbury Terrace
- The Drive
- The Mansions

- Topsfield Corner
- Torrington Gardens
- Tottenham Lane
- Tottenham Lane Triangle
- Twyford Avenue
- Victoria Cottages
- Walpole Road Triangle
- Waverley Shrubbery
- West Green Common (West Green Road, north side)
- Williams Close Triangle
- Wood Green Crown Court
- Woodlands Gardens
- Woods Path
- Wycombe Road

Allotments

There are 27 allotment sites in Haringey that are managed by the Council:

- Alexandra Park / The Nursery / Grove Lodge Meadow /
- Aylmer Road
- Courtman Road
- Creighton Avenue
- Creighton Road
- DeQuincey Road
- Elmar Road
- Franklin Street
- Golf Course
- Higham Road
- Highgate
- Mannock Road
- Marsh Lane
- Quernmore Road
- Ranelagh Road
- Rectory Farm
- Risley Avenue
- Rivulet Road
- Salisbury Road
- Shepherds Hill
- Shepherds Hill Railway
- South Grove
- Stockton Road
- The Grove / Railway bank
- White Hart Lane

- Wolves Lane (Chitts Hill)

Appendix 2: List of parks buildings

Asset Management Plan

There are 66 buildings within Haringey's parks, which can be split into three stewardship categories:

1: Leased properties (where leaseholders are responsible) (x36)

- Bruce Castle: Café
- Bruce Castle Tennis Courts, Bowling Green & Pavilion
- Chapmans Green: Bowling Pavilion
- Chestnuts Park: Café
- Chestnuts Park Community Centre
- Down Lane: Pavilion inc. children's nursery
- Down Lane: Bowling Green & café
- Downhills Park: Café at top of park
- Downhills Park: Café at bottom of park
- Ducketts Common: Kiosk
- Finsbury Park: Bowling Pavilion
- Finsbury Park: Café
- Finsbury Park: Park View Café
- Finsbury Park: Track and Gym
- Finsbury Park: Furtherfield/McKenzie Gallery
- Lordship Rec: Bike repair facility
- Lordship Rec: Eco Hub
- Markfield: Café
- Markfield: Beam Engine
- Markfield: Markfield Project
- Muswell Hill Playing Fields: Pavilion for Crouch End Vampires
- New River Sports Ground
- O.R. Tambo Recreation Ground: Pavilion Café
- O.R. Tambo Recreation Ground: Bowls Pavilion
- Priory Park: Bowls Pavilion
- Priory Park: Café and toilets
- Queens Wood: Café
- Railway Fields: Whole site is leased to TCV
- Russell Park: Small kiosk and toilet
- Stationers Park: Café
- Woodside Park: Mushroom House
- Woodside Park: Pavilion (Little Friends Nursery)
- Wolves Lane Plant Centre

- Wood Green Cemetery
- Tottenham Cemetery
- Enfield Cemetery

2: Operational properties (where Corporate Landlord is responsible)

2a: Where Parks are the Client (x17)

- O.R. Tambo Recreation Ground: Equipment store (containers)
- O.R. Tambo Recreation Ground: Mess room at back of Pavilion
- Bruce Castle: Staff welfare and equip storage (shared with Veolia)
- Chapmans Green: Small welfare room
- Chapmans Green: Equipment store
- Downhills Park: Keston Road Depot
- Down Lane: Depot and storage
- Finsbury Park: Staff yard depot
- Finsbury Park: Plant nursery
- Finsbury Park: Toilets and storage
- Lordship Rec: Shell Theatre
- Markfield: Bowling Pavilion, staff welfare and changing rooms
- Muswell Hill Playing Fields: Sports Pavilion
- Muswell Hill Playing Fields: Staff welfare and equipment store
- Priors Park: Depot (shared with Veolia)
- Woodside House/George Meehan House
- Ashley Road Depot: Parks workshop within Veolia site

2b: Where Children's Services are the Client (x5)

- Bruce Castle: Museum
- Russell Park: Children's Centre
- Russell Park: Private Nursery
- Hartington Park/Pembury Nursery
- Tower Gardens

3: Properties yet to be put into formal leases (where Parks retain responsibility until leaseholders are in place) (x8)

- Downhills Park: Sports Pavilion
- Finsbury Park: Baseball pavilion (rented)
- Finsbury Park: Manor House Lodge
- Finsbury Park: Jamboree Play/Drum Hut
- Finsbury Park: Art Hut
- Finsbury Park: Boat Hut
- Finsbury Park: Dog training centre
- Queens Wood Toilet Block

Asset Management Plan

PGSS: Asset Management Plan: Appendix 3: Summary of assets by type and condition										
	Asset Type	Condition								
		A	B	C	D	E	UNKN	SUM		
Hard	Bin	0	164	425	21	194	0	804	UNKN x 17 Bowling Green at Chapmans Green	
	Bench	4	361	510	53	88	17	1033		
	Sign	14	413	397	44	81	0	949		
	Bollard/Post	3	221	805	42	96	454	1621		
	Memorial	0	16	21	2	0	0	39		
	Green Flag	0	10	9	2	0	0	21		
	Fence	26	569	1885	142	94	35	2751		UNKN 3x locked area,32xPrivate boundary
	Gate	7	243	424	18	39	23	754		UNKN 21x Private, 1x Duplicated, 1x Lockd
	Hard Surface	6	305	1715	109	92	10	2237		UNKN 4x locked area, 2x Building, 2x Duplicated, 1x Unknown
	Water Feature	0	77	237	5	3	0	322		
	Sports Court	1	51	78	1	0	0	131		
Soft	Grass	0	133	753	125	49	0	1060	UNKN because of the season	
	Woodland	0	12	170	1	0	0	183		
	Shrub	0	238	799	36	60	0	1133		
	Hedge	4	63	73	0	0	0	140		
	SpringAndSummerBedding	0	41	73	6	0	31	151		
	Harbaceous	0	9	40	2	0	0	51		
	Rose	0	9	58	1	8	0	76		
	Bulb	0	55	107	0	0	39	201		
	SUM	65	2990	8579	610	804	609			

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The London Borough of Haringey

2020 Natural Capital Account

1. Key messages

The purpose of this natural capital account is to establish a baseline for the value of public goods currently delivered by the parks and accessible greenspaces in the London Borough of Haringey.

The natural capital account shows that these 'natural capital assets' of the Borough provide many benefits that are not captured by financial accounts. Specifically – the account is presented in a balance sheet format (see Section 3.4) and shows that:

- Over the 60-year period of the account (2020-2080), the Borough's greenspaces will produce benefits of over £1,000 million in present value terms.
- 90% of this value is for public benefits including carbon sequestration, reduction in air pollution, and physical health and wellbeing from recreation.
- The most significant benefits are physical health and wellbeing benefits from recreation which make up around 80% of the value.
- The benefit estimates reflect the assumption that these natural capital assets of the Borough will be maintained, and the population will increase. The value would go down if the assets are not maintained to meet the needs of the existing or growing population. Different future scenarios could be tested using the baseline natural capital accounting approach followed here.
- The way nature provides us with benefits is far too complex for any analysis and natural capital accounting is not an exception. Therefore, this baseline account is partial, as it has not been possible to separately measure and value the following material benefits: uplift in the value of property adjacent to greenspaces, biodiversity, mental health, educational and volunteering benefits from learning and working in greenspace.
- Based on the current spending by the Borough (£11 million per year), the total spend of the accounting period is estimated to be around £300 million in present value terms. The spend is assumed to continue to maintain natural capital assets such as tree work and supporting manufactured assets such as play and sports facilities and park infrastructure.

The results from the natural capital account show that based on current spending and benefits there is a 3:1 return to maintaining Haringey's parks and accessible green spaces. This information can be used to:

- Communicate the benefits of Haringey's greenspace to stakeholders including the general public,
- Provide a framework to monitor the continued provision of benefits, and
- Develop a quantified measure of the returns to investing in maintaining parks and accessible green spaces and undertake scenario analysis for different investment and finance options.

2. Approach

This section describes the natural capital accounting method and scope used to develop a natural capital account for the London Borough of Haringey.

2.1 Method

Natural capital is “the *stock* of renewable and non-renewable natural resources (e.g., plants, animals, air, water, soils, minerals) that combine to yield a *flow* of benefits to people”¹. A natural capital approach can be defined as applying the distinction between stocks and flows, measuring and valuing benefits and how these would change in future under different scenarios in order to understand the impacts and dependencies on natural capital².

Systematic and consistently generated evidence and repeated updates are what distinguish accounting from one-off assessments. Accounting offers comparability across space and time, bringing rigour to the presentation of different types of data on natural capital assets, the benefits they provide and the value of those benefits in terms of health and wellbeing of the population and financial returns to different parties over the accounting period. It also compares the value of such benefits to the cost of maintaining the assets and as such can inform spending and track the impact generated by relevant investments. The accounts can be repeated for different maintenance scenarios – in particular, comparing what is **currently** spent and what **should be** spent to maintain the assets so that they can continue to provide at least the benefits they currently do.

The accounting process is designed to answer five key questions:

- I. What natural capital assets do we have?
- II. What benefits do they provide and to whom?
- III. What are these benefits worth in monetary terms?
- IV. What does it cost to maintain the assets?
- V. How do costs compare to benefits over time?

Information from the organisation is used to answer Questions I and IV to create, what is called ‘supporting schedules’: asset register (I) and maintenance cost schedule (IV). Information from the organisation, external sources – literature, government recommended figures etc. and the expertise of the team is used to answer Questions II and III. The methods that establish which benefits are provided and value of those benefits are well-established, using recognised data sources, that have been developed and used by public bodies such as Defra and ONS. The assumptions behind the calculations and which benefits are / are not included in the accounts are reported as notes to the balance sheet, which answers Question V. In summary, the following supporting schedules are produced:

¹ Source: Natural Capital Protocol <https://naturalcapitalcoalition.org/natural-capital-protocol/>

² Available at: <https://naturalcapitalcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/NCC-WhatIs-NaturalCapitalApproach-FINAL.pdf>

Natural Capital Account for the London Borough of Haringey

- **Natural Capital Asset Register (A1)** – which records the stock of natural capital assets in terms of their extent, condition, and spatial configuration (e.g., size and status of designated sites). These indicators help determine the health of natural capital assets and their capacity to provide benefits.
- **Physical Flow Accounts (A2)** – which quantifies the benefits that the assets deliver in metrics that are relevant to the benefit (e.g., tonnes of Carbon sequestered, number of visitors etc.). The changes in the quantity / quality of the assets and their benefit provision over time are also shown as much as data allows but most baseline accounts are an extension of the situation in the first year of the accounts.
- **Monetary Flow Accounts (A3)** – which estimates the economic value of the benefits in monetary terms. This uses data from actual markets and other (non-market) values. The projected future flow of these benefits over the accounting period is discounted to provide the present value for the assets.
- **Natural Capital Maintenance Cost Account (A4)** – which details the costs of activities required to maintain the capacity of the natural capital assets to provide benefits over the long term.

These supporting schedules provide the data to create the **natural capital balance sheet**. The format is deliberate – by mirroring the balance sheet of traditional financial accounting, the intention is to encourage users to think about the benefits of public greenspace in similar monetary terms. The balance sheet shows the ‘asset values’ (from the monetary flow account) and ‘liabilities’ (from the maintenance cost account). The comparison could test if the assets are sustainability managed if maintenance actions are planned for that purpose. But in the baseline account, the current level of spending and any committed future spending are accounted for. Whether this is enough (given increased population, environmental pressures such as climate change etc.) needs to be discussed as part of the interpretation of the accounts.

2.2 Scope

The geographical scope of the assessment is the parks and greenspace of the London Borough of Haringey and the natural capital assets within (including parks, woodland, recreation grounds, public gardens, and allotments).

The base year for the assessment is 2020. A 60-year timescale is used to estimate the present values³. All future benefit and cost streams are discounted at a suitable discount rate to bring values into 2020 terms. Carbon sequestration, recreation, physical health benefits and maintenance costs - are discounted at 3.5% (declining to 3.0% after 30 years), whilst air quality regulation benefits are discounted using a lower, health benefit, rate of 1.5% rate (declining to 1.3% after 30 years) in line with government guidance (HM Treasury, 2020).

The benefits included in the accounts are summarised in Table 2.1. The methods used to estimate both physical and monetary flows are consistent with government guidance and published evidence such as the ONS (2019) UK Natural Capital Accounts and the latest Defra publication ‘Enabling a Natural Capital Approach’ (ENCA) (Defra, 2020) which provides case studies and data sources for a variety of ecosystem

³ Recommended by HM Treasury (2020) guidance and is suggested as a minimum time period for appraising public spending.

Natural Capital Account for the London Borough of Haringey

services and benefits. Monetary values published in earlier years have been inflated to 2020 values using the HM Treasury (2021) GDP deflators. See Annex 1 for a detailed methodology on each benefit.

Table 2.1: Benefits included in the account

Benefits	Physical metric	Valuation method	Beneficiaries
Recreation	Number of recreational visits to open greenspace	Total welfare value (ORVal)	Greenspace users
Income for Parks and Leisure services	None	Revenue from the council's financial accounts	Clients paying for parks and leisure services
Physical health due to active recreation	Number of active visits	Avoided medical treatment costs per year (Claxton et al., 2015)	Greenspace users
Air quality	PM2.5 removed by vegetation (kg/yr)	Avoided cost (treatment and productivity) plus welfare value (eftec and CEH, 2019)	Local resident population
Carbon sequestration	Carbon sequestered in woodland (tCO ₂ e/yr)	Non-traded central carbon value BEIS £/t/CO ₂ e (BEIS, 2020)	Global population

Natural Capital Account for the London Borough of Haringey

Table 2.2 describes the trends that have been possible to quantify over the accounting period, the assumptions made to do so and notes on some other potentially important trends. Recreation and physical health benefits are expected to increase in line with the population growth in Haringey, where the population is expected to increase by 5% between 2020 and 2043 (ONS, 2020). However, the true impact of population growth is difficult to predict – a larger population may put more pressure on natural capital assets, so individual beneficiaries may put a lower unit value on them. To maintain the benefits, in the face of increasing population, more needs to be invested in maintaining existing assets and expanding them where possible. The future number and unit value of recreation visits will also depend on what is done to maintain the natural capital assets in the face of increasing demand for recreation as a result of a growing population.

In addition to general recreation, the revenue received by the council for parks and leisure receipts and rents is recorded as a benefit to the council. This revenue is for specific services (such as sports receipts, and commercial rents from parks) and not recreational visits, hence it is assumed that there is very little overlap in the two benefit streams.

Natural Capital Account for the London Borough of Haringey

Table 2.2: Trends to profile the benefits over the accounting period

Benefit	Change in physical flow	Change in monetary value
Recreation	Number of visits increases proportionally with local population growth in Haringey Borough (ONS, 2020).	Assumed no change in unit value per visit. If the assets are not maintained to respond to increasing population, the unit benefit and hence value will decline.
Income for Parks and Leisure services	Number of visits increases proportionally with local population growth in Haringey Borough (ONS, 2020).	Revenue increases in line with the local population. Charges for services remain in line with general inflation.
Physical health	Number of visits increases proportionally with local population growth.	Assumed no change in unit value of avoided medical treatment costs. It is not possible to predict which way this would go and hence the effect of this assumption on the account.
Air quality	Expected changes over time are already incorporated into the modelling of health benefits projected.	Expected changes over time are already incorporated into the modelling of health benefits projected.
Carbon sequestration	No change over time.	Expected changes in the value of carbon emissions over time are already incorporated, BEIS (2020).

3. Summary of accounts

3.1 Natural capital asset register

The asset register includes the open greenspace in the Haringey Borough as shown in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: London Borough of Haringey natural capital asset register - extent

Asset	Area (ha)	%
Amenity grassland	250	50%
Woodland	127	25%
Street trees and isolated trees	35	7%
Woodland shrub	30	6%
Water body	21	4%
Grassland/meadow	15	3%
Shrubs	13	3%
Water margin	2	0.5%
Herbaceous	1	0.2%
Total	494	100%

Source: Survey data from Audit performed by John Sheaff Associates (2020)

Indicators of asset condition provide insight into the health and capacity of the natural capital in the Borough to sustain levels of benefit and support to the local economy. Ideally this would include measures of the condition of key assets that underpin each of the benefits (such as soil condition - measured by organic matter content amongst other measures). This study provided an assessment for each habitat type based on survey information provided by John Sheaff Associates. Table 3.2 sets out the condition of each natural habitat type. Most habitat types are in fair condition (75% overall), and amenity grassland has the highest percentage in good condition (38%), followed by grassland/meadow (33%). Less than 2% of the area is in poor condition which is very low. If a more significant area had been in poor condition, it may have been appropriate to reduce benefit values (such as recreation) accordingly, however at this level any reduction in benefit level is likely to be negligible.

Table 3.2: London Borough of Haringey natural capital asset register - condition

Asset type	Good		Fair		Poor	
	Area (ha)	%	Area (ha)	%	Area (ha)	%
Amenity grassland	95	38%	148	59%	7	3%
Woodland	3	2%	123	97%	1	1%
Street/isolated trees	7	19%	28	81%	<1	0%
Woodland shrub	1	2%	29	97%	<1	1%
Water body	2	8%	19	92%	<1	0%
Grassland/meadow	5	33%	10	67%	<1	0%
Shrubs	3	22%	10	76%	<1	2%
Water margin	<1	11%	2	89%	<1	0%
Herbaceous	<1	22%	1	73%	<1	5%
Total	116	23%	370	75%	8	2%




Source: Survey data from Audit performed by John Sheaff Associates (2020)

The condition of designated sites is an important measure of the state of priority biodiversity assets. There are five designated local nature reserves – Queen’s Wood, Parkland Walk, Railway Fields, Coldfall Wood and Alexandra Palace/Park – covering approximately 130 ha of the Borough (Natural England, 2021). There are no national land designations (Sites of Special Scientific Interest or Special Areas of Conservation) within the boundary.

3.2 Overview of benefits

This section presents the estimated annual physical and monetary values of benefits, and their present value over 60 years. Both physical and monetary annual flows are given a confidence rating, which is described in Table 3.3. Annex 1 provides explanation for the confidence rating for each benefit.

Table 3.3: Levels of confidence in physical and monetary flow evidence

Level of confidence	Symbol	Description of confidence
Low		Evidence is partial and significant expert judgement-based assumptions are made so that the data provides only order of magnitude estimates of physical quantity or monetary value
Medium		Science-based assumptions and published data are used but there is some uncertainty in combining them, resulting in reasonable confidence in using the data to guide decisions and spending choices.
High		Evidence is peer reviewed or based on published guidance so there is good confidence in using the data to support specific decisions and spending choices.

As shown in

Natural Capital Account for the London Borough of Haringey

Table 3.4, the total value of the natural capital benefits in 2020 are estimated to be around £38 million per year. Recreation (£19 million) and physical health (£11 million) benefits hold the highest values, contributing 50% and 30% respectively to total value. Air quality benefits contribute approximately £3 million per year and carbon sequestration contributes £0.1 million. The total present value for the public benefits of natural capital assets, over 60 years, is £911 million. This asset value considers the trend assumptions set out in

Natural Capital Account for the London Borough of Haringey

Table 2.2.

Table 3.4: Summary of benefits

	Physical flow (unit/yr)		Monetary value			
	2020	Units	Valuation metric	Annual value (2020 £m)	PV 60 (£m)	Confidence
Key monetised benefits						
Carbon sequestration	1,107	Total CO ₂ e sequestered (tCO ₂ e/yr)	Total value of CO ₂ e sequestered	0.1	5	●
Air quality	1,053	PM2.5 removal by woodland (kg/yr)	Value of PM2.5 removal by woodland	3	88	●
Recreation	6,440,043	Total recreation visits (visits/yr)	Total recreation welfare value	19	512	●
Income for Parks and Leisure services	-	None	Total revenue to the council	4	98	●
Physical health	3,316,622	Total active visits (active visits/yr)	Total avoided medical treatment costs	11	305	●
Total				38	1,009	

Key non monetised benefits - The following are recognised as material benefits from natural capital, but currently cannot be reliably measured or valued:

- **Property uplift:** A well-designed and maintained green space can add to the aesthetic setting of an area, impacting its attractiveness to prospective residents and businesses. In this way, green infrastructure has been shown to positively impact property values, as properties near green space benefit from this improved setting. This improvement will increase user demand to utilise the property, for example to buy/rent for residential or commercial purposes. Some of the value reflected in property premiums may double count with recreation value and physical health benefits – users may be willing to spend more on a house near greenspace which may be indicative of the extra recreation value and physical health benefits that the buyer might expect to receive in future.
- **Biodiversity:** The monetary valuation of biodiversity is complex and, in many contexts, contentious. A portion of this value is indirectly captured in the biodiversity indicators presented in the account for area of local nature reserves, as well as through the value of other benefits to which biodiversity contributes (e.g., contribution to recreational benefits).
- **Mental health:** Following current ENCA guidance (Defra, 2020), only physical health benefits are valued in this report as there is insufficient evidence to value mental health benefits in general terms. While the evidence for mental health benefits from green space is strong, it is context dependent and cannot be readily quantified for the purposes of accounting and policy analysis.

Natural Capital Account for the London Borough of Haringey

- **Education:** Educational visits to nature are known to increase educational attainment as well as improving wellbeing for pupils. However, this is not possible to quantify or value. Instead, the proxy value of the costs of providing outdoor learning activities can be provided on the assumption that the benefits must be perceived to be at least as much as the costs (see ENCA (Defra, 2020) for further guidance). However, data was not available for the total number of such visits by schoolchildren per year across the Borough.
- **Volunteering:** Like educational visits, volunteer activities also generate wellbeing benefits which are difficult to quantify and value at this scale. Therefore, they are valued based on the equivalent resource cost of a volunteering hours (e.g., from Heritage Fund, n.d.). As with education, data was not available for the total number volunteer days per year across the Borough.

3.3 Overview of maintenance costs

Natural capital benefits can only be sustained if the underlying assets are maintained in a healthy condition. The aim of a natural capital maintenance cost assessment is to establish the cost of the activities necessary to sustain natural capital condition in the long term.

In the timescales of this project, it was not possible to assess the maintenance activities required to sustain natural assets. The approach taken in this account has been to use current levels of expenditure to compare to benefits levels, recognising that it is not possible to draw the conclusion that existing maintenance is necessarily sufficient to sustain those benefit levels into the future.

Furthermore, the benefits included in the account also depend upon the provision and maintenance of non-natural capital assets, such as play areas, sports pavilions, outdoor gym areas, pathways, security assets etc. Given that the benefits are co-produced by both natural and manufactured capital, the maintenance of both have been included in this account.

Within the natural capital balance sheet, the costs of natural capital maintenance activities that arise from legal obligations, such as for managing designated habitats, are reported separately from other maintenance liabilities. All other remaining maintenance costs, such as management of green spaces, grounds maintenance and tree-works are accounted as 'other maintenance costs.' In the scope of this project, it was not possible to distinguish costs arising from legal obligations, hence all costs have been reported as 'other maintenance costs.'

The finance department of Haringey Borough Council provided the following information for the Parks and Leisure department:

1. Budget and actual spend (and income) for the three financial years (2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20)
2. The five year capital programme (covering the years 2021/22 to 2025/26) and the anticipated capital spend for 2020/21.

These figures are used to assess on ongoing level of current spend on parks and green spaces and is summarised in Table 3.5. Operational expenditure covers labour, third party contractor, transport and premises related expenses. Corporate support recharges are overhead charges covering corporate functions such as IT, HR, and finance functions. The capital expenditure programme is well defined for the years 2020 to 2024, and the average level of expenditure over these years was used as the basis for an estimated of long-term capital spend to maintain assets and support benefit levels.

To maintain benefits in the face of increasing population, more needs to be invested in maintaining existing assets and expanding as necessary overtime. Consequently, future maintenance costs have been escalated in line with the forecast growth in population for the Borough of Haringey.

Table 3.5: Summary of Maintenance Costs

Expenditure	Annual Cost (£k)	60-year PV (£k)	Notes
Operational expenditure	5,112	138,768	Based on latest expenditure for 2019/20
Corporate support recharge	1,398	37,785	Based on latest expenditure for 2019/20
Capital expenditure	4,617	121,084	Average of planned spend for the years 2020-2024
Total	11,127	297,637	

3.4 Natural capital balance sheet

Table 3.6 is the natural capital balance sheet for Haringey's parks and greenspaces. It shows that parks and open spaces provide public benefits worth over £900 million over 60 years (to 2080). This is nearly ten times the value of the revenue that the council's Parks and Leisure service receives (£98 million). Capital maintenance costs over the same period are estimated at £298 million in total, and all these costs fall to the London Borough of Haringey. The costs of maintaining natural capital are less than a third of the value of the benefits the sites provide.

Table 3.6: Natural Capital Balance Sheet at 31 March 2021

Asset values (monetised)	PV* (60 Years) £'m		
	To the Council	To the public	Total
Carbon sequestration		5.2	5.2
Air quality		88.0	88.0
Recreation	98.2	512.3	610.5
Physical Health		305.3	305.3
Total gross asset value	98.2	910.7	1,009.0
Liabilities			
Legal provisions			-
Other maintenance provisions	(297.6)		(297.6)
Total maintenance costs	(297.6)	-	(297.6)
Total net asset value (monetised)	(199.4)	910.7	711.3

Note*: Present value calculated over 60 years, 3.5% discount rate declining to 3% after 30 years, except air quality which uses the health adjusted rate of 1.5%, declining to 1.3% after 30 years.

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Annex 1

This annex describes the approaches used to quantify and value the (ecosystem service) benefits provided by natural capital assets in the London Borough of Haringey account.

Carbon sequestration

Carbon sequestration is provided by woodland and improved grassland areas within the accounting boundary. This benefit is estimated by the sequestration rates for each habitat (tonnes CO₂ equivalent per hectare) and the non-traded price of carbon.

Table A.1: Carbon sequestration rates by habitat type

Habitat	Sequestration rate	Source
Woodland	5.7 tCO ₂ e/ha/yr	ONS (2019) and Forestry Commission (2017)
Improved grassland ¹	0.6 tCO ₂ e/ha/yr	Soussana et al. (2010) <small>Error! Bookmark not defined.</small>

¹ This value is applied to areas grassland/meadows set out in the asset register (Table 3.1).

Table A.1 shows the per hectare carbon sequestration rates for woodland and improved grassland that are used within this assessment. The unit sequestration factors used are 5.7 tonnes CO₂e per hectare per year for woodlands, which has been estimated using the total carbon dioxide equivalent sequestered by forestland in the UK (ONS, 2019) and the total area of woodland in the UK (Forestry Commission, 2017). This covers both coniferous and broadleaved woodland. Improved grassland is estimated as 0.18 tonnes of carbon sequestered per hectare (Soussanna et al., 2010). The rates for improved grassland have been converted to tonnes CO₂e using a conversion factor of 3.67 (IPCC, 2018). Sequestration rates are assumed to remain constant over time.

The total amount of CO₂ equivalent sequestered is estimated by multiplying these per hectare rates with the total hectare of the respective habitat type, as recorded in the asset register. The amount of CO₂e sequestered is then valued following the BEIS (2020) guidance. The economic value of carbon sequestration in the account boundary is estimated using the non-traded central price, £75 per tonne of CO₂e in 2020. This is multiplied by the estimated tonnes of CO₂e sequestered. The value of carbon emissions increase over time in line with BEIS (2020).

Air quality

Air quality benefit included in the baseline natural capital account arises from the ability of different types of vegetation to remove pollutants from the air. This benefit is estimated by the amount of PM_{2.5} removed by woodland and the avoided human health risks and medical costs associated.

Jones et al. (2017) modelled this benefit for the UK national accounts reflecting the variety of different levels of PM_{2.5} concentration, types and extent of vegetation and density of human population across the country. An update to this study (CEH and eftec, 2019) has produced estimates of PM_{2.5} removal per hectare of woodland by local authority across the UK. The benefit of removal is estimated as the avoided health care cost (CEH and eftec, 2019).

This baseline natural capital account shows the per hectare benefit from the CEH and eftec (2019) model for the local authority area of Haringey multiplied by the total woodland area (including woodland and area of isolated street trees) in the Borough (from the natural capital asset register).

Recreation

Recreational benefit is measured in terms of the number of visits to accessible greenspaces, and the average welfare value associated with these visits. This benefit is estimated by the number of visits and welfare value per visit. The online tool ORVal⁴ is used to for this purpose. The tool also breaks down the estimated number of visits and associated welfare value by socio-economic group. The physical flow (number of annual visits) increases in line with the population growth of Haringey (ONS, 2020). As population projections are only available until 2043, it is assumed total population remains constant thereafter. The monetary value (welfare value) is assumed to remain constant over time.

These visits and associated values are linked to approximately 110 open greenspace sites identified in ORVal within the Haringey Boundary – covering approximately 500 ha. Table A.2 provides a summary of each open greenspace type identified in ORVal. Alexander Palace and Park, categorised under nature, covers nearly 65 ha. Other notable parks are included under the Park category, including Finsbury Park (48 ha), Tottenham Marshes (32 ha) and Lordship Recreation Ground (23 ha). 200 sites were accessed for the natural capital asset register so the estimates from ORVal provide an underestimate in the value of recreation.

Table A.2: Areas of open greenspaces identified in ORVal

Open greenspace type	Area (ha)
Park	185
Nature	110
Amenity Park	63
Wood	37
Allotment	33
Golf	32
Garden	20
Recreation ground	5
Cemetery	2
Grave Yard	0.7
Total	487

It should be noted that the data from ORVal takes into account the location of the recreation asset, surrounding population, habitat type(s) and local alternatives, but makes the assumption that accessible green space is in average condition for its type. If the green space is in a better (worse) condition than average, this will likely have higher (lower) values for number and welfare value of visits. Similarly, as the

⁴ ORVal is a spatial model that shows the recreational sites, number of visits and the benefit to visitors using data from mapping tools, Monitor of Engagement in Natural Environment (MENE) survey and economic valuation literature. University of Exeter (2018) ORVal v2.0 - The Outdoor Recreational. <https://www.leep.exeter.ac.uk/orval/>

model underlying ORVal is based on MENE data⁵, it does not take into account visits by children or overseas visitors to the UK.

Physical health

In addition to improving the general welfare of visitors, if people are active during their visits, recreation can also have measurable physical health benefits. 'Active' is defined as those who met recommended physical activity guidelines either fully, or partially, during weekly visits. This benefit is estimated by the proportion of the visits that are active, the health benefits of active recreation (in terms of improvements in Quality Adjusted Life years – QALYs⁶) and the economic value of health improvement (in terms of the avoided health cost due to improvement in QALY).

White et al. (2016) estimate that 51.5% of recreation visits are 'active'. The White et al. (2016) proportion of active visits is applied to the annual visits to greenspaces within the account boundary, producing the number of annual active visits. As with the number of annual recreation visits, they increase in line with population growth forecasts from ONS (2020).

The benefit of active recreation is measured as the improvement in QALYs. Beale et al. (2007) analysed Health Survey for England data, estimating that 30 minutes a week of moderate-intense physical exercise, if undertaken 52 weeks a year, would be associated with 0.0106768 QALYs per individual per year. Beale et al. (2007) assume this relationship between physical activity and QALYs is both cumulative and linear. Claxton et al. (2015) estimate a cost-effectiveness threshold of a QALY to be roughly £12,900/QALY in 2008 prices. This figure represents the additional cost that has to be imposed on the health system to forgo one QALY of health through displacement. It is used as a proxy for health costs, reflecting the avoided health costs when QALY is improved by one unit. Based on this information, the avoided health cost is estimated as £3.28 in 2020 prices. The monetary unit value is assumed to remain constant over time.

⁵ See: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/monitor-of-engagement-with-the-natural-environment-survey-purpose-and-results>

⁶ QALY is a health measurement used widely in health and health economics research. QALY of zero denotes death, and 1 denotes full health.

Confidence rating for benefits

Table A.3 provides an explanation for confidence rating set for each benefit included in the account.

Table A.3: Confidence rating for benefits in the assessment

	Physical flow (unit/yr)		Monetary value (£m)	
	Rating (drop-down)	Reason	Rating (drop-down)	Reason
Key monetised benefits				
Carbon sequestration	Medium	Makes use of best available sequestration rates, as cited in ENCA (Defra, 2020). Uncertainty around whether improved grassland sequesters or emits.	Medium	BEIS (2018) carbon prices s based on the older 80% reduction commitment. They are under review, but approach follows current government guidance (HMT, 2018).
Air quality	High	Based on modelling by eftec and CEH (2019). Use of the tool is cited in ENCA (Defra, 2020).	High	Based on modelling by eftec and CEH (2019). Use of the tool is cited in ENCA (Defra, 2020).
Recreation	High	Based on selecting the Local Authority in ORVal. Approach features in ENCA (Defra, 2020).	High	Based on selecting the Local Authority in ORVal. Approach features in ENCA (Defra, 2020).
Physical health	Medium	Based on White et al. (2016) assumption of active visits and recreation outputs. Approach features in ENCA (Defra, 2020).	Medium	Medical treatment costs per QALY based on 2008 health spending. Approach features in ENCA (Defra, 2020)

Level of confidence	Symbol	Description of confidence
Low	•	Evidence is partial and significant assumptions are made so that the data provides only order of magnitude estimates of value to inform decisions and spending choices.
Medium	•	Science-based assumptions and published data are used but there is some uncertainty in combining them, resulting in reasonable confidence in using the data to guide decisions and spending choices.
High	•	Evidence is peer reviewed or based on published guidance so there is good confidence in using the data to support specific decisions and spending choices.
No colour	•	Not assessed

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Appendix 5: Accessibility

Asset Management Plan

Purpose

There are two models for how society extends opportunities to disabled people. The medical model recognises the needs of disabled people but views these as medical conditions which place limitations upon people. The Social Model, which the council follows, places the emphasis on society to improve opportunities for disabled people emphasising inclusive policies and practice. The Equality Act (1995) also sets out the council's responsibility to provide equal service in parks and greenspaces.

This document is intended to outline adjustments that could be made or procedures that could be implemented by the council and its partners to make the borough's parks and green spaces as accessible as it can to as many people as possible. The needs of disabled people and how to make the park more accessible should be considered in every stage of parks development and maintenance. Therefore, this document provide guidance on the measures that officers should consider when implementing scheme or advising contractors.

Introduction: Scope (what does it include), how it is intended to be used

Everyone should have the opportunity to enjoy natural spaces but things such as poorly maintained paths, over complicated and poorly written signs and inaccessible equipment place barriers for disabled people.

The document lists key areas where modifications may need to be made, or it is recommended should be made, to make the experience of visiting a park more comfortable and convenient for people with a range of physical, sensory, learning and cognitive impairments. The guideline and advice contained in this document aims to remove or limit any barriers to access by looking at all aspects of parks such as pathways, play areas, buildings in parks and facilities to see what can be done better.

Facilities and design

Recommendation	Purpose of Recommendation	Potential beneficiaries
Create walking tunnels free Of overhanging branches and trip hazards	Safe walking routes	People with visual impairments
Resting points, benches or leaning posts, should be at 100m intervals or more frequently on steep gradients	to aid people to explore more of the park	People with mobility difficulties or respiratory conditions.
Tactile pavements could be used across paths at points of interestsignificant areas or where there is seating.	Highlight facilities or	People with visual impairments
Inclusive apparatus in playgrounds And outdoor gyms should be considered from the design point.	increase opportunities for disabled people	People with physical and sensory disabilities

onwards. Review current apparatus to see if accessible alternatives can be introduced.

Accessible toilets should be available
Changing Places toilets are desirable

Allow people to spend longer
in parks

People with severe
disabilities and their
Families

Optimum viewing height should be
considered for all signage

make signage visible to all

People with visual
impairments or in
wheelchairs or mobility
scooters

access to facilities such as sport
courts should be a level ground
and wide enough for mobility
scooters and wheelchairs to
pass through

enable entrance to sports
courts and facilities

people in wheelchairs and
with mobility disabilities

There should be blue badge/
accessible parking spaces.
Ideally within 50m of amenities
such as formal crossing, cafes
and toilets

Easier access to parks for
disabled people

Many people with a range
of disabilities

All buildings should have level
access. Ramp access and steps
would be best practice as would
power assisted doors.

Easier access to buildings

People with mobility
disabilities

Management and operations

Recommendation

Create walking tunnels free
Of overhanging branches and
trip hazards

Purpose of

Recommendation

Safe walking routes

Potential beneficiaries

People with visual
impairments

Colour contrast on step edges
and handrails on steps

Safe accessible steps

People with visual
impairments

Sensory planting

Enhance experience of
visitors and aid
orientation

People with visual
impairments

Tactile pavements could be used
across paths at points of interest
or where there is seating.

Highlight facilities or
significant areas

People with visual
impairment

There should be blue badge/
accessible parking spaces.
Ideally within 50m of amenities
such as formal crossing, cafes
and toilets

Easier access to parks for
disabled people

Many people with a range
of disabilities

Activities and behaviour

Recommendation	Purpose of Recommendation	Potential beneficiaries
Run taster days and events people with disabilities and sign language interpretation	engage disabled people	Various groups but for especially those with include hearing impairments
access to facilities such as sport courts should be a level ground and wide enough for mobility scooters and wheelchairs to pass through	enable entrance to sports courts and facilities	people in wheelchairs and with mobility disabilities

Marketing and communications

Recommendation	Purpose of Recommendation	Potential beneficiaries
Highlight level, accessible routes on Site plans and finger posts	show accessible routes	People with limited mobility or physical disabilities
Information and way making signs should be clear, concise and consistent	easy to understand and accessible to a range of people	Deaf people, people with learning difficulties including dyslexia
Information should be available in a range of formats including easy read braille and audio	Making information accessible to as many visitors as possible	People with hearing or visual impairments
Disabled people should be actively involved in consultations with co-ordinated outreach to work with the disabled community.	Allow disabled people to have an input into parks development	All people with disabilities
Tactile site plans or maps (which could be posted to people who are visually impaired) to highlight accessible routes and points of interest	show accessible routes and allow independence	People with visual impairments
It should be made clear that guide/ assistant dogs are allowed inside park building. Signage should be used to show this.	Access support	People with guide/ assistant dogs.

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Appendix 6: Project management process guide (draft)

Asset Management Plan

Project management

Simply put, a project is a series of tasks that need to be completed to reach a specific outcome.

A project can also be defined as a set of inputs and outputs required to achieve a particular goal.

- A project is a finite process with a definite start and end.
- Projects always need to be managed in order to be successful.
- For genuine commitment to a project, all parties must be clear about why the project is needed, what it is intended to achieve, how the outcome is to be achieved and what their responsibilities are in that achievement.

Haringey's Borough Plan sets out the Council's priorities, in accordance with which all of its projects must adhere.

Flowing from this, the Parks & Leisure service has its own annual Business Plan and this Parks & Green Spaces Strategy which set out the priorities for parks and green spaces and guide the projects therein.

The project management approach used in Haringey's parks and green spaces follows these project stages and processes:

Starting up a project

Prior to a project commencing a Project Manager is appointed by the Parks and Leisure Board and an initial project budget is set and embedded into the Capital programme.

For projects carried out in partnership with the Regeneration Team, additional checks and measures will be in place to govern the project, such as reporting also to Regeneration Board.

The Parks & Leisure Board provides the Project Manager with sufficient basic project information to enable the Project Manager to prepare a Project Brief setting out the scope of the project, capturing all known details at that stage, covering:

- Project Definition
 - summary/Introduction/Background
 - outputs
 - scope
 - exclusions

- Project Approach
 - project team
 - stakeholders
 - communications
 - reporting
- Benefits
 - benefits
 - performance measures
- Risks and issues
 - risks
 - issues
- Resources
 - budget allocation
 - costs
- Timescales
 - start and end dates
 - key milestones
- Approval:
 - signed and dated by the Head of Parks and Leisure and the Project Manager
 - once the Project Brief has been approved, the project can commence.

Managing a project

Once the Project Brief has been approved, the project is deemed to have commenced.

The Project Manager will manage the project in line with the Project Brief, ensuring adequate coordination with Friends, Ward Councillors, and other key stakeholders and member of other Haringey teams as necessary.

Depending on the size of the project and the extent to which it may prove to be controversial, a Communications Plan may also be required.

Project reporting

Highlight Reporting

Once a project is up and running, the Project Manager will prepare monthly Highlight Reports setting out updates on project progress, budget spend, risks, issues, and items requiring decision.

Highlight Reports will be discussed at Parks & Leisure Board on a monthly basis, with an additional monthly Parks Stock Take meeting to review progress.

Project Change

It is recognised that for many Parks projects, an initial budget is allocated and an initial Project Brief is prepared as a way of getting started on carrying out necessary feasibility studies, surveys, consultations and designs prior to full project briefs and budgets being prepared.

In such cases, the Project Manager will undertake these necessary preliminary studies and subsequently seek approval from the Parks & Leisure Board for

This way project issues can be discussed with the Parks & Leisure Board and direction can be provided and decisions can be made.

Decision-Making

Whenever any controversial issues come up during the life of the project, they are to be brought to the attention of the Parks & Leisure Projects Board and await further Board direction. Depending on the nature of the issue, it may need to be flagged to the Cabinet Member, Assistant Director or Place Board before a decision can be made.

The making of decisions with relation to projects depends on the nature of the required decision.

For example, only the Council's Cabinet can make decisions on matters with a financial value over £500,000. Sufficient time should be allowed for Cabinet decisions within Project Briefs.

For issues less onerous than would need to be taken to Cabinet, further approvals may also be required from Place Board, Capital Board and/or the Cabinet Member.

The Parks & Leisure Projects Board will advise the project manager when such further approvals are required and what reports or briefing notes would need to be prepared.

It is important to note that for some projects, other approvals may be required, such as Planning Permission, landowner permission, funding body approvals etc.

Where such additional approvals are required the Project Manager shall plan for these within the Project Brief, programme and budgets and ensure discussions with relevant bodies are undertaken.

Project stages

Projects related to parks and green spaces generally follow common phases related to project progress, such as:

- feasibility stage
- consultation
- procurement
- design stage (where appropriate against recognised RIBA/Landscape Institute work stages)
- construction
- completion and aftercare

The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and the Landscape Institute (LI) each have recognised industry standard work stages that are understood by clients, consultants and contractors.

For larger scale and more complex projects, such as involving significant changes to the public realm and for projects involving buildings, where consultant architects are

involved, then it is recommended that their workplans adheres to the RIBA work stages.

For whole park makeovers and larger scale landscape projects, where consultant landscape architects are involved, it is recommended that their workplans follow the LI works stages.

For smaller scale projects it is not necessary to adhere to either although there are benefits in understanding them.

RIBA Stages	LI Stages
0: Strategic Definition	S1A: Scope of Services
1: Preparation and Briefing	S1B: Feasibility & Design
2: Concept Design	S1C: Concept Proposals
3: Spatial Coordination	S1D: Design Development
4: Technical Design	S1E: Technical Design/Detailed Proposals
5: Manufacturing & Construction	S1F: Production Information S1G: Tender Documents S1H: Tender Action
6: Handover and Close Out	S1J: Contract Preparation S1K: Contract
7: In Use	S1L: Completion/Establishment
	S2: Other Design
	S3: Master planning
	S4: Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment
	S5: Landscape Planning
	S6: Landscape Management Plan
	S7: Stakeholder Engagement
	S8: Landscape Maintenance Contract

Project Completion

Upon completion a Project Closure report will be prepared along with a Lessons Learned Log. These will also be submitted to the Parks & Leisure Board for sign-off and any recommended follow-up action.

Further project considerations

When developing and managing projects, due consideration should be given to a range of issues, some of which are captured here:

Financial regulations

Procurement

There are four primary policy documents that need to be considered alongside regulatory requirements in Haringey's procurement activity:

Policy

1. Contract Standing Orders (CSO's): These are enshrined in the council's Constitution and provide instructions on what procurement processes can be adopted depending upon value and circumstances. See Part Four, Section J of the Council Constitution
2. Procurement Code of Practice: This document is referenced in the CSO's and therefore forms part of the council's Constitution. The document provides procurement guidance at a reasonable level for officers to understand their obligations in respect of procurement activity. The document also provides simple guidance and access to information that may be required to support procurement activity regardless of value. This is the guide recommended to officers for initial information and guidance in the Council Constitution.

