



Queen's Wood Supplementary Management Plan 2015
*(to be read in conjunction with the full
Queen's Wood Management Plan 2010 – 2020)*

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Introduction

A management plan for Queen's Wood Local Nature Reserve was written in 2010, setting out how the Wood was then, and how it was to be managed over the next ten years until 2020.

What follows is supplementary and updated information and should be read in conjunction with the current Queen's Wood management plan, found as an appendix further down, and which can also be viewed at [www.haringey.gov.uk/queens_wood_management_plan_2010 - 2020 0.pdf](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/queens_wood_management_plan_2010_-_2020_0.pdf)

Both the full management plan and the supplementary plan detail and guide the management, maintenance, development and improvement of Queen's Wood now and over the remaining 5 years, in the most appropriate way possible.

In developing this supplementary management plan we particularly want to stress the importance we place on our commitment to involve the whole community in shaping the future of Queen's Wood.

The Friends of Queen's Wood play a vital role in maintaining the Wood. They have produced two reports – both detailed here as appendices – covering the first five years of the management plan including works carried out, and changes needed or additions to work scheduled for the next couple of years.

We recognise that the provision and condition of local open space affects the lives of almost everyone who lives and works around the Wood and we believe that the combination of effective management and community involvement of all our open spaces offers considerable potential for helping to make Haringey a thriving and more cohesive community.

Both plans are treated as living and evolving documents; that are open to review and adaption in this ever changing environment. It is the one location where all those with a connection to Queen's Wood, be them council staff, Friends or community groups, partners and residents should be confident that everything about the Wood can be found and detailed here.

It tells of how the Wood once was, how it is today and details future plans and aspirations and how these are to be achieved.

1. Setting the scene

1.1 Haringey in a nutshell

Haringey is one of 33 London boroughs, and is located to the north of the capital covering 11 square miles in total.



Image 1: London Borough of Haringey shown in London context

It is home to some famous landmarks including Alexandra Palace, birthplace of television, that can be seen from all over London perched high up on its hill, Bruce Castle Museum and Park, ancestral home of Robert de Bruce and Tottenham Hotspur Football Club.

The borough has extreme contrast areas such as the high hilly communities of Highgate, Muswell Hill and Crouch End in the west being some of the most prosperous locations to live, while some wards in the east are classified as being amongst the 10% most deprived in the country.

One of the main thoroughfares through Haringey is Green Lanes, which runs north to south, through the centre of the borough.

1.2 2011 Census

www.haringey.gov.uk/census_statistics

1.2.1 Population

- Haringey has a total population of 254,900
- 49.5% of the population are male and 50.5% are female
- 63,400 of the population are aged between 0 and 19. This is 24.9% of the total population. This is proportionately higher than both London (24.5%) and England and Wales (24.0%)
- 169,100 of the population are 20-64. This is 66.3% of the total population. This is proportionately higher than both London (64.4%) and England and Wales (59.6%)
- 22,400 of the population are 65+. This is 8.8% of the total population. This is proportionately less than both London (11.1%) and England and Wales (16.4%)

1.2.2 Ethnicity

65.3% of the Haringey population is made up of non-white British Ethnic Groups. This is higher than both London (55.1%) and England and Wales (19.5%). The top three of these ethnic groups are:

- Other White (23.0%)
- Black African (9.0%)
- Black Caribbean (7.1%)

1.3 Indices of deprivation 2010

The Indices of Deprivation are used widely for identifying areas with high levels of deprivation or areas with specific issues, such as health or crime. They are central to the evidence base for regeneration policy in England and help target often limited resources appropriately.

Haringey is the 13th most deprived borough in the country, and ranked as the 4th most deprived borough in London (using the average deprivation score).

29.2% of Haringey is amongst the 10% most deprived in the country, while 55.3% is amongst the 20% most deprived in the country.

1.4 Open space provision in Haringey

Haringey is a relatively green borough in comparison with London as a whole. An open spaces study conducted in 2005 identified 382.87 hectares of open space in Haringey, representing 12.8% of the total area.

This green space is made up of:

- public parks
- commons
- heaths and woodland
- cemeteries
- nature reserves
- green rail corridors
- private open space (with restricted access)

Haringey Council manages and continues to provide grounds maintenance for the majority of the public open space within the borough, with the exception of Alexandra Park, Highgate Woods and Tottenham Marshes.

Although much greener than some other London boroughs, the 2005 assessment noted that Haringey was deficient in all types of open space. This fact underlines the importance of improving and maintaining sites like Queen's Wood to enable more intense and diverse use.

1.5 Open space vision in Haringey

The borough-wide vision for parks and open spaces, as set out in the Open Space Strategy is:

To enrich the quality of life for everyone in Haringey by working in partnership to provide safe, attractively designed, well used, well maintained open spaces for the benefit and enjoyment of the whole community.

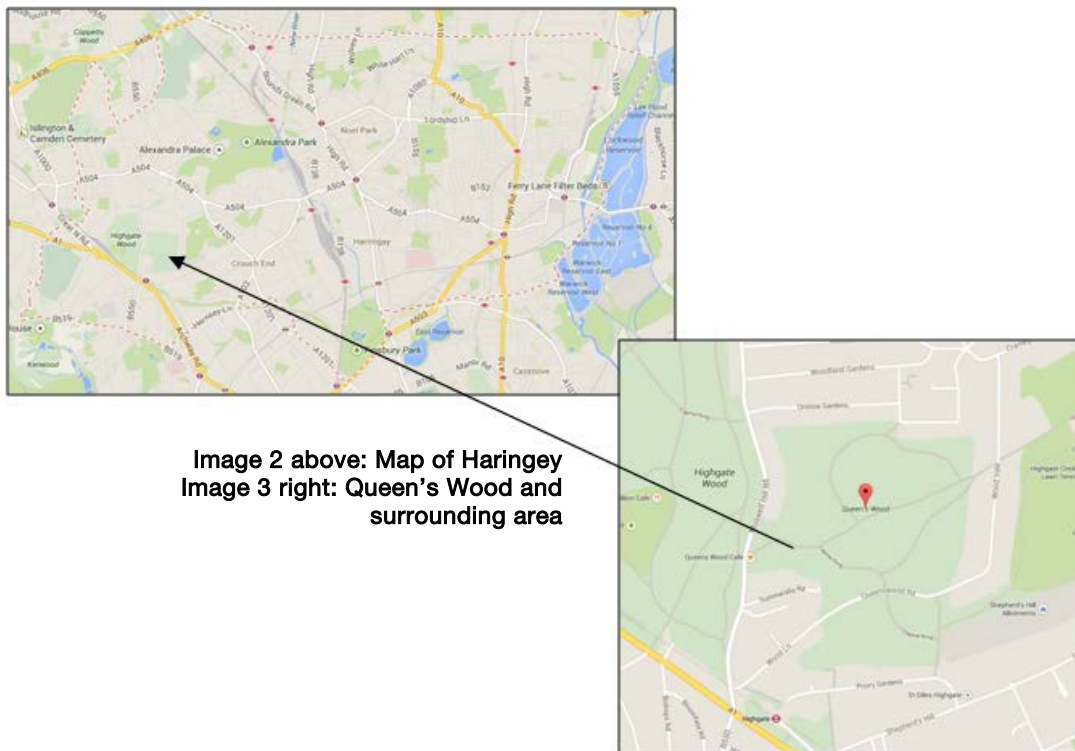
2. Queen's Wood Local Nature Reserve

Muswell Hill Road, N10

2.1 Site Location

The coordinates of Queen's Wood are 528787 / 188610 and grid reference TQ288885.

Queen's Wood covers an area of 210,000m². It is in the wards of both Muswell Hill and Highgate, two of 19 wards within the London Borough of Haringey.



Queen's Wood was designated a Local Nature Reserve in 1990. It is an area of ancient woodland, abutting Highgate Wood to the west and Crouch End Open Space to the east.

It was originally part of the ancient Forest of Middlesex which covered much of London, Hertfordshire and Essex and was mentioned in the Domesday Book. It is now one of four Local Nature Reserves in Haringey (Railway Fields, Parkland Walk and Coldfall Wood) and one of four ancient woodlands (Highgate, Coldfall and Bluebell Woods).

Muswell Hill Road runs to the west of the Wood creating the western boundary and the divide between Queen's Wood and Highgate Wood.

Queen's Wood Road cuts through the Wood, dividing the northern and southern sections and to the south west corner lies a builders' supply yard.

All other boundaries of the Wood are created by residential gardens from large houses in the surrounding roads.

2.2 Facilities

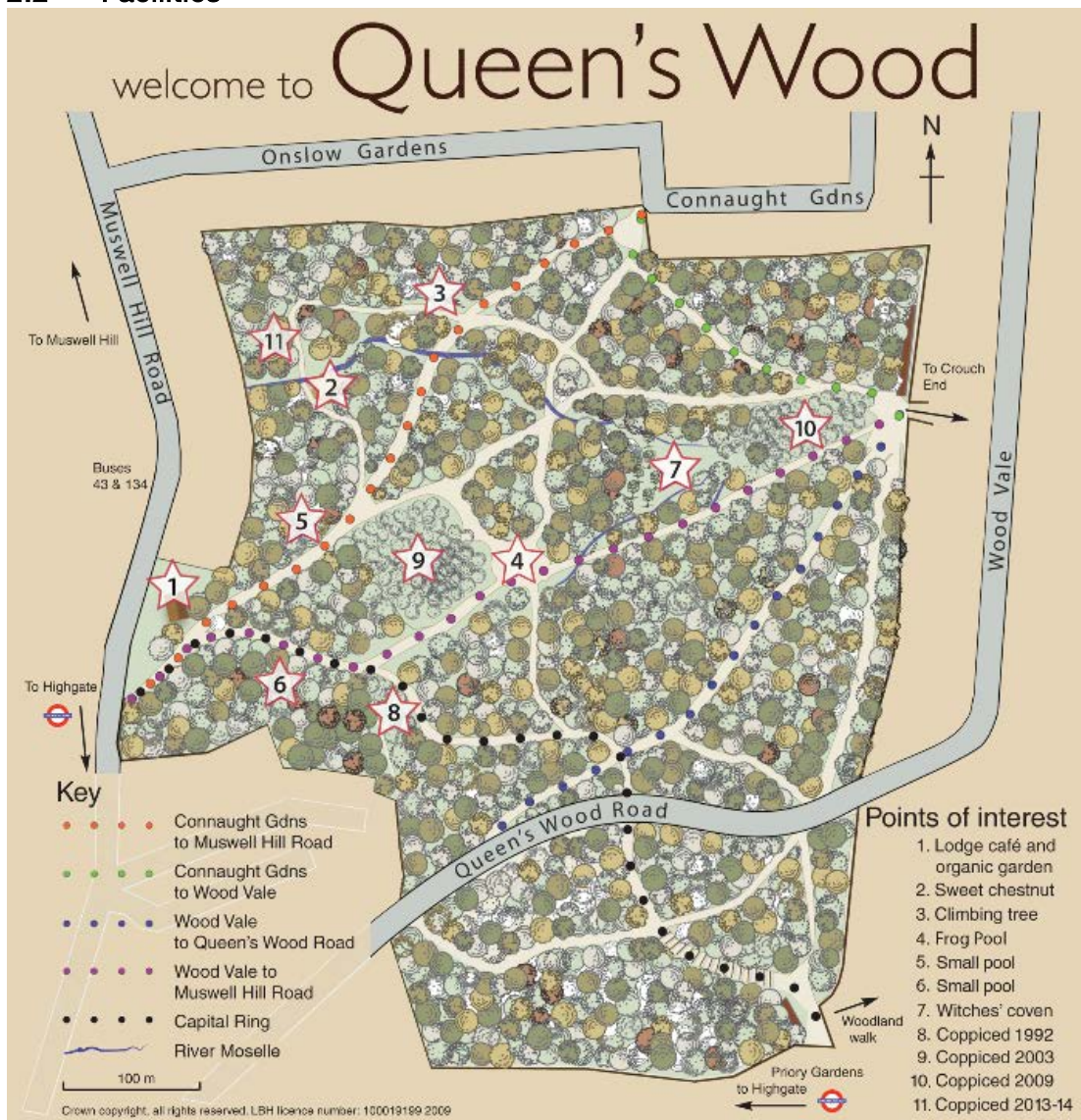


Image 4: Map of Queen's Wood

2.2.1 Queen's Wood Lodge Café

Queen's Wood Café is a non-profit community café within Queen's Wood.

The facility offers a great selection of delicious, organic, seasonal food and drinks with plenty of vegetarian options, in a child and dog-friendly environment.

The building is owned by Haringey Council and was used to house the Wood Keeper until the early nineties.

The current twenty year lease is due to expire in May 2018.



Image 5 & 6: The Queen's Wood Café and Jungle Walkway

The area to the left of the Café contains a jungle walkway, an aerial play facility made of ropes and nets for children of all ages to enjoy.

More on the Café is detailed in the Community Involvement section.

2.2.2 Organic Community Garden

Behind Queen's Wood Café is an organic garden. It is surrounded by trees and has a tranquil quality with flowers, fruit and vegetables growing side by side and bees from the hives gathering pollen.

The garden was started in 1998 when the derelict Lodge building was reclaimed and restored. It was the original garden for the Lodge Keeper, and so the soil had been well nurtured in the past, but had become overgrown with trees and shrubs.

Now it is a thriving example of what can be achieved in a small space with apple and quince trees, red, black currant and gooseberry bushes interspersed with vegetable plots. Among these grow forget-me-knots and a variety of companion planting flowers to attract pollinators and pest predators. Around the edge the ivy, bluebells, teasels, wood avens, and herb robert create a woodland edge effect.



Image 7: Queen's Wood Organic Community Garden

The garden is maintained by volunteers on Mondays and Thursdays, from 9.30am to 1pm. Plants are for sale during cafe opening times.

The garden also holds workshops on food growing and compost making for schools and other groups in the local area, and offer Corporate Team Building days in the garden.



Image 8: Bird box on back of Cafe sign

More on the Community Garden can be found further on in the Community Involvement section.

2.2.3 Old paddling pool frog pond

The clay lined pond was created by the Friends of Queen's Wood and Froglife in 2010 as a habitat for wildlife. Money from the Council and BIFFA Awards was used to provide this vital water body, as a small step to offsetting the loss of three quarters of Britain's ponds over the last one hundred years.



Image 9: Frog pond in Queen's Wood

The pond is particularly aimed at frogs, toads and dragonflies, but also supports an array of underwater life such as water beetles, pond snails and dragonfly larvae. The ponds dipping platform offers a place for local schoolchildren to view these underwater creatures.

The pond is also used by birds and mammals such as bats and foxes to drink, bathe and feed. However ducks and fish are less welcome visitors as they eat other pond life and reduce biodiversity. Visitors are discouraged to feed ducks, release fish into the water or allow their dogs into the water.

There has been a pond in this location since at least since 1894. It was originally an ornamental feature when the Woods were landscaped as a 'park' and opened to the public in 1898.

In 1935 the then Hornsey Council replaced the pond with a much larger concrete paddling pool, surrounded by paving and enclosed with a fence which generations of children enjoyed playing in until the mid 1970s when it became derelict.

Local archaeologist observed the demolition of the paddling pool and the excavations for the new pond. Among their discoveries was confirmation that the base of the original Victorian pond did not use modern Portland cement but waterproof cement, made with coal ash and lime.

They also found that this concrete base covered three meters of sandy silt, overlaying a bed of gravel. The sandy silt contains pollen from plants that once flourished in the Wood, some of which no longer grow there.

The Friends of Queen's Wood manage the pond by once every year removing invasive plants and leaves from the pond's surface to allow animals to grow and feed. This takes place in winter, when most of the wildlife that uses the pond is elsewhere in the Wood.



Image 10: Frog Pond interpretation panel

Since the pond was created, there have been incidents of dog walkers encouraging their dogs into the pond, despite signage in place clearly stating no dogs allowed. This signage was updated in 2014 to explain why dogs are discouraged; hoping that dog owners would take heed with the understanding of why dogs aren't allowed.



Image 11: Dog pond sign

2.2.4 Other pools

Two more pools were created in 2010 as part of the same project as the Frog Pool.

The top pool close to the Lodge was created in an area where water from a spring line regularly ran across the adjacent footpath. The pond now captures most of this water and an overflow pipe running beneath the path redirects any excess further down the slope away from pedestrians.



Image 12: Pool near Cafe

The lower pool, also created in a traditionally wet area, is located adjacent to the Capital Ring path. This pond captures water from a French drain designed to protect the path.



Image 13: Lower pool in Queen's Wood (*photo courtesy of Stephen Middleton*)

Both pools are designed to benefit wildlife but unlike the Frog Pool they are not fenced. Dogs are allowed to access these ponds although not encouraged. Dead hedging offers the pond some protection and acts as a visual and physical barrier helping to prevent accidents.

2.2.5 Pathways

Path improvements in Queen's Wood took place phased over a two year period in 2008 and 2009.

£50,000 of money was awarded by TfL, via 'Walk London', who were at that time custodians of London's main walking routes including the Capital Ring route that passes through the Wood.

Improvements included:

- resurfacing the tarmacadam path from the Cafe to the bottom of the steps leading to Priory Gardens
- replacing a section of muddy path and adding steps with Breedon gravel finish
- adding notice boards and interpretation boards



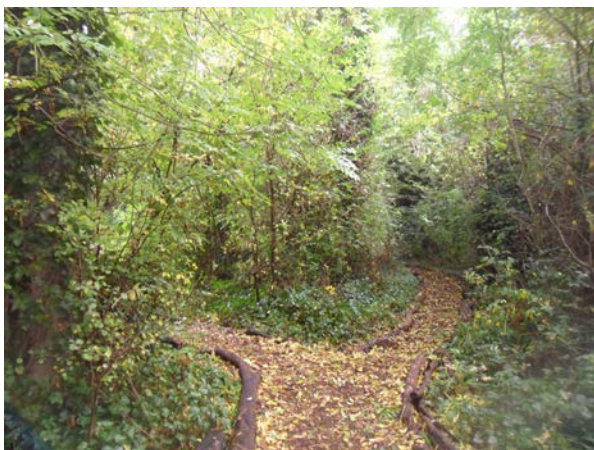
Image 14 & 15: Paths before and after improvement works



Image 16 & 17: Improved paths

In 2013 the Friends of Crouch End Open Space (CREOS) were awarded £500 from the Parks and Open Spaces Small Grants Scheme to lay a hogging path in the western corner of the space to improve access through their woodland, up to the boundary of Queen's Wood.

Following this the Friends of Queen's Wood were awarded further funding through the Small Grants Scheme and from the Council's Transportation Planning Team to extend the CREOS hogging path to existing paths within the Wood, providing better access to both open spaces.



Queen's Wood

Image 18: Woodland path through CREOS to

It is recognised further improvements to paths are needed and these are detailed in the asset management improvement plan.

2.2.6 Path edging

Key paths in the western part of the Wood have benefited from works carried out by the Friends and The Conservation Volunteers, to install path edging.

This has utilised some of the spare wood generated from the coppicing which took place in 2014, and has added some varied habitat for wildlife, while protecting some of the delicate coppiced areas.



Image 19 & 20: Path edging

2.3 Trees

Queen's Wood has an annual tree safety survey of main path network carried out, plus checks to the trees along the perimeter boundaries. These surveys have been carried out since winter 2012. Approximately 1100 trees are inspected as part of the survey.

Works carried out following these inspections have included

- spring/summer 2014 – 24 x hazardous trees identified and pruned or felled at a cost of £4k
- winter/spring 2013/2014 – following December storm various hazardous trees identified and felled at a cost of £3k
- Summer 2012 – 5 hazardous trees identified and felled at a cost of £1k

Coppicing works carried out for woodland management plan include:

- winter 2015 – totalling £4k
- spring 2013 - totalling £1k
- winter 2012/13 – totalling £4k

Dead wood and arisings generated through tree works are retained onsite to increase biodiversity.



Image 21 & 22: Trees in Queen's Wood

2.4 Recent coppicing in Queen's Wood

Coppicing has taken place in the Wood a number of times over the years which are documented in the main management plan.

The most recent coppicing was carried out in January 2014 to two sections of Queen's Wood using ancient techniques.

The Friends of Queen's Wood, together with the Council, secured a community grant of £2,728 from the Greater London Authority as part of the Re:LEAF Scheme.

Coppicing took place in two sections of the Wood - the north-west corner where it can be reached from the main entrance in Muswell Hill Road and a small area on the south side where it can be reached from Queen's Wood Road.

Suffolk Punch horses were used – the oldest breed of heavy horse in the UK – helping out with the traditional method of coppicing. They helped drag cut down timber along the ground to encourage re-growth and allowing more light to increase the number of wildflowers, plants and other vegetation.

The felled timber will be used for making charcoal in the Wood, as well as to protect the coppiced area and other sensitive places.



Image 23: Coppicing taking place in January 2014 (*photo courtesy of Stephen Middleton*)

3. Welcome Place

3.1 Visiting Queen's Wood

3.1.1 Public transport

Queen's Wood is approximately a couple of hundred meters from Highgate tube station, on the Northern line.

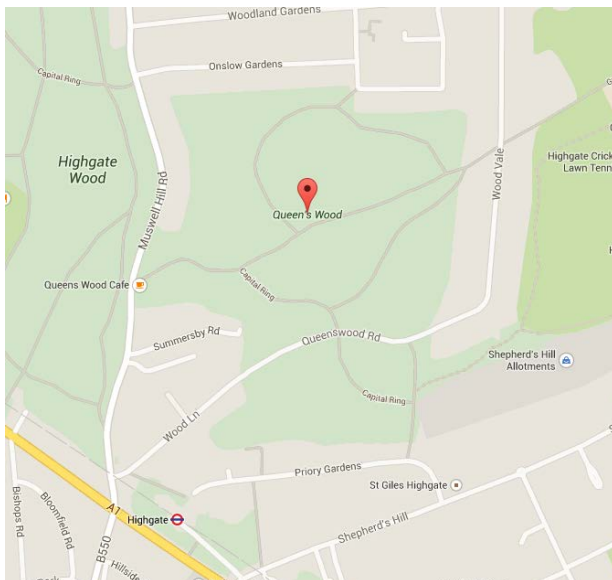
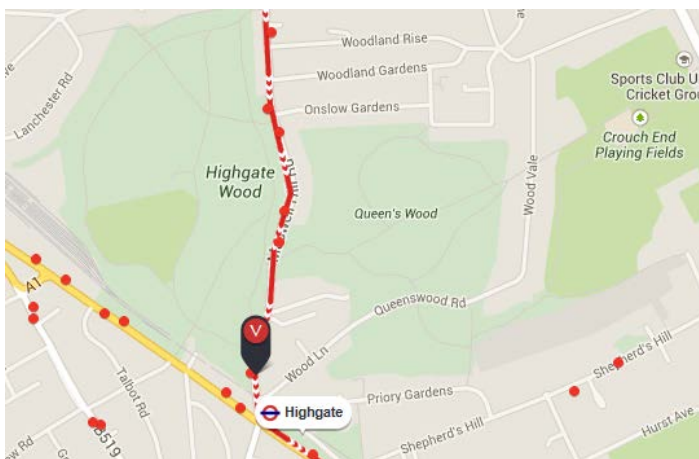


Image 24: Map showing closest tube station to Queen's Wood

A number of buses stop in the roads surrounding Queen's Wood including:
134 – Tottenham Court Road to High Barnet, stopping on Muswell Hill Road
43 – London Bridge to Muswell Hill, stopping on Muswell Hill Road
263 – Barnet to Archway, stopping on Archway Road



Wood

Image 25: Bus stops around Queen's

3.1.2 Vehicles

There are no parking facilities within Queen's Wood and due to its nature conservation status any driving within the site is kept to a minimum.

