



# **Cremorne Gardens Management Plan**

**Annually reviewed from 2010**



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
**KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA**

## **Acknowledgements**

The Directorate of Family and Children's Services (FACS)

The Friends Of Cremorne and Westfield

Regular users of the park

Parks Police Service

Quadron Services Ltd

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## **Foreword**

The Royal Borough is one of the most densely populated Boroughs in the United Kingdom with possibly the least amount of public green open space. It is, therefore, the Council's policy to maintain all its parks at an excellent standard, to renew the infrastructure and to ensure that our parks are something we can all be proud of.

I am very keen that all residents and park users should have an opportunity to become more closely involved in managing the future development of these green lungs. We need to ensure that we are providing a full range of the facilities and services that local residents would like to see and clearly this will vary from place to place around the Borough.

In pursuit of excellence, the Council wants each of the eight major parks to gain and keep the prestigious Green Flag Awards. Whilst Holland Park, St Luke's Gardens and Kensington Memorial Park already hold Green Flag status, it is our intention that, from 2007, each one of the other parks will be brought up to Green Flag level and that in 2010 Cremorne Gardens will gain its Green Flag status.

This management plan for Cremorne Gardens sets out our proposed plans for the park over the next ten years. The plan is intended to enable us to achieve the highest horticultural and environmental quality, to ensure continuous top-quality maintenance and to provide facilities for people to play, walk, exercise or relax. All this needs to be managed to ensure that there is something for everyone in the Borough's parks.

If you have any comments you would like to make about the content of this plan, please send them to The Leisure Services Development Officer (Parks), The Stable Yard, Holland Park, Ilchester Place, London W8 6LU.

**Councillor Nicholas Paget-Brown**  
**Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environmental Management and Leisure**



# 1. Background

**1.1** Cremorne Gardens has never before had a Management Plan in place.

**1.2** In spring 2009 the Friends of Cremorne and Westfield commissioned designs for a 'Splashpad' with the idea that it could be installed on the site of the disused paddling pool. The design was adopted by Family and Children's Services as part of the Play Pathfinder programme and the 'splashpad' was installed in march 2010.

**1.3** The Residents Panel Survey (Parks) 2008 identified wildlife, information and signage as factors of low importance but high impact. Whilst customers do not rate these factors as high in importance, performance in these areas will have strong impact on overall customer satisfaction. By investing in these hidden opportunities there is potential for improving customer satisfaction.

**1.4** The Cremorne Gardens Management Plan will sit along side several other strategies and initiatives; these are elaborated upon later in the plan.

**1.5** Cremorne Gardens gained Green Flag Status in 2010.



## The location of Cremorne Gardens within the borough



<p><b>Title: Cremorne Location</b></p>	<p>Ref: CG Location Date: 08/09/10 Author: Monica Castellino Status: Final</p>	<p><b>TELS: PARKS</b> The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Holland Park W8 6LU 020 7938 8192 monica.castellino@rbkc.gov.uk</p>
<p><small>© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea 108021668 (2010)</small></p>		<p><small>THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA</small></p>

Figure one: Map showing the location of Cremorne Gardens within the borough.

## 2. Introduction

**2.1 Name:** Cremorne Gardens

**2.2 Map Reference:** 526575, 177216

**2.3 Location:** The park is located in the Cremorne Ward in the south of the borough.

**2.4 Size:** 0.44 hectares

**2.5 Age:** Approx 60years

**2.6 Ownership and Management:** The site is owned by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and managed by its parks service.

**2.7 Maintenance:** The site is maintained by an external contractor; currently Quadron Services Ltd.

**2.8 Significant features and main uses of the park:**

**2.9 History:** Cremorne Gardens, so named after Thomas Dawson, Lord Cremorne, the site of whose former suburban residence and estate they cover. In the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Lord Cremorne's mansion, known as Chelsea Farm, was often visited by George III, Queen Charlotte, and the Prince of Wales. In 1825 the house and grounds devolved on Mr. Granville Penn, a cousin of Lady Cremorne, who much improved the estate, but later disposed of it.

Cremorne Gardens commemorate the site of the famous Cremorne Pleasure Gardens, which opened in 1845 and closed down in 1877. In 1831 the house was purchased by Charles Random De Berenger, Baron De Beaufain, who turned it first into a sports club and then opened the pleasure gardens. Entertainment included concerts, fireworks, balloon ascents and galas. After its closure, the gardens were sold for building and soon built over. The wrought-iron gateway which had stood at the King's Road end of the original gardens and belonged to Lord Cremorne's house was incorporated when the riverside park was newly landscaped in 1981/2.





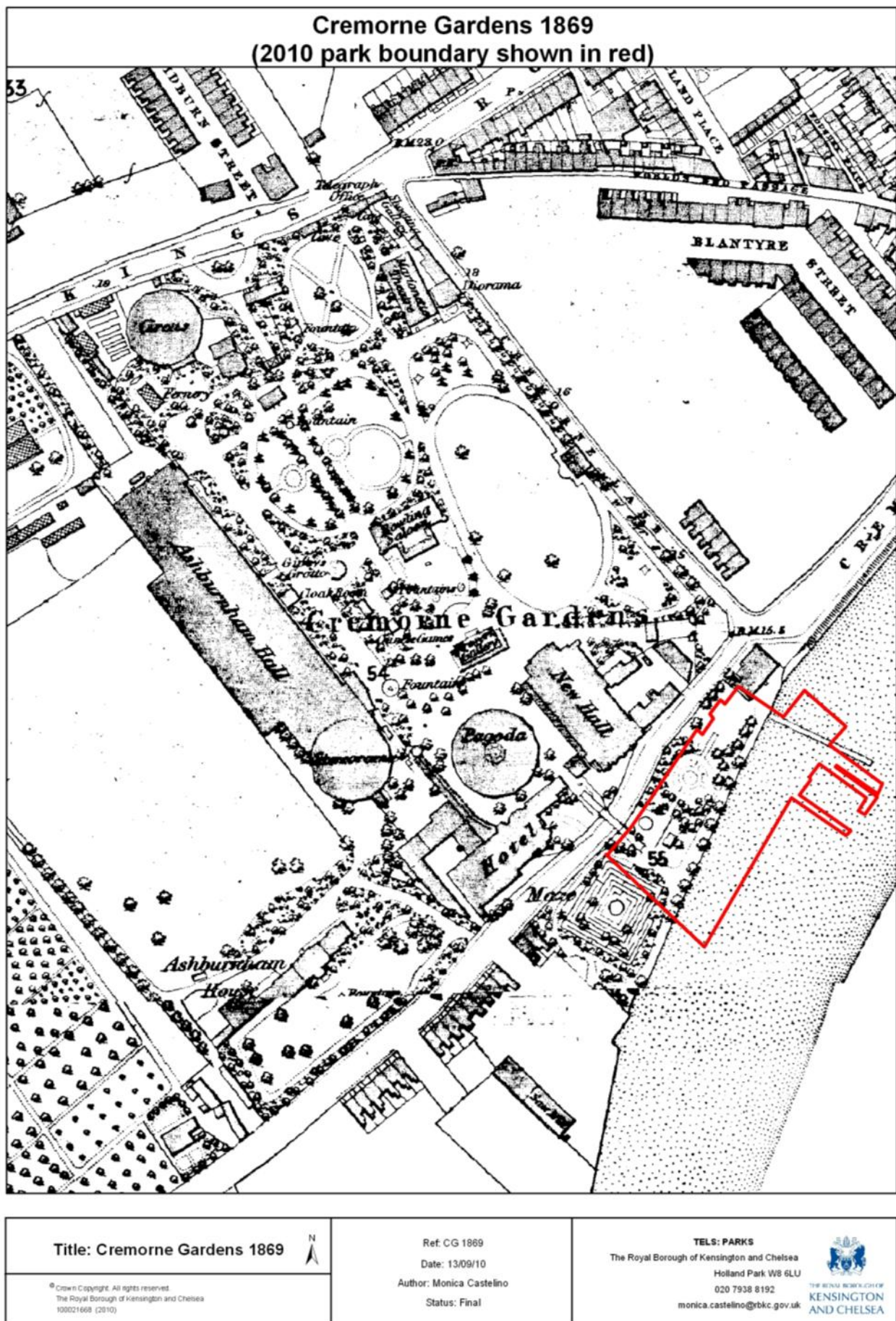


Figure two: OS Map 1869 showing the original Cremorne Pleasure Gardens  
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## **2.10 Known issues affecting the Park:**

**2.10.1 Social** The Park has had some issues with anti-social behaviour and dog fouling which are being dealt with as is evident from this plan.

**2.10.2 Ecological** Cremorne Gardens is a small site with limited potential in terms of biodiversity. More thought with regard to biodiversity is being incorporated in the Cremorne Gardens Management Plan, as is evident through the following pages. Eight breeding bird species have been recorded on the site, see appendix 1 for the 2009 breeding bird survey, with a further 4 non-breeding species present within the gardens. Figure three shows the 2002 Ecological survey of the site.

**2.10.. Thames flood defences:** The boundary wall to Cremorne Gardens form part of London's Flood defences. Its management is strictly controlled and monitored by the Environment Agency.

## Cremorne Gardens (2002 Habitat Survey)



**Title: Cremorne Gardens**



Ref: Cremorne landuse  
Date: 13/01/2010  
Author: S. Laing  
Status: Draft

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The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea  
100021608 (2010)

**Ecology Service**  
The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea  
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Figure three: 2002 habitat survey of Cremorne Park.

## **2.11 Funding:**

Day to day funding for the parks and open spaces comes from parks service revenue budgets.

### Additional Funding: Play Pathfinder Initiative – Family and Children’s Services

This programme is a key part of the national play strategy, Fair Play, launched in April 2008. As a play pathfinder authority the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea will receive around £2 million capital funding plus significant revenue funding. Play pathfinders will work with children, young people and their communities to develop innovative play sites with challenging equipment and natural landscapes in order to give all children the opportunity to play actively outdoors. The play sites will also be accessible for disabled children. A water play ‘splashpad’ feature was installed in March 2010. The works were carried out by the directorate of Family and Children’s Services under the play pathfinder.

## **2.12 The Management Plan:**

Although the management plan has principally been written by one person several groups and partners have contributed to its completion.

Thorough public consultation with regard to the future use of the park has heavily influenced the plan, as have various strategies and documents detailed further on in the plan. Colleagues from other departments within the Council have also participated in its conclusion.

The plan has been specifically laid out in order to comply with the Green Flag Award Scheme criteria and in accordance with guidelines set by CABI Space: “A Guide to Producing Park and Green Space Management Plans”. The result is a working document accessible to all those involved in managing and maintaining Cremorne Gardens. Although limited paper copies are available, the need to update the plan at least once a year means that it is best kept in an electronic format.