Regulations

1. Procurement Contract Regulations (PCR's): These are the statutory requirements in relation to procurement activity. These PCR's will take precedent over other policies in most cases. Officers are not expected to fully understand the PCR's - should you have a query in relation to procurement regulations that is not covered in the CoP, please refer to the SSC or Strategic Procurement. See Part Four, Section J of the Council Constitution You can view the Procurement Contract Regulations on the Legislation website ([external link](#))
2. Public Services (Social Value) Act: These are statutory requirements to be considered in our procurement activity. The act makes provision for consideration in relation to the use of local communities and supply chains to bring social value forward in our commissioning and procurement activities. You can view the Public Services (Social Value) Act [here](#)

Procurements over £500k require Cabinet approval.

The Strategic Procurement team undertake all procurement over £160k, however require project-specific information from the Parks & Leisure team

Procurements under £160k are managed by individual services.

The Parks & Leisure team have the following procurement systems at their disposal:

- HPCS (Haringey's Procurement & Contracting System)
 - This is the standard and preferred system for use across the Council
- LCP (The London Procurement Portal)
 - This system is used for minor works (ie under £1m) and Professional Services)
- Parks & Leisure DPS (Dynamic Procurement System)
 - This is the Parks & Leisure service's own system and is the one most generally to be used for day-to-day procurement by the team

This appendix will be further developed to provide proper guidance on the various processes approvals required for each stage of a procurement.

Risks associated with excavations

Consideration must be given to whether the CDM (Construction, Design & Management) Regulations apply with regard to projects and where they do, adherence to the regulations shall be allowed for.

Prior to any excavations taking place it is important to understand what is in the ground that may present risks.

The kinds of things that could be encountered underground include:

- Underground services, such as electrical, gas, water and other pipes and cables
- Contaminated land
- Tree roots
- Unexploded ordnance

Any of the above could, if encountered, present contractors, volunteers, staff and/or the public with risks to their health and safety that should be avoided, minimised or mitigated for.

It is therefore essential that prior to any excavations taking place risk assessments are prepared covering these issues and any follow-up mitigating actions such as the undertaking of surveys investigations are implemented in line with relevant legislation and guidance.

Sufficient time and budgets should be allowed for in project budgets to allow for such compliance.

Legal ownership issues

Not all of Haringey's parks and green spaces are owned outright by Haringey Council.

Some parks and green spaces or parts of them are leased to or from third parties. In such cases what we can do is limited by the legal agreements that cover them. Examples of parks and green spaces that are leased from others include Tunnel Gardens (from Network Rail) and Finsbury Gardens (from Thames Water). Many of the park buildings are leased to café leaseholders or sporting groups.

It is critical that prior to any projects being implemented or works taking place, legal ownership issues must be fully understood and allowed for, for example with the necessary permissions to be put in place.

Sufficient time and budgets should be allowed for in project budgets to allow for such compliance.

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Appendix 7: OSPFF

Asset Management Plan

Outdoor Sports and Play Facilities Framework

2016 - 2026

Summary

(Updated May 2022)

Introduction

Given the notable changes to Haringey in terms of significant population growth, regeneration and housing development as well as the advent of changing national planning policy, there was a pressing need for the Council to undertake a robust, evidence based review of the outdoor sporting and play needs in Haringey including the policy implications and associated investment needs that this review would make evident. The previous review of outdoor sports and play facilities was contained within the Atkins Report of 2004.

The Outdoor Sports and Play Facilities Framework (OSPFF) set out to achieve:

- The production of an up to date assessment of needs and opportunities for all formal sport and play facilities across the borough
- The provision of an evidence base to inform future revenue and capital expenditure decisions.
- The development of a priority list of deliverable capital projects with a view that they will attract significant external funding support (where the evidence supports supply shortfalls)
- The evidence to inform the corporate Asset Management Plan
- The provision of a core document to inform and underpin the Council's 'Infrastructure Delivery Plan' supporting the preparation of the Local Development Plan and future alterations to the Community Infrastructure Levy
- The basis to ensure that outdoor sport and play provision is as good as possible in order for it to contribute to reducing inactivity across the borough

In considering the need for such an extensive piece of work, it should be noted that external funding bodies such as Sport England (SE) and the Football Association (FA) are indicating that they would like to invest in Haringey but this Framework would be a prerequisite for them to consider funding applications.

The outputs arising from the work to develop the OSPFF are:

- The Outdoor Sports and Play Facility Framework
- The above documents key appendix:
 - The Playing Pitch Strategy
- Appendices to these documents are:
 - Tennis Needs Assessment
 - Cricket Needs Assessment
 - Football Needs Assessment
 - Rugby Union Needs Assessment
 - Rugby League Needs Assessment

Specific Drivers for the Strategy

Strategic Document	Strategic Priority
Building A Stronger Haringey Together: Corporate Plan 2015-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will instigate prevention in all areas of council activity, including smarter travel and fewer journeys by car to reduce congestion and increase physical activity, and greater use of parks and leisure to improve health and wellbeing.
Haringey's Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2015-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fewer children and young people will be overweight or obese. More adults will be physically active. Haringey is a healthy place to live.
Haringey Physical Activity and Sport Framework 2015-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More people regularly taking part in physical activity and sport. Provide a range of accessible, high quality and well used facilities, parks and open spaces that encourage people to be physically active.
Haringey Outdoor Sports & Play Facilities Framework 2016-26 (including PPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that there is a range of accessible, high quality and well used outdoor sports and play facilities across Haringey, which encourage people to participate in outdoor sports and physical activity.

The Process

The process is dictated by the guidance provided by Sport England;

- Playing Pitch Strategy Methodology
- Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance

For the Play Assessment the methodology was informed by:

- Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play – Beyond the Six Acre Standard (Fields in Trust 2015)
- Shaping Neighbourhoods: Play and Informal Recreation (Mayor of London's 2012 Supplementary Planning Guidance)

Key to ensuring buy in from interested parties is the consultative approach adopted; lead by a Steering Group made up of officers from:

- Parks & Leisure
- Property
- Planning
- Regeneration
- Homes for Haringey
- Sport England
- National Governing Bodies of Sport

- Fusion

Following the methodology, the supply and demand information was collected.

From the information gathered the current and potential future picture of provision was developed and key findings and issues were identified. Scenario testing was also undertaken to establish the likely results if certain recommendations were taken forward. This testing provided further evidence for the adoption of the policy recommendations and priority projects.

This analysis of the information and views gathered from the extensive consultation underpins the development of a priority capital project list and policy recommendations around asset management and related matters.

OSPFF: Main Findings

General

- Physical activity and sport participation levels are measured by Sport England's annual Active People Survey. Generally, Haringey's activity levels are slightly above average compared to other London boroughs and the rest of England. However, in the east of the borough activity levels are in the lowest quartile and a great cause for concern considering the health impacts of inactivity and the resultant human, social and economic costs.
- Regrettably, in line with national trends activity levels also tend to be lower for women, older people and disabled people. Women from certain BME groups such as Asian women have significantly lower activity levels than other groups.
- One of the most popular sports in the borough is football. Running and jogging are also popular.
- Current trends in sport are for people to participate in more informal settings (i.e. casually and not part of a sports club and a formal competitive structure)

Cricket

- Bull Lane Playing Fields a priority site for development as there is no cricket provision in the east of the borough.

Football

- Over use of grass pitches and issues such as poor drainage and water logging
- Supply not meeting the significant actual and latent demand

Rugby League and Rugby Union

- Lack of quality grass pitches

Other Outdoor Sports

- Increasing demand, particularly in the east of the borough.
- A need for continuing investment in Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs) and tennis courts, particularly in areas of regeneration/housing renewal and where there is an open space shortfall.
- The popularity of Outdoor Gyms is also noted

- Play
- A good range of provision particularly in the east of the Borough but of varying quality.
- An ongoing need for investment to ensure play areas remain safe and attractive to use.

Conclusions

- To meet current and future football demand within the fixed envelop of land available there is a need to migrate demand to high quality artificial pitches (3G) with floodlights that have very high carrying capacities for both games and training. The FA supports this view.
- General recreation use of parks and open space (rather than just being used for football) which is more attractive to women and girls should be sought where possible when football usage is migrated onto 3G.
- Available parks capital allocations should be used proactively to attract external match funding and synergy with regeneration developments should be sought (where possible) and this invested over the next ten years.
- Assets should be utilised where possible to reduce subsidy and attract more women and girls into active leisure e.g:
 - Tennis on line booking and charging
 - More netball line markings
 - Grass utilised for general recreation rather than organised football
 - New developments as a result of regeneration and housing renewal should include multi use games areas and children's play areas.

OS&PFF: Policy Recommendations

- Maintain and improve standards of play and sports facilities particularly in areas of housing renewal and regeneration
- Support the development of new strategically located full size floodlit Third Generation (3G) Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs)
- When the supply of 3G AGP's is sufficient; take some grass pitches out of supply and re -provision these areas to allow for more informal recreation, including casual football, jogging, volleyball, small games, family picnics etc
- Aim to lease playing pitch assets to a suitable and sustainable community organisations where possible
- Strategically support other providers of sports and play facilities to fund and carry out improvement works.

- Introduce on line booking, more focussed tennis development and charging at tennis courts under Council control
- Improvement works to parks for the purposes of sport and play should include where possible more general works to ensure the environment is as attractive as possible for general recreation purposes (e.g. better walking and cycling) and the general amenity value improved.

Contribution to the Corporate Plan and Health and Wellbeing Strategy

All five Priority Boards have been consulted with and views sought around the development of the OSPFF.

In doing so, the key question asked was:

- ‘How can the OSPFF add value to the outcomes you are seeking?’

	Corporate Plan Priority 2015 - 18	OSPFF
1	Enable every child and young person to have the best start in life, with high quality education	Physical literacy, physical fitness and reductions in obesity from children playing/moving more
2	Enable all adults live healthy, long and fulfilling lives	Good play and sport facilities in our parks that are easy and welcoming to access will contribute to increasing rates of physical activity and will thus reduce the amount of people having to cope with long term conditions and assist people to self manage existing conditions.
3	A clean, well maintained and safe borough where people are proud to live and work	Clean, well maintained and safe parks with outstanding outdoor sports and play facilities contributing to efficiencies, strong partnerships and community resilience
4	Sustainable housing, growth and employment	Inward investment of circa £8M over 10 years to improve outdoor sports and play facilities and make places such as Tottenham even better. Including opportunities to seek synergy around other infrastructure development, business and job creation and community development.
5	Create homes and communities where people chose to live and are able to thrive	Good sport and play facilities make up part of the transformation of communities where there is regeneration and estate renewal; and help people connect better to their communities.

	Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2015-18	OSPFF
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1	Reducing obesity	Haringey is a healthy place to live with more people physically active in our parks contributing to reductions in obesity rates
2	Increasing healthy life expectancy	More people can do more to look after themselves by accessing good quality outdoor sport and play facilities.
3	Improving mental health and wellbeing	Interaction with green space and physical activity, particularly outdoors has a positive impact on mental well being

OSPFF: Council Priority Projects

Note: all projects are subject to change related to external funding opportunities, regeneration/developer activity, safety considerations and the availability of other opportunities that can be exploited to improve outdoor play and sports facilities.

NB: Homes for Haringey sites were assessed but are not part of this list

Wards not covered

1. Bruce Grove – currently no suitable open space/park
2. Crouch End – currently no suitable open space/park
3. Highgate – currently no suitable open space/park
4. Hornsey – note refurbishments planned for Priory Park
5. Northumberland Park - currently no suitable open space/park

Criteria for Project Selection

- 1 Safety considerations
- 2 OSPFF findings
- 3 Corporate Plan Priorities - e.g impact on reducing inequalities
- 4 Ability to achieve external funding – note:
 - Areas of deprivation generally score higher with external funders;
 - Certain sports e.g. football and tennis have more funds available
 - Developer contributions are important to realise many projects
- 5 A fit with a regeneration project/estate renewal/development
- 6 Resident and member engagement/Ward priority
- 7 Opportunity to be exploited for the benefit of a potential project e.g. private financial backing
- 8 Potential of a project to save expenditure and/or generate income for the Council

Project List Updated March 2022

Project	Ward	Likely Year of delivery	Cost
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Completed			
Brunswick Park – Upgrade MUGA, install Outdoor Gym and landscape works	Tottenham Green	2017 Completed	Completed
Stationers Park – Refurbish under 8's play provision	Stroud Green	2017 Completed	Completed
Muswell Hill Playing Fields – upgrade grass pitches (Stage 1)	Fortis Green	2017 Completed	Completed
Lordship Rec – Upgrade MUGA	West Green	2017 Completed	Completed
Gladesmore Community School – upgrade all weather AGP to 3G with lighting	Seven Sisters	Project no longer viable	Completed
Perth Rd – upgrade rugby pitch with training lights	Woodside	2018 Completed by Rhinos Rugby Club 2019	Completed
Springfield Park N11 – Refurbish Play – surface works	Bounds Green	2018 Completed	Completed
Finsbury Park – Netball Court improvements	Harringay	2018 Completed 2019	Completed
Sturrock Cl Estate (HfH) – Refurbish Play	St Ann's	2018 Completed 2019	Completed
Rheola Close Estate (HfH) – Replacement of play equipment	Tottenham Hale	2018 Completed 2019	Completed
Kenneth Robbins House (HfH) – Replacement of play equipment and cycle rack installation	Northumberland Park	2018 Completed 2019	Completed
Acacia Road Estate, Winkfield Road (HfH) – under 5 play area upgrade	Woodside	2019 completed	Completed
18 Green Flag parks with play facilities. Uplift appropriate to the site and budget constraints	Various at 18 locations	2019 - Completed	Completed
Craven Park Rd (HfH) – New play equipment	Seven Sisters	Completed 2019	Completed
Markfield Bowling Green converted to all weather 5V5, netball & other. Install a small Outdoor Gym	Seven Sisters	Completed Nov 2019	Completed
White Hart Lane Rec – Install Outdoor Gym	Woodside	Completed March 2020	Completed

Finsbury Park Tennis Court upgrade to be carried out by our partner Access to Sports who lease the courts	Harringay	Completed May 2020 By Access to Sport	Completed
Downhills Park –Install an outdoor gym	West Green	Outdoor gym completed 2019	Completed
Elizabeth Place – Refurbish Play – replace surface and equipment	Tottenham Green	MUGA 2018 – Play upgrade 2019/20 subject to S106	Completed
Down Lane Park – All weather MUGA, floodlit	Tottenham Hale	March 2020	Completed
Finsbury Park – Resurface & refurbish/replace play provision	Harringay	Over 8's completed July 2019 Richard Hope – completed May 2021	Completed
Hartington Park – Install Outdoor Gym		Completed March 2022	Completed
Woodside Park – Play area and landscape	Woodside	2020-21 CIL confirmed	Completed
Tower Gardens – Refurbish Play – surface works & equipment	White Hart Lane	Planning & confirm costs 2020-21	21-22 £35,000TBC
Shepherds Hill – BMX track	Highgate	Confirmed CIL 21-22	Confirmed £170K
Parklands Walk Play	Highgate	Confirmed CIL 21-22	Confirmed £90K
Funding Confirmed			
Chapmans Green – install new play area	Woodside	Confirmed CIL 20-21	Confirmed £20,000 20-21
Downhills Park Refurbish Tennis Courts	West Green	Tennis Courts Confirmed CIL 2022-23	£100,000 – confirmed 2022=23
Stationers Park – Refurbish Tennis Courts	Stroud Green	2022-23 £60,000	£60,000 LTA/Council
Chestnuts Park – Upgrade tennis courts.	St Ann's	2022-23 £40,000	£40,000 LTA/Council
Priory Park – refurbish older tennis courts	Muswell Hill	2022-23 £80,000	£80,000 LTA/Council
Chapmans Green – refurbish tennis courts	Woodside	2022-23 £40,000	£40,000 LTA/Council

White Hart Lane Rec – Install Non Turf cricket wicket	Woodside	2023-24 £20,000	£20,000
Markfield Park - Install Non Turf cricket wickets	7 Sisters	2023-24 £20,000	£20,000
Stanley/Culross - Play area upgrade	St Ann's	Subject to S106 2020-21TBC	TBC when funding confirmed
Stamford PI Open Space (HfH) – Replacement/redesign of play area and outdoor gym installation	Tottenham Green	S106 2020-21 TBC	TBC when funding confirmed To be delivered by Developers
Priory Park – Upgrade ball courts/MUGA. Enhance Play	Muswell Hill	CIL confirmed 2022-23	Confirmed £100K
Bruce Castle Park – Refurbish Ball Court and install an Outdoor Gym	White Hart Lane	Subject to funding (confirmed 140K CIL) Ball court 2022-23 Outdoor Gym TBC	Ball Court - £200K Other funding TBC external Outdoor Gym - £60K
Wood Green Common – Refurbish Play – surface and equipment	Noel Park	CIL confirmed 2021-22	Confirmed £50K
Subject to Funding			
Finsbury Park – small sided artificial football pitch,	Harringay	Subject to planning and funding Date TBC	Majority External funding
Finsbury Park – extend Skate Park	Harringay	Subject to planning and funding Date TBC	Majority External funding
Hartington Park – Refurbish play - replace equipment and resurface, refurbish the MUGA m	Tottenham Hale	Subject to Developer contributions and successful funding bids 22-23	Funding TBC Play – £70K MUGA - £100K Outdoor Gym - £40K
Albert Road Recreation Ground – Upgrade pitches, Outdoor gym – install, Play Upgrade	Alexandra	Dependent on funding Date TBC	£150,000
White Hart Lane Rec – Install Play Area	Woodside	Dependent on funding Date TBC	£70,000

Finsbury Gardens – upgrades to ball court and play area	Bounds Green	Subject to funding date TBC	£50,000
Fairland Park – resurface play area	Harringay	Subject to funding date TBC	£50,000
Russell Park – upgrade MUGA and play	Noel Park	Subject to funding date TBC	MUGA £50,000 Play £50,000
Belmont Park – upgrade play	West Green	Subject to funding date TBC	£50,000
Stationers Park – upgrade MUGA	Stroud Green	Subject to funding date TBC	£50,000
Bull Lane Playing Fields – football 3G, grass, cricket facilities & pavilion (adjacent to the White Hart Lane Ward in Enfield– behind the Selby Centre) This project is now part of a joint master planning exercise with the Selby Centre Project	Adjacent to White Hart Lane Ward	Riba stage 3 Planning 2023	£3.5M (£1.3M capital agreed, £800K Football Foundation TBC subject to application Other funding TBC- Sport England, Enfield CIL?)
Muswell Hill Playing Fields –new pavilion/community building	Fortis Green	Subject to funding TBC	£1M
Areas of Regeneration – ensure there are suitable, attractive and accessible Play areas and MUGAs	Northumberland Park and other relevant Wards	ongoing	

Summary

This OSPFF will guide strategic planning and investment decisions relating to outdoor sports and play facilities during the 2016-2026 period. A Steering Group of key partners and stakeholders governed the development of this Framework. These partners and stakeholders, together with wider sport and community partners, will work together to implement the Framework.

The overarching aim of the OSPFF is to ***ensure that there is a range of accessible, high quality and well used outdoor sports facilities across Haringey***. The Equalities Impact Assessment supports this for the Outdoor Sport & Play Facilities Framework. The London Borough of Haringey has a long and successful history of participation and success in outdoor sports, from the professional down to the local level.

The Council is supportive of working with partners to protect and attract investment to improve outdoor sports and play facilities across the borough and this strategy provides the blueprint for this work up to 2026.

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Appendix 8: Action Plan

Asset Management Plan

This Action Plan, consistent with other action plans within the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy, is set out against the following key headings:

- Objective
- Issue/Challenge
- Action
- Resource

....and against the three Aims:

- Inclusion and wellbeing
- Climate change, sustainability and biodiversity
- Improving service quality

The actions within this Action Plan are generated from the Key Strategic Issues and Challenges and Recommendations section of the AMP and link back to the Aims and Objectives.

Inclusion and wellbeing

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities.	We want our parks and greenspaces to be welcoming places for all Haringey communities. This may mean that in the future we seek to develop new facilities that encourage usage by	To Identify changes in the design of parks and green spaces to make them more attractive, safer, more welcoming and accessible for seldom heard from groups	Capital funding Revenue funding

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
	specific communities such as Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) (as referred to in the Borough Plan's Equalities Impact Assessment 'visiting nature by BAME communities versus white communities') LGBTQI+ communities, people with disabilities and impairments, people for example with dementia, or people for whom English is not their first language.		
To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities.	We want our parks and greenspaces to be welcoming places for all Haringey communities. This may mean that in the future we seek to develop new facilities that encourage usage by specific communities such as Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) (as referred to in the Borough Plan's Equalities Impact Assessment 'visiting nature by BAME communities versus white communities') LGBTQI+ communities, people with disabilities and	To increase play provision for young disabled people so that over the next 10 years 50% of all play areas are fully accessible.	Capital funding

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
	impairments, people for example with dementia, or people for whom English is not their first language.		
To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities.	We want our parks and greenspaces to be welcoming places for all Haringey communities. This may mean that in the future we seek to develop new facilities that encourage usage by specific communities such as Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) (as referred to in the Borough Plan's Equalities Impact Assessment 'visiting nature by BAME communities versus white communities') LGBTQI+ communities, people with disabilities and impairments, people for example with dementia, or people for whom English is not their first language.	Develop a protocol to help inform provision for people with disabilities in future change and improvement projects will be developed in partnership with Disability Action Haringey.	
To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities.	Feedback from groups such as BAME and LGBTQI+ communities and people for whom English is not their first language is that current	Facilities, signage and interpretation must make our parks and green spaces feel like they are welcoming places for people from all walks of life, that reflect the needs of those people with	Capital and revenue funding

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
	<p>parks signage does not make them feel welcome. As the Strategy is implemented, we may also find that we receive requests for different facilities or more of certain types of facilities that will better meet the needs of seldom heard from groups</p>	<p>disabilities, dementia or learning difficulties, from the BAME and LGBTQI+ communities as well as people for whom English is not their first language.</p> <p>Signage and interpretation in parks should explain the purpose and contribution made by natural and heritage assets, such as river courses, SUDs schemes, areas deliberately left wild to support biodiversity.</p>	
<p>To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities.</p>	<p>To enable parks and green spaces to be accessible, especially by older people and people with limited mobility, provision has to be made for people to sit. For parks to be vibrant community facilities that people want to visit, they need to have facilities to encourage people to visit, stay and make return visits. Older people, disabled people and younger people have requested that seating be organised to facilitate interaction, is triangular so</p>	<p>When planning the installation of future seating in parks, consideration should be given to creating areas where increased social interaction can take place, through arranging seating, through triangular arrangements so people can face each other whilst sitting</p>	<p>Capital budgets, project briefs</p>

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
	people can face each other whilst sitting.		
To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities.	<p>All parks and greenspace assets should be designed with accessibility and inclusion in mind. The Council has a duty under the Disability Discrimination Act and Equalities Act to ensure its parks and green spaces do not provide barriers to access for people with disabilities and difficulties.</p> <p>Parks are not as accessible as they could be for people with access and mobility issues</p>	That access audits are undertaken on all Green Flag parks in accordance with the AMP Accessibility appendix	<p>Capital funding</p> <p>Revenue funding</p>
To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities.	<p>Parks became a lifeline for people during the Covid pandemic, however parks had to introduce a range of measures to encourage social distancing. These measures may need to be permanently incorporated into parks design to assist in managing any future epidemics that might occur.</p>	<p>Develop a business case for the Council to consider the need for more permanent future social distancing measures to be installed, such as path widening, changes to seating arrangements, signage requirements, dimensions of bin apertures and proximity of hand-washing facilities etc. Subject to the outcome of the business case, this may</p>	Officer time

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
		require additional capital and revenue funding	
To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities.	As evidenced in the Outdoor Sports and Play Facilities Framework and the Natural Capital Account, opportunities for people to have free access to ways in which they can improve their levels of physical activity and access to open spaces should be increased, to help improve health outcomes for local residents	That more outdoor gyms are provided in parks and green spaces	Capital funding Revenue funding
To ensure that the design and installation of assets supports biodiversity and nature conservation interests.	We want our parks and greenspaces to be welcoming places for all Haringey communities. Educational interpretation should be designed, installed and appropriately located to explain, promote, enhance and protect what biodiversity already exists or is planned.	Providing educational interpretation (e.g., designing and installing appropriately located and worded signage assets) is considered to explain & promote Council, Friends and Volunteer-led schemes within parks	Capital funding Revenue funding
To ensure that the design and installation of assets supports biodiversity and nature conservation interests.	We want our parks and greenspaces to be welcoming places for all Haringey communities.	Specific signage and interpretation within parks should explain unique, historical and natural site features, including the use	Capital funding Revenue funding

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
	Educational interpretation should be designed, installed and appropriately located to explain, promote, enhance and protect what biodiversity already exists or is planned.	of digital and social media to attract a wider audience and have relevance for modern park users.	

Climate Change & Sustainability

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
To ensure that the design and installation of assets supports biodiversity and nature conservation interests.	Guidance will be developed to guide the design of planting schemes to reflect the changing climate as well as to help improve air and water quality through filtering out pollutants, not to mention the provision of tree cover for shade and the use of indigenous species wherever possible.	Develop guidance to guide the approach to future horticultural standards and practices, that reflects seasonal changes. That existing planting schemes will either be simplified or rationalised, thereby reducing maintenance requirements, or identified as 'jewels in the crown' and receive higher standards of maintenance.	Officer time External support Revenue funding
To ensure that the design and installation of (hard and soft) assets support biodiversity and nature conservation interests.	Projects and assets as part of any future developments should be considered in terms of their impact on biodiversity and nature conservation importance, site designations, e.g.,	Consider any proposed developments, projects and assets in terms of their impact on biodiversity and nature conservation importance, site designations, e.g., LNRs,	Capital funding Revenue funding Enforcement action Officer time

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
	LNRs, SINC, Ancient Woodlands etc	<p>SINC, Ancient Woodlands etc</p> <p>That barriers are installed to prevent people from venturing off the path systems in Queen's Wood and other ancient woodlands) to protect fragile ecosystems</p> <p>That the protection of trees and management of root protection zones are allowed for when planning parks projects and asset installations</p> <p>That contractor vehicle access to ancient woodlands and LNRs is minimised to protect these important sites</p>	
To ensure that parks and greenspaces, buildings and structures meet Government legislative and health and safety requirements, including for sustainability and climate change.	The Council must ensure that Park's buildings meet Government legislative requirements, including for sustainability and climate change.	<p>Additional funding needs to be made available in 2022/23 to ensure all leased properties can meet at least EPC grade E in line with the change in law.</p> <p>That for the eight properties not yet in formal leases or other appropriate formal</p>	<p>Capital funding</p> <p>Revenue funding</p>

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
		<p>agreements are swiftly entered into.</p> <p>That those who are responsible for health and safety compliance of Haringey's parks buildings, whether they be private leaseholders, Corporate Landlord, Strategic Property or parks staff, fully understand their roles and requirements and have sufficient resources in place to ensure compliance across the portfolio of buildings in parks. Complete the Parks Operational Building Review, including recommendations for sports pavilion improvements and ensure that sufficient capital and revenue funds are made available to repair, upgrade or replace buildings so they are safe, energy efficient and reflect the Council's priorities for Inclusion, Climate Change and Service Quality.</p> <p>Make suitable and sufficient budget provision available to</p>	

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
		expand the number of Changing Places toilets in parks.	
To ensure that parks and greenspaces, buildings and structures meet Government legislative and health and safety requirements, including for sustainability and climate change.	Parks operational buildings were constructed at a time when the Council's approach to management and maintenance was very different to what it is today. These buildings were also designed based upon much lower energy efficiency standards. The Council now needs to undertake a review of its operational buildings to make the operation of these buildings zero carbon.	Complete the Parks Operational Building Review, including recommendations for sports pavilion improvements and ensure that sufficient capital and revenue funds are made available to repair, upgrade or replace buildings so they are safe, energy efficient and reflect the Council's priorities for Inclusion, Climate Change and Service Quality. To carry out carbon audits of the fourteen parks operations buildings and then to undertake alterations, adaptations, and retrofitting to reduce their consumption of energy and water as well as to propose new ways of generating energy to become self-sufficient	Office time Capital funding Revenue funding Office time Capital funding Revenue funding
To ensure that the design and installation of assets support biodiversity and	Haringey's focus on solar lighting for its parks is driven by the climate change agenda, as are the	That any future lighting installed in parks must be solar powered and where bats are present or other	Capital funding Revenue funding

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
nature conservation interests.	proposed improvements to the management of its buildings portfolio to maximise energy efficiency.	nature conservation interests apply it is to be low-level bollard-type lighting	
To ensure that the design and installation of assets support biodiversity and nature conservation interests.	Haringey's focus on solar lighting for its parks is driven by the climate change agenda, as are the proposed improvements to the management of its buildings portfolio to maximise energy efficiency.	That all lighting in parks and green spaces is replaced with LED provision (£870k)	Capital funding Revenue funding
To ensure that parks and greenspaces buildings and structures meet Government legislative and health and safety requirements, including for sustainability and climate change.	Assets such as bridges, buildings and structures should be kept free of vegetation, including a 5m cordon sanitaire, to protect the assets from root penetration and eventual water ingress.	Ensure assets such as bridges are kept clear of and free from vegetation to protect the assets from root penetration and eventual water ingress which would cause millions of pounds of damage, e.g., Parkland Walk, plus ensuring bridge embankments are maintained, where possible as meadows, to prevent vegetation return through regular maintenance regimes captured in management plans and workstreams	Capital funding Revenue funding
To ensure that the design and installation of assets support biodiversity and	Due consideration should be given to the protection of	That a 5m vegetation and tree clearance zone is maintained around each of	

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
nature conservation interests.	trees and root protection zones	the Haringey-owned bridges along Parkland Walk and elsewhere in the borough's parks and green spaces That meadow and other biodiverse plantings are considered at bridge locations as mitigation for any tree losses	Officer time from Projects, Trees and Nature Conservation Teams.
Government legislative and health and safety requirements, including for sustainability and climate change.	Haringey's focus on solar lighting for its parks is driven by the climate change agenda, as are the proposed improvements to the management of its buildings portfolio to maximise energy efficiency and the revitalising of its approach to paddling pools provision to reduce water waste.	That sustainable and energy efficient forms of paddling pool and splash play provision are explored with a view to identifying the costs and benefits associated with replacing the existing assets.	Officer time Revenue funding
To ensure that parks and greenspaces, buildings and structures meet Government legislative and health and safety requirements, including for sustainability and climate change.	Parks and greenspaces can help mitigate some aspects of climate change, such as through the urban heat island effect, contributing toward a cooling effect to counteract the heat of urban and residential areas, through providing natural flood management and SUDS and rain garden schemes, effectively	Allocate funding to improve the physical infrastructure of lakes, ponds, watercourses & SUDs schemes such as culverts & grills, aeration systems, liners, banks & edges.	Capital and revenue budgets

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
	capturing, storing and slowing down rainwater release into storm drainage systems.		
To ensure that the design and installation of assets support biodiversity and nature conservation interests.	A Landscape Strategy will set out guidance on acceptable plant species for lakes, ponds, SUDs schemes and watercourses.	Develop the Style guide to include appropriate plant species for lakes, ponds, SUDs schemes and watercourses	Officer time. Revenue and capital funding
To ensure that parks and greenspaces, buildings and structures meet Government legislative and health and safety requirements, including for sustainability and climate change.	Widening the primary footpaths within the most used parks and green spaces will provide sufficient space for all park users at the same time as protecting the vegetated edges from deterioration for example by vehicles	Undertake works to widen primary footpaths in District and Local parks	Capital budget

A Quality Service

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
To establish an accurate understanding of the financial value of existing parks assets, as well as identifying reasonable estimates of the likely ongoing costs associated	There is a need for ongoing capital and revenue budgets to be uplifted in support of the aims and objectives of this Asset Management Plan to bring all assets up to	In accordance with the AMP undertake a programme of works over the 15-year lifespan of the strategy to bring all assets up to a good standard	Capital funding Revenue funding Officer time

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
with managing and maintaining parks assets to a good level for the next 15 years.	a good standard over the lifespan of the strategy.		
To ensure that parks and greenspaces, buildings and structures meet Government legislative and health and safety requirements, including for sustainability and climate change.	The Council must ensure that Park's buildings meet Government legislative requirements, including for sustainability and climate change as well as the Council's own targets for Climate Change energy reduction	That sufficient capital and revenue funds are made available to repair, upgrade or replace buildings so they are safe, energy efficient and reflect the Council's priorities for Inclusion, Climate Change and Service Quality	Capital and revenue funding Officer time
Meeting wider Council outcomes (Health and equalities) Managing and maintaining parks assets to a good level for the next 15 years.	Grass sports pitches for football, rugby & cricket etc provide free or bookable/paid-for sports access for individuals and clubs. However, the majority of pitches are poorly maintained and suffer from a lack of investment so that their condition has deteriorated	That the Council provides additional capital funding to upgrade, renew and better maintain the existing pitches within the borough. Where available maximise this funding by securing external funding from a variety of funders. Improve in season maintenance via investments in robotic line marking equipment and to purchase rather than lease tractors to undertake a higher level of pitch maintenance. Continue to work with clubs and partners	Capital and revenue funding

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
		to develop the sports pitch offer in the borough.	
Managing and maintaining parks assets to a good level for the next 15 years.	Developing a Haringey style: Over the last few decades, several different styles of hard assets have been specified for use in Haringey's parks and in many parks evidence of this variety can still be seen. Because of this and staff changes over the years, there is currently no visibly coherent Haringey parks style.	That the Council approves in principle to remove older style assets and replace them with a new standardised set of coordinated assets. Priority to be given to bins and benches	Capital and revenue funding
To use the AMP data to better target resources & procurement practices for renewal or renovation (replacement or repair).	Paths not being wide enough for parks vehicles to undertake essential maintenance operations without damaging path edges, especially at turning points	That either a programme of works is developed and funding is considered to upgrade paths used by vehicles to increase the width and depth and ensuring junctions are designed to avoid vehicles causing damage to path edges and edge vegetation, or the Council adopts the use of smaller buggy-type vehicles for parks maintenance instead of transit vans etc	Capital funding Officer time

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities	Damage to assets can occur due to vandalism or accidental damage	That an additional allowance is made in capital and revenue budgets to address vandalism and damage	Capital and revenue budgets
To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities	Parks lack enforcement resources to ensure that when people do break the rules, for example through littering, drug and alcohol use, noise and the undertaking of unlicensed activities, encroachments, trespass, criminal damage or unauthorised access or activities, there is a robust follow up in terms of enforcement action.	That inappropriate usage and unauthorised access to parks and greenspaces is discouraged in accordance with the Policy for Boundaries and security of parks and greenspaces including through the specification and maintenance of boundary fences & railings, bollards & barriers, height restrictors, gates, Gerda locks and e.g., Fire Brigade access	AMP Policies Officer time Enforcement
To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities	There is a need for ongoing capital and revenue budgets to be uplifted in support of the aims and objectives of this Asset Management Plan	That where CCTV is recommended for installation in parks and greenspaces, that sufficient resources are made available to install, manage and maintain it.	AMP Policies
To ensure that parks and greenspaces, buildings and structures meet Government legislative and health and safety requirements, including for sustainability and climate change.	Boroughs and others should seek to create safe, secure and appropriately accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion. From	CCTV can be introduced where sufficient Police and Community Safety evidence supports it. However, the location of CCTV should where possible avoid the need to cut back vegetation or trees to accommodate it.	CCTV policy. Officer time

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
	the perspective of Haringey's Parks this statement needs to be balanced against other considerations, in particular biodiversity and nature conservation.		
To provide facilities and signage that are accessible and meet the needs of all Haringey's communities	Operational ease	Develop a business case for the introduction of irrigation systems at 'jewel in the crown' sites to facilitate a high standard of maintenance rather than having to transport water via bowser around the borough	Officer time
To ensure that Haringey's parks & greenspaces have a clear and legible infrastructure of standardised assets, whilst retaining their own individuality and character.	The quality of our hard and soft assets will always be a balance of the appropriate specification of asset set against the up-front and on-going costs and availability of resources to manage and maintain them to the agreed standards.	That there should be an identifiable hierarchy of paths in Haringey's parks, where primary pedestrian paths shall for example have a more natural looking finish such as through rolled chippings. The standard of path surfacing and seating in some woodland sites can be of a less urban standard and quality.	Capital funding Revenue funding
To use the AMP data to better target resources & procurement practices for	The approach to procurement for parks needs to be re-examined with a view to making it	That a review of procurement and contracts is undertaken to achieve greater efficiency and	Officer time

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
renewal or renovation (replacement or repair).	simpler, less time intensive and better able to protect the Council's interests.	reduce risk to the Council. This should include improved monitoring and supervision of works.	
To set out a consistent set of standards, design guidance, and quality criteria for new assets and asset repairs.	<p>Over the last few decades, several different styles of hard assets have been specified for use in Haringey's parks and in many parks evidence of this variety can still be seen. Because of this and staff changes over the years, there is currently no visibly coherent Haringey parks style.</p> <p>A recommendation of the AMP is the development of a Style Guide to provide a future framework setting out the types of assets that we want to see in Haringey's parks and green spaces, for there on the one hand to be a recognisable Haringey Park style, recognisable in hard assets and planting styles, and on the other hand reflecting history, unique characteristics and avoiding uniformity.</p>	All new assets including those introduced by the Council, Friends Groups and other community partners to conform to a framework of agreed asset types and (including planting schemes)	<p>Council and partner capital and revenue resources</p> <p>Officer time</p> <p>Marketing & Communications Plan</p>

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
	Parks, other Council services, Friends Groups and other community partners should be encouraged to propose improvements/changes to parks, however this should be within a framework of agreed asset types (including planting schemes) and should in every case be proposed for Parks Service approval prior to installation.		
To use the AMP data to recommend and prioritise where to best focus finite existing resources and targeted funding bids, through the establishment of an annual asset repair & replacement programme.	Assets, whether hard or soft, need to be managed and maintained to ensure they are fit for purpose	That a more detailed Buildings Asset Management Plan is prepared covering all park's buildings	Officer time. Revenue budgets
To ensure that parks and greenspaces, buildings and structures meet Government legislative and health and safety requirements, including for sustainability and climate change.	Assets, whether hard or soft, need to be managed and maintained to ensure they are fit for purpose	That any properties not yet in formal leases or other appropriate formal agreements are regularised with leases being developed and approved (Action for Strategic Property)	Officer time

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
To use the AMP data to recommend and prioritise where to best focus finite existing resources and targeted funding bids, through the establishment of an annual asset repair & replacement programme.	Maintenance of hard courts. The availability of revenue funding to support the Asset Management Plan for purposes of health and safety compliance, functionality and longevity.	That an agreed programme of cleansing, servicing and maintenance of all hard courts is implemented	Revenue budgets Workforce Plan
To use the AMP data to recommend and prioritise where to best focus finite existing resources and targeted funding bids, through the establishment of an annual asset repair & replacement programme.	Maintenance and repair of playgrounds and outdoor gyms. An enhanced regime needs to be developed for managing these assets	That a dedicated team undertakes regular cleansing, servicing, repair and maintenance of all play and outdoor gym items	Revenue budgets Workforce Plan
Unauthorised access to parks and greenspaces can often result in criminal damage that can be costly to address.	Protecting parks and greenspaces from encroachment and unauthorised access	That boundary surveys are undertaken as part of regular asset inspections and issues are identified and rectified to prioritise safe provision and prevention of unauthorised access. Prevention of unauthorised access to parks and green spaces such as through specification and maintenance of boundary fences & railings, bollards & barriers, height restrictors, gates, Gerda locks and e.g., Fire Brigade access (link to	Officer time

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
		<p>policies on vehicles and security)</p> <p>Representatives from Parks, Legal, Property and Enforcement to take swift and coordinated action against all cases of encroachment, to robustly address issues such as land grabs, the building of structures, dumped arisings and installing private gates to/on public land</p>	
Improving communication and joint working	Works to trees and that disturb nature are of a higher level of sensitivity than most other types of works in parks and greenspaces. They require more planning, communication and management	Co-develop a draft protocol for the management of 'sensitive' works, with Friends and other key parks stakeholders	Officer time
The introduction of the PGSS and AMP will mean changes to the ways in which Parks & Leisure staff work	To ensure that the Council follows a consistent approach toward the planning and implementing of capital projects and tree works	To put in place guidance for Officers regarding a consistent approach toward developing capital projects and tree works	Office time
The introduction of the PGSS and AMP will mean changes to the ways in	To ensure that parks and greenspaces, buildings and structures meet Government legislative and	Upskill the Parks & Leisure team by developing specialisms in:	Officer time, training

Objective	Issue/challenge	Action	Resource
which Parks & Leisure staff work	health and safety requirements, including for sustainability and climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play and playgrounds • Access for disabled people • Planting schemes for wet/aquatic environments • Sports pitches 	



Biodiversity Action Plan

August 2022

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Definitions of key terms

Biodiversity

The word 'biodiversity' is used to describe the abundance and variety of life on earth. It covers the whole range of living things: animals and birds, trees and flowers, insects and fungi and considers the genetic differences amongst them, and the communities and ecosystems in which they occur.

We cannot survive without a healthy ecosystem; our future depends on it - for our health, the food we eat, the water we drink and the air we breathe as well as ecosystem functions such as fertilizing the soil, recycling nutrients, regulating pests and disease, controlling erosion, and pollinating crops and trees.

Climate Change

The increasing rising of global temperature leading to wider changes to our weather. Impacts of climate change include global warming, rising sea levels, declining glaciers and sea ice and the slowing of crop productivity.

Blue Green Infrastructure

Are a network of natural and semi-natural features that deliver a wide range of ecosystem services and biodiversity in urban and rural environments e.g. street trees, green roofs, and private gardens as well as parks, rivers and woodlands.

Green Chains and Ecological Corridors

Ecological Corridors are relatively continuous areas of green space running through built up areas that allow the movement of plants and animals to other areas and habitats. In Haringey they largely follow the railways and rivers, but they also link to larger open spaces such as Finsbury Park and Highgate Wood.

Our Biodiversity duty

The 'Biodiversity Duty' of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 requires that 'every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity'.

This Biodiversity Action Plan is the mechanism by which Haringey Council aims to fulfil its 'Biodiversity Duty' by highlighting priorities and opportunities for protecting and enhancing the borough's biodiversity.

Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and Local Nature Reserve (LNR)

Are designations used by local authorities in the United Kingdom to give statutory protection for sites of significant local nature conservation and geological value.

Green Infrastructure and natural environment

Priorities for protecting, conserving, and enhancing biodiversity in Haringey, identifying a range of interventions that will help to create an ecologically resilient nature recovery network.

Introduction

Haringey Council seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity value across the borough for the benefit of all those who live and work within it, and in doing so support regional, national and global efforts to halt the decline in biodiversity and support the delivery of carbon reduction projects in line with the Climate Change Action Plan.

https://www.haringey.gov.uk/sites/haringeygovuk/files/draft_haringey_climate_change_action_plan.pdf

A Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) is a strategic framework which delivers policy and legislation requirements for conserving and enhancing biodiversity, that are important on a local and global scale and sets the targets and actions to achieve this.

The Plan identifies species and habitats which are threatened or declining in the UK providing strategic direction to manage biodiversity by setting out our approach of how the Council, local residents, partners and stakeholders can develop Haringey's parks and greenspaces to provide a positive future for our Wildlife and help make the Borough a place where people are proud to live and work.

Aims

The Aims are taken from the overall Parks and Green Spaces Strategy.

Inclusion and Wellbeing: Providing inclusive parks and greenspaces that all communities in Haringey can benefit from so that usage and enjoyment of our parks and green spaces reflects the communities living in Haringey and contributes to improved wellbeing.

Climate Change and Sustainability: Supporting the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency by reducing the carbon footprint of parks and greenspaces, protecting and promoting biodiversity, and helping educate everyone in Haringey about contributing toward saving the planet.