Parking is allowed in the surrounding roads including Queen's Wood Road.

A small part of the Highgate Station CPZ touches the south western corner of the Wood along Wood Lane. This is in operation Monday to Friday, between the hours of 10am and 12pm.

3.2 Entrances

Access into the Woods can be gained from a number of pathways along Queen's Wood Road. In addition to these there are six other entrances.



Image 26: Map of Queen's Wood and the gate names

The 'main' entrance is the one located on Muswell Hill Road. Just within here to the right is the Cafe and Community Garden.

3.2.1 Vehicle access

Operations staff in vehicles, such as the Hygiene Team and contractors' access the Wood through the Muswell Road Gate.



Image 27: Muswell Hill Road Gate

3.2.2 Bikes

Bicycles are banned from Queen's Wood as set out in the byelaws covering the Wood.

In 2014 following requests from the Friends of Queen's Wood and local residents no cycling signs were installed at all entrances to the Wood.

Floor stencils were painted on paths where suitable. Where these couldn't be painted, symbols were added to existing signs and new wooden posts installed.



Image 28 & 29: Floor stencil template and on path



Image 30: Sign on wooden post

There are two bicycle stands at the Muswell Hill Road gate, encouraging users of the Wood to leave their bikes there.



Image 31: Bike stands at Muswell Hill Road gate

3.3 Disabled access

All entrances to the Wood are step free, although there are a couple of sets of stairs within the wood, along the steeper paths. Due to the nature of the existing paths and the terrain, people in wheelchairs and with pushchairs should be cautious when using Queen's Wood.

3.4 Equal access for all

The disabilities Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) came into effect on the 1 October 2004. The Act defines a disabled person as someone with 'a physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal, day-to-day activities'.

Haringey Council and its partners are required by law to ensure that disabled people are not discriminated against with regard to access to public places, such as Queen's Wood, and are able to use the Wood and its facilities without hindrance.

This is considered whenever changes or improvements are made to the Wood or any of its features. This not only benefits disabled users of the parks and their carers/companions, but also benefits those with small children and older people.

3.5 Signage

At the beginning of 2013 a signage audit was conducted following the implementation of the borough's new dog control orders. To enable enforcement of the dog control orders it is required that relevant dog control order information is displayed for people to view.

The opportunity was taken to review all the signage onsite and update where necessary. All welcome signs found at the entrances to Queen's Wood were redesigned and installed.



Image 32: Queen's Wood welcome signs and cabinets

The welcome signs to five entrances into the Wood incorporate information cabinets. They now show an individual gate name for ease of identification as well as contact numbers for the council, Metropolitan Police emergency and non emergency numbers.

They also show the Friends of Queen's Wood contact details.

Symbols are also shown to highlight initiatives and make users aware of restrictions in place.

For Queen's Wood these include:

- Neighbourhood Watch logo – for which Queen's Wood is adopted by local watches
- No cycling symbols
- no unauthorised vehicles
- keep your park tidy
- 3 dog control orders in effect and potential penalty for failing to adhere
- Capital Ring logo

3.5.1 Interpretation panels

In 2011 interpretation boards were installed at three locations within the Wood, showing a map of the site and with key features marked. These maps also show the viewer where they standing.

Money to pay for the interpretation signage was awarded via 'Walk London', who were at the time custodians of London's main walking routes including the Capital Ring route that passes through the Wood.

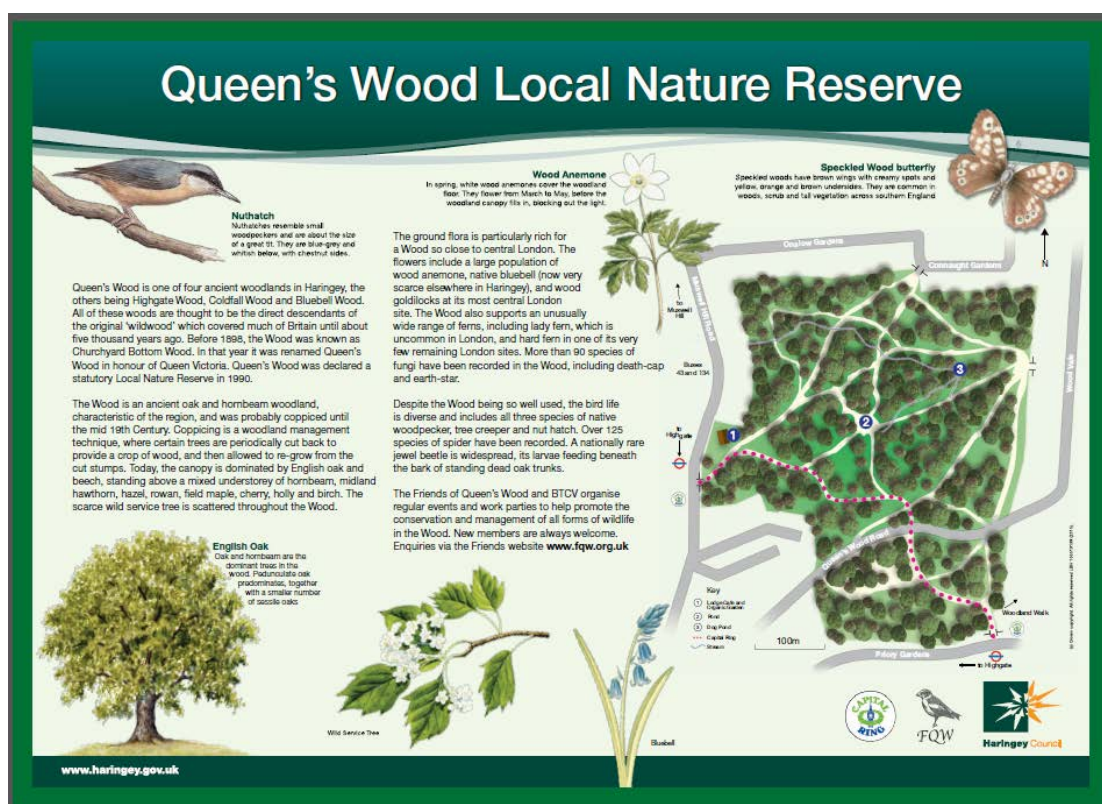


Image 33: Interpretation signage installed within Queen's Wood

There is an interpretation panel at the main frog pond detailing the wildlife found and the history of the pond.

There are also some temporary signs at various points within the Wood installed by the Friends of Queen's Wood detailing works carried out in the Wood including coppicing, such as the one below.



Image 34: Temporary interpretation signage

3.5.2 Directional finger posts

Finger posts are found at a number of locations pointing people in all directions, vital for a large area like Queen's Wood, with access points all around.

Many of these are historic and have been in their current locations for many years. Others are more recent and were installed as part of the Capital Ring improvements and point the way of the Capital Ring Walk.





Image 35, 36, & 37: Various directional finger posts

3.6 Toilet facilities and refreshments

Toilet facilities and refreshments are available within the cafe, which is open daily.

3.7 Events

The Friends of Queen's Wood host a number of community events in the Woods including their annual Family Fun Day usually held in August, and nature walks and talks. They also carry out a number of conservation activities, often facilitated by The Conservation Volunteers (TCV).

Various events and activities are hosted by the Cafe including art exhibitions, drumming workshops, children's activities, art workshops and some that encompass the Woods themselves such as walks and talks.

The Woods are regularly used by local schools as an extension to their classroom, to learn about wildlife and nature including some hosted by the Forest School.

Other one off events such as orienteering activities are also held.

4. Clean and Well Maintained

4.1 Area team responsibility

Queen's Wood is within the West area, covered by zonal team 2. A Parks Operations Manager is in charge of each area and oversees the maintenance of open spaces and the sites under contract within that area, along with an Assistant Parks Operations Manager.

Role	Contact details
Parks Operations Manager West: Lewis Taylor	07870 157647 lewis.taylor@haringey.gov.uk
Assistant Parks Operations Manager West: Anthony Healey	07870 157646 anthony.healey@haringey.gov.uk

Table 1: Queen's Wood local management

4.2 Current maintenance by Parks Operations

Haringey parks including the woodlands are managed by the Operations team within the Parks Service. This is part of Direct Services, within the Environmental Services and Community Safety directorate, at the London Borough of Haringey.

Grounds maintenance of open spaces (not including Homes for Haringey land) is organised into two areas: West and East.

Each area is split into 3 zones, with members of staff including a team leader in each zone covering grounds maintenance.

Each area also has a taskforce consisting of 7 operatives with responsibilities for hygiene, play fitting, arboriculture, tractor maintenance and workshop fitters. To assist with the requirements of the service an allocation for 12 full time equivalent agency staff has been made.

Most park operatives work Monday – Thursday 7.30 – 3.30pm and Friday 7.30 to 3pm, unless arranged locally with management.

Due to the nature conservation aspect of Queen's Wood, maintenance carried out by the Council's operational team within the site and the three other ancient woodlands is treated on an ad-hoc basis compared to the other, more formally laid out parks.

Regular maintenance is detailed below.

Area covered	Work to be done	Frequency
Entrances	Litter collection	Twice weekly
Bins	Emptied	Twice weekly

Table 2: Queen's Wood maintenance schedule

4.3 Nature Conservation Officer

The Nature Conservation Officer is the Council's lead officer in all matters relating to nature conservation and biodiversity. With regard to Queen's Wood the Nature Conservation Officer works closely with the Friends Group in agreeing and delivering management priorities and work plans.

The Officer is also responsible for delivering the England Woodland Grant Scheme agreement with the Forestry Commission and achieving and maintaining the UK Woodland Assurance Standard for the Reserve.

4.4 The Conservation Volunteers

The Conservation Volunteers working with the Friends of Queen's Wood are the main maintenance resource in Queen's Wood. More on their partnership in the borough and the volunteer work they've carried out in the Wood can be found in the sections below.

4.5 Active management by the Friends of Queen's Wood

The Friends help manage the Wood through the planning and delivery of volunteer work days, the running of public events and fundraising. They monitor the flora and fauna by carrying out survey work themselves and by commissioning surveys from others e.g. recent invertebrate and breeding bird surveys.

Working closely with the Council, the Friends are instrumental in reviewing and updating the management plan (see appendices). As a membership organisation

largely consisting of people local to the Wood, the Friends are highly knowledgeable of the site and in a position to inform the Council or any issues as they arise.

4.6 Monitoring maintenance standards

Site safety inspections are carried out on a monthly basis at all sites. These are linked to the QMS and ensure that staff are adhering to health and safety requirements, and that equipment within the park meets the required safety standards.

As part of the Quality Management System, checks on the general maintenance of parks are carried out monthly, with spot checks carried out throughout the year.

4.7 Tree maintenance programme

Trees located in all parks have up until now been inspected on an ad-hoc basis due to limited resources. It is currently proposed to introduce a 4 year planned inspection programme from 2015 which will identify any necessary works. Identified works will be prioritised and carried out within resources.

4.8 Graffiti

All graffiti of an obscene nature is removed within 24 hours and all other graffiti is removed within 5 working days. Graffiti is removed by parks operatives and the council's waste management team on request. The Council also has a 'Graffiti Hotline' that can be called by the general public to report graffiti in a public place.

4.9 Hygiene

The Hygiene Team is managed by the Parks Operations Manager East, covering borough wide hygiene responsibilities. Dog and litter bins are emptied at the same time, by the same team.

The amount of times the bins are emptied in Queen's Wood is detailed below.

Park	No of litter / dog bins	Frequency (per week) dog and litter bins are emptied and park is litter picked
Queen's Wood	10	2 times weekly

Table 3: Frequency of when dog and litter bins are emptied

The Hygiene Team would also remove any dumped rubbish that the Service is alerted to.

4.10 Cleanliness and hygiene monitoring

Haringey monitors park sites based on Keep Britain Tidy Capital Standards Local Environmental Quality Surveys (LEQS): National Indicator NI 195. This scheme is commonly referred to as NI195.

These standards were established in 2008 to improve the cleanliness of London for its users. Its key objectives are to improve the sharing of information between boroughs and to establish best practice.

The LEQS are undertaken by Neighbourhood Action Team and have 10 classifications that contribute towards the overall borough score. Parks are one of the LEQS, which contribute towards the overall borough score. This ensures that we are monitored by others to a set standard by different groups using a recognised methodology. The monthly data provides a Key Performance Indicator (KPI) which is reported to senior management and acted on throughout the directorate.

Parks performance is as follows:

Year	Value	Target
2011/12	9%	7%
2012/13	12%	9%
2013/14	5%	8%
2014/15	tbc	7%

Table 4: PS04_195a Parks local street and environmental cleanliness parks and open spaces

Year	Value	Target
2011/12	17%	20%
2012/13	12%	18%
2013/14	2%	13%
2014/15	tbc	11%

Table 5: PS08_195b local improved street and environmental cleanliness levels of detritus

5. Healthy, Safe and Secure

5.1 No smoking

There is a borough wide smoking ban in place in all children's playgrounds.

Smoking is allowed in Queen's Wood although Priority 5 of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2012 – 2015 is to reduce smoking, so at some point in the future this could include promoting no smoking in parks.

www.haringey.gov.uk/haringey_health_and_wellbeing_strategy_2012-2015.pdf

5.2 Walking routes

The Capital Ring Walk offers walkers the chance to see some of London's finest scenery. Divided into 15, easy-to-walk sections, it covers 78 miles (126km) of open space, nature reserves, Sites of Specific Scientific Interest and more.

Queen's Wood is part of number 11 of the 15 walking routes covered by the Capital Ring, running between Hendon and Highgate tube station.

The Capital Ring runs through Queen's Wood, between the entrances off Muswell Hill Road and Priory Gardens, and is marked on the interpretation signs.



Image 38: Capital Ring walk through Queen's Wood

5.3 Health and safety

The health and safety of visitors to, and staff working in Queen's Wood is given the highest priority. The Parks Service maintains a health and safety quality management system.

5.3.1 Raising health and safety concerns

Anyone visiting a park, and everyone involved in the parks maintenance and management are encouraged to report any health and safety concerns.

Contact phone, email and web details for the Council appear on all welcome signage, as well as the police emergency and non emergency numbers.

When people call the Council with a concern, these are logged, assessed and assigned to a relevant team/member of staff to deal with and respond to in an appropriate timescale, using the Confirm system.

5.3.2 Friends

Members of the Friends of Queen's Wood are able to report issues within the park in exactly the same way as members of the public, but they also have close links with the Area Manager, so will usually approach them directly.

Area managers and other Council officers also regularly attend the Friends meetings where issues can be raised and discussed.

Friends are also encouraged to report issues of anti social behaviour and other issues through the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator who will direct these to the most relevant person within the police to deal with them.

5.3.3 Risk assessments

Risk assessments are carried out in accordance with the risk assessment register which is maintained centrally and which flags up assessments that require updating. Risk assessments are updated annually. Managers have remote access to the current versions of the assessments and can download them from the council's network.

5.3.4 Safety representatives

There is a staff safety representative who attends the quarterly Direct Services health and safety meetings where they have the opportunity to raise issues that have not

been fully addressed elsewhere. The group is also a place to discuss health and safety issues and legislation, and their implications on working practices.

5.3.5 Staff reporting

All staff are encouraged to raise health and safety issues with their manager or with the health and safety representatives who can raise concerns at the quarterly Health and Safety Forum.

5.4 'Our Haringey' app

The 'Our Haringey' app makes it quick and easy to report problems when people are out and about in the borough. Once the app has been downloaded to a Smartphone, the public can take photos of the problem and send it directly to the team responsible for fixing it using the Confirm system. They will then receive progress updates and will be told when the reported issue has been fixed.

Unlike other 'report it' style apps, 'Our Haringey' asks the user to choose from a list of Haringey specific categories for the problem, which ensures the report goes to the right team, first time and will be dealt with as quickly as possible.

5.5 Community safety in parks

Over the years there have been a number of initiatives the Council has implemented to make the parks safer for all who use them.

A team of park rangers were employed during the 1990s, to patrol the borough's green spaces. Later a Parks Constabulary was created carrying out various security functions, including locking of parks. The Constabulary was disbanded in 2009 and a new approach to providing presence in parks was adopted.

This included Council funding to provide the Safer Parks Team, a group of Metropolitan Police officers tasked with patrolling the borough's parks on motorbikes, responding directly to crime and disorder in parks.

Following budgeting restrictions in 2011, this team was disbanded and new ways of policing the parks and providing presence has been implemented and is currently in operation.

5.6 Current Metropolitan Police activity

Localised Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) now include parks in their daily routine patrols.

The information detailed below has been extrapolated from the Police's CRIS system based on the FG location type code (identifies incidents that have been reported as occurring in a park, common or heath) and covers the twelve month period commencing from the 1 January 2014.

As the location type code is mandatory in CRIS the accuracy of this dataset is exceptional, with a confidence interval of less than 0.1%. This information is for guidance only and does not represent official MPS performance.

A total of 2 incidents were recorded as taking place in Queen's Wood over the last twelve months, as shown below.

Park crime reports

1	September 2014	03/09/2014 1200 - 1215hrs	Common assault	FG	Queens Wood
Victim was having a picnic when a number of dogs approached her, she got scared and pushed one of them away, this angered the owner of the dogs who verbally abused victim and slapped her across the face					

Anti-Social Behaviour reports

1	March 2014	13/03/2014	Vehicle Nuisance	AS	Queens Wood
4 males, approx age 17, riding around on small motorbikes					

Table 6 and 7: Reported incidents and anti social behaviour in Queen's Wood in Police Activity in 2014**5.7 Extending Neighbourhood Watch into parks**

Following the withdrawal of funding to the Metropolitan Police and with it the deletion of the Safer Parks Team, the council has looked at other ways of partnership working to increase community safety and user confidence within the parks.

With reductions in the Metropolitan Police budget and the threat of their existing post of Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator being deleted, it was decided that the Council would fund the post, effective from April 2011, with the aim of extending the successful and established Metropolitan Police Neighbourhood Watch scheme into the borough's parks and open spaces.

The scheme now encourages Friends of Parks and park users to report incidents of anti social behaviour or anything they think suspicious to the Neighbourhood Watch coordinator.

The coordinator is still based within Haringey's Metropolitan Police and acts as liaison between various agencies to deal with the reported matter and resolve it in the most appropriate and effective way possible, while keeping all parties informed of progress.

The Coordinator has direct access to the Inspector in charge of the Neighbourhood Policing Teams and can therefore request assistance in parks where needed to either address concerns and help inform where resources are needed, based on intelligence led information. The Coordinator also arranges Police attendance at Friends Group meetings on a regular basis.

Existing Neighbourhood Watches - of which there are now over 300 in Haringey with an estimated 19,000 members - are run by local residents with support from the police and partner agencies, including the Council. Members of the Watch decide their objectives and how it will operate. The Haringey Association of Neighbourhood Watches meets on a quarterly basis to update members and share information.

Until recently Watches had focused on activity within their local streets, but they are now encouraged to 'adopt' their local parks and green spaces and report incidents to the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator. Most parks in the borough including Queen's Wood have been 'adopted' by their local Neighbourhood Watches. Those areas surrounding parks that are deficient in Neighbourhood Watches are a continuing focus, with the aim of creating new Watches and linking them to parks.

The Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator sends out regular updates to the Neighbourhood Watches and Friends of Parks informing them of proactive initiatives

and events, but also uses this communication tool as an alert system of incidents to appeal for witnesses and for communities to be vigilant.

The well recognised Neighbourhood Watch symbol is now included on all park welcome signs to reinforce the partnership to park users.

The Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator has produced a useful contact sheet for park users which includes numbers for the various police and council services. These details are ward specific and are displayed in all park notice boards.

Watches within close proximity to Queen's Wood and have 'adopted' the park within its Watch are listed in the table below.

Watches	POSTCODE
Connaught Gardens – Inc	
Onslow Gardens, Teresa Walk,	
Woodland Gardens	N10
Crouch Hall Road	N10
Priory Gardens	N10
Southwood Hall	N10
Southwood Lawn Road – Inc	
Highgate Avenue	N10
Wood Lane	N10
Hurst Avenue	N10

Table 8: Neighbourhood Watches within Muswell Hill and Highgate wards that have adopted the Wood

5.8 Locked at night

Some park sites in the borough are locked at dusk and opened at dawn, due to historical issues or having private houses or gardens backing onto the site. Queen's Wood is not a locked site.

5.9 Dog control orders

Dogs and dog walking are a valuable part of the park scene, and dog carers are probably the main daily user group in many green spaces. Their collective presence is a key ingredient of green spaces being populated and safe to use, especially at quieter times of the day and year. They are often described as 'eyes and ears' of a green space, and need to be fully involved in all consultations and improvement plans. Obviously, like any other user group, they are expected to use the parks responsibly.

In December 2011, the council agreed to carry out a formal consultation on dog control orders covering dog exclusion, dogs on leads, dogs on leads direction and dog fouling.

Following an informal information-gathering exercise in April / May; the official consultation commenced early June and ran until 23 July. 623 completed questionnaires were received by the closing date.

About 35% of responses were obtained through interviews 'on location' in parks; 40% through the post - often as a result of respondents collecting questionnaires from the interviewer; while the remaining 25% were completed online. Many questionnaires were distributed with the help of the Parks Service, Friends of Parks, Homes for Haringey, Libraries and Area Forums.