This Management Plan is a public document and can be accessed via the internet. It is reviewed annually ahead of the submission of an application for Green Flag status and this review process offers the opportunity for reflection on success as well changes in direction necessitated by changing circumstances.



### **3. Wider Policy Context**

Outlined below are strategies, policies and reports that have aims and objectives that directly link, or have an impact on the Cremorne Gardens Management Plan 2008-2017. Although direct references may not be made to each and every document, all are relevant; brief overviews of each of the documents' aims and objectives are outlined below.

#### **National Context:**

##### **3.1 Green Flag Award Scheme Criteria**

The Green Flag Award Scheme was set up in 1996 to recognise and reward the best green spaces in England and Wales. The Cremorne Gardens Management plan has been written to comply with the Green Flag criteria: A Welcoming Place, Healthy Safe and Secure, Clean and Well Maintained, Sustainability, Conservation and Heritage, Community Involvement, Marketing and Management. In accordance with advice set out by the Green Flag Award Scheme CABE Space, 'A Guide to Producing Park and Green Space Management Plans', has also been referred to in order to produce a Management Plan that is concise and effective.

##### **3.2 Green Spaces, Better Places: The Urban Green Spaces Taskforce. 2002**

This report sets out 52 recommendations for both local and national Government to consider in order to 're-vitalise parks and green spaces'. There is a strong emphasis on working in partnership with the local community in order to achieve this. The Urban Green Spaces Taskforce was established in 2001, following the Urban White Paper of 2000, to advise the Government on improving the quality of our urban parks, play areas and green spaces.

The report recognises the importance of the Green Flag Award Scheme and suggests that the Government establishes 'nationally acceptable quality standards for managing and maintaining parks and green spaces' based on the schemes values (CABE Space was subsequently established in 2003 following this report). The Cremorne Gardens Management Plan is influenced by this report and upholds its core values.

##### **3.3 Living Places: Cleaner Safer Greener ODPM 2002**

This report sets out the Government's vision for public spaces "everybody's local environment should be cleaner, safer and greener". Section three of this specifically looks at Urban Parks and Green Spaces and responds to the Urban Green Spaces Taskforce: Green Spaces, Better Places. The report describes good parks as "vital" with among others the Green Flag Award Scheme being highlighted as a strategic partner.

The Royal Borough shares the opinion that 'everyone has a right to good parks and green spaces close to his or her home or place of work'. In this report emphasis is placed on the importance of local leadership with regard to improvement of parks and green spaces; the Royal Borough holds local leadership in high regard and it is believed that through the implementation of the Borough's Ten-year Parks Strategy 2006-2015 and subsequent park management plans that this leadership will be evident and improvements in our parks will be noticeable.

### **3.4 Planning Policy Guide 17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation**

The Cremorne Gardens Management Plan has been compiled with this policy in mind ensuring that all improvements to the park are to benefit the community as a whole. New space is not being considered; however, in accordance with PPG 17 the management plan is in place to "improve the value of existing facilities". Those with disabilities are also being considered when installing new play equipment in accordance with.

### **3.5 Disability Discrimination Act 2005**

In accordance with this Act the Cremorne Gardens Management Plan highlights areas in which the Park is improving various sections of the Park in order to make the Park more accessible to disabled people.

### **Regional Context:**

### **3.6 The Mayor of London's: Guide to preparing Open Space Strategies, Best practice guidance of the London Plan 2004**

This strategy informed the Royal Borough's Ten-Year Parks Strategy 2006-2015 and therefore feeds into the Cremorne Gardens Management Plan. The main aim is to have strategies in place that "identify ways of protecting, creating and enhancing them [parks and open spaces] and improving the quality through better management". The Cremorne Gardens Management Plan will provide better management for the Park.

### **3.7 London Biodiversity Strategy and Partnership**

As required by the Greater London Authority Act, the Mayor of London produced a biodiversity strategy for the capital in 2002 that requires the London Boroughs to assist with implementation and encourages them to formulate their own action plans (Mayor of London, 2002). 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 space is created and made accessible, so that all Londoners are within 1km walking distance of a quality natural space (Mayor of London, 2002).

The London Biodiversity Partnership (LBP) is a partnership of public, private and voluntary sector organisations as well as individuals. It was established in 1996 in response to the UK BAP and has produced London's BAP. The Partnership aims to protect and enhance the capital's habitats and species for future generations to benefit from and enjoy. London's BAP consists of the 28 action plans: 14 habitats and 11 species. As well as its action plan species, London contains a number of nationally rare UK BAP priority species are identified; however, the London's BAP states that:

- All of our habitat action plans are designed to support these species.
- This list is constantly being reviewed and updated.

Planning decisions must consider these species.

The London BAP contains the following targets to improve the condition and increase the extent of a selected number of habitats found in the capital by 2015. These targets were adopted in 2007, have been incorporated into the Further Alterations to the London Plan (FALP), and constitute London's contribution towards the England Biodiversity Targets.

## **Local Context:**

### **3.8 The R.B.K.C. Ten-year Parks Strategy 2006-2015**

The strategy sets out plans over the next ten years to improve the major parks in the Borough, with the exception of Holland Park, which has been the focus of substantial investment and improvement already. Obtaining and keeping Green Flag status for each of the eight major parks in the Borough is laid out under objective one in the strategy: to 'Ensure high standards of maintenance, management and safety in the parks'. Holland Park, St Luke's Gardens and Kensington Memorial Park already hold Green Flags and each year from we aim to bring of the other parks up to the Green Flag level.

### **3.9 The R.B.K.C. Cabinet Business Plan 2008/09;**

The Cabinet Business Plan sets out the Council's plans for the next three years and the budget for the coming year. The Council's main aims have been updated so as to define the Council's contribution to a 'Better City Life', 'Really good services', 'Responding to Residents', '21 Projects for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century' and 'Renewing the Legacy'. Within it the parks and open spaces are held in high regard. With 84 per cent of the Borough's residents having no access to a garden of their own it is crucial that the parks and open spaces in the borough are maintained to a high standard. The Business Plan refers to the Parks Strategy.

### **3.10The R.B.K.C. Community Strategy 2005-2015 (The Future of Our Community)**

The Kensington and Chelsea Partnership (KCP) Steering Group prepared this Strategy for the Royal Borough. The Partnership is an umbrella group that brings together a mix of large and small organisations and partnerships within the borough including the Council, the police, the Primary Care Trust, the business community and the voluntary and community sector. The strategy is organised around eight themes dealing with aspects of life in the Royal Borough: Environment and Transport, Culture Arts and Leisure, Safer Communities, Health and Social Care, Homes and Housing, Community Equality and Inclusively, Learning, Work and Business. Although parks and open space sits mainly in Culture, Arts and Leisure there are of course overlaps with several of the other themes. The Goal for Culture, Arts and Leisure is: "A borough where everyone has the opportunity to enjoy its public parks and open spaces and wide variety of high quality cultural, artistic and leisure activities." This management plan will be a step further to ensuring that the goal is achieved.

### **3.11The R.B.K.C. Community Safety Strategy 2005-2008**

This strategy has been prepared by the Community Safety Programme Board (CSPB). The CSPB is part of the KCP, which is responsible for developing and delivering the Community Strategy for the Borough, see above. The vision of the Community Safety Strategy is to make Kensington and Chelsea safer. The vision is laid out in six key points, summarised: (1) encouraging residents to take responsibility for reducing their chances of becoming a victim, (2) maximising opportunities via public and private agencies to design out crime, (3) increasing the likelihood of offenders being caught, (4) confronting antisocial behaviour, the illegal use of drugs and the misuse of alcohol, (5) encouraging parents to take responsibility for their children, and (6) educating children and young people and offering support when offending behaviour becomes apparent. Safety is very important in the Borough's parks, designing out crime is something that the strategy highlights and is a high priority when considering improvements to the park.



### **3.12The R.B.K.C. Environment Strategy 2006-2011**

This strategy supersedes the Environmental policy statements that have gone before it since 1990. It is much more ambitious and challenging as it sets out how the Council will demonstrate leadership in developing sustainable solutions to local, regional and global environmental problems. The Council is aware that is willing to lead by example with its new Environment Strategy. Being the biggest employer in the borough the Council is intending to stretch its own performance in order to encourage others to follow its example. The strategy is split into seven main themes: Sustainable Energy, Waste and Recycling, Transport, Pollution and Environmental Quality, Development and Construction, Procurement and Resource Use, and Ecology and Biodiversity. The Environment Strategy links heavily with Parks and Open Spaces and highlights the need for our parks to gain Green Flag status.

### **3.13The R.B.K.C. Arts Strategy 2004-2008**

The Arts Strategy is intended to be a framework for use by all those who have an interest in the arts, including organisations and artists, participants and audience members. It examines the views of the arts community and suggests a strategic direction for the future. Links with parks and open spaces focus on holding more arts events in parks as part of an 'Arts in Parks' program to be held annually across London. A new Strategy is under preparation.

### **3.14The R.B.K.C. Play Strategy 2006-2009**

The Royal Borough's Play Strategy highlights the importance of play in children's lives. The parks and open spaces are central to this and the strategy aims to maximise the use of parks and open spaces ensuring that playgrounds in parks are of a high standard and accessible to children with disabilities wherever possible. The redesign of the park will be looking to include, in its design, facilities suitable for disabled children.

### **3.15The R.B.K.C. Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2004-2006 (under revision as LBAP 20010/11-2014/15)**

The Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) ensures that the Council continues to make a significant contribution to the protection and improvement of the natural environment working closely with landowners, local organisations and residents of the Borough. The Borough's parks and open spaces need to preserve and enhance natural areas to encourage flora and fauna to flourish. The revised LBAP is in preparation at present.

### **3.16The R.B.K.C. Corporate Identity Guidelines 2006**

New guidelines have been recently been implemented for when producing Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea material. Guidelines are in place for when using the new borough logo, use of fonts and colours. These will be taken into consideration when designing signage and promotional a materials for the parks.

### **3.17The Cleaner Neighbourhoods and Environment act 2005**

#### **The R.B.K.C. Fouling of Land by Dogs order 2006**

New by-laws came into effect on 29 January 2007. On specified land, including the parks and open spaces, it is an offence to fail to do the following: remove dog faeces, and put and keep a dog on a lead when directed. It is also an offence to take more than two dogs onto specified land. This order is similar to the 1996 order. This will replace the by-law regarding dogs at present and will be printed along with the other by-laws on the back of parks entrance signs as is detailed in the plan.

### **3.18 R.B.K.C. Local Development Plans (LDP)**

The Local Development Frameworks deliver the spatial planning strategy for the borough. Unitary Development Plans (UDP) preceded the new LDP's and stressed the need to "maintain and increase the provision and quality of open space of local and metropolitan value". The R.B.K.C. Local Development Framework is linked closely with the Community Strategy as community and public engagement a fundamental requirement of the planning system. Through this Management Plan we will be maintaining and enhancing the quality of Cremorne Gardens.

