



# Battersea Park

## **10-Year GREEN FLAG Management and Maintenance Plan 2016-21**



# Wandsworth Council Green Flag Awards Application for Battersea Park 2016/17

## **Battersea Park Landscape Management Plan, Strategies and Service Management Plans**

### **Introduction**

Battersea Park is owned by Wandsworth Council. Within the 83ha (200acre) which the park comprises, there is a wide variety of facilities and services available for all sections of the community. Similar services and facilities exist elsewhere at other locations around the borough.

To ensure consistency of service provision across the whole borough, services and facilities are managed by Wandsworth Council with the appropriate expertise in the particular field, and in accordance with their own strategies and management goals. For example, buildings maintenance and repairs are managed by the Council's Designs Services team across the Council's full property holding, the Council's Parks Events Police are responsible for borough wide enforcement of bylaws and the safety of park users. Sports facilities are managed by the Leisure & Sports Development team, Events are managed by the Events Team whilst the horticultural fabric of parks and open spaces is managed by the Parks Service

Traditionally, all of the these services were managed directly by Council employees. However, as of October 2015, the majority of services pertinent to the operation of the parks and open spaces have been transferred to a new Public Services Mutual organisation "Enable Leisure & Culture" who manage these services on behalf of the Council under contract. This change means that with limited exceptions, all services and facilities pertinent to Battersea Park are now overseen & managed by a single organisation with the various operational teams having shared corporate objectives.

Individual services produce management strategies which are guided by "Wandsworth 2018" – the Council's overarching strategy and which link to other service strategies as appropriate. Individual sites do not have individual overarching management plans which covering every aspect of the full content of that site.

Battersea Park is managed in accordance with a specific individual landscape management plan – the Battersea Park Landscape Management Plan (2011

Revision) the introductory section of this plan is submitted as part of the this application.

In addition, Battersea Park is managed in accordance with the provisions of

Parks Management Strategy 2011-2020  
Parks Maintenance Contract 2013-2021  
Events Strategy 2011  
Battersea Park Traffic Management Plan

Additional service delivery strategies of other services who have facilities within the park are applicable. Progress on all strategies (and associated Action Plans) is reported annually to the relevant Council committee in an Annual Quality and Performance Report.

The Battersea Park Landscape Management Plan is contained within six large digital documents and therefore not possible to upload it via the web-based application. It is also substantially larger than the 10mb limit placed on applications. Consequently, only the introductory section (sections 1.0 – 10.3) which contains the most recent revisions is included with this application.

The management prescription sheet for each character area (section 10.4 – 10.26) form the bulk of the Landscape Management Plan. These have been submitted with previous Green Flag applications and remain unchanged and are therefore not included with this application. They comprise five digital documents and if required can be provided by memory stick or other digital media.

In addition to the formal management undertaken by Wandsworth Council, a volunteering programme is being developed. Primarily this is collaboration between the Council, Enable Leisure & Culture, Thrive (a charitable organisation using gardening as a technique to help people with physical or mental disabilities) and Idverde UK – the Council current horticultural contractor. Thrive have a long standing presence within the park whereas the collaboration with Idverde UK is new. For this reason, the Idverde UK volunteer map is appended as part of this application

Consequently, the following documents are appended as part of this application

Battersea Park Landscape Management Plan (s1.0 – 10.3)  
Parks Management Strategy 2011-2020  
Events Strategy 2011 (extract pertinent to Battersea Park  
Battersea Park Traffic Management Plan.

## **Battersea Park Restoration Management Plan**

### **The Vision**

Battersea Park is one of the premier parks in Europe. As one of the first public parks to be laid out by a municipality, it represents a major landmark in the development of urban parks. The Victorian Park incorporated exceptional features and gardens such as the Sub Tropical Garden, the riverside walk, the American Ground and the intricate system of lakes and islands, within a classic parkland framework of carriage drives, avenues and massed shrub planting. The siting of the Festival of Britain Gardens in the Park in 1951, attracted unprecedented numbers of visitors to the Park, and left a unique legacy of gardens, pools and walkways which contrast strongly with the style and geometry of the rest of the park.

The Park is listed as Grade 2\* in the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens. The historical importance of the Park was recognised in the £10.4 million restoration plan, approved under the Heritage Lottery Fund Urban Parks programme in May 1998. This was augmented by a grant increase in 2002, to a total of £11.5 million. The restoration has re-instated elements of the Victorian Park, such as the Sub Tropical Garden, Promenade Gardens, Rosary and boundary shrubberies, restored elements of the Festival of Britain Gardens, the lake edges and carriage drives and has sought to re-establish the reputation of the Park as a home to important botanical collections. The restoration has re-created the glory of the original landscape design and standards of horticultural excellence of the Victorian Park together with the drama of the Festival Gardens, whilst recognising the importance of Battersea as a contemporary urban park providing a valuable resource to the capital.

## BATTERSEA PARK RESTORATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

		<i>Page</i>
	Battersea Park Restoration Plan: The Vision	
1	Introduction	1
2	Management Objectives	1
3	The Layout of the Plan	2
4	Landscape Character Areas	2
5	Planning Constraints	4
6	Park Management Structure	5
7	Ecology	11
8	Traffic Management	12
9	Visitor Management	12
10	Management Prescription Sheets	13
11	Monitoring	

### APPENDICES

Much of the data and information which forms the Appendices to the Management Plan is held either in paper or electronic form at the Park Office. The format and location for information which is not attached to this report is set out below.

- A The Park History: Summary
- B Bibliography

- C Historic Restoration: Rationale Statements
- D Habitat Surveys
- E Archaeological Surveys
- F Tree Surveys (Database held at the Park Office)
- G Traffic Management and Surveys (Data at the Park Office)
- H Events Strategy and Conditions (Data held at the Park Office)
- I Visitor Surveys (Data held at the Park Office)
- J Park Inventory (Database held at the Park Office)
- K Style Guide (data held at the Park Office)
- L Parks Maintenance Contracts (Held at the Park Office and Town Hall)
- M Typical Shrub Pruning Regimes

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Battersea Park is one of the most important urban parks in Europe, being one of the first public parks to be laid out by a municipality anywhere in the world. The 83 hectare Park was constructed between 1854 and 1870 to designs begun by James Pennethorne and developed by John Gibson, and was formally opened by Queen Victoria in 1858. The London County Council Map of 1897 shows the early layout of the Victorian Park. Since its opening, the park has been the subject of a wide ranging changes, some major, such as the development of the Festival of Britain Gardens in 1951, and others more subtle, in particular the gradual erosion of the park fabric through the demands and pressures of a highly used urban park. The Park is listed as Grade 2\* on the Register of Historic parks and Gardens. A short history of the Park is included at Appendix A.
- 1.2. In recognition of the historic importance of the Park and the pressures on the park fabric, a submission was made to the Heritage Lottery Fund in 1996 for funding under the Urban Parks Programme. The submission was revised in 1997, in order to take greater account of the historic heritage of the Park and to demonstrate public support for the proposals. Funding from the HLF for £6.9 million was announced in May 1998, with match funding from the Council of £3.9 million. During the life of the project changes to the scope of works were made with HLF consent and in January 2003 Wandsworth Borough Council successfully applied for a grant increase from HLF and were awarded an additional £600,000, bringing the total HLF funding to £7.5 million.
- 1.3. Battersea Park is a flagship park. The restored Park combines a significant achievement in historic landscape restoration with a popular, well used contemporary park, a major events site and an important ecological resource. This Management Plan seeks to define a strategy and structure for the management and maintenance of the Park looking forward forty years.

## 2. MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- 2.1. The vision for Battersea Park is described on the opening page of this management plan. The purpose of this Management Plan is to support the goals of Park management; to emphasise high standards of care and good practice throughout the Park and in the way maintenance and other activities are organised, monitored and controlled.
- 2.2. The management objectives for the Park are:
  - To offer a safe and attractive environment that encourages active and passive recreation to people of all ages and abilities
  - To maintain and enhance the fabric of the park, with particular attention to the character areas, Victorian Design and Festival Garden features.
  - To achieve a stylistic unity throughout all areas of the Park, with unified colour themes and styles of furniture, materials, signs and other structures
  - To demonstrate best practice in parks management and maintenance reflecting and advancing current local and national guidance
  - To accommodate modern and new uses of the Park and to integrate them into the historic landscape, ensuring they do not compromise the investment that has been made in the Park, or its current standards of maintenance

- To support a long term strategy to safeguard the fabric and standards of the Park for the next 50 years and beyond

### 3. LAYOUT AND CONTENT OF THE PLAN

3.1. The Management Plan seeks to address the following:

- to provide a succinct user friendly document providing immediate guidance and referencing for all aspects of Park Management and Maintenance
- to provide a comprehensive record of the Park restoration and other surveys, policies, contracts and guidance of relevance to the management of the Park

3.2. In order to address these two somewhat conflicting needs the Management Plan is set out as follows:

- This Volume provides a general introduction to the management and maintenance of the Park, providing details of existing and proposed management structures and management prescriptions for individual Character Areas within the Park. Guidelines for the management of each character area, providing a summary of the maintenance objectives and other key issues, together with supporting information on the detailed maintenance of soft landscape features, are set out for each area.
- The Appendices to this Management Plan provide a comprehensive record of the Park history and restoration, current surveys, policy documents and guidance, a style guide for historic features and contract information. The Appendices include some strategic information, for instance in relation to traffic management and the Events strategy. All future amendments to these documents and other new strategic documents, shall support and reflect the aims and content of this management plan. The bulk of this information is held in paper or electronic form at the Park Office and so is not included as part of this volume. Close reference will need to be made to the relevant documentation, in the implementation of the management prescriptions and maintenance schedules set out in this plan.

### 4. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

4.1. The 83 hectare Battersea Park enjoys a dramatic location fronting the Thames between Albert and Chelsea Bridges. The Landscape Character Area Drawing shows the 21 Landscape Character Areas, which form the framework for the proposals set out in this Management Plan.

- *Promenade* - The restoration of the Promenade combines the broad riverside terrace with a series of large arcs filled with flowering shrubs and bedding. The broad vistas over the river and back to the Park are a key feature of this location. The Promenade also includes the Pagoda and Chelsea car park.
- *Grand Vista* – The Grand Vista with its pools, fountains and planting formed the heart of the Festival of Britain Gardens.