The following table summarises the responses to the proposed dog control orders:

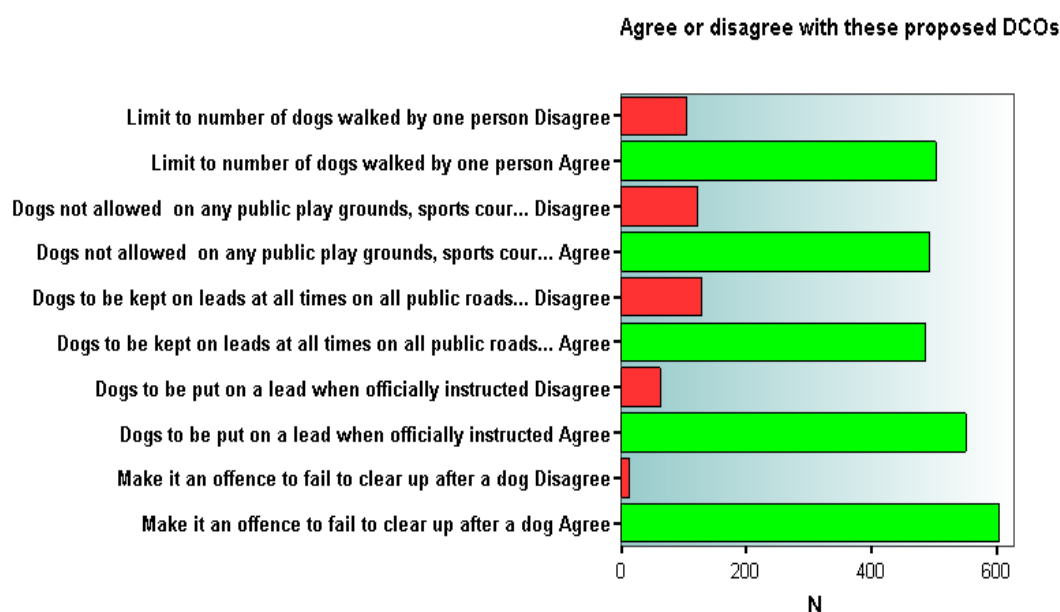


Table 9: Responses to proposed dog control orders

Following the conclusion of the consultation a report was prepared for consideration by the Councils Cabinet and agreement was given in October 2012 to fully implement the dog control orders by 1 April 2013. Five orders were agreed and are set out below.

1. **Fouling of Land by Dogs Order** - It is an offence for any person when being in charge of a dog, which defecates at any time on any land within the London Borough of Haringey, not to remove the faeces from the land forthwith.
2. **Dogs on Leads Order** - It is an offence for any person when being in charge of a dog to permit the dog to enter or remain on the land unless the dog is on a lead.
3. **Dogs on Leads by Direction Order** - It is an offence for any person when being in charge of a dog if, at any time, on any land to which this Order applies he does not comply with a direction given to him by an authorised officer of the Authority to put and keep the dog on a lead.
4. **Dogs (Specified Maximum) Order** - It is an offence for any individual person to be in charge of more than six dogs, at any time, on any land to which this Order applies.
5. **Dogs Exclusion Order** - It is an offence for any person when being in charge of a dog to permit the dog to enter or remain on any land to which this Order applies.

Enforcement of the dog control orders rely heavily on joint enforcement by the Police and Neighbourhood Action Teams. There are a limited number of Council Enforcement Officers patrolling the borough's streets daily, so enforcement is often intelligence led, based on complaints raised by Council staff and/or park users, and targeted action implemented.

The penalty for committing an offence under a Dog Control Order is a maximum fine of level 3 on the standard scale (currently £1,000). However an authorised officer of an authority may alternatively issue a Fixed Penalty Notice. This includes Police and Community Support Officers (PCSOs).

The amount of a fixed penalty can be set by the local authority within a prescribed range (up to £80), but will be £75 unless another amount is specified.

5.9.1 Dog control orders within Queen's Wood

The following orders are in operation in Queen's Wood:

- **Fouling of Land by Dogs Order** - This applies to the whole site
- **Dogs on Leads by Direction Order** - This applies to the whole site
- **Dogs (Specified Maximum) Order** - This applies to the whole site

5.10 The Conservation Volunteers activity

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV), formally BTCV, has worked in the borough for many years. Between 2009 and 2011 three full time TCV officers worked in Haringey providing green outreach work on behalf of the Council, formalised through a grant agreement.

In 2011 funding provided by the Council was reduced by nearly two thirds, resulting in a reduction of provision and posts.

Haringey and TCV have always been committed to working together through the tough times and the council recognises that TCV are a vital partner in supporting community groups in helping to deliver services that the council can't currently provide.

Formalised through a grant agreement, the Council have agreed to continue funding TCV's work in the borough until at least 2015, with their main base continuing to be Railway Fields Local Nature Reserve, but offering outreach work within other parks and open spaces.

TCV has turned Railway Fields into their first London based Green Hub, providing a focal point for their London wide activities as well as their local Haringey staff.

The direction of their work is now more aligned with helping community groups to become much more self enabled and sufficient. A TCV Officer has responsibility of working with the Friends groups identifying potential conservation activities, in close partnership with the Council's Nature Conservation Officer, and developing action plans to implement these identified tasks.

The Officer is also working with the groups, carrying out vital 'health checks' to see where the groups strengths and weaknesses are with the aim of building up their strengths to fulfil future ambitions and targets. Part of this is encouraging membership to TCV Community Network which provides help, support and financial benefits such as access to cheap public liability insurance.

Another TCV officer works with groups such as Friends, schools and volunteers providing practical conservation tasks within the open spaces.

The Council has identified 14 'priority parks' on which TCV will focus their resources, although this doesn't mean that they will cease activities in other parks.

Queen's Wood is one of these TCV priority parks. The table below details the practical volunteering that took place during 2014, facilitated by TCV.

Date	Site	Vols	Work	Details
Tue 03/12/2013	Queens Wood	20	Woodland management	Repaired Chestnut Paling fence around the pond and coppiced Holly around the base of Oak trees in the vicinity.
Tue 04/02/2014	Queens Wood	19	Woodland management	Cleared masses of Goat Willow from the coppiced area close to Wood Vale
Tue 01/04/2014	Queens Wood	16	Habitat Creation/Management	Created a number of log habitat structures, including a wigwam round the lower pond at the entrance near the cafe. We also built up the dead hedge to try and keep dogs out and dug a drainage channel into the pond to divert surface runoff into the pond,
Thu 01/05/2014	Queens Wood	11	Footpath	Dug out mud / leaf mould from the steps at the Priory gardens entrance and refilled with Hoggins
Thu 10/07/2014	Queens Wood	9	Woodland management	Dead hedge construction and vegetation management
Tue 19/08/2014	Queens Wood	10	Fencing	60 - 80 metres of dead hedge using readily available brush and newly added holly cuttings. Reinstated and fortified a previous dead hedge using 2 metre tree stem and stakes for permanence.
Tue 16/09/2014	Queens Wood	7	Woodland management	A day in Queen's Wood. Work continued on the dead hedge, and a number of marked Holly were removed to improve the Oak's chances of success. Further work was done on the drainage channel by the frog pond.
Tue 14/10/2014	Queens Wood	12 (104)	Vegetation/Scrub Clearance	We finished work on the dead hedge whilst tackling selected holly was cleared to give other species a chance.

Table 10: Conservation work carried out by TCV and volunteers in Queen's Wood

A TCV officer has also developed a Conservation Action Plan for many sites within the borough and will continue to advise and develop conservation opportunities.

5.11 Groundwork partnership

In April 2012 Haringey Council entered into a new three year partnership (with a potential 18 month extension) with environmental charity Groundwork London.

As part of the Council priority for 'A Cleaner, Greener Haringey' the overall aim of the agreement builds capacity within the residents of Haringey to make a positive contribution to the parks and green spaces.

The agreement is based around three priorities and financial key performance indicators. The three priorities are:

1. New volunteering
2. Capacity building
3. Fundraising

The Council has identified 11 'priority parks' on which Groundwork will focus their resources, although this doesn't mean that Groundwork will limit their activities such as corporate volunteering initiatives to these parks only.

Groundwork and TCV have agreed to explore how they may help each other, particularly around delivery of the Conservation Action Plans. Groundwork has agreed to explore ways of capacity building and volunteer brokerage and organise some task days focused on delivering the pre-identified conservation actions. Groundwork will then work with TCV who will oversee and deliver the practical element of the task days.

6. Sustainability

6.1 Greenest borough strategy

Haringey's Greenest Borough Strategy was adopted in 2008 in response to growing concerns around climate change. The Strategy sets out the Council's and its partners commitment to tackle climate change under seven environmental policies to ensure achievement of their 'green' vision over a ten year period, and details what the council, its partners and the public can do to contribute.

1. Improving the urban environment
2. Protecting the natural environment
3. Managing environmental resources efficiently
4. Leading by example
5. Encouraging sustainable design and construction
6. Promoting sustainable travel
7. Raising awareness and involvement

The management and maintenance of parks and how they are used relate back to many of the individual targets within the Strategy, and are instilled in everyday working practices.

6.2 Pesticide use

The Pesticide Policy outlines the requirements for appropriate handling, storage, usage and reduction in use of pesticides. It specifies the types of pesticide used and for what activities. All fuel and chemicals held at site offices are locked away when not in use and records are made of incoming and outgoing material.

In order to reduce the use of pesticides and herbicides, weeds are first removed using manual controls. At non-priority sites where weeds can no longer be controlled manually, chemicals may be used. The main method of controlling weeds and to increase moisture retention, is to spread a thick layer of recycled compost (collected from London Waste) over the shrub beds in spring, topping it up in autumn.

Some pesticides are used in parks to reduce weeds around static objects such as bins and benches, but this practice is kept to a minimum. No pesticides are used in Queen's Wood or any other nature reserves.

6.3 Sustainable use of materials

The Parks Service refrains from the use of non-sustainable peat based products and challenges nursery suppliers to provide alternative supplies. Wolves Lane Nursery currently supplies parks with the majority of annual bedding plants, all of which are

now grown in peat free soil. Where procurement of other plants from other nurseries is required, peat free grown plants are requested.

Green waste recycling within Haringey parks continues to develop as different recycling avenues are explored. Where possible green waste is recycled on-site; grass cuttings are left on the grass; and hedge cuttings are mulched and placed under the hedge or in other areas of the park.

In autumn when a large amount of green waste is generated, that which cannot be used or composted on site is taken to the North London Waste Depot for recycling. The resulting compost is then collected for use in the parks and free compost is often given away at public events.

A monitoring system is in place to record the amount of green waste that is mulched on site and the amount that goes to London Waste for recycling, as well as recording the percentage of green waste that is recycled. The system aims for 100% recycled green waste. Leaf litter is already composted or mulched on site.

Our infrastructure procurement policy is to use recycled materials where possible. We aim to acquire recycled plastic benches where possible; or where timber is required we seek to use those from sustainable sources. This is monitored centrally within the Council, on a monthly basis.

7. Community Involvement

7.1 Volunteering in parks

The Government's spending review 2010 set out an intention to work with the voluntary sector and community groups to develop investment opportunities in public services.

Haringey Council's 'Voluntary Sector Strategy 2011-2016' and the 'Commissioning and Funding Framework for the Voluntary Sector' set out a borough-wide approach to the support of the Voluntary Sector in Haringey. The documents have been produced to help us meet the challenges and opportunities emerging from changes to the public sector.

As part of a wider significant budget reduction within the Council, the budget for provision of the management and operation of Haringey's parks and open spaces was reduced by 51%, effective from 1 April 2011.

Against this context the Parks Service was required to explore the potential for volunteering to mitigate/improve the Service.

People and organisations become involved in volunteering for a variety of reasons and there are accepted opportunities, threats, risks, advantages and disadvantages associated with volunteering. What is certain is that volunteering has a cost, which has to be measured against benefit.

A number of ways volunteers can become involved in parks has been developed over the past couple of year and are currently working well. Some of these are detailed in the following section.

7.2 Haringey Friends of Parks Forum

Haringey residents have proved to be committed to protecting and improving open space within the borough and there over 40 separate Friends of Parks groups, as well as a borough-wide Haringey Friends of Parks Forum which meets 6 times a year.

The Forum was set up by Friends Groups as an independent network in 2002, one of the first to be established in London. The Forum provides an opportunity for Friends Groups to work together for the good of Haringey's green spaces. The Forum's 'What We Do and How We Do It' document describes the work of the Friends Groups as such:

Friends Groups do a huge amount and put in thousands of hours of volunteer time to:

- help develop maintenance and management plans for our parks and green spaces
- raise funds for improvements needed
- prevent inappropriate development in parks and green spaces
- plant trees, shrubs and flowers and help create play areas, seating and other facilities
- conduct regular walkabouts with parks staff and produce maintenance updates
- organise activities that encourage local residents to safely use their local open spaces, including festivals involving up to thousands of local people

The forum goes on to explain its own work: The Forum has been effective in lobbying and campaigning for

- better planning policies as they affect open spaces
- more ambitious and effective open space standards
- greater levels of on-site staffing
- giving support to individual Friends Groups

Friends Groups communicate and co-ordinate through the Forum's email list. The Friends Groups liaise closely with all Council park services, and have been key agents in helping to bring in millions of pounds in external funding to improve facilities for local people.

They have worked with the Council on achieving Green Flag status for many parks and open spaces. The Forum is supported by the Council and park Officers attend a session during the Forum's meetings to take note of each local Friends Group's issues, and to discuss wider issues of common concern. The Council is publicly committed to active partnership working with Friends Groups and the Forum, and minutes of all Forum minutes are displayed on the Council's website.

The Forum works with Haringey Federation of Residents Associations and the Haringey Allotments Forum. It also links up with similar grass-roots residents' Forums and networks throughout the UK through the London Friends Groups Network and the National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces.

7.3 Friends of Queen's Wood

The Friends of Queen's Wood (FQW) is a voluntary group which was set up to help look after the Wood and its trees, plants, birds, animals, fungi and other forms of wildlife. It has about 200 households in membership: members are mainly drawn from the surrounding areas in Haringey and Camden.

FQW began at the beginning of the 1990s as a small, informal group of very local residents who undertook some basic management tasks, such as sweeping paths of

leaves and snow and picking litter, as the Council progressively withdrew its park keepers from the Wood.

In 1999 there was felt to be a need for a more formalised structure, for three reasons: to give more legitimacy and accountability for the actions of the Group; to take on more ambitious tasks, especially those entailing external funding; and to spread the net for members more widely. As a result a constitution was adopted and a more formal structure for running the Group was put in place. These have remained broadly unchanged since then.

Specific aims and objectives

1. To help look after the Wood, its plants, animal, fungi and other forms of wildlife in conformity with its status as an urban nature reserve
2. To improve the accessibility of the Wood, in keeping with its nature reserve status.
3. To improve the appearance and cleanliness of the Wood,
4. To educate and inform users of the Wood and the wider public about the value of the Wood and its various facets.
5. To enhance the value of the Wood as a place of enjoyment and entertainment

Activities

The Group carries out a number of activities:

1. Maintenance of the Wood. Essentially it acts as the Council's 'eyes and ears', keeping a look out for, and reporting as necessary, disturbances such as the blockage of pathways by fallen trees and branches, instances of dangerous overhanging branches, acts of vandalism or nuisance. It also holds a group working party session on the last Sunday morning of each month for up to two hours, which carries out maintenance and conservation tasks in accordance with the agreed Management Plan and helping to keep the Wood free of litter.
2. Research and education. It monitors and undertakes specific surveys of the state of wildlife in the Wood. For example it monitors the impact of coppicing undertaken at various stages over the last ten years and has undertaken surveys of the flora of the Wood, and its invertebrate and bird life.
3. Educating and informing. It organises walks around the Wood a number of times a year, with different themes e.g. spring flower walks, bird walks, herbal walks. It also arranges a talk at each AGM (and occasionally at other times) on issues of interest such as birdlife, the impact of coppicing on the flora of the Wood, the watercourses and geology of the Wood. It issues a monthly bulletin to members and a quarterly newsletter. It runs an informative website, which includes the posting of forthcoming events.
4. Recreation. Once a year it organises a family fun day aimed primarily at younger children.
5. Miscellaneous. As a principal point of reference for the users of the Wood and others more widely, the Group deals with a wide number of ad hoc issues as they arise. For example it has been active in lobbying over concerns about

damage to the Wood from the neighbouring builders yard and the activities undertaken on adjoining properties which could have an impact; answering a wide range of questions from members of the public about the Wood; and advising schools and children's groups.

Governance and organisation

The Group holds an Annual General Meeting, when elections are made to the Committee. The Committee carries the responsibility for undertaking the activities of the Group. The Committee has up to 9 members and meets about four times a year. In addition there is a joint Management Committee comprising several members of the Friends Committee and representatives of the Council, when issues relevant to the management of the Wood are discussed and decisions made. This meets about three times a year. The Committee holds consultations with its members (and more widely if there is interest) on major projects such as coppicing and the development of the wildlife ponds.

Finance

The Group charges a small subscription: £5 per annum for individuals and £10 for households. It has an annual income of about £1.5k - £2k per annum excluding specific grants. Its expenditure varies from year depending on the particular projects and other activities being undertaken. In recent years it has been successful in winning external grants for a number of projects in cooperation with Haringey Council, these often substantially exceeding the income it generates itself. In this it has been able to draw on the Council's services from Groundwork.

Working with the Council

The Group works closely with the Council in all its activities. The foundation of the cooperation between the FQW and the Council is the management plan for the Wood. The main forum for interaction is the joint Management Committee (see above). These meetings of the Committee are supplemented by liaison on a frequent basis with individual officers, especially on specific projects and dealing with day to day problems, such as fallen trees and vandalism, as they arise.

Links with other bodies

The Group maintains links with a number of local bodies, in particular:

- The Superintendent and staff of the adjoining Highgate Wood
- Other Friends of Parks Group, both bilaterally (particularly that covering Crouch End Open Space) and through the Friends of Parks Forum
- The local police Safer Neighbourhood team
- Residents Associations or other local representative bodies such as the Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association and the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum
- The Conservation Volunteers (TCV). They undertake work in the Wood several times a year and they have been of particular value in carrying out tasks which require a professional expertise or manpower input beyond the capability of the Group itself.
- Local educational bodies or groups such as Forest Schools

For further information - www.fqw.org.uk

7.4 Queen's Wood Lodge Cafe

Queen's Wood Lodge Cafe is open May to October; weekdays 10am – 5pm, weekends 9am – 6pm, and during November to April; weekdays 10am – 4pm, and weekends 9am – 5pm.

The cafe provides refreshments and toilet facilities to visitors to the Woods and puts on events and activities both within the Cafe and in the Wood.

For further information - www.queenswoodcafe.co.uk

7.5 Queen's Wood Organic Community Garden

Volunteers are welcome and encouraged to help maintain Queen's Wood Community Garden. No previous knowledge or experience is needed and all skill levels are catered for, especially as the organic garden depends on help from volunteers.

It's a great opportunity to learn or share vegetable and fruit growing skills and they even provide refreshments (and a share in the crop) in return for their hard work.

Activities include:

- planting, digging, harvesting
- basic DIY
- pruning and clearing
- sowing seeds and greenhouse work
- maintaining healthy compost piles
- help with some marketing, blog writing and Facebook updates

Volunteers work in the garden every week, all year round:

- Monday mornings, 9.30am – 1.30pm
- Thursday mornings, 9.30am – 1.30pm (April – September)

For further information - www.queenswoodgarden.org

7.6 Local schools

Local schools play an active part in the activities that take place in the Wood. It is often used as an extension to their classroom activities.

7.7 Forest School

Forest School activities are becoming more popular across the country and take place regularly in Queen's Wood. These offer children, usually of nursery age the opportunity to experience and learn about nature in the outside environment.

7.8 Corporate volunteering in parks

Today more and more companies are becoming much more environmentally aware and are seeing and recognising the benefits that corporate volunteering brings to communities.

Haringey Council welcomes companies who want to carry out improvement works to the borough's green spaces, and has facilitated a number of workdays recently which have seen many small improvements make large scale changes to park users.

Since Haringey started directly facilitating corporate volunteering projects in 2011 until November 2013, a total of 28 corporate volunteering projects were facilitated in the borough's parks, involving approximately 761 volunteers.

If applying a monetary volunteer value to this activity, used by many national charities of £150 per volunteer, per day, this corporate activity has resulted in a value of over £112,600 brought into Haringey's parks.

With corporate volunteering on the increase, and Haringey's partner organisations such as Groundwork and TCV tasked with facilitating corporate volunteering projects in the borough on an annual basis, Haringey is hoping that these opportunities will increase throughout the coming years with more projects taking place in Queen's Wood.

8. Conservation and Heritage

8.1 Biodiversity

In 2009 Haringey adopted a biodiversity action plan (BAP). This document informs the council's approach to increasing biodiversity across all areas of its activities. Parks and open spaces can make a significant contribution to achieving the council's objectives for biodiversity.

'Biodiversity is all around us: not just in wild places and nature reserves but also in our cities, the places we live and work, our farmland and our countryside. We are an integral part of this biodiversity and exert a major influence over it.' (Natural England - Biodiversity)

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) lists the following numerous reasons why biodiversity matters;

- It plays an important role in tackling climate change.
- It is an indicator of the wider health of our environment.
- It helps to sustain local economies.
- It supports other vital services that sustain life on earth (Ecosystem Services).
- It contributes to our health and wellbeing.
- It is an important part of our cultural heritage and identity.
- It offers opportunities for community engagement and volunteering.
- It provides us with essential products and materials.
- We have a responsibility to conserve biodiversity.

8.2 Parks and green spaces Habitat Action Plan

Vision Statement

- To encourage good conservation practice in parks and green spaces across the London Borough of Haringey, respecting their varied functions and the aspirations of local communities.
- To improve access to nature in Haringey's parks and green spaces, particularly in areas of deficiency in access to natural green space.
- To raise awareness of the importance of parks, squares and green spaces in the conservation of Haringey's biodiversity.

Targets

- Target 1 – Raise awareness of how parks management can be improved to enhance access to nature for Haringey residents and visitors.
- Target 2 – Undertake biodiversity improvement work in a minimum of 10 LB Haringey parks and green spaces by 2015.
- Target 3 – Increase the number of volunteers recording wildlife in Haringey's parks and green spaces.

8.3 Site history

Queen's Wood dates from at least 1600, possibly from pre-historic times.

In the nineteenth century the Wood was known as Churchyard Bottom Wood. It was purchased from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners by Hornsey Council in 1898 and renamed Queen's Wood in honour of Queen Victoria.

In November 1990 it was designated a Statutory Local Nature Reserve by the Council.

The London Ecology Unit list it (together with nearby Highgate Wood and Parkland Walk) as a Site of Metropolitan Importance; their highest grading.

9. Marketing

9.1 The marketing approach

Marketing Queen's Wood involves more than simply publicising and promoting the park, it also involves listening to the users of the park. A common phrase associated with marketing is 'putting the customer at the centre of business'.

This section outline how facilities and activities at Queen's Wood are promoted and publicised and secondly how users are positioned at the centre of the business.