### **3.19 The R.B.K.C. Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification**

The works specification outlines what is expected of the Grounds Maintenance Contractor with regard to maintenance in the Parks and Open Spaces in the Borough; the present Contractor is Quadron Services Ltd. They are contracted to provide this service until 2019.

### **3.20 The R.B.K.C. Events Strategy (in preparation)**

### **3.21 Parkscape (Draft Document)**

This is a policy document that is a direct development of the Royal Borough's Parks Strategy 2006-2011 and is complementary to *Streetscape* the best practice guide produced by the Royal Borough to shape the streets and public realm. Part One introduces the concept of Parkscape and explains the policies and standards adopted by the Council. It goes on to deal with individual elements of Parkscape design and their application in Royal Borough parks and open spaces. Part two contains detailed specifications and standard details this section is loose bound and will be updated as necessary.



## **4. The Management Plan**

This plan highlights existing key issues relating to the main management and maintenance elements of Cremorne Gardens, identifying objectives accordingly. Actions have been laid out in conjunction with the objectives in order to make sure that the objectives are achieved.

The content and structure of the plan has been laid out in order to comply with the Green Flag criteria and 'A Guide to Producing Park and Green Space Management Plans' by CABI Space. The Green Flag criteria are divided into various tables with the CABI Space guidelines to 'A Guide to Producing Park and Green Space Management Plans' along the top of each table.

Linking policies and documents are covered in more depth in [section 3](#).



## 4.1 A Welcoming Place

The Park is managed to be inviting to those who visit. A poetry seat complete with box of books, donated by the libraries service, surrounded by willow arbour and wildflower meadow provides a peaceful spot in an otherwise busy part of town.

### **Residents' Panel:**

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea has established a Residents' Panel, as a cost effective means of handling the growing number of consultation surveys undertaken by the Council. The Panel is surveyed four times a year.

The Panel has an ongoing process of recruitment. This is intended to replace members who leave the Panel, for example members who no longer wish to participate or who move out of the Royal Borough. Panel members who do not return questionnaires on two or more consecutive occasions are also replaced, in order to maintain the cost effectiveness of running the Panel.

Residents' Panel members stay on the Panel for a maximum of two years. This is because Panel members become more knowledgeable about the way in which the Council works, and therefore cease to be representative of the population as a whole. Recruiting new members to the Panel also enables more members of the public to have the opportunity to take part. The number of Panel members currently stands at 1121.



The following information was taken from the results of the 2008 Residents Panel Survey: Parks. A new survey will be undertaken in 2011.

- The top three activities respondents use the parks for are for walking (74 per cent), to relax (62 per cent) and for general exercise (45 per cent).
- Five percent of respondents use Cremorne Gardens at least once a month.

### **Mystery Shopping:**

In 2010 a mystery shopping resident review was carried out on the borough's major parks, including Cremorne Gardens. Out of five individual visits four of the mystery shoppers rated their overall visitor experience as satisfactory or very satisfactory.



## GOOD AND SAFE ACCESS

Background/Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are two entrances to the park both on Lots Road. The main entrance is the vehicle access.</li> <li>There is vehicle access for park's vehicles from the main gate. Vehicular entrance is permitted for the grounds maintenance contractors, park staff and the canoe club staff.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disability Discrimination Act 2005.</li> <li>The RBKC Community Strategy 2005-2015.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve the visual appearance of the entrances to the park.</li> <li>To have clear vehicular access to the park for Parks vehicles.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While there are no problems or outstanding issues with the entrances to the gardens, they should be monitored so that they do not fall in to a state of disrepair.</li> </ul>

## EQUAL ACCESS TO ALL

Background/Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The two entrances to the park are suitable for disabled access.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disability Discrimination Act 2005.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While there is no room for improvement at the moment, The entrances will be monitored so that they do not enter a state of disrepair.</li> </ul>

## SIGNAGE

Background/ Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing signage is in need of updating. It is felt that reflex blue signage does not compliment parks. There are also too many signs in the park at present creating a cluttered atmosphere.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RBKC Communications Standards.</li> <li>Parkscape (DRAFT)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To update all entrance signage in the parks with good quality easy to read signs covered with anti-graffiti film, in order to create a welcoming entrance to the park. The parks By-laws will be printed on the reverse of the signs.</li> <li>To consider developing best-practice guidance in relation to signage as an extension of the Council's Streetscape manual 'Parkscape'.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Parks Team will consider working with the Highways Team responsible for the 'Streetscape' manual to compile a similar code of practice for the parks and open spaces. The 'Parkscape' manual will address among other issues signage, buildings and pathways.</li> <li>The Park's team will assemble the relevant information and ensure that it is displayed and updated as necessary.</li> </ul>

## 4.2 Healthy, Safe and Secure

The park is managed to provide a healthy, safe and secure atmosphere and environment for all those who visit the park and for those who work in it.

### **Parks Police**

The Royal Borough's Parks Police Service provides a reassuring uniformed presence across the parks and open spaces in the Borough, together with two cemeteries at Hanwell and Gunnersbury. Their mission is to ensure that those parks and open spaces remain safe and welcoming places for everyone. This role is underpinned by a Parks Policing Pledge that outlines how the service will be delivered.

The team consists of one Inspector, two Sergeants and fifteen Constables. They assist in delivering the Royal Borough's duty to "do all it can to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour", by adopting a problem-solving approach, and working with local communities to reduce problems in our Parks. There is a nominated liaison Officer for each park.

The enforcement of byelaws and environmental protection laws also form a core part of the Service's duties, and Officers are sworn in as Constables and have powers of arrest within the parks. The Service also forms part of the local authority response to major incidents, and works closely with the Metropolitan Police and other agencies to reduce anti-social behaviour.

Mobile, cycle and foot patrols regularly visit the outer parks and open spaces, both during operating hours and out of hours to deter trespassers. Some parks are also covered by CCTV which is monitored by Council staff.



## SAFE EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daily safety inspections are carried out by the contractor on all play equipment and facilities within the park. Any unsafe areas are marked off and any faults are logged on to the workbook by contract/Park staff and repairs are then carried out. This can be quite a drawn out process.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RBKC Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification.</li> <li>Service Level Agreement with General Services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To maintain a high level of equipment and facility inspection, and ensure that repairs are handled quickly and efficiently.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contract /Park staff to continue to report any repairs to the workbook. The Leisure Services Manager (Parks) then prioritises the repairs and finally the General Services team carry out the repairs. A pilot Scheme with the contract team carrying out repairs is to be carried out.</li> </ul>

## DOG FOULING, FIGHTING AND DAMAGE TO TREES

<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dog owners are discouraged from walking their dogs in Cremorne Gardens because of the open paddling pool and health and safety concerns. Westfield Park, which lies 5 minute walk away from the gardens has a dog run and dog toilets.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While this cannot be enforced, parks staff can encourage dog owners to use Westfield Park as an alternative.</li> </ul>

## PERSONAL SECURITY

<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti-social behaviour, still continues to be a problem and needs to be addressed.</li> <li>• The park is monitored by the Parks Police who visit the park regularly. Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) and Enforcement officers are also available should they be required to attend an incident.</li> <li>• There is always a park keeper on site which adds to a feeling of safety in the park.</li> <li>• The current Grounds Maintenance Contractor, Quadron Services Ltd., has an active health and safety policy statement. All employees are provided with information, instruction, training and supervision so that they are able to carry out their duties in a safe manner.</li> <li>• The Contractor has produced risk assessments to ensure safe working practice for all works carried out in the park.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The RBKC Community Strategy 2005-2015.</li> <li>• The RBKC Community Safety Strategy 2005-2008.</li> <li>• A full set of Risk Assessments are held in the Parks Office at Holland Park along with the Contractors Health and Safety Policy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that all who visit the park feel safe and secure at all times.</li> <li>• Parks Police to provide a visible presence and support in the park on a regular basis.</li> <li>• To maintain the park in a safe and secure condition.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that when incidents occur in the park a quick response is made by Parks Police in order to deal with the problem.</li> <li>• Parks police to continue to visit the park on a regular basis.</li> <li>• Parks Police to continue to have regular meetings with the Enforcement department and the Metropolitan Police on the state of the parks.</li> <li>• Ensure that Parks Police numbers are displayed near the entrances to the park.</li> <li>• All those working in the park are to work in accordance with health and safety policies.</li> </ul>

## APPROPRIATE PROVISION OF FACILITIES

Background/ Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are appropriate toilet facilities for both adults and children in the Gardens. Repairs were carried out to the roof of the toilet building in 2008.</li> <li>The old paddling pool was converted into a new waterplay 'splashpad' in February 2010 under the Play Pathfinder Scheme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RBKC Play Strategy 2006-2009.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To continue to provide safe facilities for all park users to enjoy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through regular monitoring by Parks/contractor staff the park should be kept safe and secure.</li> <li>By liaising with FACS who are installed the 'splashpad' and implementing a plan of maintenance.</li> </ul>

## QUALITY OF FACILITIES

Background/ Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All facilities in the park are maintained to a safe standard with daily monitoring as stated previously.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RBKC Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To continue to provide safe facilities for all park users to enjoy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through regular monitoring by Parks/contractor staff the park should be kept safe and secure.</li> </ul>

## 4.3 Clean and Well Maintained

The park is managed to provide a clean and well-maintained litter free environment. Any graffiti or vandalism is always dealt with quickly and efficiently.

The grounds maintenance contract has specific guidelines regarding the cleaning and maintenance of sites and equipment.

### Monitoring

The park is monitored jointly by the Council's Grounds Maintenance Contract Manager and the contractor's Area Supervisor on a weekly basis. The park is monitored from a visitor perspective ([Appendix Three](#)) and the criteria are based on the Green Flag Award key criteria ([Appendix Five](#)).

### Inspections

Inspection of facilities is carried out at the following frequencies:

**Splashpad:** Is open from April to September. The manufacturers, Ustigate, commission and decommission the splashpad and also inspect and sterilise the system monthly while it is in use.

**Furniture:** Is visually inspected daily by the park keeper. Minor repairs are carried out by the contractor, all other damage and defects are reported to the Council's Contract Manager for action.

**Paths and hard surfaces, buildings, fences, railings, walls, boundaries and drains** are all inspected daily for damage or graffiti. Any damage is reported to the Council's Contract Manager.

### Damage and defects

Maintenance issues identified by council or contractors staff are reported to the Parks Administrator. The issues are logged on a database and actions for repair or replacement are assigned by the Council's Contract Manager. Repairs are carried out by either the grounds maintenance contractors, building contractors, the Council's facilities management team or, in the case of playground repairs, the play equipment manufacturer.