- *Southern Meadow and Spring Bank* – The wildflower meadow and naturalistic planting of this area contrasts with the more formal Russell Page and Grand Vista areas and provides links through to the Central Avenue. This character area forms an important link between the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century sections of the Park.
- *Shrubbery Bank* – The Shrubbery Bank is located on the former amphitheatre site of the Festival of Britain Garden and combines bedding with tree and shrub planting on mounding. The Shrubbery Bank provides an important link between the Russell Page, the Pagoda and the Promenade Gardens.
- *Russell Page Flower Garden and Quiet Lawns* – The garden combines formal bedding with yew parterre hedging, rose beds and formal lawns, set on a series of terraces. Yew topiaries and the tea terrace border the gardens providing a sense of fun to the gardens.
- *Central Avenue and Bandstand* - The drama and character of the Central Avenue has been reconstructed through the underplanting of the avenue of plane trees with waves of shrub and groundcover planting. The Bandstand provides the focal point to the avenue. The central avenue character area also includes the War Memorial Gardens and the holly collection.
- *Gardenesque Shrubberies and Mounding* – The Gardenesque Shrubberies and Mounding combine ornamental shrub planting, specimen tree and shrub planting, mounding and grass and bulb planting. They are essential to the structure of the Park defining the boundaries and providing a unifying theme throughout the Park.
- *Alpine Cascade* – The Alpine Cascade forms one of the centrepieces of the lakeside gardens, with its dramatic combination of water cascades, rockwork and planting.
- *Rosary Garden and Deer Enclosure* – The Rosary Garden was an important feature of the Victorian Park. Its reinstatement has re-established the historic context of the Rosary Gate Entrance from the Queenstown Road.
- *Lake, Lake Edges and Islands* - The Lake and the Ladies Pond provide dramatic views across the Park and serve as a valuable ecological resource. The Lake edges combine shrub, herbaceous and edge planting. The Boating Lake and Café are important recreational focus points within the Park. The restoration of the lake edges include measures to re-establish emergent and marginal vegetation, with permanent low fencing to replace the visually intrusive, if effective, temporary Heras fencing.
- *Sub Tropical Garden* – The Sub Tropical Garden is to be restored to its former glory, providing an extravagant collection of exotic planting and bedding.
- *Nature Reserve and American Ground* - The former American Ground is now largely made up of the Wilderness and Meadow Nature Conservation Areas. Few of the original American Ground species remain. The Wilderness Area is predominantly dense scrub/woodland, with occasional small clearings of bramble and grassland, whilst the Meadow consists of a central grass area enclosed by woodland.
- *Old English Garden and Woodland Walk* - The Old English Garden was laid out in 1912 and forms a distinctive, enclosed garden with its small pond and fountain, herbaceous planting and pergolas, enclosed by walls and hedges.

- *Chelsea Bridge Fields* – Chelsea Bridge Fields forms an informal area of meadow and amenity grassland with native and ornamental tree and shrub planting, providing an important ecological resource.
- *Carriage Drives and Entrances* – The Carriage Drives are bordered by avenue tree planting, mainly of plane trees. The Queenstown Road, Albert Bridge Road and Prince of Wales Drive Entrances to the Park, incorporate areas of bedding. The formal settings of the entrances set the tone for the formality and elegance of the Park.
- *Park Offices and Herb Garden* – Located in the north west corner of the Park the maintenance yard houses the Park Office, maintenance depots, Parks Police and also incorporates the herb garden.
- *Sports Pitches* – The sports pitches are located in the western section of the Park, forming an expanse of mown grassland, bordered by the Carriage Drives and shrubberies and traversed by a number of important routes through the Park, including the Central Avenue.
- *All Weather Pitches and One o'clock Club* – One of the main recreational focal points in the Park this area includes the floodlit all weather pitches, the one o'clock club, the children's play area and the adventure playground.
- *British Genius Site* - The British Genius site forms the main events site in the park and consists of a large area of hardstanding.
- *Millennium Arena* - The Millennium Arena includes the athletics track and the Sports Lottery Funded Pavilion and Health Club.
- *Battersea Park Zoo* – This is the site of the former's children's zoo (operated in-house) until 2004). This has been leased to the Chestnut Centre for 25 years to be run as an animal visitor attraction.

## 5. PLANNING CONTEXT

### 5.1. Planning Constraints

- 5.1.1. The Park is currently listed as Grade 2\* in the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens produced by English Heritage.
- 5.1.2. Reference should be made to the current Wandsworth Local Development Framework Core Strategy (October 2010) and except where superseded by the Core Strategy, the Wandsworth Unitary Development Plan (UDP) adopted in August 2003. Designations effective at the time of the revision of this Management Plan, as set out in the Core Strategy and the UDP are:
- *Metropolitan Open Land* - The whole of the Park is designated Metropolitan Open Land. The primary objective of policies for Metropolitan Open Land is to preserve the open character of these areas. Again the restoration plan is consistent with this objective.
  - *Local Nature Reserve* - The Wilderness and Meadow areas within Battersea Park are designated as a Local Nature Reserve. This is the only Local Nature Reserve in the Borough. The objectives of the restoration plan are consistent with the Local Plan policies on the promotion and enhancement of nature conservation interest throughout

the Borough (Policies ON15, ON17 and ON18). The Wilderness and Meadow Areas lie within the former American Ground. It may be a future goal to restore elements of the American Ground. This does present the potential for conflict with policy ON16 which seeks to protect sites from “proposals which would adversely affect their nature conservation and associated qualities”. The entire Park is currently recommended for designation as a Site of Nature Conservation Interest, in a paper prepared by the Borough Ecology Officer. Designation of the entire Park as an SNCI would be consistent with the management objectives in this plan.

- *Battersea Park Conservation Area* - The whole of the Park lies within the Battersea Park Conservation Area, which, whilst also taking in a number of surrounding streets and properties, is predominantly focused upon the park. The restoration plan is consistent with the broad objectives of the Conservation Area policies, and the Battersea Park Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy (new Draft 2013) which seek to respect and enhance the character and appearance of the areas covered by the designation.

## **5.2. Wandsworth Borough Council: Best Value Review (Feb 2001)**

5.2.1. The Best Value review of the Parks Service was adopted in February 2001. The review recognises the importance of Battersea Park to the Borough and the obligations of the Council to protect the investment made by WBC and HLF, through the maintenance of the restored Park. The review does not place any specific targets or performance indicators to be achieved in the maintenance of the restored Park but Strategic Direction 3 (SD3) states that the Council “will ensure sufficient resources are available to effectively deal with the complex management requirements at Battersea Park, as a result of the Heritage Restoration Project” (Wandsworth Council Best Value Review February 2001).

## **6. PARK MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE (REVISED 2015)**

### **6.1. Management Structure and Maintenance Contracts**

6.2. All management and maintenance responsibilities within the Park fall within the remit of the Director of Housing and Community Services at the London Borough of Wandsworth Council. However, as of October 2015, day to day management and operation of the park has been contracted to Enable Leisure & Culture – a Public Service Mutual organisation, (currently comprising those staff formerly employed directly by the Council). As with all the Council’s parks under the management of Enable Leisure & Culture, the park is managed in accordance with the guidance and principles of the Parks Management Strategy 2011-2020 (Approved & adopted Nov 2011 paper 11-855) The overall Parks Service Structure, with specific reference to the management of the park and its infrastructure, is summarised at Figure 1. Under the current Enable Leisure & Culture management structure, management responsibilities for the Park are as follows:

- *Executive Director Parks & Leisure*– Overall responsibility for all parks, leisure and bereavement services.
- *Chief Parks Officer (Operations)* - currently based in the Park. Has specific responsibilities for parks management and maintenance including that of Battersea Park.. The Chief Parks Officer is also responsible for all fund raising activities within the Park.
- *Chief Parks Officer (Projects)* - currently based in the Park. Has responsibilities for development and implementation of special projects relating to the parks estate, including that of Battersea Park..

- *Principal Parks Officer (Operations)* – has responsibility for horticultural maintenance operations under the term maintenance contract, and for all aspects of parks contract administration and monitoring. Under the supervision of this post is a team of *Contract Officers* responsible for all parks contract monitoring.
- *Principal Parks Officer (Biodiversity & Parks Development)* – has responsibility for developing parks strategy & development and all aspects of biodiversity and ecological management. Under the supervision of this post is the parks service communication and strategy officer.
- *Horticultural Development Officer* – currently responsible for bedding plans for all parks and improvements to ornamental horticultural areas - including such areas as the Sub-tropical Garden, Old English Garden, and the Winter Garden.
- *Arboricultural Manager* – advises on tree works throughout the Borough, with a team of 4 Arboriculture Officers undertaking tree inspections and scheduling and supervising tree work throughout the whole borough. The arboriculture team includes an officer specifically responsible for the Battersea area - including the park.
- *Playground Development Officer* - responsible for the management & operation of the play facilities across the parks estate, as well as managing play facilities on “non-parks” sites

In addition to the Parks Service, there are a number of major borough-wide services that a) have facilities within the park or, b) for which the park is used as a base or; c) which have responsibility for some aspect of park maintenance. These services are not directly managed by the Parks Service, but work in conjunction with the Parks Service to ensure efficient operation & maintenance of the services & facilities within it. These separate services may be part of the new Enable Leisure & Culture company (indicate as ELC below) or may still be central Council services (indicated as WBC below)

- *Parks & Events Police* - The borough Parks and Events Police (PEPS) have their main office located in the Staff Yard of Battersea Park. Officers are responsible for policing and stewarding of events in open spaces, but predominantly in Battersea Park. The service provides additional policing services at peak times. PEPS also have an important role in public liaison in addition to enforcement and security. For legal and practical reasons PEPS remain WBC employees but are seconded to ELC for management purposes
  - *Events Service (ELC)* - The Events Manager is responsible for the programming, administration and supervision of events and filming, in the Park, together with wider responsibilities for events across the Borough. The Events Team are based at the Park Offices.
  - *Sports Services (ELC)* - Sports Services are responsible for the operation and administration of the built sports facilities such as the Millennium Arena & athletic track, all weather sports pitches, tennis courts. However, sports provision & booking for the grass facilities such as cricket, football and rugby pitches and bowling greens form an element of the Parks Maintenance Contract, described below
  - *Design Services (WBC)* – The Design Service is the “premises service” for the Council and administer Borough wide contracts for all premises and built infrastructure as well as the general maintenance of buildings, plant, utilities & services, which includes the Lodges, Pump House and Parks Offices, toilets and plant rooms in Battersea Park.
- 6.3. Regular liaison meetings, co-ordinated by the Chief Parks Officer, are held in the Park, attended by the Events Manager, Events Police, and others with direct involvement in the Park. Both the Chief Parks Officer and the Principal Parks Officers also fulfil the important role of liaising with the Friends of Battersea Park and the Battersea Society, the two principal community organisations concerned with the Park.