A Quality Service: Securing investment, improving standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes.

Objectives

- Promote community participation to raise awareness about the importance of wildlife, climate change and wellbeing to increase access to the natural environment that involve the local community.
- Enhanced Climate resilience by developing habitat management plans that diversify habitats and enhance priority species.
- Ensure the protection of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) focusing on key areas of improvement.
- Restore and enhance the boroughs biodiversity and habitats, helping wildlife populations to grow and move.
- Inform future projects and strategies around the built environment and the greening of the urban environment, to increase green connectivity across the borough.

- Identify Operational Management opportunities for biodiversity enhancement work programmes to raise quality and standards, needed to protect our Parks and open spaces from ecological degradation.

Scope

The new Biodiversity Action Plan provides guidance to the Council, its partners, residents and stakeholders on meeting its biodiversity duty and sets out a cross themed agenda for the protection and enhancement of biodiversity that can be integrated into the delivery of Council services and provide a framework for partner and resident action. The BAP also seeks to build on the previous Biodiversity Action Plan and any other associated documents.

The BAP will consider all land within the borough and describes a detailed picture of local biodiversity, the issues affecting its condition and management and proposes a series of conservation actions.

The Biodiversity Action Plan framework enables partnership working, to achieve more for nature and people with limited resources.

The Plan seeks to address and deliver against a wide range of policy and legislation: including global, European, national, and regional, and underpins the Biodiversity Action Plan and its delivery.

A core principle of biodiversity management is the need to incorporate cultural, social, and economic values in the process and the BAP has sought to achieve this.

The document also needs to ensure that the Council meets its duties under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 in respect of biodiversity.

Inclusive parks and greenspaces

The previous Borough Plan (2019-2023) set out a vision for how Haringey wants to support a healthier and better quality of life for its residents and businesses.

Through the associated Equalities Profile and the Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA), the Borough Plan also identified the inequalities that people with protected characteristics face, the impact on their health and wellbeing and their lack of use and engagement in parks and natural spaces. The EQIA specifically identifies that “BAME residents are less likely to visit the natural environment than White British residents and less likely to participate in physical activity...” (Borough Plan EQIA, 2019, p.33. Appendix 5)

The Parks and Green Spaces Strategy supports the objectives delivered by the Biodiversity Action Plan giving guidance regarding the needs of our local environment and how the Council can help, both as a service but also as a community. It includes opportunities for engaging communities in increasing biodiversity, reducing our carbon footprint, and tackling the climate crisis.

Inclusion and Wellbeing actions included in the Parks and Green Spaces Strategy are:

- Over time, adapt the parks workforce to become representative of who lives in Haringey
- Recruit a Community Engagement Officer whose main priority is to work with seldom heard from groups to ensure that new and different voices can contribute to future service delivery
- To develop additional open space in areas of deficiency, particularly in the east of Haringey
- Undertake an annual survey to identify the profile of park users and use this survey as the basis for monitoring changes in usage
- Identify changes in the design of parks and greenspaces and facilities offered by parks and greenspaces to make them more attractive, safer, more welcoming and more accessible to seldom heard from groups
- Support the development of new user groups and develop a programme of activities and events that showcase and support increased usage and involvement by seldom heard from groups, including activities to involve communities in nature and activities to support thoughtful behaviour
- Develop a Marketing and Communications Plan that supports increased usage and involvement by seldom heard from groups
- Communicate with key partners and stakeholders to help them understand and support the Priority of more inclusive parks in Haringey
- Hold an annual celebration of community involvement and activity in parks
- Review internal and external funding options to further support inclusive parks

Biodiversity and climate change

How does climate change affect biodiversity?

Climate change affects biodiversity in several ways such as changes in:

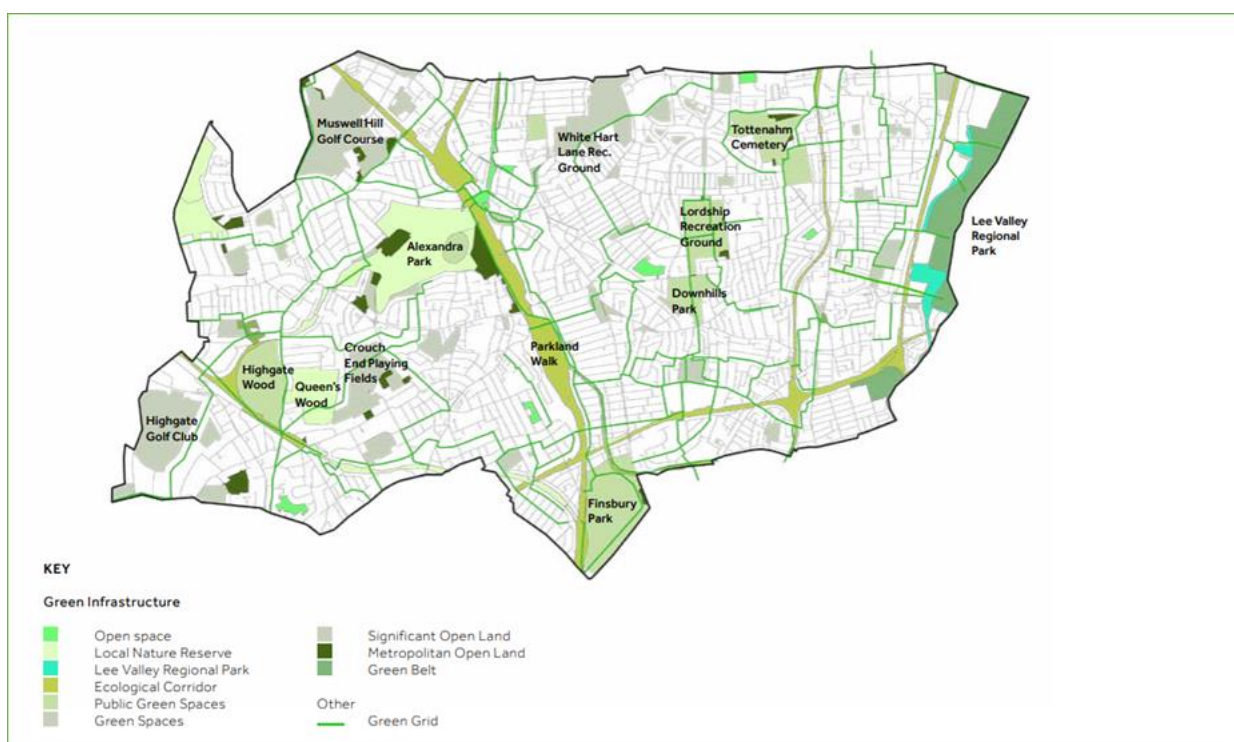
- timing of reproduction of animals and plants
- migration pattern of animals
- length of growing season
- species distribution
- population sizes
- frequency of pest and disease outbreaks

Haringey Council has declared a climate and environment emergency in March 2019 and pledged to work towards making Haringey net zero carbon by 2030. It comes after the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reported in October 2018 that the world has until 2030 to avoid an increase in global temperatures above 1.5°C, which would have devastating impacts on the planet and people's lives.

Climate change is the biggest long-term threat faced by our natural environment and ecosystems, and therefore our own life support systems. We are already seeing signs of long-term changes in weather patterns and an increase in extreme weather events such as droughts, fires, floods and storms.

A recent study in London showed that urban areas will experience enhanced urban heat island, alteration in flood risk and urban drainage, air quality, invasive species,

changes in composition of plants, microbial and animal communities. Similar to many other urban areas across UK, changing parameters of freshwater system in urban areas such as river corridors and wetlands is a threat to aquatic life. Events such as changing rainfall pattern are altering wetland characteristics. For example, the ecological integrity is compromised by the deteriorating water quality, altered water regimes, increased rates of decomposition in bogs, and alterations to habitat composition. Climate change is also a driving factor for terrestrial habitats, with alteration to species range, life cycles timing, physiology and behaviour. Extreme winter and summer weather such as heavy rainfall, extreme heat, reduced soil moisture content, extreme winter frosts, late spring frosts, and climate-related pest and diseases will interfere with the terrestrial flora and fauna.



Green Infrastructure and natural environment – Haringey

Haringey's green infrastructure is essential in reducing the impacts of climate change on the lives of our residents. Vegetation has been shown to reduce the effects of raised urban temperatures through evaporative cooling, shading surfaces, and allowing natural drainage. This can work in reverse in winter where greenery such as green roofs and walls can reduce the heat lost by buildings by providing better insulation and thus lowering energy use. Street trees and urban greening are also a major contribution to the capture and storage of CO₂ and improvement of air quality. As well as vegetation, the presence of open bodies of water, such as ponds, can assist with the cooling of surrounding areas and in reducing daytime temperatures.

Green Infrastructure and natural environment Strategy

Green Infrastructure (GI) is a network of multi-functional green and blue spaces and other natural features, urban and rural, which can deliver a wide range of

environmental, economic, health and wellbeing benefits for nature, climate, local and wider communities and prosperity. (National Planning Policy Framework, 2021)

Given the urban nature of much of Haringey it is vitally important that we protect and enhance our green infrastructure and natural environment. The New Local Plan will ensure that public open spaces such as parks, amenity spaces and commons continue to be protected and improved and promote opportunities for new accessible open spaces.

Haringey Council will develop a new Green Infrastructure and Natural Environment Strategy as part of the Local Plan. <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy/new-local-plan-first-steps-engagement>

Local Nature Recovery Plan

In accordance with recent legislation, a new Local Nature Recovery Plan will be developed and consulted on as a replacement for the BAP and will include nature conservation, biodiversity and ecological objectives as part of a new Green Infrastructure Strategy to:

- map the most valuable existing habitat for nature
- map specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environment goals; and
- agree priorities for nature's recovery

Local Authorities will be required by government to prepare Local Nature Recover Strategies. The data collected as part of this audit will provide an important resource for Haringey Council as they prepare this plan by allowing the identification of:

- Existing networks of sites or particular habitat types:
- Areas where gaps between these may be closed or bridged.
- Nature Recovery Areas (or similar) – as has been done in a neighbouring borough (Massini, et al., 2021).

2009 Biodiversity Action Plan Appraisal

To inform this new Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), an appraisal of the 2009 Biodiversity Action Plan was carried out. The review evaluated the aims and targets against the actions achieved and current national and London policy and strategies.

A study has been undertaken to inform the development of the new BAP. The main areas of research are described below.

- Carbon management evaluation around grass verges, wildflower meadows/tall grasses. Identifying new or improved habitat management and enhancements and ways of 'creating improved grassland types' potentially adding higher nature value.
- Biodiversity net gain (BNG) metric and habitat connectivity, exploring biodiversity metric accounting/positive contribution to biodiversity net gain; Local nature recovery strategies and targeted investment into the environment as well as 'access to nature matters' and key development requirements following the Environment Bill (2023).
- An allotment survey that delivered qualitative and quantitative data for the boroughs 27 managed allotments. Also, stakeholder engagement with the Allotment steering group reviewed the BAP allotment actions delivering new management objectives for the borough.

Research on defining the aims and targets for the new BAP has been valuable and with informing engagement aims with stakeholders.

Place holder for picture

Haringey's Policies and Plans

Building a fairer, greener borough – Haringey Labour Manifesto 2022-26

Following the local elections in May 2022 the Council's ambition and priorities are based on putting residents at the heart of everything the Council does. For the remainder of 2022 and into 2023, the Council will work with residents to develop the Haringey Local Deal. The Haringey Local Deal will seek to empower communities to make change, putting local people at the forefront of decision-making. The Biodiversity Action Plan will support the delivery of the Haringey Local Deal and in turn the manifesto commitments.

Below we have included extracts from the Manifesto that the BAP will help to either directly deliver or support.

Inclusion and Wellbeing

Directly:

- Community gardening and tree planting on estates and trees
- Co-produce designs for pocket parks, community gardens and street side verges

Support:

- Participatory budgeting to help the council set its spending priorities
- Contribute to the development of the Young Voices Programme

Climate Change and Sustainability

Directly:

- Plant street trees until each ward reaches 30% canopy cover
- Plant 10,000 new trees by 2030
- Invest in sustainable drainage systems to reduce flooding
- Work to create three brand new nature reserves by 2026 and introduce Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

Support:

- Reduce and eliminate the use of single use plastics
- Install green pollution barriers on schools on main roads
- Explore green energy production in parks
- Identify sites for local food growing can take place

Quality Parks

Directly:

- Install more LED Parks lighting to keep people safe

Support:-

- Apprenticeships
- SEND opportunities

Wider policy context

National Strategies

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The NPPF sets out the government's planning policies for England and how they should be applied. It states that planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural environment by recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the natural environment, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services of trees and woodlands, for example. Specifically, the NPPF provides for the protection of irreplaceable habitats such as ancient woodlands and veteran trees. It also requires planning decisions to contribute to conserving and enhancing the local environment.

The 25 Year Environment Plan 2018

This plan sets out the government's aims and objectives for improving the environment. A central tenet of the plan is to increase tree cover in the UK to meet a target of 12% tree cover by 2060. Protecting and planting trees and woodlands in and around towns and cities is a key objective because of the benefits of urban trees that are set out in 'Vision for a Resilient Urban Forest'.

Environment Act 2021

The Act will bring into UK law environmental protections and recovery putting the environment at the centre of policy making. It will make sure that Local Planning Authorities have a cleaner, greener and more resilient country for the next generation. It includes details on enhancing our greenspaces and a legally binding target to be set to halt the decline in species abundance by 2030.

Regional Strategies

The London Environment Strategy (GLA 2017)

This strategy sets out a number of ambitions in relation to trees and woodlands including the protection and management of the existing urban forest; increasing canopy cover by 10% from current levels, creating 200 hectares of species-rich woodland by 2050 and encouraging naturalistic approaches to flood water management and climate change adaptation.

It also commits to the preparation of an Urban Forest Plan to identify how this will be achieved, for example, through a major programme of tree planting; larger scale woodland creation projects in the Green Belt; improving the methods and data required to identify locations for tree planting and to monitor change in tree canopy cover; and to support and promote the work of the London Tree Officers Association, the Trees and Design Action Group and other partners.

The London Plan 2021

The plan outlines the overarching need for green infrastructure and natural environment within the city. It recognises that the network of green and blue spaces, street trees, green roofs and other major assets such as natural or semi-natural drainage features must be planned, designed and managed in an integrated way.

Policy G1 sets out the strategic green infrastructure approach and provides a framework for how this can be assessed and planned for. The remaining policies in the Plan provide detail on specific aspects of green infrastructure, which work alongside other policies in the Plan to achieve multiple objectives including;

- Promoting mental and physical health and wellbeing
- Adapting to the impacts of climate change and the urban heat-island effect improving air and water quality
- Encouraging walking and cycling
- Supporting landscape and heritage conservation;
- Learning about the environment
- Supporting food growing
- Conserving and enhancing biodiversity and ecological resilience alongside more traditional functions of green space such as play, sport and recreation

The London i-Tree Assessment

A quantitative baseline of the air pollution, carbon storage and sequestration benefits of trees as well as the amenity and stormwater benefits they provide. This is supported with detailed information on the structure and composition of London's urban forest.

Natural Capital Account for London's Public Parks

'Natural' capital is made up of the elements of nature that benefit people directly or indirectly. These assets include ecosystems, species, fresh water, land, minerals, the air and oceans, as well as natural processes and functions. Benefits can include goods (such as timber and food) and services (such as clean air and water).

In an urban context, these assets are our parks, rivers, trees, and features such as green roofs that collectively form an essential green infrastructure. Designed and managed as green infrastructure, natural capital can:

- promote healthier living
- lessen the impacts of climate change
- improve air quality and water quality
- encourage walking and cycling
- store carbon
- improve biodiversity and ecological resilience

A natural capital account can help to inform and improve decision-making by framing public green spaces as economic assets and highlighting the range and value of benefits that they provide. This approach is supported by a national and London policy framework.

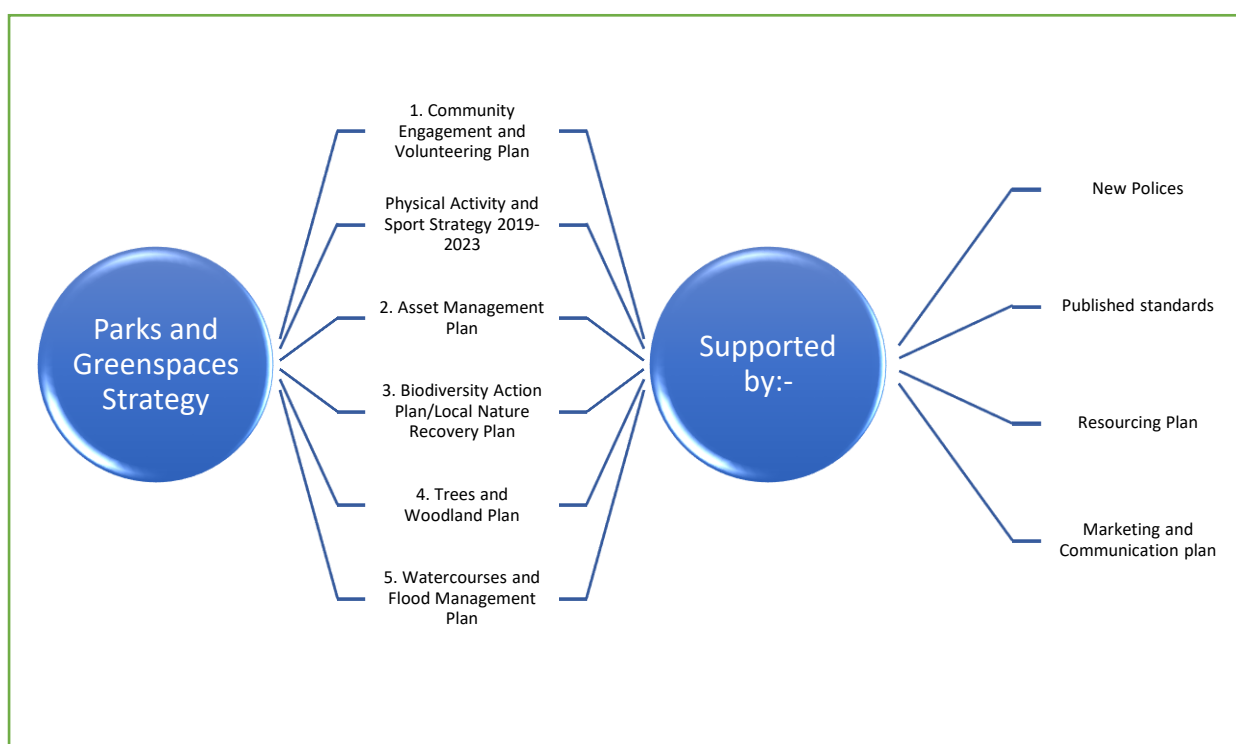
Policy Context for Haringey Biodiversity Action Plan

National	National Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC)	Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services
	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) WCA	National Planning Policy Framework (2019) Section 15: Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
	Natural Environment White Paper (2014) NEWP	ODPM Circular 06/2005 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation
	UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP)	UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework
Regional	London Plan policies (2020) G1 Green Infrastructure G2 London's Green Belt G3 Metropolitan Open Land G4 Open Space G5 Urban Greening G6 Biodiversity and Access to Nature G7 Trees and Woodland G8 Food Growing 7.28 Restoration of Blue Ribbon Network	Connecting Londoner's with trees and woodlands: A Tree and Woodland framework for London 2005
	Connecting with London's nature: The Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy 2002	The All London Green Grid
	London Biodiversity Action Plan	The Great Britain Invasive Non-native Species Strategy 2015
Local	Haringey Local Plan Climate Emergency declaration Borough Plan EQIA for the Borough Plan (see page 33). Biodiversity Action Plan Trees and Woodland Plan Community Engagement & Volunteering Asset Management Plan Watercourse and Flood Risk Management Plan Workforce development Plan	Haringey Local Plans policies (2017): SP13 Open Space & Biodiversity DM20 Open Space & Green Grid TAAP9 Tottenham Green Grid DM19 Nature Conservation DM21Ac Sustainable Design, Layout and Construction: Biodiversity Food Growing in Parks Park Safety Waste Management in Parks Sustainable Design and Planting Project Development and Prioritisation
	Parks & Green Spaces Strategy (POSS)	DM19 Nature Conservation
	SP13 Open Spaces and Biodiversity	DM21AC Sustainable Design, Layout and Construction: Biodiversity
	DM20 Open Space and Green Grid	Natural Capital Account
	Health and Wellbeing Strategy	Accessibility Study
	Funding Plan	Haringey Physical Activity and Sport Strategy 2019

Parks and Greenspaces Strategy

Other plans within the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy also support these objectives:

- Trees and Woodlands Plan
- Watercourses and Flood Management Action Plan
- Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan
- Asset Management Plan: climate change and sustainability/biodiversity, soft assets
- Asset Management Plan: community
- Asset Management Plan: climate change and sustainability/hard assets



Legislation and planning policy

Relevant wildlife legislation and planning policy

In addition to obligations under wildlife legislation, the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) updated on 20 July 2021 requires planning decisions to contribute to conserving and enhancing the local environment.

The London Borough of Haringey has produced an adopted Local Plan Strategic Policies 2013-2026 document which covers the below policies relating to biodiversity and habitat conservation. In particular Policy SP13: Open Space and Biodiversity states:

“... All development shall protect and improve sites of biodiversity and nature conservation, including private gardens through its:

- Contribution to wildlife and ecological habitats and, where possible, include green and brown roofs, rainwater harvesting, green walls, bird and bat nesting/roosting opportunities;
- Protection, management and maintenance of existing trees and the planting of new trees where appropriate; and
- Protection, enhancement and creation of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) and Local Nature Reserves (LNRs).

A new Local Plan is currently consultation and is proposed to run from 2022 to 2037.

Biodiversity net gain

Under the Environment Act 2021 the Government mandated biodiversity net gain to ensure that new development enhances the environment, contributes to our ecological networks and conserves our precious landscapes. From November 2023, the Bill will make it mandatory for housing and development to achieve at least a 10% net gain in value for biodiversity for example planting a woodland or sowing a wildflower meadow with the minimum 30-year duration for which new biodiversity gains must be secured in future.

Biodiversity Net Gain will highlight local nature recovery strategies to target investment into the environment, Access to nature matters (demonstrating the value of green spaces) and key development requirements following the Environment Bill (2023). This could help with securing gains for key habitats from external development, delivering the borough's Local Development Framework to incorporate net gain for biodiversity.

Legal and financial commitment from the Council to make sure that Biodiversity enhancements needs are an integrated part of the capital investment programme (to meet those targets) These are all Politically sensitive strategic key decisions that would need to be considered.

Biodiversity Infrastructure in Haringey

Locally, Haringey's green infrastructure, including our parks and open spaces, gardens, allotments, railway corridors and street trees, provides a valuable function. It not only makes the borough a greener and more visually attractive place to live but reduces the risk of flooding, improves air quality, provides us with locally grown food, improves health and well-being, and helps to cool urban areas in summer. In all it plays an essential role in the everyday lives of every Haringey resident.

Despite its urban environment Haringey is blessed with a variety of valuable habitats for wildlife such as the ancient woodlands of Bluebell, Coldfall, Highgate and Queen's Woods in the west of the borough and Tottenham Marshes in the east, as well as large and historic public parks including Finsbury Park and Alexandra Palace. The large number of private gardens and housing estate land also play a significant part in habitat provision throughout the Borough.

Current situation

- Haringey has a wealth of natural assets including designated Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and 5 Local Nature Reserves
- The Lee Valley Regional Park straddles the eastern boundary of the borough and is home to European designated sites and many Sites of Special Scientific Interest.
- 151 parks and green spaces
- 59 Sites of Importance to Nature Conservation (SINC)
- 27 Council managed Allotments (plus 3 externally managed)
- 25 Green Flag Parks

Place holder for picture

Biodiversity in Haringey

The London Borough of Haringey is a metropolitan London authority covering approximately 29 sq km in North London. Like other London boroughs Haringey contains several sites which are designated for their importance for biodiversity as well as for enabling public access to and enjoyment of nature.

Although Haringey is a highly urbanised Borough, it supports a variety of habitats providing significant benefits for wildlife and people. Habitats include high quality examples of ancient woodland at sites such as Coldfall, Highgate and Queen's Woods.

Wetland habitats are represented within the Tottenham Marshes and the Lea Valley alongside more recently created habitats at the recently restored Moselle Brook within Lordship Recreation Ground. There are wet neutral grasslands in the east of the Borough and remnants of acid grassland in the west. There are numerous small parks which support areas of woodland and scrub alongside areas of green space provided by public gardens and housing estate land which provides a valuable, if until relatively recently, little acknowledged resource for wildlife.

Haringey has a coherent existing ecological network with the Lee Valley on the eastern border of the borough which has connectivity to Epping Forest, The River Thames and the countryside outside of London. There are several railway lines that run east to west or north to south across the Borough alongside other green corridors such as the New River which provide ecological links.

In terms of designations, the Borough supports 59 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)s which are protected through planning policy. These are made up of five sites of Metropolitan importance, nine of Borough Grade I importance, 13 of Borough Grade II and 32 of Local importance. Haringey also supports five Local Nature Reserves (LNR), described on page 22, while the adjacent Lee Valley is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protection Area and A Ramsar wetland site designated to be of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.

Haringey's five Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and waterways also offer a valuable habitat. The Lee Valley Regional Park straddles the eastern boundary of the borough and is home to European designated sites and is a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Areas of Nature Conservation Deficiency

Deficiency in Access to Public Open Space

The London Plan sets out a maximum distance which London residents should have to travel to access a Public Open Space. Areas outside of these distances are classified as areas of deficiency.

Sites of Local Importance:

- Sites of Local Importance tend to be of value to people within a local community (schools, community groups) and may have an educational role.
- They have value in Areas of Deficiency for access to nature (see GLA, 2018).

Despite a large network of SINCs there are some areas of the Borough where access to natural green space is not readily available. This is where people must walk more than one kilometre to reach an accessible parks or open space and where Ecological Corridors are inaccessible to the public.

The Westbury Banks Nature Reserve is a formerly neglected dumping ground for fly-tippers has been reclaimed via community action and now forms an impressively diverse wild space within an Area of Deficiency.

Duckett's Common is a sizable area of open greenspace lined of London plane trees, with sports pitches, exercise area and children's play area. providing important, accessible greenspace within a heavily urban area.

Green Chains are used for informal recreation providing walking and/or cycling routes through open spaces. Green Chains can also be Ecological Corridors such as the Parkland Walk Local Nature Reserve.

To reduce these areas of deficiency the Council can create new sites, mainly because of development, in areas of deficiency and remove barriers to existing sites of conservation by creating additional entrances.

Designated Sites

What is a designated nature site?

Nature sites can be 'designated', which means they have special status as protected areas because of their natural and cultural importance.

These protected areas are protected by law to make sure they are not harmed or destroyed and can sometimes be used by people for recreation and study.

There can also be restrictions on activities and developments that might affect a designated or protected area, for example building new houses or roads. This includes areas next to as well as in natural areas.

These places are made into protected areas by organisations, such as Natural England and local councils and through national and international laws and organisations, such as the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) [Gov 2022]. Parkland Walk is along the old railway track and is London's longest local nature reserve with over 200 species of wildflower. It has the protection type of statutory designation, local nature reserve which has been designated by the council for the purpose of nature conservation.

Local Nature Reserves

Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) are a statutory designation made under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. LNRs are for people and wildlife. They are places with wildlife or geological features that are of special interest locally. They offer people opportunities to study or learn about nature or simply to enjoy it.

They range from windswept coastal headlands, ancient woodlands and flower-rich meadows to former inner city railways, long abandoned landfill sites and industrial areas now re-colonised by wildlife. They are an impressive natural resource which makes an important contribution to England's biodiversity.

There are five designated Local Nature Reserves in Haringey;

- Alexandra Palace & Park
- Coldfall Wood
- Parkland Walk
- Queens Wood
- Railway Fields

Natural England states that for a site to become an LNR it must have natural features of special interest to the local area, and the authority must either have a legal interest in the land or have an agreement with the owner to manage the land as a reserve. LNR prove to be useful not only to protect habitats and wildlife but increase people's awareness of their environment. They are places where children can learn about nature, and they are often situated in or near urban areas.

Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)

Haringey carried out a boroughwide review of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in 2021. Known nationally as Local Wildlife Sites, these are areas that have been recognised as being of particular importance to wildlife and diversity.

The review determines which if any current SINCs need to have their levels of designation (e.g., Metropolitan, Borough or Local) changed and for what reasons, whether any SINCs no longer meet the criteria for that designation, and whether there are any additional sites in the borough that should be recommended for designation as new SINCs.

This is especially important with respect to biodiversity so that sites identified as important for wildlife and the public's access and enjoyment of nature, are afforded suitable protection.

Opportunities

As well as providing a baseline audit of the habitats present within the borough's SINCs, additional benefits arise from this audit;

- the identification of suitable areas for restoration or enhancement and permit direct comparisons between different options.
- enable insights into the drivers of poor condition in some habitats, for example through recreation pressures. This will help the council to target appropriate management measures, such as education and information, in the most relevant locations to improve the condition of the habitats and ultimately the biodiversity resource.
- the value of habitat restoration or enhancement using the habitat and condition metrics the DEFRA Biodiversity Net Gain v3.0 methodologies permits the undertaking of biodiversity net gain assessments where development occurs:
 - a) Within a SINC;
 - b) Elsewhere in the borough, but where opportunities for biodiversity offsetting/off-site biodiversity net gains need to be identified.

Detailed reports describe the habitats present in each SINC, their condition, species recorded during site surveys and available via Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL), including invasive, non-native species and recommendations for enhancement and/or management. The review of SINC status is specifically aimed at assisting with the development of Haringey's New Local Plan appendix to this document and will provide an important foundation for the LNRP.

The results of the review will also be presented to the London Wildlife Sites Board (LWSB), which independently assesses and ratifies any recommendations for changes to a borough's SINCs and is made up of representative bodies including the GLA.

Habitat and species

Place holder **Notable species**

To be included in final document.

Place holder **Alexandra Park Palace**

To be included in final document.

Key issues and challenges

Haringey's ancient woodlands climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation

Woodlands in the UK are home to a wealth of wildlife, and ancient woodlands in particular support more species than any other land-based habitat in the UK and they are home to more threatened species than any other. Centuries of undisturbed soils, mature native trees and accumulated dead and decaying wood have created the perfect environment for communities of fungi, insects, birds and mammals, some of which are only found in ancient woodlands.

Haringey contains four ancient woodlands; Queens wood, Coldfall wood, Bluebell wood and Highgate wood (which is managed by the City of London).

Haringey managed sites and others of ecological interest are protected and managed in accordance with their respective management plans and the borough Biodiversity Action Plan. Tree works in woodlands and conservation sites are predominantly carried out to mitigate actionable nuisances and potential risks to site users.

A recent Habitat Condition Assessment review of our Ancient Woodlands highlighted in the SINC report described the woods as being “in poor condition” suffering from soil erosion due to the excessive footfall (leading to compaction and loss of flora) and flash flooding.

Climate change is expected to have a number of impacts on UK forests including soil moisture deficits limiting growth in some areas; greater water table fluctuations limiting rooting depth and increase the risk of windthrow; tree disease and pest outbreaks; and greater risk of fire (2010, Forestry Commission research note).

We are engaged with external partners such as the Woodland Trust and other experts to draft new management plans for these sites to put things in place to restore Haringey's Ancient Woodlands ensure their long-term protection. Council officers also work closely with 'Friends' groups and volunteers under the guidance of The Conservation Volunteers (TCV), to coordinate works such as coppicing and the clearance of invasive species.

Haringey Council seeks to develop its Ancient Woodland strategies for habitat restoration and flood management to include within the new Management plan and should consider;

- Coppicing: The benefits to overall plant diversity by the introduction of coppicing regimes (Bevan 1992) will lead to an increase in the availability of deadwood and a greater diversity of habitat, especially for invertebrates.
- Protection: In addition to coppicing activities, consideration should be given to protecting areas of woodland. The use of dead-hedging but in areas immediately adjacent to access points, more robust fencing types are likely to be needed as these are the areas experiencing the greatest damage.

- Education: An opportunity to provide education to the role of coppicing and the reason for fencing certain areas.

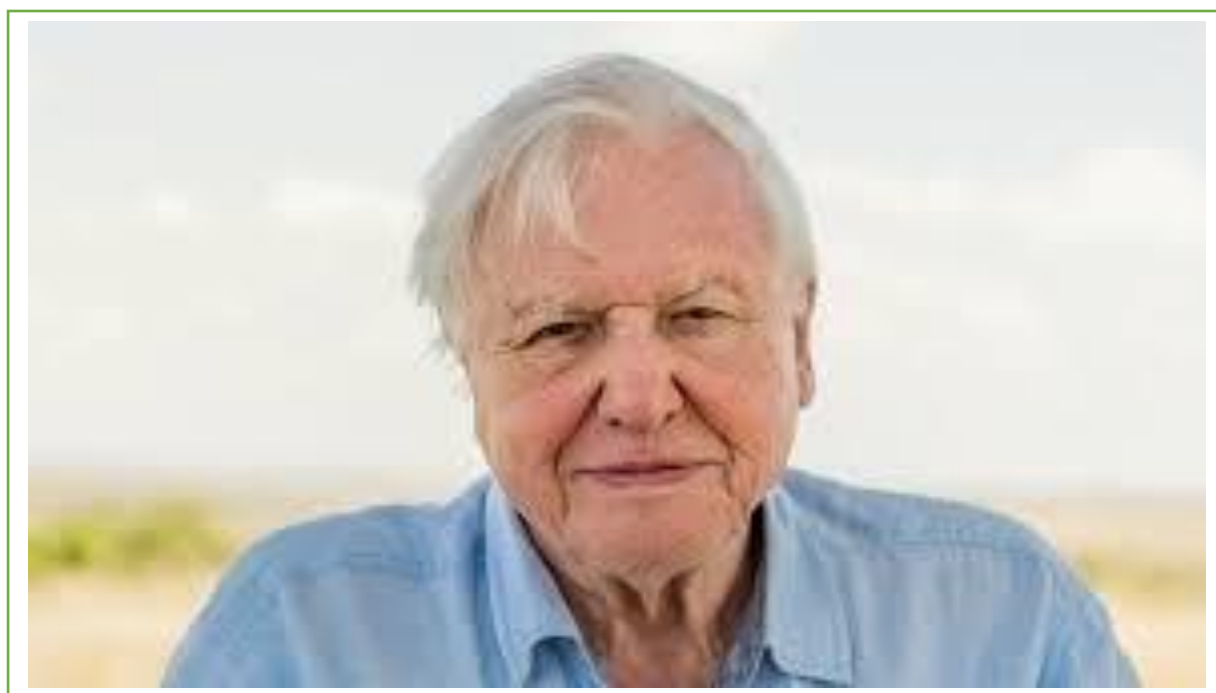
Limits to dog-walking: Dog walking was evident as a major source of recreational pressure (on the site visit, a professional dog walker had six animals, all off-lead).

Ecological Emergency

A "sudden-onset disaster or accident resulting from natural, technological or human-induced factors, or a combination of these, that causes or threatens to cause severe environmental damage as well as loss of human lives and property."

(Source: UNEP/GC. 22/INF/5, 13 November 2002)

"We're facing a crisis, and one that has consequences for us all. It threatens our ability to feed ourselves, to control our climate. It even puts us at greater risk of pandemic diseases such as Covid-19. It's never been more important for us to understand the effects of biodiversity loss, of how it is that we ourselves are responsible for it. Only if we do that will we have any hope of averting disaster."



David Attenborough, Extinction: The Facts (BBC)

Haringey intend to address the Ecological Emergency in line with National and Regional Strategies e.g., Environment Act 2021, London Plan 2021 and the development of a new Green Infrastructure and Natural Environment Strategy as part of the Local Plan.

Built Environment

To better use the Planning process to secure gains for biodiversity

Place holder **Built Environment**

To be included in final document.

Invasive non-native species (INNS) and Climate change

What are the problems?

Invasive non-native species are Species which cause unwanted environmental or social impacts by spreading rapidly and becoming very abundant in the environment. They are one of the biggest causes of biodiversity loss and are also a global threat to food security and livelihoods according to the IUCN.

Climate Change facilitates the spread and establishment of alien plants allowing them to become invasive. Climate Change also reduces the resilience of habitats to biological invasions.

A London Biodiversity Partnership (London Invasive Species Initiative) has estimated that INNS also cost the British economy an estimated £1.7 billion annually.

London Invasive Species Initiative <http://www.londonisi.org.uk/>

As part of the Local Plan and PGSS review we have commissioned an Invasive non-native species study of all our Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) sites which will produce baseline data that is crucial in next steps to delivering a boroughwide strategy.

Risk and benefits

- Risk & liability. Avoiding civil liability. Lessons learnt from 'case studies' (TFL etc).
- Budget. Sustainable estimation of revenue and expenses for future proofing INNS control. (Wrong method=more expense).
- Chemical control
- Allotment management (Sensitive sites)
- Biodiversity Net Gain (& Loss). Species recovery.
- Planning and Development department, conditions for planning applications.
- Environmental impact: 1) inappropriate use of herbicide. 2) Duty of care/Waste carrier & waste disposal.
- Incorporate INNS surveying into borough habitat and species survey. Future proofing encroachment onto Council land. Monitoring and targets.
- Ecological value.
- Building resilience. Working with key and statutory partners.

Changes to Council Policy are essential to strategically manage, mitigate and monitor these species by developing a Council Invasive Plant strategy that will consider the full scope of services, project approach, biosecurity measures, deliverables, and fees for Haringey Council.

Data, Monitoring and Evaluation

Data collected is used to inform Local Environmental Records e.g. Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL), London Invasive Species Initiative (LISI), Park Management Plans and Conservation Action Plans.

GiGL datasets

- Species records
- Open space datasets
- Habitat surveys
- BAP habitat condition and suitability mapping
- Sites of Importance to Nature Conservation (SINCs) – including proposed SINCs for some boroughs
- Geodiversity sites
- Metropolitan Open Land
- Green Belt
- Areas of Deficiency in access to nature (AoD to SINCs)
- Areas of Deficiency in access to Public Open Space (AoD to POS)
- Borough and street trees
- Urban greening features (including green roofs, important bird roosts and Thames jetties)
- GiGL curated copies of statutory site datasets (NNR, SSSI, SAC, SPA, LNR and Ramsar sites), which are managed as open data by Natural England.
- Biodiversity Hotspots for Planning (BHP) dataset

What are the benefits of monitoring and evaluating?

1. Data collected will impact on future Conservation Action Plans.
2. Data collected will inform future actions.
3. Recording data creates a sustainable future for green spaces.
4. Monitoring and Evaluation enhances current biological records.

Recording Monitoring and Evaluation

Objectives

Objective	Action	Delivery	Frequency
Record and monitor species data.	Carry out site surveys. Record data using survey sheets. Submit data to GiGL.	Volunteers Users of the Park Friends' Groups Community groups	Continuous
Evaluation of Conservation Action Plans.	Use recorded data to help inform future conservation actions.	Haringey Council TCV Friends' Groups	Once every 5 years

Evaluation of Park Management Plans.	Use recorded data to inform annual conservation actions.	Haringey Council TCV Friends' Groups	Once a year.
Use of social media App's as an informal way of recording species' data	Record species' data using the App. Record data within the 'Haringey Wildlife' project on the App.	Volunteers Users of the Park TCV Friends' Groups Community groups	Continuous

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)

TCV bring local people together to carry out nature conservation works via volunteers and are involved in delivering conservation activities within the borough, supporting the BAP.

Green Flag Award

The Green Flag Award is the international mark of quality for greenspaces recognising and rewarding well managed parks and greenspaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the UK and around the world.

Park Management Plan

A Park Management Plan guides the management, maintenance, development and improvement of the park. It also describes the history of the park, how it is today and details future plans and aspirations and how these are to be achieved.

Conservation Action Plan (CAP)

A CAP provides a framework for ongoing management and a summary of the conservation actions for each compartment and the conservation action to complete within that habitat. It provides guidance on conservation actions and form a basis for the work of TCV, Friends groups and other community organisations.

Haringey Friends of Parks

Independent associations of local residents and park users, trying to improve their local park and get it better used for the good of the whole community. Each group has their own character, issues and priorities, activities, and ways of working.

Greenspace information for Greater London (GiGL)

The Council holds a Service Level Agreement with GiGL (London environmental records centre) to access and capture biodiversity data from Haringey's biological and open spaces information to inform nature conservation decision making processes.

Habitat Management

Focusing on key areas of improvement to our Parks and green spaces will enable us to create habitat diversity; green connectivity; support key/priority species and enhanced Climate resilience. We will deliver Specific, Measurable, Agreed (or Achievable), Realistic, and Time Bound (SMART) Park Management Plans with Conservation Actions that support the delivery of the Green Flag Award Criteria and boroughwide Nature Recovery and Biodiversity Gain as well as health and well-being of the wider public.

To assist with the monitoring of Ecological Degradation (Footfall, encroachment etc) we seek to increase resources available for enforcement on SINC's. Employee performance development can enable us to Improve standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes to safeguard our natural habitats and to ensure sustainability of biodiversity enhancement for existing and new Schemes.

Climate change, Water resources and Nature recovery

Even in the dry south-east of England water should be all around us. But in London nearly two hundred years of building and installing infrastructure has left us with almost no natural access. Instead, water is kept underground in pipes and culverts.

We think of it only in relation to drinking and bathing, to kitchens and toilets and to the controlled leisure of swimming pools and marinas. Most of London's streams and brooks have been buried, our ponds and wetlands long ago built over.

Water nature recovery in Haringey must change. If not, we will be unable to restore the urban water cycle, with all its beneficial cooling effects, and helpless to revive the eco-systems that depend on it.

Challenges

- development: e.g. paving over a garden for vehicular parking
- pollution: e.g. misconnections of waste water pipes from domestic and commercial properties and/or discharge of contaminants such as cooking oil from small commercial business into our surface rainwater drains
- erosion and degradation: e.g. due to human and animal excessive footfall and lack of investment and management

Opportunities

- protection and restoration through capital investment
- post-delivery management and maintenance planning (SuDS, ponds etc)
- filtering runoff from roadside verges preventing pollution entering into our surface water drains to avoid polluting our rivers e.g. the Lea and the Thames.
- creation of new storage in existing and new green spaces (streams, ponds and wetlands) and to protect against floods
- development of protected areas which can remain free from all footfall
- nature conservation, creating richer habitats and improved soils to help maintain the root systems which depend on it and to support wildlife and nature
- engagement enabling more people to get involved with volunteering

Catchment Based Management Approach

An informed, engaged, and vigilant community involvement with residents, officers, practitioners, regulators and politicians who can contribute, collect data, keep records and take practical action to clear and clean our waterbodies. • To mitigate the impact of Climate Change/support and enhance the natural environment.

Haringey Rivers Forum

A voluntary led organisation working with Haringey Council and partners listed elsewhere in this section to improve the Boroughs water courses. A key organisation to consult with when developing schemes.

Funding

Biodiversity enhancements need to be an integrated as part of the Councils capital investment programme.

Lack of funding from the Government is unsustainable within the recommendation of the Strategies and their action plans. We await for National government and the Greater London Authority to strengthened their policies.

Opportunities

- Biodiversity Net Gain will highlight local nature recovery strategies to target investment into the environment, Access to nature matters (demonstrating the value of green spaces) and key development requirements following the Environment Bill (2023).

This could help with securing gains for key habitats from external development, delivering the borough's Local Development Framework to incorporate net gain for biodiversity.

- Local Nature Recovery Grants
- Legal and financial commitment from the Council is needed to make sure that Biodiversity enhancements needs are an integrated part of the capital investment programme (to meet those targets).
- Within the Council's 2020/21 financial plan there are several approved capital funding streams that will support the delivery of this action plan. The Parks and leisure facilities carbon reduction programme (£3m over the next 5 years);" [The Borough Plan for 2019 to 2023 already contains a commitment to spend £3 million on flood relief work].
- At a local level policy commitment to securing gains for key habitats.