### Graffiti

In accordance with the contract specification Graffiti shall be removed immediately on discovery using an approved graffiti remover. Graffiti absorbed into brickwork, on stone or unpainted woodwork is referred to the Council's Contract Manager for consideration by the responsible Graffiti Management team within the Council.



## LITTER AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The park is maintained to a very high standard. A strict Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification must be adhered to.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RBKC. Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To keep the park clean and presentable all year round.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Park Keepers and Grounds Maintenance Contracts Manager are to continue with their regular checks and continuous monitoring that the site is kept clean.</li> </ul>

The Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification sets out the following standards for the removal of litter from Cremorne Gardens:

- Litter bins are emptied at least once per day and as necessary after that.
- The first emptying of litterbins shall be completed by 10am.
- Litter shall be cleared from all hedges, plant beds, herbaceous borders, pathways, hard surfaces, shrub beds and tree bases at least once per day.

This is monitored by the Council's Grounds Maintenance Contract Manager. (See [Appendix Three](#) for copy of monitoring sheet).

Once litter is collected, it is removed from site by the cleansing team and brought back to Holland Park where SITA, the borough's waste management contractor, collect it.



## GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AND HORTICULTURE

Background/ Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The park is maintained to a very high standard. A strict Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification must be adhered to.</li> <li>• Annual bedding schemes are continually being re- worked in partnership with client council officers and site based contractor management team with consideration to horticultural improvement and climate change.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The RBKC Ten-year Parks Strategy 2006-2015</li> <li>• The RBKC Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The park should be landscaped in such a way that it is accessible to all but also displays horticultural excellence, with a wider use of herbaceous plants and perennials and reduced dependence on annuals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Client Council officers and contractor staff should continue to work together on improving the bedding schemes, drought tolerant plants should be considered for summer bedding.</li> </ul>

### Bedding Schedules

On two occasions per year the Contractors strip and prepare the beds, supply plants and replant to plans approved by the Grounds Maintenance Contract Manager. The summer bedding operation normally begins in week No.20 and is completed by the end of week No.25. The Spring bedding operation normally begins at start of week No.38 and is completed by the end of week No.43.

### General maintenance

Flower beds, shrub beds and hedges are cultivated at least once every two weeks; weeds and debris are removed and (in flower beds) plants dead headed to leave a neat, tidy and level finish.

## BUILDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE

Background/ Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As with equipment and facilities within the park buildings and infrastructure are also checked daily for any repairs that may be needed. Any repairs needed are logged on to the workbook by contract/Park staff and repairs are then carried out.</li> <li>Contractor works buildings are also located in the park for the grounds maintenance staff. If graffiti is found on any of the buildings within the Park it is removed as quickly as possible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RBKC Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure that all buildings and infrastructure within the park are clean and well maintained, and that there is a quick response time to repairs needed.</li> <li>To continue to provide quick and efficient removal of graffiti.</li> </ul>	<p>Contract /Park staff to continue to report any repairs to the work-book. The Leisure Services Manager (Parks) then prioritises the repairs and finally the General Services team carry out the repairs. Consideration should be given to making this process more efficient.</p> <p>Parks contractor staff are equipped to deal with most graffiti and should continue to wash it off if they are able. For graffiti that is either engrained on wood or a tarmac surface a sub-contractor "Graffiti solutions" should be contacted through the Leisure Services Development Officer (Parks), once informed of the problem by the Contractor.</p>

There is one building in Cremorne Gardens; divided in to staff facilities, public toilets and a storage room.

The staff facilities and storage room are demised to the contractors for the duration of the contract. During this time the contractors are responsible for fixtures and fittings as described in the contract specification.

The Council is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the structural elements of the buildings to include foundations, load-bearing walls and beams, roof, roof joists and supports but excluding decoration services.

The public toilets are the responsibility of the Council and are inspected and maintained (excluding repair works), by the contractors.

## PATHS AND HARD SURFACES

<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paths and hard surfaces are maintained in a clean, safe and serviceable condition at all times.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The RBKC. Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To keep the park clean and presentable all year round.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Park Keepers and Grounds Maintenance Contracts Manager are to continue with their regular checks and continuous monitoring that the site is kept clean.</li> </ul>

A mechanical ride-on sweeper is used on paths and hard surfaces once per week. Using a mechanical sweeper has the added benefit of discouraging weed growth on paths without the use of herbicides.

## FURNITURE

For the purposes of this document the term "Furniture" is to include, seats and benches, picnic tables, litterbins, signs, signposts and signboards, drinking fountains and bollards.

<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The contractor maintains park furniture through daily checks.</li> <li>• Wooden furniture is painted once per year.</li> <li>• Signage is cleaned at least quarterly and as necessary in between.</li> <li>• The contractor carries out minor repairs to park furniture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The RBKC. Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To keep all furniture clean, structurally safe, graffiti free and in good repair all year round.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Park Keepers and Grounds Maintenance Contracts Manager are to continue with their regular checks and continuous monitoring that the site is kept clean.</li> <li>• To continue to report defects promptly and carry out repairs as quickly as possible and to a high standard.</li> </ul>

## EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Background/ Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In accordance with the contractor's Health and Safety policy all staff are appropriately trained with the equipment they use. The equipment is regularly serviced and when not being used is stored away in the contractor's yard.</li> <li>• The contractor is responsible for the maintenance and correct storage of all vehicles, plant and equipment used in the performance of the contract.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The RBKC Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that all equipment in the park is maintained to a high standard.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contractor/Parks staff are to continue to monitor equipment to make sure that it is safe to use and must be fully aware of the health and safety conditions in which to use the equipment.</li> <li>• Contractor to continue to maintain equipment to a high standard in compliance with the guidelines set out in the Grounds Maintenance Contract.</li> </ul>

## 4.4 Sustainability

The park is managed to maintain sustainable development through the recycling of green waste and careful consideration of bedding plants.

### **Green Waste**

Included in the Grounds Maintenance Contract as part of the on-going programme of sustainability, all green waste is brought back to Holland Park to be recycled in the composting area and used around the borough's parks and open spaces.

### **Commercial Waste**

Waste generated by visitors is usually placed in the bins. However, this waste is mixed and may contain sharps, needles and dog faeces and would present a risk to parks staff if they were asked to separate it for recycling. As a result, this waste and other litter is transported to Holland Park by the cleansing team to be collected by the borough's waste management contractor, SITA.

### **Sustainable Procurement**

This is achieved in the following ways:

- Parks benches are purchased from J and J Learmonth and are made from sustainably sourced wood in accordance with their environmental policy.
- Compost is peat free where possible. Where peat is used it is from sustainable sources (see [Appendix Four](#) for William Sinclair Environmental Policy).
- Paper use: This management plan is distributed electronically and only available in printed format upon request, where using an electronic copy is not an option. Publications relating to the park are only printed if necessary but are all available online.



## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Background/ Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Royal Borough is committed to managing all of its parks, including Cremorne Gardens, in an environmentally sustainable manner. However, improvements can and are always being made.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RBKC Environment Strategy 2006-2011.</li> <li>The RBKC Ten-year Parks Strategy 2006-2015</li> <li>The RBKC Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2004-2006</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure that the Park is managed to protect and enhance biodiversity and to improve sustainable practices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By closely following the Environment Strategy 2006-2011 and following guidelines set out below.</li> <li>Quadron Services, our Grounds Maintenance Contractor, will be aiming to gain ISO 14001.</li> </ul>

## PEAT USE

Background/ Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peat is not used in the park where possible. Recycled mushroom compost is used in the spring to aid water retention. It is not used in the winter, as it is too rich for the bulbs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RBKC Ten-year Parks Strategy 2006-2015</li> <li>The RBKC Environment Strategy 2006-2011.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To keep Cremorne Gardens, along with all the Borough's Parks, as peat free as possible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To maintain our policy of not using peat where possible in this park and other parks within the Royal Borough and to continue with the use of Mushroom compost in the spring.</li> </ul>

## WASTE MINIMISATION

Background/ Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All green waste in the park is collected and taken to Holland Park to be composted. Once mulched down it is then redistributed around the park.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RBKC Ten-year Parks Strategy 2006-2015</li> <li>The RBKC Environment Strategy 2006-2011</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To continue to recycle 100 per cent of green waste in the park.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To continue to recycle leaves and green waste and re-use for mulch.</li> <li>To consider ways of reducing our Carbon Footprint.</li> </ul>

## ARBORICULTURE AND WOODLAND MANAGEMENT

Background/ Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no woodland in the park, however, the trees are monitored and pruned in accordance with the Grounds maintenance specification.</li> <li>Any major works are carried out as and when is considered necessary by the Grounds Maintenance Contracts manager. For health and safety reasons, however, this should be formalised.</li> <li>Tree surveys are carried out once every three years.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RBKC Grounds Maintenance Contract Specification.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure that parks trees are regularly monitored and kept in a healthy and stable condition.</li> <li>To have a formalised schedule to inspect the trees throughout the park every three years.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Grounds Maintenance Contract Manager to implement action on this, and consider drawing up a scheduled time-table.</li> </ul>

Management of parks trees is the responsibility of the Council's contract manager and is not part of the Grounds Maintenance Contract.

The parks service purchased ezytreev software in spring 2010. This allows for more effective and accurate monitoring of parks trees with capability for on-site tree data collection, tree data management and ordering of tree works with an integrated digital mapping system.

## PESTICIDES / HERBICIDES/ FUNGICIDES

Background/ Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The use of pesticides and chemicals in the park is kept to a minimum in the park.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The RBKC Ten-year Parks Strategy 2006-2015</li> <li>The Environment Strategy 2006-2011.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To use little or no pesticides and use organic alternatives if appropriate. Application of pesticides should only be used as a last resort.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For the Grounds Maintenance Contract Manager to continue to research organic alternatives to chemicals and pesticides.</li> <li>Continue to use organic alternatives such as Garlic Barrier to ward off pests, and Savona, made from fatty acids, used to treat white-fly.</li> </ul>

Currently only Glyphosate is used on this site. The use of this herbicide is strictly controlled and only used if sweeping and hand-weeding is unsuccessful.

## 4.5 Conservation and Heritage

### Ecological Enhancement

Biodiversity is a term which simply means 'the variety of life'. In order to ensure high biodiversity within woodland, we need to provide a whole range of habitats and microhabitats. This is done by encouraging plant diversity, enhancing microhabitats and providing nestboxes.

Cremorne Gardens is managed to conserve and protect the natural surroundings of the park.