- 6.4. The current Maintenance Contracts operating within the Park and the tasks included within these contracts are summarised below. Copies of all current Maintenance Contracts are included in Appendix L.
- *Borough Wide Parks Contract:* This contract was re-tendered in 2012 and let as a new contract in February 2013. It continues to amalgamate grounds and horticultural maintenance tasks, sports pitch bookings and maintenance, litter picking and general cleaning duties for buildings, structures and furniture. The contract covers all areas of the Park. The contract will run 8 years until February 2021 with an option to extend by a further 4 years until 2025.
  - *Park Restoration Maintenance:* The maintenance of all areas subject to the Restoration Project has now been transferred back to the routine maintenance contract (June 2005). However, maintenance of these areas continues to be done in accordance with the requirements of the Heritage Lottery Fund Restoration grant contract.
  - *Borough-wide Arboricultural Service:* Tree work within the Park is carried out as part of the Borough tree management regime. Works are effected under the terms of the Arboricultural Contract which was re-tendered in 2012 and awarded as a new contract in 2013 and continues until 2021.
  - *Premises: Maintenance of buildings and structures:* Maintenance and repairs to buildings and structures.
  - *Events and Filming:* Contracts for individual events and filming are subject to the standard Terms and Conditions for events and the Events Strategy for Battersea Park (Updated & Approved Paper 11-850 Nov 2011), included at Appendix H.
  - *Café:* Operates as a private business under a 20 year lease arranged by the Borough Valuers Service on behalf of the Director of Environment & Community Services.
- 6.5. The Park Management Structure is intended to bring as much of the co-ordination and administration of the Park, within the remit of the *Chief Park Officer (Operations)* and the *Principal Parks Officer (Operations)*. Any revisions considered at this stage of the Parks development, or in the future, must seek to enhance and maintain the quality of the landscape in a cost effective and efficient manner. The need for a single point of contact, with the authority to co-ordinate activities within the Park, is seen as essential to the successful implementation of the Management Plan. In the current structure, much of this responsibility is brought under the remit of the *Chief Parks Officer (Operations)*, based in the Park.
- 6.6. Under the current structure the maintenance of all restored elements of the Park have been incorporated progressively within the borough-wide Parks Contract. The final sections were transferred in June 2005. The maintenance specification set out in this Management Plan is the same as that in the current horticultural maintenance contract. In many areas the specification set out in the contract is higher and more detailed than that in the management plan, and the contract document should be used as the key reference tool to any examination of standards of maintenance in the restored Park.
- 6.7. Specific responsibility for contract monitoring remains with the team of *Contract Monitors*. In order to achieve the standards required by the restoration it is desirable to focus as much of the responsibility to staff dedicated to the Park. In order to address the concerns raised by HLF with regard to the need to maintain horticultural standards within the restored Park within the current Borough Departmental Management Structure it is intended that:

- As of 2007, the management and maintenance of Battersea Park will be let as part of a borough-wide Parks Contract. The contract will include for the maintenance of all soft landscape areas and features (with the exclusion of arboriculture), litter picking, cleaning duties and sports pitch booking. The maintenance regimes will be in accordance with the Management Prescriptions set out in this plan and the current specification in the Horticultural Maintenance Contract. The contract includes maintenance of the lake and all other waterbodies and could include for management of the nature reserve, although works would need to continue to be undertaken in close consultation with the *Principal Parks Officer (Biodiversity & Parks Development)*. Arboriculture will continue under the responsibility of the *Arboricultural Manager* with the Battersea area as their responsibility.
  - Direct responsibility for the administration of the Park Maintenance contract will remain with the *Contract Monitors*, but with more focused input from the *Principal Parks Officer*.
  - *The Principal Parks Officer (Operations)*: The *Principal Parks Officer* will perform a critical role in ensuring standards of horticultural excellence are maintained. Overseeing the contract monitoring team, the *Principal Parks Officer* will advise on key maintenance operations such as frost protection in the sub-tropical garden and pruning regimes to retain key vistas and the character of individual beds.
  - It is desirable that the two main officers (*Chief Park Officer and Principal Park Officer*) responsible for the day to day management of the Park are resident on site, as is the currently case with the *Chief Parks Officer*.
  - *Arboricultural Officer*: to administer arboricultural work in the Park, reporting to the Borough Arboricultural Manager, with a remit including the Park and surrounding area
  - *Horticultural Development Officer*: duties will include bedding displays for the restored Park and horticultural throughout the Borough..
  - Events and Filming, Premises and the Café facilities and contracts to continue to be administered under the current arrangements, but with a more clearly defined role for the *Chief Parks Officer* to influence the resourcing, administration and implementation of these contracts
  - *Thrive* (para 6.19) will be encouraged to continue working alongside the main horticultural contractors in maintaining dedicated areas of the park in order to develop the skills of their clients and to intensify the horticulture maintenance of the areas within which they work.
- 6.8. Tree work within the Park is currently administered by the responsible *Arboricultural Officer* who will continue to provide specialist arboricultural advice. Under the current structure, there is an *Arboricultural Officer*, with responsibility for the area of Battersea, including the Park and a defined surrounding area (street trees, neighbouring schools and open spaces. The Tree Condition Survey, (no longer included as Appendix F) is recorded as part of the wider borough Trees Database,. The survey will subsequently be updated on a continual programme such that each tree is every 3 years, in accordance with the Council's Tree Management Procedures.
- 6.9. The Management Plan places particular emphasis on staff skills and training. The Park will require greater expertise and specialist skills using modern techniques. All maintenance staff should be familiar with the goals of the management plan and training could be offered. It is

intended that staff will attend induction courses on the Park restoration and be familiar with other key documents.

6.10. Battersea Park would provide an exciting location as a training centre in horticultural skills. This would be desirable both to establish the reputation of the Park as a centre of horticultural excellence and to support the increased demands that the Park will be placing on Borough and Contract staff.

#### **6.11. Historic Park Consultant**

6.12. The services of a Historic Park Consultant will be sourced in an advisory role when required. All proposals and any additional features, which will impact on the character of the restored Park, will be reviewed by a Historic Park Consultant.

#### **6.13. Events**

6.14. The Park continues to be a popular location for events of all types and scale, and continues to generate significant income for the Borough from the staging of such events. In order to ensure that events do not override or unnecessarily impinge on the park, or upon other park uses, the Events Service, in conjunction with the parks management team produce and periodically revise an events restriction strategy (Current revision approved November 2011, paper 11/850) All future revisions of the events restrictions strategy will reflect the overriding management objectives for the Park, summarised in this management plan. The bullet points below summarise the key recommendations of this management plan in relation to the staging and management of events in the Park:

- The restriction of most outdoor non sporting events to the British Genius Site
  
- All events traffic to comply with the Traffic Management Plan concerning access to events sites and parking. Further recommendations on vehicle types and permitted routes to be developed as part of visitor and park user surveys
  
- No vehicular access or structures on grassed areas, without prior permission and approval of adequate temporary protection by the Principal Parks Officer
  
- Enhanced measures to protect trees, grass, shrubs and bedding from damage including a general preclusion against events on grass area during the winter months
  
- Consideration of the use of contingency sums in hire charges to cover potential repairs to damaged areas
  
- The introduction of closer controls over filming within the park, with particular regard to vehicular access, structures, parking and programming.

#### **6.15. The role of the Friends of Battersea Park and the Battersea Society**

6.16. The Friends of Battersea Park and the Battersea Society constitute the principal local community organisations, with direct involvement in the Park. Both organisations provide a focus for local

public opinion and are consulted on proposals with implications for the Park. The Friends have provided a vehicle for public consultation, assisted in the development of the HLF bid and have become an important source of fund-raising for specific Park projects.

6.17. The Friends will be encouraged to continue in their advisory role in the management of the Park and subject such management to critical review. Meetings of the Friends are attended by the *Chief Parks Officer* or *Principal Parks Officer*.

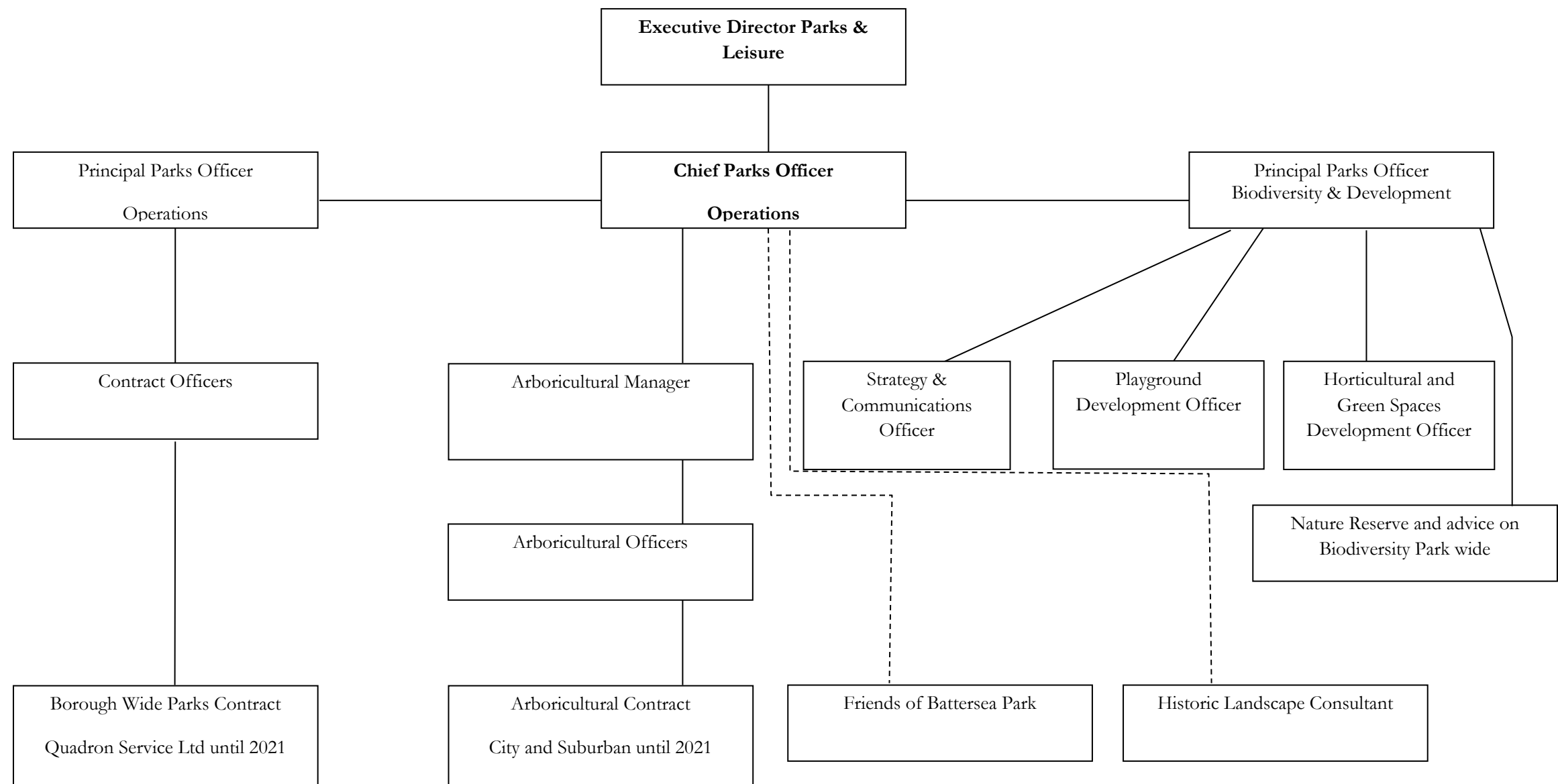
6.18. The Friends will be encouraged to continue to support the park and the park management and continue to raise funds as they deem desirable and appropriate. Projects such as the recently completed (2011) Winter Garden in Battersea Park in the location of the old Heather Garden, and the cleaning of the War Memorial (2010) are examples of projects that could not have been achieved without such commitment and support.