9.2 Websites

www.haringey.gov.uk/greenspaces

The Haringey website contains extensive information on the borough's parks and open spaces, including Queen's Wood. Information such as locations, facilities and transport links for all Haringey parks and open spaces is available.

Policy information such as the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy which draws upon a range of information and seeks to establish a longer term vision for the borough's parks and open spaces is also available.

Information detailing the Council's partnerships with the Friends, TCV, the Metropolitan Police and Groundwork is available online along with links to their websites.

Detailed information on the Green Flag Award with clear links to the Green Flag park pages within the LBH site can be viewed.

22% of respondents to the last residents survey carried out in 09/10 prefer to find out information via the web.

Stakeholders within the Wood such as the Friends, Cafe and Community Garden all maintain websites:

www.fqw.org.uk

www.queenswoodcafe.co.uk

www.queenswoodcafe.co.uk/garden/

9.3 Social media

Social Media is now a regular way of communicating information between relevant parties and beyond. Haringey Council encourages all partners to use social media when communicating with communities.

[@haringeycouncil](#)

Haringey Council has now established a Twitter feed with over 5,000 followers and is used as a two-fold approach: to proactively release live information to keep people informed and updated, and respond to queries and complaints posted by others. This is checked throughout the day and provides residents and visitors with another communication channel.

The Council also uses other forms of communication such as Facebook and YouTube.

www.facebook.com/haringeycouncil

www.youtube.com/haringeycouncil

The Queen's Wood Cafe also use Twitter to promote activities.

@QueensWoodCafe

9.4 Events listings

A new software package enabling people to apply to use the borough's parks for events will be rolled out for use in 2015. Not only will this make the process of applying to use the parks easier for the applicant, it will make the back office process a lot smoother by incorporating automatic alerts and reminders.

One of the tools used within this software is notices of events taking place in parks will be posted automatically on the Haringey website, so if people want to see what's taking place they can look online and sign up to automatic alerts for the 'What's On' page. We are currently looking at enabling those who have registered their interest in parks events to receive notices via text and email.

9.5 Publications

Haringey People

Haringey People is the Council magazine, distributed six times a year by direct mail to all households within the borough. The magazine is produced by the Council's Central Communications Team which has editorial control over the content.

Independent research shows that Haringey People is the source most often used by residents to obtain information about the Council (45% of respondents to 09/10 residents' survey). A number of articles are published each year promoting the borough's parks.

9.6 Notice board

There are notice boards at five different gates into the Wood. These are used to display information about the Friends and Council services and/or campaigns.

In 2014 a new set of guidelines detailing how notice boards within parks should be used, maintained and what information can be displayed were issued with the expectation that all those with an interest and access to the notice boards will adhere to.

9.7 Campaigns

A number of annual publicity campaigns are run each year to highlight key issues affecting the borough's parks and open spaces. These include:

- Litter awareness campaign – encouraging users to dispose of their litter responsibly, focusing on specific hotspot areas at key points in the year and including enforcement action
- Neighbourhood Watches – encouraging creation of new watches and increased membership
- Trees – awareness campaign aimed at key points through the year, highlighting tree planting, tree maintenance and removal and why, national tree week
- Volunteering and Friends Groups – promoting the work groups do and the benefits they bring, and encouraging volunteering
- Love Parks Week – promoting and highlighting the borough's parks and events that take place in them

9.8 Awards

9.8.1 London in Bloom awards

Each year Haringey enters the London in Bloom awards and takes judges on a tour of the borough which encompasses a number of different locations including a number of parks and has in the past included Queen's Wood and the community garden.

9.8.2 Green Flag Award

In July 2014 18 parks managed by Haringey Council were awarded Green Flag status, an external recognition for quality parks and open spaces.

Haringey Council is committed to managing its parks under the Green Flag criteria and aim for accreditation for all of its parks.

In 2015 two new applications will be made including Queen's Wood and Parkland Walk.

9.8.3 2014 RE:LEAF Tree and Woodland Awards

Haringey woodlands including Queen's Wood and Coldfall Wood won the Community Woodland Award for exemplary woodland management in an urban area.

It highlights the ability to carry out productive and biodiversity improving operations in a sustainable manner, with the support and involvement of the local community.

9.9 Tree and bench sponsorship

A sponsorship scheme is provided where members of the public can sponsor the planting of a tree or the installation of a bench in any Council run park and open space. This can be done to commemorate a loved one or an event.

The sponsor pays for the item and planting / installation, thereafter the Council maintains it subject to certain conditions. Should sponsors wish to, they can also help in maintaining their item.

The Friends of Queen's Wood have used their own funds to install benches within the Wood.



Image 39 & 40: Friends of Queen's Wood sponsored bench

9.10 Consultation and market research

There are a number of ways used to gain information from residents about what they think of the borough's parks and what they would like to see or improvements made. Some of these are detailed below.

9.10.1 www.haringey.gov.uk/yourvisit

Users of Queen's Wood are encouraged to complete an on-line survey 'Your Visit' available on the Haringey website. This survey is advertised in the notice board within the park.

9.10.2 2013 park user survey

In January 2013 a survey was conducted to gauge park user perception of the borough's parks and open spaces. Feedback from this survey will be used to inform where improvements are wanted and where resources can be directed when available.

The survey is planned to take place every three years in order to leave sufficient time to carry out any of the improvements / suggestions park users have told us they would like to see.

The survey was published online with a few paper copies available from park cafes, libraries and council reception points.

835 responses were received. Of these:

- 698 respondents used a Haringey managed park
- 127 respondents completed the survey on a non Haringey managed park, such as Highgate Wood and Alexandra Park
- 14 respondents stated they never used a Haringey park and gave the main reasons as being they didn't have time or they weren't safe

18 responses were received regarding Queen's Wood.

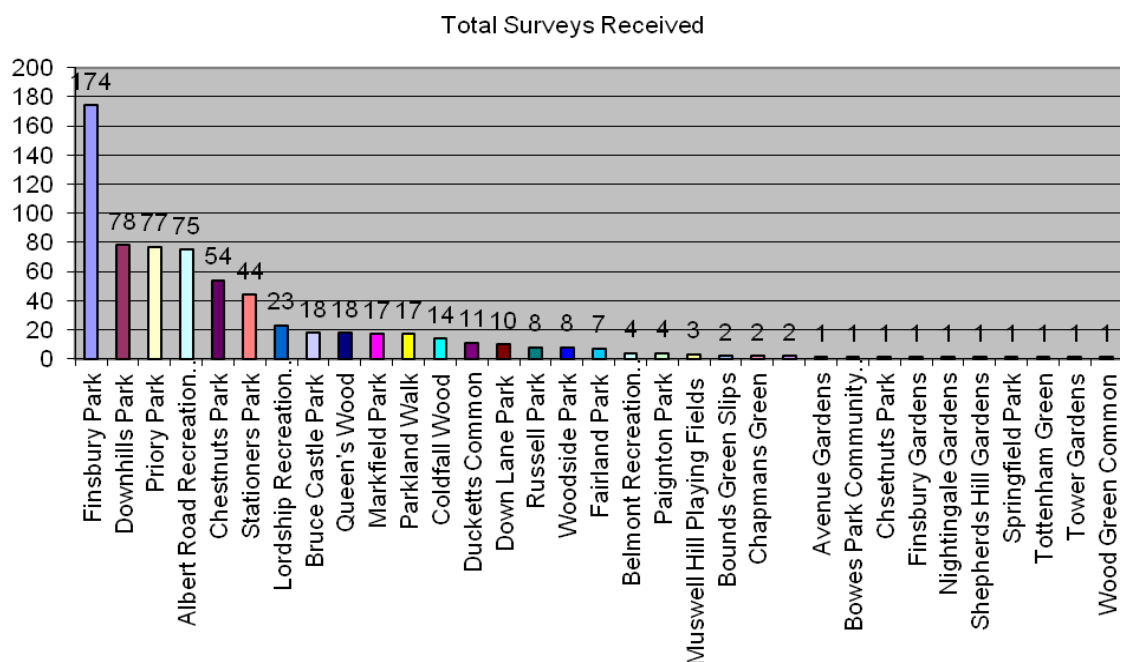


Table 11: Number of surveys received per park

When asked if they felt the condition of the park had got better or worse since January 2011 the response was as follows:

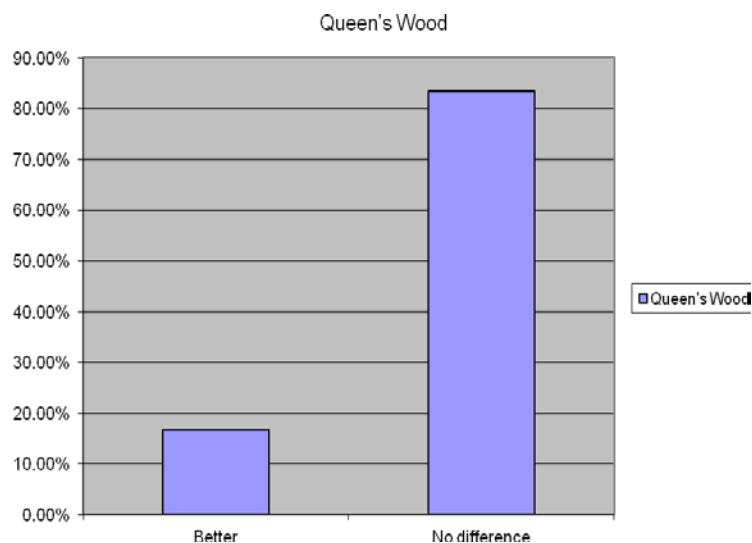


Table 12: Change in condition of park since 2011

When asked how safe they felt using the park, responses were as follows:

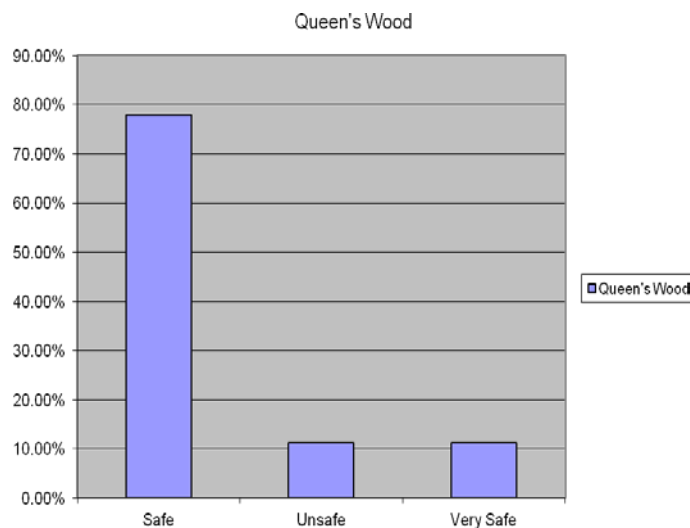


Table 13: Perception of safety

Respondents rated the facilities within the park as follows, with 1 = poor, 2 = fair, 3 = good and 4 = excellent.

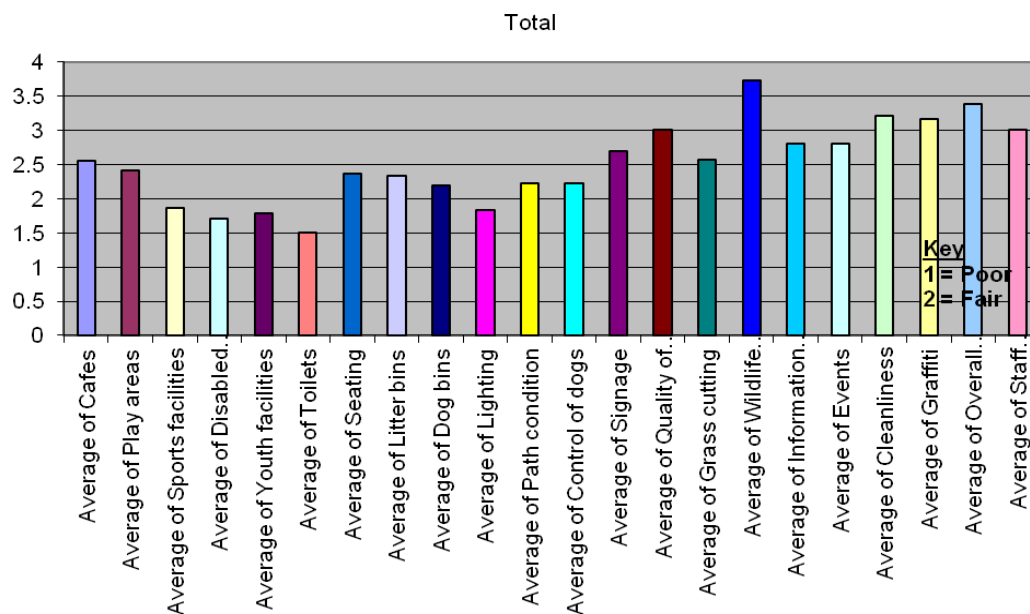


Table 14: Average score of facilities within site

Reasons given for using Queen's Wood were:

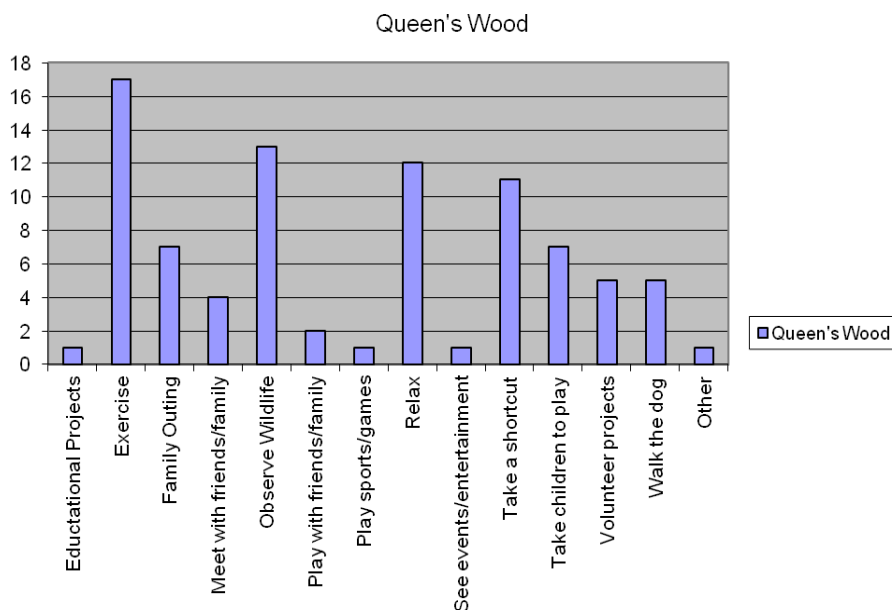


Table 15: Reasons for using park

Frequency of use



Table 16: Frequency of use

Time of day users visit

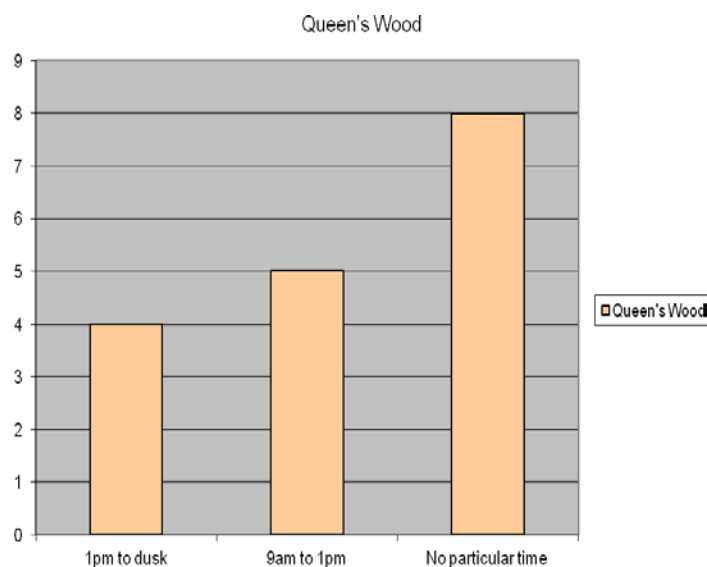


Table 17: Time of day visited

Time spent in park



Table 18: Time spent on site

Comments provided on how the user experience could be improved were as follows:

make sure everyone contributes to cleanliness. I saw people eating pizza and leaving boxes behind...
Organised wildlife walks. Nicer cleaner cafe. More opportunities to socialise/ have coffee. More activities that celebrate its difference from neighbour - Highgate Woods (it's wilder, hillier, more 'real'). Reassurance that there are occasional patrols of the woods/points where you could call for help
nothing needed
better cafe
Better control over dogs especially aggressive breeds. Deal with graffiti
I am happy with my experience of using Queens Woods
Improved paths to exits/entrance During wet weather it's a mud bath anyone with buggy or poor walking finds it impossible to make their way safely, particularly bad leading to Connaught gardens
Keep it as it is

Improve the state of the footpaths. Empty bins regularly
Patrols in daytime and night time. Better lighting. Cameras in some areas. Stop people using Priory Park at night!
Some of the paths are very muddy. Use of hogging would help this
Repair the paths. Maintain the drainage gullies.
Paths need to be better maintained. It is fine (indeed good) that the majority of paths are not tarmac because that is more natural and a better surface for running. However there should be enough tarmac for those with buggies to make good use of the woods as we used to when our children were younger. This encourages use of the park. At the moment there are not sufficient tarmac paths to achieve this. Also the other paths need to be better maintained especially so that they can be used even in wet weather. Haringey needs to invest more in this.
1. Install iron railings around the frog pool to prevent people and dogs breaking down the wooden fence. 2. Get rid of the two smaller unsightly muddy pools that stink. 3. Improve signage to clearly show NO CYCLING at all entrances, especially at the top of the Cycleway at the Wood Vale entrance, where the current sign is misunderstood.
Some of the pathways could be resurfaced
Continuing current upkeep and improvements

Table 19: Comments received from users

9.10.3 Residents survey

The Haringey Residents' Survey is undertaken to measure residents' satisfaction with and perception of the council's services. Results are used by council departments to improve services and to measure the effectiveness of initiatives undertaken throughout the previous year.

Between 2001 and 2010 perceived service delivery with parks and open spaces had continuously increased from 34% of residents thinking service delivery was good to excellent, to 69% in 2010. The 2011 survey shows a fall in satisfaction to 65%.

In 2011 an extra question regarding safety in parks and open spaces was added. This showed that 85% of those surveyed felt either very safe or safe when using the borough's parks and open spaces.

At the end of 2014 'Investing in our tomorrow', a borough wide consultation took place to gauge resident priorities. This is likely to inform priorities in the coming months. This will ensure that the council is meeting the needs of residents efficiently and effectively, making the best use of evolving technologies and limited resources.

Area	Very safe	Safe	Not thought about it	Unsafe	Very unsafe
Central Haringey	12%	82%	1%	4%	1%
Crouch End/ Stroud Green	12%	75%	2%	3%	2%
Muswell Hill	24%	66%	4%	6%	4%
Northern Haringey	10%	70%	8%	12%	8%
Tottenham Hale/ Seven Sisters	6%	73%	4%	13%	4%
Wood Green	11%	71%	5%	9%	5%

Ethnicity	Very safe	Safe	Not thought about it	Unsafe	Very unsafe
White British	19%	70%	2%	6%	2%
Other White	10%	73%	4%	8%	5%
Asian	2%	79%	4%	15%	0%
Caribbean	9%	73%	4%	12%	2%
African	7%	74%	14%	1%	3%
Mixed/other	11%	69%	6%	12%	2%

Tenure	Very safe	Safe	Not thought about it	Unsafe	Very unsafe
Owner Occupied	18%	69%	3%	9%	2%
Council Rented	7%	75%	6%	7%	6%
Other	11%	75%	5%	6%	3%

Social grade	Very safe	Safe	Not thought about it	Unsafe	Very unsafe
AB	24%	64%	5%	6%	1%
C1	15%	72%	2%	8%	3%
C2	5%	81%	2%	9%	4%
DE	6%	75%	5%	8%	4%

Table 20: Residents' Satisfaction Survey 2010/11 - Understanding feelings of safety by area, ethnicity, tenure and social grade

10. Management

10.1 Setting the financial scene – 2011 to present

2011 was a rapid period of change for the Parks Service in Haringey. The Local Government Settlement for Haringey resulted in an £81m reduction in funding to Haringey, including £41m from 2011/12.

Members agreed a package of change proposal for parks around 3 themes:

- further operational efficiency
- transfer and fund delivery of services
- reducing scope and scale of grounds maintenance activity

The related actions achieved a net cost saving of £1.06m, the majority of which - £991k - was from 1 April 2011.

The most challenging element was the 'reduction in grounds maintenance' with a £510k budget cut, and reduction of 19 FTE staff (17 permanent and 2 FTE agency).

The Service has contractual commitments to both Homes for Haringey and the Heritage Lottery Fund (Lordship Recreation Ground, Finsbury Park and Markfield Park) which need to be met.

Whilst Friends of Parks remained engaged and participated in the two Lead Member led summit meetings held, they also expressed concerns regarding the budget cuts through a petition and deputation to Full Council in November 2011.

By January 2013 the Council had, in conjunction with partners, including Friends Groups, developed an action plan with 3 key themes, aimed at mitigating the impact of the reductions outlined above and redefining a core service offer:

- redesign and revision of our current parks and open space horticultural content
 - proactive and joined up use of supported employment and training initiatives
 - a smarter approach to supporting and developing volunteering
-
- **Redesign and revision of current parks and open space operation** – Initial reviews around particular operations led on to a full review of the future options for Parks Maintenance in the borough. The review concluded that the cost being paid for the service being received by the council was broadly comparable with the cost of service in the market, however, more money needed to be spent on modern machinery. It was also recognised that if additional money was provided for machinery overtime less seasonal staff would be required. The options review was considered by members and they elected to continue providing the service in house, to invest in new machinery and to ensure that work was undertaken to improve the management and supervision of the grounds maintenance operation.
 - **Proactive and joined up use of supported training and employment initiatives** - Over the last six years the Parks Service has actively engaged in initiatives to bring young people into horticulture. With an ageing workforce and natural vacancies that arise each year it is important that such schemes are maintained. The level of skills of our agency staff is an ongoing area of concern. In 2013 this theme was explored with the help of Groundwork one of the councils partners. Groundwork already run two schemes for Homes for Haringey under the banner of the 'Green Team'. Groundwork secured match funding from City Bridge Trust, Haringey Jobs Fund, Skills Funding Agency and Department of Work & Pensions totally £125,000 towards supporting training and employment initiatives in Haringey's Parks. Overall this supported 8 training posts in the borough the first two apprentices based at Lordship Recreation Ground. 'Graduates' from programmes will move into core and seasonal vacancies as they arise in the parks team. Working in this way the Council will move from its dependency on untested agency staff to well trained staff that have demonstrated their competency and skills to undertake the role of gardener in Haringey's Parks.
 - **Smarter approach to supporting and developing volunteering** - Haringey Parks Service has a strong track record of developing local engagement and volunteering. In discussion with the existing Friends Groups and volunteers it is clear that as a group they do not have the capacity to 'volunteer more'. Therefore our approach to developing volunteering further focused on capacity building with residents to seek new and additional volunteers. Capacity building focuses on the establishment of Friends Groups in parks where they do not exist, and also recruiting additional volunteers for existing groups.