### Spontaneous City in the Tree of Heaven

The Spontaneous City in the Tree of Heaven is a sculptural installation drawing on the ecology and biodiversity of two sites on opposite sides of London; Duncan Terrace in the East and Cremorne Gardens in the West. London Fieldworks have developed a sculptural 'habitat' that will contribute to the lifecycle of birds, providing spaces for shelter, nesting or feeding. The sculptures reflect the forms of the surrounding architecture; a combination of Georgian town houses, and 60's social housing around Duncan Terrace, and the World's End Estate adjacent to Cremorne. The works also allude to the theme of the Victorian Pleasure Garden, which once provided entertainments for its visitors, such as promenade concerts and zoos or menageries. The sculpture creates a Pleasure Garden for Birds, connecting to Cremorne Gardens' former history as one of London's popular Pleasure Gardens, and a much-favoured former Tea Garden (small version of a Pleasure Garden) in Islington, under a mile away from Duncan Terrace Gardens. The works will be in situ for a minimum of a year and the inhabitants of the Spontaneous City, which may range from birdlife to butterflies and other insects, will be documented through the changing seasons.



## CONSERVATION AND NATURE

<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More could be done to enhance the ecological potential of Cremorne Gardens.</li> <li>• A limited number of species has been recorded on the site and more needs to be done to broaden the biodiversity of the site through changed management regimes as much as introductions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The R.B.K.C. Environment Strategy 2006-2011.</li> <li>• The R.B.K.C. Ten-year Parks Strategy 2006-2015</li> <li>• The R.B.K.C. Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2004-2006</li> <li>• London Biodiversity Action Plan 2007-2015</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase the habitat creation and to improve the ecological value resulting in an overall biodiversity net gain within the Gardens.</li> <li>• To enhance the growth of wild flora and fauna in the Gardens.</li> <li>• Gain a better understanding of the biodiversity on the site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out targeted habitat enhancements where appropriate, as identified in Figure 2 and described below.</li> </ul>



Cremorne Gardens (Ecological Enhancements)




<p><b>Title: Cremorne Gardens</b></p> <p><small>© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea 100021666 (2010)</small></p>	<p>Ref: Cremorne Ecological enhancement Date: 13/01/2010 Author: S. Laing Status: Draft</p>	<p><b>Ecology Service</b> The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Holland Park 020 7938 8185 saskie.laing@rbkc.gov.uk</p> <p> THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA</p>
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Figure four : Ecological enhancements

## **Cornflower meadow**

### *Management*

The cornflower meadow should be cut in early spring and late summer and remove arisings after allowing them to stand on the ground for 2 days. This allows seed to fall to the ground before arisings are taken away.

The cornflower meadow needs reseeding each year in early spring with collected seed from the previous year or with the following cornflower seed:

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>
Corn Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus arvensis</i>
Corncockle	<i>Agrostemma githago</i>
Cornflower	<i>Centaurea cynas</i>
Corn Chamomile	<i>Anthemis arvensis</i>
Corn Marigold	<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i>
Field Poppy	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>
Wild Pansy	<i>Viola tricolor</i>
Night Flowering Catchfly	<i>Silene noctiflora</i>

## **Long grass meadow**

Cut the long grass section once in late summer and remove arising after allowing them to stand on the ground for 2 days.

## **Native Hedge**

Hedges are important features for many reasons, providing food and cover for a range of species and acting as corridors which wildlife will use them to travel along to reach other habitats. They have landscape and historical value and are distinctive features of the English, countryside.

A native mixed species hedge should be planted along the boundary wall linking the dog wood to woodland.

Plant between October and March, ideally before the end of December.

Field Rose *Rosa arvensis* Low growing, clump forming shrub, which provides excellent food for birds.

Common name	Scientific Name	Comments
Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hardy native plant similar to Green Beech with mid-green leaves, suitable for heavy wet soils, and frost pockets. Green catkins from late spring to autumn, turning to clusters of winged fruit in autumn providing food for wildlife. Shade tolerant
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Shade tolerant evergreen shrub or small tree with characteristic red berries in winter.
Beech	<i>Fagus Sylvatica</i>	Forms thick shelter when used in hedges : widespread use in Scotland for hedging, since leaves are retained until new growth starts in late Spring; good food source for small mammals when mature
Privet	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Dense hedge plant which retains foliage all year round, except in harsh winters, making it an excellent refuge for wildlife. White flowers produced in July are attractive to insects. Black berries make it an extremely valuable food source for foraging birds. Do not use the domestic variety .L ovalifolium
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Important for Butterflies; good nesting thicket. flowers very early in the year, and good source of nectar and insects for birds in spring
Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	Good shelter plant
Dog wood	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	The berries are enjoyed by and attract wildlife.
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Slow growing, but valuable in wildlife hedge. It supports large variety of insects, produces nuts in August-September
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>	Forms the basis for many hedges : tough, fast growing, good source of food for birds and insects. Mammals; birds for berries; many insects; wood mouse eats fruit; good protection for nesting birds. Hawthorn flowers and fruits on old growth, so trimming should to be carried out very carefully, preferably only on alternate years.
Spindle	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Good host for bean aphid; Fruit poisonous to mammals
Dogrose	<i>Rosa canina</i>	Important for Birds on fruit; insects on flowers
Viburnum	<i>Viburnum opulus</i> Guelder Rose	Produces large, white flowers and red fleshy fruit which attract a variety of animals Important for Birds; wood mouse attracted by fruit; insects on flowers flower early, and nectar and pollen attract insects
Birch	<i>Betula pubescens</i> and <i>Betula pendula</i>	Birds favour seed
Crab apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Exceptionally important ecologically. It supports over ninety different species and produces a crop of fruit in late summer, important for numerous species of birds and small mammals Best grown as a small hedgerow tree and not trimmed: excellent food source for insects.
Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Birds on fruit; insects on flowers; poor hedgerow tree for stock checking; capable of growing almost anywhere; very valuable in the informal wildlife hedge
Wych Elm	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Insects - white hairstreak, comma and large tortoiseshell butterflies; nest sites for birds

Field Rose	<i>Rosa arvensis</i>	Low growing, clump forming shrub, which provides excellent food for birds.
Wild Cherry	<i>Prunus ayium</i>	Important for Fruits for birds; Fruits and seeds for small mammals
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Important for Bees and other insects
Pedunculate & Sessile Oak	<i>Quercus robur and Quercus petracea</i>	Probably the most important tree, capable of supporting staggering amount of wildlife; insects, birds, mammals, lichens
Rowan	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Insect fauna, fruit for birds
Sweet Briar	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	Its leaves and blooms form an important habitat for numerous species of butterfly. It also produces hips, which are consumed by birds.
Sweet chestnut	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Good source of food for small mammals
Viburnum	<i>Viburnum lantana</i> Wayfaring Tree	Produces white flowers in May, followed by red berries in September. It attracts wildlife all year round-important for birds; wood mouse attracted by fruit; insects on flowers
Wild service tree	<i>Sorbus torminalis</i>	Attractive rare native deciduous tree, with maple-like leaves which turn from green to yellow then orange and finally purple-red in autumn. Rounded heads of small white flowers May to June followed by clusters of speckled brown fruit which ripens in September
Wild pear	<i>Pyrus pyraister</i>	Good source of food for birds and small mammals

Hedges are important features for many reasons, providing food and cover for a range of species and acting as corridors which wildlife will use them to travel along to reach other habitats. They have landscape and historical value and are distinctive features of the English, countryside.

A native mixed species wildlife hedge should be planted along the boundaries, where appropriate. Native species that provide a variety of different structures for habitats and food sources such as nectar and berries should be used. Understorey plants at the base of the hedge should also be established as these provide cover and food for ground dwelling or ground foraging animals.

The most prevalent form of mismanagement is flailing or cutting too frequently. Hedges which are cut or flailed to the same width and height on an annual basis rarely flower or fruit (depriving animal species of a food supply) and become too dense and compact to provide suitable nesting habitat for many birds. Conversely, a hedgerow that has not been managed (cut, coppiced or laid) for many years eventually loses the essential characteristics of a hedgerow and becomes a line of trees. This habitat is usually considerably less valuable to wildlife. Therefore, the hedge should be laid and managed accordingly.

#### *Hedge Planting*

- *Prepare a raised surface for the new hedge line by ploughing two ridges together.*
- *Ensure the ground is free of grass before planting.*
- *On poor ground, incorporating well-rotted manure will help establishment.*

- Plant between October and March, ideally before January while the soil is still warm and there is more moisture available.
  - Plant 4-6 plants per metre in staggered double rows.
  - Ideally use two-year-old plants.
- Ensure that the roots do not dry out during transfer.

### *Hedge Management*

The most prevalent form of mismanagement is flailing or cutting too frequently. Hedges which are cut or flailed to the same width and height on an annual basis rarely flower or fruit (depriving animal species of a food supply) and become too dense and compact to provide suitable nesting habitat for many birds. Conversely, a hedgerow that has not been managed (cut, coppiced or laid) for many years eventually loses the essential characteristics of a hedgerow and becomes a line of trees. This habitat is usually considerably less valuable to wildlife.

Hedgelaying involves cutting nearly all the way through the base of the stems and laying them over at an angle of about 30 degrees. The cut stems (pleachers), are laid parallel to each other. Typically, hedges are staked vertically and bound horizontally for strength and to achieve the thickest possible hedge. Stumps are cut as cleanly as possible; this is where regrowth is required. Eventually a new hedge will grow from the established root system. Meanwhile, the laid pleachers act as a stock barrier and protect the regrowth from browsing.

### *Hedge management*

- The hedge should be allowed to grow to a height of 2.4 – 3.6m in height before laying (a laid hedge will be at least half the height).
  - Hedge laying should be carried out by suitably trained individuals.
  - The hedge should be trimmed (pruned) every 2-3 years.
  - Cutting of hedge base vegetation, particularly in autumn, should be avoided where possible.
- Laying should be carried out every 10-15 years.

### **Climbers**

Consideration be given to the establishment of climbers along boundaries and buildings within Cremorne Gardens. Preference should be given to fragrant high nectar species as a food source for invertebrates, with a preference for (but not restricted to) native species.

<b>Common name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>
Hop	<i>Humulus lupulus</i>
Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>
Traveller's-joy	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>

### **Deadwood**

Deadwood should remain on site, preferably as logs which are left to decay or hidden within existing flower beds.



## **Nestboxes**

The following nest boxes should be erected with Cremorne Gardens:

<b>Group</b>	<b>Nest box</b>	<b>Species</b>
Birds	2x Small hole-entrance	Blue Tit and Great Tit
	2x Double small hole-entrance	House Sparrow
	2x Medium hole-entrance	European Starling
	2x Small open-fronted	European Robin, Winter Wren and Pied Wagtail
Invertebrates	4x invertebrate nest boxes	Solitary bees, ladybirds, lacewings
Bats	2x Bat roost boxes	Pipistralle bats

## **Bird feeding station**

A bird feeding station should be maintained within Cremorne Gardens throughout the year.

## **Biological records**

Biological records (e.g. birds, butterflies, mammals, plants etc) sighted within the gardens should be recorded and forwarded to Ecology Service to be registered with the local biological records centre GiGL (greenspace information for greater London).