#### **6.19. The role of Thrive**

6.20. Thrive is a small national charity that uses gardening to change lives of clients with a disability. Thrive has a long association with Battersea Park having originally set up a demonstration garden in the late 1970s. Their continued work has benefitted many hundreds of clients, enabling them to develop personal, life, and vocational skills through horticulture and gardening. The continuing relationship between Thrive and the park has enabled the development of the Thrive Main Garden adjacent the Millennium Arena (major redevelopment due 2012), the development of the training facilities and gardening opportunities in the Herb Garden, and vocational training opportunities in the Old English Garden. These relationships enable the development of a close association between the park, its visitors, the voluntary sector and the local community.



**FIGURE 1: BATTERSEA PARK SERVICES MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE (REVISED NOV2011)**



## 7 ECOLOGY

- 7.1 The principal aim for ecological management of Battersea Park, as set out in this Management Plan is to promote biodiversity throughout the Park, whilst maintaining a balance between the maintenance of the restoration and Victorian features.
- 7.2 Details of all recent ecological surveys are included in Appendix D to this Plan. The key points are:
- None of the habitats within the Park are of national importance. The more detailed survey data available for the Wilderness, Meadow and Rosary Gate areas, have identified a number of nationally unusual or scarce species of invertebrates, the majority of which are associated with standing or dead timber.
  - The Park includes substantial areas of non-native broad-leaved woodland, together with smaller areas of wet marginal vegetation, native hedge and tall herb vegetation. All are habitats noted as occurring in less than 1% of the Greater London Area and identified in the Draft London Biodiversity Action Plan (1999).
  - Much of the local value lies in the range of habitats across the Park. The lakes are particularly important as they represent about 40% of the area of standing water in the Borough.
- 7.3 There are a number of important initiatives and areas, which have been developed to promote and enhance the nature conservation value of the Park. These include:
- the designation and management of the Wilderness and Meadow Areas as a Local Nature Reserve under a licence to London Conservation Services, in accordance with a Management Plan, prepared in 1998;
  - the Integrated Management Strategy for the lake edges, developed as part of the London Lakes Project in the mid 1990s. The strategy deals with water supply and management, wildfowl and fish management and the replanting, protection and maintenance of lake water and the lake edges. The Park restoration re-established edges and emergent vegetation to the lake margins in a number of locations.
- 7.4 Ecological surveys completed in 2000/2001 are included in Appendix D. In order to ensure all future management takes account of survey findings and obligations in relation to Protected Species, the focus of the Management Prescriptions in this Plan, with regard to ecology are:
- regular updating of ecological surveys for the Park and the building in of measures within the Management prescriptions and Park Maintenance Contracts to address issues raised;
  - the avoidance of disturbance to nesting birds between end February and end July;
  - inspections for the presence of bats prior to major tree works or works to buildings and structures;
  - inspections for the presence of amphibians prior to works to water bodies.

- 7.5 The restoration of the American Ground would effect the structure of the nature reserve. Some operations, primarily the selective removal of native trees and shrubs and the re-introduction of non native species, will conflict with objectives set out in the current Management Plan for the nature reserve. Other elements such as the use of coppicing to open up dense woodland areas, the creation of scalloped edges to the reserve boundaries, and clearance taken back to the footpath to address security concerns, and the ‘softening’ of the current abrupt edges to the reserve areas, through less frequent mowing and the removal of boundary fencing, are likely to be of benefit to wildlife;
- 7.6 In 2004, the Friends of Battersea Park were successful in raising funds for the installation of new disabled accessible paths in the Nature Reserves. This was augmented by SRB funding from the Council. This paths were completed in June 2004 following the lines of the 19<sup>th</sup> century footpaths, opening up sight lines and increasing access. Some of the boundary fencing has been removed, and public use of this area has increased.

## **8 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT**

- 8.1 Battersea Park has approximately 4.5km of vehicle grade carriage drives, three vehicle accessible entrances and three car parks. Given that facilities are present throughout the park all of which require servicing and access, and that routine maintenance and policing need to be facilitated, traffic movement within the body of the park needs to be regulated. To this end, rising arm barriers have been installed at the head of each of the Carriage Drives in the Park. These are controlled with swipe cards issued by the Parks Office. This supports the Traffic Management Plan which is included in the Appendixes. (Revised & updated summer 2012) The overriding aims of the Traffic Management Plan are to:
- Minimise vehicle movement in the centre of the Park
  - Regulate & minimise speed of those essential vehicles
  - To implement a hierarchy of routes for different sizes and types of vehicles
  - To support the Council’s environmentally friendly policies on fuel and emissions.

## **9 VISITOR MANAGEMENT**

- 9.1 The overriding aim of the Park management is to provide a safe and attractive experience for people of all ages and abilities, meeting the standards required by a visitor attraction of this size and historic importance. The future management of the Park will build on the existing popularity of the Park and seek to accommodate increased visitor numbers. Community participation will be fostered through the Friends of Battersea Park and the other groups active in the Park.
- 9.2 A survey was conducted in 2000 through the Friends of Battersea Park and the Battersea Society. The findings of the survey are included at Appendix I. A Borough wide Parks User Survey was conducted in 2003. The results of this survey are kept at the Battersea

Park Officer, and reflect a high level of user satisfaction with Battersea Park and the way the Park is managed. Continued user feedback indicates high levels of satisfaction. Additional user surveys will be undertaken as resources allow.

- 9.3 As in the case of all large London parks, Battersea provides both an important local resource for formal and informal recreation, whilst also providing a London wide and occasionally national focus for activities and events. The restoration of the park has revitalised its historic importance and created an example of restoration and horticultural excellence, which has resulted in an increase to the number of visitors to the Park. Interpreting the historic landscape and the restoration will be an important element of visitor management in the future.

## 10. Management Prescription Sheets

### 10.1 Introduction

10.1.1 The Management Prescription Sheets are set out in Sections 10.4 to 10.26 by Character Area in accordance with the Landscape Character Area Drawing. Maintenance specifications providing benchmarks for the assessment of maintenance standards for the principal vegetation types (grassed areas, herbaceous, etc) are set out in Section 10.2. Section 10.2 also describes general maintenance operations relevant to one or more Character Areas, in order to avoid unnecessary repetition within the individual Landscape Character Area Sheets.

10.1.2 The Management Prescription Sheets for each Character Area are set out as follows:

- **Design:** Provides a brief summary of the main design intentions for each Character Area. Reference should also be made to the Rationale Statements included at Appendix C
- **Management Objective:** Describes the principal management objectives for the character area or for specific features within each area
- **Key Issues/Features:** Description of the key features and specific maintenance requirements over and above the Maintenance Specification set out in Section 10.2
- **Management Prescription:** Management Prescriptions for the main vegetation types, hard landscape areas and furniture and structures
- **Design/As Built/Style Guide References:** Cross references to design and as built drawings and the style guide, providing detailed guidance on layout, materials, specification and finishes for future maintenance and replacement

## 10.2: Maintenance specification

### 10.2.1 Soft Landscape Areas

This section describes general maintenance operations applicable to all areas of the Park, in accordance with the current maintenance contracts.

#### Grassed Areas

Maintenance specification and Maintenance Programmes are based on those set out in BS 7370 Grounds Maintenance, Part 3: recommendations for maintenance of amenity and functional turf (other than sports turf).

Table 1: Maintenance specification by Grass Category

BS 7370: Category	Type	Cutting Height Tolerances	Arisings Removed
C1.	Ornamental Lawn	40-50 mm	Yes
D	General Amenity	40-60 mm	No
H	Meadow	As specified	Yes

The contract monitors issue instructions as needed, retaining flexibility on heights in periods of drought or stress.

#### Shrub, Tree and Groundcover Beds

The overriding objective for all areas of shrub, tree and groundcover is to attain the specific design objectives to each Character Area and meet the Maintenance specification set out below:

##### *Maintenance specification*

- Shrub and groundcover beds: at no time shall there be a weed growth cover of more than 30% of the individual planted area nor at any time weed growth that exceeds 25mm in height.
- Shrub species to be pruned in accordance with individual species requirements and to reflect the original design intentions.

- Shrub beds to be mulched at regular intervals.
- There may be occasions when chemical weed control will be permitted in certain areas.

### **Herbaceous Planting**

The overriding objective for all areas of herbaceous planting is to attain the specific design objectives to each Character Area and meet the Maintenance Specification set out below:

#### ***Maintenance specification***

Herbaceous beds: at no time shall there be a weed growth cover of more than 30% of the individual planted area nor at any time weed growth that exceeds 25mm in height. Maintenance of the beds shall ensure that planting attains the desired design objectives in terms of plant health, growth, cover and structure and retains the layout shown on the planting plans, through the control of invasive species and measures to enhance the growth and stature of less vigorous species.

### **Ornamental/Woodland Grasses, Bamboos, Sedges and Ferns**

Ornamental grasses, bamboos, sedges and ferns are used in a number of beds throughout the scheme. The maintenance specification for these is the same as for herbaceous planting. Woodland grasses and ferns are also planted in grass in the Southern and Western Boundary Character Areas. The objective in these areas is to create drifts of ferns and grasses to a semi natural woodland character, adding variety and interest to the grassed areas.