Community Engagement

Inclusion and Diversity

Haringey is a culturally diverse borough and this can be seen in the usage of our parks and greenspaces. There is little to no targeted engagement with seldom heard from communities to understand how they use parks and what improvements, or activities might help them to increase their use and engagement in the development of parks and greenspaces.

There is emerging research that indicates BAME communities are less likely to visit the natural environment for leisure and that their preferences for usage differ to those that the areas are designed by and for, who are usually older, educated and from white ethnic backgrounds. (*Weeds, Wildflowers and Whiteness, Snaith.B, 2016. Appendix 6*)

The Council do not currently understand all the barriers that prevent seldom heard from communities from engaging as stakeholders in parks and greenspaces. Parks can be contested spaces, with the demands on their resources coming from several different groups. Often those with the loudest voice or most obvious interest are heard above others.

The Park's Service currently has limited resources to support the sort of targeted engagement needed to ensure that seldom heard from communities are meaningfully included in park development and improvement conversations as key stakeholders.

Our current and main form of engagement is through key stakeholders such as Friends of Park Groups, but the Council acknowledge that these groups can often be unrepresentative of our diverse community. Many Friends Groups are made up of older, white, educated residents with English as a first language, but they are also challenged by their lack of time and capacity to target seldom heard from communities as they are voluntary groups themselves.

The Council do not have a clear and meaningful plan detailing our approach.

Action Plans

The following plans describe and propose a series of conservation actions that support the protection, enhancement and restoration of the borough's biodiversity and habitats, assisting the delivery of carbon reduction projects in line with the Climate Change Action Plan.

Mitigating Climate Change – actions

- To establish an interdepartmental coordinating group with representation from Parks, Planning, Housing, Highways, Flood Management and Regeneration to ensure effective collaboration between services in the development and ongoing management of programmes and policies that support the council's approach towards the Climate Emergency with regards to green and blue infrastructure, climate vulnerability and the natural environment
- To increase the overall area of greenspaces in Haringey in new developments and through the delivery of pocket parks by 250 sqm each year, supported by the new Local Plan
- To recruit a new officer to strengthen the contribution made from planning applications for trees and biodiversity through enhanced protection and biodiversity net gain
- To undertake a review of all current SINC's with a view to updating SINC designations and habitat and species information for SINC's
- To develop updated management plans for Local Nature Reserves
- To increase tree canopy cover in Haringey from 25% (2020) to 30%, and plant at least 10,000 new trees by 2030 in order to reduce carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, improve air quality and reduce ambient temperature
- To develop new Local Nature Reserves and 10 new Sites of Importance for nature Conservation
- To encourage biodiversity improvements to be delivered through sustainable urban drainage systems
- Provide activities and events that help promote access to the natural environment to people from BAME communities

The four Action Plans that form part of this BAP are:

1. The Built Environment
2. Parks, Housing Estates and Urban Green Spaces
3. Designated Sites
4. Access to Nature

The Built Environment Action Plan

Inform future projects and strategies around the built environment and the greening of the urban environment to increase green connectivity across the borough.

- Declare an ecological emergency to act on the causes and impacts of climate change on biodiversity
- Update local policy and guidance to ensure consistency with best practice and London-wide policy
- Maintain and enhance Haringey's street tree resource
- Maximise biodiversity gains from new developments by requiring developments to incorporate biodiversity considerations
- Require all major developments and new build minor developments to incorporate high quality green roofs as standard, including on new Council buildings
- Encourage biodiversity improvements to be delivered through sustainable urban drainage systems
- Review landscaping proposals submitted with planning applications, to ensure that biodiversity benefits are maximised
- Provide specialist arboriculture advice on planning applications
- Increase the overall area of green spaces in Haringey in new developments and through the delivery of pocket parks, supported by the New Local Plan
- Reduce emissions of the borough's parks
- Increasing the biodiversity of Homes for Haringey open spaces and road-side verges
- To establish an interdepartmental coordinating group to ensure effective collaboration between services in the development and ongoing management of programmes and policies that support the Council's approach towards climate emergency with regards to green and blue infrastructure, climate vulnerability and the natural environment

Parks, Housing Estates and Urban Green Spaces Action Plan

- Enhance where possible those parks and estates which are SINC (Sites of importance for Nature Conservation)
- Ensure the effective management of parks and estate SINC to protect their wildlife habitats
- Collate species data to help to monitor changes taking place to quality of wildlife habitats
- Protect and enhance features for London BAP priority species, e.g., house sparrows, bats, bees, swifts
- Protect, enhance or create new wildlife habitats in parks and urban greenspaces e.g., housing estates
- Provide support and guidance to Haringey's Cemeteries and allotments for biodiversity
- Protect and enhance trees in parks and open spaces
- Ensure planting plans adhere to Greenspace's Sustainable Planting Policy and renew this policy within the 5-year period
- Retain undisturbed dead wood on site wherever possible to benefit invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles
- Install 'bug hotels' and bird and bat boxes
- Ensure the benefits to wildlife are considered when decisions are made to remove ivy from trees and walls
- Provide on the ground training for grounds maintenance staff and ground maintenance contractors on wildlife habitats and their importance
- Become a chemical and pesticide free service

Designated Sites Action Plan

- Continue to enter into annual Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL) where budget allows, to access data and associated key benefits to aid biodiversity work
- Strengthen the SINC network through the adoption of new and upgraded SINC's through the Local Plan with a target of developing 10 new SINC's
- Liaise with Network Rail on the protection of rail side SINC's
- Action on planning policies for reviewing location of new areas to reduce Areas of Deficiency in Access to Nature
- Seek to increase resources available for management and enforcement on SINC's
- Develop a Council Invasive Plant strategy that will consider the full scope of services, project approach, biosecurity measures, deliverables, and fees for Haringey Council.
- Create 250m" of new wildlife habitat per year in parks and green spaces
- Develop new Local Nature Reserves

Access to Nature Action Plan

Deficiency in Access to Public Open Space

- Enable people from groups underrepresented in visits to green space (e.g., BAME groups, disabled people, young people) to take part in biodiversity themed activities in local green spaces
- Encourage and support community action for wildlife projects such as groups who want to seek funding for projects which enhance biodiversity, e.g., planting for pollinators
- Engage Haringey residents and raise awareness of biodiversity through public events in parks, nature reserves and housing estates
- Provide volunteering opportunities for Haringey residents, businesses and other stakeholders to help manage and enhance wildlife habitats in Haringey's parks, nature reserves and housing estates
- Support and accommodate other forms of outdoor learning in Haringey's green spaces
- Secure additional resources to facilitate increased access

Appendix A

Summary of Recommendations for Haringey SINC Review

Aims and scope of project

As part of MKA Ecology Ltd's input into the Haringey SINC review project, MKA Ecology Ltd undertook a boroughwide review of the 60 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) present within Haringey. SINCs are known nationally as Local Wildlife Site and comprise areas that have been recognised as being of particular importance to wildlife and diversity. This review has specifically aimed at assisting with the development of Haringey's New Local Plan and, in addition to covering a review of the SINCs themselves, this review has also encompassed a wider brief to assess the status and condition of all current SINCs, as well as identifying potential new SINCs. The aims of the overall review were as follows:

1. To undertake a review of the current status [a] and condition [b] of the London Borough of Haringey SINCs;
2. To identify any changes to the condition or content of Haringey SINCs which would affect their current status and/or level of designation, especially any changes from Local to Borough to Metropolitan designation and vice-versa;
3. To assess any new sites, as identified in discussion with the Council, which could merit being designated as a SINC, and at what level of designation;
4. To produce a report with justified recommendations, especially where there are proposed changes to the current designation level of named SINCs.
5. To identify and report on the presence of any non-native invasive plants which would affect their current status and/or level of designation, ecological/environmental and property (civil liability) risks, with a particular focus on The London Invasive Species Initiative (LISI) species of concern categories 2, 3 and 4.
6. The review also recorded all access points (GPS coordinates) in order to help map areas of deficiency (AOD) across the borough.

The produced report concentrates on the review of the status of each SINC (part 1a, above), identifying where changes in status are warranted (part 2), and assess and review new sites as potential SINCs (part 3). The detailed reports (part 4) produced describe the habitats present in each SINC, their condition (part 1b), species recorded during site surveys and data pertinent to update the Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL) records for each site, including invasive, non-native species (part 5) and recommendations for enhancement and/or management, along with supplementary data to support the review (all parts). In particular, this review will enable insights into the drivers of poor condition in some habitats, for

example through recreation pressures, which will help the council to target appropriate management measures, such as education and information, in the most relevant locations to improve the condition of the habitats and ultimately the biodiversity resource.

The results of the review will be presented to the London Wildlife Sites Board (LWSB), which independently assesses and ratifies any recommendations for changes to a borough's SINC's and is made up of representative bodies including the Greater London Authority (GLA).

Summary of SINC Review Conclusions

Prior to the SINC review project the borough supported 60 SINC's, comprising three Metropolitan level, 22 Borough level, 35 Local level SINC's.

Following the review it is recommended that amendments are made to the level of designation for a number of the existing SINC's, whilst designation of 11 new SINC's has also been recommended. A summary of these recommendations for are set out in the tables below.

Table 1: Summary of Existing SINC Recommendations

Site ref.	Site name	Recommendation
M116 (Metropolitan)	Highgate Wood, Queen's Wood and Parkland Walk	Consider splitting into two separate SINC's: Highgate Wood and Queen's Wood; Parkland Walk Queens Wood and Highgate Wood - no change in SINC status; Parkland Walk – no change in status
Site ref.	Site name	Recommendation
HgBI03 (Borough I)	Coldfall Wood	Upgrade to Metropolitan grade
HgBI08 (Borough I)	Bluebell Wood and Muswell Hill Golf Course	Splitting of the site into separate SINC's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bluebell Wood - upgrade to Metropolitan Importance Muswell Hill Golf Course – downgrade to Borough Grade II SINC, subject to further reptiles surveys.
HgBII01 (Borough II)	Fortis Green Covered Reservoir and Central Foundation Playing Field	Split into two SINC's and change boundary of SINC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western half -retain and split into two SINC's: o Fortis Green Covered Reservoir and Central Foundation Playing

		<p>Field – retain as Borough Grade II o Fortis Green Community Allotments – downgrade to Local Grade.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastern half – remove from SINC. • SINC citation to be updated to remove references to St Luke's Hospital.
HgBII03 (Borough II)	Tottenham Cemetery, All Hallows Churchyard and Bruce Castle Park	<p>Split into two SINCS and upgrade both to Borough I Grade:</p> <p>Tottenham Cemetery and All Hallows Churchyard</p> <p>Bruce Castle Park</p>
HgL03 (Local)	Chestnuts Park	Upgrade to Borough Grade II
HgL04 (Local)	Lordship Lane Recreation Ground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade to Borough Grade II • Extension to west
HgL09 (Local)	Downhills Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change in status • Extension to west
HgL11 (Local)	New River Sports Centre, White Hart Lane Recreation Ground & Woodside Park	<p>Split into two SINCS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New River Sports Centre and White Hart Lane Recreation Ground • Woodside Park
HgL15 (Local)	Land beside Fortismere School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change boundary Remove northern half (Eden Primary School) • Southern section – no change in status.
HgL18 (Local)	North Bank, Pages Lane	<p>Extend SINC boundary to west</p> <p>Upgrade to Borough Grade II SINC.</p>
HgL19 (Local)	Haringey Allotments	<p>Citation revision to update the fact that not all allotments are Local SINCS</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Update non-SINC allotments to this status.</p>

Table 2: Summary of New SINC Recommendations

Site ref.	Site name	Recommendation
pHgBII100	Lordship Recreation Ground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include as extension to Lordship Lane Recreation Ground • Include within designation to Borough Grade I

Site ref.	Site name	Recommendation
pHgBII101*	North Bank, Pages Lane (west)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include within Extension to HgL18 • Upgrade to Borough Grade II
pHgL102	Downhills Recreation Ground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include as extension to Downhills Recreation Ground (HgL09). • Include within designation as a Local SINC
pHgL103	The Westbury Banks Nature Reserve	Designate as a Local SINC
pHgL104	Duckett's Common and Green Gate Common	Designate as a Local SINC
pHgL105	Muswell Hill (aka Golf Course) Allotments	Designate as a Local SINC
pHgL106	Weir Hall Road Community Open Space	Designate as a Local SINC
pHgL107	Springfield Community Park	Designate as a Local SINC
pHgL108	Armada Green	Designate as a Local SINC
pHgL109	Brunswick Road Open Space	Designate as a Local SINC
pHgL110	Stationers Park	Designate as a Local SINC

* By convention (see GiGL Data Standards, H003), extensions to SINC are considered as potential SINC in the first instance. Whilst the descriptions of the extensions to Lordship Recreation Ground and Downhills Park are considered as separate sites here, the extension for North Bank, Pages Lane is listed in Table 2 for consistency, but the overall description of the extension area listed within the main SINC entry.

In addition, MKA Ecology Ltd are currently preparing habitat management plans for the five priority SINC within the borough (Parkland Walk, Finsbury Park and the Boating Lake, Coldfall Wood, Queens Wood and Bluebell Woods). These Habitat Management Plans will detail how to create and manage habitats to maximise the ecological value of the priority SINC in the long-term, along with recommendations for protected species enhancements measures. Method statements on how to enact these recommendations and methods for monitoring progress will also be provided. Detail on habitat creation, management and enhancement will also be shown visually through annotated location plans.

SINC assessment criteria

- *Representation*: The best examples of each major habitat type are selected. These include typical urban habitats such as abandoned land colonised by nature. Where a habitat is not extensive in a search area it will be appropriate to conserve all or most of it, whereas where it is more extensive a smaller percentage will be conserved.
- *Habitat Rarity*: The presence of a rare habitat makes a site important, because the loss of, or damage to, a few sites threaten the survival of the habitat in the search area.
- *Species Rarity*: The presence of a rare species also makes the site important.
- *Habitat Richness*: Protecting a site with a rich selection of habitat types not only conserves those habitats, but also the wide range of organisms that live within them and the species that require more than one habitat type for their survival. Rich sites also afford more opportunities for enjoyment and educational use.
- *Species Richness*: Generally, sites that are species rich are preferred, as this permits the conservation of a correspondingly large number of species (however, some habitats such as reed beds, heaths and acid woodlands, are intrinsically relatively species poor).
- *Size*: Large sites are generally more important than small sites. They may allow for species with special area requirements. Larger sites may be less vulnerable to small scale disturbance, as recovery is sometimes possible from the undisturbed remainder. They are more able to withstand visitors. Size is also related to the richness of habitat and species. The evaluation of the site's size was based on professional judgement, which was informed by the information on the extent of the site relative to the local area. For those sites of notable size, these were considered to be of particular importance in the local area, for example a large site within an urban area is considered to be of notable size, and which due to its size provides a significant contribution to a strategic wildlife corridor.
- *Important Populations of Species*: Some sites are important because they hold a large proportion of the population of a species for the search area.
- *Ancient Character*: Some sites have valuable ecological characteristics derived from long periods of traditional management, or even continuity in time to woodlands and wetlands that occupied before agriculture. Ancient woodlands, old parkland trees and traditionally managed grasslands tend to have typical species that are rare elsewhere. These habitats deserve protection also because of the ease with which they are damaged by changes in management.
- *Recreatibility*: The more difficult it is to recreate a site's habitat the more important it is to retain it. (Ponds can be created from scratch within a few years – whereas woodlands take decades). Certain habitats cannot be recreated because of practical reasons such as land availability and cost.
- *Typical Urban Character*: Features such as canals, walls, bridges, railway sidings colonised by nature often have a juxtaposition of artificial and wild features. Some of these habitats are particularly rich in species/have rare species/communities. Particular physical or chemical substrates may allow rare species to thrive. They may also have particular visual qualities.
- *Cultural and Historic Character*: Sites such as historic gardens with semi-wild areas, garden suburbs, churchyards which have reverted to the wild may have a unique blend of cultural and natural history.
- *Geographic Position*: Considers the site within areas of deficiency in access to nature.
- *Access*: An important consideration – especially in areas where there are limited opportunities for large urban populations to enjoy the natural world. Some access

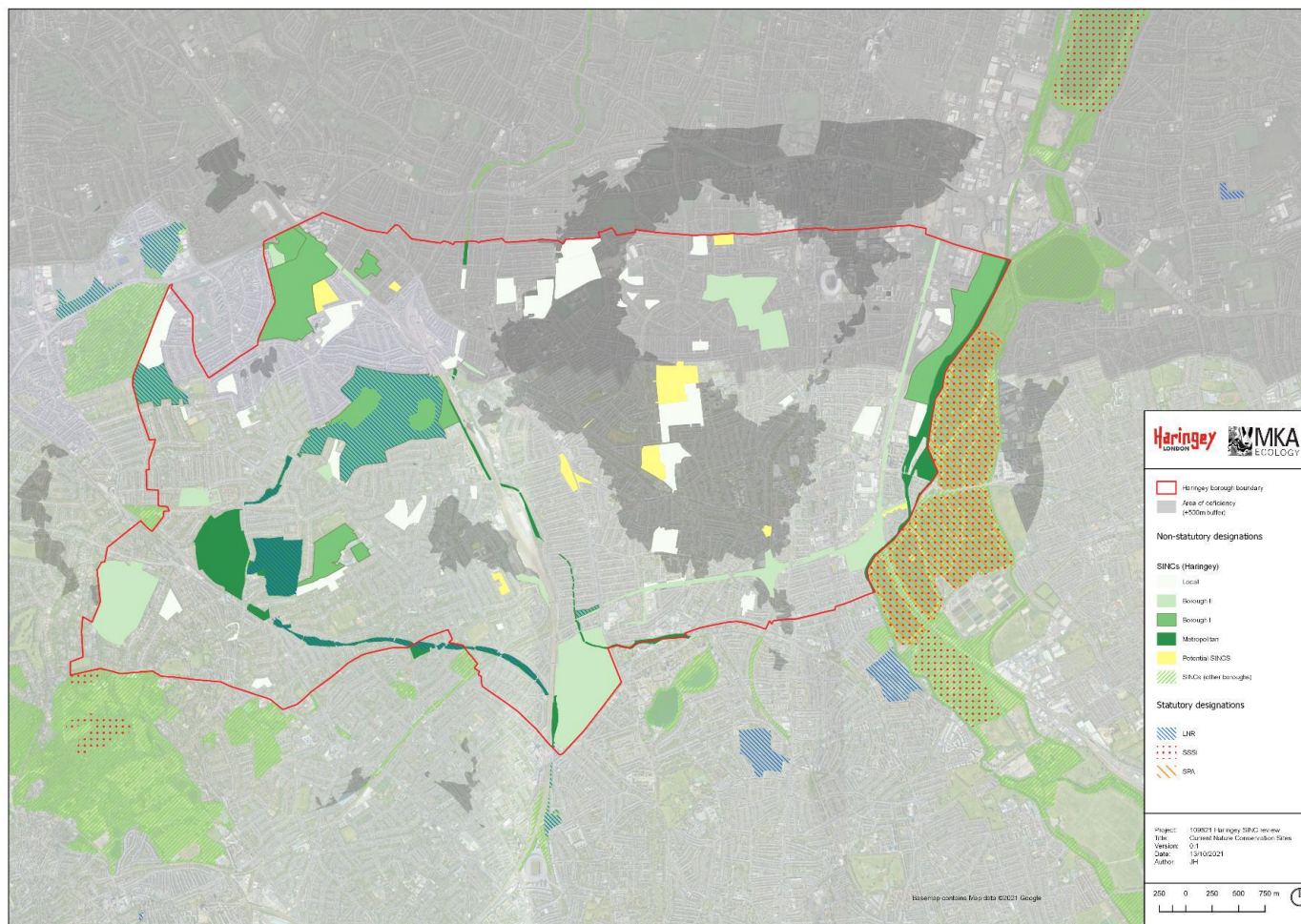
is desirable to all but the most sensitive sites, but direct physical access to all parts of a site may not be desirable.

- *Use*: The current use of the site, relating to how the site is used by people.
- *Potential*: Where a site can be enhanced given modest changes in management practices gives it value. Opportunity exists where a site is likely to become available for nature conservation use, or where there is local enthusiasm.
- *Aesthetic Appeal*: Factors which contribute to the enjoyment of the experience of visiting a site seclusion/views/variety of landscape etc

These criteria may either be used solely (e.g., the presence of a rare assemblage alone) or in combination and are applied to assess a site's status. The emphasis is on the use of professional judgement and the application of a holistic view of the worth of a site, both within its boundaries (e.g., range and quality of habitats) but also within the wider landscape. The criteria are relative, not absolute.

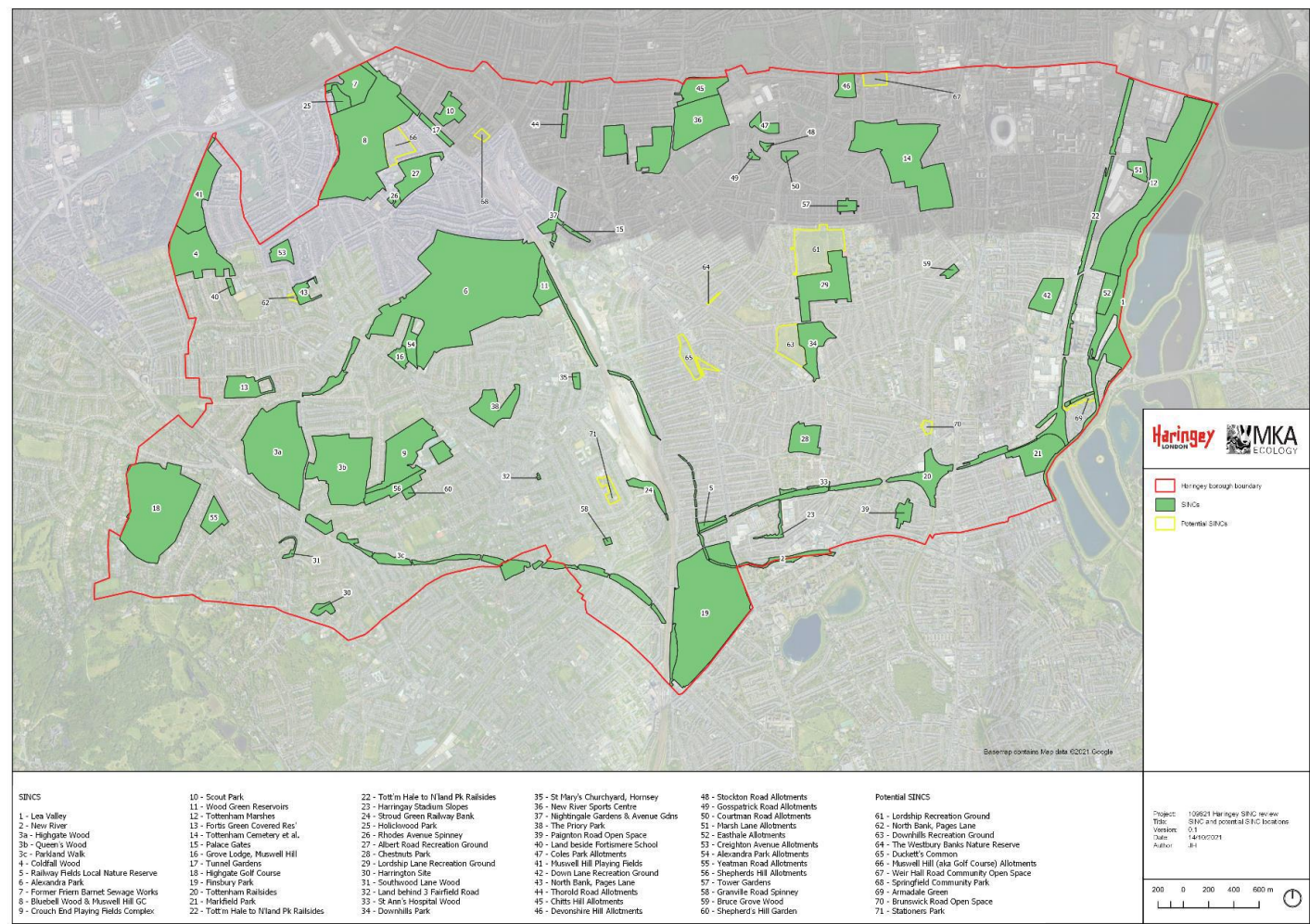
Appendix B

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation & Maps



Appendix C

SINCS and potential SINCS within the present study



Appendix D

2009 Biodiversity Action Plan Appraisal SWOT

Strengths	<p>Good reference to existing policies and actions and includes Programme of new action.</p> <p>Plan was made up with the help of several Council services and the LBH and London Biodiversity Partnerships.</p> <p>Integration of Biodiversity within Council Services</p> <p>Environmental Education Strategy, to promote National Sustainable Schools Framework. And to encourage and maintain behaviour and promote health and well-being.</p> <p>Actions have a named lead officer.</p> <p>All SINC and AoNCD identified.</p> <p>LNR</p> <p>Action tables are clear and easy to read.</p> <p>Links to other local and regional action plans e.g. woodland to garden, bats.</p>	Opportunity	<p>Promotes specific actions on selected habitats and species to meet the biodiversity duty (NERC 2006)</p> <p>NI197 (pg 15) Sound statement of intent, targets and actions (may need reviewing)</p> <p>How you can help tips, but perhaps not in the right place or clear enough?</p> <p>Who are they for?</p> <p>Habitats chosen may need reselecting whereas sites such as wasteland may need to be recognised.</p> <p>To work with GiGL (London's biological records centre) to support nature conservation work in Haringey.</p>
Weaknesses	<p>Layout, whole document doesn't flow. Hard to read</p> <p>List of tables and figures. Hard to read.</p> <p>Legislation needs updating</p> <p>Is street lighting relevant in BAP?</p> <p>Links to Greenest borough – more of an environment management theme e.g. carbon reduction</p> <p>Actions are not timely</p> <p>Maps</p> <p>No photos</p> <p>Table of SINC, should it contain more info e.g. kind of habitat, size?</p>	Threats	<p>Climate change.</p> <p>Incorporate biodiversity within our Community Strategies in meeting the challenges of building sustainable communities.</p> <p>Appendix refers to previous BAP (2004) objectives and actions not being achieved and carried over to the 2009.</p> <p>Voluntary work has not been recorded that could have influenced the targets.</p>

References

Place holder **References**

To be included in final document.

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Tree and Woodland Plan

August 2022

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Introduction

The urban forest, which includes both public and privately owned trees, plays a key role in making cities habitable environments for people. Trees remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, filter air pollution and produce oxygen. They are also essential in helping to combat climate change and extreme weather events by providing shade, cooling the air and reducing the impact of heavy rainfall.

Trees and greenspaces also provide a range of social, cultural and health benefits. They can have a positive impact on people's physical and mental wellbeing. One example being that trees help to create a more attractive streetscape that encourages people to engage in active travel through cycling and walking. The importance of the urban forest and the services it provides is now widely recognised as essential to combat climate change and this plan has been developed to help promote, enhance and manage this critical resource.

Haringey's urban forest is made up of all the trees and woodlands in the borough including street trees, trees in parks and on housing estates. It also includes trees in private gardens and along linear transport routes. They range from individual ornamental or specimen trees in the city landscape to veteran trees in ancient woodlands

Aims

The Aims are taken from the overall Parks and Greenspaces Strategy.

Inclusion and Wellbeing: Providing inclusive parks and greenspaces that all communities in Haringey can benefit from so that usage and enjoyment of our parks and greenspaces reflects the communities living in Haringey and contributes to improved wellbeing.

Climate Change and Sustainability: Supporting the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency by reducing the carbon footprint of parks and greenspaces, protecting and promoting biodiversity, and helping educate everyone in Haringey about contributing toward saving the planet.

A Quality Service: Securing investment, improving standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes

Objectives

- Provide a document that details how Haringey aims to manage our trees and woodlands in a sustainable way
- Ensure Haringey's tree population is healthy, varied in age and diverse in species
- Increase tree canopy cover in Haringey, particularly in areas of deficiency, with the aim of having a minimum of 30% in each Council ward
- Secure greater levels of external funding and increase public sponsorship of new trees to address areas with low tree canopy cover
- Maintain tree canopy cover in wards with higher than 30%, by ensuring replacement trees are planted for those removed and new trees are planted through sponsorship
- Ensure that trees on private land have the best protection through the making of Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs), robust monitoring and enforcement of retained trees on development sites, compliance with existing legislation and the emerging local plan
- Improve our proactive tree maintenance programme to reduce the number of successful subsidence claims and allow for the retention of more trees

- Quantify the value and benefits that Haringey's expansive urban forest provides

The following table identifies the measures the Tree and Woodland Plan will contribute to the aims of the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy.

Strategic Aim	Quality measure	Purpose
Inclusion and wellbeing	Increase tree canopy cover in areas of deficiency to 30%.	To ensure that more residents can benefit from the services they provide
Inclusion and wellbeing	Encourage greater resident participation in looking after trees, woodlands and helping with identifying areas for new tree planting and participating in projects in their local area.	To develop partnership working and strengthen community involvement
Climate change and sustainability	Seek additional funding to increase tree maintenance in areas where there is an increased risk of subsidence damage occurring.	To prevent damage occurring or reduce the severity of it and allow more trees to be retained
Climate change and sustainability	Draft new planning guidelines for the protection of trees and woodlands and seek enhanced tree cover in relation to new development in Haringey	To retain and enhance tree canopy cover across Haringey
Climate change and sustainability	Ensure a wider variety of tree species are planted to mitigate the predicted impact of climate change	To develop a more healthy and diverse tree population
Climate change and sustainability	Expand the amount of deadwood habitats retained in appropriate locations.	To increase biodiversity, especially for endangered or rare insects
A Quality Service	Increase the number of full time equivalent (FTE) officers in the Tree and Nature Conservation Team.	Staffing numbers as a measure to provide a better service for residents
A Quality Service	Ensure people have access to timely information on proposed tree works in the borough and the reasons for the works.	To develop an understanding Shows perceived quality of parks
A Quality Service	Ensure compliance with timelines set for responses to TPO tree work applications, Conservation Area notices and planning applications where trees are a consideration.	To ensure adequate consideration is given and more trees can be retained

Value of trees for people and places

The following table developed from the London Urban Forest Plan (Nov 2020) sets out the wide-ranging value and environmental services the trees in our urban forest deliver.

Climate change contributions	Countering climate change	Trees remove CO ² to create a carbon sink
		Trees provide significant low carbon options for building and energy
	Tempering severe weather	The capacity of trees to attenuate heavy rains and floodwater slows run off and renders Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems more effective
	Monitoring temperatures	The ability of trees to evaporate water, reflect sunlight and provide shade combine to cut the 'urban heat island' effect
Environment advantages	Valuable aesthetic contributions	More attractive landscape - Eye sores hidden
		Greener more natural - Linking town to country
	Cutting soil erosion	Preserves the valuable soil resource and keeps carbon locked up
	Positive impact on water quality	Trees act as natural filters
	Contributing to wildlife	Increase in biodiversity as cities become more porous with extra links
		Brings wildlife closer to people
Economic dividends	Providing profitable by-products	Firewood - Compost/leaf litter mulch - Renewable fuel (via coppicing) - Timber - Fruit (community orchards)
	Reducing greenspace maintenance costs	Trees are much less maintenance intensive
	Contributing indirectly to local economies	People more productive - Job satisfaction increased - jobs created - Inward investment encouraged - Retail areas with trees perform better - Increased property values - Adds tourism and recreational revenue
Social benefits	Delivering a range of health benefits	Cleaner air means less asthma - Lower risk of skin cancer - Quicker patient recovery times - Reduced stress - Positive impact on mental health and wellbeing - Encourages exercise that can counteract heart disease and Type 2 Diabetes

	Assisting urban living	Improves buildings' energy efficiency and can help alleviate fuel poverty - Improved protection in winter - Increased pedestrian safety - Baffle's noise - Moderated micro-climate - Increased CO ² absorption - Reduced crime levels
	Adding to social value	More harmonious environments - Heightened sense of pride in place - Greater community cohesion
	Offering spiritual support	Heightened self-esteem - Puts people in touch with nature and the seasons - Symptoms of anxiety, depression and insomnia alleviated
	Benefitting education	Concentration increases in 'natural' classrooms - Better learning outcomes

Haringey's policies and plans

Building a fairer, greener borough – Haringey Labour Manifesto 2022-26

Following the local elections in May 2022 the Council's ambition and priorities are based on putting residents at the heart of everything the Council does. For the remainder of 2022 and into 2023, the Council will work with residents to develop the Haringey Local Deal. The Haringey Local Deal will seek to empower communities to make change, putting local people at the forefront of decision-making. The Tree and Woodland Plan will support the delivery of the Haringey Local Deal and in turn the manifesto commitments.

Below we have included extracts from the Manifesto that the Tree and Woodland Plan will help to either directly deliver or support.

Inclusion and wellbeing

Directly

- community gardening and tree planting on estates and trees
- co-produce designs for pocket parks, community gardens and street side verges

Support

- participatory budgeting to help the council set its spending priorities
- contribute to the development of the Young Voices Programme

Climate change and sustainability

Directly

- plant street trees until each ward reaches 30% canopy cover
- plant 10,000 new trees by 2030
- invest in sustainable drainage systems to reduce flooding
- work to create three brand new nature reserves by 2026 and introduce Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

Support

- reduce and eliminate the use of single use plastics
- install green pollution barriers on schools on main roads

- explore green energy production in parks
- identify sites for local food growing can take place

Quality parks

Directly

- install more LED Parks lighting to keep people safe

Support

- apprenticeships
- SEND opportunities

Wider policy context

National strategies

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The NPPF sets out the government's planning policies for England and how they should be applied. It states that planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural environment by recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the natural environment, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services of trees and woodlands, for example. Specifically, the NPPF provides for the protection of irreplaceable habitats such as ancient woodlands and veteran trees. It also requires planning decisions to contribute to conserving and enhancing the local environment.

The 25 Year Environment Plan 2018

This plan sets out the government's aims and objectives for improving the environment. A central tenet of the plan is to increase tree cover in the UK to meet a target of 12% tree cover by 2060. Protecting and planting trees and woodlands in and around towns and cities is a key objective because of the benefits of urban trees that are set out in 'Vision for a Resilient Urban Forest'.

2020 Environment Bill

The Bill will bring into UK law environmental protections and recovery putting the environment at the centre of policy making. It will make sure that we have a cleaner, greener and more resilient country for the next generation. It includes details on enhancing our greenspaces and legally binding target to be set to halt the decline in species abundance by 2030.

Regional strategies

The London Environment Strategy (GLA 2018)

This strategy sets out a number of ambitions in relation to trees and woodlands including the protection and management of the existing urban forest; increasing canopy cover by 10% from current levels, creating 200 hectares of species-rich woodland by 2050 and encouraging naturalistic approaches to flood water management and climate change adaptation.

It also commits to the preparation of an Urban Forest Plan to identify how this will be achieved, for example, through a major programme of tree planting; larger scale woodland creation projects in the Green Belt; improving the methods and data required to identify locations for tree planting and to monitor change in tree canopy cover; and to support and promote the work of the London Tree Officers Association, the Trees and Design Action Group and other partners.

The London Plan (GLA 2021)

The plan outlines the overarching need for green infrastructure within the city. London's network of green and open spaces, and green features in the built environment, should be protected and enhanced. The urban forest is an important element of London's green infrastructure and comprises all the trees in the urban realm, in both public and private spaces, along linear routes and waterways, and in amenity areas. The Mayor wants to increase tree canopy cover in London by 10 per cent by 2050. Trees should be designed into developments from the outset to maximise tree planting opportunities and optimise establishment and vigorous growth. The policy statement (G7) for trees and woodlands is below:-

- A.** London's urban forest and woodlands should be protected and maintained, and new trees and woodlands should be planted in appropriate locations in order to increase the extent of London's urban forest – the area of London under the canopy of trees.
- B.** In their Development Plans, boroughs should:
 - 1. protect 'veteran' trees and ancient woodland where these are not already part of a protected site.
 - 2. identify opportunities for tree planting in strategic locations.
- C.** Development proposals should ensure that, wherever possible, existing trees of value are retained. If planning permission is granted that necessitates the removal of trees there should be adequate replacement based on the existing value of the benefits of the trees removed, determined by, for example, i-tree or CAVAT or another appropriate valuation system. The planting of additional trees should generally be included in new developments – particularly large-canopied species which provide a wider range of benefits because of the larger surface area of their canopy.

Haringey's tree canopy cover

In 2018, the Greater London Authority (GLA) commissioned a project to create a detailed map of tree canopy cover across London, the canopy cover map is approximately 94% accurate.

Haringey measures almost 2,950 hectares and the GLA maps estimated that the canopy cover is 25.5%, which is higher than the London average of 21%.



Using the maps and resulting data identifies which parts of the borough have low existing tree cover and should be targeted for tree planting projects. However, we also recognise that we need to increase canopy cover across the whole borough, where suitable opportunities exist and where we have the funding to do so.

The table below shows the size of each ward in Haringey and its canopy cover. *(Please note these are the 19 wards pre-May 2022 and the canopy cover map will be updated for the final version of the Tree and Woodland Plan)*

Ward name	Hectares	Canopy cover %	Ward name	Hectares	Canopy cover %
Alexandra	261.4	31.9	Northumberland Park	188.8	16.4
Bounds Green	138.6	21.4	Seven Sisters	129.5	18.7
Bruce Grove	93.7	14.9	St. Ann's	109.4	18.7
Crouch End	144	32.9	Stroud Green	109.4	30.6
Fortis Green	199.1	32.7	Tottenham Green	135.9	17.2
Harringay	156.7	23.3	Tottenham Hale	191.2	22.8
Highgate	249.5	45.5	West Green	139.9	19.1
Hornsey	105.4	17.0	White Hart Lane	169.9	21.6
Muswell Hill	165.3	39.1	Woodside	149.7	16.2
Noel Park	122.6	13.8			

Predictably, Highgate has the highest tree canopy cover, and this is partly because the ward includes large open spaces such as Highgate wood, part of Queens wood and Highgate Golf Course, but also there are many large private gardens with trees. Muswell Hill has the second highest and Crouch End the third highest.

The Council has set out an ambition to continue planting trees until the average canopy cover in the borough reaches 30%. Based on the old 19 wards this means that a significant increase is required in 13 of those wards.

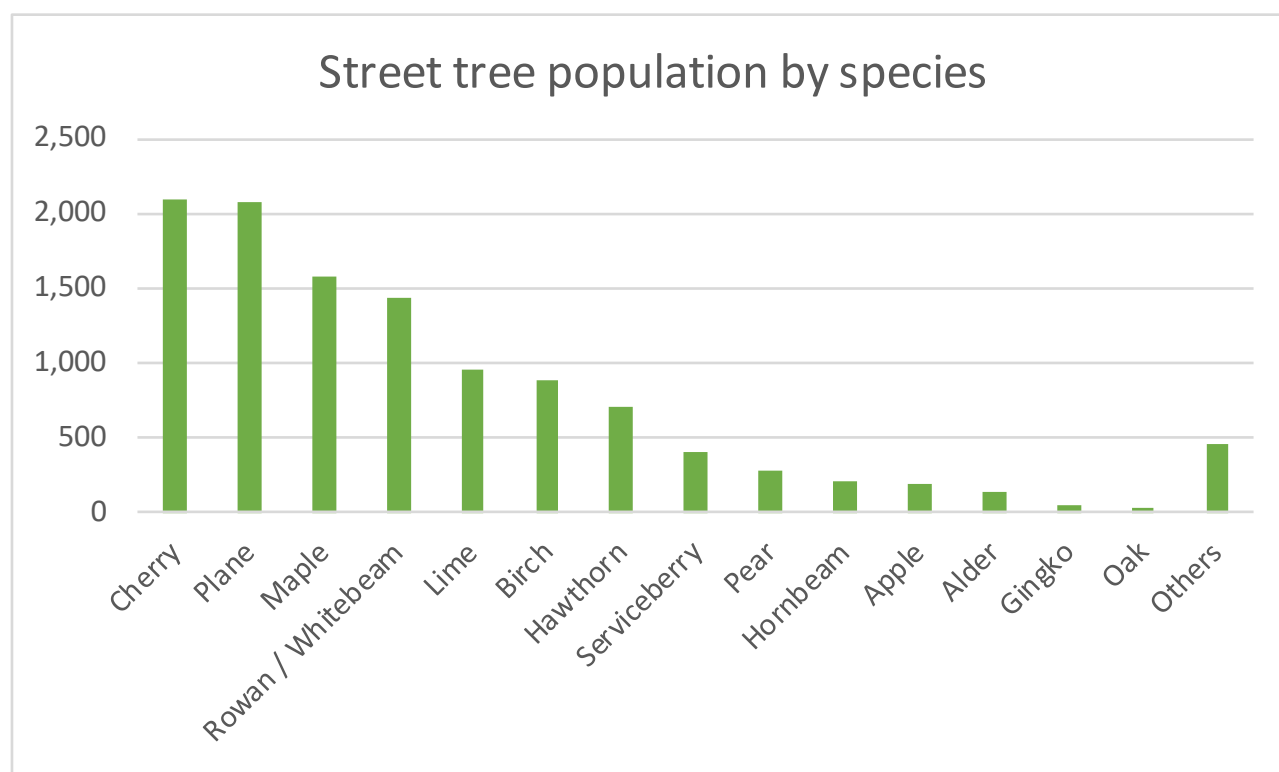
Haringey's tree population

There are approximately 11,500 street trees in Haringey, 9,000 in parks and greenspaces and 8,000 in housing sites. We estimate there are at least another 5-6,000 in woodlands, schools and nature conservation sites that are not currently recorded.

The oldest tree on public land in Haringey is probably the veteran Oak tree in Bruce Castle Park, which is thought to be around 500 years old. Other notable trees include an Oriental plane on the Turner Avenue housing estate, a weeping Beech tree in Priory Park and the Seven Sisters Hornbeam trees, which were re-planted in 1996, but have a historical significance dating back to 1617.

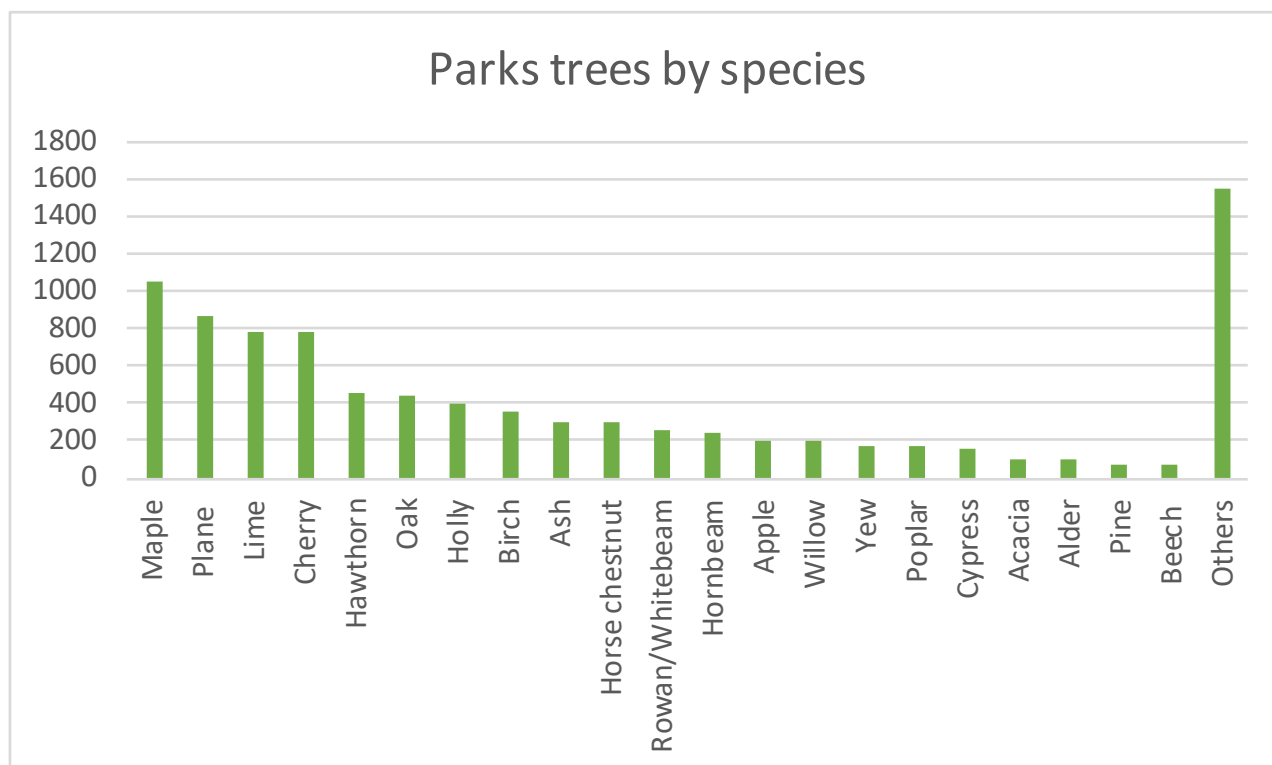
Street trees are an integral and often historical component of the urban landscape and as such are valued by local residents. Many of the oldest and largest street trees are London Plane and Lime, planted during the Victorian era, they are predominantly managed by regular pollarding. The remaining street trees can be classified as ornamental species which have a shorter lifespan and include Cherry, Rowan and Birch. There are also some trees, which can reach a larger mature size, have a longer lifespan, and include Maple and Hornbeam. In recent years, trees with a smaller mature size have been planted and include Serviceberry, Field Maple, Hawthorn, Pear and Apple.