## CONSERVATION OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Background/ Issues: Where we are now?	Policy Context/ linking documents:	Objectives: Where we want to get to?	Actions: How will we get there?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Cremorne Gates, once part of the original Cremorne Estate are situated inside the gardens and are regularly cleaned and maintained. However there is no formal maintenance programme in place.</li> <li>• The buildings in Cremorne Gardens are not listed.</li> </ul>			

## 4.6 Community Involvement

### Links with Community

The Park is managed to provide for all aspects of the community. Through public consultation the park is managed in accordance not only with the wishes of all those who visit the park, but also with non-users to encourage higher usage.

### Friends Group

The Friends of Cremorne Gardens is an active friends group and meet with the Council three times a year, although regular communication is maintained in between.

In 2009 the Friends commissioned designs for the disused paddling pool to be transformed in to a water-play splashpad. The designs were adopted by the Council and the project was funded by the Directorate of Family and Children's Services as part of the Play Pathfinder Initiative (see [Funding](#)). The water play splashpad opened in March 2010.

### Art

The Spontaneous City in the Tree of Heaven sculptural installation, explained in [section 4.5](#), is part of the Borough's InTRANSIT programme; a summer programme of interventions, performances and commissions designed to animate streets, parks, neglected and forgotten spaces from 19 to 31 July 2010.



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING OUTREACH WORK

<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Friends of Cremorne Gardens has been an active force behind the general management of the Park and are keen to see improvements made.</li> <li>• The Borough competes regionally and nationally in London in Bloom and Britain in Bloom, competitions run by the Royal Horticultural Society. More consideration needs to be given to involving the community in 'In Bloom' related projects in the park.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The RBKC Ten-year Parks Strategy 2006-2015.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide a park with high quality facilities for all park users.</li> <li>• To establish relationships with under-represented groups and to identify possible ways of working together with them to enhance the park.</li> <li>• To involve the community in the management of the park.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A minimum of three programmed meetings are to take place annually with Friends of Cremorne Gardens to inform them of the management issues relating to the park and consult on areas of joint interest.</li> <li>• To consider working with local schools on planting projects within the park in connection with the 'In Bloom' campaigns from 2010 onwards.</li> </ul>

## APPROPRIATE PROVISION FOR THE COMMUNITY

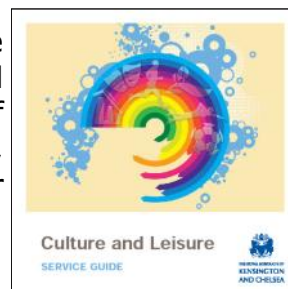
<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The disused paddling pool was transformed into a waterplay 'splashpad' as part of the Play Pathfinder Initiative. Consultation took place with local residents and the Friends group before hand.</li> <li>• The ecology service has organised free morning bird walks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The RBKC Play Strategy 2006-2009.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To continue to provide safe facilities for all park users to enjoy.</li> <li>• To increase awareness of biodiversity in and around Cremorne Gardens.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By liaising with FACS who are installing the 'splashpad' to implementing a plan of maintenance to ensure that it remains a treasures community resource.</li> <li>• By continuing to organise events in and around Cremorne Gardens.</li> </ul>

## 4.7 Marketing

The park is marketed through a variety of leaflets and on the internet to publicise the park and the facilities it offers.

### Website

The borough's website is utilised as much as possible with the Gardens having their [own web page](#). This page contains general information about the site as well as information on the history of the site, a map showing its location, directional information, photographs and news and updates on any works or developments that are due to take place.



### Social media

Social networking sites such as Twitter and Facebook allow the parks service to reach a new audience. Tweets/ updates include information about events, interesting facts, improvement works, closures and awards.



### Branding

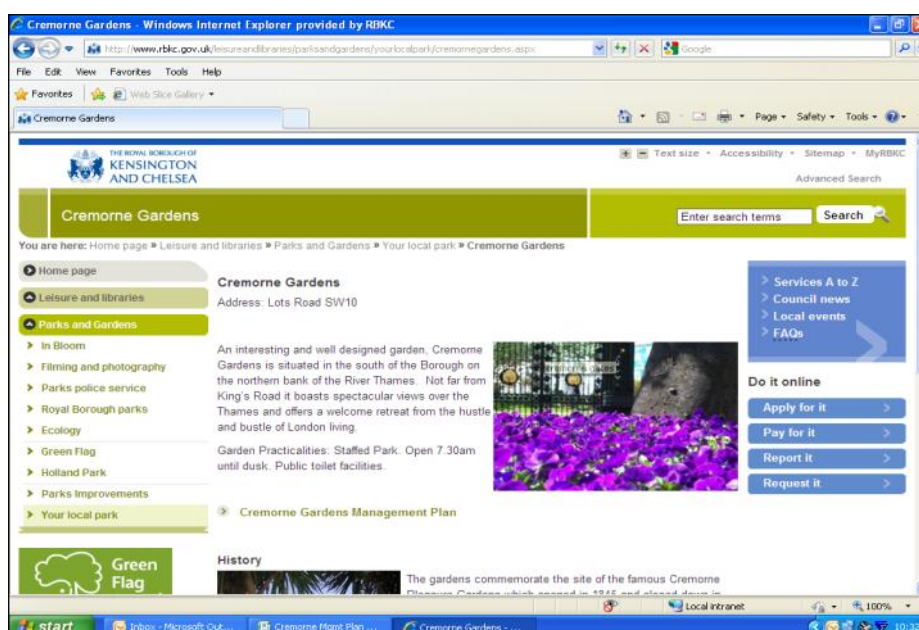
The Royal Borough has a distinctive brand and this is evident on all park signage, posters and park keeper uniforms. Having this branding in place ensures that visitors to the park know what standard to expect and who to report any comments to.

### Leaflets and guides

Very few leaflets are produced for Cremorne Gardens, only for events such as the bird walk. The borough's Leisure and Culture guide contains information about the gardens and is available to all residents.

### Press

The 'Royal Borough' a free paper produced by the Royal Borough is distributed to every resident and is used by the Parks Team to promote its parks and open spaces. As well as this there are several local newspapers which often publish articles about the borough's parks and open spaces.





## APPROPRIATE PUBLICITY

<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The park is actively promoted through a leisure service leaflet and through the parks and gardens website.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To promote the park as a community resource.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leisure Services Development Officer (Parks) will update the webpage to contain accurate information about the park.</li> </ul>

## PROVISION OF APPROPRIATE INFORMATION

<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information is provided about any improvement works to the site and regularly updated along with the web-site.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure that park users are kept updated with regards to improvements in the park.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contractor/Parks staff will make sure that the notice board is updated with regard to improvements in the park.</li> </ul>

## EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no educational information displayed in the park, provision for learning is provided in the Ecology Centre in Holland Park.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To look for appropriate methods and locations for educational and general information about the Park.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information boards, improved web access and web pages, publications etc.</li> </ul>

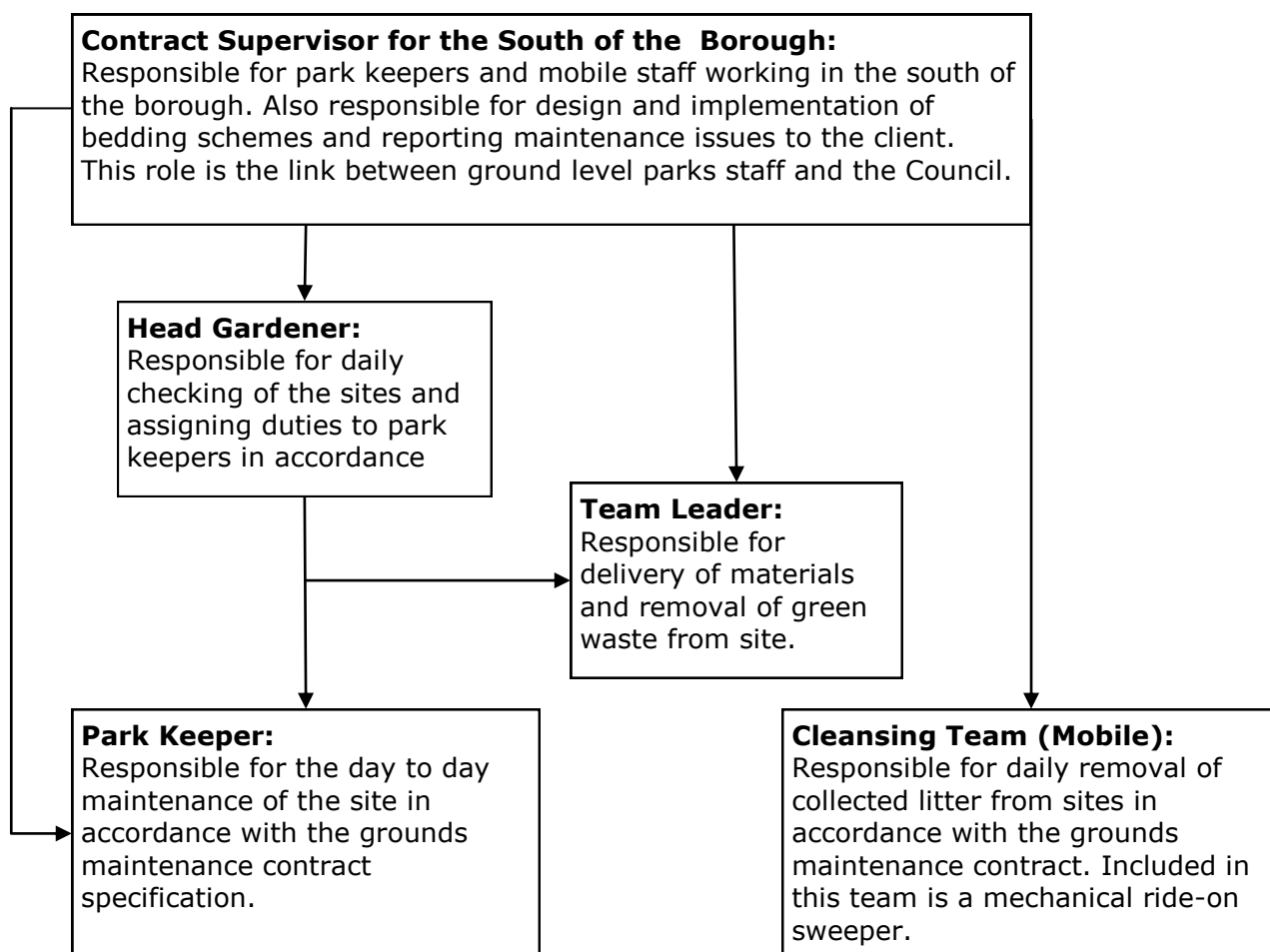
## 4.8 Management

The Park is managed in accordance with the guidelines set out above. As stated previously this is the first management plan of its kind for Cremorne Gardens and the belief is that the park will benefit from having it in place.