### **Rose Beds: General**

The objectives for rose beds throughout the park will be in accordance with those for the respective Character Area. Specific maintenance regimes for the Rosary Garden are set out in the Horticultural Maintenance Contract Specification.

- Rose beds: at no time shall there be a weed growth cover of more than 30% of the individual planted area nor at any time weed growth that exceeds 25mm in height.
- Pruning regimes to be sensitive to the individual species requirements and the specific design objectives in the garden.
- The general and regular dead-heading of roses throughout the year.

- Climbing roses shall be kept tied back to their supports at all times. Where roses climb over arches or pergolas these shall be trained to ensure there is no damage to members of the public passing beneath.

### **Bedding and Bulbs**

Bedding and bulbs within the Park includes long standing traditional displays at the Park entrances and the re-establishment of the more intricate, dramatic displays in the Sub-Tropical and Festival Gardens.

Bedding: at no time shall there be a weed growth cover of more than 30% of the individual planted area nor at any time weed growth that exceeds 25mm in height. Maintenance of the beds shall ensure that planting attains the desired design objectives in terms of plant health, colour, cover and structure and retains the layout shown on the planting plans. Bedding plants to be maintained regularly deadheaded. Stems of bulb die back to be removed six weeks after flowering.

### **Ponds and Waterbodies (excluding the Lake and Ladies Pond)**

Regimes for the drainage and cleaning of individual ponds and waterbodies are given in the respective Character Area Prescription Sheets.

In general ponds and waterbodies will be inspected regularly and litter and weed growth cleared as required from the edges. All ornamental water features will be drained and cleaned at least once each year.

### **Mature Trees**

Full tree condition survey to be carried out regularly by the Arboricultural Officer. Additional checks after periods of inclement weather to be carried out by the Arboricultural Officer. Works to be carried out as instructed by the Principal Parks Officer and Arboricultural Officer as required.

## 10.2.2 Buildings, Structures and Furniture

### Buildings and Structures

#### *Maintenance Specification*



All buildings and structures are maintained as part of the Parks Premises contract. Buildings and structures include the park lodges and offices, the new boathouse and the various pavilions and shelters around the park. External paintwork will be maintained and re-painted in accordance with the specifications set out in the Style Guide. Any specific requirements in relation to structures forming part of the Park restoration are set out in the individual Character Area prescription sheets.

Buildings will be cleaned on a regular basis and graffiti and other damage repaired as a matter of urgency.

### Hard and Semi Bound Surfaces

#### *Requirement*

All surfaces to be maintained in a safe, accessible and clean condition.

#### *Sweeping:*

All hard surfaces will be swept on a regular basis to remove all litter and debris.

#### *Semi bound and unbound Surfaces*

All semi bound and unbound surfaces will be regraded once a year and repaired as needed to re-level surfaces and re-established appearance. Debris will regularly be removed.

### Fencing and Furniture: Inspections and Minor Repairs



### *Maintenance specification*

All fencing and furniture to be maintained in a safe, clean condition and fit for use.

### *Inspections and Maintenance*

Regular safety inspections will be carried out to ensure fencing and furniture remains in safe and usable condition. Where appropriate, minor repairs, to include removal of graffiti, will be carried out immediately. Major works or replacement will be carried out as soon as possible.

In general all furniture, fencing, gates and other items with painted finishes will be repainted in accordance with established Premises maintenance cycles.

Timber treatment will only be carried out if required.

Maintenance requirements in respect of key features or structures are set out in the respective Character Area Prescriptions Sheets.

### Gulleys and Drainage Channels

Gulleys and drainage channels (Construction detail T D'T 94 065) will require regular cleaning and de-silting. In some locations, notably the Promenade Gardens, the concrete matrix and aggregates are specific to the location, in order to tie in with other features, such as the Promenade Wall.

## 10.2.3 General Maintenance Operations

### Litter

#### *Maintenance specification*

The objective shall be to maintain the Park reasonably clean tidy and free of litter during park opening hours. This includes daily scavenging and bin emptying and extra resources and frequencies at peak times. In accordance with the terms of the Parks maintenance contract (Schedule 1; Specification, Section 8) litter and waste shall also be taken to mean dog waste, and the objective shall be to remove dog waste with the same effectiveness and frequency as other litter.

### Injurious Weeds

#### *Maintenance specification*

Every effort will be made to ensure the Park is to be maintained free of injurious weeds listed under the Weeds Act 1959 and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, and subsequent amendments

## **Leaf Clearance**

### ***Maintenance specification***

All paths, flower beds, herbaceous and shrub beds and grassed areas should be kept substantially free of leaves from the start of leaf fall in the autumn. All areas shall be entirely free of leaves by end January each year.

## **Pests and Diseases**

### ***Maintenance specification***

All trees, planting beds and grassed areas to be regularly inspected for signs of ill health, pests and diseases and appropriate remedial action taken. Where necessary, specialist advice on the identification and treatment of a particular pest or disease will be obtained.

## **Chemicals: General**

Wandsworth Council, as part of its commitment to safeguarding the environment, is seeking to reduce the amount of chemical treatments used in horticultural operations. The bulk of weed control in the Park will be performed by manual rather than chemical means. Chemical treatments may be used in the control of injurious or vigorous weed species and in the control of pests and diseases.

All Contractors will be required to comply with current legislation, manufacturer's instructions and best practice on the storage, use and disposal of chemicals. All staff will require appropriate certification and training and where protective clothing, as required.

## **Waste and recycling**

There is an existing recycling area for green waste in Battersea Park. Recent changes to environmental legislation (effective October 2011) have meant the scale of the recycling operation has had to be severely curtailed. The parks maintenance contract will seek to address recycling issues to ensure that as much green waste recycling as possible is achieved. As far as possible, green waste will be recycled and used within the Park, if possible by chipping, or shredding immediately at source.

### **Wildfowl Management**

Wildfowl deterrent fencing has been erected around the majority of the lake margins, as part of the Park restoration. Other measures to control wildfowl populations, such as egg pricking are employed, as required, under licence to control wildfowl populations and ensure the restoration and recovery of the lake edge planting.

### **Water Quality Monitoring**

Water to the lake is supplied from a deep borehole sunk in 1994. Water quality monitoring is carried out quarterly.

### **Water Usage**

The licenced use of the Battersea Park borehole permits water from it to be used for a variety of purposes. In addition to topping up the lake, the water shall be used to fill & top up the fountains and ornamental pools. Irrigation of plants and sports pitches shall as far as is possible be carried out using borehole water supplied via the parks "grey main". Tree planting – both within the park and outside – shall be watered by bowser, topped from the grey main, and non-horticultural use of the borehole water will be considered wherever possible. However, despite the use of the grey main, planting, maintenance and management shall seek to reduce water consumption as far as is practical.

### **Fish Populations**

Monitoring and action as required. There is a lakes management plan for the Borough currently in draft.



# **WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

# **PARKS MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**

**2011 – 2020**

## **Contents**

- 1 **Introduction**
  
- 2 **Background**
  
- 3 **Legislation, guidance and policy**
  - 3.1 National
  - 3.2 Regional
  - 3.3 Local
  
- 4 **Review of Parks Services**
  - 4.1 Resources – parks, commons, open spaces and allotments
  - 4.2 Resources – staff, skills and knowledge
  - 4.3 Resources – information
  - 4.4 Resources – core funding, external funding streams
  - 4.5 Overview of partnership
  - 4.6 Public relations – consultation, volunteers
  - 4.7 Sources of professional advice and expertise
  
- 5 **Background Papers and information**
  
- 6 **Our vision for parks and green spaces in Wandsworth**
  
- 7 **Action Plan**
  
- 8 **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- 8.1 Reporting mechanisms
- 8.2 Monitoring tools
- 8.3 Consultation process

## **1. Introduction**

The Parks Service is responsible for the management, day-to-day maintenance and future development of parks, green spaces and allotments owned by the Council.

Parks are shared public green spaces open to all. The management of parks must ensure a balance between the demands of users, good standards of horticultural maintenance, as well as welcoming, safe, accessible places for all the community.

The provision of parks, green space and allotments has an important role in supporting the implementation of national and regional policies and strategies and, more locally, in the achievement of the Council's five key priorities of:-

- Delivering high quality, value for money services;
- Improving opportunities for children and young people;
- Making Wandsworth an attractive, safe, sustainable and healthy place;
- Providing care and support for adults in needs – elderly people, those with physical, learning or mental disabilities and those in housing need;
- Building a prosperous, vibrant and cohesive community.

It is important that a clear strategy for the parks, green spaces, allotments and other assets managed by the Parks Service is agreed to guide their planning and management across the Borough and ensure that all partners can work towards achieving common objectives.

## **2 Background**

Wandsworth's new Parks Management Strategy 2011-2020 will provide a framework for the future planning and management of the range of Parks Services. In addition to the routine maintenance and development of parks commons and open spaces, the Parks Service is responsible for the management and development of cemeteries and crematoria, allotments, biodiversity, and trees, in many instances working directly with community groups and volunteers. It is likely that individual strategies for some of these functions, for example the cemeteries and crematoria, and allotments will be produced in the future.



The Parks Management Strategy runs from 2011 to 2020 in order to provide structure and guidance to the management of the Borough's parks and green spaces through the re-tendering of the Horticultural and Arboricultural Maintenance Contract in 2012/13 and beyond the current Sustainable Communities Strategy; Our Wandsworth 2018 .

Development of the Strategy has been informed, in part, by the adopted Management Plans for 28 parks and open spaces in the Borough and the progress made in finalising management plans for the remainder. It will recognise the need to identify and secure funding to support the completion of management plans for Wandsworth and Tooting Commons and King George's Park and to revisit the management plan for Battersea Park.

This document includes an Action Plan, the key priorities of which will be core to the final document. Progress will be reviewed and monitored on a regular basis against timescales and performance indicators.

### **3 Legislation, Guidance and Policy relating to parks and green spaces**

Much national and regional legislation and guidance is pertinent to parks and green spaces and will impact upon the status of land, and the priorities for its management by the Parks Service. An inventory of applicable legislation up to 2000 is provided in the Report on the Best Value Review of the Parks Service (Paper No 01-239). Subsequent relevant national legislation includes:

#### **3.1 *National***

(a) *Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006* which is designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment. Section 40 states 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.

(b) "*Every Child Matters*" – refers to children's right to safe spaces and places for physical and cultural development.

(c) *Noise Action Plan London Agglomeration Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006, as amended (March 2010)* includes provisions that aim to protect any formally identified Quiet Area from an increase in noise.