The most common street tree in Haringey is Cherry, followed by London plane, Maple and Rowan/Whitebeam, which we have listed together as there are many hybrids between them.



Haringey's Open Space and Biodiversity Study in 2014 identified 533 hectares of parks, recreation grounds and open spaces, some of which are managed by other organisations. Many of these sites are of significant arboricultural importance as they contain some of the

largest and oldest trees in the Borough. The vast majority of which have the space to grow to their full crown size, without the need for periodic crown reduction works, like those in streets. Within parks and open spaces, the most common tree species are Maple followed by London plane, Lime and Cherry.



Key issues and challenges

Climate change

Climate change is the biggest long-term threat faced by our natural environment and ecosystems, and therefore our own life support systems. We are already seeing signs of long-term changes in weather patterns and an increase in extreme weather events such as droughts, fires, floods and storms, which all have an impact on trees and woodlands.

Both Haringey and The Mayor of London declared a 'Climate Emergency' in 2019, in response to the growing threat to our health, our planet and our children and grandchildren's future. It is now widely acknowledged that urgent action is required to mitigate the scale and nature of the ecological crisis impacted by climate change. Making radical changes to our lifestyles (travel, energy consumption, diet) and the way we use land and resources is essential, if we are to avoid dangerous climate breakdown and a devastating loss of nature.

It is also predicted that the impact of climate change on clay soils will lead to an increased risk of subsidence to buildings, which could lead to more claims against trees in London and specifically Haringey, where the underlying soils is predominantly London clay.

Carbon sequestration

Trees and woodlands can play an important role in removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through photosynthesis which locks up (sequesters) carbon in the trunk,

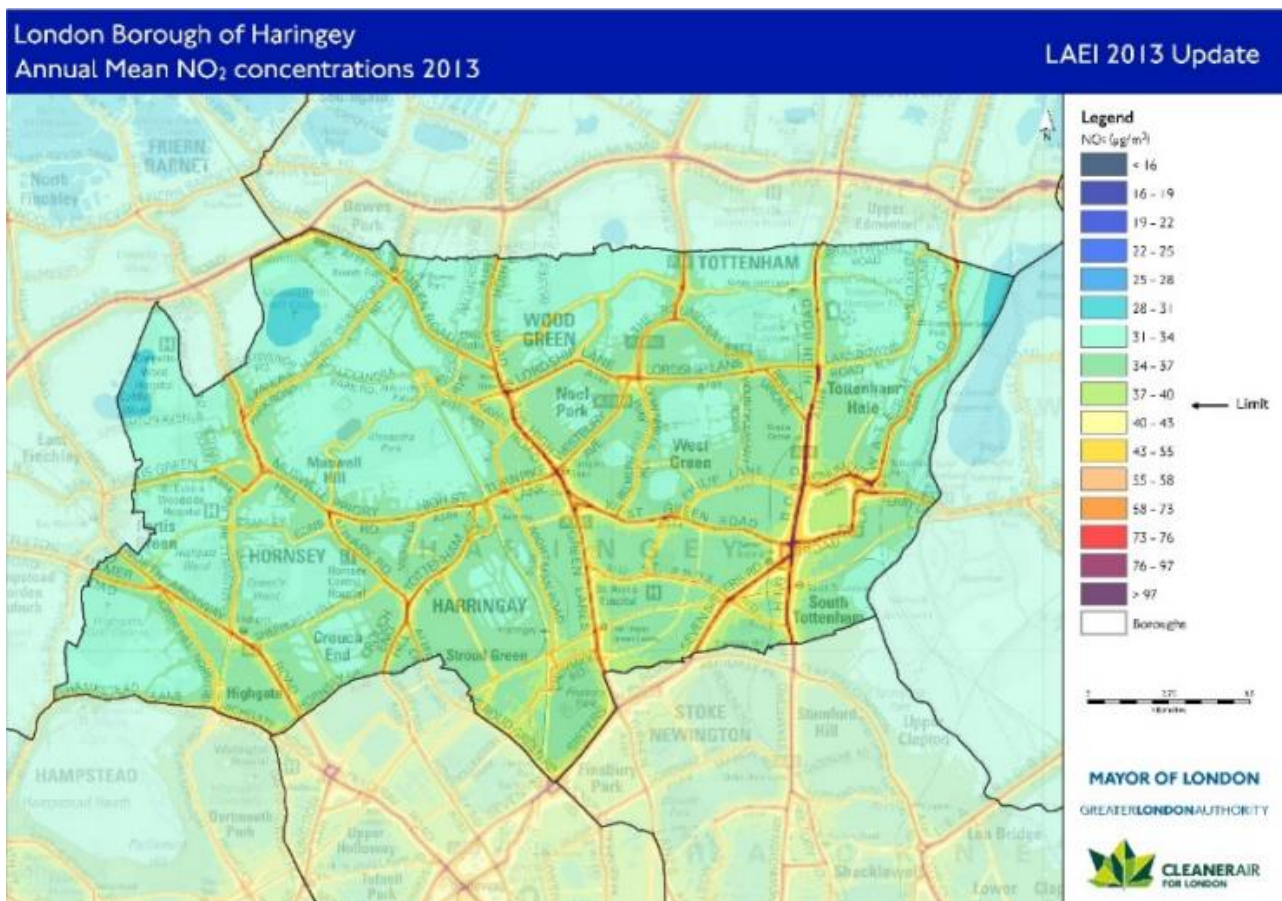
branches, leaves, roots and also in the underlying soil. Although their removal and decay eventually releases carbon back into the atmosphere, there is a net increase in carbon sequestered if the urban forest is managed sustainably with more trees reaching maturity than being lost to natural decline or felling. Ensuring the protection of London's existing mature woodland and trees means that over 2.3M tonnes of carbon remains locked up.

Air quality

Poor air quality can cause serious health problems and reduce the quality of life for all of us. Its impact is most severely felt by children, whose lungs are developing, older people whose lung functioning may be in decline and those with existing heart and lung conditions. In addition, people living in areas near major roads, which are often some of the most deprived parts of Haringey are exposed to particularly high levels of pollution.

Trees play a part in mitigating air pollution, especially by intercepting particulate matter, which remains in the canopy until being washed away by rainfall. However, the main value of green infrastructure for urban air quality is not its ability to remove pollutants, but its ability to control their flow or distribution. Trees and other vegetation can assist in dispersing pollutants away from the source and help provide cleaner surrounding air. A vegetation barrier (such as a tree) can halve the levels of pollutants just behind the barrier.

The London i-Tree Eco study estimated that the capital's 8 million trees remove an estimated 2,000 tonnes of pollution from the air each year, equivalent to 13% of PM10 particulates, which are fine particles that can be drawn into respiratory airways where they may adversely affect a person's health. Trees also remove 14% of Nitrogen Oxide (NO₂) emitted by road transport. Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) concentrations are measured annually to identify areas that have concentrations 1.13 higher than the European Limit Value. The worst affected areas in Haringey are along the major road network such as Archway Road, Wood Green and Tottenham High Roads, Green Lanes and Seven Sisters Road. New trees have been planted in these areas during the last 10 years, but more are needed to have a greater impact.



Modelled map of annual mean NO₂ concentrations (from the LAEI 2013)

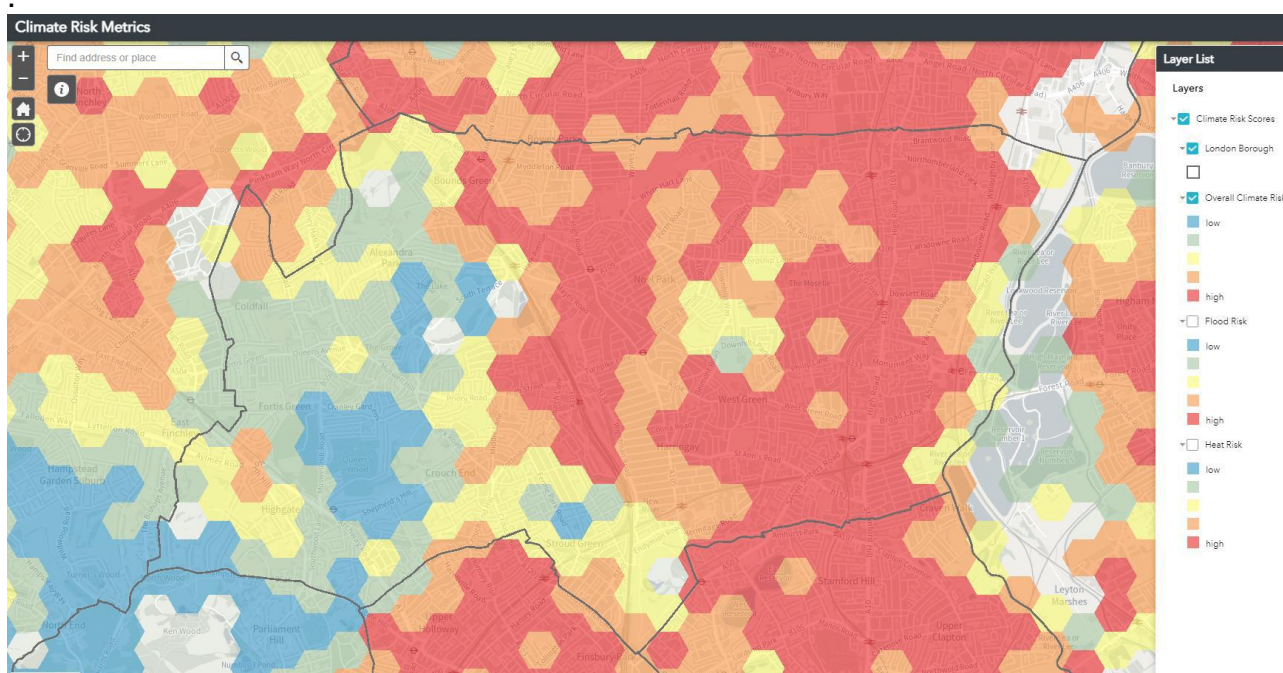
Temperature

In cities, the climate is significantly warmer than in the surrounding countryside. This is known as the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect. This is caused by a range of factors including urban surfaces which absorb and radiate heat and heat generated by buildings, transportation, and lighting.

The UHI effect can have negative impacts on human health, ranging from general discomfort to exhaustion, respiratory problems, and heat stroke. There is concern because as our climate changes it is expected that the UHI effect will increase in severity due to rising temperatures.

Trees and green spaces help us reduce the UHI effect as they have been shown to reduce temperatures close to them by providing shade and through transpiration, where water evaporates from aerial parts of trees and plants. Trees in cities can cool the air by 2°C to 8°C, which also reduces air conditioning costs.

The Haringey Climate Risk Map shows those parts of the borough most at risk from the impacts of climate change. There is an uncanny relationship with those areas with the lowest tree canopy cover in the borough.



Flooding

The interception of rainfall by trees has a significant impact on reducing localised flooding by slowing the flow of water into our drainage systems. Larger canopy trees are of greatest benefit. Incidents of flooding can be further alleviated by including engineered SuDS (Sustainable Underground Drainage Systems) into parks and open spaces and new highway planting schemes. Existing mature tree pits also have the potential to be reconfigured to increase the water holding capacity of root zones. SuDS also reduce the pressure on the underground drainage systems and natural water features, like rivers.

Subsidence

The underlying soil in Haringey is predominantly London Clay, which shrinks when moisture is lost and swells when moisture is absorbed. The drying out and re-wetting of the soil occurs throughout the year as reflected in changes in temperature and the amount of rainfall. Structures built on shrinkable clay can sometimes be subject to movement during this process. Often the amounts are so small and they go unnoticed. However, the location of trees and other significant vegetation can exacerbate the drying of the soil by extracting moisture through their roots. This can have an impact on the part of a structure closest to it, causing it to move in contrast to the rest of the building. This differential movement causes visible cracks to appear. The cracks open in late summer and close again in winter as reflected by the moisture content of the soil.

During the summer months, water uptake by trees and other vegetation is at its highest, but rainfall may be at its lowest and this can result in the soil drying out. During the winter months, plants become dormant and levels of rainfall usually increase and allow the soil to become re-hydrated. However, in some instances the amount of water extracted is more than is absorbed from annual rainfall, therefore, the soil never has the opportunity to become totally re-hydrated and it develops a permanent desiccation. At this point, the cracks will not

completely close and to remediate the damage to the building, repair works may be necessary.

The Council acknowledges that trees under its ownership may be implicated in causing subsidence damage to adjacent structures. To mitigate this, we have for many years had in place a systematic maintenance programme for all street trees and those that have been identified as a potential risk. Occasionally, proactive tree management does not prevent subsidence damage occurring and it may be necessary to remove a tree.

In 2008, the London Tree Officers Association (LTOA) published the third edition of their Risk Limitation Strategy for Tree Roots Claims. This is widely recognised as current best practice for managing tree related subsidence claims. We are seeking to sign up to the Risk Limitation Strategy and manage claims in line with its recommendations, but there may be instances where claims will also be managed on an individual basis. Further details on how we manage tree root claims can be found in Appendix 4

Pests, diseases and biosecurity

In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the identification of new pests and diseases that impact trees. All were previously evident in Europe and have now found their way to the UK. They threaten some of our most commonly found tree species such as Oaks, Ash, Horse chestnut and London plane. The loss of such trees can have a devastating impact as they are large canopy trees, which provide greater benefits and are often very prominent features in the city landscape.

Local authorities are sent regular updates from the Forestry Commission and we also receive advice and management recommendations from the London Tree Officers Association (LTOA). The LTOA (2014) issued a mission statement that recommended proactive management to protect the tree stock throughout London. It outlines the key pests and diseases which could significantly impact important tree species in the city and details what actions are necessary to manage the risk. Our existing planned inspection programme will help to identify pests and diseases ensuring that appropriate measures can be taken to limit their impact.

Tree work contractors and tree nurseries who supply Haringey must all abide by Biosecurity policies to help prevent the unnecessary spread of pests and diseases. For contractors, this means the sterilisation of tools in accordance to BS:3998/2010 *Tree Work – Recommendations* (BSI, 2010). For nurseries, it means ensuring trees are grown in the UK disease free and any imported stock are kept for a minimum of one year within the UK before sale.

Biodiversity

Biodiversity is the term used to describe all life on Earth, in all its variety. In natural habitats, there is a multitude of living things interacting, both large and minutely small. The greater the range and number of these plant, fungi, microbe and animal species, the healthier an area's ecosystem is. This is because a more robust and complex habitat can provide the different conditions to suit the special needs of a greater range of species.

Biodiversity allows us to live healthy and happy lives; it provides us with food directly or through pollination, medical discoveries, and ecosystem services. The latter includes

everything from cleaning water and absorbing chemicals, which wetlands do, to providing oxygen for us to breathe. Biodiversity also provides aesthetic and cultural value to our lives and has been shown to be good for our mental and physical wellbeing.

Haringey contains a wide variety of habitats including; ancient woodlands, rivers, marshes, allotments and many different parks and open spaces. The protection of these habitats is of the utmost importance in order to safeguard the existing wildlife and also provide opportunities to enhance biodiversity. The range of different flora and fauna found within an urban environment can have a positive impact on our quality of life by providing contact with the natural world. Biodiversity increases the value of a site for educational and recreational activities.

Trees and woodlands are essential for biodiversity. Native Oaks support 423 different insect species and 324 lichens, Willows support up to 450 different insects and 160 lichens. The value of individual trees for wildlife also depends on its age and condition, with different species often being dependent upon trees at different times in its lifecycle.

Dead and decaying wood is an important habitat within trees and woodlands. Decaying wood supports up to 1,700 species, which is approximately 6% of total British fauna, with 40% of these species being endangered or nationally scarce. It is important to have a wide range of dead and decaying wood from different tree species, retained both in the tree and on the ground as large individual branches and as smaller branches put into habitat piles or loggeries. We will aim to retain dead and decaying wood where it is safe to do so, and this will principally be in woodlands and parks sites and this may include dead and decaying tree trunks and stumps.

Trees in parks, housing estates and on streets are also of value for biodiversity, where there are a greater variety in both native tree species and ornamental trees which are also beneficial. Trees are often crucial parts of green corridors linking different sites and key to reducing the effects of fragmentation on biodiversity.

Woodlands

Woodlands in the UK are home to a wealth of wildlife, and ancient woodlands in particular support more species than any other land-based habitat in the UK and they are home to more threatened species than any other. Centuries of undisturbed soils, mature native trees and accumulated dead and decaying wood have created the perfect environment for communities of fungi, insects, birds and mammals, some of which are only found in ancient woodlands.

Haringey contains four ancient woodlands; Queens wood, Coldfall wood, Bluebell wood and Highgate wood (which is managed by the City of London).

Haringey managed sites and others of ecological interest are protected and managed in accordance with their respective management plans and the borough Biodiversity Action Plan. Tree works in woodlands and conservation sites are predominantly carried out to mitigate actionable nuisances and potential risks to site users. We are engaged with external partners such as the Woodland Trust and other experts to draft new management plans for these sites to put things in place to ensure their long-term protection. Council officers also work closely with 'Friends' groups and volunteers under the guidance of The Conservation Volunteers (TCV), to coordinate works such as coppicing and the clearance of invasive species.

Tree inspection and maintenance policy

Having a planned inspection and maintenance programme is the most appropriate method to maintain trees in a healthy condition. It also reduces the risk of tree failure, nuisance to residents and is more effective in managing complaints.

Currently all street trees and those on housing sites are subject to a planned inspection regime. Street trees will be inspected on a three to four yearly cycle, dependent on species, location and risk of tree root damage. Trees managed on a three yearly cycle are predominantly London plane and Lime trees growing in close proximity to buildings and have historically been managed as pollards. They are also usually in areas pre-disposed to subsidence damage. Trees in parks and open spaces will be inspected within a three yearly cyclical programme, with trees on housing estates inspected every four years.

In light of the recommendations in the court case *Witley Parish Council v Cavanagh 2018*, we will be reviewing our tree inspection regimes in high-risk zones (i.e. along public roads and where there is a high risk of serious harm to life or damage to property). It is proposed to increase it to at least every 2 years and ideally every 18 months when the trees are in and out of leaf.

Reactive works are carried out to manage risks to the public, they include felling dead trees, removing hazardous branches, clearing obstructions to sightlines and infrastructure and pruning tree roots to prevent trip hazards. They also include initial works in relation to any new insurance claims. Reactive works are carried out in response to enquiries from other Council Services, residents or where officers have identified them when travelling in the borough.

The type of pruning works undertaken depends on the trees' location and its species. Minimal works will be carried out in order to sufficiently manage the tree. This may often only involve removing the lower branches to increase clearance for pedestrians and vehicle traffic and/or cutting back the branches from adjacent buildings. A reduction of the height of a tree is usually carried out for managing the potential risk of subsidence damage or where the tree has been managed by crown reduction historically.

The Council will try to avoid removing a tree or undertaking unnecessary pruning works where there is no good arboricultural reason. However, it may be necessary to remove a healthy tree in certain circumstances, for example if one has caused extensive damage to a footway and no engineering solutions exist to repair the damage and allow the tree to be retained. If tree removals are proposed, local resident's and ward councillors will be notified in advance and given the reasons why. The Council will mitigate the loss of tree cover by ensuring replacement trees are planted. The number of replacements trees will be in relation to the environmental value of the existing canopy cover that will be lost. Further details on our maintenance policy can be found in Appendix 1.

The Council has an emergency plan for severe weather conditions and has Arboricultural Officers on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for any other tree related emergencies. Any calls from the public or the emergency services are recorded, and then passed direct to an Arboricultural Officer. They will aim to attend site within 1 hour and make an assessment of what works are necessary.

Resources

The Councils Tree Service will consist of a manager, a Senior Arboricultural Officer, a Planning Arboricultural Officer and two Arboricultural Officers. We will aim to provide a professional and reliable service to residents, members and other council services, by ensuring that all advice and recommendations are given in a clear and consistent manner and are in accordance with council policies and industry guidance. Our main duties are to:

- manage inspections and surveys of the boroughs trees
- develop and maintain the computerised tree management system (so we have an accurate database which includes, location, species, age, size and maintenance history)
- plan and monitor all planned and reactive tree works
- plan and manage a borough wide tree planting programme
- deal with public enquiries and complaints on tree related matters to
 - provide professional advice to other council services and ward members
 - assist planning officers in reviewing and determining planning applications, where trees are a consideration
 - review and determine all applications and notifications for proposed works to trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) or those located in a Conservation Area
 - assess the suitability of trees for new TPOs

Working with external partners

We want to ensure that trees in Haringey get the appropriate protection and the management we aspire to is supported not only by residents, but also external organisations. We already have partnerships in place with Trees for Streets and The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) and are currently working on projects with the Woodland Trust, Treeconomics, and consultants who are experts in managing ancient trees and soil science. We will also seek other partnerships that can assist us with our plans to expand Haringey's urban forest and its future management.

Tree planting policy

We recognise that an increase in tree planting across the borough is necessary to help mitigate the impact of climate change and increase the wide range of benefits they provide. Trees are one of the only assets whose value increases as they mature, therefore expanding the existing tree population while also having a long-lasting positive effect on resident's health and wellbeing.

Priority for new tree planting will be given to areas with existing low canopy cover, along main transport routes and where pollution levels are high.

Haringey has adopted the principal of planting the 'right tree in the right place', which is identified in the Urban Tree Manual (Forestry Commission 2020). The successful establishment of urban trees requires a series of informed decisions, from the careful selection of appropriate tree species and planting location, to maintaining young trees and protecting them from biosecurity threats. It should also reduce future nuisance issues and unnecessary maintenance costs.

The risk of subsidence damage to buildings has resulted in a reduction in the planting of larger forest type species, which have a high water demand, in most streets. The Council does, however, recognise that large trees make a greater contribution in terms of environmental benefits and they will be considered for planting in appropriate locations such as in parks and open spaces, along transport corridors and in areas where the risk of subsidence is low.

We have also increased the level of aftercare for new trees, which will help more of them survive and become independent in the landscape. We would like to encourage residents to play a part in the establishment of new trees. In a recent project on the Ferry Lane housing estate, residents took on 'ownership' of the new trees and assisted the Council with watering and monitoring them. We would like to expand this across the borough for other planting projects by encouraging participation during the pre-planting consultation period.

Funding

Between 2008 and 2016, we had a budget and secured additional external funding, which allowed us to have a planned approach to planting new and replacement trees in streets, parks and housing sites. During this period, 3,921 new street trees were planted. In the same period, 1,716 were removed, the vast majority of which were dead, dying or had become potentially hazardous. Between 2017 and 2019, funding for tree planting was significantly reduced and fewer new and replacement trees were planted.

In 2020, we received a grant via the Urban Tree Challenge Fund (Defra/GLA) and we planted 497 new street trees during the 20/21 and 21/22 planting seasons. These were in the nine council wards with less than 20% existing tree canopy cover. A new capital grant will help to support the tree sponsorship scheme and allow the expansion of tree planting in areas of deficiency; however, additional funding will be necessary to meet the Councils ambition to plant 10,000 new trees before 2030.

Tree sponsorship scheme

In 2021, we launched a new tree sponsorship scheme with an external partner, Trees for Streets. Trees for Streets is a collaboration between Trees for Cities, and the local social innovator, Start with Local. The scheme provides an online platform, where Haringey residents can request trees be planted in their local area. The scheme has improved the marketing and engagement required to encourage a greater number of people to sponsor trees and assist with their aftercare. In the first year after the launch, we planted 145 sponsored trees.

Community engagement

For many years, we have given prior notice when trees are being felled and when planned works are scheduled. However, we wish to improve how we communicate with residents, resident associations and other voluntary groups, such as Friends of Parks groups. We recognise the growing interest and strength of feeling of resident wishing to protect and improve their local environment and want to be informed when changes are planned, especially regarding trees and natural places.

It is essential that local people feel engaged, and their views are considered. We will seek to provide the necessary information in a timely manner, on why decisions are made when trees are being removed, when significant works are planned and when new trees are proposed for planting, we will ensure that we use all the means that are now available to us through social media to actively communicate. We will also carry out site visits to meet with residents, and 'Friends of Parks' groups to discuss works and clearly explain why we believe they are necessary. See appendix 3 for details on prior notice for tree works.

Valuing Haringey's urban forest

Haringey's Tree Officers and volunteers took part in the London wide i-Tree project that was completed in 2014. The London urban forest assessment was one of the largest scale i-Tree projects completed to date with over 700 plots surveyed throughout inner and outer London. The study highlighted the essential role that green infrastructure plays in providing ecosystem services that make London a vibrant place to live, visit and work.

Here are a few of the ecosystem services and values provided by the approximate 8.4 million trees in London's urban forest:

- 2.4 million tonnes of carbon stored valued at £146.9 million
- 77,000 tonnes of carbon sequestered annually valued at £4.79 million per year
- 2241 tonnes of pollution removed annually valued at £126.1 million per year
- 3.5 million cubic meters of avoided storm water runoff valued at £2.8 million per year
- £260,600.0 per year of energy savings attributed to trees in relation to buildings

We believe it may be beneficial to carry out another survey specific to Haringey to provide data on the services and values that green infrastructure provide in the borough. We will investigate this proposal further in the first five years of the plan.

Action plan

An Action Plan has been prepared to support the tree and woodland plan. It sets out what we hope to achieve between 2022 and 2036. It identifies the actions necessary to meet the key objectives and build on the recent improvements in the management and enhancement of the Borough's tree population. Successful implementation of the Tree and Woodland Plan will involve co-operation across Council services. Some of the key actions include;

- increase tree planting across the borough, with the aim to plant at least 10,000 new trees by 2030
- develop an Urban Forest planting plan to achieve at least 30% canopy cover in all wards where this is possible
- review signing up to the LTOA Risk Limitation Strategy for managing tree root claims.
- review the current tree maintenance programme to determine if an increased pruning regime will result in a reduction in tree root claims and greater tree retention
- create new areas of woodland, including mini-forests and expand our hedge network.
- carry out an evaluation of Haringey's urban forest to determine its value in terms of the environmental benefits that are provided
- review and update information on tree management procedures on Council website, to include an interactive digital map of Council trees

- seek to establish a Tree Forum, where residents groups and other organisations can meet to discuss important issues and seek to cooperate on joint initiatives

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Tree management policies

Tree removal or pruning will not be undertaken where:

- trees are perceived to be too large
- there is a perceived risk that subsidence damage may occur in the future
- satellite dish TV reception is interrupted
- sunlight may be blocked from reaching properties or gardens
- seasonal or naturally occurring events happen, e.g. falling leaves, fruit, seeds or berries, bird droppings, pollen allergies
- insects or other non-hazardous wildlife are present
- views are obscured
- it is proposed to install a vehicle crossover (except in extenuating circumstances)

The Council will undertake tree works to fulfil its legal obligations to ensure the safety of the public and properties.

Pruning works will be undertaken where:

- there is an actionable nuisance to built structures, (e.g. branches are in physical contact with walls, windows and gutters)
- highways infrastructure (e.g. road signs, streetlights, etc) and sightlines for vehicles and pedestrians are obscured
- previous maintenance regimes have determined that future works are of the same specification for that specimen, e.g. pollarding, crown reduction
- hazardous pests and diseases are evident (e.g. Brown Tail Moth)

Trees will usually be removed where:

- they are dead or visibly in decline (except in woodlands and other open spaces where they pose little risk to the public)
- an inspection has identified visible decay, fungal brackets indicating possible root and trunk decay or any other defect that would lead to the tree failing (see comments in brackets above)
- evidence has been provided that they are a contributing factor in causing subsidence damage and proactive tree management has had no effect
- they are causing significant damage to the public highway and engineering solutions are not feasible to allow retention

In 2020, the London Tree Officers Association) published a position statement setting out some of the reasons why London boroughs remove trees as part of good urban tree management.

Permission to remove trees to allow for new vehicle crossovers will not be granted except in extenuating circumstances or there a good arboricultural reason to do so. On the rare occasions where permission is granted, all costs for tree removal works and the planting of replacement trees will be borne by the applicant.

The installation of new CCTV cameras must take into consideration existing trees to prevent requests for unnecessary pruning works or the removal of trees to improve desired sightlines.

Appendix 2 – Tree planting policy

The Council will aim to plant replacement trees for all those that are removed from streets, parks and housing sites. If we are not able to re-plant in the exact same location, we will identify an alternative site in the vicinity of where tree(s) are removed.

We will also seek to identify new locations for trees, where they will offer greater value, such as areas where existing canopy cover levels are low, along main transport routes and where pollution levels are high.

We will work with colleagues in Highways to identify opportunities to allow for new trees to be planted and mature trees to be given more protection as part of new footway projects, SuDS, new parklets and other projects.

We will work to identify and create new mini forests and expand our hedge network within parks and greenspaces.

We will aim to include at least a three-year aftercare programme for all tree planting projects except where residents have committed to assisting with watering and monitoring new trees.

We will aim to plant a wide range of tree species, including both native and ornamental trees, especially those that will tolerate droughts and other impacts of climate change.

We will aim to plant large canopy trees where the space permits and where the risk of tree root damage is minimised.

We will seek to encourage greater public involvement in tree planting projects, especially when planting in parks and open spaces and the aftercare of street trees.

Appendix 3 - Community engagement policy

Public information on tree works

We will always give prior notice for the following works:

- felling trees that appear healthy with a trunk diameter of over 7.5cm
- pruning works that may appear contentious to the Council
- new and replacement tree planting

We will not usually give notice for the following works:

- felling of dead trees or those in imminent danger of failing
- felling small trees that appear healthy with a trunk diameter of less than 7.5cm

Timescales for notice will vary according to the type of work, including whether it is urgent and the local significance of the tree. Notification will consist of a variety of methods, including emailing known resident associations, local neighbourhood forums and 'friends' groups. We will also erect notices to trees and send letters to adjacent properties. We will also email ward members when planned tree works and/or tree removals are scheduled within their ward.

The minimum standards for notice will be the following:

- a notice will be attached to a tree scheduled for removal at least thirty days before work start
- emails will be sent to known resident associations and ward members at least thirty days before any scheduled tree removals
- letters will be delivered to 10 properties either side of the tree and the 20 properties opposite

Appendix 4 – Managing subsidence related claims

The LTOA Risk Limitation Strategy recommends that:

Publicly owned trees:

- Local Authorities instigate a regime of cyclical pruning of council owned trees in areas predisposed to building movement, where this is appropriate.
- Local Authorities provide dedicated resources for dealing with subsidence generated claims directed at council owned trees.
- Local Authorities instigate a regime of selective removal and replacement of street tree stock in areas predisposed to building movement, where this is appropriate.

Privately owned trees:

- Local Authorities provide dedicated resources for dealing with subsidence generated Conservation Area notifications and Tree Preservation Order applications.
- Local Authorities review all unsettled claims providing dedicated resources to challenge all unwarranted claims based on poorly investigated and inaccurate evidence or where in the case of preserved trees, The Town and Country Planning (Trees) Regulations 1999 can provide relief from the claim.

All trees:

- Local Authorities challenge unwarranted claims based on poorly investigated and inaccurate evidence.

Making Subsidence claims

The onus is on the owner of a property to prove a tree is an effective cause of subsidence damage to their property. Currently, the Council will usually require the following evidence as a minimum to investigate a claim against one of its trees;

- An engineer's report detailing damage to building (location, nature, BRE category, crack monitoring, drainage survey)
- Plan and profile of foundations
- Site plan indicating location of structure in relation to trees and other vegetation in the vicinity
- Arboricultural report
- Results of soil investigation tests confirming profile, moisture content, plasticity index, desiccation and tree root identification

Appendix 5 – reference documents

- London Urban Forest Plan (2020)
https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/londonurbanforestplan_final.pdf
- The Local Plan and Development Management Policies (DMP 2017)
<https://www.haringey.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy/local-plan/local-plan-development-management-dpd>
- Air Quality Action Plan (2019-2024)
https://www.haringey.gov.uk/sites/haringeygovuk/files/haringey_final_aqap_2019-24_signed.pdf
- Parks Strategy (2022-36)
- Biodiversity Action Plan (2022-36)
- The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework>
- A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment (UK Government 2018)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/25-year-environment-plan>
- 'Our Vision for a Resilient Urban Forest', Urban Forestry and Woodlands Advisory Committee (FWAC) Network (2016)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/700389/urban-forest-final-v4.pdf
- The London Environment Strategy (GLA 2018)
https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/london_environment_strategy_0.pdf
- The London Plan (GLA 2021)
https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the_london_plan_2021.pdf

- London-i-Tree-Report
<https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/documents/7885/London-i-Tree-Report.pdf>
- GLA Canopy Cover Map
<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/parks-green-spaces-and-biodiversity/trees-and-woodlands/tree-canopy-cover-map>
- Risk Limitation Strategy for Tree Roots Claims, London Tree Officers Association (2008) <https://www.ltoa.org.uk/documents-1/risk-limitation-strategy-for-tree-root-claims/126-the-risk-limitation-strategy-for-tree-root-claims/file>
- Biosecurity position statement, London Tree Officers Association (2017)
https://www.ltoa.org.uk/docs/LTOA_Biosecurity_position_statement.pdf
- Why local authorities remove trees a part of good urban tree management, London Tree Officers Association (2020)
https://www.ltoa.org.uk/docs/Why_Local%20Authorities_fell_trees.pdf
- Urban Tree Manual (Forestry Commission 2020)
https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/documents/5318/7111_FC_Urban_Tree_Manual_V15.pdf

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Watercourse and Flood Risk Plan

August 2022

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Introduction

Water provides the foundations for the existence of life on Planet Earth. To survive, all species need access to clean water to drink, and water is essential to enable trees and plants to grow. The seas and oceans are also critical for regulating climate.

Historically, we have taken water for granted but population growth and the demands this has placed on both natural and made infrastructure means we cannot and should not continue to do so.

Water features can be found in many of Haringey's parks and greenspaces. These range in size and complexity from the Moselle Brook that flows through Lordship Recreation Ground, the boating lake in Finsbury Park, SuD's schemes in Rectory Gardens and elsewhere, and the ponds in Stationers Park.

These water features provide a variety of benefits for users and for the environment including for biodiversity, recreation, flood management and helping to reduce air temperature.

Haringey is responsible for taking the lead in managing flood risk from surface water, groundwater, and some of the smaller watercourses.

The Council has developed a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy to inform its approach

https://www.haringey.gov.uk/sites/haringeygovuk/files/20190730_haringey_lfrms.pdf

As the impact of climate change on weather and habitats becomes more pronounced, we are increasingly needing to explore ways to manage heavier rainfall and to protect and enhance water habitats, and parks and greenspaces will play an important role in contributing to this.

Through this Plan, we will examine the current arrangements for the management of water in parks and greenspaces, the issues and challenges arising from water and the actions being proposed by the Council to improve its management of water in parks and greenspaces.

Both Haringey and The Mayor of London declared a 'Climate Emergency' in 2019, in response to the growing threat to our health, our planet and our children and grandchildren's future. It is now widely acknowledged that urgent action is required to mitigate the scale and nature of the ecological crisis impacted by climate change. Making radical changes to our lifestyles (travel, energy consumption, diet) and the way we use land and resources is essential, if we are to avoid dangerous climate breakdown and a devastating loss of nature.

Aquatic environments can provide excellent carbon sinks with wetlands being particularly important in contributing to the ability of ecosystems to tackle the climate crisis now facing the world.

The Watercourse and Flood Risk Management Plan is one of several plans and policies that has been developed as part of the Council's overall Parks and Greenspaces Strategy.

It will provide information and direction for the future development, management, and maintenance of water in parks and greenspaces and aim to support the Biodiversity Action Plan as the 'Blue' element of the overall Blue/Green biodiversity network for Haringey.

The Plan will:

- identify the policy context
- look at benefits from water
- identify agencies involved in the management of water and their roles
- identify issues that impact on the management, maintenance, development, and usage of water bodies
- provide an action plan to inform the future approach towards the development, management, and maintenance of water in parks and associated issues
- provide information about current parks and greenspace water bodies and links to key supporting and reference documents

Aims

The Aims are taken from the overall Parks and Greenspaces Strategy.

Inclusion and Wellbeing: Providing inclusive parks and greenspaces that all communities in Haringey can benefit from so that usage and enjoyment of our parks and greenspaces reflects the communities living in Haringey and contributes to improved wellbeing.

Climate Change and Sustainability: Supporting the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency by reducing the carbon footprint of parks and greenspaces, protecting and promoting biodiversity, and helping educate everyone in Haringey about contributing toward saving the planet.

A Quality Service: Securing investment, improving standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes

Objectives

The objectives identified below are based upon the issues and challenges identified later in the Plan and support the wider Parks and Greenspaces Strategy Aims.

- To increase access to nature by seldom heard from groups
- To help residents and users better understand water features and their value by developing education and interpretation materials.
- To develop more water features in parks and greenspaces that support nature, increase biodiversity, and contribute to flood relief and urban cooling
- To develop a volunteer training programme that enables volunteers to take on enhanced roles in the development and management of water features
- To improve staff knowledge, skills and performance through guidance and training

- To promote better coordination, communication and liaison between Council departments involved in SuDS schemes in parks and greenspaces, as well as the wider management of water and flood relief
- To improve access to amenities and facilities through a reduction in flooding incidents
- To improve the quality of water features through regular maintenance, water quality testing and appropriate signage

Scope

The Watercourse and Flood Risk Management Plan provides guidance to the Council, its partners, residents and stakeholders on the role watercourses and flood prevention features in parks and greenspaces can play in the delivery of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and the Biodiversity Action Plan.

The scope of this plan is limited to areas of parks and greenspaces owned by Haringey Council. However, it is recognised that land under the management of others in the borough also plays a crucial role in the wider prevention of flood risk in the Borough.

Haringey's policies and plans

Wider policy context

National strategies

The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017.

[The Water Environment \(Water Framework Directive\) \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2017 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1173/contents/made)

This is the primary legislation for the management of water bodies and is based upon a European directive which aims to protect and improve the water environment.

The WFD divides the water environment into different water bodies. These can include lakes, reservoirs, streams, rivers, canals, groundwater, transitional waters (estuaries) and coastal waters.

The management of flood risk is the major duty required of Haringey council from this legislation. The responsibility for flood risk came into effect through the Flood and Water Management Act 2010

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/29/pdfs/ukpga_20100029_en.pdf

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The NPPF sets out the government's planning policies for England and how they should be applied. It states that planning policies and decisions should contribute to

and enhance the natural environment by recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the natural environment, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services of trees and woodlands, for example. Specifically, the NPPF provides for the protection of irreplaceable habitats such as ancient woodlands and veteran trees. It also requires planning decisions to contribute to conserving and enhancing the local environment.

The 25 Year Environment Plan 2018

This plan sets out the government's aims and objectives for improving the environment. A central tenet of the plan is to increase tree cover in the UK to meet a target of 12% tree cover by 2060. Protecting and planting trees and woodlands in and around towns and cities is a key objective because of the benefits of urban trees that are set out in 'Vision for a Resilient Urban Forest'.

2020 Environment Bill

The Bill will bring into UK law environmental protections and recovery putting the environment at the centre of policy making. It will make sure that we have a cleaner, greener and more resilient country for the next generation. It includes details on enhancing our greenspaces and legally binding target to be set to halt the decline in species abundance by 2030.

Regional strategies

The London Environment Strategy (GLA 2017)

This strategy sets out a number of ambitions in relation to trees and woodlands including the protection and management of the existing urban forest, increasing canopy cover by 10% from current levels, creating 200 hectares of species-rich woodland by 2050 and encouraging naturalistic approaches to flood water management and climate change adaptation.

It also commits to the preparation of an Urban Forest Plan to identify how this will be achieved, for example, through a major programme of tree planting; larger scale woodland creation projects in the Green Belt; improving the methods and data required to identify locations for tree planting and to monitor change in tree canopy cover; and to support and promote the work of the London Tree Officers Association, the Trees and Design Action Group and other partners.

The London Plan (GLA 2016)

The plan outlines the overarching need for green infrastructure within the city. It recognises the benefits that trees provide and sets planting targets for the next ten years, with an addition of two million trees by 2025. The manifesto committed to an increase in canopy cover from 20% to 25% by 2025 across London. The main aim of these targets was to mitigate for and adapt to climate change.

The plan states that trees and woodlands should be protected, maintained, and enhanced. It advises against removal of street trees, protection of veteran trees and adoption of the 'right place, right tree' principle throughout the planning process.

Biodiversity is also referred to under the London Plan policy 2.18, which states that the Mayor's network of green infrastructure should be designed to deliver a range of benefits, including biodiversity. To support this, Boroughs should ensure that the delivery of local biodiversity action plans should be linked to open space strategies.

The section of the London Plan that deals with the management of London's waterways is the Blue-Ribbon Network.

[Blue Ribbon Network | London City Hall](#)

For Haringey, the River Lea, the New River and the Moselle Brook are part of the Blue-Ribbon Network

Local strategies

Building a fairer, greener borough – Haringey Labour Manifesto 2022-26

Following the local elections in May 2022 the Council's ambition and priorities are based on putting residents at the heart of everything the Council does. For the remainder of 2022 and into 2023, the Council will work with residents to develop the Haringey Local Deal. The Haringey Local Deal will seek to empower communities to make change, putting local people at the forefront of decision-making. The Parks and Greenspaces Strategy will support the delivery of the Haringey Local Deal and in turn the manifesto commitments.

Below we have included extracts from the Manifesto that this plan will help to either directly deliver or support.

Inclusion and Wellbeing

- Community gardening and tree planting on estates and trees
- Co-produce designs for pocket parks, community gardens and street side verges
- Women at the heart of designing parks
- Participatory budgeting to help the Council set its spending priorities
- Contribute to the development of the Young Voices Programme
- Assist in developing a community health and wellbeing network

Climate Change and Sustainability

- Invest in sustainable drainage systems to reduce flooding
- Work to create three brand new nature reserves by 2026 and introduce Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- 50% of Council contracts to local business to keep more wealth in the borough

The Local Plan

The Local Plan, which is currently being updated, sets out how all land in Haringey will be used including the approach to be taken towards the provision of parks and greenspaces, sites of importance for nature conservation (SINC's), sports, play, allotments, and trees as well as for housing, employment, transportation etc.

The Local Plan also sets out the Council's policies towards the further deculverting of watercourses.

<https://www.haringey.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy/local-plan>

Haringey Integrated Catchment Management Study

This document was produced in 2018 to help in actively managing flood risk within the Borough. It examines the interaction between drainage networks, watercourses, and surface water both above and below ground.