Through our key partnerships with Groundwork, TCV and MPS we have moved forward on changing the use of their resources to focus more specifically on Volunteering.

This greater effort on developing new volunteering and supporting the development of existing groups is now bearing fruit.

2011 was very challenging for the Parks Service in Haringey and has remained so since. However, the review of options for the maintenance of parks ensured that

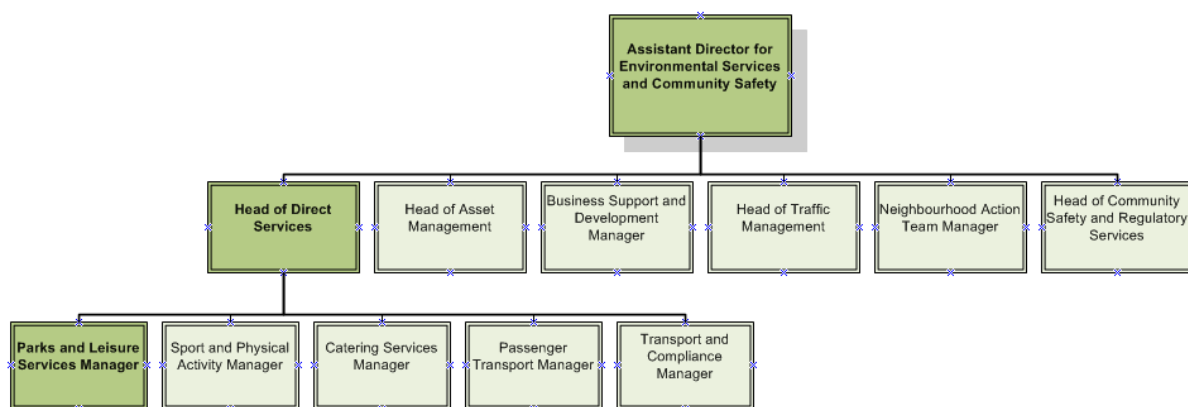


Image 42: Parks and Leisure Services structure chart

10.3 Corporate Plan 2013-15

To help the Council address inequalities and work towards a better life for residents, the Council's Corporate Plan for the next two years has been refreshed. It sets out the Council's strategic direction, guided by our vision of 'One Borough, One Future'.

The four key priority areas for the Council are:

- Outstanding for all: Enabling all Haringey children to thrive
- Safety and wellbeing for all: A place where everyone feels safe and has a good quality of life
- Opportunities for all: A successful place for everyone
- A better council: Delivering responsive, high quality services and encouraging residents who are unable to help themselves to do so

Providing a cleaner, greener environment and safer streets is the most relevant to improving the quality of parks and open spaces.

Key performance indicators and targets set out in the Corporate Plan include:

- maintain green flag status for 16 Haringey parks
- ensure that 65% of parks inspected are graded to a high standard (A or B) of cleanliness

A number of policies and key strategies support the corporate plan. Many feeding into how the borough's parks are managed but three - the Health & Wellbeing Strategy, Greenest Borough Strategy and Parks and Open Spaces Strategy – being the most influential.

More information can be found here: www.haringey.gov.uk/corporateplan

10.4 Open Space Strategy 2006 - 2016

The open space strategy guides the future direction of open space management and development. It also takes into account legislation and national policy.

The Vision Statement, eight strategic objectives and the action plan, which contains 97 actions to be implemented over the short, medium and long term, provide the key structure for this strategy.

The overall strategy has considered and defined the council's position in relation to the key issues of: deficiency, safety, community involvement, education, recreation, social inclusion, culture, biodiversity.

The following is the Council's vision:

'To enrich the quality of life for everyone in Haringey by working in partnership to provide safe, attractively designed, well used, well maintained open spaces for the benefit and enjoyment of the whole community.'

10.4.1 Objectives of the Open Space Strategy

- To address deficiencies in open space provision across the Borough in order to improve opportunities for local people to access a variety of open space environments.
- To create safe, open space environments that can be enjoyed by all sections of the community.
- To involve the whole community: residents, public, private and voluntary organisations, in the preparation and implementation of individual parks management plans in order to ensure that parks and open spaces contribute fully to the development of sustainable and cohesive local communities.
- To develop the educational role of open space, particularly for young people, in order to promote greater knowledge and understanding of the importance of the natural environment.
- To provide a range of opportunities and facilities for active and passive recreation, which can contribute to, improved mental and physical health and wellbeing.
- To manage and develop parks and open spaces in order to promote social inclusion and usage by all of Haringey's diverse communities.
- To develop and promote an increased range of opportunities for people to enjoy cultural experiences and activities.
- To promote biodiversity and the conservation, protection and enrichment of species and habitats.

More information can be found here:
www.haringey.gov.uk/leisure_parksandopenspaces_openspacesstrategy

10.5 The Quality Management System

The Parks Service operates a Quality Management System (QMS). The scope of the QMS includes the monitoring and management of parks, including the hygiene function, health and safety etc.

10.6 The Greenest Borough Strategy

Haringey's Greenest Borough Strategy responds to growing concerns around climate change. The Strategy sets out the Council's and its partners commitment to tackle climate change under a number of key environmental policies to ensure achievement of their 'green' vision over a ten year period, and details what the council, its partners and the public can do to contribute.

More information can be found here: www.haringey.gov.uk/greenest-borough

10.7 The Health & Wellbeing Strategy

This strategy aims to reduce health inequalities through working with communities and residents to improve opportunities for adults and children to enjoy a healthy, safe and fulfilling life, through a number of key outcomes.

Specifically relating to parks are include reducing smoking, increasing physical activity and improving health and mental wellbeing.

More information can be found here: www.haringey.gov.uk/hwbstrategy

This is currently being updated and due to be adopted in 2015.

10.8 Finance and funding

10.8.1 Annual budget

Queen's Wood budget sits within the west area of Parks Operations. This has an overall annual budget of £1.723m.

In addition to the operation activities carried out on site, the following additional funding will be made available over the next three years.

10.8.2 Parks and open spaces Small Grant Scheme

The Parks and Open Space Small Grant Scheme has been running for a number of years. The scheme offers community groups associated with parks and open spaces - such as Friends of Parks groups - to bid for funding of up to £1000, to support and develop community activity to help meet the council's aims and priorities for improving the borough's parks and open spaces.

The scheme has been running for a number of years. The budget available in 2014/15 was £40,000 and is expected to be again in 2015/16.

In 2013 the aims and priorities of the grant scheme were aligned to not only encourage Friends Groups to bid for money to enable them to undertake improvement and engagement works in parks, but for any group to apply for money to hold an event in a park, to increase the offer to residents and park visitors.

In 2014 the Friends of Queen's Wood were awarded £500 towards hosting the annual Family Fun Day, held in August.

An award was also made to the London Orienteering Club towards the hire fees of the Wood to cover their event in September.

More information can be found here: www.haringey.gov.uk/parkssmallgrants

10.8.3 Events income

At the end of 2013 a review of the parks events policy was conducted to inform and guide changes of how events would take place in the borough's parks, and also realign and invest income from parks events back into park improvements.

Income generated from events in parks and open spaces will be used in the first instance to meet the parks event income target in each year.

The application and booking fees will be utilised to fund the staffing costs of the booking and event management process.

Surplus income will initially be used to support and develop community led festivals and events in parks across the borough and offer training opportunities for community event organisers. £20,000 additional funding will be made available as part of the small grants scheme, as detailed above.

Any additional income generated will be ring fenced to be reinvested back into parks maintenance across the borough. Where significant sums of money are generated in

individual parks the reinvestment needs of that park will be addressed first before redistributing the remainder of any funds to other parks.

10.8.4 Environmental impact charge

All applicants will be charged a flat rate fee dependent on their event to cover the cost of the environmental impact on the park.

This will be kept separate from other income received and will be utilised to address the immediate priorities for funding identified by the Friends of the park in which the money was generated.

11. Improvements

11.1 Future improvements

11.1.1 Access and biodiversity improvements

Since 2012 Groundwork has been working with the Friends of Queen's Wood and the Council to improve the area near the Café.

The aim of the project is to improve access, the biodiversity value of the area and to provide educational facilities.

Through consultation with visitors and stakeholders plans have been developed to improve the area. The Friends took forward a project to develop a derelict toilet into a tool store and to create a habitat for bats which was completed in 2013.

The second phase of the project, which is funded by Awards for All and the Council consists of the following elements:

- construction of a retaining wall and access improvements
- planting of a new hedge
- further improvements to biodiversity value of the site
- providing educational facilities to encourage greater engagement with the natural environment
- enhancing the visual appeal of the area
- installation of a new bench

The works are due to be completed by the end of March 2015.

11.1.2 Opening up the river through Queen's Wood

The River Moselle begins as a number of small headwater streams which can be found of the upper slopes of Queen's Wood. However in places these largely intermittent streams have been placed with drainage within drainage pipes beneath the woodland floor, preventing them from providing any ecological or aesthetic function.

It has therefore been proposed to daylight these hidden sections of stream wherever possible and restore them to a more natural state.

Haringey Officers are hoping to progress these proposals by working with Thames 21 and the Environment Agency but delivery will depend upon preliminary investigations to determine whether or not the project has any potential to increase floor risk.

Appendix A

Friends of Queen's Wood

Report on implementation of 2010 Management Plan to June 2012 with revisions to the Plan agreed July 2012

The 10-year management plan for Queen's Wood was finalised in November 2010, so that effectively the first year of work was in 2011.

This report covers the first 18 months from January 2011 to June 2012, and addresses the prescriptions for Years 1 and 2 in the Management Schedule. It also identifies changes that need to be made in the Plan's prescriptions and changes or additions to the work scheduled for the next two years.

This document serves as an addendum to the Plan. The changes agreed between FQW and Haringey Council are shown in bold italics. The numbers refer to the sections in the Management Plan which we have agreed to revise or add further details.

Section 4 AIMS

4.2 ANALYSIS Table 3

It was decided to remove the reference to a possible visitor centre.

Section 5 PROJECTS

5.1 ACCESS MAINTENANCE (p.42)

Carry out condition survey of paths to confirm need for maintenance and upgrading:

A survey of paths has been carried out as specified in the plan. Many paths need repair.

- **Two areas have been identified for immediate action:**

Compartment Y: path leading to the pond: funding is likely to be available to cover the stretch from the edge of Comp M to the frog pond.

Compartment S/P/R: at the intersection between these compartments, the adjacent path needs refurbishing, and the drain under the path needs to be cleared. No money is available for this work at present.

- **Once the new coppice is completed the path through the coppice should be upgraded as follows:**

Compartment W/U: main path along boundary between the compartments – an area where one of the 'streams' crosses the path needs upgrading as it floods on occasion. Wait until work on creating the new coppice (see below) is complete, as the path may be further damaged by vehicle access.

Additionally:

Compartment O/P/Y: Steps previously built by BTCV to the pond from O/P need upgrading. Dead hedging placed down sides of access path to the Witches Coven should be reinforced.

5.3 BAT BOXES (p.43)

Fourteen bat boxes have been installed: 8 in the pond area and 6 near coppice in Compartment P.

5.4 BIRD BOXES (p.44)

Most of the existing bird boxes have deteriorated, mainly due to squirrel damage and are not worth cleaning. Only one (on an oak adjacent to the Lodge seems to be inhabited).

- **Revise downwards the aspirational figure (10 per hectare- i.e. 210 over 10 years) for installation of bird boxes in the Management Plan.**
- ***FQW would agree to fund 5 new boxes per year. The annual total should not exceed the number that could easily be monitored and maintained.***

5.5 COPPICING AND COPPICE MANAGEMENT (p.44)

Compartment K has been assessed – the coppice stools are mostly doing poorly, especially the hornbeam which is suffering severe squirrel damage, and too dense growth of other young trees, especially cherry. We are considering thinning to improve growth of the remaining trees, but at present are still uncertain about the value of re-coppicing in 2015, first because of the persistent squirrel damage and second because the coppice is on a shaded slope, overtopped by very large trees above the coppiced area.

- **Review whether it is worth re-coppicing in 2014. Meanwhile, carry out interim thinning of the existing young trees.**

Compartment N – no action taken yet due to insufficient time. We will consider some management work next year; particularly cutting back some of the bramble, if time and resources permit. This coppice was cut in two different stages, so the two sections may need different treatment.

- **In the next year, cut a path across the top section of the coppice to see if selective thinning of the understory is advisable.**
- ***Consider the feasibility of a glade or ride in this area.***

Compartment P – work on thinning the goat willow to allow more light to the hornbeam stools was carried out in the winter of 2011/12. However the goat willow is still growing very strongly and covers a significant area of the coppice. Bramble has also become pervasive. Monitoring of the coppice flora has continued in 2011 and 2012.

- **Goat willow needs to be cut in winter 2012 and probably in the following winters.**

Monitoring work will continue in 2013.

Compartments U/V/W – coppicing of part of planned area in U and V will be carried out in winter 2012. LBH is currently preparing publicity to explain the work, while FQW will provide further information to its members and the public. A baseline survey of the flora is being done, for comparison with records collected post- coppicing. This is an area with a fairly varied ground flora, including a number of ancient woodland indicator species.

5.6 DEAD HEDGING (p.47)

Compartment A – the dead hedge around the sanicle has been maintained and the sanicle has continued to expand its area of growth.

Compartment F and G (not Compartment H) – some informal dead hedging has been done, but in G, in the glade also containing young oaks and wild service trees, we should consider a more permanent dead hedge, as the cowwheat has expanded its area in the last two years, and some of it is vulnerable to trampling. Both the young oaks and wild service trees in this glade are doing well.

Compartment Y (bordering on N and P) – BTCV installed dead hedging along the streamside adjacent to the path and between N and P to prevent trampling and to protect the helleborines.

- **This dead hedge needs strengthening and maintaining.**

Compartments U and T – apart from a small informal dead hedge at 90° to the stream, established in 2011, the recommended dead hedges have not been put in place, in view of the planned coppicing in Compartment U. We can review the need for these dead hedges once the coppice has matured.

- **The suggested dead hedges at 90° to the stream should be considered after coppicing to protect the streamside vegetation.**

5.10 HOLLY, CHERRY LAUREL, SNOWBERRY REMOVAL (p.50)

Holly and laurel clearance has taken place in Compartments A, B C, D, E, F, G and J. In G extensive clearing was done around the young sessile oaks along the edge of Queen's Wood Road.

- **More holly clearance work needs to be done on the wood bank in Compartment N.**

The snowberry in Compartment G needs to be cut back.

Extensive holly clearance will be carried out in Compartments C and J in the next two years (including stump treatment) as part of the coppicing programme financed by the Forestry Commission.

5.11 IVY CONTROL/MONITORING (p.51)

An ivy survey is being carried out covering all areas of the wood (except U, V and W where coppicing will alter the conditions during the course of the experiment). This follows a presence/absence survey to map its distribution in the wood. Quadrats have been established to monitor the effects on the ground flora of pulling or cutting the ivy, against a control area where no action is taken. They will be monitored for three years. This should give us some indication of how far the growth of ivy on the ground inhibits the growth of other ground flora. This work has been carried out with advice from David Bevan and Keith Kirby.

5.12 JAPANESE KNOTWEED MANAGEMENT (p.52)

The knotweed in Compartment M has been treated (sprayed with glyphosate for three years). Knotweed in Compartments L and Q are still being monitored and pulled where found. It has also appeared in Compartment W behind the area to be coppiced [if this is not kept under control, it might spread once the coppice has been cut allowing in more light].

Compartment M

- In the next two years plans should be made to repopulate this compartment once the Knotweed treatment is completed.

Take out proposal for an education centre, as this is not considered feasible. Knotweed from other compartments should be bagged up, not thrown into M.

5.16 POND MANAGEMENT (p.53)

The biggest achievement is that the pond in Comp Z has been constructed and planted. All in accordance with the Management Plan except that overhanging tree canopy has not been reduced and there are no hibernacula. Two new small ponds in Comps L and V have also been dug, but have not been planted.

Plant growth in the Compartment Z pond has proved a difficult issue – partly due to the weather and partly to persistent vandalism, with breaks in the fence allowing dogs to swim in the frog pond. Plants are beginning to grow, but very slowly. In the smaller ponds, trampling and overshadowing have prevented more than minimal growth of ground flora.

- In winter 2012/13 overshadowing needs to be addressed by canopy reduction around the 'frog' pond, and the removal of further trees (mainly hornbeams) around the smaller ponds.
- *The Froglife management proposals need to be incorporated into the management plan and into the work timetables, including pondweed, algae and drainage issues. In view of the complications which have arisen with the development of these ponds, a full plan for future management will be put in place during the next review (in 2014).*

5.17 PRIVATE PROPERTIES – ACCESS FROM (p.53)

In **Compartments G**, large amounts of garden waste have been dumped onto the wood boundary bank and further into the wood, and similar dumping into the wood has occurred in Compartments V and W from houses facing onto Muswell Hill Road.

- The Council to draft a letter to send to residents asking them to refrain from dumping waste in the wood and explaining why.

5.18 SIGHT LINES MAINTENANCE (p.55)

Many paths have had clearance of nettles, brambles and small branches cut back. There has been more major clearance of bushes, holly, and small trees from the path between Compartments A and B and also the entrance to the wood from Queen's Wood Road on the Capital ring path (boundary of Compartment E/F)

TREE REGENERATION MANAGEMENT

In compartments B, C and D in particular, clearance of holly, laurel, sycamore etc has allowed much more light to the large oaks.

We have also been monitoring areas where there are numerous young oaks or saplings – Compartment G, R, Q and particularly Compartment D, where we have begun to thin the large, dense stand of young sessile oaks, and plan to do more thinning in winter 2012.

Cindy Blaney, one of the Keepers in Highgate Wood, has assisted us with advice on the health of QW oaks, in two informal surveys. We had hoped that Alex Fraser, the Arboricultural Officer of Haringey Council would undertake a formal survey of the QW oaks, with assistance from the Tree Wardens and using the same methodology as Cindy has used in Highgate Wood, but this did not prove to be possible in 2012.

- **In view of the volunteer time that would be involved, the usefulness and practicality of such a survey of oaks will be reviewed by FQW during the next year.**

We have not yet undertaken the tree thinning specifically recommended in the management plan, but will review this in the coming year, particularly the Year 2 prescriptions for Compartments N and M.

Review to be carried out in 2013.

Appendix B

Friends of Queen's Wood (amended by LB Haringey)
Report on implementation of 2010 Management Plan No 2
August 2012 to June/July 2014
(taking into account revisions to the Plan agreed in August 2012)

The 10-year management plan for Queen's Wood was finalised in November 2010, so that effectively the first year of work was in 2011.

This report covers the second two years, from July 2012-July 2014, and addresses the prescriptions for Years 3 and 4 in the Management Schedule. It also identifies changes that need to be made in the Plan's prescriptions and changes or additions to the work scheduled for the next two years.

This document serves as addendum 2 to the Plan. Changes agreed between FQW and Haringey Council are shown in bold italics. The numbers refer to the sections in the Management Plan which we have agreed to revise or add further details.

Section 5 PROJECTS

5.1 ACCESS MAINTENANCE (p.42)

Carry out condition survey of paths to confirm need for maintenance and upgrading:

A survey of paths has been carried out as specified in the plan. Many paths need repair. Key areas identified as needing work were:

1. the valley path in Compartment Y from Compartment M to the Frog Pond
2. where a stream crosses on the main path bordering Compartments W/U
3. where a stream crosses on the path between Compartments S/P/R: drain needed clearing and path refurbishing
4. Compartment O/P/Y – steps from Frog Pond to O/P need refurbishing and dead hedge. Dead hedging down sides of access path to Witches Coven to be reinforced

Haringey Council carried out work on resurfacing the path along the valley in Compartment Y from the corner of Compartment M to the frog pond in 2013 and subsequently in July 2014 repaired a section where a drainage pipe across the path was damaged and placed a boardwalk across the stream crossing on the border of Compartments W/U. FQW was also able to resurface the Capital Ring Path on the south side of QW Road with hoggin left over from the CREOS Woodland Walk path.

FUTURE ACTION

- ***Area 3 (S/P/R) remains to be repaired***
- ***Steps in area 4 still to be upgraded***

5.3 BAT BOXES (p.43)

Fourteen bat boxes have been installed: 8 in the pond area and 6 near coppice in Compartment P.

The planned follow-up inspection has been delayed as Cindy Blaney, from London Bat Group who monitors bats in this area, has been unable to do it due to her husband's illness.

FUTURE ACTION

- ***Follow up as soon as possible (late 2014/early 2015)***

5.4 BIRD BOXES (p.44)

Most of the existing bird boxes have deteriorated, mainly due to squirrel damage and are not worth cleaning. Only one (on an oak adjacent to the Lodge) seems to be inhabited.

In 2012 a revised goal of installing 5 boxes per year was agreed.

This goal was not met and should be revised in light of the monitoring review.

5.5 COPPICING AND COPPICE MANAGEMENT (p.44)

Future decisions on coppice management will be taken in light of a planning paper which is being developed by Haringey Council with FQW to guide longer term (20 years +) policy on tree and ground flora management. The comments below are designed to identify issues which will need to be dealt with and suggest possible options where relevant.

Compartment K: The hornbeam coppice stools in this compartment are for the most part doing poorly, apparently due to severe squirrel damage, and too dense growth of other young trees, especially cherry.

FUTURE ACTION

- ***to re-coppice the hornbeams as planned in 2015 and thin other species***

Compartment N: A preliminary report on the coppice was done in 2013 but it has proved difficult to prioritise which canopy trees might be removed (if any) particularly in light of ash dieback etc. The understorey is currently very dense bramble, goat willow etc.

FUTURE ACTION

We will consider some management work in 2015; particularly cutting back some of the bramble, if time and resources permit. This coppice was cut in two different stages, so the two sections may need different treatment.