### Management Structure:

The Council's Grounds Maintenance Contract Manager, based in Holland Park, is responsible for the running of the Council's parks through the grounds maintenance contract and reports directly to the Leisure Services Manager (Parks). The Council's Contract Manager is supported by the Contract Manager supplied by the Grounds Maintenance Contractors. Together they are responsible for the day to day running of the parks and open spaces as well as the maintenance of the sites.

### Contractors staffing for Cremorne Gardens:



## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

<b>Background/ Issues: Where we are now?</b>	<b>Policy Context/ linking documents:</b>	<b>Objectives: Where we want to get to?</b>	<b>Actions: How will we get there?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is the first management plan that has been written for this Park. Over the next ten years all of the Borough's eight major parks will have management plans implemented.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The RBKC Ten-year Parks Strategy 2006-2015</li> <li>• The RBKC Environment Strategy 2006-2011</li> <li>• The RBKC Cabinet Business Plan 2006/07-2008/09</li> <li>• Green Spaces, Better Places: The Urban Green Spaces Task-force 2002.</li> <li>• Living Places: Cleaner, Safer, Greener ODPM 2002</li> <li>• Green Flag Award Scheme Criteria</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To have a well managed park capable of winning and maintaining Green Flag status.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By implementing and maintaining this management plan.</li> <li>• The management plan will be reviewed annually.</li> </ul>

## **5. How will we know when we have arrived?**

In order to provide park users with the best possible park it is essential that the above actions are adhered to in order to ensure that the objectives are achieved. Feedback from the Green Flag Award Scheme will also be used as a guide when reviewing the plan.

The Indicative Works Plan, over the next few pages, details the proposed time frame.

## 6. Indicative Works Plan

### A Welcoming Place

Issue	Proposed Time-Table	Lead	Result
To update entrance signage to the park ensuring that by-laws are printed on the back and remove excess signage.	2010	<b>Leisure Services Manager (Parks)</b>	Entrance signage has been updated with by-laws printed on the back.
Consider the production of a 'Parkscape' manual for all parks in the Borough.	2010 onwards	<b>Leisure Services Manager (Parks)</b>  <b>Leisure Services Development Officer (Parks),</b>  <b>Highways Department</b>	The 'parkscape' manual is in the process of being worked on at present. Sitting along side it will be a list of necessary works for each site.
Ensure that notices go up regarding major works and keep them updated.	continuous	<b>Grounds Maintenance Contracts Manager,</b>  <b>Contract Supervisor for the South</b>	

### Healthy, Safe and Secure

Issue	Proposed Time-Table	Lead	Result
Review the way that repairs and maintenance are managed. Run pilot scheme with the contractors.	2010	<b>Leisure Services Manager (Parks)</b>	Responsibility for repair and maintenance of buildings and structures passed to the Councils Property Services Team in 2011.

## Clean and Well Maintained

Issue	Proposed Time-Table	Lead	Result
Continual reassessment of bedding schemes.		<b>Grounds Maintenance Contracts Manager,</b>  <b>Contract Supervisor for the South of the Borough</b>	The Council and the Contractor work in partnership to reassess the bedding schemes in the park.

## Sustainability

Issue	Proposed Time -Table	Lead	Result
Quadron Services Ltd. to gain ISO 14001		<b>Senior Contract Manager, Quadron Services Ltd.</b>	
Research organic alternatives to chemicals and pesticides.	Continuous	<b>Grounds Maintenance Contracts Manager</b>	This is ongoing.

## Conservation and Heritage

Issue	Proposed Time -Table	Lead	Result
To increase the habitat creation and to improve the ecological value resulting in an overall biodiversity net gain within the Gardens.	Ongoing	<b>Ecology Service Manager</b>	
To enhance the growth of wild flora and fauna in the Gardens.	Ongoing	<b>Ecology Service Manager</b>	
Gain a better understanding of the biodiversity on the site	Ongoing	<b>Ecology Service Manager</b>	



## Community Involvement

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Proposed Time-Table</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Result</b>
Regular meetings with the Friends of Cremorne Gardens	Three programmed meetings to take place annually.	<b>Leisure Services Manager (Parks)</b>	

## Marketing

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Proposed Time-Table</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Result</b>
Update the Parks website.	March 2012	<b>Leisure Services Development Officer</b>	A website review is currently underway (Dec 2011) with the improved parks website to be launched in March 2012.
Purchase notice board for Cremorne Gardens	2011	<b>Leisure Services Development Officer</b>	A small notice board has gone up on site housing the parks green flag certificate.

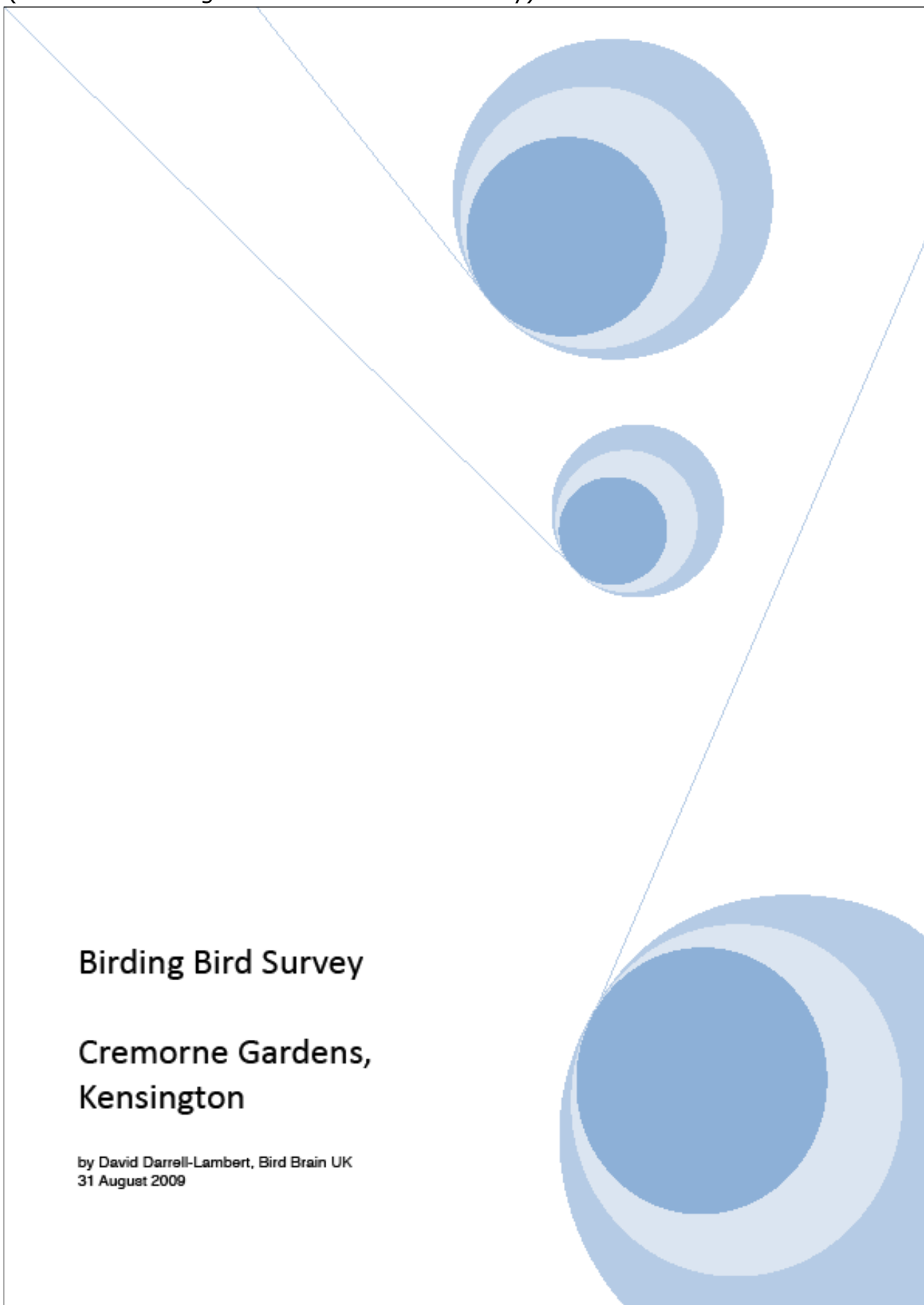
## Management

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Proposed Time-Table</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Result</b>
Annual review of management plan.	2010 onwards	<b>Leisure Services Development Officer</b>	

## Appendix One: Ecological records for Cremorne Gardens

Species Group	Common name	Scientific name
Bird	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>
Conifer	Abies	<i>Abies</i>
Flowering plant	Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
	Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>
	Berberis	<i>Berberis</i>
	Broad-leaved Dock	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>
	Butterfly-bush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>
	Cherry Laurel	<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>
	Chusan Palm	<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>
	Common Chickweed	<i>Stellaria media</i>
	Common Mouse-ear	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>
	Common Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
	Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster</i>
	Creeping Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
	Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium molle</i>
	Eastern Rocket	<i>Sisymbrium orientale</i>
	False-acacia	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>
	Geranium	<i>Geranium</i>
	Greater Plantain	<i>Plantago major</i>
	Guernsey Fleabane	<i>Conyza sumatrensis</i>
	Lesser Periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor</i>
	Lesser Trefoil	<i>Trifolium dubium</i> <i>Tilia platyphyllos</i> x <i>cordata</i> = <i>T. x europaea</i>
	Lime	
	Pellitory-of-the-wall	<i>Parietaria judaica</i>
	Perennial Rye-grass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>
	Procumbent Pearlwort	<i>Sagina procumbens</i>
	Prunus	<i>Prunus</i>
	Pyracantha	<i>Pyracantha</i>
	Rough Meadow-grass	<i>Poa trivialis</i>
	Shepherd's-purse	<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>
	Silver Birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>
	Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>
	Spotted-laurel	<i>Aucuba japonica</i>
	Swedish Whitebeam	<i>Sorbus intermedia</i>
	Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
	Taraxacum	<i>Taraxacum</i>
	Tree-of-heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>
	Viburnum	<i>Viburnum</i>
	Weeping Willow	<i>Salix alba</i> x <i>babylonica</i> = <i>S. x sepulcralis</i>
	White Clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>
	Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>

Appendix Two: 2009 Breeding Bird Survey  
(click on the image below to view the survey)



### Appendix Three: Parks Monitoring Form

Site:	3	2	1	
ITEMS TO BE CHECKED	G	O	R	SCORE
1 Were entrance signs visible announcing the site and did they provide contact details for complaints and praise?				0
2 Were entrances safe and accessible to people of differing abilities?				0
3 Were entrances and car parks clean, litter free and well maintained?				0
4 Were signs throughout the site of good quality, well maintained, and current?				0
5 Where provided, were notice boards displaying up to date, relevant information?				0
6 Were paths in good condition, clean, unobstructed and accessible to different abilities?				0
7 Were any staff on site easily identifiable to the public, knowledgeable and approachable?				0
8 Had any hazards been identified and made safe?				0
9 Were facilities such as toilets, cafés etc. clean, well maintained and open as advertised?				0
10 Were buildings, structures and features on the site in good condition?				0
11 Were walls, fences, steps and other infrastructure in good condition, and without graffiti?				0
12 Was all children's play equipment well maintained and clean?				0
13 Were benches, bins etc. well located, clean and in good condition?				0
14 Was safety equipment present and fit for purpose (if provided)?				0
15 Was lighting, CCTV and other security measures in good condition (where provided)?				0
16 Was there evidence of unacceptable littering?				0
17 Did litter bins appear to be emptied regularly?				0
18 Was dog and other animal fouling adequately controlled?				0
19 Were horticultural standards being maintained?				0
20 Do trees appear to be safe and in good condition?				0
21 Have features requiring or undergoing maintenance been made safe with appropriate signage?				0
22 Did you feel safe during your visit?				0
23 Was the site flying its Green Flag, and was the flag in good condition and recognisable?				0
24 Was the site displaying its Green Flag Award certificate?				0
25 Would you like to make any additional observations? Feedback from public? Feedback from park staff?	Final % score			#DIV/0!