Many of the large-scale borough wide SuDS projects within Haringey are based on the ICMS (Integrated catchment management study) commissioned in 2018. This report identifies areas of London including Haringey that are at highest risk from flooding.

(Link to be inserted)

Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

This document sets out how the Council seeks to fulfil its responsibilities in managing flood risk in the Borough arising from surface water run-off, groundwater and from some of the smaller watercourses and is the main reference point for finding out information about how the Council approaches the management of flood risk.

https://www.haringey.gov.uk/sites/haringeygovuk/files/20190730_haringey_lfrms.pdf

Haringey Surface Water Management plan.

A document that is key in the management and control of water before or as it enters greenspace. The SWMP outlines the preferred surface water management strategy for Haringey. Surface water flooding describes flooding from sewers, drains, groundwater, and runoff from land, small watercourses and ditches that occurs because of heavy rainfall.

[SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN - Haringey & middot; PDF filesurface water management plan drain london london borough of haringey final draft v2.0 - \[PDF Document\] \(vdocument.in\)](#)

Multi-Agency Flood Plan

This document is maintained and updated by the London Borough of Haringey Emergency planning and Business Continuity team and was developed with key partners to ascertain the following:

- the effectiveness and consistency of current flood plans produced by Local Resilience Forums (LRFs) in England
- identifying good practice
- how good practice could be shared across the country
- development of Multi-Agency Flood Plans (MAFPs) allows all responding parties to work together on an agreed coordinated response to severe flooding

Relationship to other PGSS plans

As with all aspects of parks and greenspaces, the management of water is multi-faceted with implications for design, management, programming, and marketing.

However, there is a core and complementary relationship to the Biodiversity Action Plan with water providing a range of habitats that support flora and fauna. The most directly applicable strategies for watercourse and flood risk in greenspaces are listed and briefly summarised below.

The Parks Asset Management Plan

The Asset Management Plan (AMP) aims to identify all hard and soft assets in Haringey parks, to describe the current condition of these assets and the capital and revenue costs associated with their management, maintenance and updating or replacement.

For water the AMP will provide cost information for the management of water and linked assets, information about their current condition, expected life and anticipated replacement costs. For water bodies this includes details about ponds, lakes, rivers and SUD's schemes

Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

This plan will aim to protect and enhance biodiversity value across the borough for both water based (blue) and land based (green) flora and fauna. The Plan supports regional, national, and global efforts to halt the decline in biodiversity. It identifies policy and legislation requirements for conserving and enhancing biodiversity and sets targets and actions to achieve these. The correct management and utilisation of water assets will be an important part of the BAP.

Tree and Woodland Plan

The Tree and Woodland Plan will provide information about how Haringey aims to manage trees and woodlands in a sustainable way that enhances quality of life for all species and helps to mitigate climate change.

A key aim of the Plan is to increase tree canopy cover in Haringey, particularly in areas of deficiency.

The Plan will also seek to develop a better understanding of the challenges involved in the management of trees and seek to increase community involvement in new tree planting projects.

Further benefits will include:

- having a more accurate record of the Boroughs tree resources
- quantifying the value and benefits that Haringey's urban forest provides

The correct utilisation of water as an asset is critical in effective maintenance of trees and can significantly reduce both watering and drought related costs.

Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan

The Community Engagement and Volunteering Plan identifies the need to engage with all communities in Haringey to enable them to contribute to the design and management of parks, to develop a range of activities that meet the needs of a wider section of the community and support the further development of parks volunteering activity. The Plan:

- includes actions to support broader engagement and involvement in parks and greenspaces
- provides a clear picture of the current volunteering offer and what might be achieved in the future through volunteering
- identifies barriers to volunteering
- identifies the current capacity of the service and what additional resources are needed to support volunteering and engage communities going forward
- identifies that volunteer activity adds value and expands the scope of what the Council can achieve as its resources are limited

Pesticides and Chemicals Policy

The parks service aims to minimise the use it makes of inorganic chemical herbicides with the long-term aim of removing their use altogether. The use of chemicals or herbicides will only be considered if they have a current license (under UK law), and which are approved for use by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

Staff and contractors using chemicals and herbicides will be appropriately trained and provided with appropriate personal protective equipment.

Chemicals generally are extremely toxic in aquatic environments and should be avoided, if possible, with alternatives such as undertaking operations by hand and using biological controls. Before any chemicals are added to aquatic environments a comprehensive report should be provided.

Invasive species policy

Invasive species can be very damaging to native habitats and species and their presence needs to be either prevented or if already present managed and eliminated. The Invasive Species Policy aims to:

- provide a structure for recording, reporting and identifying invasive species
- provide information regarding legal responsibilities

As water provides a very efficient transport route for invasive species it is important that anyone working in water courses is aware of the risks posed by invasive species and carries out their roles in a non-damaging way. For volunteers, this can include providing training.

All contractors/operations staff will need to be aware of the Council's Policy should they undertake work involving water courses.

Why does Haringey need a Watercourse and Flood Risk Plan for parks and greenspaces?

There are four main reasons for developing this Plan.

- To help to mitigate the flood risk and increased temperature impacts of Climate Change.
- To support and enhance the natural environment.
- To improve the management of water features, water quality and water-based habitats.
- To facilitate better public engagement and public understanding about watercourses.

On a global level access to fresh water of sufficient quality is fundamental to the survival of humans and other species on earth, water quality has a huge impact on the local flora and fauna and can significantly impact both the biodiversity and aesthetics of open spaces. Additionally, polluted water can cause significant health and safety issues and Blue Green Algae has caused several domestic animal deaths in recent years.

Urbanisation together with climate change has led to increased surface water in Towns and Cities. In London, this surface water cannot be accommodated by the existing dated storm water drainage systems leading to flooding issues that are predicted to increase in the future.

In 2018, the Council commissioned an Integrated Catchment Management Study to better understand flood risk within Haringey and how this could be managed.

Flooding can lead to damage to property and infrastructure as well as placing at risk people's safety and health. In open spaces the impact can range from impacts on the creation, maintenance and stability of habitats, flooded sports facilities and unusable event space.

Alternatively, the management and development of aquatic environments in parks can create large scale carbon sinks, provide attractive water features, i.e., river sidewalks and seating areas, improve biodiversity and wildlife assets, enhance community involvement and interest and potentially can help with the easier monitoring of water quality and pollution incidents.

To mitigate possible flooding within Haringey, measures need to be incorporated to remove surface water faster and to redirect it away from infrastructure. When these two actions can be combined it helps to reduce pressure on the current drainage systems. In open spaces and there is the opportunity for water to be directed into the natural environment where it can be utilised for a variety of purposes. However, this

redirection needs to be considered as part of an overall Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDS) strategy for the site to effectively utilise and/or control the increased volume of water and any potential negative impacts that may occur.

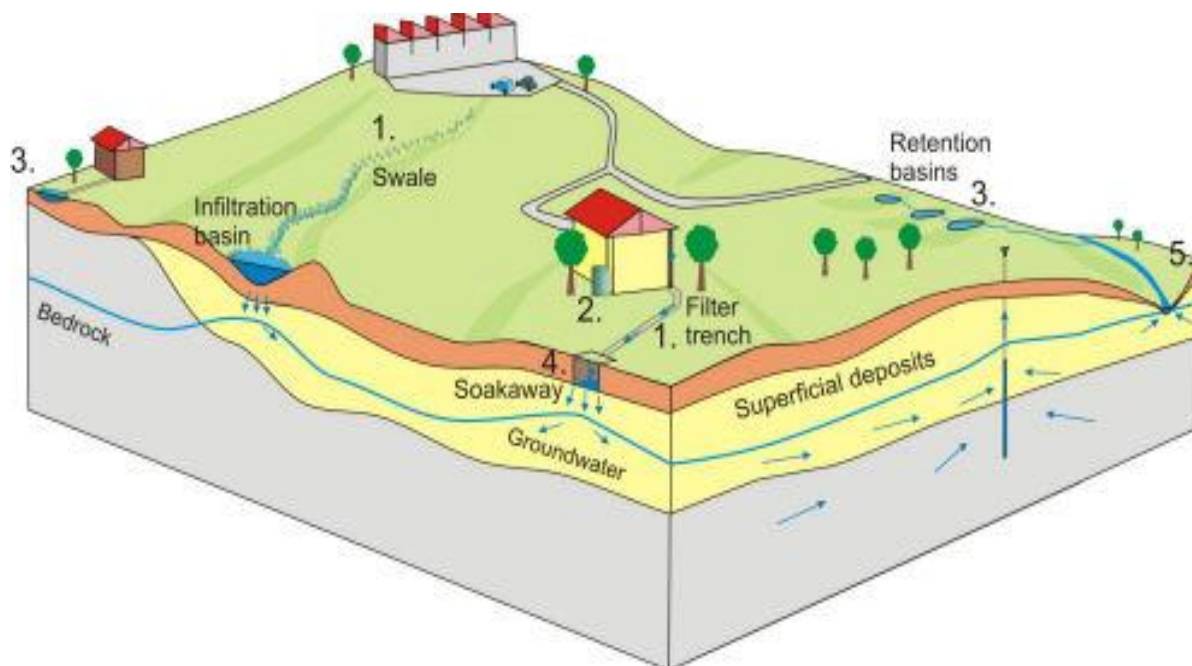
Haringey is a rapidly developing borough with extensive regeneration. Tottenham Hale alone will generate 5,000 new homes soon. The resulting increased urbanisation created from regeneration, combined with climate change is resulting in greater surface run-off. Parks can utilise this run-off by developing features and assets, thereby creating more attractive spaces leading to opportunities for improved health, aesthetics and useability.

Other flooding related impacts include:

- damage to or the destruction of habitats
- making sports pitches unplayable
- damaging other parks infrastructure such as paths

In natural environments, rain falls on permeable surfaces and soaks into the ground through infiltration, or naturally flows into water bodies through natural landscaping. In urban areas where many surfaces are sealed by buildings and paving and in Haringey's case where the systems for the management of water were created for a smaller population than exists today, natural infiltration is limited as the landscape has been substantially altered by man-made structures.

As a result of climate change and with increased urbanisation, the capacity of these (man-made) systems is often exceeded, resulting in downstream flooding and deterioration in river water quality caused when the foul sewers are overwhelmed leading to a release of dirty water into rivers. Sustainable drainage systems aim to alleviate these problems by storing or re-using surface water either at source or at a pre-defined destination, by decreasing flow rates to watercourses and by improving water quality by filtration or other means.



The above diagram shows the flow of water through sustainable drainage systems into the subsurface during a storm event.

Key:

1. Surface water flows through swales and filter trenches that remove pollutants.
2. The peak river discharge is delayed and reduced by storage of water for re-use.
3. Storage in ponds.
4. Infiltration of water to the ground through infiltration basins and soakaways.
5. Improved quality of water in rivers and decreased peak river discharge.

How SuDS work

SuDS come in a complex variety of forms and exact approaches and applications will depend on the specific situation and available resources, in broad terms SuDS can be thought of in the four categories below, performing the key functions outlined. One or several of these approaches may be employed.

- Source control methods decrease the volume of water entering the drainage/river network by intercepting run-off water on roofs for subsequent re-use (e.g., for irrigation) or for storage and subsequent evapotranspiration (e.g., green roofs).
- Pre-treatment steps, such as vegetated swales (ditches) or filter trenches, remove pollutants from surface water prior to discharge to watercourses or aquifers.
- Retention systems delay the discharge of surface water to watercourses by providing storage within ponds, retention basins and wetlands for example.
- Infiltration systems, such as infiltration trenches and soakaways mimic natural recharge, allowing water to soak into the ground.

Biodiversity

In line with the aspirations of the Biodiversity Action Plan, the Council wants to provide as much high quality and biodiverse rich habitat as possible within the available resources and by modifying how we use rainwater we can significantly improve biodiversity through:

- Standing water, e.g., ponds
- Planting schemes, e.g., wildflower and other specialist meadows
- Wildlife corridors through the creation of swales, etc
- Collection and storage of water to assist the long-term management of SuDS schemes,
- Direct source of water on site

Development

Urbanisation has generated an increase in pollution that in turn has reduced air quality. SuDS schemes, with careful design, can act as both a sink for Carbon, and absorb noise pollution. By employing proactive management of Aquatic environments, we can make greenspaces:

- more attractive and resilient to climate change
- better able to support wildlife and nature
- help to inform people about the impacts of climate change
- reduce the risk of waterlogging, local flooding and water pollution
- build greater resilience and response to the climate and ecological emergencies
- improve parks and greenspaces enabling more people to exercise, play, meet and socialise

Who is involved in managing, developing, and maintaining water bodies and SuDs schemes?

The management of water is multi layered with different statutory and voluntary organisations involved. The organisations below are some of the main contributors.

External to Haringey

The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

This Central Government Department is responsible for the development and management of relevant legislation for water and sewerage in England including:

- standard setting
- drafting of legislation
- creating special permits

The Environment Agency

Is a national agency that oversees the management of water on behalf of Central Government acting as the regulator of the water and sewerage sector. Within England the Environment Agency is responsible for:

- regulating major industry and waste
- treatment of contaminated land
- water quality and resources
- fisheries
- inland river, estuary and harbour navigations
- conservation and ecology

They are also responsible for managing the risk of flooding from main rivers, reservoirs, estuaries and the sea.

Thames Water

Thames Water is responsible for the public water supply and wastewater treatment in Haringey as well as London as a whole. They manage and maintain an extensive infrastructure system to enable them to do this. Thames Water are a partner for the Council in:

- SuDS schemes
- misconnected pipes, leaks and associated issues
- leading on and contributing to large scale projects

Thames 21

Thames 21 is a volunteer-based organisation active in Haringey and developed from a partnership programme supported by:

- Keep Britain Tidy
- The Port of London Authority
- The Environment Agency
- Thames Water
- British Waterways
- The Corporation of London and 19 local authorities

The organisation seeks to act as the voice for London's waterways, working with communities to improve rivers and canals for people and wildlife.

They engage annually with thousands of volunteers to clean and green the capital's 400-mile network of waterways and provide much added value to communities in the management of water. Promoting safe and equitable access to waterways by:

- undertaking monitoring and research into the health of our local rivers
- delivering environmental education to children and adults
- campaigning against waterway pollution and promoting sustainable behaviour

- accrediting and training community groups to deliver safe and sustainable waterway improvement events

The Lower Lea Catchment Partnership

The Lower Lea Catchment Partnership is a local group of people and organisations who are working to improve the Lower Lea for people and for wildlife. The partnership meets formally three times a year to review progress and discuss future projects; more informal meetings take place more regularly.

The partnership is supported by Thames 21

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)

TCV are involved in delivering conservation activities within the borough, mainly with the aim of supporting the BAP, however there is a considerable overlap with water bodies in greenspaces and TCV are also involved on occasion in water body maintenance.

Haringey Rivers Forum

The Haringey Rivers Forum is a subsidiary group of the Friends of Parks Forum and works with partners listed elsewhere in this section to improve the Boroughs water courses.

They informally act as champions for Haringey's rivers, engage in partnership working, bring resources into the borough and are a key group to engage with when developing schemes.

A practical volunteer initiative that HRF supports is the 'Water Squad.'

Friends of Parks (Individual sites) and community organisations

Where a new water body or change to an existing water body is proposed this will have implications for the park in question. Therefore, the relevant Friends group should always be consulted. Some Friends groups and other community organisations such as the Parkway Malvern residents Association take an active role in the management and maintenance of water bodies.

Within the Council

The Planning Department who are responsible for land use within Haringey through their management of the Local Plan and for ensuring that planning applications comply with the Local Plan

The Regeneration Service who can support the development of new water features as a part of area-based regeneration and look to work with Highways to create SuDS schemes where viable within new projects.

The SuDS Team which is based within the Highways Department.

Environmental Health who are responsible, in partnership with Thames Water, for the investigation and removal of misconnections.

The Parks Project Team where individual officers support the management of existing water features as well as contributing to the development of new features

Current water bodies in Haringey

Water bodies in greenspaces in Haringey vary enormously, ranging from small ponds, through to rivers, both exposed and culverted. Additionally, many sites now have SuDS schemes in place and more SuDS schemes are being actively considered as part of wider environmental improvements or as regeneration projects.

Appendix 2 of this Plan includes a table that summarises the current situation in Haringey.

Opportunities for further developments

SuDS are now being actively considered as a key component of many development schemes in Haringey.

Scheme development can be complex with issues about ownership, management responsibilities and scheme detailing to be worked through, sometimes requiring significant expenditure on studies and investigations to help inform the best approach to be taken.

Within Haringey parks there are projects currently being developed or proposed at:

- Chestnuts Park
- Markfield Park
- Priory Park
- Queens Wood
- White Hart Lane Recreation Ground

Scheme identification can come from a variety of sources both national and local and from external organisations and internal projects. For example, Thames 21 is currently working on a road run-off project ascertaining how polluted runoff can be mitigated using Greenspace.

Key issues and challenges associated with developing, managing, and maintaining water bodies and SuDs

Developing Skills and resources to better manage and maintain water features

The management of water and the hard and soft assets associated with water in parks and greenspaces is a challenge for the Parks Service due to a lack of designated resource, a lack of expertise and on some occasions, of management plans tailored to inform the required approach.

The current operational parks department has a large workload and most of this workload is performed using traditional management approaches, i.e., cutting grass short, strimming edges pulling out weeds.

For the management of water features, a different approach is needed that focuses more on ecological considerations that can often require longer establishment periods, less frequent intervention, greater knowledge of wet habitats and a management and maintenance regime often specifically tailored to the site

In Haringey this specialised knowledge and approach is not currently available widely enough within teams, especially considering the increasing amount of these schemes.

Water quality monitoring

There is a dual system of drainage in Haringey with rainwater being dealt with through surface water drainage systems and foul water from households and businesses through a separate foul water system. Misconnections, where households and businesses connect drainage to surface water drainage systems rather than foul water systems are a long-standing problem for the Borough and the result is a negative impact on water quality in water courses such as the Moselle Brook that flows through Lordship Recreation Ground.

Responsibility for water quality management and monitoring are divided between Thames Water and the Council.

Thames Water is responsible for carrying out initial investigations to identify misconnections and for advising owners or occupiers that they have misconnected and need to connect to the appropriate system. However, where owners and occupiers do not respond, it becomes the responsibility of the Council to take action to enforce.

It is an ongoing issue with new misconnections occurring as existing ones are dealt with.

The impact of misconnections can be that water courses become polluted and start smelling unpleasant as well as potentially off putting for communities in areas of the Borough who are considering further de-culverting initiatives.

Monitoring of the Moselle Brook within Lordship Rec indicates that water quality is improving following remedial actions to improve quality

Better understanding the impact of existing schemes

Associated with both issues above, there has been limited ability to learn about the impact of introducing new water features such as de-culverting and SuDS.

Schemes have historically been implemented on the basis that they contribute to enhanced biodiversity, habitat creation and restoration and the management of flood

risk but there is very limited post implementation monitoring and as a result information available to demonstrate the positive impact of schemes, learn what has worked well and what hasn't and help in making the case for further projects.

Associated with this, there would be benefits from providing more information about the benefits of schemes to aid public understanding and appreciation.

Funding and resources

The capital costs and complexity associated with bigger schemes can make these schemes expensive with considerable investment needed for survey and other investigatory work. It should be noted however, that these schemes can be funded as part of larger national and local initiatives led by external agencies who have water retention and SuDS objectives as primary aims.

Potentially an even greater challenge is to identify the required funding for effective management and maintenance as this can require both additional revenue funding and capital funding where major works are required such as for the Moselle Brook.

Associated with both is that the management and development of water bodies can be highly specialised.

There are however some indications that specialist engineering companies and academic institutions may provide pro-bono support and expertise and this is an area that might be investigated further.

Better coordination and communication between Council services

As described earlier in this document, there are a number of Council services who contribute towards the development and ongoing management of water features both within and external to parks.

Feedback indicates that the community feels that more could and should be done by these different services to work in a more collaborative and joined up way and to work more collaboratively with the community

Achieving improved internal working amongst Council services should lead to benefits in the quality and contribution made for flood alleviation and biodiversity from water features and for the Council's ability to work more effectively with statutory, voluntary and community partners.

Natural versus engineered approaches to flood risk

Strongly related to other issues particularly, that of better coordination, is the need within the Council to find the optimum balance between nature led approaches and engineering led approaches.

Often the lead and the funding for SUD's schemes can originate from more engineering orientated approaches.

Lack of access to nature

Both nationally and in Haringey, communities living in more deprived areas have less access to natural environments.

In Haringey there is substantially more greenspace in the west of the Borough, whereas there is much more deprivation in the east.

It has also been found from external research, that natural environments are more popular with people of a white ethnic origin than people of a black or Asian ethnic origin.

The Council wants to better understand the views of a range of groups whose voices are seldom heard from in a parks and greenspaces context to better understand the needs of groups so that the overall parks and greenspaces offer, including for watercourses, can demonstrably meet the needs of all Haringey communities

Community impact

De-culverting, SuDS and other new water features all involve physical changes to the environment which for some residents may be unwelcome and/or effect their existing usage and enjoyment. For this reason, and because it is established good practice, any new schemes should involve meaningful engagement and consultation with affected communities.

Public access/safety

Watercourses in public open spaces always need to consider the question of access to the watercourse. From an ecological perspective inappropriate or over-use by both people and dogs can cause damage to ecologically important habitats that can become little more than mud banks. Also, water bodies can present health and safety risks to the public.

In consequence, signage and or fencing may be needed to both protect the watercourse and its surrounding habitat and to keep the public safe.

Volunteering

As evidenced by Thames 21, by the establishment of the Haringey Rivers Forum and by the numbers of people who become involved as Friends in Haringey parks, volunteers make an important contribution both in the development of schemes and in their subsequent care and maintenance.

Volunteering is also a source of community action and can help in empowering communities to become more involved and take greater control over local affairs.

The contributions made by volunteers are valuable in several ways including:

- the expertise that some volunteers can offer
- the enhanced levels of care and maintenance that volunteers make possible
- for the wider communities whose usage and enjoyment of water courses and water features is enhanced by volunteer efforts
- for the volunteers themselves who can learn new skills and achieve greater wellbeing from their inputs

However, volunteering is not a substitute or alternative to paid activity and should be focused on seeking to add value. However, volunteers can find that tasks they have taken on become burdensome or as the membership of groups changes over time the group and the individual volunteers may have different volunteering priorities from those originally taken on.

Notwithstanding the above, volunteers are a major benefit and where volunteers are involved, projects should consider the following before commencement:

- volunteering options/availability considered at an early stage of project inception
- stakeholders and Community groups included at the pre-planning stages
- projects have realistic and workable long-term strategies
- potential volunteers and or work parties are included at an early stage and any training identified and undertaken
- the exact form of water retention, storage and usage is carefully considered for accessibility by volunteers
- volunteering support should be identified early, for example through Thames 21 and the Haringey Rivers Forum

Action plan

A draft Action Plan in support of this Watercourse and Flood Risk Management Plan has been developed.

The Action Plan demonstrates the links that exist between the overall Parks and Greenspaces Strategy Aims, the Objectives of the Watercourse Plan, the issues and challenges that the proposed action is seeking to address, what the proposed action is and how it might be resourced

Aim	Objective	Issue/Challenge	Action	Resources
Inclusion	To increase access to and appreciation of nature by seldom heard from groups	Lack of access to nature by more deprived communities and other seldom heard from groups	Develop a programme of activities and events that showcases and supports increased usage and involvement by seldom heard from groups including activities to	Community Engagement and Partnership Officer Greenspace Volunteering Officer External partners

Aim	Objective	Issue/Challenge	Action	Resources
			involve communities in nature	
Inclusion and Climate change and sustainability	To help users better understand water features and their value by developing education and interpretation materials	Helping the public to obtain a better understanding of the contribution that water features make to mitigating climate change and overall quality of life	Developing education and interpretation materials to support public education and appreciation of water in green space	Community Engagement and Partnership Officer Greenspace Volunteering Officer Communications External Partners
Climate change and sustainability and a Quality Service	To develop more water features in parks and greenspaces that support nature, increase biodiversity and contribute to flood relief and urban cooling	The development of more watercourses and water features to provide flood risk mitigation and biodiversity benefits Improved drainage in parks and greenspaces	Work with Partners to identify additional suitable schemes Work with the SuD's team and other partners to develop further SuD's schemes	All relevant Council services. External voluntary and community organisations Parks project officers Nature Conservation Officer
A Quality service	To improve staff knowledge and skills through guidance and training.	To improve staff knowledge and ability to manage water features to a higher standard	Identify appropriate training through the Workforce Plan	Operational management Project Officers Nature Conservation Officer
A Quality service	To improve the quality of water features through regular maintenance, water quality testing and appropriate signage	Improving the management of existing and future water bodies	Developing a planting guide for water bodies. Developing further maintenance regimes for water bodies	Project officers Nature Conservation Officer. Operations Team

Aim	Objective	Issue/Challenge	Action	Resources
A Quality service	To promote better coordination, communication and liaison between Council departments involved in SuDS schemes in parks and greenspaces, as well as the wider management of water and flood relief	Ensure that more effective coordination and communication and liaison take place between internal Council departments to improve the overall approach taken by the Council towards the management of water including policy, planning, funding, consultation and engagement, management and maintenance and benefits realisation	Establish Inter-departmental co-ordinating group, agree terms of reference and annual programme of topics to be covered and meetings schedule	Relevant managers from Parks, Planning, SuD's team etc
A Quality service	To develop an enhanced volunteer training programme that enables volunteers to take additional roles in the development and management of water features	Better support for volunteers and volunteering that will result in better managed water features and greater community benefits	Updated volunteer training programme to be developed with partners	<p>Greenspace volunteering officer</p> <p>Community Engagement and Partnership Officer</p> <p>External partners</p> <p>Nature Conservation Officer</p> <p>TCV</p>

Aim	Objective	Issue/Challenge	Action	Resources
				Rivers Forum and Friends groups
A Quality Service	To improve the quality of water features through regular maintenance, water quality testing, and appropriate signage	<p>Improved management.</p> <p>Greater resourcing for maintenance activity.</p> <p>Tackling misconnections</p> <p>Education/ interpretation materials.</p>	<p>Developing additional management plans for water features.</p> <p>Allocate resources and develop a programme of cyclical maintenance</p> <p>Continue to work with Environmental Health and Thames Water to monitor and rectify misconnections</p> <p>Review signage in parks for water features as part of the Marketing and Communications Plan</p>	<p>Nature Conservation Officer</p> <p>Parks Project Officers</p> <p>Asset Maangement Plan</p> <p>Thames Water</p> <p>Environmental Health</p> <p>Marketing and Communications Plan</p>
A Quality Service	To improve the quality of water features through regular maintenance, water quality testing, and appropriate signage	Better understanding the impact of existing schemes.	Investigate options to find out more about the impact of current schemes as a means to improving the management of current schemes and incorporating learning in the approach towards future schemes	TBC

Appendices

Appendix 1

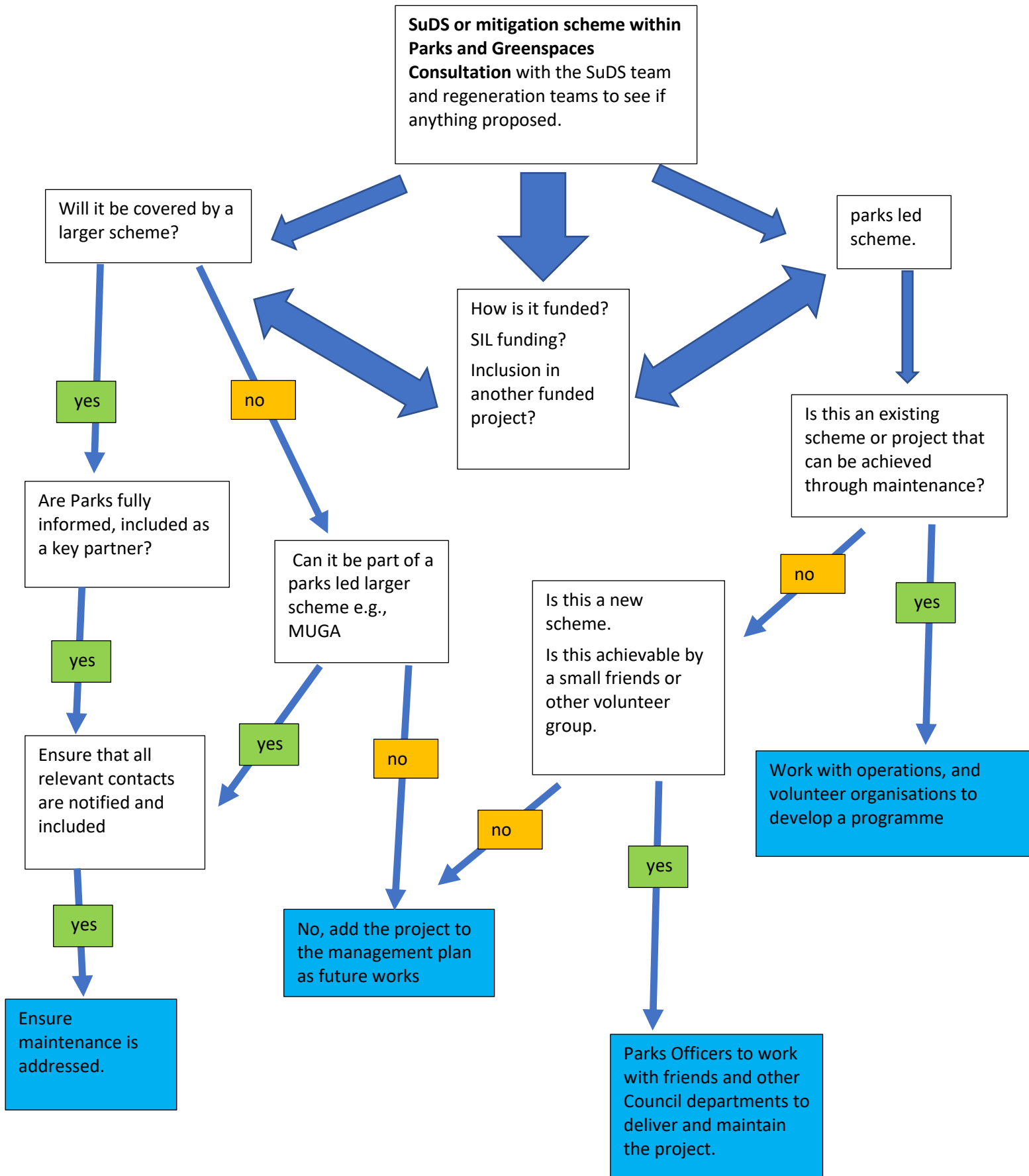
Summary of SuDS and aquatic assets in Parks and Greenspaces within Haringey

Site name	Type of water body	Owned by	Managed by	SuDS Proposed	SuDS Existing	Site issues e.g., flooding
Duckett's Common	n/a	Haringey Council	Haringey Council		yes	Heavily urbanised leading to frequent flooding issues
Finsbury Park	Boating lake	Haringey Council	Haringey Council	Management plan with future proposals		Historical leak. Management plan to be prepared
Finsbury Park	River (New River)	Thames Water	Thames Water			
Stationers Park upper pond	Wildlife pond	Haringey Council	Haringey Council/ Friends/ TCV		yes	New scheme has recently been installed with new liner and planting
Stationers Park Lower Pond	Wildlife Pond	Haringey Council	Haringey Council/ Friends/ TCV		yes	This pond has developed over time and needs appropriate management
OR Tambo Rec. Ground	Wildlife Pond	Haringey Council	Friends		yes	Non directly, however, site wide flooding issue remediation

						may take the pond area into consideration
OR Tambo Rec. Ground	Storage tank	Thames Water	Thames Water			Flood alleviation
Coldfall Wood	Stream and culvert	Haringey Council	Haringey Council and Friends			Issues with the size of culvert opening and falling leaves blocking it, Options being explored.
Crescent Road Beds	SuDS	Haringey Council	Haringey Council		Yes	Improve drainage and mitigate flooding
Crescent Road Gardens	SuDS	Haringey Council	Haringey Council		Yes	Improve drainage and mitigate flooding
Queens Wood	Moselle Stream	Haringey Council	Haringey Council			Scheme currently under development
Rectory Gardens	SuDs	Haringey Council	Haringey Council, Friends and Thames 21		Yes	
Avenue Gardens (Park Avenue)	New River Culvert	Thames Water	Thames Water			
Bridge Row Beds	New River Culvert	Thames Water	Thames Water			
Finsbury Gardens	New River Culvert	Thames Water	Thames Water			
Nightingale Gardens	New River Culvert	Thames Water	Thames Water			

Springfield Community Park	Connected wildlife Ponds	Haringey Council	Friends and Historically TCV			
Woodside Park	Storage tank	Thames Water	Thames Water			
Priory Park	Flood attenuation tank and deculverting	Thames' s water	Thames Water?			
Down Lane Park	Moselle Culverted	Thames Water	Thames Water			River very deep underground
Lordship Recreation Ground	Deculverted Moselle Lake	Haringey Council	Haringey Council, through Ebsford the contractor and Friends Group		yes	Complex site with a range of issues to mitigate as the management programme proceeds
Brunswick Park	Culvert	Thames Water	Thames Water			
Markfield Park	Culvert, flood relief channel, pond					
Downhills Park	Pond	Haringey Council	Friends of Downhills Park			Friends of Downhills have indicated that their management role is a burden
Tottenham Cemetery	River Moselle					

Appendix 2: Flowchart of SuDs routeways



Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)

The Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) form is a template for analysing a policy or proposed decision for its potential effects on individuals with protected characteristics covered by the Equality Act 2010.

The council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not

The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

1. Responsibility for the Equality Impact Assessment

Name of proposal:	Draft Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and supporting plans and policies
Service Area:	Parks and Leisure
Officer Completing Assessment:	Simon Farrow
Equalities Advisor:	Joe Wills
Cabinet meeting date (if applicable):	13th September 2022
Director/Assistant Director	Eubert Malcolm / Mark Stevens

2. Executive summary

The proposal is to consult on a new parks and greenspace strategy and a range of supporting plans and policies. The draft documents have been developed with input from the community, including some of the protected characteristic groups over the last two and half years. A major conclusion of that input has been that parks and greenspaces aren't as inclusive as the council and residents want them to be. Therefore the strategy vision and aims have been set as follows:-

Vision:- That Haringey's parks and greenspaces become fully inclusive shared spaces that deliver our key aims of inclusion and wellbeing, climate change and sustainability and a quality service.

Key Aims

- 1. Inclusion and Wellbeing** - Providing inclusive parks and greenspaces that all communities in Haringey can benefit from so that usage and enjoyment of our parks and greenspaces reflects the communities living in Haringey and contributes to improved wellbeing.
- 2. Climate Change and Sustainability** - Supporting the Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency by reducing the carbon footprint of parks and greenspaces, protecting and promoting biodiversity, and helping educate everyone in Haringey about contributing towards saving the planet.
- 3. A Quality Service** - Securing investment, improving standards, partnerships, communications, and outcomes.

Overall, the strategy should have a positive impact on those groups with protected characteristics as the Council, in partnership with others, will be working towards removing barriers that prevent or deter access to good quality parks and greenspace. The Council and partners will be working to make parks safer and bring people from different parts of the community to share in the benefits parks and greenspaces can offer.

The Council through its consultation and engagement on the draft documents will be continuing a conversation with groups which is just another part of an ongoing engagement journey that should deliver change.

The next steps are to widen the engagement on the draft documents to the whole borough and engage further on how to improve and refine what has been produced to date. The EQIA will be refreshed to support a further Cabinet report in March 2023 that will seek approval to formally adopt the documents as the strategy and policy position of the Council.

3. Consultation and engagement

3a. How will consultation and/or engagement inform your assessment of the impact of the proposal on protected groups of residents, service users and/or staff? Detail how your approach will facilitate the inclusion of protected groups likely to be impacted by the decision.

In developing the draft strategy, its supporting plans and policies engagement has taken place with several groups some of which represented groups with protected characteristics such as Age, Disability, Race, Religion and Sexual Orientation. This along with some limited academic research has demonstrated that access to parks and greenspaces isn't equal. We also recognise that different groups will have unique needs. Many physical and psychological barriers exist and therefore, not everyone can gain equal benefit from their local park or greenspace. The strategy and its

supporting documents seek to address the issue of Inclusion and Wellbeing as one of the key aims of the strategy. Having Inclusion and Wellbeing as a primary aim of the strategy is a departure from the mainstream approach to Parks and Greenspace Strategies and overtime will make a significant difference to those that currently do not use our parks and greenspace in the borough.

The proposed consultation and engagement on the draft strategy will ensure that the aims, objectives, and actions developed to date are further tested and refined before settling on an agreed strategy that the Council can adopt.

3b. Outline the key findings of your consultation / engagement activities once completed, particularly in terms of how this relates to groups that share the protected characteristics

TBC

4. Data and Impact Analysis

Note: officers may want to complement their analysis with data from the State of the Borough and ward profiles, found here: <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/local-democracy/about-council/state-of-the-borough>.

Please consider how the proposed change will affect people with protected characteristics.

4a. Age

Data

Borough Profile¹

56,718: 0-17 (21%)
 72,807: 18-34 (27%)
 68,257: 35-49 (25%)
 44,807: 50-64 (17%)
 28,632: 65+ (11%)

We know that the opportunity to access parks and greenspace across the borough is not equal. The geographic spread of parks and greenspace and access to private gardens is much higher in the west of the borough than it is the east.

In 2020 the Office for National Statistics (ONS) identified that 1 in 8 households in the UK have no garden, and in London this rose to 1 in 5 (21%).

[One in eight British households has no garden - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk)

¹ Source: State of the Borough

The Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment (MENE) survey 2009-2019 indicates those visiting our parks and greenspaces had the following age profile:-

- 16-34 = 39.3%
- 35-54 = 38.97%
- 55 + = 21.73%

Whilst all age segments reported bad weather, busy at home, busy at work and no reason as barriers to visiting it was primarily the over 55 group who reported old age, poor health, and disability along with bad weather as the primary barriers to visiting parks and greenspaces.

[Monitoring Engagement in the Natural Environment Survey \(2009 - 2019\)](https://arcgis.com)
(arcgis.com)

The MENE survey for 2018/19 identified that 25% of children under the age of 16 spent no time outside in the average month and that since 2013/14 there has been a decline in the proportion of children spending time outside without adults present.

Members of this group should not be disproportionately affected by the proposals in the Parks and Greenspaces Strategy and its supporting documents.

Potential Impacts - The overall impact should be a positive one as the Council is committing to an ongoing engagement with all age groups to ensure the Council understands each age group's needs. Engagement already has highlighted important issues such as access to good toilet provision, provision of benches **and** more sociable arrangement of benches, inclusive and accessible playground provision and the need to provide more opportunities for young people and for all ages to keep fit. In a similar way provision of a wide range of activities for all ages is an important part of the new strategy.

4b. Disability²

Data

Borough Profile ³

4,500 people have a serious physical disability in Haringey.

19,500 aged 16-64 have a physical disability this equates to approximately 10% of the population aged 16-64.

1,090 people living with a learning disability in Haringey.

4,400 people have been diagnosed with severe mental illness in Haringey.

² In the Equality Act a disability means a physical or a mental condition which has a substantial and long-term impact on your ability to do normal day to day activities.

³ Source: 2011 Census

Target Population Profile

Not known

[Out-of-Bounds-equity-in-access-to-urban-nature.pdf \(groundwork.org.uk\)](https://groundwork.org.uk/out-of-bounds-equity-in-access-to-urban-nature.pdf)

This report identifies that the following ingredients for equity:-

- Provision of a mix of parks, greenspaces, nature reserves, gardens, green routes and street trees
- Spaces should be close to home and workplaces, but accessibility is dependent on more than physical closeness and the perception of proximity is as important as objective proximity.
- Better quality and well-maintained green infrastructure is associated with better health and wellbeing outcomes – but what people think of as ‘quality’ can vary.
- The value of different types, amounts and locations of green infrastructure for health and wellbeing is likely to be highly contextual, meaning that a solution that works in one place may not work in another.

[Making Connections: a guide to accessible greenspace \(sensorytrust.org.uk\)](https://sensorytrust.org.uk/making-connections-a-guide-to-accessible-greenspace)

Making Connections showed that a combination of physical, intellectual, and social barriers prevents many disabled and older people from experiencing and engaging with public greenspace.

The disengagement of disabled and older people from public open spaces represents the disengagement of a significant proportion of society: one in five people. Finding ways to remove the barriers to access and involvement has potential to improve quality of life for many and to bring forward a large and diverse range of people as active members of communities and supporters of the natural environment.

With a focus on Inclusion and Wellbeing the strategy aims to improve on the current situation which could be better. In preparing the strategy three access audits were conducted of the district parks in the borough. This has created a fantastic list of improvements that can be made. Improvements will be delivered through the asset management plan in terms of physical changes in parks. Project development in parks will have a clear remit to always include disabled park users in project design work. The engagement that has already commenced on the draft strategy will become the norm and a MOU is being developed with Disability Action Haringey to ensure there is always good representation to improve the experience of people with a disability in parks and greenspaces.

Potential Impacts - for the reasons outlined above we believe that the overall impact of the strategy and its supporting documents will be a positive one with long lasting impacts.

4c. Gender Reassignment⁴

Data

Borough Profile

There is no robust data at Borough level on our Trans population, however the central government estimates that there are approximately 200,000-500,000 Trans people in the UK. Assuming an average representation, this would mean between 800 and 2,000 Haringey residents are Trans.⁵

Target Population Profile

Not known

There is very little if any data sources in relation to greenspace and gender reassignment. However, it is possible to infer that some of the challenges they may encounter maybe around the issue of changing facilities, public toilets and single sex activities in parks and greenspaces.

Potential Impacts - Some positive impacts that can be had are around redesigning changing and toilet provision to have gender neutral provision as part of the standard approach. Likewise, we will work to ensure that leisure services and activities are trans-inclusive.

4d. Marriage and Civil Partnership

Data

Borough Profile ⁶

Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved: (8.2%)

In a registered same-sex civil partnership: (0.6%)

Married: (33.3%)

Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): (4.0%)

Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership): (50.0%)

Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership: (3.9%)

Target Population Profile

⁴ Under the legal definition, a transgender person has the protected characteristic of gender reassignment if they are undergoing, have undergone, or are proposing to undergo gender reassignment. To be protected from gender reassignment discrimination, an individual does not need to have undergone any specific treatment or surgery to change from one's birth sex to one's preferred gender. This is because changing one's physiological or other gender attributes is a personal process rather than a medical one.

⁵ Trans is an umbrella term to describe people whose gender is not the same as, or does not sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth.

⁶ Source: 2011 Census

Not known

Again, the impact of Marriage or Civil Partnership on the use of parks and greenspaces is not something that has been widely studied. However, on the basis that Marriage and Civil Partnerships may well lead to the establishment of a family. Good quality facilities in parks and activities will be important to this group.

Potential Impacts – the potential impact on married people or those in a civil partnership should be an overly positive one. Through the strategy there will be investment in parks, expansion of activities, better sporting facilities and play and outdoor gyms.

4e. Pregnancy and Maternity

Data

Borough Profile ⁷

Live Births in Haringey 2019: 3,646

Target Population Profile

Not known however at some time in people's life this could affect up to 50% of the borough population.

There is some evidence to suggest that an association with green and blue spaces has a positive impact on birth outcomes. [A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Associations between Green and Blue Spaces and Birth Outcomes - PMC \(nih.gov\)](#)

In addition, access to well connected, thriving green infrastructure, such as natural environments and easily accessible, high quality public open spaces, is well evidenced as a key wider determinant of health and wellbeing and plays a key role in reducing health and other inequalities. Evidence includes:

[Improving access to greenspace: 2020 review \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

[Briefing8 Green spaces health inequalities.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

It is generally accepted that women feel less safe in parks than men and experience more harassment in all settings.

[New data shows extent to which women feel unsafe at night | End Violence Against Women](#)

The purpose of the strategy and its supporting documents is to improve on where we are now. As well as making parks safer for women more generally considering the specific needs for this protected group will be an important step change in our overall

⁷ Births by Borough (ONS)

approach. We need to understand more specifically the barriers / essential needs to ensure this can be addressed in the final strategy.