- ***In the 2015 we will decide if selective thinning of the understorey is advisable and whether any canopy trees should be removed.***
- ***Consider the feasibility of a glade or ride in this area.***

Compartment P – Selective thinning of the goat willow to allow more light to the hornbeam stools was carried out in the winter of 2012/13, with further more limited thinning in winter 2013/14. However the goat willow is still growing very strongly and covers a significant area of the coppice, though most of the hornbeam stools have been growing well. Bramble has also become pervasive.

Monitoring of the coppice flora has continued in 2013 and in 2014 David Bevan continues to maintain a watching brief.

FUTURE ACTION

- ***Decide whether the concentration of goat willow in Compartment P is of ecological benefit and contributes to diversity, or whether thinning should continue.***
- ***Maintain a glade at the eastern end of the coppice***

Compartments U/V/W – coppicing of planned area in Compartments U and V was carried out in winter 2012/13, with some further felling carried out in early 2013 to remove a few oaks in Compartment U which were in poor condition because it was felt that the level of shade in that part of the coppice was still too great. Compartment W was cut in winter 2013/14 using horses, a departure that met with general approval.

So far, the pattern development of this coppiced area has differed from that in Compartment P, particularly in the dryer areas. The very cold spring in 2013 resulted in very slow growth of ground flora in Compartments U/V. In general the range of species appearing in this coppice is far more restricted than in Compartment P. In the area at the top of the stream in Compartment V/W, the existing ground flora, especially the goldilocks buttercups, has been doing well and spreading. One new species was identified by David Bevan in spring 2014. The spread of bramble, particularly in Compartment V and on the edge of the stream in Compartment U has been very rapid, and in some areas, ivy has been spreading on the ground.

A concern during both years has been persistent and growing resistance from some members of the public to having this large area enclosed by a dead hedge. This has been much more marked and long lasting than any adverse responses to the coppice in Compartment P. The dead hedge has been breached on a regular basis, to the point where during 2014 substantial sections are being removed every time they are replaced. Furthermore in summer a bike track has been developed in Compartment W, running through part of the coppiced area. Notices have been put up asking people not to walk on this area while the ground flora was regrowing, but these have been pulled down or ignored. It is possible that we should have started putting up more signage earlier.

It is not yet clear how much the constant disturbance has affected the regrowth of the vegetation.

FUTURE ACTION

- *Maintain dead hedge as far as possible for a further two years (see also 5.6)*
- *Add new signage to explain why deadhedges need to stay in place*
- *Monitor hornbeam stool regrowth (Ian Loasby) and ground flora (David Bevan)*

5.6 DEAD HEDGING (p.47)

Compartment A – the dead hedge around the sanicle has been maintained and the sanicle has continued to expand its area of growth. In 2014 the area has become somewhat overgrown, including nettles, which will be removed. Also during the spring, both lesser celandine and wood avens have begun to overshadow the sanicle to some extent. This is something we need to watch in future.

FUTURE ACTION

- *The deadhedge should be maintained and nettles and bramble kept under control*

Compartment F and G – some informal dead hedging has been done. In the glade in Compartment containing young oaks and wild service trees, cowwheat spread its cover in 2012 and 2013 in the last two years, and some of it is vulnerable to trampling. Both the young oaks and wild service trees in this glade have been doing well. However, in the winter of 2013/14, storms brought down part of a big

hornbeam on some of the young oaks. It took some time and effort to remove the fallen tree, and with an early spring, the sanicle had already begun appearing before we had the chance to build a deadhedge. To avoid disturbance, we decided to wait until the autumn to do this.

FUTURE ACTION

- *In 2015, consider building a more permanent dead hedge along the path.*

Compartment Y (bordering on N and P): – TCV installed dead hedging along the streamside adjacent to the path and between N and P to prevent trampling and to protect the helleborines. This has been frequently strengthened and maintained, and will need to be an ongoing task.

FUTURE ACTION

- *This dead hedge needs regular strengthening and maintenance.*

Compartments U and T: The recommended dead hedges have not yet been put in place. At present there are some large log piles and copious bramble close to the stream which does deter trampling. On the other hand the bramble may be shading out the growth of other species. We can review the need for these dead hedges once the coppice has matured, depending on the level of trampling experienced on the site.

FUTURE ACTION

- *The suggested dead hedges at 90° to the stream should be reconsidered during the next two years to protect the streamside vegetation.*

5.10 HOLLY, CHERRY LAUREL, SNOWBERRY REMOVAL (p.50)

In G extensive clearing was done around the young sessile oaks along the edge of Queen's Wood Road.

Extensive holly clearance has been carried out in Compartments C and J in the last two years (including stump treatment) as part of the coppicing programme financed by the Forestry Commission, Mayor of London and LB Haringey.

Limited cutting back of snowberry has been carried out in Compartment G.

FUTURE ACTIONS

- *More holly clearance work needs to be done on the wood bank in Compartment N and in Compartment Q & J*
- *Continued holly clearance in Compartment C*
- *The snowberry in Compartment G needs to be kept cut back.*
- *The impact of the extensive holly clearance over the last two years should be monitored and regrowth controlled in areas where no stump treatment has taken place.*
- *The impact of clearance around sessile oaks in Compartment G along Queen's Wood Road needs to be monitored and further clearance undertaken as needed*

5.11 IVY CONTROL/MONITORING (p.51)

An ivy survey is being carried out covering all areas of the wood (except U, V and W where coppicing will alter the conditions during the course of the experiment). This follows a presence/absence survey to map its distribution in the wood. Quadrats have been established to monitor the effects on the ground flora of pulling or cutting the ivy, against a control area where no action is taken. They will be monitored for three years. This should give some indication of how far the growth of ivy on the

ground inhibits the growth of other ground flora. This work has been carried out with advice from David Bevan and Keith Kirby.

We are now in the second year of the monitoring project. One problem which has arisen is disturbance of 3 of the 14 quadrats, to the point that they have become unviable for the survey. In a relatively small area of woodland it is difficult to identify a representative sample of areas which are sufficiently undisturbed (by people, dogs, foxes and squirrels).

FUTURE ACTION

- *Continue monitoring for a third year*
- *Consider impact of disturbance on value/scope of the survey*
- *Share the results with others working in woodlands around London who have expressed an interest in the project*

5.12 JAPANESE KNOTWEED MANAGEMENT (p.52)

The knotweed in Compartment M has been treated (sprayed with glyphosate for three years). As of 2014, some knotweed still remains, and treatment continues.

Knotweed in Compartments L and Q are still being monitored and pulled where found. It has also appeared in Compartment W behind the area to be coppiced, and needs to be kept under control or it might spread now the coppice has been cut allowing in more light.

- *Continue monitoring and removal of knotweed as necessary in affected parts of the wood.*
- *Once Compartment M is clear of knotweed, begin planning for future of the site, taking into account any issues that arise as a result of the landslide from Buildbase.*
- *Continue to monitor knotweed in Compartments L, Q and W.*

5.16 POND MANAGEMENT (p.53)

Plant growth in all the ponds, especially Compartment Z (Frog) pond has continued to be a difficult issue – partly due to the weather, especially the late spring in 2013 which further delayed the spread of vegetation on the pond edges and partly to persistent breaking of the fence allowing dogs to swim in the Frog pond. The FQW management committee developed a plan of action in 2013 to try and address these issues.

Some trimming of the tree canopy around the Frog Pond was carried out in winter 2012, but plants began to take hold only in 2014, when better weather, and steps taken with the help of City of London rangers from Highgate Wood to deter trampling inside the pond fence started to make a difference. A significant amount of frog spawn was found in the Frog pond in 2014, and some was also found in the Capital Ring pond. However, the problem of sustaining oxygenating plants in water where dogs regularly swim has yet to be solved.

In the smaller ponds, trampling and overshadowing initially prevented more than minimal growth of ground flora but work to cut back the canopy has made a significant difference. The banks now have some cover and in the top pond the drainage issues – flooding of the adjacent path in wet weather – seem to have been resolved by running a pipe under the path.

No hibernacula have been created successfully so far because of disturbance of the pond sites.

With help from Thames 21, testing of stream water in the wood is currently taking place at regular intervals. So far no pollution issues have been identified and the quality of the water is good.

FUTURE ACTION

- *Pond work is to be incorporated into the management plan and into the work timetables, including pondweed, algae and drainage issues*
- *Consider further cutting back of overhanging trees for all ponds*
- *The question of restocking the Frog Pond with oxygenating plants will be addressed early in 2015.*
- *Consider adding hibernacula where and when practical*

5.17 PRIVATE PROPERTIES – ACCESS FROM (p.53)

In **Compartments G**, garden waste has been dumped onto the wood boundary bank and further into the wood, and similar dumping into the wood has occurred in Compartments V and W from houses facing onto Muswell Hill Road.

The Council to draft a letter to send to residents asking them to refrain from dumping waste in the wood and explaining why.

5.18 SIGHT LINES MAINTENANCE (p.55)

Nettles, brambles and small branches overhanging the main paths have been regularly cut back, especially in summer. The path down to the pond (alongside coppice N) has been widened to allow better access for council vehicles.

FUTURE ACTION

- *Continue to keep paths clear, particularly on the Capital Ring path*

TREE REGENERATION MANAGEMENT

In compartments B, C and D in particular, clearance of holly, laurel, sycamore etc has been ongoing, allowing much more light to the large oaks (see **Section 5.10 Holly, Laurel and Snowberry removal**).

We have also been monitoring areas where there are numerous young oaks or saplings – Compartments G, R, Q and particularly Compartment D, where we have begun to thin the large, dense stand of young sessile oaks. In the winter of 2013/14 tree fall damaged some of the young oaks in Compartment D. However most have recovered and progressive thinning will continue.

Compartment M (see 5.12 Japanese Knotweed Management)

We have not yet undertaken the tree thinning specifically recommended in the management plan, especially referring to oaks.

It has not proved possible to carry out a full tree survey of Queen's Wood (see 2012 Management Plan update). However, Haringey Council (Oliver Tong) has conducted a risk assessment of the health and safety of trees along the edges of the main paths.

FUTURE ACTION

- *The extent of tree thinning required, and where it will be carried out, will be reviewed in the coming year and will take into account potential for oak and hornbeam regeneration in the wood.*
- *Continue monitoring growth of young oaks*

LONG TERM VISION

The current plan includes a long list of Aims but does not provide a vision. Such a vision is suggested below but will need to be adopted through consultation with FQW.

The long-term (20 year) vision is for a diverse woodland habitat of high ecological value continuing to function in its role as an important part of the London Borough of Haringey's ecological network. The Wood will also continue to be a valuable public open space for quiet recreational enjoyment and education in perpetuity.

Ideally species will be retained through natural regeneration although some change in species may be inevitable due to the effects of climate change.

The management of the site will continue to involve considerable local community input.

Appendix A

Current management plan – 2010 – 2020



Ecology Consultancy





Queen's Wood

Management Plan

Report for Friends of Queen's Wood

Author	Jon Riley	
Job No	2009/730	
Status	Date	Approved by
Draft	02/02/10	
Draft		
Final	011210	jr

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1. Introduction

1.1 Name

Queen's Wood

1.2 Location

Queen's Wood is situated in the western part of the London Borough of Haringey. The B550 Muswell Hill Road is situated along the wood's western boundary, the A1 Archway Road lies to the south, the A504 Muswell Hill and the A1201 Park Road lie to the north and east. Most immediately adjacent land comprises the gardens of adjacent residential properties. Several sites of Metropolitan or Borough Importance for Nature Conservation are in close proximity to Queen's Wood. These include Highgate Wood on the opposite side of Muswell Hill Road, the Parkland Walk to the north and south and Crouch End playing fields to the east, while Hampstead Heath and Alexandra Park are within two kilometres. Figure 1a below shows the location of the site in relation to other nearby sites of nature conservation interest and Figure 1b shows the site in relation to roads and public transport.

Figure 1a; Location of Queen's Wood and other sites of nature conservation interest.

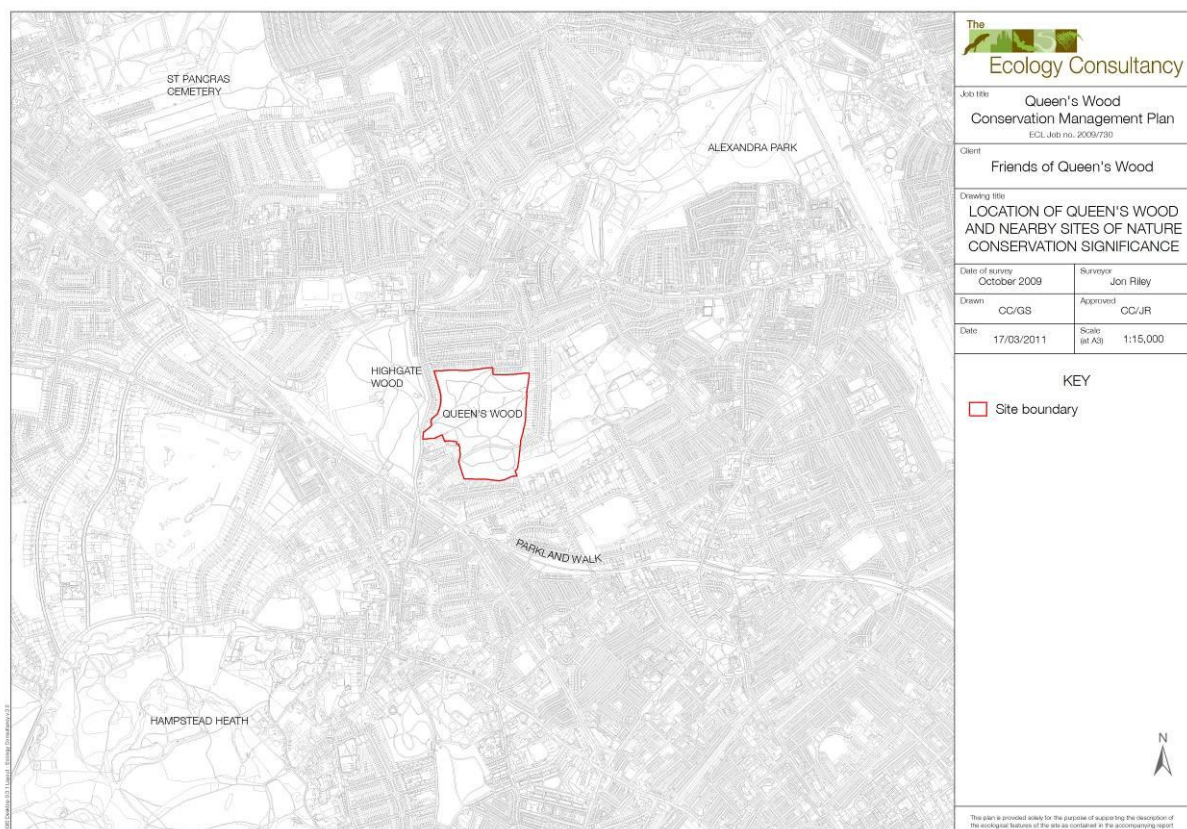
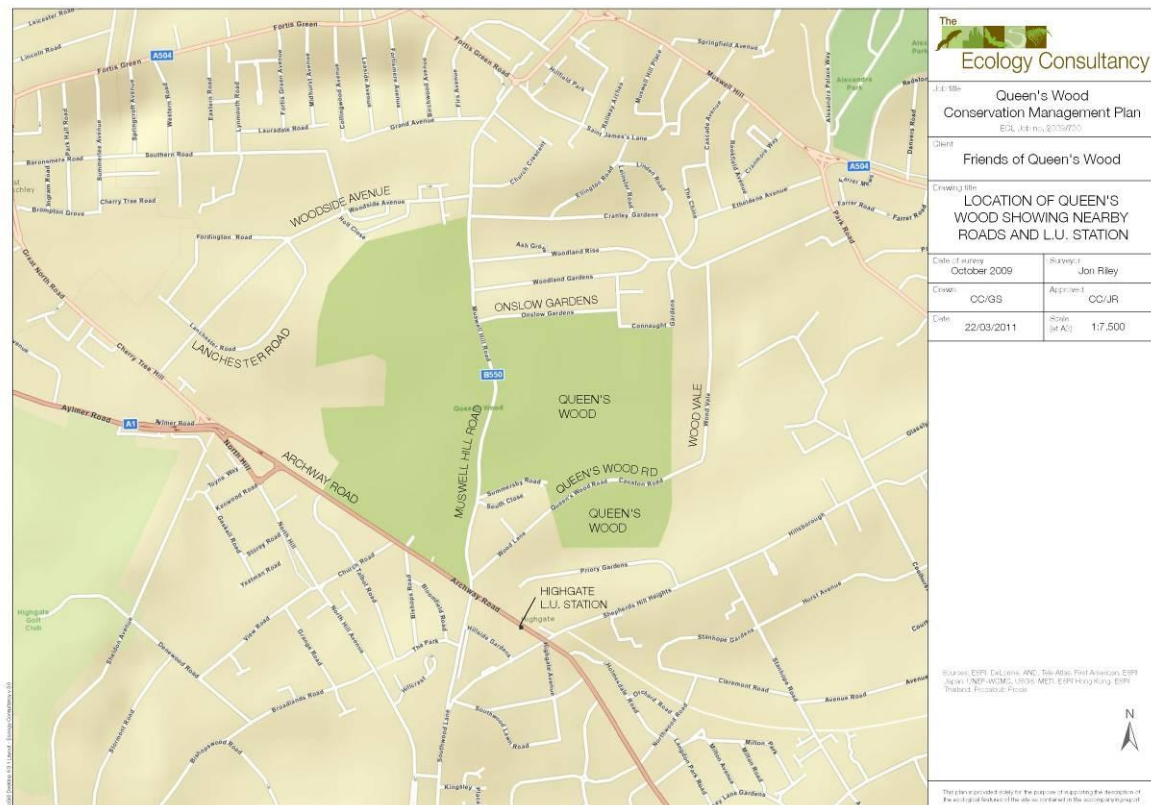


Figure 1b; Location of Queen's Wood showing nearby roads and London Underground station.



1.3 Area

21 hectares (Game 2000)

1.4 Grid Reference

TQ 288 885

1.5 Access

The site is open to the public at all times with access points through the fenced perimeter on Muswell Hill Road, from Connaught Gardens, and short footpaths from Priory gardens and Wood Vale. There is open access from Wood Lane/Queen's Wood Road which bisects the southern part of the wood. There are a number of footpaths within the wood, most of the principal paths are surfaced with asphalt and date from the late 19 century, a small section on a steep slope has been resurfaced with a hoggin type material. Queen's Wood is readily accessible by public transport being close to Highgate underground station and the 43, 134, 143, 234, 263 and W5 bus routes.

1.6 Vice County

V21 Middlesex

1.7 Map Coverage

1:25000 Sheet 173 London North

1.8 Land Tenure

Queen's Wood is owned and managed by the London Borough of Haringey with the exception of Compartment M (see Figure 2 page 15) which is owned by Homes for Haringey, and the Lodge in Compartment L which is leased from the London Borough of Haringey and run privately as a cafe. The Council's Recreation Service is assisted in site management by the Friends of Queen's Wood.

1.9 Status

Queen's Wood is statutory Local Nature Reserve designated as such in 1990. Local Nature Reserve is a designation, made under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to Countryside Act (1949). LNRs must be controlled by the local authority through ownership, lease or agreement with the owner. The main aim must be to care for the natural features which make the site special¹.

Queen's Wood and Highgate Wood are designated as a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation by LB Haringey and the Greater London Authority. The citation for the site is as follows:

An extensive area of ancient woodland in the midst of suburban north London. Despite heavy visitor numbers, both Highgate and Queen's Woods support a diverse flora and fauna, and consist mainly of oak (Quercus spp.) and hornbeam (Carpinus betulus). The ground flora of both woods includes abundant bluebell (Hyacinthoides non-scripta) and wood anemone (Anemone nemorosa). Queen's Wood contains several rarer species, including thin-spiked wood-sedge (Carex strigosa), hard-fern (Blechnum spicant) and broad-leaved helleborine (Epipactis helleborine). Breeding birds include tawny owl and spotted flycatcher. Managed by the City of London, Highgate Wood has a ranger team and visitor centre with interpretive facilities, and is an important site for specially-protected bats. Highgate Wood won a Green Flag Award again for 2009/10. Queen's Wood is a Local Nature Reserve owned and managed by London Borough of Haringey. The two woods form a single composite Metropolitan site together with Parkland Walk and was

designated in 1990 as a statutory Local Nature Reserve.

Queen's Wood is included in the Ancient Woodland Inventory (Provisional) for England. Ancient woodland is defined as land that has had continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD. Ancient woodland is a scarce and irreplaceable habitat which receives specific protection as Habitat of Principal Importance for Biodiversity under the The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006). Ancient woodland is specifically mentioned in Planning Policy Guidance 9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation and is included within the UK BAP (UK Biodiversity Action Plan) for Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland.

Queen's Wood, Highgate Wood and the adjacent Crouch End Open Space form an area designated as Metropolitan Open Land in the Haringey Unitary Development Plan adopted July 2006.

Queen's Wood and Highgate Wood are listed as an Area of Archaeological Importance, the Haringey Unitary development Plan adopted July 2006 gives the following description:

A large Roman pottery works is situated in Highgate Wood. This has been partially excavated, suggesting that the kilns (nine have been identified to date) were in production c.AD 50-160. The woods are full of unidentified earthworks and landscape features, suggesting that there may be further kiln sites and ancillary structures.

Queen's Wood is also listed in the Register of Public Parks, Gardens, Squares, Cemeteries and Churchyards of Local Historic Interest.

Queen's Wood is also designated as Metropolitan Open Land, as a Borough Historic Park and as an Area of Archaeological Importance.

1.10 Public Rights of Way

A largely disused public right of way runs north south along the eastern boundary of the Wood from the Wood Vale entrance to Queen's Wood Road.

1.11 Planning Authority

London Boroughs of Haringey

¹ <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/designatedareas/lmr/default.aspx> accessed 080310

1.12 Sources of Information

The main source of ecological information for the site is Game, *A Queen's Wood Management Brief* London Ecology Unit 2000. The current management plan was written in the winter months so the description of compartments provided has been largely reproduced from earlier plan. Further information on the ecology, and past and current management of the site was provided by the Friends of Queen's Wood who carry out much of the conservation work in the wood, and the present and former Nature Conservation Officers for the London Borough of Haringey. Site visits with Friends and/or Conservation Officers were carried out on the 20th October and 30th November 2009, and the 20th January 2010.

1.13 Boundaries

Most of the boundaries of the site are formed by adjacent properties and are owned by the freeholders of these properties. These boundaries appear to have been erected by the adjoining residents and it is not known if in all cases that they exactly follow the legal boundary of the site. There is open access along most of Wood Lane/Queen's Wood Road. There are some defunct railings within the wood marking former property boundary in the south western part of the wood. Wood banks of considerable age and historical interest are present in the north western part of the wood.