	ISSUES and FEEDBACK	DATE RESOLVED
a		
b		
c		
d		
e		
f		

GREEN = looking good / fully provided / done ORANGE = needs attention at some point / partially provided / partially done RED = needs urgent attention / not being provided / not done

## Environmental Policy

William Sinclair Horticulture Ltd. recognises that its products and operations have an effect on the environment in a number of differing ways. The majority are advantageous, such as the greening of urban landscapes and the overall improvement of homes and gardens, but some are not. Sinclair is committed to continually strive to reduce these negative environmental impacts.

Therefore in conducting its business Sinclair will:

Meet or exceed all relevant environmental legal requirements.

Reduce the CO<sup>2</sup> emission from our operations per unit of output by:

- Reducing the average distance our raw materials travel by 10% between now and 2020.
  - Reducing the transport carbon emissions per unit of product by 10% between now and 2020.
- Reducing the carbon emissions per unit of production from our operations by 10% by 2020.

Actively promote peat alternatives. In 2010 we used 370,000m<sup>3</sup> of peat alternatives and we intend to increase this to 600,000m<sup>3</sup> by 2020 with 450,000m<sup>3</sup> coming from recycled materials.

Regenerate worked-out peat fields in accordance with requirements identified in our planning consents. In many areas this will involve regeneration as wetland. Our current performance is to achieve 75% re-establishment of mire bio-diversity within 10 years of cessation of peat extraction, and we aim to improve on this.

Reduce, reuse or recycle wastes where economically possible, and dispose of any generated waste in accordance with best practice.

Paul Smith,  
Technical Manager, with specific responsibility for overseeing environmental issues for William Sinclair Horticulture Ltd.  
October 2010

## Appendix Five: Green Flag Award Criteria

### **Green Flag Award® Assessment Criteria**

Green Flag Award® applications are judged against eight key criteria. Where certain criteria are not met, applicants can provide justifications that may be taken into account. What's more, if management practice changes are in progress but not yet fully implemented, transitional phases will be acknowledged and viewed positively.

The judging criteria also considers the fact that each park/green space will offer different kinds of facilities, and will be managed and developed to varying opportunities and constraints. Innovation and the way facilities offered are tailored to the needs of the community will also be taken into account.

### **Eight key criteria**

#### **1. A welcoming place**

When approaching or entering the park/green space, the overall impression for any member of the community - regardless of the purpose of their visit - should be positive and inviting. There should be:

- Good and safe access
- Good signage to and in the park/green space
- Equal access for all members of the community

#### **2. Healthy, safe and secure**

The park/green space must be a healthy, safe and secure place for all members of the community to use. Any issues that have come to light must be addressed in the management plan and implemented on the ground. New issues that arise must be addressed promptly and appropriately.

- Equipment and facilities must be safe to use
- It must be a secure place for all members of the community to use or traverse
- Dog fouling must be adequately addressed
- Health and safety policies should be in place, in practice and regularly reviewed
- Toilets, drinking water, first aid, public telephones and emergency equipment where relevant (e.g. life belts by water) should be available in or near the park/green space, and be clearly signposted.

#### **3. Clean and well maintained**

For aesthetic as well as health and safety reasons, issues of cleanliness and maintenance must be adequately addressed, in particular:

- Litter and other waste management
- The maintenance of grounds, buildings, equipment and other features
- A policy on litter, vandalism and maintenance should be in place, in practice and regularly reviewed.



#### **4. Sustainability**

Methods used in maintaining the park/green space and its facilities should be environmentally sound, relying on best practices available according to current knowledge. Management should be aware of the range of techniques available to them, and demonstrate that informed choices have been made and are regularly reviewed. Parks/green spaces should:

- Have an environmental policy or charter and management strategy in place, which is in practice and regularly reviewed
- Minimise and justify pesticide use
- Eliminate horticultural peat use
- Recycle waste plant material
- Demonstrate high horticultural and arboricultural standards
- Have energy conservation, pollution reduction, waste recycling, and resource conservation measures

#### **5. Conservation and heritage**

Particular attention should be paid to the conservation and appropriate management of:

- Natural features, wildlife and fauna
- Landscapes
- Buildings and structural features
- These should serve their function well without placing undue pressure on the surrounding environment

#### **6. Community involvement**

The park/green space management should actively pursue the involvement of members of the community who represent as many park/green space user groups as possible. The following should be demonstrated:

- Knowledge of user community and levels and patterns of use
- Evidence of community involvement in management and/or developments and results achieved
- Appropriate levels of provision of recreational facilities for all sectors of the community

#### **7. Marketing**

- A marketing strategy should be in place, which is in practice and regularly reviewed
- There should be good provision of information to users, e.g. about management strategies, activities, features, ways to get involved
- The park/green space should be promoted as a community resource

#### **8. Management**

- A management plan or strategy should be in place which reflects the aspirations of Local Agenda 21
- This should clearly and adequately address all of the above criteria and any other relevant aspects of the park/green space's management
- The plan must be actively implemented and regularly reviewed
- A financially sound management of the park/green space must also be demonstrated

## Appendix Six: Animal Guidance Notes

### Nesting Birds

Nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly:

- kill, injure or take any wild bird

- take, damage or destroy its nest whilst in use or being built (it is important to be aware that nest building starts from the moment the first twig is laid)

- take or destroy its eggs.

To ensure nesting birds are not disturbed

- Hedge maintenance or the cutting of scrubby vegetation should normally be undertaken from December to February inclusive.

- It should **not** be undertaken between March 1st and July 31st inclusive, unless there are immediate safety issues.

- August should also be avoided whenever possible.

- If it is necessary to undertake maintenance during the nesting season, the hedge or scrub should be checked thoroughly for nests.

- If nests are present, or you are in doubt, work must not proceed unless there is a safety issue.

- In all cases in the summer months, the most limited cut to achieve the objective should be undertaken.

### Young Birds

*It's common in spring and summer to find young birds sitting on the ground or hopping about without any sign of their parents.*

This is perfectly normal, so there's no need to be worried. The parents are probably just away collecting food - or are hidden from view nearby, keeping a watchful eye.

The young of most familiar garden birds fledge once they are fully feathered, but before they're able to fly, they spend a day or two on the ground while their feathers finish developing.

Tawny owl chicks are mobile at a very early age, and can be seen climbing in and around their nest tree before they are even half grown.

If you find a fledgling or young owl, the best thing to do is to leave it where it is.

### What if the bird is in danger?

Fledglings should be left where they are, in the care of their parents. Removal of a fledgling from the wild will cut its chances of long-term survival to a small fraction, and should only be done as a very last resort.

If the bird is on a busy path or road or other potentially dangerous, exposed location, it makes sense to pick it up and move it a short distance to a safer place. Make sure you put it down within hearing reach of where it was found so its parents can find it.

Handling a young bird does not cause its parents to abandon it. Birds have a poor sense of smell and do not respond to human smell in the same way as mammals.

### Can I put it back in its nest?

If the young bird is unfeathered or covered in fluffy down (a nestling) and has obviously fallen out of a nest by accident, it may be possible to put it back.

If this can't be done, the chick is dependent on humans for survival, and it should be passed on to an expert rehabilitator, such as a local vet.

**The RSPB does not run bird hospitals or a rescue service.** The [RSPCA](#) (England and Wales), [SSPCA](#) (Scotland) and [USPCA](#) (Northern Ireland) are the national charities that help and advise on sick and injured birds and animals. [Tiggywinkles](#) and The [Swan Sanctuary](#) also take in wild birds in need of care

### **Bat Found on the Ground**

Always wear gloves to handle bats. If you need help, call the Bat Helpline - 0845 1300 228

A bat found on the ground during daylight hours is likely to be in trouble already.

Bats are protected, so it is normally illegal to keep healthy, flying bats, and a license is needed to handle them. However, anyone who finds a bat that is ill or injured may take care of it in whatever way is most humane and practical with the objective of its rehabilitation to the wild. There are a number of experienced bat rehabilitators in the UK, so in these circumstances please contact the Bat Helpline on 0845 1300 228 for assistance - they will be able to put you in touch with your nearest bat rehabilitator.



### **Hedgehogs**

Hedgehogs are a priority species. In the events that ground staff see a hedgehog in one of the parks, please report the sighting to Saskie Laing (RBKC Ecology Service) .

Hedgehogs are often injured by strimming and mowing. In the late-Spring and Summer, hedgehogs like to sleep in long grass. Please check with your foot, for slumbering hogs, before commencing your work.

Hedgehogs are almost totally Nocturnal - they are active only at night, from dusk, onwards, and spend the daylight hours asleep. So, if you find one out in the day, something may be wrong! Very sick hogs/ hoglets found by members of the public, are found wondering (and often wobbling) about in daylight. Sick or injured hedgehogs can be found at any time of the year.

If you find a sick or injured hedgehog, please, wearing a pair of gardening gloves, pick the poor hog up and carefully put him/her in a small cardboard box. Sick hedgehogs, and those in shock, need warmth. Within the bottom of the box, place a hot water-bottle, well wrapped in a towel. obviously, the hedgehog placed on top of the heat-source, not underneath it.

If an injured hedge is found please contact the Ecology Service or contact the British Hedgehog Preservation Society [www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk) to locate the nearest treatment centre.