Potential Impacts – overall there should be a positive impact for this protected group as their needs are more specifically addressed.

4f. Race

In the Equality Act 2010, race can mean ethnic or national origins, which may or may not be the same as a person's current nationality.⁸

Data

Borough Profile ⁹

Arab: **0.9%**

Any other ethnic group: 3.9%

Asian: **9.5%**

Bangladeshi: 1.7%

Chinese: 1.5%

Indian: 2.3%

Pakistani: 0.8%

Other Asian: 3.2%

Black: **18.7%**

African: 9.0%

Caribbean: 7.1%

Other Black: 2.6%

Mixed: **6.5%**

White and Asian: 1.5%

White and Black African: 1.0%

White and Black Caribbean: 1.9%

Other Mixed: 2.1%

White: **60.5% in total**

English/Welsh/Scottish/Norther Irish/British: 34.7%

Irish: 2.7%

Gypsy or Irish Traveller: 0.1%

Other White: 23%

Target Population Profile

⁸ [Race discrimination | Equality and Human Rights Commission \(equalityhumanrights.com\)](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/race-discrimination)

⁹ Source: 2011 Census

As above,

Research by Friends of the Earth – access to green space 2020 identifies that 42% of people from England's Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities live in the most green space deprived neighbourhoods which have less than 9m squared per person. To reduce inequalities action is needed in terms of improving both spatial and cultural access to green space.

[England's not so green and pleasant land: millions can only access green space size of garden shed | Friends of the Earth](#)

In Haringey a large proportion of non-white British communities live in the east of the borough which is also the area with the least parks and green spaces and the smaller parks and greenspaces. [equalities profile of haringey.pdf](#)

The [Monitoring Engagement in the Natural Environment Survey \(2009 - 2019\) \(arcgis.com\)](#) records the split in visits to parks as 80.4% white and 18.26% BAME (1.35% refused). This represents a significant disparity compared to the borough profile.

It is clear from our own engagement that members of the BAME communities feel excluded from parks through the design and maintenance approach to parks currently in place in Haringey. This premises is explored more by DR Bridget Snaith in her PhD thesis "The Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park: Whose Values, Who's benefits? [The Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Whose Values, Whose Benefits? by Shape Landscape Architects - Issuu](#).

Whiteness in the Parks Management sector is an issue that we need to overcome, and we need to look internally about how this shapes our approach to managing and designing parks.

Potential Impacts – overall the new strategy and supporting plans should have a positive impact of those within this group. The strategy is focused around including everyone and ensuring everyone receives the equal benefit that parks and greenspaces can bring to an individual's life. Change will take time and so the inequality experience by our BAME residents will persist. But the knowledge gained to date can immediately impact our current plans and bring forward lasting improvements.

4g. Religion or belief

Data

Borough Profile ¹⁰

Christian: 45%

Buddhist: 1.1%

¹⁰ Source: 2011 Census

Hindu: 1.9%
Jewish: 3%
Muslim: 14.2%
No religion: 25.2%
Other religion: 0.5%
Religion not stated: 8.9%
Sikh: 0.3%

Target Population Profile

As Above

The proposals in the strategy and supporting documents have been informed using feedback from the Faith Forum. To date evidence hasn't been gathered on the requirements of different Faith groups in relation to their use of parks. However, we are aware that certain faith groups make use of specific parks or greenspace more than others. Having this awareness will allow us to maintain a good dialogue with groups to shape our work to ensure they are included and not offended by any proposals.

Potential Impacts - The new strategy does not contain any proposal which are generally considered to be controversial on the grounds of religion or belief. We therefore anticipate that the strategy would have a neutral impact at worst and a positive impact where positive steps can be taken.

4h. Sex

Data

Borough profile ¹¹

Females: (50.5%)
Males: (49.5%)

Target Population Profile

As above

The [Monitoring Engagement in the Natural Environment Survey \(2009 - 2019\)](http://arcgis.com) (arcgis.com) records the split of usage of parks and greenspaces at broadly similar (1% variance) to the borough male / female split:-
Male 50.63%
Female 49.37%

The split between male and female usage of parks is surprising given concerns about safety and harassment in parks.

¹¹ Source: 2011 Census

Bad weather was the main reason for men not to visit their park or greenspace and for women the main reason was busy at work. For women the key reason for visiting was fresh air followed by relaxation and for men it was relaxation followed by health and exercise.

Potential Impacts - feeling safe in a park is a key issue for women and this is something we are keen to address and is a manifesto commitment to include women in the design of parks in the future. Therefore, there should be a positive impact on women as a result of the introduction of the new strategy and supporting documents. In addition, investment in facilities for women's sport will be a priority.

4i. Sexual Orientation

Data

Borough profile ¹²

3.2% of London residents aged 16 or over identified themselves as lesbian, gay or bisexual in 2013. In Haringey this equates to 6,491 residents.

Target Population Profile

As above

It's important that people from the LGBT community feel welcome in the parks and greenspaces in the borough. Haringey has the 6th largest gay and lesbian population in London and 9th largest in the country. We also know that this group are often victims of hate crime related to their gender identity or sexual orientation. [State of the Borough profile - June 2022 \(haringey.gov.uk\)](#). We also know that 25% of youth homeless in Haringey are LGBT. Parks and greenspaces are often places where homeless people choose to sleep.

Therefore, driving out antisocial behaviour that could lead to hate crime is a key action and included in the strategy. The extension of PSPO's in key areas and partnership working with the police and community will also be important.

Potential Impacts - there is nothing in the proposed strategy or supporting documents that should have a negative impact on this group. Indeed the commitment to regular meaningful engagement should allow the lived experience of this community to come through to help tackle and prevent issues arising.

4j. Socioeconomic Status (local)

¹² Source: ONS Integrated Household Survey

Data

Borough profile

Income

8.3% of the population in Haringey were claiming unemployment benefit on 9 December 2021.¹³

20.8% of the population in Haringey were claiming Universal Credit on 9 December 2021.¹⁴

29% of employee jobs in the borough are paid less than the London Living Wage.¹⁵

Educational Attainment

While Haringey's proportion of students attaining grade 5 or above in English and Mathematics GCSEs is higher than the national average, it is below the London average.¹⁶

4.4% of Haringey's working age populations had no qualifications in 2020.¹⁷ 4.8% were qualified to level one only.¹⁸

Area Deprivation

Haringey is the 4th most deprived in London as measured by the IMD score 2019. The most deprived LSOAs (Lower Super Output Areas or small neighbourhood areas) are more heavily concentrated in the east of the borough where more than half of the LSOAs fall into the 20% most deprived in the country.¹⁹

Target Population Profile

Not known

Parks are a free resource and therefore their use should be available to all regardless of income. However, as we have already identified above there may be multiple barriers that prevent their usage by groups with one or more protected characteristic.

The state of the borough profile indicates that whilst just over a quarter (27.8%) of the borough is parks and greenspaces this is below the London average of 33.5%. It should also be noted that there is substantial variation in the amount of open space in different wards. For example, while all homes in Alexandra and Bounds Green have good access to nature, just two fifths of homes in West Green (38%) and Noel Park (41%)

¹³ [ONS Claimant Count](#)

¹⁴ [LG Inform](#)

¹⁵ ONS

¹⁶ Source: Annual Population Survey 2019 (via nomis)

¹⁷ [LG Inform - qualifications](#)

¹⁸ [LG Inform – level one](#)

¹⁹ [State of the Borough](#) (p.21)

do. Broadly speaking, access to metropolitan parks in Haringey is very good, while access to local, small or pocket parks and district parks is less good.

[State of the Borough profile - June 2022 \(haringey.gov.uk\)](https://www.haringey.gov.uk/state-of-the-borough-profile-june-2022)

The areas of lower provision and size of greenspace correlate in Haringey with the areas of higher deprivation and areas of predominantly BAME communities.

There is some research to show that socioeconomic inequalities in health are lower in greener neighbourhoods. Providing good quality greener environments in more deprived areas could therefore help reduce health inequalities.

[Making the Most of Green Spaces for People's Health: How green spaces contribute to other key agendas | Beyond Greenspace](#)

Potential Impacts – The new strategy should have a positive impact on those within this protected group as inclusion and wellbeing and quality parks service objective should help in driving up the involvement of people and quality of parks and greenspaces more generally.

5. Key Impacts Summary

5a. Outline the key findings of your data analysis.

Despite parks being free at the point of use and physically open to all, those within the protected groups can experience one or more barriers to the use of parks. Not accessing local parks or greenspaces can mean that the multiple physical and mental health benefits of using parks and greenspaces are lost.

Experiences that may be taken for granted by parts of the community may not be available to others such as using a park alone. Likewise, the opportunity to entertain children, experience nature, the changing seasons, participating in sport and relaxing from the stresses of every day life are also lost.

There is also evidence to suggest that the design and management of parks and greenspaces is predominantly undertaken by white people and that this is building in unnecessary barriers to participation for other racial groups.

However, having developed the draft strategy with a wide range of voices this has already led to identifying inclusion and well being as a key aim of the new strategy and its supporting plans. The other aims of climate change and sustainability and a quality parks service will further support the continued enjoyment of parks as they adapt to the future and will ensure that overtime the quality of parks will improve.

For a number of protected groups, the geography of the borough and distribution of parks and greenspaces is a key factor. Working together with the community we will need to give a greater focus to improving the quality of parks and greenspace to be

more attractive as the opportunity for new greenspace is limited. Although regeneration in the east of the borough provides good prospects for changes to the range and quality of parks and greenspaces.

5b. Intersectionality

The users of parks and greenspaces can clearly have more than one protected characteristic. A married pregnant BAME women living in the east of the borough will present with potential multiple barriers to their use of parks and greenspaces in Haringey. However, the triple aims of the strategy should diminish the barriers over time.

The decision before Cabinet is to approve the draft documents for consultation. That consultation will ensure that all protected groups are engaged with to review the proposals in the strategy and adapt, change or amend them to ensure that they best serve the promotion of equalities within the borough.

5c. Data Gaps

In the development of the strategy engagement sessions were held with the following groups with protected characteristics.

- Faith communities
- Disabled people and Disability Action Haringey
- LGBTQI Community
- Secondary school children
- Older People
- People from BAME communities

Within these groups and the other groups engaged with there would have been representatives from other protected characteristic groups:-

- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Sex
- Socioeconomic Status (local)

And whilst in some areas there is a strong research base into the issues protected groups experience in relation to parks and greenspaces data for Haringey is limited or absent.

During the engagement and consultation, we will look to address these issues to inform changes to the draft strategy documentation for final approval by Cabinet.

6. Overall impact of the policy for the Public Sector Equality Duty

The key implication for people with protected characteristics is a recognition in the strategy that while parks and greenspaces are open to all there are physical or psychological barriers that prevent people with protected characteristics from having equal access.

The new strategy and supporting documents are a departure from a traditional parks and greenspace strategy whose focus is on the spatial provision and overall quality of parks as its primary driver.

Whilst the strategy and supporting documents have three key aims the priority of the three is the aim to significantly increase inclusion and wellbeing for all.

The draft strategy has been developed with input from many groups with protected characteristics. However, this can be further refined through exposure to a wider audience, by obtaining input from other protected groups that weren't specifically a focus of the initial engagement and by obtaining more qualitative input from groups.

There is no reason to believe that the proposals in the strategy should lead to any direct or indirect discrimination.

The strategy and support documents will help to advance equality and provide opportunities for a broader mix of people enjoying the benefits of parks and greenspaces together.

By removing barriers to the use of parks and greenspaces current users will have the opportunity to mix and enjoy the benefits of parks and greenspaces together and in harmony.

7. Amendments and mitigations

7a. What changes, if any, do you plan to make to your proposal because of the Equality Impact Assessment?

Further information on responding to identified impacts is contained within accompanying EQIA guidance

Please delete Y/N as applicable

No major change to the proposal: the EQIA demonstrates the proposal is robust and there is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact. All opportunities to promote equality have been taken. If you have found any inequalities or negative impacts that you are unable to mitigate, please provide a compelling reason below why you are unable to mitigate them Y

The strategy and documents have been developed with a range of input from groups with protected characteristics and other more general groups associated with the use of parks. At this point (pre borough wide consultation and targeted engagement) there is no proposal to amend the documents. However, the whole purpose of the

consultation and engagement is to either endorse or amend the proposals contained within the various documents.

Adjust the proposal: the EQIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. Adjust the proposal to remove barriers or better promote equality. Clearly set out below the key adjustments you plan to make to the policy. If there are any adverse impacts you cannot mitigate, please provide a compelling reason below **N**

See above

Stop and remove the proposal: the proposal shows actual or potential avoidable adverse impacts on different protected characteristics. The decision maker must not make this decision. **N**

See above

7b. What specific actions do you plan to take to remove or mitigate any actual or potential negative impact and to further the aims of the Equality Duty?

TBC

Action:

[Type answer here].

Lead officer:

[Type answer here].

Timescale:

[Type answer here].

Please outline any areas you have identified where negative impacts will happen because of the proposal, but it is not possible to mitigate them.

Please provide a complete and honest justification on why it is not possible to mitigate the:

[Type answer here].

7. Ongoing monitoring

Summarise the measures you intend to put in place to monitor the equalities impact of the proposal as it is implemented.

- Who will be responsible for the monitoring?
- What the type of data needed is and how often it will be analysed.
- When the policy will be reviewed and what evidence could trigger an early revision
- How to continue to involve relevant groups and communities in the implementation and monitoring of the policy?

The Head of Parks and Leisure will be responsible for monitoring the equalities impact.

The type of data required will be data on who is using parks and how this is changing over time. Biannual monitoring and report to relevant annual parks summit.

The strategy and supporting documents are landscape scale strategies and therefore are set to last 15 years. However, changes in government policy affecting parks and greenspaces, new legislation, or changes in political priorities.

A fundamental tenant of the strategy is that there is ongoing engagement with a wide range of groups including those with protected characteristic to ensure we are addressing the inclusion aim of the strategy. Resources have been added to the parks team to ensure this can happen.

Date of EQIA monitoring review:

TBC

8. Authorisation

EQIA approved by (Assistant Director/ Director)
Malcolm

Mark Stevens/Eubert

Date

[Type answer here].

9. Publication

Please ensure the completed EQIA is published in accordance with the Council's policy.

Please contact the Policy & Strategy Team for any feedback on the EQIA process.

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Report for: **Cabinet: 13 September 2022**

Title: **Appointment of a programme wide sales and marketing agent to support the housing delivery programme**

Report

Authorised by **David Joyce, Director of Placemaking and Housing**

Lead Officer: **Robbie Erbmman, Assistant Director for Housing**

Ward(s) affected: **All**

Report key

Decision: **Key Decision**

1. Describe the Issues under Consideration

- 1.1. This report seeks Cabinet approval for the appointment of a sales and marketing agent identified through competitive tendering to provide a variety of services in relation to the homes that the Council will build for market sale in order to cross-subsidise the delivery of a new generation of council homes for local residents.
- 1.2. The appointment for sales and marketing agent services is for a capped total cost of £3,431,062. Together with other sales and marketing consultancy services that have already been approved through the Director of Placemaking and Housing's delegated authority, the contract recommended will be for a five-year period with a total maximum budget of £3,930,061.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1. This administration is committed to delivering a new generation of council homes that have been designed and built to the very highest quality. That means we will co-design those homes so that they meet residents' aspirations – including for those with disabilities and medical need. It means we are committed to delivering homes that are zero carbon and that reduce fuel poverty for tenants. And it means we are committed to building council homes for families that need three, four and more bedrooms.
- 2.2. The homes we build for council tenants cannot be built on the cheap. So that we can afford to build the highest quality council homes that all residents deserve, we need to generate revenue by building some homes for market sale.
- 2.3. That requires specialist commercial expertise that the Council does not currently possess. As we are only planning to sell less than one in five of the homes that we build, there is simply not enough of a programme for us to develop that expertise ourselves.
- 2.4. This area of commercial activity is new for the Council, and so I recommend that we need to bring in the external expertise that will ensure the programme is financially successful and that will help establish our own capacity for delivering homes for the open market.
- 2.5. This said, there is no obligation on us to use this resource for every project, and we are carefully considering where this resource is deployed, and where we might use local sales agents within the programme.

3. Recommendation

3.1. It is recommended that Cabinet:

3.1.1. Approve that a contract be awarded to the tenderer named in the exempt part of the report, who has been identified through a competitive procurement exercise as the sales and marketing agent for the Council's housing delivery programme for a value of £3,431,062 to provide services as specified at 6.17 for a five year period; and authorise the Director of Placemaking and Housing in consultation with the Head of Legal and Governance to enter into the contract with the appointed tenderer.

4. Reasons for decisions

- 4.1. The Council needs to maximise its returns from the market sale element of its housing delivery programme to provide the required financial support for its ambitious programme aimed at delivering new council homes of the highest quality for the borough's residents. Currently around 370 new homes for sale are planned for the period of the proposed sales and marketing agency contract and we anticipate that this number may rise over the coming years as proposals for further sites are developed and brought into the Council's Housing Delivery programme.
- 4.2. The Council has never marketed and sold homes on a commercial basis, and it has no existing expertise or capacity to do it effectively.
- 4.3. Unlike most other boroughs, we do not currently have a substantial private sales or shared ownership programme. We are currently forecasting 16% of the homes that we deliver to be for private sale and have an extremely limited and historic shared ownership programme. In addition, the sales programme is concentrated within a few of our higher value projects – which means that while we have moments of very high demand – we do not have a sustained pipeline to justify regular sales activity. All of this mitigates against the establishment of an in-house team – as we would not have the required level of activity to sustain it over a period of time.
- 4.4. We are therefore proposing the appointment of a specialist marketing agent. The Council has carried out a competitive procurement exercise to identify the most appropriate option. This procurement is for a non-exclusive sales agency appointment, which means that the Council can still choose to procure and appoint alternative agents if necessary or appropriate for specific private sale projects, particularly where we may want to take a more localised approach. Similarly, it does not preclude the Council choosing to develop a private sales specialism in-house in future if our private sales or shared ownership pipeline grows.
- 4.5. Based on the tender returns, the winning tenderer provided the most competitive tender return from a cost, quality and programme perspective demonstrating value for money for the Council.

5. Alternative options considered.

- 5.1. The Council could try to deliver Council homes for Council rent without cross-subsidising them through homes for market sale. This has been rejected because the Council's first priority is to deliver as many high-quality Council homes at Council rent as possible. It is not currently financially viable to do this without an element of cross-subsidy, even allowing for maximising the amount of available public grant funding. Homes for market sale provide the maximum cross-subsidy possible with the fewest number of homes that are

not let at Council rent. The Council's Housing Revenue Account (HRA) business plan allows for providing the minimum amount of new non-Council rent homes to ensure long term financial viability of the Council's rented stock.

- 5.2. The Council could carry out the marketing and sales activities itself. This option was rejected because the Council does not have the existing specialist expertise, resources, or capacity to do this effectively. To develop the required in-house capacity, a significant financial investment would need to be made to attract candidates with the right qualifications, in a competitive jobs market. This process would take a prolonged approval period internally and a lengthy recruitment timeframe. There would then need to be a period of bedding in the team, it would take a significant amount of time to build the contacts, resources and local market knowledge.

As previously set out, the Council does not have a large enough sales programme to justify the mobilisation of an in-house team described above, given that the vast majority of the homes within the Haringey development programme are for council rent, with practically no shared ownership and a relatively modest number of homes for sale.

Our programme is also somewhat inconsistent, with private sales mostly concentrated on a small number of large sites. This means that there will be times over the coming years where there will be a significant resource requirement and other times when the requirement will be virtually non-existent.

- 5.3. The Council could solely procure the services on a site-by-site basis. This option was rejected for the following reasons:

- The intention is that the Council develops an overarching sales and marketing approach and 'brand' for the new homes being developed for private sale, which will provide consistent messaging and clearly communicate to potential buyers the link between the home sales and local investment in the borough, improving neighbourhoods and providing affordable housing.
- A single provider can achieve efficiencies from a resource management perspective.)

However, the tender is clear that the agency services are being commissioned on a non-exclusive basis. If it is felt the winning tenderer is not suited to provide agency services to certain sites, the Council can appoint an alternative provider and are not bound to use the successful tenderer for all sales and marketing services. A number of our smaller private sales sites may lend themselves to a more localised approach. As noted above, the Council may choose to procure local agents for specific sites where this may be appropriate.

- 5.4 The Council could have attempted to procure from an external framework. This option was rejected as there is not a framework which has a robust list of tenderers on it which the Council felt would lead to a competitive tender process and/or complement the needs of the housing delivery programme.

6. Background information

- 6.1. The Council is committed to delivering a new generation of council homes that have been designed and built to the very highest quality. That means the Council will deliver council homes that have been coproduced with residents, that meet ambitious commitments to sustainability, and that meet the needs of larger households.

- 6.2. There is acute demand in Haringey for genuinely affordable homes. 11,000 households are on the housing register, including 2,700 homeless households in temporary accommodation and many families living in overcrowded conditions. The Council has an ambitious programme which aims to deliver 3,000 high quality new council homes by 2031
- 6.3. The Council cannot currently finance building homes for social rent of the high quality that council tenants deserve through capital grant and borrowing alone – and especially not if it is to deliver the homes with three, four or more bedrooms for social rent that families need. The Council therefore needs to generate additional income to subsidise those homes by building some homes for market sale.
- 6.4. Currently across the programme the tenure mix is split with the Council delivering 84% of all homes at council rent, with the remaining 16% being for private sale. Delivery of the homes is currently being funded through the HRA along with grant funding from the Greater London Authority (GLA).
- 6.5. Under the GLA affordable homes programme (2016-21, extended to 2023 due to delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic), the Council can draw down from a maximum grant funding pot of £120.2m. Under the latest GLA Affordable Homes Programme (2021-26) the Council has been awarded a total grant of £127.4m to support the delivery of affordable homes.
- 6.6. Even with the GLA funding, the Council does not have all the subsidy needed to secure a fully viable development programme of new homes for Council rent. This means we will build a mix of different homes which includes some for sale on the private market. Our commitment is that we will only do this to cross-subsidise the delivery of the Council homes for social rent of the highest possible quality and in the greatest possible numbers.
- 6.7. National supply-chain and workforce issues caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the impact of the UK's departure from the European Union and the war in Ukraine have led to significant recent increases in the cost of construction materials and labour. This has negatively impacted the value for money the Council can achieve, and the viability of development projects across the Housing Delivery programme. The costs of construction contracts awarded in the last two years have significantly risen, putting more pressure on the number of affordable homes the Council can deliver. These are similar pressures that are being reported by other local authorities across London and the UK.
- 6.8. It is therefore essential that the Council is able to fund its housing programme through a diverse funding model to ensure pressure on the HRA is sustainable. The income generated from private sale homes will be used to directly fund the delivery of Council homes in the borough. This is a typical model adopted by numerous developing Local Authorities and Housing Associations, to ensure the security of their development programmes.
- 6.9. The Haringey Housing Delivery team regularly engage with the equivalent teams at other London Local Authorities and Registered Providers, and we are part of a number of development networks across London. The team keep up with good practice in the sector and have worked with officers at other developing Councils to learn lessons from their existing programmes of developing homes for sale – this has informed Haringey's proposed approach to sales and marketing.
- 6.10. It is therefore recommended that the Council appoint external expertise to undertake critical tasks that are required to enable the Council to achieve key objectives associated

with their private sales programme.

Procuring the sales and marketing agent

- 6.11. Details of the proposed fees received from all bidders have been provided in Appendix 1, which is exempt from publication due to the commercially sensitive nature of this information.
- 6.12. The rationale behind approaching this procurement exercise on a programme basis and not piecemeal (site by site) is:
 - 6.12.1. The benefits of achieving economies of scale in agency fees and day rates.
 - 6.12.2. Having upfront insight on pricing for the agency fees for the next 5 years will help improve the accuracy of our financial viability modelling and the programme's business plan.
 - 6.12.3. Efficiency benefits which can be derived from running one tender process, opposed to 40+ tender processes by individual PMs. Tendering on a site-by-site basis is a 2-6 month process depending on the contract value for a specific site.
 - 6.12.4. Flexibility will be built into the scope of services and contract which the winning tenderer enters into, giving the Council discretion to seek services from an alternative provider if it is felt the winning provider cannot meet the needs on a specific scheme. This allows for separate appointment of smaller or more local sales agents if deemed desirable for specific sites.
 - 6.12.5. Procuring these services under one umbrella appointment will help to ensure all marketing collateral is aligned to the programme level sales and marketing strategy, providing consistency and uniformity.
- 6.13. The winning tenderer will have a strategic overview of the sales programme and marketing programme, from a timing, pricing, and brand perspective of the various sites across the borough.
- 6.14. The chosen tenderer will build a strong relationship with Haringey Council, having a clear understanding of our objectives and processes to effectively deliver to our needs. Haringey Council will have direct oversight of decisions made by the chosen tenderer.
- 6.15. To benefit from the above, it is felt that the appointment should be for a 5-year period.
- 6.16. The Council's housing delivery programme is ambitious – as Haringey's residents need it to be. The Council believes that delivering Council homes at Council rents is one of the most important things it can do. In the current funding and economic context, the homes it delivers for market sale within its housing programme are of critical importance because profits generated from their sales will cross-subsidise the delivery of Council homes. It is therefore important that the chosen sales and marketing agent can maximise sales values while being cognisant of the corporate priorities and wider values of the borough. The procurement exercise was therefore assessed on a 70% quality and 30% cost basis which has subsequently led to a very competitive tender process.
- 6.17. At a high level the services which the Council are seeking to procure have been split into two parts, part 1 programme level services and part 2 on-going site specific service as set out below:

Part One

- 6.17.1 Support to develop the objectives of the private sales programme and develop the brand for them.
- 6.17.2 Preparation of a programme wide sales and marketing strategy to set the overarching direction for all sites within the programme with a market facing element.
- 6.17.3 Review the existing sites within the current programme where tenure mix is not locked to advise on site viability and optimum unit mix, as well as other design specific criteria.
- 6.17.4 Preparation of a private sales specification to ensure consistency across the product.

Part Two

- 6.17.5 Providing advice on new sites being brought into the programme to recommend what should be developed on the land and how many units, unit mix, unit sizes, initial site viability.
 - 6.17.6 Preparation of site-specific sales and marketing strategy for developments which contain a market facing product, inclusive of the pricing strategy
 - 6.17.7 Provision of sales estimates in relation to future sites entering the programme to site feasibility and planning stage
 - 6.17.8 A comprehensive estate agency service to advertise and sell the market facing element of Council development schemes.
- 6.18. The services in tasks 1-7 (6.17.1-6.17.7) have already been approved by the Assistant Director of Housing, Regeneration and Planning under CSO 09.07.3 and 9.07.1.c due to the urgency attached to these tasks and these were priced on a fixed fee basis. Further information is set out in Appendix 1.
- 6.19. Due to the task 8 (6.17.8) service and its ongoing nature over the five-year period, approval is being sought from Cabinet for them for the value of £3,431,062.
- 6.20. The wider contract value is for a total of £3,930,061, to provide services under part 1 and 2. This amount has been ring-fenced for these services over a five-year period and costs charged against this contract will be net off against the sales income for the schemes in question. Please refer to Appendix 1 for a breakdown of these costs.
- 6.21. A five-year duration for this contract was selected. Due to the length of a typical development project, this is judged to be a suitable timeframe to ensure consistency and momentum across the programme.
- 6.22. The maximum budget for all the services above is £3,930,061, which is judged to be appropriate to the size of the programme and the inevitable elements of uncertainty across it. There is no guarantee that the maximum budget will be used, nor are there any exclusivity rights to the winning tenderer. This is felt to be the most sensible solution to ensure costs do not spiral, but that there is also a certain degree of flexibility on our smaller sites which may be more suited to the services of a local agent.

- 6.23. This opportunity was released via the Council's Dynamic Procurement System on 16 September 2021, specifically under the Advertising and Marketing Services Lot. This platform offers the Council the flexibility of inviting the specific providers to tender that were felt appropriate for the tasks at hand to ensure a competitive tender process.
- 6.24. The tender documents have been prepared following consultation and guidance from Strategic Procurement and Property teams.
- 6.25. The evaluation panel consisted of four officers, from Housing Development and Strategic Property with Strategic Procurement providing final moderation services.
- 6.26. In total we received 5 responses from the market. The tender returns were assessed on a 70% quality and 30% cost basis. The results from the tender valuation exercise are as follows:

Assessment	Bidder 1	Bidder 2	Bidder 3	Bidder 4	Winning Tenderer
Cost Score	24.4%	21.06%	17.32%	17.6%	30%
Quality Score	40.6%	44.8%	49%	51.8%	50.4%
Total tender evaluation score	65%	65.8%	66.32%	69.4%	80.4%

- 6.27. Due to the commercially sensitive nature of this information, further information can be found in Appendix 1.
- 6.28. Based on the evaluations carried out it is recommended that Cabinet approve the appointment of the winning tenderer for the value of **£3,431,062** to carry out the task 8 (paragraph 6.17.8) service set out under the wider contract.

7. Contribution of Strategic Outcomes

- 7.1. The recommendations in this report will support the delivery of the Housing Priority in the new Borough Plan, which sets out in its first outcome that 'We will work together to deliver the new homes Haringey needs, especially new affordable homes'. Within this outcome, the Borough Plan sets the aim to 'Ensure that new developments provide affordable homes with the right mix of tenures to meet the wide range of needs across the borough, prioritising new social rented homes'.
- 7.2. The proposals in this report contribute directly to the strategic outcomes on new housing supply that are at the core of the aims of the Council as expressed in the Borough Plan.

8. Legal

- 8.1. The Head of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) has been consulted in the preparation of this report.
- 8.2. The services are above the procurement threshold (currently £177,897 + VAT = £213,477) where the tendering requirements set out in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (the Regulations) apply. The use of a Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) is an approved procurement process under Regulation 34 of the Regulations. It is also approved under the Council's Contract Standing Orders (CSO 9.04 Dynamic Purchasing Systems).
- 8.3. The award of this contract will be a 'key decision' and, as such, needs to comply with the governance requirements set out in the Council's Constitution, including publication in the Forward Plan (CSO 3.01 (d)).
- 8.4. The Cabinet has power to approve the recommendations under CSO 9.07.1 (d) (contracts valued at £500,000 or more).
- 8.5. The Head of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) confirms there are no legal reasons preventing Members from approving the recommendations in this report.

9. Procurement

- 9.1. Strategic Procurement (SP) note that this report relates to the approval of an appointment of programme wide sales and marketing agent to support the housing delivery programme.
- 9.2. SP support the recommendations in this report in accordance with Contract Standing Order clause 7.0.1. (b) and 9.07.
- 9.3. Pursuant to CSO 7.01(b) Regulation 33 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, SP confirms that tenderers were invited to Tender through the London Construction Programme, Dynamic Purchasing System for Professional Services.
- 9.4. The Council received Five compliant tenders from five Suppliers with further clarifications needed to achieve the final price.
- 9.5. SP note that tender returns were evaluated independently by a Quality Panel and the Price element of the Tender was evaluated separately. The Winning Contractor scored the highest in quality and Price overall as set out in the Exempt part of this report.
- 9.6. SP support the recommendations within this report and have no objections with awarding this Contract to the Winning Bidder for the value outlined within the Exempt part of this report.

10. Finance

- 10.1 Comments from finance are contained in Appendix 1, paragraph 3 as they contain commercially sensitive information.

11. Equality

- 11.1. The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 11.2. The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex, and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.
- 11.3. The decision is to appoint a sales and marketing agent to provide services to support the sale of homes that the Council will build for market sale – which will be used to subsidise the delivery of Council homes as part of the borough’s ambitious plans to deliver 3000 new council homes by 2031.
- 11.4. As such, it is anticipated that this decision will have a positive overall equalities impact, with those on low incomes, amongst whom there are a disproportionate number of residents with other protected characteristics, likely to benefit. It is noted that the objectives of the private sale programme will be subject to an equalities assessment.
- 11.5. As a body carrying out a public function on behalf of a public authority, the contractor will be required to have due regard for the need to achieve the three aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty, noted above. Arrangements will be in place to monitor the performance of the contractor and ensure that any reasonably possible measures are taken to address any issues that may occur that may have a disproportionate negative impact on any groups who share the protected characteristics.

Use of appendices

Appendix 1 – Breakdown of winning tenderers costs and budget structure - EXEMPT.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Appendix 1 is NOT FOR PUBLICATION by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 in that they contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any person (including the authority holding that information).

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MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEMBER SIGNING MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 15TH JULY, 2022, 9.30 - 9.45 AM

PRESENT: Councillor Julie Davies, Cabinet Member for Communities and Civic Life.

In attendance: Sarah Jones, Events and Partnership Manager; and Fiona Rae, Acting Committees Manager.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. APPLICATION BY KRANK EVENTS LTD TO HIRE FINSBURY PARK FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE FOOD AND MUSIC WEEKENDS IN AUGUST 2022

The Cabinet Member for Communities and Civic Life considered the report which sought determination of an application made by Krank Events Ltd (the Applicant) to hire Finsbury Park in August 2022 in order to stage two 'large' food and music festivals, over two consecutive weekends (Saturday and Sunday). The application was required to be determined pursuant to the Council's Outdoor Events Policy (the Policy), which was approved by Cabinet on 17 December 2013, and implemented on 7 January 2014.

Following consideration of the exempt information,

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

1. To consider, and take account of, the comments received from recognised stakeholders of Finsbury Park in response to the event notification being sent as part of the decision-making process (attached as Appendix 2).
2. To authorise the (Interim) Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods to approve conditional in-principle agreement to hire Finsbury Park to the Applicant for the events and dates detailed in the report as set out in paragraph 6.4, BUT also (1) subject to the events being permissible under any then prevailing government legislation and guidance in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic, and (2) with the agreement of the Council's (interim) Director of Public Health.
3. To authorise the Interim Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods to enter into agreements and or to grant permits to hire Finsbury Park to the Applicant (for the events detailed in the report as set out in paragraph 6.4) provided that the Director

of Environment and Neighbourhoods is satisfied with the terms of any proposed agreements and permits.

Reasons for decision

Under the terms of the Policy, applications of the type detailed in this report are required to be determined with the prior agreement of the Cabinet Member.

If authority is given, then officers will give in-principle agreement to the Applicant for the event application to progress. The events will then be subject to lengthy discussions with relevant authorities - including Licensing and Public Health - before final approval is given.

The rejection of the application would have implications for the Parks & Leisure Service budget and reduce the opportunity for reinvestment into Finsbury Park (the Park). It would also mean that the wider cultural and economic benefits to the borough were lost.

Alternative options considered

In adopting the Policy, the Council established its commitment to using the Park to host events. Accordingly, the only other alternative option which could be considered would be to reject the application. That option was rejected, on the grounds that the events did not fall within any of the grounds set out in paragraph 5.3 of the Policy for automatic refusal.

4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting as item 5 contained exempt information, as defined in Section 100a of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by Section 12A of the Local Government Act 1985); paras 3 and 5, namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

5. EXEMPT - APPLICATION BY KRANK EVENTS LTD TO HIRE FINSBURY PARK FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE FOOD AND MUSIC WEEKENDS IN AUGUST 2022

The Cabinet Member considered the exempt information.

CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Julie Davies

Signed by Cabinet Member

Date ...15 July 2022.....

MINUTES OF CABINET MEMBER SIGNING MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 22 JULY, 2022, 11.30 AM - 11.45AM.

PRESENT: Councillor Ruth Gordon, Cabinet Member for Council Housebuilding, Placemaking and Development

In attendance: Bruno Bridge, Senior Housing Project Manager and Nazyer Choudhury, Principal Committee Co-Ordinator.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. APPROVAL OF REVISED CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR NEW COUNCIL HOMES AT JANSONS ROAD, N17

On 13 July 2021, Cabinet approved the direct award of a contract to NFC Homes Limited for the construction of five new Council homes at Janson's Road, Tottenham Green: two one-bedroom flats, one two-bedroom flat, one three-bedroom flat and one three-bedroom wheelchair-accessible flat.

In light of considerable cost increases in the construction industry since the award of that contract, this report seeks approval to agree a new contract sum for NFC Homes Limited.

The increase being sought was within budget. There was an increase in the original contract which had been approved by the Cabinet. It was a scheme of five homes, all of which were for social rent. It's included two one-bedroom flats, one two-bedroom flat, one three-bedroom flat and one three-bedroom wheelchair flat. It also included an improved landscape area.

There had been issues with increasing tenders due to the coronavirus crisis, Brexit and the war in Ukraine. In general, there was an overall increase particularly for materials which were energy intensive like steel and brickwork.

After the initial Cabinet approval, NFC Homes did not wish to sign the contract. However, after this contract was signed, any cost risks would be inherited by the company. The only way that could be a cost risk to the Council was if there were variations to the contract or delays in the variations.

The Cabinet Member noted that the development was near the Clive Road conservation area and it would be useful to ensure elements of an after-care service for the residents to avoid any potential lingering issues.

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

1. To approve, pursuant to Contract Standing Order 9.07.1(d), the award of a revised contract to NFC Homes Limited to undertake the new build works to provide a total of five new homes at Jansons Road car park in the contract sum set out in the Exempt Report Appendix 2.
2. To approve the total scheme costs as set out in the Exempt Report Appendix 2.
3. To delegate powers to the Director of Placemaking and Housing and the S151 Officer (Director of Finance) to make approvals (if required) in line with the details set out in the exempt report.

Reasons for decision

In July 2019, Cabinet approved the inclusion of the land at Jansons Road within the Council's Housing Delivery programme. The scheme proposed for this land was subsequently granted planning consent. In July 2021, Cabinet approved the Page 1 Agenda Item 3 award of a construction contract for the scheme to NFC Homes through direct appointment. On that basis, a letter of intent was issued to NFC Homes in September 2021 to proceed with discharge of all pre-commencement planning conditions. NFC Homes Limited have successfully discharged all precommencement planning conditions and have since been working on the detailed design for Janson Road Car Park.

Due to recent construction market inflation NFC have requested an increase in their contract price. Since the tender in May 2021, labour and materials costs in the construction industry have increased considerably. Government statistics show that over the twelve months to January 2022, the cost of materials required for new housing rose 19.1%. Brexit, HGV driver shortages, strong global demand for construction products, and Covid-19 disruption continue to affect the construction market, amplified by the recent war in Ukraine and subsequent Russian sanctions restricting materials supply.

NFC's new contract price reflects these challenges and the size, scope, complexity, and abnormalities specific to the project. Independent evaluation by the Project Team's Cost Consultant confirms that the new contract price represents value for money and is in line with current market trends.

Alternative options considered

It would be possible not to develop this site for housing purposes. However, this option was rejected as it does not support the Council's commitment to deliver a new generation of Council homes.

The Council could run a competitive tender for the project. This option was rejected because it is not in the Council's interests: a new tender would delay progress on site considerably, thereby putting grant funding at risk, and would be very unlikely to attract bids of a lower price.

If the Council were to retender the project, we would expect an additional 6 months added to the existing programme. NFC have been given a Letter of Intent and are already conducting site investigations, in consultation with statutory authorities and building control, as well as discharging planning pre-commencement conditions in order to be able to claim GLA grant when the main contract starts on site. See comments in Exempt Report Appendix 2.

If the Council were to consider freezing the scheme, the risk associated with this would mean a loss of GLA grant which would put the project at a greater financial loss. The undertaking for the allocation of grant for Janson Road requires the Council to start onsite before the next financial year 2023 - 2024. In addition, we could run the risk of having to resubmit a new planning application should the works not commence within the 3 years from the date of the permission which expires on 9th March 2024.

4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Item 5 was subject to a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contained exempt information as defined in Section 100a of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by Section 12A of the Local Government Act 1985); paras 3 and 5, namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

5. EXEMPT - APPROVAL OF REVISED CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR NEW COUNCIL HOMES AT JANSONS ROAD, N17

The Cabinet Member considered exempt information relating to item 5 of the agenda

CHAIR: Cllr Ruth Gordon

Signed by Cabinet Member

Date22 July 2022.....

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MINUTES OF CABINET MEMBER SIGNING MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 25 JULY, 2022, 10:00 AM - 10.40AM.

PRESENT: Councillor Mike Hakata, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Environment and Transport and Deputy Leader of the Council

In attendance: Rob Krzyszowski, Assistant Director Planning, Building Standards and Sustainability, Bryce Tudball, Head of Policy Transport and Infrastructure, Simi Shah, Group Engineer, Traffic and Parking and Nazyer Choudhury, Principal Committee Co-Ordinator.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOODS EXEMPTIONS

On 7 December 2021, as part of the Council's ambitious Streets for People initiative, Cabinet approved three Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) to be implemented on a trial basis under experimental traffic orders (ETOs): Bounds Green; Bruce Grove West Green; and St Ann's. As part of these decisions, Cabinet approved a series of exemptions to the non-hard closure filters in the LTN experimental schemes including for Blue Badge holders and special education needs and disabilities (SEND) transport. It was stated within the Cabinet reports that exemptions would be subject to an application process and exact criteria would follow in due course. It was also stated that there would be a separate route to obtain an exemption through an exceptional circumstance dispensation. In advance of the three LTNs being implemented in Summer 2022, this report seeks approval of the specific criteria and applications process that will apply in relation to the already agreed exemptions.

The Council's adopted Walking and Cycling Action Plan (WCAP) sets out a policy to deliver a network of LTNs across the borough as part of Haringey's Streets for People programme. The exemption criteria and application process set out in this report is proposed to apply to all Streets for People schemes going forward in which filtering of road is a key component including all LTNs.

Bounds Green LTN, Bruce Grove West Green LTN and St Ann's LTN are the first 3 LTNs to be implemented by the Council and are being installed on a trial basis. All properties within the LTNs will remain accessible by motor vehicle but the way certain properties are accessed will change. Experience of other LTNs in London has shown overall reductions in vehicular traffic volumes over time but with variance on certain roads and at certain times. By reducing the number of motor vehicles in and around the LTNs it is hoped that journey times will improve or stay the same benefitting those who need to make essential journeys by car. However, some roads, especially as the schemes bed in, may see an increase in traffic volumes, especially at peak hours. The LTN exemptions have been developed primarily to provide mitigation for people with disabilities who are more reliant on car travel and could be adversely affected by longer or re-routed journeys as a result of the LTN, especially in the initial weeks after implementation. As part of the trials, the Council will keep the exemption

approach in this report under review and, when it takes a decision as to whether or not to make the trial LTNs permanent, it will consider the need to amend the exemptions approach.

The proposals would be part of the monitoring process itself and several months of work had gone into the proposals. There was a large amount of detailed engagement with stakeholders and experts regarding the issue. It was important to note that the underlying point of the LTNs is to reduce motor traffic in the area as it is necessary to tackle climate change, with motor traffic being one of the biggest contributors to emissions. Motor traffic affects health, wellbeing, safety and social cohesion. It will also help improve active travel options for people. However, it is also important to ensure mitigation from any negative impacts where such occurrences appear.

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

1. To agree the Low Traffic Neighbourhoods Exemption Criteria and Applications Process as set out at Appendix A for the three Low Traffic Neighbourhoods authorised by Cabinet on 7 December 2021 and all future Low Traffic Neighbourhoods.
2. To agree to delegate to the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods the approval of an application form in relation to the agreed Exemption Criteria and Applications Process.
3. To agree to delegate to the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods authority to approve changes to Appendix A as part of the ongoing monitoring of the Exemption Criteria during the experimental period of the Traffic Management Orders for Bounds Green, Bruce Grove West Green and St Ann's Traffic Management Orders and for all future Low Traffic Neighbourhoods.

Reasons for decision

The LTN Exemption Criteria and Applications Process discharges the commitment in the December 2021 Cabinet Reports for Bounds Green LTN, Bruce Grove West Green LTN and St Ann's LTN respectively to provide further detail on the exemptions which will be available in relation to the LTNs. The approach makes reasonable adjustments to Blue Badge holders and others with access and disability needs and supports the Council's objective to advance equalities as far as possible.

The LTN Exemptions Criteria and Applications Process will apply to all LTNs delivered in the borough going forward and provides a borough-wide framework in respect of LTN exemptions.