(d) *Natural Environment White Paper 2011* outlines the Government's vision for the natural environment over the next 50 years, backed up with practical action to deliver that ambition.

(e) *Draft National Planning Policy Framework 2011* identifies reforms to make the planning system less complex and more accessible, and to promote sustainable growth

(f) *The Localism Bill 2011* is currently making its way through the House of Lords. It seeks to devolve greater powers to councils and neighbourhoods and give local communities more control over decisions.

Additionally there is a range of national guidance available from both government departments and advisory bodies. Much *Planning Policy Statements (PPS)* and *Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)* relates to open spaces and parks including:

(g) *Planning and Climate Change Supplement to PPS1, 2005: Delivering Sustainable Development* makes particular reference to opportunities for open space to contribute to urban cooling, sustainable drainage systems, and conserving and enhancing biodiversity

(h) *PPS 9, 2005: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation* sets out planning policies on protection of biodiversity and geological conservation through the planning system

(i) *PPG15, 1994: Planning and the Historic Environment* promotes the role of open spaces in the protection of historic sites.

(j) *PPG17, 2002: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation*, encourages local authorities to effectively plan for the future delivery of appropriate open space, sport and leisure facilities

(k) *Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services 2011* is a new biodiversity strategy for England which sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy for the next decade.

(l) *The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) is now part of the Design Council. Amongst the range of guidance and best practice documents that CABE has published are:*

- *Open space strategies* which draws on CABE Space's five-year history of support across England to those producing open space strategies. It reflects the latest thinking on the role of open space in tackling climate change and improving the quality of people's lives.
- *Adapting public space to climate change*, a briefing showing how thoughtfully designed public spaces offer urban areas their best opportunities to adapt to climate change.
- *The green information gap: Mapping the nation's green spaces* is a position paper written for policymakers. It says the new resource could be part of a wider information revolution that makes the most of our nation's green assets.

### **Allotments**

Allotments are governed by various Allotments Acts (1905-1958). These cover termination, notice to quit, compensation, and plot holders' rights.

Allotments are defined as 'under quarter of an acre in size, mainly for the cultivation of vegetables and fruit, mainly for consumption by the allotment holder and family' (Section 22 of the Allotments Act 1922). The definition rules out food production for profit, although surplus may be sold.

The Department for Communities and Local Government publication '*Growing in the Community*' provides guidance for allotment officers and allotment societies. It focuses on practical management; the opportunities and challenges that allotments provide to councils and local communities; how allotments help achieve good results in wellbeing, health promotion, community cohesion and good green space.

## **3.2 Regional**

- (a) In 2011 the Mayor of London published "*The London Plan*" which replaces the previous "*London Plan (consolidated with Amendments since 2004)*" as the overall strategic plan for London.

- (i) Paragraph 7.45 states; The Mayor strongly supports the protection, promotion and enhancement of London's open spaces and natural environments.
  - (ii) Policies 7.18 – 7.23 outline measures to deal with local natural space, biodiversity, geological conservation, trees and woodlands, land for food and burial space.
  - (iii) Policies 7.24 – 7.30 cover issues relating to water bodies, waterways, the River Thames and the Blue Ribbon network.
  - (iv) *The Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy – Connecting with London's Nature (2002)* is the first regional biodiversity strategy with a statutory basis. The document details the Mayor's vision for protecting and conserving London's natural open spaces. It seeks to ensure that there is no overall loss of wildlife habitats in London, and that more open spaces are created and made accessible, so that all Londoners are within walking distance of a quality natural space. The strategy is an important first step in establishing a London wide framework for maintaining London's diversity of wildlife.
- (b) Additionally, the Mayor of London has published several guidance documents on a range of topics including:-
- (i) London's Foundations – London Plan Implementation Report (in conjunction with Natural England) 2009: Government planning policy set out in PPS9 requires the inclusion of geodiversity issues and the identification of important areas within the London Plan. The London Plan states that the Mayor will work with partners to ensure the protection and promotion of geodiversity (Policy 3D.16), The report provides advice that demonstrates how the policy aims set out in the London Plan can be achieved.
  - (ii) The London Trees and Woodland Framework, Connecting Londoners with Trees and Woodlands 2005 aims to provide a strategic approach to trees and woodlands aiming particularly to maximise the contribution of trees and woodlands to London's sustainability and quality of life.
  - (iii) Capital Growth – The Mayor of London's initiative to create 2012 new allotments or food growing spaces in London by 2012; recognising the current mismatch between availability of, and demand for suitable spaces for food growing across London.
  - (iv) Mayor of London – Providing for Children and Young People's Play and Informal Recreation March 2008: this is a plan which focuses on delivering a child and young-person friendly environment and raising expectations for play.
  - (v) The London Plan for Sport and Physical Activity 2004-2008 (Sport England, 2004) and Grow, Sustain, Excel 2008-2011 (Sport England 2008): These plans state that the effective provision of open space, as well as sport and recreation

facilities, can play a key role in achieving aims to increase participation in sport and physical activity.

- (vi) A Sporting Future for London April 2009 -This plan contains proposals to ensure that there is a lasting legacy from London 2012. Parks and open spaces are identified as a major resource for 'informal' sport and physical activity and notes the recent investment through the Mayor's Priority Parks Programme. It also highlights the role of parks in providing more formal sporting facilities in particular tennis courts, pitches or basketball courts.

### 3.3 **Local**

The Parks Strategy draws on and contributes to other Council policies:

- *Sustainable Community Strategy, 'Our Wandsworth 2018'*
- *Wandsworth Open Space Study Report (2006)*
- *Sports Strategy 2005-2010;*
- *Supplementary Planning Document on parks and open spaces*
- *Play Strategy 2007*
- *Environmental Action Plan 2007- 2008;*
- *Local Implementation Plan 2007 – 2011*
- *Local Development Strategy Core Framework 2008*
- *Cultural Strategy Enriching Lives 2*
- *Corporate Business Plan 2010-11*
- *Wandsworth Children and Young People's Plan 2008-2011*
- *Revised Older People's Strategy 2008-2013*

## 4. **Review of Parks Services**

### 4.1 **Resources – The parks, commons, green spaces and allotments**

- (a) Wandsworth has many attractive parks and green spaces each with its own specific character, which present a heritage of great value to the local community. Together with allotments they provide settings for a wide range of activities and are an important and inclusive cultural asset. The Parks Service aims to maintain the diversity of the character of individual sites and of features within them, across all locations. **(Action Plan SA 1 and 3)**
- (b) The strategic contributions of green spaces, including allotments, include:
- defining the local urban landscape character, providing a complementary setting for buildings
  - supporting biodiversity
  - enhancing physical and mental wellbeing of users

- giving opportunities for natural, spontaneous play activity
  - providing a location for recreation, sport, and physical activity
  - promoting and improving “active transport” links (such as walking and cycling)
  - having a significance for their heritage value
  - providing a setting for listed buildings and enhancing the character of conservation areas
  - protecting geodiversity and landscape formations such as river valleys
  - adapting to mitigate the impact of climate change
- (c) The Council is working in partnership with a number the London Boroughs including Merton, Croydon, and Sutton towards the creation of a regional park for the Wandle Valley. Currently this provides the partners with opportunities to consider individual improvement and development proposals together and ultimately, if created, the regional park will be a major asset to the four boroughs and their residents, providing high quality green space and supporting business development. **(Action Plan SA 3)**
- (d) It is evident that a wide range of visitors use and enjoy the green spaces managed by the Parks Service. Understanding the visitor experience is key to maintaining and developing these spaces appropriately, with support from local people, and to make the best use of limited resources. **(Action Plan SA2)**
- (e) Ever increasing numbers of people are using the parks and green spaces for a range of purposes including leisure activities, such as family and solo outings and general relaxation, fitness and sports activities, such as jogging, fitness “classes,” informal and formal team games. Whilst these are positive and appropriate uses of the green spaces there is a need to ensure that no single group dominates an area. The Parks Management Strategy looks at ways to balance these uses to maintain the quality of green spaces and ensure as far as possible that sufficient space is available for users to enjoy their chosen activity. **(Action Plan SA1, SA2 and SA3)**
- (f) The Parks Service will ensure that the management of all its service areas are supported with appropriate service plans that will define the scope of each service, the current situation, and the needs and opportunities for improvement. These include the Allotments Service, Biodiversity, Cemeteries ground maintenance, and the Trees Service. **(Action Plan SA1)**

#### **4.2 Resources – staff, skills, contractors**

- (a) A range of skills are employed in managing and maintaining parks and green spaces to the highest possible standards, including managerial, financial, horticultural, arboricultural, landscape design, IT and others. The Parks Service will identify the range and level of skills required to deliver this Strategy, to ensure that each staff member has an appropriate training plan, and each team within the Service has an appropriate plan for continuity in the event of staff turnover. The contractors charged with the maintenance of parks, commons, green spaces, cemetery grounds and trees are recognised as part of the team delivering the Strategy. As such they need to demonstrate that they have identified the necessary skill sets and have provided for them in the staff teams. Officers will seek to re-introduce horticultural apprenticeships through the Parks Maintenance Contract. **(Action Plan SA 3)**

#### **4.3 Resources – information**

A range of information is needed, available and used in the delivery of the services. **(Action Plan SA1, SA2 and SA3.)** This falls into three distinct areas:

- (a) Performance indicators - The Parks Service reports annually on a number of target and key performance indicators. In the light of developments of the service, these indicators will be reviewed to ensure that these reflect the scope of the service.
- (b) Business information – This has been analysed in accordance with ISO27001. The Parks Service is a land-based business and requires appropriate technology to handle geographical information. The Parks Service will continue to seek to identify suitable systems.
- (c) Marketing, promotion and publicity information in the form of paper, digital and face to face contact with people. The Council website presents information and links to the wider internet for more information. The use of further digital media will be explored, in particular with regard to effective communication with young people. The Parks Service will continue to have a presence at festivals and fairs in green spaces in the borough as they provide excellent opportunities to speak directly with service users in friendly, informal settings.