2. Description

2.1 Physical

2.1.1 Geology, topography and soils

Queen's Wood is largely on London Clay. Claygate beds overlying the clay are shown on the geological map as extending very close to the western edge of the wood, and in fact the high ground to the north-west is on very sandy clay. Otherwise the soils in the wood are largely heavy and impervious. Overall, the wood faces eastwards, but two valleys running roughly west to east, one to north and the other to the south of Queen's Wood Road, are the dominant topographical feature. The streams that formed these valleys are now often dry in the summer months; that in the northern valley formed one source of the River Moselle.

2.2 Biological

2.2.1 Flora

Flowering plants and ferns: The most recent and comprehensive botanical survey of Queen's Wood was carried out by David Bevan in 2007. The survey report includes records from 2007 and from the largest and most recent are of coppicing carried out in 2009, as well as historical records as far back as the 17th century.

The survey identified a total of 398 species of which 226 were recorded in 2007, 136 were historical records and 34 were additional species from the coppice area. A befits an urban wood a relatively high proportion of species (89 species, almost 40%) were neophytes (non-native species first recorded in England after 1500).

These included well established non-natives such as sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* as well as large number of less frequently naturalized species, including a number of garden escapes, which are most prevalent at the wood's margins. Some naturalized species such as Highclere holly *Ilex x altaclerensis* and cherry laurel *Prunus cerasifera*, along with native ivy *Hedera helix*, are regarded as invasive and are discussed in detail in later part of this plan.

By contract much of the wood retains its semi natural character and 38 ancient woodland indicator species² were recorded. The National Vegetation Classification (NVC) stand type to which Queen's Wood is most likely to be attributed, W10 *Quercus robur* – *Pteridium aquilinum* – *Rubus fruticosus* community, is the one of the most widespread ancient woodland types in the London area³⁴.

In addition to its complement of ancient woodland indicator species, a large number of species considered rare in the London Area and the Vice County of Middlesex VC 21 are present. These species are noted in Table 1 below which lists the notable species reported in the most recent botanical survey, their status and the management compartments (described below) in which they occur. Note that table 1 excludes historical records, and garden escapes which may be of interest but do not have formal conservation status. Due to the presence of good numbers of ancient woodland indicator and locally rare species, Queen's Wood is judged to be of **Metropolitan Importance**⁵ for its flora.

Table 1: Notable plant species at Queen's Wood (excluding historic records and garden escapes)

Species (<i>Latin name</i>)	Status	Notes
<i>Acer campestre</i> Field maple	AWI ⁶	Widespread at site, but few mature trees are present
<i>Allium ursinum</i> Wild garlic	AWI	Compartment C only
<i>Anemone nemorosa</i> Wood anemone	AWI, declining nationally	Widespread at site
<i>Blechnum spicant</i> Hard fern	London Rare and Species of Conservation Concern ⁷ . AWI	Recently extinct at site. Formerly Compartment J but may reappear as it has in nearby woods
<i>Carex pendula</i> Pendulous sedge	AWI	Widespread at site
<i>Carex pilulifera</i> Pill sedge	Scarce in Haringey and Middlesex	Formerly recorded (1999), may reappear

² Ancient woodland indicators as listed by Rose (1999) includes 100 species believed to be characteristic of ancient woods in southeast England.

³ Rodwell, J. S. (1991) *British Plant Communities Volume 1 - Woodlands and scrub*

⁴ Greater London Council (undated) A Nature Conservation Strategy for London Woodland, Wasteland, the Tidal Thames and tow London Boroughs.

⁵ Connecting with London's Nature The Mayors Biodiversity Strategy (Greater London Authority 2002) defines Sites of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation those ...*which contain the best examples of London's habitats, sites which contain particularly rare species, rare assemblages of species or important populations of species...*

⁶ AWI = ancient woodland indicator species

⁷ London Biodiversity Partnership <http://www.lbp.org.uk/londonpriority.html> (accessed 290610)

Table 1: Notable plant species at Queen's Wood (excluding historic records and garden escapes)

Species (<i>Latin name</i>)	Status	Notes
<i>Carex remota</i> Remote sedge	AWI	Widespread at site
<i>Carex strigosa</i> Thin-spiked wood-sedge	London Rare and Species of Conservation Concern. Declining in southeast England. AWI. Rare in VC21 (Middlesex) ⁸	Rare at site. Compartment Y (formerly part of Compartment N) only
<i>Carex sylvatica</i> Wood-sedge	AWI	Widespread at site
<i>Carpinus betulus</i> Hornbeam	AWI	Dominant and widespread at site
<i>Conopodium majus</i> Pignut	AWI	
<i>Crataegus laevigata</i> Midland hawthorn	AWI	Widespread at site but predominantly as a hybrid <i>C x media</i>
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i> Broad-leaved helleborine	AWI, formerly London Notable	Rare at site Compartment Y (formerly part of Compartment N and P) only
<i>Festuca gigantea</i> Giant fescue	AWI	Widespread at site
<i>Galium odoratum</i> Sweet woodruff	AWI	Recently recorded (2001) possibly native
<i>Holcus mollis</i> Creeping soft grass	AWI	
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i> Bluebell	AWI	Scattered at site, <i>H. Hispanica</i> and <i>H x massartiana</i> more common
<i>Hypericum pulchrum</i> Slender St John's-	AWI, formerly London Notable	Rare at site Compartment P only following coppicing in 2009
<i>Hypericum tetrapterum</i> Square-stemmed St. John's-wort	Formerly London Notable, rare and decreasing in Middlesex	Rare at site Compartment Y (formerly part of compartment P) only following coppicing in 2009
<i>Isolepis setacea</i> Bristle club rush	Very scarce in London and Middlesex	Compartment K only following coppicing in 1993, now gone likely to reappear with re-coppicing.
<i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i> Yellow archangel	AWI	Rare at site Compartment U only

⁸ Vice counties (VC) are used as boundaries for botanical recording in the UK

Table 1: Notable plant species at Queen's Wood (excluding historic records and garden escapes)

Species (<i>Latin name</i>)	Status	Notes
<i>Luzula pilosa</i> hairy woodrush	AWI	Rare at site Compartment N only
<i>Luzula sylvatica</i> Great woodrush	AWI	Rare at site Compartments J and O only.
<i>Melampyrum pratense</i> Common cow-wheat	AWI, declining nationally	Possibly declining at site
<i>Melica uniflora</i> Wood melick	AWI	Localised colonies at site
<i>Milium effusum</i> Wood millet	AWI	Rare at site Compartment W only
<i>Moehringia trinervia</i> Three-nerved sandwort	AWI	Rare at site reappeared in Compartment P following coppicing in 2009
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i> Wood sorrel	AWI	Uncommon at site Compartments P, T and U only
<i>Phyllitis scolopendrium</i>	AWI	
<i>Poa nemoralis</i> Wood meadow grass	AWI	Not recorded in 2007 but present in 1997, possibly overlooked
<i>Polystichum setiferum</i> Soft shield fern	AWI	Possibly increasing locally and nationally
<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	AWI	Rare at site Compartment Q only
<i>Prunus avium</i> Wild cherry	AWI	Common at site
<i>Quercus petraea</i> Sessile oak	AWI	Common at site
<i>Ranunculus auricomus</i> Goldilocks buttercup	AWI, declining nationally	Rare at site Compartments P and W only where associated with stream.
<i>Rosa arvensis</i> Field rose	AWI	Rare at site. Compartment C and P only
<i>Sanicula europaea</i> Sanicle	AWI, rare in Middlesex, declining nationally	Rare at site, Compartment A only
<i>Solidago virgaurea</i> Goldenrod	AWI	Recently translocated to the site Compartment N
<i>Sorbus torminalis</i> Wild service tree	AWI	
<i>Viburnum opulus</i> Guelder rose	AWI	

Table 1: Notable plant species at Queen's Wood (excluding historic records and garden escapes)

Species (<i>Latin name</i>)	Status	Notes
<i>Viola reichenbachiana</i> Early dog violet	AWI	Rare at site Compartment G only

Fungi: The zoned rosette fungus *Podoscopyha multizonata* has been recorded at Queen's Wood and at other nearby woodland sites for a number of years. It is a UK and London BAP, near endemic, and rare in London and nationally, with London forming a centre of this species distribution in the UK. On the basis of the presence of this species the site is judged to be of **Metropolitan importance** for fungi. Apart from zoned rosette, cep *Boletus edulis* and the usual range of woodland fungi in good diversity are present and approximately eighty species of fungi have been recorded at the site.

Bryophytes: Thirty eight species of bryophyte, including *Rhizomnium punctatum* regarded as uncommon in north London have been recorded by Ken Adams/London Natural History Society at the site

2.2.2 Fauna

Bats: Queen's Wood is included in the National Bat Monitoring Program and surveyed most years in June, with additional data gathered from bats walks. The site supports considerable pipistrelle *Pipistrellus spp.* activity, especially above the old paddling pool. Bats of the genus *Myotis*, which include species strongly associated with woodland environments have been recorded regularly along Queen's Wood Road/Wood Lane, but have not been recorded since additional lighting has been provided. Noctule bat *Nyctalus noctula* have been recorded occasionally, usually quite high above the wood. The large number of mature oak trees with woodpecker holes indicates that this species probably roosts at the site but the presence of roosts has not been confirmed. Bat boxes have been erected within the wood and are inspected, and have not been occupied to date. The limited diversity of the bat assemblage present indicates that Queen's Wood is of **Borough importance**⁹ for bats.

⁹ The Mayors Biodiversity Strategy (GLA 2002) defines Sites of Borough Importance for Nature Conservation as being those where sites of similar quality may be found elsewhere in London, but damage to these sites would mean a significant loss to the borough

Birds: A breeding bird survey was carried out in May to April 2008 (Darrell-Lambert 2008). A total of 28 species were breeding or probably breeding at the site. Of the breeding species two were red listed and five were amber listed Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC)¹⁰. Table 2 below listed red and amber listed birds of conservation concern recorded at the site. Of the red listed species, lesser spotted woodpecker occurs in the highest UK densities in Southeast England and its status in London is uncertain with possibly declines obscured by the difficulty in recording this species¹¹. The second red-listed species, song thrush has declined most substantially in agricultural areas and to a variable extent across the UK¹². Its decline in London has been moderate.

Fuller (1980)¹³ provided a framework for evaluating the conservation importance of sites in the UK based on their breeding bird assemblage. Fuller gives the following breeding diversity criteria: National importance 85+ species, regional importance 70-84 species, county importance 50-69 species, and local importance 25-49 species. On this basis the breeding bird assemblage is local importance, and should therefore be regarded as being **important at Borough level**.

Table 2: Red and amber listed breeding bird species at Queen's Wood

Species (<i>Latin name</i>)	Status at the site	BOCC/BAP status	Notes
Stock Dove (<i>Columba oenas</i>)	Breeding	Amber	Up to seven males were heard singing and seen in display flight
Green Woodpecker (<i>Picus viridis</i>)	Breeding	Amber	One or two territories were located
Willow Warbler (<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>)	Possible breeding	Amber	A single male was heard in April but not seen or heard on subsequent visits

¹⁰ Eaton, M.A., Brown, A.F., Noble, D.G., Musgrove, A.J., Hearn, R., Aebischer, N.J., Gibbons, D.W., Evans, A. and Gregory, R.D. (2009). Birds of Conservation Concern 3: the population status of birds in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man. *British Birds*, **102**: 296-341.
Red List species are those that are Globally Threatened according to IUCN criteria; those whose population or range has decline rapidly in recent years; and those that have declined historically and not shown a substantial recent recovery.

Amber List species are those with Unfavourable Conservation Status in Europe; those whose population or range has declined moderately in recent years; those whose population has decline historically but made a substantial recent recovery; rare breeders; and those with internationally important or localised populations.

¹¹ Hewlett, J. (ed) (2002). The breeding Birds of the London Area. LNHS.

¹² <http://www.rspb.org.uk/> accessed 020310

¹³ Fuller, R.J. (1980) A method for assessing the ornithological importance of sites for nature conservation. *Biological Conservation*, 17:229-239.

Table 2: Red and amber listed breeding bird species at Queen's Wood

Species (<i>Latin name</i>)	Status at the site	BOCC/BAP status	Notes
Mistle Thrush (<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>)	Breeding	Amber	One breeding pair were present
Dunnock (<i>Prunella modularis</i>)	Breeding	Amber	Two singing males were located
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>)	Breeding	Red	One male was heard during the February survey.
Song Thrush (<i>Turdus philomelos</i>)	Breeding	Red	Up to nine territories were located

Invertebrates: There is a limited amount of data on invertebrates for the site with most data being for spiders of which 108 species including two Notable B¹⁴ species *Coelotes terrestris* and *Philodromus praedatus* have been recorded. The spider assemblage is considered to be limited by the high level of disturbance at the wood. Other invertebrate species recorded are the Red data Book 2 (vulnerable)¹⁵ jewel beetle *Agiljus pannonicus* which is widespread at the site and is now regarded as common or even a pest by some authorities¹⁶. The larvae of this species feed on rotting wood and it is likely that the site supports a notable assemblage of dead-wood dependent (saproxylic) invertebrates.

2.3 Description of compartments

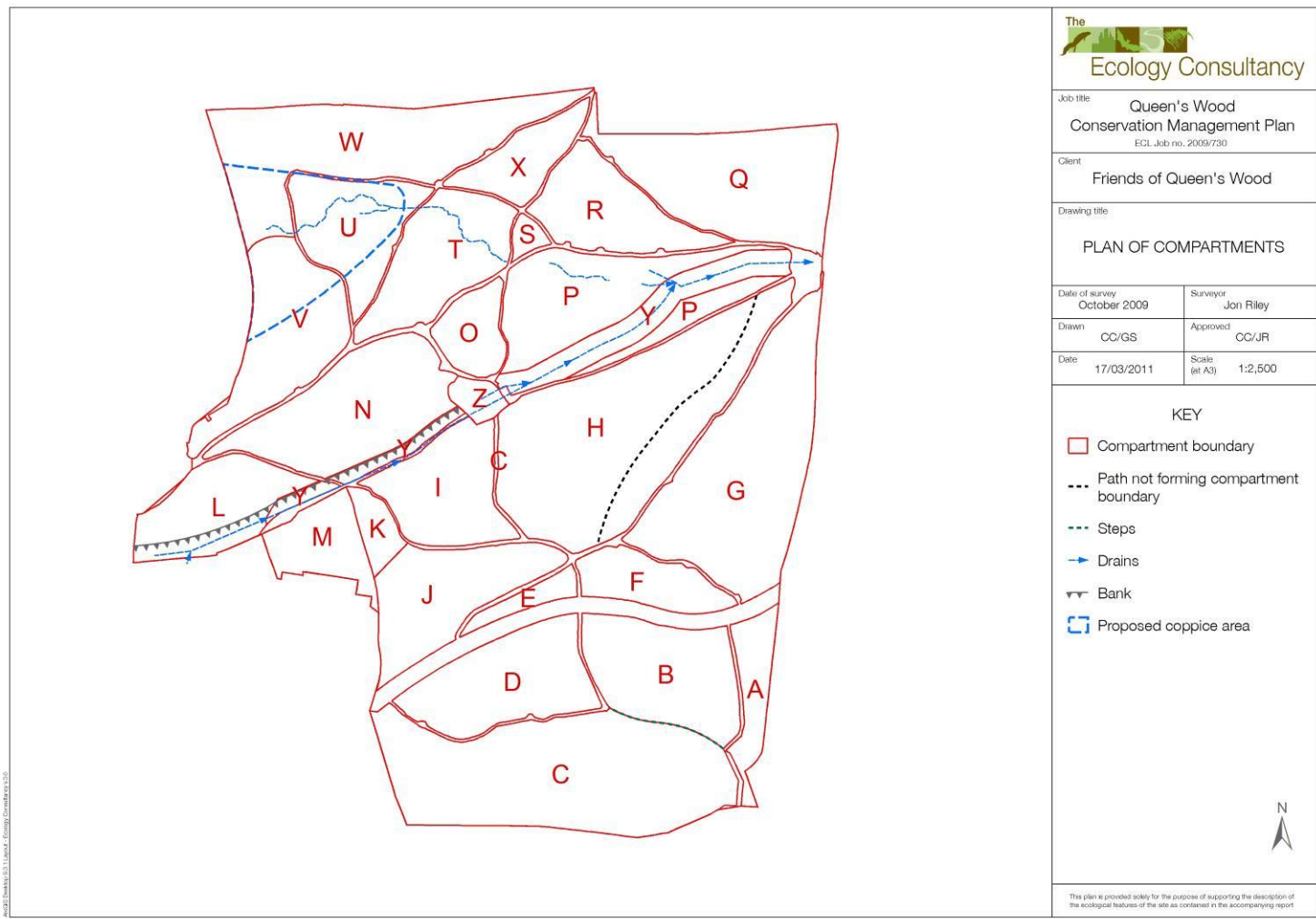
Compartments identified below are reproduced from Game 2000 with amendments (including Compartments Y & Z) to account for significant changes in current or proposed management, or to highlight areas where significant management issues exist. Figure 2 shows compartment boundaries which are based on the principal path network at the site, or in some cases on drainage features. A small number of additional paths have been created or become more prominent since 2000 and it is therefore necessary to map definitive compartment boundaries at the site.

¹⁴ Taxa which do not fall within RDB categories but which are none-the-less uncommon in Great Britain and are thought to occur in between 31 and 100 10 km squares of the National Grid or for less well recorded groups, between eight and twenty vice- counties. From Eversham (1983).

¹⁵ Taxa *believed* likely to move into the endangered category in the near future if the causal factors continue operating From Shirt (1987),

¹⁶ <http://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/fr/infd-7b3d3r> accessed 080310.

Figure 2: Map of compartments



Compartment A: This compartment is fairly typical of much of the wood. It contains trees of a good range of species, including fine mature oaks *Quercus ssp.* and hornbeams *Carpinus betulus*, and at least some understorey, composed predominantly of elder *Sambucus nigra*, holly *Ilex aquifolium* and young trees. There is a group of dense young hornbeams near the road. When visited during this survey, the ground flora seemed sparse in the north and south ends of the compartment but better developed in the central third. However, sanicle *Sanicula europaea* is present near the southern end and is increasing through appropriate management. Wood anemone is relatively abundant in the north of the compartment and wood melick *Melica uniflora* is also found. A bank and ditch extends southwards from the road. A gate in the perimeter fence gives access to the 'Wooded Walk', an attractive linking path through secondary woodland to Crouch End Playing fields but which is outside the scope of this management plan. The compartment lies next to a frequently-used footpath leading from Queen's Wood Road to Priory Gardens and the tube station.

Compartment B: Much of the rest of this compartment is quite well structured and contains a good range of species, probably due to a combination of being further from major paths and possessing fewer large hornbeams. Here typically are found fine oaks above young hornbeams and beech *Fagus sylvatica*, holly, hazel *Corylus avellana*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, with dense bramble *Rubus fruticosus* and ivy *Hedera helix* below. Wood melick *Melica uniflora* and wood anemone *Anemone nemorosa* occur here, and common cow-wheat *Melampyrum pratense* grows in the north-west corner. There is a large patch of ivy covering the ground in this compartment. An old bank runs from the road roughly in a south-west direction.

Compartment C: This compartment slopes steeply down from the path along the northern edge to a valley on the southern perimeter. The land slopes more gradually down from the east to the west. The vegetation in the south of the compartment is very dense and the area is little visited.

A damp ditch passes along the bottom of the valley slope and forms the southern perimeter of the site, adjoining the boundaries of rear gardens of adjacent properties. In one section, towards the western end, the ditch had been dug out and two flexible pipes drain into it of which one drains water from an adjacent garden. Several entrances have been made into the wood from the adjacent gardens, and planks or other makeshift

bridges erected over the damp ditch and a limited amount of garden rubbish has been dumped. Large oak trees, hornbeams of various sizes and holly dominate much of the valley. There are several horse chestnuts *Aesculus hippocastanum* and common lime trees *Tilia x europaea* at the eastern end, and large sycamores *Acer pseudoplatanus* further west near the wooden garden fences. There tends to be little understorey apart from holly, and ground flora is apparently largely absent, although there are some patches of hybrid bluebells *Hyacinthoides x massartiana* and several clumps of ramsons *Allium ursinum* in the valley and particularly along the eastern section of the ditch. The woodland is much denser at the western end of the valley, and there is a mixture here of young wild cherry *Prunus avium*, beech and rowan, together with bramble, cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*, sweet chestnut *Castanea sativa*, sycamore and hazel, and the ubiquitous holly, oak and some hornbeam. Holly is dense at the western end and there are dead boughs (e.g. of oak) lying on the floor here. A small English elm *Ulmus procera* tree grows near the southern boundary towards the western end

The northern part of the compartment is on higher ground and there tends to be a sparse understorey and either a grassy or little or no ground flora. A patch of dense tree regeneration at the extreme western end comprises hornbeam, wild cherry, sycamore, holly, rowan, beech, Norway maple *Acer platanoides* and oak. Adjacent to this a grassy clearing supports a population of common cow-wheat. Most of the path along the northern boundary of the compartment is bordered immediately by open woodland with grasses beneath, chiefly creeping soft-grass *Holcus mollis*. Further from the path, and on the steep slope, the canopy of oak, hornbeam and holly is denser, and the ground flora is correspondingly sparser. However there is a good deal of tree regeneration, especially towards the eastern end, including wild cherry, beech, ash, oak, rowan, hornbeam, sycamore, and non-native whitebeam (cf. Swedish whitebeam *Sorbus intermedia*); a patch of dense birch *Betula sp.* seedlings includes smaller quantities of rowan, sycamore and beech. Edward Milner reports that there is a seedling of native whitebeam *Sorbus aria* in the compartment. Evidence of bark stripping by grey squirrels is evident on several young beech and hornbeam in this compartment. Field rose *Rosa arvensis*, an ancient woodland indicator species which is rare at the site (also present in Compartment P) was recorded by David Bevan in 2007.

Following recommendations (Game 2000), holly removal was carried out in part of this compartment in 1999.

Compartment D: This compartment contains some well-structured woodland with useful regeneration.

Woodland along the eastern edge is generally well structured, containing large oak trees with canopy gaps which are filled with brambles, holly and young trees. Some of the woodland near the road is rather more open beneath the large oaks, and a thicket of oak seedlings (typically about a metre high) have grown up. However, these are badly mildewed and it is doubtful if they will survive. The western part of the compartment tends to be relatively open beneath the oak canopy, with little field layer apart from creeping soft-grass and patches of bramble, a few sapling rowans and a wild service *Sorbus torminalis* (recorded by Game 2000 but not Bevan 2009) and several large holly bushes. David Bevan recorded pill sedge *Carex pilulifera* here in 1995, and a specimen was found in or near here in 2009 during the survey for this report.