The decision will enable an application form to be developed and made available online in relation to the agreed exemptions criteria and applications process.

Alternative options considered

The alternative options available to the Council are:

Option 1: Not to approve the LTN Exemptions Criteria and Applications Process. This option is rejected because: it would not discharge the commitment in the December 2021 Cabinet reports for Bounds Green LTN, Bruce Grove West Green LTN and St Ann's LTN to provide further detail on the exemptions which will be available in relation to the respective LTNs; and it would mean that the borough's first tranche of LTNs is implemented without appropriate clarification for the Council and residents and communities about exemptions that are available for the LTNs and the process to apply for them.

Option 2: Approve an alternative LTN Exemptions Criteria and Applications Process. The December 2021 Cabinet Reports for the Bounds Green LTN, Bruce Grove West Green LTN and St Ann's LTN set out a framework for the exemptions which would be applied to the respective LTNs. The LTN Exemptions Criteria and Applications Process set out in this report has been prepared consistent with the agreed framework. The option to offer exemptions based solely on protected characteristics is not recommended as it has numerous disadvantages. As most protected groups are broadly defined, they fail to recognise the nuanced mobility needs and capabilities of different subgroups (e.g., elderly people with different levels of mobility and fitness, disabled people that would benefit from active travel etc). Additionally, some people that would not necessarily fall within these categories would still benefit from an exemption, such as people suffering from short-term serious health conditions or receiving specialist care that require travel by car for a limited period. Exemptions based solely upon protected characteristic would not reflect the fact that many people in these groups do not rely on or, in fact, are not capable of driving, and would risk undermining the LTN objectives from which these people will benefit. In addition, a different Blue Badge holder exemption within the LTN Exemptions Criteria and Applications Process is not being recommended (i.e., more than one vehicle per Blue Badge holder) because the complementary individual circumstance exemption will ensure that, where additional vehicle exemptions are required, these can be obtained (subject to appropriate evidence and justification).

CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Mike Hakata

Signed by Cabinet Member

Date ...25 July 2022.....

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MINUTES OF MEETING Cabinet Member Signing HELD ON Thursday, 28th July, 2022, 10am to 10.15am

PRESENT:

Councillors: Peray Ahmet – Leader of the Council

ALSO ATTENDING: David Graaff, Ayshe Simsek

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest put forward.

6. AMENDMENT TO S47 DISCRETIONARY RATES POLICY TO ADMINISTER COVID ADDITIONAL RELIEF FUND

The Leader of the Council considered the attached report and noted that this addition to the Discretionary Rate Relief policy would allow the Council to maximise the distribution to local businesses of funding allocated to Haringey in accordance with the COVID-19 Additional Relief Fund (CARF): Local Authority Guidance issued on 15th December and subsequently.

RESOLVED

1. To approve the Covid Additional Relief Fund Discretionary Rate Relief scheme set out in Appendix A.
2. To delegate authority to the Director of Culture Strategy and Engagement, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Jobs, and Community Cohesion, to amend the scheme to maximise the distribution of the Covid Additional Relief Fund funding without overspending the Government's funding.
3. To agree that awards of this additional discretionary rate relief are subject to the availability of Government funding for Covid Additional Relief Fund and that the scheme is available for the financial year 2021/22 only.

Reasons for decision

The Government has provided funding to support a discretionary rate relief scheme under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act to award rate relief to businesses as set out in COVID-19 Additional Relief Fund (CARF): Local Authority Guidance issued on 15th December and subsequently.

Cabinet approval is required to update the Discretionary Discount Scheme using the Council's powers under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 as amended.

Alternative options considered

The alternative option considered was not to develop discretionary scheme, which would result in £3.8m of hardship funding not being made available to Haringey Businesses in need of support.

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date

MINUTES OF CABINET MEMBER SIGNING MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 28 JULY, 2022, 2.00PM - 2.15PM.

PRESENT: Councillor Lucia das Neves, Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing

In attendance: Akeem Ogunyemi, Public Health Commissioner, Pauline Simpson Children's Social Care Commissioner, Susan Otit, Assistant Director, Public Health Rebecca Crib, Commissioning Officer and Nazyer Choudhury, Principal Committee Co-Ordinator.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. APPROVAL TO EXTEND THE INTER AUTHORITY AGREEMENT (IAA) TO ACCESS THE PAN-LONDON ONLINE SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICE WITH PREVENTX LIMITED

The report recommended that the Cabinet member for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing extend the Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) to access the pan-London online sexual health service contract procured by the City of London as part of the London Sexual Health Transformation Programme (LSHTP). The pan- London online sexual health service is an integral part of the LSHTP's development of a comprehensive sexual health service for Haringey and London-wide.

The contract for the pan-London Online service was procured through an EU tender by the City of London. The Council was included in the OJEU notice advertising the tender for the online service along with City of London and 30 other London councils (Related Authorities) that had been accessing the online service since it was procured in 2017.

Following the conclusion of the tender process the City of London, as the lead authority approved the award of the contract for the online service to Preventx Limited The inter authority agreement to access the contract with Preventx via the City of London was approved for an initial 5 year term commencing from 1st June 2017 till 31st May 2022 with an option to extend for 4 further one year periods. The report requested approval from the Cabinet member for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing to extend the contract for the additional 4-year extension period (to run concurrently), commencing from 1st June 2022 till 31st May 2026.

Forecasted Council's spend over the proposed 4 year extension period is estimated at £1,527,888 (depending on uptake of the service) with a total estimated spend of £2,984,281 over the maximum 9-year lifetime of the contract (depending on uptake of the service).

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

That the Cabinet member for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing agrees to the Council extending the Inter-Authority Agreement (IAA) with the City of London and other London authorities to continue to access the pan-London online sexual health service under a contract awarded by the City of London to Preventx Limited as permitted under Contract Standing Orders 10.02.1.b and 16.02.

That the Council commits, in accordance with the terms of the IAA, to accessing the online service under the City of London-Preventx Ltd contract, post the initial 5-year term (ending 31st May 2022) and extend for the additional 4 years (as set out in the original award report but to run concurrently) at an estimated service cost of £1,527,888 resulting in a maximum estimated spend of £2,984,281 over the maximum 9-year contract duration for the London Borough of Haringey.

Additionally, subject to paragraph 6.7 below, the Council commits, in accordance with the terms of the IAA to making a financial contribution to the City of London for its contract management role at an estimated maximum amount of £122,412 over the maximum 9-year contract duration.

Reasons for decision

In December 2016, Cabinet agreed to the Council's participation in a London wide procurement for an expansive sexual health service that would be a web- based system to include a 'front-end' portal joined up partner notification and home/self-sampling. It was also agreed that the procurement would be led by one council on behalf of the councils in the London Sexual Health Transformation Programme (LSHTP).

This led to City of London awarding a contract for the online service to Preventx LTD. To access the online service under the contract, Haringey was required to enter into an IAA with City of London and the other participating LSHTP authorities governing the access arrangements. To continue with this agreement, which will ensure Haringey residents are able to access the online service, approval is needed from the Cabinet member for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing to extend the IAA to continue to access the online service from the provider that was procured by City of London (Preventx LTD).

Alternative options considered

The Public Health team could have acted outside of the LSHTP and procured as a single local authority. However, it chose to be part of the LSHTP, which is a partnership between 30 London boroughs, with the purpose of creating a collaborative approach to commissioning sexual health services. The LSHTP business case for change demonstrated that the level of improvement in quality and cost reduction that all London clinics needed could only be obtained by commissioning at scale. For this reason, Haringey gained agreement from Cabinet in December 2015 to become a participating member of the pan-London online sexual health service and to procure clinic- based services as part of the North Central London (NCL) sub regional partnership.

Continued participation within the pan-London online sexual health service offered the benefits of savings via economies of scale and greater choice of access to online services across London for local residents.

4. EXTENSION OF A DYNAMIC PURCHASING SYSTEM FOR SEMI INDEPENDENT, SUPPORTING LIVING AND HOMECARE CATEGORIES

To extend the Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) procurement sourcing tools for the provision of the Council's Semi Independent, Supporting Living and Home Support requirements.

The current DPSs for these categories were renewed in 2020 for a period of two years with the provision to extend for two years at a total estimated combined value of £110,000,000

The Semi-independent and Supported Living categories expired on 1st July 2022 therefore an interim extension was agreed for 4 weeks in the short term to provide sufficient time to enable the completion of a Cabinet report to consider longer term DPS extensions period. The Home Support category would expire on the 28th July 2022.

The proposal was to extend the DPSs, for Home Support, Supported Living and Semi-Independent categories for a period of 17 months to 29th December 2024 with the provision to extend for up to a further 6 months subject to utilisation value.

The Council would open the DPSs for other contracting authorities to access, to support the wider strategic approach to collaboration and obtaining parity in prices across these sectors. This would enhance the sustainability and resilience in these sectors.

The Council currently spent around £21m (net) per year (£42,000,00 over two years) on these services, the intention will be to allow scope London Living Wage increases and for other authorities to access the DPS and increase the annual spend provision by 75% through the DPSs to £63, 000.000 p.a.

The DPSs provided significant access to Council contracts for SMEs both locally and regionally, with around 33% of the spend going to Haringey located business and a further 51% p.a. going to other London based SMEs.

The extension of these DPSs would support the policy position of the Council to implement measures to pay LLW across all suppliers, including social care.

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

An extension to the DPSs for Home Support, Semi Independent, and Supporting Living to include access for other Local Authorities for an initial 17 month period commencing on 29th July 2022 with an option to extend for a further 6 months.

An extension to the DPS for the following care provision with additional capacity of 75% for LLW and use by other local authorities in the values outlined below:

Care Category	2 – Year initial term £m	Full value over life of the DPS £m
Home Support	£23	£46
Semi Independent Living	£9	£18
Supported Living	£9.1	£18.2
Total	£42.1m	£82.2

Note: The above values consider the provision for both the Council and other authorities accessing the DPS and does not represent the actual expenditure of the Council in these categories.

Reasons for decision

The Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) was a supplier e-sourcing tool and a compliant route to market under the Public Contract Regulations, which enabled suppliers to enrol, accredit and be approved to bid for Council contracts.

The Council's overall spend for home support, supported living and semi- independent over the past financial year 2021/2022 was in the region of £11,000,000, £4,300,000 and £4,200,000, respectively. Renewing these DPSs will not incur any additional licence fees.

The DPS provided a compliant route to market for care provision, which ensured transparency in the procurement process, equal treatment of suppliers and ensured that the requirements of both the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (the Regulations) and the Council's Contract Standing Orders (CSO) can be met, particularly as much of care provision is purchased on an individual basis and the tendering requirements in the Regulations do not apply to 'spot contracts'.

Purchasing outside of a DPS would require either an extremely resource intensive approach, whereby each requirement would be commissioned separately and would require suppliers to go through the accreditation checks for each opportunity. This would likely prevent suppliers bidding for the services and place the provision of these services at risk; or the Council would need to establish a framework, which would likely exclude many local SMEs from meeting the criteria to qualify under a framework. In addition, a framework did not allow for suppliers to join at any time and prevented new start-ups and entrants from accessing Council contracts during the term of the framework.

A DPS was beneficial in that; it enabled supply chain expansion as suppliers could join at any time during its lifetime, unlike a traditional framework where only suppliers at inception remained within it until expiry. This meant that the supply chain could be renewed and replenished throughout its term, which lends itself to more competition and therefore better value for the Council and its users.

The DPS was an efficient route to market for both the Council and the supply chain; importantly it enabled access to Council opportunities for SMEs. A fact borne out by the

figures; of the circa £45m of expenditure across these 3 categories, whereby, in the last year 88% was spent with SMEs, 33% of which was in borough. Once accredited, suppliers could apply for multiple contract opportunities and did not need to undertake separate tender processes for services accredited for. This was particularly important, as resource intensive tender processes may duplicate effort and were often barriers to entry for small and medium sized enterprises.

A DPS enabled the Council, to undertake time efficient tender processes, which facilitated speed of award and service delivery. The Council currently undertook around 2,200 individual procurements each year in these categories. The DPS streamlined the Council's procurement/commissioning, contract management and finance processes, which could be undertaken under the one system.

Importantly, extending the DPS would have minimal impact on the existing supply chain as suppliers would only need to confirm there is no change in their qualification status except for their financial standing, which would be reviewed again. This would provide Commissioners an opportunity to devise any additional questions and amend the category structure to further support emergent commissioning strategies over the next two to four years.

Moreover, extending these DPSs aligned with agreed procurement and commissioning strategies, including payment of LLW, establishing block contracts, as well as contract and market management.

Extending for an initial 17 month period, would give Care Commissioning and Strategic Procurement time to review their commissioning and procurement strategies going forward, factoring in any potential categories that could be insourced or and updating category documentation to account for current circumstances, emergent need, or identified gaps in provision e.g. to meet specialisms like positive behaviour provision for high need learning, disabled residents or perhaps provision that may be better delivered through alternative procurement routes or longer-term measures like property acquisition or remodelling to meet need.

Strategic Procurement would support the replenishment of the care supply chain by stimulating the market conducting suitable market engagements to identify, enrol and accredit suitable economic operators or indeed deploying management market tools like: price caps for continued efficient and effective delivery of the Council Semi Independent, Supported Living and Homecare requirements.

Enabling other authorities to join the DPS in these categories would bring additional benefits:

Suppliers would only need to be accredited once to access all contract opportunities across the authorities, opening up opportunities to local suppliers to provide services outside of Haringey.

This approach would assist in attaining parity of prices across the sectors.

It would potentially provide access to additional suppliers in hard to source sectors.

Market intelligence around costs, capability and capacity in the market would be significantly increased.

May provide an opportunity for the Council to generate some income to offset the operating costs of the DPS.

Alternative options considered

Do Nothing - This option would require the Council to seek alternate procurement arrangements incurring significant additional costs and resource effort to facilitate procuring over 2,200 requirements per year, each needing the supplier to re-present accreditation requirements that would then need to be evaluated.

Establish a framework for semi-independent, supporting living and home care – this option was discounted in preference to the use of a DPS for commissioning these services. This is primarily due to the restrictions applied to the duration of a framework and the limitation of suppliers only being able to be admitted at the point of establishment of the framework. In comparison to a framework, a DPS enabled an unlimited number of suppliers to join at any time; provided they met the accreditation and enrolment criteria. The call off process from a framework was much more administratively intensive than that of a DPS.

5. CONTRACT EXTENSION AND VARIATION FOR NURSING AND RESIDENTIAL BEDS WITH MAGICARE AT PRISCILLA WAKEFIELD HOUSE

The report sought agreement by Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing to extend and vary the Council's existing block contract with Magicare for the provision of 61 Nursing Beds at Priscilla Wakefield House. The extension requested was for up to two years, and the variations requested were; to allow the beds to be utilised as residential beds as required and an increase in the nursing bed price to £1,010 per week, with a temporary uplift for 2022/23 only to £1,034 per week to allow for inflation pressures.

Both the extension and the variation were allowed under CSO10.02.1(b) (variations and extensions valued at £500,000 and above to be taken by Cabinet) and CSO16.02, which provided that in-between meetings of the Cabinet, the Leader take any such decision that would normally be taken by Cabinet or may allocate this to the Cabinet Member with the relevant portfolio.

The contract was awarded by Cabinet in 2019 for an initial period of three years, to October 2022, with an option to extend for a further 2 years in 12-month intervals.

Extending and varying this contract would maintain access to local provision for older people and maintain much needed nursing and residential care capacity within the sub-region. It will also maintain certainty over price, securing sustainable prices for placements for Haringey residents.

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

Pursuant to CSO 10.02.1b and CSO 16.02, the extension of the existing block contract awarded to Magicare Limited for the provision of 61 nursing beds at Priscilla Wakefield House, for a further period of up to two years from 1st November 2022 subject to satisfactory outcomes of monitoring,

To increase the nursing bed price from £969.10 to £1034 per week from the 1 April 2022. The maximum contract value over the two-year extension period would be £6,693,339, bringing the total value over the five-year life of the contract to £15,757,878.

Year	Start date	Max. Weekly Cost per bed	Number of beds	Max. Extension Value
1	1 November 2022	1,034	61	£3,287,597
2	1 November 2023	1,034	61	£3,287,597
	Uplifts for period 1/4/22 to 31/10/22	Additional £64.56 per bed per week	61	£118,145
				£6,693,339

To approve the variation of the existing contract to enable beds to be utilised as residential beds (at the costs set out in para 3.8 of the report) as and when required.

Reasons for decision

The market for nursing care was largely a sub-regional one and the Council commissioned nursing care for its residents across North Central London (Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington). As with neighbouring authorities, Haringey commissioned across this area in order to meet demand and to respond to any specialist needs.

Local demand for nursing beds remained high, and although the number of Haringey residents in nursing beds decreased significantly during the Pandemic, demand was once again increasing and the local modelling indicated a return to pre-covid levels of demand over the next few years.

In order to ensure both capacity and flexibility, the Council was keen to have a mixed economy of spot and block purchase arrangements in place for nursing beds. Many placements were commissioned on a spot purchase basis, but the proposal set out here – to continue an existing block contract – reflected the need to maintain local, quality capacity for older people, and to ensure best value in commissioning this provision. Our commissioning approach is set out in the Commissioning Strategy for Residential and Nursing Care in Haringey: 2022- 2027.

There was a very limited market in nursing beds in the local area. Priscilla Wakefield House (PWH), run by Magicare Ltd, was currently the only Care Quality Commission (CQC) registered nursing care home in the borough, and therefore considered fully local. It had a bed base of 117 Nursing beds and is currently rated 'Good' by the CQC, as it has been throughout this contract, with consistently good levels of quality. Additionally, Priscilla Wakefield House was linked to the Nursing Home, Care Homes Assessment Team (CHAT), working with individuals receiving long-term care, and therefore it is also anticipated that the provision of these beds will improve outcomes for patients.

Due to this unique position in the market the Council awarded a block contract under Reg 32 of the Public Contracts Regulation 2015, to Magicare for a period of 3+1+1 years in November 2019 for nursing beds at a rate of £950 per bed, with an annual uplift of 1%. The initial contract period would expire on 31st October 2022 if not extended.

The agreed unit price for nursing placements within the block agreement from 1st April 2022/23 is £1,010.21, with a temporary uplift for 2022/23 only to £1,033.66. This included the NHS uplift to FNC for 2022/23. This uplift was given in recognition of the inflationary pressures experienced by this provider which were similar to those experienced by the rest of the care home sector. The temporary uplift was based in the potential uplift for 2023/24 and should sustain the provider whilst the government's fair cost of care exercise was completed, and the Council know its funding levels for the next 2-3 years.

The performance of the provider had been evaluated as good throughout the contract period. The contract and service provision would continue to be monitored quarterly over the next two years.

At the inception of the contract, the intention was to use all 61 block beds for nursing only, however, need and demand for these beds is variable and therefore the Council wished to vary the contract to allow the beds to be used flexibly, for general residential, but with the prior notification to the provider. As well as responding to local need, this would also support efficient move on from the Intermediate Care beds also provided by MagiCare at Priscilla Wakefield House.

It should be noted that currently not all 61 beds have been used, and therefore there should be sufficient capacity to respond to residential and nursing needs. Decisions about how to use the beds will be made on a case by case basis, based on the needs and wishes of clients and local availability at the time of placement.

The agreed unit price for new residential placements within the block contract was £888.77 per bed per week, with a temporary uplift for 2022/23 to £914.78. Any use made of the block contract for residential placements will result in a lower value contract.

The extension of this block contract reflects the desire to maintain capacity in Haringey and to ensure best value in commissioning this provision. The Council had a need to achieve savings against commissioning placement costs. As part of the approach to achieving these savings, the intention here was to secure a supply of beds for Haringey residents and protect the potential loss of supply which would result in allowing the prices to be determined solely by supply and demand from other parts of London market and capacity to be lost to other commissioning authorities.

Alternative options considered

One alternative option was for the Council to 'do nothing' i.e. not extend the contract, which would see the continued reliance on spot purchases and the risk of a significant increase in expenditure over the remaining period of this contract. This would result in the Council having to pay either an increased spot rate to the provider or find alternative accommodation for the residents, which would currently be outside of Haringey, at rates which were not known, but were likely to be significantly increased and in provision which had not yet been identified. Extending the existing contract would also ensure that residents currently living in the home would not have to be moved to alternative accommodation.

A second option would be to tender for an equivalent scale block contract for the provision of a local nursing home. There was no other nursing home in the sub-region or close enough to the Haringey borders to be considered fully local. In addition, there were insufficient grounds for the Council to seek to move any resident from the provision currently delivered by Magicare Limited given their level of vulnerability and frailty.

CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Lucia das Neves

Signed by Cabinet Member

Date28 July 2022.....

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MINUTES OF MEETING Cabinet Member Signing HELD ON Monday, 1st August, 2022, 6.15 pm

PRESENT:

**Councillor Ruth Gordon, Cabinet Member for Council House-Building,
Placemaking and Development**

6. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

8. NEW LEASE AGREEMENT FOR MODULAR HOMES

The Cabinet Member considered a report which sought authorisation for the Council to accept from the Haringey Community Benefit Society a surrender of the current lease of the 16 Council owned units at Olive Morris Court and for the Council to enter into a new lease for the 16 HCBS owned units and not to proceed with the lease of the Land. Olive Morris Court is a site of 33 modular units constructed on Council owned land. The scheme provides accommodation for people previously sleeping rough as supported housing and office space to provide on-site support and security.

The Cabinet Member sought clarification as to why their needed to be a change in lease arrangements and why this had not been resolved as part of the initial decision. In response, officers advised that this was because of the funding issue and the need to be a registered housing provider in order to receive the full funding from the GLA.

The Cabinet Member noted some grammatical errors in relation to paragraph 4.2 of the report.

In relation to paragraph 5.11 of the report, officers clarified that this part of the report set out that the GLA were happy with the proposed solution.

The Cabinet Member queried why there was not an agreed rent calculation set out in the report, between LBH and HCBS. In response, officers advised that the Heads of Terms set out that there would be no net loss to either organisation. The Council was a shareholder of the HCBS and that it was important that a mutually agreeable solution be found. Both parties wanted to see the delivery of new homes in the borough. This decision, and the funding from the GLA that the decision related to, supported that outcome.

RESOLVED

The Cabinet Member for Council House-Building, Placemaking and Development Agreed:

- I. That the Council accept a surrender of the Lease dated 8 November 2021 from the London Borough of Haringey to Haringey Community Benefit Society of the 16 units in Olive Morris Court; and
- II. That the lease to HCBS of the Land will not proceed; and
- III. That the Council to take a 30-year lease of the 16 units owned by the Haringey Community Benefit Society and located in Olive Morris Court based on the Heads of Terms attached at Appendix 1 of the report (exempt); and
- IV. To give delegated authority to Director of Placemaking & Housing to agree the final terms of the Deed of Surrender; and
- V. To give delegated authority to Director of Placemaking & Housing to agree the final terms of the agreements; and
- VI. To give authority for up to three properties to be let 'rent-free' to residents who have no recourse to public funds or other issues restricting their income or eligibility, such as having pre-settled status as a European citizen.

Reasons for decision

Recommendations 2.1 (a), (b) (c) are recommended to ensure that the scheme complies with the GLA funding conditions. This will enable the Council to retain the £1,325,428 paid so far and claim the final payment of £441,809.

Recommendation 2.1 (d) & (e) are recommended to complete the lease.

Recommendation 2.1 (f) is recommended to provide accommodation to those who are unable to claim housing benefit until they address their immigration status.

Alternative options considered

The Council could leave the HCBS as landlord of the entire scheme

This proposal was rejected as this would mean that the Council would need to repay the Olive Morris Court grant already received and be unable to claim the remaining grant.

The Council could accept surrender of the lease for 16 units but not enter into a lease for the 16 units owned by the HCBS.

This proposal was rejected as this would mean that only half the GLA funding for Olive Morris Court would be available meaning the Council would need to repay half of the grant already received for Olive Morris Court and only receiving half of the second completion payment.

9. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the reminder of the meeting as Item 5 contained exempt information, as defined under paragraph 3 & paragraph 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

10. EXEMPT - NEW LEASE AGREEMENT FOR MODULAR HOMES

The Cabinet Member noted the exempt section of the report.

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date

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MINUTES OF MEETING Cabinet Member Signing HELD ON Wednesday, 3rd August, 2022, 12.00 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Ruth Gordon, Cabinet Member for Council House Building, Placemaking, and Development

11. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

13. INTERIM ACCOMMODATION STRATEGY PROGRAMME - ALEXANDRA HOUSE & 48 STATION RD - AUDIO VISUAL CONTRACT AWARD

The Cabinet Member considered a report which sought approval for the award of a contract to carry out installation of Audio-Visual Equipment, following the approval of the Station Road Refurbishment Works programme at Cabinet in November 2021 and the Contract award for Alexandra House and 48 Station Road refurbishment works at Cabinet Member Signing on 18 March 2022.

The Cabinet Member sought assurances around the extent to which the price was locked-in, and that the Council wouldn't be incurring any increased costs from what was set out in the report. In response, officers advised that they had, as much as they were able to, tried to ensure that the price was fixed with the contractor. However, market conditions were quite volatile with long supply chains and inflationary pressures on AV goods and services. Officers had provided the contractor with a detailed price specification to provide as much price certainty as possible but there was still a chance that costs could fluctuate due market conditions. Officers advised the Cabinet member that there was a contingency set out within the report to cover upward fluctuation in the cost of the contract.

RESOLVED

The Cabinet Member for Council House-Building, Placemaking, and Development:

- I. Pursuant to Contract Standing Order 9.07.1 (d) (All contracts valued at £500,000 (five hundred thousand pounds) or more at the time of award may only be awarded, assigned, or novated by the Cabinet), approved the award of a contract to Supplier B for an estimated contract value of £786,013 (Seven hundred and eighty six thousand and thirteen pounds) for Audio-Visual equipment supply, installation and support in the Alexandra House and 48

Station Road buildings subject to the further provision recommended in paragraph 2.1 of the exempt report.

- II. Pursuant to Contract Standing Order 9.07.3, approved the issuance of a letter of intent for up to 10% of the contract value, totalling £78,600 (Seventy eight thousand, six hundred pounds).

Reasons for decision

The report “Station Road Refurbishment Works” approved at Cabinet on 9th November 2021 gave three reasons for the programme.

Firstly, to deliver office accommodation improvements, noting the poor standard of existing office accommodation, and the need for essential maintenance as well as interior redecoration.

Secondly, to enable the continued adoption of flexible working, so that officers can work in and for the borough. The plans will modernise Audio-Visual equipment, office layouts and furniture to provide a variety of work settings to enable greater cross service collaboration and partnership working.

Thirdly, it supports short-term goals in the Accommodation Strategy, such as the release of 40 Cumberland Road to be repurposed as an Enterprise Hub. This aligns with the overall aim of relocating core office and civic functions to the refurbished Civic Centre in 2025, by ensuring the buildings the Council occupies in the interim are maintained in suitable condition.

The proposed contract enables the Council to meet these objectives and achieve value for money in the delivery of the new Audio-Visual equipment needed on refurbished floors.

The letter of intent is required to enable the preferred contractor to begin mobilisation at an early stage, thereby expediting delivery of the goods in advance of the formal contract being fully finalised. The rationale for a letter of intent is further detailed in the exempt part of the report.

Alternative options considered

Do Nothing

This option, which would involve not awarding a contract to deliver new Audio-Visual equipment, would leave staff and visitors without the digital tools to stay informed or those required to facilitate flexible meetings, is not recommended as the Council would fail to achieve the agreed accommodation objectives as set out in the November cabinet report.

This would mean the Council would be left without suitable office workspace for its staff, and significant operational difficulties in achieving plans for more flexible working.

Ad-Hoc Audio-Visual Rollouts

Pre-pandemic this was the approach adopted by the Council. However, having multiple installations, standards and support models often left technologies unused, or poorly maintained.

A piecemeal approach is not realistic or appropriate in a context where the Council is refurbishing its core offices. The Council needs to provide AV technology in approximately 40 meeting rooms, and a common approach will achieve economies of scale, as well as a better experience for building users, including Members, staff and visitors.

14. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR ALEXANDRA HOUSE AND 48 STATION ROAD FURNITURE PURCHASING

The Cabinet Member considered a report which sought request approval to award a contract for furniture supply, following the approval of the Station Road Refurbishment Works programme at Cabinet in November 2021 and the Contract award for Alexandra House and 48 Station Road refurbishment works at Cabinet Member Signing on 18 March 2022.

In response to the Cabinet Member's concerns about increasing costs, officers advised that the costs involved in the furniture contract were fairly well locked down and that there was considerably less risk of any upward fluctuations in cost than with the AV contract.

RESOLVED

The Cabinet Member for Council House-Building, Placemaking, and Development:

- I. Pursuant to Contract Standing Order 9.07.1 (d) and Contract Standing Order 16.02, approved an award of contract to Wagstaff Bros Ltd (t/a Wagstaff Interiors Group) for the sum of £900,000 (Nine hundred thousand pounds) for furniture supply.
- II. Pursuant to Contract Standing Order 9.07.1 (d) and Contract Standing Order 16.02, approved the issuance of a letter of intent for up to 10% of the contract value, totalling £90,000 (Ninety thousand pounds).

Reasons for decision

The report "Station Road Refurbishment Works" approved at Cabinet on 9 November 2021 gave three reasons for the programme.

Firstly, to deliver office accommodation improvements, noting the poor standard of existing office accommodation, and the need for essential maintenance as well as interior redecoration.

Secondly, to enable the continued adoption of flexible working, so that officers can work in and for the borough, whilst maintaining a good work-life balance through the adoption of flexible working. The plans will modernise audio-visual equipment, office

layouts and furniture to provide a variety of work settings to enable greater cross-service collaboration and partnership working.

Thirdly, it supports short-term goals in the Accommodation Strategy, such as the release of 40 Cumberland Road to be repurposed as an Enterprise Hub. This aligns with the overall aim of relocating core office and civic functions to the refurbished Civic Centre in 2025, by ensuring the buildings the Council occupies in the interim are maintained in suitable condition.

The proposed contract enables the Council to meet these objectives and achieve value for money and delivery of the new furniture needed on refurbished floors.

The intention is to re-use the new furniture in the newly refurbished Civic Centre and/or other Council buildings.

The letter of intent is required to enable the preferred contractor to begin mobilisation at an early stage, thereby expediting delivery of the goods.

The proposed budget is fully covered within the Station Road budget approved at Cabinet on 9 November 2021.

Alternative options considered

Do Nothing

This option, which is not to appoint a new contractor to deliver new furniture and only re-use existing furniture, is not recommended as the Council would fail to achieve the agreed Accommodation objectives as set out in the November cabinet report.

This would mean the Council would be left without suitable office workspace for its staff, and significant operational difficulties in achieving plans for more flexible working.

15. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting as Item 5 contained exempt information, as defined under paragraph 3 & paragraph 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

16. INTERIM ACCOMMODATION STRATEGY PROGRAMME - ALEXANDRA HOUSE & 48 STATION RD - AUDIO VISUAL CONTRACT AWARD - EXEMPT

The Cabinet Member noted the exempt section of the report.

17. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR ALEXANDRA HOUSE AND 48 STATION ROAD FURNITURE PURCHASING - EXEMPT

The Cabinet Member noted the exempt section of the report.

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date

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MINUTES OF CABINET MEMBER SIGNING MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 9TH AUGUST, 2022, 11.00 - 11.20 AM

PRESENT: Councillor Seema Chandwani, Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Resident Services.

In attendance: Ann Cunningham, Head of Highways and Parking; and Fiona Rae, Acting Committees Manager.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. APPROVAL FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS (INCREASE) TO ON-STREET AND OFF-STREET PARKING CHARGES AND INTRODUCTION OF SUNDAY PARKING CONTROLS AND CHARGES

The Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Resident Services considered the report which set out the results of statutory consultation undertaken on proposed changes to parking charges.

When setting or reviewing parking charges, the Council must have regard to the Mayor of London's Transport Strategy as provided by sections 142 and 144(1)(a) of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. That Strategy emphasised the importance of reducing emissions and improving air quality.

The Mayor of London's Transport Strategy was supported by the Council's Borough Plan, Transport Strategy, Walking and Cycling Plan and Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) which included the commitment to becoming a zero-carbon borough by 2041.

Where possible, Haringey Council encouraged a move away from vehicle use and ownership and promoted the use of public transport, cycling and walking as sustainable and greener alternatives. Increasing and new parking charges would contribute to achieving this. It was essential that - through the Council's parking charges - vehicle ownership was not seen as more economical than using sustainable methods of transport.

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

1. To approve the introduction of a 25% diesel surcharge on charges that apply to pay by phone and contactless parking on the public highway and in public car parks, as set out in Appendix A, from 1 September 2022.
2. To approve the introduction of Sunday parking charges in public car parks, as set out in Appendix B, from 1 September 2022.
3. To authorise officers to undertake further statutory consultation on the level of charge that should apply to Sunday charges in pay by phone and contactless parking spaces in town centres. This will initially be set at the lower charge band of £1.30 per hour. The 25% diesel surcharge will apply in addition to the parking fee.
4. To formalise the requirement that paid for parking be purchased in increments of 15 minutes.
5. To note the inflationary increase applied to existing parking fees and charges through the publication of Variation Notices issued under Section 46A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, as set out in Appendix C.

Reasons for decision

The Council's authority to operate and set parking-related charges is defined by legislation. In July 2021, the Cabinet authorised officers to proceed to increase existing parking fees and charges through the publication of Variation Notices issued under Section 46A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act as set out in Appendix A. Cabinet also authorised officers to proceed to statutory consultation on the proposals in the following paragraphs of this section of the report.

Diesel surcharge for on-street parking and car parks

In March 2020, Cabinet approved, amongst other changes to parking fees and charges, the introduction of a 25% surcharge for diesel vehicles on charges that apply to pay by phone and contactless parking spaces on the public highway and in public car parks. This decision was subject to the outcome of statutory (traffic management order) consultation.

In response to the feedback received during that statutory consultation, Cabinet agreed to defer the implementation of this surcharge. This decision was taken to support town centres in their recovery from the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. As national Covid-19 restrictions were later lifted, it was agreed by Cabinet in July 2021 to implement the proposal, subject to the completion of readvertising the proposal and a new round of statutory consultation.

Introduction of Sunday charges – pay by phone and contactless parking in town centres and car parks.

The main reasons for this proposal are to:

- Prevent all-day free parking and encourage turn-over of parking space on Sundays. In turn, this provides more parking 'sessions' per day.

- Help balance demand with supply across the busy weekend period, helping maximise opportunity for custom.
- Encourage sustainable modes of transport by ensuring that vehicle ownership is not seen as more economical than using sustainable transport.
- Ensure that those who receive benefit from the service (i.e., those who make use of parking spaces in high value locations) also contribute to the overall cost of providing that service.
- Set charges at a standard rate of £2 per day in car parks, but at the same level as existing charges in town centres. The charges in stop and shop facilities are based on three charge bands, depending on the take-up of parking in the area. The charge band applying is that required to achieve an appropriate turnover of spaces, supporting those town centres.

To formalise the requirement that paid for parking be purchased in increments of 15 minutes

Short-term parking, via the RingGo pay by phone / app facility and contactless parking, is currently purchased in 15-minute blocks of time. This existing arrangement has been formalised within the traffic management orders at the same time as other statutory processes arising from this report.

The Council is required to formally consider feedback and objections to proposals arising from statutory consultation.

Alternative options considered

Consideration was given to proceeding to implement Sunday charges in pay by phone and contactless parking facilities in line with the charges consulted on. It was felt that charging in individual areas should be consistent across the week. However, consideration has been given to concerns raised by the Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel. It raised concerns about implementation of those charges at this point and felt that they should be eased in. The Harringay Traders Association also felt that charges would be detrimental to town centres and, if introduced, should be set at the lower charge band (currently £1.30 per hour) in all areas. The 25% diesel charge would also apply as a matter of policy, with the situation kept under review to ensure that the objectives set out in paragraph 4.4 are achieved.

CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Seema Chandwani

Signed by Cabinet Member

Date ...9 August 2022.....

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MINUTES OF CABINET MEMBER SIGNING MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 9TH AUGUST, 2022, 12.00 - 12.15 PM

PRESENT: Councillor Dana Carlin, Cabinet Member for Housing Services, Private Renters, and Planning.

In attendance: Maddie Watkins, Rough Sleeping Programme Lead; Joe Baker, Head of Carbon Management; and Fiona Rae, Acting Committees Manager.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. ROUGH SLEEPING INITIATIVE GRANT

The Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Housing Services, Private Renters, and Planning considered the report which sought Cabinet Member approval for the receipt of grant funding from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) under the Rough Sleeping Initiatives (RSI) programme 2022-2025.

The grant had been awarded following a successful bidding process to the Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) Programme. The paper provided some detail as to how the grant would be spent, including the provision of directly delivered and externally commissioned services, as set out in the successful funding bid, and allowed under Contract Standing Order (CSO) 17.3.

The Cabinet Member congratulated the team on the success of the bid and of securing such a substantial sum to support rough sleepers in the borough.

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

1. To approve the receipt of grant funding from the Rough Sleeping Initiative Programme, in the sum of £3,641,429 over 3 years as permitted under Contract Standing Order (CSO) 17.1.

Year 1 (2022-23)	Year 2 (2023-24)	Year 3 (2024-25)	Total
£1,198,567	£1,228,378	£1,214,484	£3,641,429

2. Pursuant to CSO 17.3, to approve the award of grant funding to identified partner agencies listed in the table at 2.3, which were set out in the successful bid for funding.

Provider	Intervention	2022-25 Costs, £
Haringey Council	Assessment and Crashpad Service	
	Co-located Housing Needs Officers	
	Employability and Reconnection Worker	
	Intensive Support Navigators	
	Move On and Resettlement Team	
	Peer Outreach Worker	
	Rough Sleeping Coordinator	
	Rough Sleeping Social Worker	
	Surge and Bespoke Interventions Fund	
Sub-total		1,765,463
Thames Reach Ltd.	Clarendon Night Shelter	1,194,188
	Haringey Street Outreach Team	548,844
Sub-total		1,743,032
St Mungo's	Housing First	132,934
Sub-total		132,934
	Total	3,641,429

3. To note that the following delivery partners were identified as part of the bid:

- 1) St Mungo's for the delivery of the Haringey Housing First Service for Rough Sleepers. This is an ongoing service that has been in place since 2018 and is for the provision of intensive floating support to 5 people. The service is part of an existing contract with St Mungo's for the provision of wider Housing First services across the borough.
- 2) Thames Reach for the delivery of an existing service which provides the Haringey Street Outreach Team. There is an existing contract in place with Thames Reach for 2021-23 with provision to extend for a further year (2023-24). The contract was funded in 2021-22 by the RSI 4 allocation, and it is likely that the service will be commissioned, beyond 2023-24 and to continue into 2024-25 on the same basis. Grant funding from RSI-5 of £548,844 is ringfenced for this intervention for a period of 3 years for 2022-25. Haringey were also granted a total of £1,194,188 for the delivery of a night shelter, with Thames Reach named partner in the bid for the delivery of the service. It is recommended that Cabinet approves the award of a new £1,194,188 contract to Thames Reach Charity Ltd for the delivery of the Haringey Night Shelter at Clarendon. In the first year, the service is expected to be fully functional from Autumn 2022 and will result in a part year cost of up to £228,577 and Haringey has received ring-fenced funding of this amount. A further 2 years funding has been agreed making a total of £1,194,188 over 3 years.

Y1 (2022-23)	Y2 (2023-24)	Y3 (2024-25)
£ 228,577	£ 476,118	£ 489,493

Reasons for decision

This funding has been awarded to the Council following a successful bid to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. The funding is ringfenced for the purpose of reducing and ending rough sleeping, as set out in the bidding process and was awarded on the basis of specific initiatives and delivery partners. As such a tender process is not appropriate because grant monies cannot be awarded to other organisations or for other initiatives than those specified in the bid.

Partner agencies Thames Reach Charity and St Mungo's were an integral part of designing the bid, in partnership with the Council's Housing-Related Support Service. The bid focused on the strengths of each organisation, a proven track record of working in partnership to reduce rough sleeping in the borough and the ability to mobilise initiatives at the required pace. Thames Reach were identified as the provider of the night shelter service on the basis of the discrete benefits to residents and to service delivery in having the same organisation delivering street outreach services and 'off the streets' accommodation.

The Clarendon building from which Thames Reach will run the night shelter is currently undergoing refurbishment; it is anticipated that this should be completed in September 2022, after which the service will commence.

Alternative options considered

The Council could decide not to accept the grant. However, the successful bid was based on strong evidence of continued demand for services to tackle rough sleeping in the London Borough of Haringey, for which there is no other identified funding stream. Therefore, it is in the Council's interest to accept the grant in order to deliver against the commitments set out in the Borough Plan (2019-2023).

4. ENERGIESPRONG RETROFIT PILOT PROJECT PROGRESSION - WITHHOLDING THE NOTICE TO PROCEED

The Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Housing Services, Private Renters, and Planning considered the report which, following a design process, tenant engagement and an evaluation, sought approval to withhold a notice to proceed for a pilot Energiesprong project of 51 council-owned properties.

It was noted that the delegation to Cabinet Member of a decision whether or not to proceed was agreed under 3.6 in the Cabinet Report "Energiesprong Retrofit Pilot Project Progression" at the Cabinet meeting on 16 March 2021.

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

1. To agree to withhold issuing a notice to proceed and end the contractual arrangements with the Energiesprong solution provider Equans UK (previously Engie Regeneration Limited). This will mean that the Energiesprong project on 51 properties around Rivulet Road stops.
2. To agree that Haringey remains within the Greater London Authority (GLA) Innovation Partnership to investigate further opportunities to undertake an Energiesprong project on the Council's housing stock. This could involve exploring options with alternative suppliers on the GLA Innovation Partnership framework.
3. To approve not drawing down £1,487,000 of Government Department of Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) Social Housing Decarbonisation Funding (SHDF) from London Borough of Barking and Dagenham (lead partner) which was secured to deliver this pilot project.
4. To agree that an alternative deep retrofit project is investigated for the 19 tenanted homes who had signed up to the pilot Energiesprong project and 2 council properties which are void.

Reasons for decision

The Energiesprong designs submitted by Equans:-

- did not meet the agreed gross maximum price per property of £85k. This meant that the Council would have to significantly increase its funding towards the project.
- did not offer the expected maintenance savings. This meant that the Council would have to increase its maintenance programme to manage these improved properties.
- could not be completed by the end of March 2023 to claim BEIS funding. This meant that the Council would have to significantly increase its funding towards the project.
- included unacceptable design compromises. This would introduce issues not previously agreed with the tenants (such as internal works), may require planning requirements or did not offer a pathway to a quick and replicable solution.

Alternative options considered

Continue with the Energiesprong pilot project with Equans for 51 properties around Rivulet Road.

This option is not recommended as the suggested approach does not satisfy the principles set out below:-

- Quick installation with minimum disruption to tenants through offsite manufacture.
- Financial viability, ie with the BEIS grant funding, maintenance savings and comfort charge payments, the capital outlay is recouped over a 30 year period.
- A replicable approach.
- A fixed gross maximum price (for the works) per property with available grant funding.
- Economies of scale in future stages of the project through continued innovation.

- Delivery to the BEIS funding deadlines. Without the grant funding the business case is not met.

Continue with the Energiesprong pilot project with another solution provider for 51 properties around Rivulet Road.

This option is not recommended as it could not be completed to the BEIS funding deadlines. The project would therefore not be financially viable.

Withhold a notice to proceed and pull out of the GLA Innovation Partnership. Do not consider Energiesprong projects going forward.

Energiesprong remains a recommended approach to achieve deep retrofit at pace with a financial mechanism to repay the cost over a 30 year period. Remaining within the GLA's Innovation Partnership will allow Haringey to benefit from the experiences of the suppliers, contractors and other participating local authorities and reconsider an alternative Energiesprong project with another solution provider when appropriate.

CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Dana Carlin

Signed by Cabinet Member

Date ...9 August 2022.....

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