#### **4.4 Resources - Core funding and external funding (Action Plan SA1, SA2 and SA3)**

- (a) Council Revenue: the funding that is allocated by the Council for the provision of the core services; routine maintenance of grounds, property and facilities managed by the Service.
- (b) Council Capital: subject to approval and availability funding allocated for major repair or refurbishment projects: landscape improvement schemes, refurbishment of premises, purchase of new and replacement trees and maintenance of paths and roadways etc.
- (c) External funds and donations: funding provided by external funding organisations including National Lottery (various sources), environmental funds and other funding bodies to which appropriate and relevant bids can be made. Many external funders only accept applications from local representative or residents groups, not local authorities. These have been and will continue to be important sources of funding, highlighting the importance of maintaining and developing close links with local groups.
- (d) Concessions: The Parks Service runs several small sources of income, such as granting fishing permits, casual bowling, concessions in parks, etc. The Strategy will review the number and nature of these concessions and incomes to the best advantage of the Council.  
**(Action Plan SA3)**

#### **4.5 Resources - Partnership working – council colleagues, agencies, contractors (Action Plan SA3)**

- (a) The range of activities and facilities within parks and open spaces are provided and managed across a spread of Council and other service organisations. A co-ordinated approach to managing parks will result in a better, more efficient service.
- (b) The Parks Service has been consulting with other Council services and departments on progress achieved to date with the current Strategy and development opportunities for the future. Such consultation will continue as a matter of routine. Other services and departments include:
  - Parks Police – enforcement, safety and control of dogs in parks
  - Events – developing and managing events in parks.
  - Children’s Services – developing and managing play facilities in parks.
  - Sports – developing and managing sports pitches in parks.



- Transportation - walking and cycling within, around and between parks and open spaces.
- Adult Social Services – introducing appropriate fitness equipment and opportunities into parks.
- Planners - Protecting and promoting the heritage of public open spaces.
- Libraries and Heritage – promoting the heritage of public open spaces

#### **4.6 Public relations – profile, consultation, volunteers (Action Plan SA3)**

- (a) Profile – Council and other surveys consistently return high satisfaction rates with the parks and open spaces in the Borough. The production, revision and development of site management plans require a more focused consultation on issues around individual sites.

Within the industry tools exist that provide objective assessment of parks and open spaces. The Parks Service will investigate and apply as appropriate. Amongst the tools available are "Towards an Excellent Service (TAES)" an established Improvement Tool for Parks services; a programme of entries to the Green Flag accreditation scheme, and other such schemes to gain independent endorsement of the high standards of the parks and open spaces.

- (b) Volunteers - There are potentially many opportunities for people of all ages to become involved in their local "open space". This may be as community gardeners, "Friends" of a local park, ecological volunteers, voluntary wardens, members of focus forums for discussion and feedback. It is recognised that the work of volunteer co-ordination requires further skills and time. The Parks Service will work with the Council's volunteering services contractor to draw up a protocol for volunteers in parks and green spaces.

#### **4.7 Sources of professional advice and expertise**

- (a) Within the industry are sources of expertise that the Parks Service can call on for reference, interpretation, and training. These include GreenSpace (IPGS), the London Parks and Green Spaces Forum, Landscape Institute, Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (IEEM), and many more. Staff within the Parks Service will keep abreast of current discussion and latest practice to ensure best provision in Wandsworth.

### **5. Background Documents and Information.**

Please refer to the Council website [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/parks](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/parks) or to the Parks Office at Battersea Park for any information referred to in this strategy.

**6. Our vision for parks and green spaces in Wandsworth.**

***‘Wandsworth, a place with excellent and diverse parks and green spaces that everyone can enjoy and visit’.***

6.1 The Strategy has identified three key strategic aims which will assist in achieving the overall vision, these are;

- (1) *To understand and manage the cultural asset that parks and green spaces represent.*
- (2) *To understand and enhance the visitor experience of parks and green spaces.*
- (3) *To devise and implement a range of methods to maintain and improve standards in delivering excellent parks and green spaces. .*

6.2 The strategic aims will be delivered through the following objectives:

**SA1 - To understand and manage the cultural asset that parks and green spaces represent**

1.1 - To manage the balance and diversity of use of green spaces

1.2 - To ensure management plans are in place and fit for purpose for each site

1.3 - To ensure service plans are in place and fit for purpose

**SA2 - To understand and enhance the visitor experience of parks and green spaces**

- 2.1 - To develop and implement a consultation plan to enable us to understand the visitor experience
- 2.2 – To devise and implement a communication plan to inform people about parks and green spaces
- 2.3 – To provide a range of facilities to enhance the visitor experience

**SA3 - To devise and implement a range of methods to maintain and improve standards in delivering excellent parks and green spaces**

- 3.1 - To engage with external professional organisations to guide our delivery of quality parks and green spaces
- 3.2 - To strengthen internal and external partnerships
- 3.3 - To have maintenance contracts appropriate for established and future service delivery needs
- 3.4 - To identify and deliver appropriate and suitable services to customers
- 3.5 - To address issues of safety and security to enhance the public perception of parks and green spaces
- 3.5 - To manage involvement by individuals and communities to maximise the enhancement of parks and green spaces
- 3.6 – To ensure that the skills and knowledge are in place to deliver the strategy

**7. Action Plan**

**8. Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Parks Management Strategy is envisaged as a working document that will guide operations and development in and of parks, open spaces, and allotments both internal to the Parks Service and with external colleagues and partner organisations and the public. Action targets will be regularly updated.

- (a) Reporting mechanisms  
Progress on the Action Plan will be reported annually in the Parks Service AQPR
- (b) Monitoring tools  
The Council will make use of the following;
- Cultural Strategy Improvement Tools (London Councils) (CIST)  
<http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/networks/lcip/default.htm> developed by London Councils group this will assist in identifying the areas of work that may be quantified and reported on;
- Towards An Excellent Service (TAES); Improvement Tool for Parks and Open Spaces developed by GreenSpace and the London Parks and Green Spaces Forum as a parks specific version of the Excellence model used by cultural services; and
- Green Flag Accreditation
- (c) Consultation process  
Consultation will be undertaken through the following:
- colleague services and organisations engaged in providing services or facilities in parks or open spaces;
  - identified user groups;
  - public consultation via Parks Service stalls at fairs with individual members of the public,
  - via the Council website; and
  - identifying and consulting with infrequent and non users

Wandsworth Council

Events Service Strategy

(extract for Battersea Park)

Revised Event Restrictions (2011)

1. British Genius Site. The capacity of the British Genius Site will be determined by the nature of each specific event and be subject to individual event management plans, relevant risk assessments and any Public Entertainment Licence conditions. Where possible the British Genius Site will be used for all events, however, where a grass surface is required, sports pitch areas will be considered.
2. Grass Areas. Grass areas will not be used for events over the winter months between 31st October and 1st April, with the exception of Remembrance Day services and the Fireworks event (both in November).
3. Riverside Sites. Hard standing areas of the riverside sites will be considered for use for events. For example, fun runs along the riverside promenade and religious festivals linked to the Pagoda will be permitted. A view will be taken regarding small scale classical music concerts (or similar) to the south of the Pagoda using the Pagoda as a back screen. It is emphasised that the restrictions focus on hard standing areas and riverside lawns will not be used for events other than in exceptional circumstances. The erection of structures, staging or any intrusive event infrastructure on riverside sites, will not take place without prior consultation with the Friends of Battersea Park.
4. Time Limits. A time limit of 2.00am will be imposed on all private and ticketed parties in all but exceptional circumstances. A time limit of midnight will be imposed on all other events. It should be noted that most events normally end by 8.00pm, however, some sporting and public events may require an extension till midnight.
5. Special Approval. Events such as large pop festivals and those related solely to the sale of alcohol, which carry the risk of generating unacceptable noise levels, and involve large crowds with the potential for public disorder, will not be permitted unless special approval is given. This does not preclude popular concerts being held as long as the event conforms to the guidelines and has Executive approval.
6. Weekends. Weekend events outside the British Genius Site will be limited to the following:
  - a) General: Events open to the general public including ticketed events (e.g. fireworks), or events to which there is open application for participation (e.g. charity fun runs).
  - b) Pump House Cricket Field: A maximum of 12 weekend day events per year, further restricted to a maximum of 2 events per month (e.g. wedding reception marquees opposite and linked to events within Pump House Gallery).
  - c) Millennium Arena and All Weather Pitches: A maximum of two events each on grass areas immediately adjacent the facilities and in connection with events taking place within the facilities.
  - d) Events within stand alone facilities (e.g. Cricket Pavilion), or areas with fenced or gated access (e.g. Bowling Green), subject to there being minimal disruption of the primary purpose of the site.

(Event Restrictions approved by ECCS OSC November 2011 – Paper 11-850 Appendix 3)

## **BATTERSEA PARK**

### **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. Although Battersea Park has public access for vehicles, there are no public highways within the park. Traffic management inside the main park gates is therefore the responsibility of the parks service and controlled by park regulations and bylaws. As of April 2015 bylaws are enforced by the Parks & Events Police team. General uncontrolled access is limited to the car parks and the staff yard.
- 1.2. During the park restoration project undertaken 2000-2004 rising arm barriers were installed to prevent uncontrolled access into the park. Manually operated rising arm barriers were installed at the Rosary Gate access points to both East and South Carriage Drives, the western end of Rosary car park and the southern end of Albert car park. Electrically operated automatic rising arm barriers were installed at the four other potential vehicle access points as indicated in the section below. These were replaced with new models in 2015 after the Formula E event
- 1.3. The speed limit for vehicles anywhere within the park is 12mph. Vehicles inside the traffic control barriers must adhere to the speed limit **and** have their hazard warning lights flashing
- 1.4. Within the body of the park (ie anywhere inside the traffic control barriers) pedestrians, cyclists and animals have priority over vehicles

#### **2. Electric Rising Arm Barrier Locations & Operation**

- 2.1. The automatic rising arm barriers are located as follows:
  - 2.1.1 Northern end of West Carriage Drive – Albert Gate entrance. (To be referred to as Barrier No.1)
  - 2.1.2 Western end of North Carriage Drive – Albert Gate entrance. (Barrier No.2)
  - 2.1.3 Eastern end of North Carriage Drive – Pierpoint. (Barrier No.3)
  - 2.1.4 Northern end of East Carriage Drive – Pierpoint. (Barrier No.4)
- 2.2. The rising arm barriers have the following mechanisms to provide access:
  - 2.2.1 Numeric Keypad operation. Access codes, unique to each barrier, will be provided to services as appropriate. Codes will change from time to time. Services will be advised when necessary.

- 2.2.2 Manual. A manual key which enables the barriers to be wound up by hand – generally to be used in case of malfunction.
- 2.3. All barriers must as a matter of course be closed in the down position, and must only be opened for the immediate passage of vehicles.
- 2.4. In circumstances where frequent passage through the barriers is required (eg major contract works, events or filming), to avoid unnecessary wear & tear on barrier mechanisms, barriers should be put in the up position and access supervised by a steward. Barriers must not be left unattended in the open position.
- 2.5. In the event of malfunction, the Park Office should be informed as soon as possible. If possible, the barrier arm should be manually wound to the down position. If putting the barrier down is not possible the access should be marked as closed using cones and “No Entry” signs.

