

City Gardens Management Plan 2011 - 2016



Summary Document



Introduction

The City Gardens Management Plan sets out the vision, objectives and actions for the management of the City Garden's and Open Spaces within the Square Mile over the next five years. This short summary has been produced to highlight key information in the Plan and to ask for your views and comments for our consultation exercise.

Background

The City of London has around 200 areas of planting and green space within the Square Mile, creating a network of gardens, churchyards, plazas and highway plantings that provides the City's community with much-needed oases of calm in this densely developed heart of London. The City's open spaces are unique in character and high in quality, they also have great historic interest and amenity value. These areas support approximately 2,600 trees across the city and an annual influx of over 200,000 bedding plants.

Vision

Our overall aim of the City Gardens Management Plan is to provide high quality urban green spaces, that reflects and benefits the local community it serves. Our vision is:

"The creation of a network of high quality and inspiring open spaces which help ensure an attractive, healthy, sustainable and socially cohesive place for all the City's communities and visitors"

The draft management plan sets out how this will be delivered, It is divided in to three parts:

- I. The first provides an introduction to the City Gardens and details how the City intends to deliver the eight key service objectives.
- II. The second part provides an introduction into the different categories of Open Space that are owned or maintained by the City Gardens section and lists the overarching objectives for these gardens, churchyards and open spaces.
- III. Part three contains site specific action plans for those sites which are designated as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC's) and those sites being proposed for SINC designation. It details the unique attributes of each site, along with specific action plans describing ways these will be positively managed to improve and enhance their condition.

The plan strives to be as realistic as possible, working within the constraints of available financial and staff resources. Careful consideration has also been given to the improvements recommended by our users and visitors through recent surveys.

Key Service Objectives

To achieve:

1. Well Managed Spaces

Work with partners internally and externally to maximise opportunities for new green spaces within the Square Mile and increasing public access to existing ones, and to seek feedback from service users to ensure we are achieving our objectives.



2. Welcoming City

Improve and enhance interpretation across the City's Open Spaces and develop new and improved website based information and facilities in relation to these.



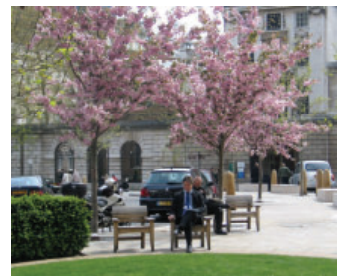
3. Healthy, Safe and Secure environment

Strive for best practice in health and safety by carrying out internal audits, hosting a health and safety forum and through the on-going revision of risk assessments and safe systems of work.



4. Well Maintained and Clean Open Spaces

Enter in to scheme such as Green Flag, London in Bloom and London Garden Society awards, to measure ourselves against national and regional standards, helping benchmark for future improvements and priority areas.



5. Sustainable City Gardens

Reduce the City Gardens energy and fuel consumptions through continued monitoring and reduction measures, reducing our carbon emissions through implementing sustainable practices and continue with trialling the use of electric vehicles.



6. Open Spaces that address Conservation and Heritage

Implement actions from the City's adopted tree strategy and continue to include biodiversity enhancements in the City Gardens and in new planting schemes and projects.



7. A City where Community Involvement is Encouraged

To maintain relationships and continue working with existing partners and seek to maximise volunteering opportunities and educational sessions in the City Gardens.



8. Well Marketed and Promoted City Open Spaces

Promote the City Gardens through the production of the What's New newsletter, publicising good news and successful project with press releases.



Through working to these objectives we aim to not only achieve Green Flag status for a number of our eligible City Gardens and Churchyards, but also to uphold these service objectives in all of our City Spaces and to maintain a high standard for the life of the Management Plan.



We would like to hear your comments

We want to ensure that our priorities for managing the City Gardens are based on as many of the views, ideas and priorities of our resident's and visitors as possible. We would therefore welcome any comments you may have about the City Gardens and our Management Plan by:

- Telephoning the city Gardens team on 020 7374 4127
- E-mailing us at CGManagementPlan@cityoflondon.gov.uk
- Writing to us at City Gardens, P.O. Box 270, Guildhall, London EC2P 2EJ

The consultation period will end at **3pm on Friday 24th February 2012** all comments should be received before this time.

To find out more

To view a full copy of the **Draft City Gardens Management Plan** or for further information, please visit our website at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/citygardens where you can email your comments to CGManagementPlan@cityoflondon.gov.uk

If you require any of the literature in another format, please contact us at the City Gardens Office: City Gardens, P.O. Box 270, Guildhall, London EC2P 2EJ

Tel: 020 7374 4127



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