### 3. Access Routes

- 3.1. Access to park facilities must be by the following routes
- 3.1.1 Via Barrier No.1 (West Drive near Albert Gate):  
**All Weather Pitches:** Albert Gate: West Carriage Drive  
**52 Albert Bridge Road:** Albert Gate: West Carriage Drive.  
**54 Albert Bridge Road:** Albert Gate: West Carriage Drive.  
**Sun Gate Lodge:** Albert Gate: West Carriage Drive.  
**Beechmore Toilets:** Albert Gate – West Carriage Drive`  
**Bandstand:** Albert Gate: West Carriage Drive, Central Avenue  
**Bowls Pavilion:** Albert Gate: West Carriage Drive, Central Avenue  
**Tea Terrace & Fountains:** West Carriage Drive – Central Avenue  
**Go Ape & Putt in the Park:** Albert Gate - West Carriage Drive
- 3.1.2 Via Barrier No. 2 (North Drive near Albert Gate)  
**Monks Temple:** Albert Gate - North Carriage Drive  
**Peace Pagoda:** Albert Gate - North Carriage Drive
- 3.1.3 Via Barrier No.3 (North Drive by Pierpoint)  
**Children’s Zoo front entrance** (only as essential): Chelsea Gate – North Carriage Drive.  
**Pierpoint Toilets:** Chelsea Gate – North Carriage Drive (except with permission of park office after signing in)  
**London Recumbents:** Chelsea Gate – North Carriage Drive.
- 3.1.4 Via Barrier No.4 (East Drive by Pierpoint)  
**Thrive Main Garden:** Chelsea Gate – East Carriage Drive.  
**Millennium Arena:** Chelsea Gate – East Carriage Drive.  
**Boathouse/Boating Lake:** Chelsea Gate – East Carriage Drive.  
**Pump House Gallery:** Chelsea Gate – East Carriage Drive – Central Avenue  
**Lakeside Café:** Chelsea Gate – East Carriage Drive.

- 3.2. There is no access to park facilities via either manual barrier at Rosary Gate
- 3.3. Unless otherwise agreed with the Parks Office, all egress from the park must be via the route used for entry. There must be no traversing the park for convenience.

#### 4. Deliveries

- 4.1. Control of access for routine delivery vehicles is the responsibility of the service for whom the delivery is being made. Wherever possible, services based within the park should arrange for deliveries to be directed to the main Park Office where they can be collected by staff in the same way as the regular mail. Only bulky or heavy items should be delivered direct to specific sites (eg equipment, catering supplies, furniture or similar)
- 4.2. Services must give precise instructions on all orders to ensure that deliveries and contractors arrive at the correct gate and access via the correct barrier.
- 4.3. On arriving at the park, the delivery or contractor should go to the correct barrier and then contact the client service. The client service will provide the driver with an access code to enable them to operate the barrier keypad to gain entry. (Note that access codes will change from time to time and codes must not be supplied in advance. Codes must only be given at the time of arrival). **The emergency access code must not be given out to any delivery vehicles.** Signs advising drivers to contact their delivery destination are installed at each barrier.
- 4.4. Only access routes listed above in section **Error! Reference source not found.** must be used. Any delivery vehicle arriving at the wrong access point must not be permitted through the barrier and must be re-directed out of the park to the correct gate. Individual services must inform the Park Office of any deliveries being made by articulated heavy goods vehicles.
- 4.5. With the exception of the Police services, horticultural contractors and the Pump House Gallery, no vehicles are permitted to deviate from the outer Carriage Drives onto smaller paths without the prior permission of the Park Manager. Newly restored Breedon gravel paths (the "white" and "brown" gravel paths) are generally "off limits" to all road vehicles" other than for immediate maintenance purposes.

#### 5. Contractors

- 5.1. As a health and safety requirement, all external contractors working within the park need to sign in and sign out on leaving. Services who have their own "signing in" procedures should direct their contractors to the appropriate barrier in the same way as deliveries. Other contractors working in the park generally must report to the Park Office.



- 5.2. Contractors undertaking works in the park which require the use of large or articulated vehicles must provide a banksman to accompany the vehicle at all times whilst they are moving within those areas of the park inside the traffic control barriers.
- 5.3. Contractors providing long-term services within the park (e.g concessions, or mobile catering) will be provided with their individual traffic & access conditions – generally as a condition of their contract or licence. Such conditions will follow the principles of this Traffic Management Plan

## **6. Events & Filming**

- 6.1. Access and traffic arrangements for events taking place within the body of the park, or for film shoots, will be organised and managed by the Events and Filming services, in collaboration with the parks management team. As a general principle, such access and traffic arrangements will be in accordance with the conditions and requirements of this traffic management plan.

## **7. Special Access Requirements**

- 7.1. In the main, special access requirements will be arranged via the client service but must be first agreed with the Parks Office (for example, bridal cars and registrars to the Pump House Gallery, “starters” at the track, or parties at the One O’Clock Centre). Services who are expecting this type of access requirement must notify the Parks office in advance and provide them with the necessary information such as names and contact details, expected arrival times, number of vehicles etc. In arranging such access you must provide a contact telephone number to the person requiring access, so that they can call on arrival for the keypad access code.
- 7.2. In the event that services are found to be granting inappropriate access into the body of the park, access codes will be changed.
- 7.3. Major events and filming access requirements will be handled by the Events and Filming Team in conjunction with the Parks & Events Police Service. Other Services who are planning events or are taking bookings for events that will require special access, must discuss the matter in advance with the Parks office.

## **8. Emergency Access**

- 8.1. The emergency services will be informed of access arrangements and will be provided with an emergency access code to operate the barriers.

## **9. Staff Private Vehicles**

- 9.1. With the exception of private vehicles belonging to the residents of 52 and 54 Albert Bridge Road and Sun Lodge, private vehicles, including motorcycles, belonging to members of staff working within the park will only be permitted access through the barriers in exceptional

circumstances and with the prior permission of the Park Manager. Staff using their own vehicles to make deliveries (eg moving goods or equipment between different premises in the borough) will be dealt with in the same way as other deliveries.

#### **10. Visitors**

- 10.1. All visitors invited to premises within the park must be directed to park in the Staff Yard or the nearest public car park. This also applies to visits made by senior management staff based at the Town Hall. Car park permits can be obtained from the Park Office during normal working hours. It also applies to motorcycles, except that they will not need a car park permit.
- 10.2. If staff use the Staff yard car park, they can book buggies for travel across the park in advance provided they have done the “buggy driving test” (tests arranged through Transport Section, Frogmore).

#### **11. Golf Buggies**

- 11.1. The new access barriers and associated bollards have been designed so that golf buggies will fit through the cycle access, without having to go through the barrier. Under no circumstances should anyone try driving any other type of vehicle through this gap. All staff based in the park should be trained to use buggies so that they can use the buggies for carrying goods & deliveries instead of private vehicles.

#### **12. Disabled Drivers' Access (“Blue Badges”)**

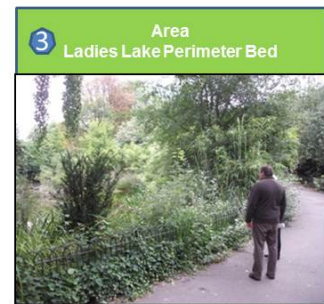
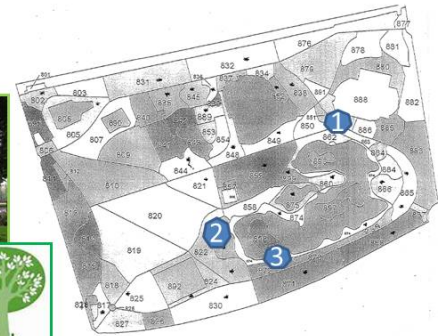
- 12.1. In general, the provision for disabled visitors to the park is the same as for other drivers and they should use whichever main car park is appropriate to their visit. Dedicated disabled parking bays are marked in each car park. However, a small number of people are not sufficiently mobile to enjoy the park other than by sitting at the lakeside restaurant. Provided such persons are “Blue-badge” holders, they are allowed to drive to and park in the “Blue Badge car park” adjacent the Millennium Arena. If they ring to ask for access they must be informed that they may not park on the carriage drive, nor at the restaurant, and that they may not drive elsewhere in the park. The “blue badge” must be on display at all times the vehicle is unattended.

#### **13. Coaches & Mini-buses**

- 13.1. Coaches – ie vehicles of more than 16 seats, including the driver - may park only if displaying a permit issued by the Park Office. These are normally issued only to schools who use the park on a regular basis. Coaches may park only in the North Carriage Drive coach bays, or in Rosary car park. Boarding and alighting (but not waiting or parking) is permitted at the East Drive/North Drive junction.

- 13.2. Mini-buses – ie vehicles of 16 seats or less, including the driver – may use the pay-and-display facilities in any car park. Alternatively they may purchase an annual permit from the Park Office, which can be used in any car park and the North Drive coach bays.

**BATTERSEA PARK VOLUNTEER MAP**



**BATTERSEA PARK VOLUNTEER MAP**



**AREA 838  
Genius Entrance Bed**

**Key Tasks:**

- Reduce existing *Lonicera pileata* shrubs in the Genius entrance bed by 95 %
- All arising to be loaded in trailer or ton bags for removal.

**Volunteer Suitable:**

- Medium skill task. Practical Tool demonstration required at start of session

**Volunteer Numbers**

- Groups of 10

**Tools Needed**

- Loppers, Secateurs, Pruning Saw, Litter Pickers, Black Bags, Ton Bags.



**AREA 829  
Sub Tropical Bed**

**Key Tasks:**

- Reduce and Coppice existing understory shrubs to 95 % including Wild Rose / Hazel leaving specimen Yew / Buxus Holly.
- All arising to be loaded in trailer or ton bags for removal.

**Volunteer Suitable:**

- Medium skill task. Practical Tool demonstration required at start of session

**Volunteer Numbers**

- Groups of 20 +

**Tools Needed**

- Loppers, Secateurs, Pruning Saw, Litter Pickers, Black Bags, Ton Bags.



**AREA  
Ladies Lake Perimeter Bed**

**Key Tasks:**

- Reduce existing *Bamboo* stands around the perimeter of the ladies lake to 95 %
- All arising to be loaded in trailer or ton bags for removal.

**Volunteer Suitable:**

- Low skill task. Practical Tool demonstration required at start of session

**Volunteer Numbers**

- Groups of 10

**Tools Needed**

- Loppers, Secateurs, Pruning Saw, Litter Pickers, Black Bags, Ton Bags.