There is a patch of dense regeneration, chiefly of birch, hornbeam and oak, in the south-east corner. Further into the compartment here is some limited sycamore regeneration. Nearby is a rowan sapling which was planted as a memorial tree; this is partially shaded by a young beech behind it. There is a canopy gap a little further north, adjacent to the path with a thick cover of bramble on the ground. Other patches of regeneration occur further into the compartment. In one area oak, wild cherry, hazel and two holly bushes grow among bramble beneath a thin oak canopy or none. In another area, large holly bushes are competing with young wild cherry and a hazel stool. There is good tree regeneration at the western tip of the compartment, with beech, holly, rowan, hornbeam, birch, wild cherry, sycamore, ash, hazel and at least six oak saplings.

A population of common cow-wheat grew at the western tip but was not found in the 2007 survey, and there is a small English elm towards the western end. A small-leaved lime *Tilia cordata* had been recorded in the western/centre of the compartment (by Game 2000 but not Bevan 2009); it may have been planted. A sweet chestnut tree grows in the eastern/centre of the compartment. Edward Milner reports that the tallest rowan in London, at 22m, grew in the compartment.

Compartment E: The canopy in this compartment, largely of oak, hornbeam and holly, is generally dense, and there is little in the way of understorey or ground flora. A fine beech tree stands at the western end. Holly is common, including both native holly, Highclere *Ilex x altaclarensis* and other hybrids; hybrid hollies are quite a feature of Queen's Wood. In at

least one area, in the north of the compartment, holly bushes will soon coalesce, to the detriment of rowan, beech and hornbeam regeneration. Numerous holly seedlings are present at the eastern end of the compartment.

Compartment F: This is a good area of oak, hornbeam and beech woodland, with plentiful young regeneration with a reasonable cover of bramble beneath. Limited sycamore and horse chestnut is present. Common cow-wheat occurs near the road at the eastern tip of the compartment. This is a more widespread population than some elsewhere in Queen's Wood, with outliers under the trees along the roadside. A healthy bush of guelder rose *Viburnum opulus* grows at the path intersection in the north of the compartment.

Compartment G: This is generally a well-structured compartment. A public right of way not shown on map in Figure 2 runs parallel and near to the eastern boundary of the wood. An old boundary bank runs a metre or so from the wooden back garden fences along this edge. Garden rubbish has been dumped here at intervals along the bank. This is mostly vegetation, but rubble has been dumped on the bank in one place. Several pollarded hornbeams grow on the boundary bank, together with large hazel stools and a few sycamores; at least one of the latter had been cut back.

There are several areas within this compartment with dense, hornbeam coppice shades out most shrubs and ground flora. However, the canopy is much lighter in much of the compartment (due largely to fewer hornbeams) and here the sub canopy layers are better developed, and tree regeneration of various ages is present. A large patch of dense young trees north of a grassy clearing is particularly evident. Early dog violet *Viola reichenbachiana* grows here: this is the only location it was recorded in the 2007 survey. There is also a large patch dominated by snowberry both *Symphoricarpos albus* and *S. chenaultii*; these reflect the history of the site being used for dumping garden material in the wood. The trees are up to 4m high and the great majority are hornbeam, but ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, rowan, oak, holly, sycamore, birch, whitebeam and hawthorn are also present. A nearby patch of regeneration further north on the northern edge of the compartment, is far less dense and set in a grassy sward. It is also dominated by hornbeam together with rowan, holly, wild cherry, wild service and oak in small quantities. Young trees are also present elsewhere in the compartment. There is a good population of cow-wheat not far from the southern tip of the compartment

Compartment H: This compartment lies on ground sloping generally down from the south-

west to the north-east.

The north-east end on this compartment is rather open, with a grassy sward beneath a canopy of large oak trees.

The lower slopes in the rest of the compartment, i.e. beside the path leading to the paddling pool (compartment Z), tend to be poorly-structured hornbeam coppice with oak standards, with a scattering of holly, a few weak hazel and hawthorn, but little else in the shrub or ground layers. However, there is another large grassy clearing roughly opposite the 'witch's coven' in the compartment to the north. Here oak standards are present but not hornbeam. There is some sparse tree regeneration, probably damaged by overuse of this area. A population of cow-wheat is present on the edge of the clearing.

The woodland further up the slope contains less hornbeam, and is generally nicely varied in structure, and containing canopy gaps with bramble and/or grasses beneath; young trees, mostly hornbeam but including other species also, large trees, mostly oaks, with fewer hornbeams and even fewer beeches; some holly; and some patches of overstood hornbeam coppice allowing little to grow beneath the canopy. A small colony of cow-wheat grows near the upper path, and a small quantity of remote sedge *Carex remota* near the western edge, near a fallen oak log (recorded by Game 2000 but not Bevan 2009).

Compartment I: Like compartment H, this compartment is also on steeply sloping ground. The woodland is well-structured on the upper slopes, and many young trees grow here, mostly hornbeam, but also including beech, rowan, sycamore, holly and wild cherry. Field maple *Acer campestre*, which is uncommon in the wood, grows near the upper edge.

The lower slopes are composed of hornbeam coppice with oak standards. Holly is quite frequent, but there is little other shrub layer and little ground flora. Small quantities of young sycamore and holly are present; some of the sycamore has been cut. Remote sedge grows by the lower edge of the compartment, near the western end.

There is an attractive grassy triangle with oak trees near the paddling pool (compartment Z), containing a limited amount of tree regeneration and a sapling common lime tree, presumably planted.

Compartment J: This compartment falls into three parts; a narrow flattish lower area along

the northern edge; a flattish upper area along the southern side; and a steep bank connecting the two

The lower edge is generally composed of poorly structured hornbeam coppice with oak and some beech standards, together with a good deal of holly. There is little ground flora. The steep slope is a mixture of paths, grassy slopes, and patches of dense young trees (mostly hornbeam, but also including beech, wild cherry, rowan and oak) below oak trees and at least one splendid beech. A single crown of hard fern *Blechnum spicant* grew among young holly near the western end but died during a series of dry summers (2005 etc).

The upper area is a mix of grassy clearings and woodland. The clearings contain some regeneration, including brown birch, hazel, ash, hornbeam and small oak seedlings. Some of the woodland areas are well structured, with standard oak, beech, hornbeam and dense tree regeneration. There is a large dead oak tree, and dead oak wood lies on the ground. Great wood-rush *Luzula sylvatica* grows close to the junction separating compartments I and H.

Holly is dense near the south-western lip of the compartment, beneath a thick hornbeam canopy. Several sycamore trees grow on the edge of the wood here, and there is some dumped garden debris.

Following recommendations (Game 2000) holly removal was carried out in this compartment in 1999.

Compartment K: This small compartment was coppiced in February 1992. It has since regrown to a dense area of regeneration, largely of hornbeam, but with a smaller quantity of other species, including hazel and rowan. A total of 86 species of plants have been recorded in the compartment since then, compared with 16 before management; these included slender St John's-wort *Hypericum pulchrum* and bristle club-rush *Isolepis setacea*, the presence of both a result of the coppicing. Not all these species will be present now, but the flora will undoubtedly be richer than before the coppice was cut. There is a good patch of wood anemone at the edge of the coppice which has benefited from the coppicing.

When visited in January 2010 the regrowth of hornbeam coppice was relatively poor with

evidence of squirrel damage but there was considerably regrowth of wild cherry, which may excessively shade the hornbeam stools

Compartment L: This is an interestingly varied compartment, both in terms of structure and species. There is a good understorey, especially in the upper areas near the entrance to the wood. Lower down mature oaks and hornbeam coppice shade out the understorey, but even here there are patches of shrubs. The parts of the compartment away from the path are probably relatively little visited, being on the edge of the wood and with a forbidding boundary along the builder's yard.

Large common lime and plane trees grow near the road and nearby along the builder's yard boundary; there is a good deal of standing and lying dead wood. Oak and hornbeam coppice are common, but the shrub layer tends to be quite dense here, and includes a good deal of hazel. Towards the lower, eastern end of the compartment maiden hornbeams are present; although these are fine trees, they cause shading, and beneath them there is little in the way of shrub or ground layers.

The area of woodland between the entrance from Muswell Hill Road and the Lodge, north of the entrance path, contains plentiful lesser celandine *Ranunculus ficaria* and regenerating Indian horse-chestnut *Aesculus indica* - one of only two known British sites where this tree has been noted as regenerating.

Japanese knotweed is present in this compartment and is managed by pulling by the Friends of Queen's Wood on an ongoing basis, with material being removed to less sensitive infested areas in compartment M. Due to shade from the tree canopy it is not considered that the colony will spread and the current management is sufficient to achieve control and potentially removal of the colony.

A drain and wood bank along the southern boundary, close to the builders yard is now included in a new compartment (Y)

Compartment M: This compartment is separated from the rest of the wood by iron railings. These are mostly in good repair but at least one large section is missing, allowing easy access into the compartment. It lies outside the boundary of the ancient wood, demarcated by the ditch and bank along its edge, to the west of the old stubbed

hornbeams. It was once part of Highgate Common, previously (in the 17th century) Sow Wood Common.

Fine old hornbeam pollards line the northern and eastern edges of this compartment; one hornbeam has been re pollarded, and is re-growing. A stream-bed (compartment Y) runs along part of the northern boundary, it was damp and muddy at the time of visit (July 1999), but held no standing or running water. However, it does hold water in winter.

Immediately to the south is a mounded area dominated by Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica*.

The south-eastern part of the compartment is characterised by dense bramble beneath ash and hornbeam; there is no Japanese knotweed here. Holly is abundant towards the south-eastern corner.

Compartment N: Much of this compartment consists of oak standards (both native species pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* and sessile oak *Quercus petraea*) and overstood hornbeam coppice, with some holly and small quantities of hazel and hawthorn. The latter tend to be stressed, due to the shade cast by the oak and hornbeam. Towards the western edge there tends to be a dense carpet of ivy, with very little tree regeneration. In the east the ground tends to be bare apart from a few patches of bramble. Some of the hornbeam stools show severe damage from bark stripping by grey squirrels. A large windblown field maple is regenerating from the rootball.

An old bank passes through the compartment, and is used for a path (not marked on the map). This is a continuation of the boundary bank to the east of compartment M, and probably demarcates the boundary of the ancient woodland. Early maps suggest that much of the western edge of the wood was 'waste', and this may be where plague pits were dug (see Silver-town 1978). Holly is particularly abundant near this bank.

Fine wild cherries grow near the former changing rooms in the southeast corner of the compartment with box elder, bramble and birch. This area was coppiced in 2003.

Former changing facilities (now demolished) and a paddling pool adjoin the southernmost part of the compartment and are now described separately as compartment Z.

The bank of a defunct ditch (parallel to a more recent ditch) close to the path, forming the southern edge of this compartment, is now described as a new compartment (Y).

Hairy woodrush *Luzula pilosa* and translocated plants of goldenrod *Solidago virgaurea*, both ancient woodland indicator species were recorded only in Compartment N in the 2007 survey, but it is not known whether their location remains in Compartment N or if it is now in Compartment Y.

Compartment O; Much of this compartment consists of typical hornbeam coppice with holly and standard oak trees, and little else. However, there is a patch of dense hornbeam regeneration near the centre, not up to 5m high, together with very limited amounts of hazel, beech, rowan and holly. Saplings of ash, goat willow and wild cherry grow among bramble at the western corner.

Towards the south is an area which was previously fenced off when it enclosed the old wood-keeper's buildings; the fence is now broken in several sections. Cherry laurel, wild and garden privets (reflecting the wood-keeper's plantings) grow immediately to the east of this. Himalayan honeysuckle/ Pheasant berry *Leycesteria formosa* also grows here.

Compartment P: This compartment can be divided into three sections.

Towards the south-west corner is a large open, grassy clearing surrounded by large oak trees. A fallen oak branch has been made into an informal seat in the centre of the clearing. The area is an attractive and well-used amenity, but of limited interest for nature conservation. It is sometimes called the 'witches coven'. There is limited tree regeneration in the north-west corner. Due to ongoing visitor pressure the grassy flora of this area has been suppressed and it becomes bare in summer.

The woodland to the east of the Witches Coven is very poorly structured oak standards with hornbeam coppice and some holly, but otherwise containing little shrub layer. The ground is mostly bare. However, it is visually attractive and seems to be well used; it is opposite the main entrance on the eastern edge of the wood. The lack of understorey probably makes it appear 'safe' to visitors by allowing high visibility. This area was coppiced in 2009, mainly with the removal of hornbeam and with the timber used for dead-hedging around the coppiced area, and to create seats and log piles. Coppicing has been followed by a spectacular increase in plant diversity including some woodland species and

wetland species (close to the drain – compartment Y) as well as weedy species. Oak regeneration has not yet occurred but this may be linked to poor acorn production in the year following coppicing.

The best part of this compartment for nature conservation is to the west of the Witches Coven. A magnificent wild cherry tree grows near the paddling pool (compartment Z), and the better light conditions here have maintained a better-structured woodland here. However, as the Witches Coven is approached, there is an area of tall holly trees – interesting visually, but not of special note ecologically. A particularly interesting area lies at the north-west corner. Again, fine wild cherries grow near the corner, with a tall ash tree nearby – one of very few old ashes in Queen's Wood. The bed of the former stream enters the compartment here, and, crucially, this section and its surrounds are well-lit. It supports an excellent flora, including wood sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*, remote and wood sedges, tutsan *Hypericum sp.*, common dog-violet *Viola riviniana*, enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana* and guelder rose. The population of the latter spreads into the drier woodland to the south. Broad-leaved helleborine *Epipactis helleborine* was recorded here as single plants in 1990, 1991 and 2008, but following coppicing 11 plants were recorded in 2009. Slender St. John's Wort, a locally rare and ancient woodland indicator species was also recorded following coppicing.

Following recommendations (Game 2000) holly removal was carried out in this compartment west of the witch's coven about 2 years ago.

The drain flowing through the small valley oriented southwest to east along the length of the compartment has been placed in a new compartment (Y). It is understood that most of the records for broad-leaved helleborine noted above are from this area.

Compartment Q: This is an excellent area of mixed woodland: mixed in species, tree age and structure. Wild service is relatively common. Much of the compartment is too dense with bramble and young trees to permit easy access and, combined with the fact that it lies in a corner of the wood, this makes much of it little visited and little disturbed. Several dead oaks have had their upper limbs removed and the wood placed in piles on the ground. It is the only compartment in which the ancient woodland indicator species barren strawberry was recorded in the 2007 survey.

There is a patch of Japanese knotweed on the northern edge of the wood, adjacent to the

garden of the second house from the east on Connaught Gardens. This is growing amongst other vegetation but in fairly well-lit conditions. Some sycamore regeneration is present, especially near the northern boundary.

There is a patch of dense tree regeneration adjacent to a path roughly in the centre of the compartment. This is mostly hornbeam, but oaks up to 2m high are present, as well as rowan and perhaps other species.

Compartment R: This compartment is a mixture of rather open and attractive oak woodland with grass beneath, and denser vegetation of bramble, young trees and holly. It is notable for the number of young oak trees it contains.

Compartment S: This is a small triangle of mostly dense woodland of hornbeam, oak, holly of mixed provenance, wild cherry, hawthorn, and a Norway maple sapling.

Compartment T: Much of this compartment consists of hornbeam coppice typical of Queen's Wood, with oak, holly, some hazel, but little else. There are several patches which are more varied, e.g. alongside the path on the south side of the compartment. The stream is more-or-less dry. Magnificent ash trees grow near it, but largely it is heavily shaded and supports little ground flora apart from mossy banks. David Bevan has recorded tutsan at the upper end of the stream (tutsan is in fact increasing in the wood and is now recorded from several places). The lowest 20m or so of the stream is also interesting, and supports wood sorrel, remote sedge, wavy bitter-cress *Cardamine flexuosa* and broad buckler fern *Dryopteris dilatata*. Wood anemone is abundant, especially to the north and east of the former stream. There is a sapling sycamore, about 7m high, near the eastern side of the stream. Non-native Himalayan honeysuckle grows in this compartment, perhaps as a self sown garden escape.

Following recommendations (Game 2000) holly removal was carried out in this compartment about 5 years ago.

Compartment U: As with the previous compartment, much of this is overstood hornbeam coppice with the course of a former stream through it. There are magnificent hornbeam and wild cherry trees near the lower end of the stream. At the lower end the stream is heavily shaded, but the canopy becomes slightly lighter further upstream. The stream bed is split in two towards its upper end, and around here the ground flora is very interesting,

with guelder rose, three-nerved sandwort *Moehringia trinervia* (still present in 1999), wood sorrel (a good population), both remote and wood sedges, and a small population apparently of yellow archangel *Lamiastrum galeobdolon* (the native species, not the variegated form); the latter is on the southern side of the southern branch. Soft shield fern *Polystichum setiferum* was reported from this area, and its presence was confirmed by David Bevan in September 1999. Two wild pear *Pyrus sp.* trees grow near the western edge of this compartment.

Following recommendations (Game 2000) holly removal was carried out in this compartment about 10 years ago.

Compartment V: The western boundary of this compartment, bordered by housing, and was formerly an open area known as the ‘Strawberry field’. It is dominated by fine plane *Platanus sp.*, silver maple *Acer saccharinum* and common lime *Tilia x europaea* trees. These and the edge of the wood let sufficient light for a good understorey to have developed, chiefly of bramble and holly. Elsewhere hornbeam is commoner. There is a band of dense young hornbeam and lime saplings near the centre of the compartment.

The stream, on the northern boundary of Compartment V/W, is a very important feature. It no longer flows although there was stagnant orange water near the edge of the wood when visited. It is surrounded by a dense growth of vegetation, including nettle *Urtica dioica*, bramble, elder *Sambucus nigra*, field maple, great willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum*, meadow-sweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, dogwood *Cornus sanguineus*, and guelder rose, plus remote sedge, lady fern *Athyrium filix-femina* and goldilocks buttercup *Ranunculus auricomus* (the latter recorded by David Bevan). Some judicious cutting back of the canopy here was carried out in 1992 and in 2010.

Compartment W: On the northern edge of this compartment, there is a former small entrance to the wood which, being illegal, has been gated off. The compartment is relatively undisturbed, especially the north-west corner. There is some dumping of garden refuse along the boundaries.

Much of the compartment consists of hornbeam coppice with oak and holly, the latter dense in places. It is the only compartment in which the ancient woodland indicator grass wood millet was recorded in the 2007 survey. There are sycamore trees in the north-west corner; bluebell, possibly native (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), grows near here. West of the

entrance there is a better structure and mix of species, with breaks in the canopy and young wild cherry, elder and hazel. A large sycamore tree grows here, and there are fine large-leaved lime and silver maple near the north-east corner

An area adjoining compartment X is better structured, and includes seedling and sapling trees, with dead wood lying on the ground beneath bramble, as well as dead standing timber. The area forming the boundary with Compartment V supports a similar stream side assemblage as noted in Compartment V, and further plants of goldilocks buttercup were recorded in 2007 survey in this area.

Japanese knotweed appears from time to time in the north-east corner of this compartment near the Connaught Gardens entrance and notice board. It is removed by the Friends of Queen's Wood.

Compartment X: The north-eastern corner of this compartment is open, and contains coarse species such as nettle and hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*. Elsewhere the woodland is well-structured.

Compartment Y: This is a new compartment comprising the course of a drain (a tributary of the Moselle) that runs southwest to northeast through the centre of the wood, from the builder's yard on Muswell Hill Road to the access point on Wood Vale. The drain runs to the north of the path along the southern boundaries of compartments L and N and then flows through a valley in compartment P.

Possibly as long ago as the 19th century the drain was directed through ceramic pipes. These are now largely exposed, blocked and broken and the drain has reestablished a channel at the surface over much of its length.

Compartment Y has been isolated from these compartments because of the botanical and historical interest of the drain and bank, the potential for several projects at various points along its length, and vulnerability to adverse impacts from recreational use. The compartment does not include the branch of the drain further to the northwest, which is largely at the surface and is described in compartments P, T, U and V.

The following description of the compartment is based largely on information provided by Game (2000) and David Bevan

The drain or ditch runs alongside the boundary with the builder's yard. Initially dry, lower down from the corner of the yard it was wet with very brown water at the time of visit in July 1999. There is a good flora here, including guelder rose, remote sedge and wood sedge *Carex sylvatica*. There is an old bank and slight ditch parallel to the wall of the builder's yard, towards the lower end, and about 10m from it. Wood sedge grows on the bank and cut-leaved elder nearby.

Along the southern boundary of the compartment N the bank of a defunct ditch (parallel to a more recent ditch) close to the path supports broad-leaved helleborine *Epipactis helleborine* and thin-spiked wood sedge *Carex strigosa*. Small quantities of wood sedge and remote sedge are also present.

Northeast of the paddling pool (compartment Z below) and running through compartment P the drain comprises two channels. The northern branch runs from Muswell Hill Road and was almost dry during the 1999 survey (and it was believed that flow had been cut off by works on Muswell Hill Road), but in full flow at various times during the winter of 2009/10. The southern stream leads from the paddling pool; its bed is very shallow at first but become more defined further down stream. It too is heavily shaded and vegetation was restricted to small amounts of the two sedges but broad-leaved helleborine have also been recorded.

The two drains meet at the Dog Pond. This is a concrete-lined and heavily shaded small pond which that does not retain water. However, conditions were sufficiently wet for a single plant of square-stemmed St. John's wort to appear following coppicing and it is likely that other wetland plants could reappear from the seed bank if wetter conditions can be provided. The outlet from this pond leads to a manhole a short distance down stream. Beyond the manhole the drain is an apparently deep drain to the access from Wood Vale where it passes through a grille and becomes part of the storm drainage system. A substantial flow of water could be heard at the grille in 2009/10. The grille or adjoining storm drain has become blocked in the past leading to flooding of an adjacent property on Wood Vale, but this has not occurred since works were carried out five or six years ago.

Compartment Z: The former paddling pool and the changing rooms (now demolished) and other facilities were previously in compartment N. These have been derelict for many years, and it is now the focus of a project proposed by Froglife to restore the area as a wildlife pond. The elements of the project are as follows:

- To redirect a proportion of water flowing in the drain (compartment Y) from under the existing damaged concrete liner to flow into the new pond, thereby providing a means of recharging water levels.
- To excavate and re-profile the pond to approximately 16m diameter and 1m deep.
- To reline the pond with a Geosynthetic Clay Liner
- To reduce overhanging tree canopy in order to increase light reaching the pond
- To plant with native wetland species with species chosen to reflect those recorded in the wood
- To provide a dipping platform large enough for a school educational visit.
- To record the geomorphology/archaeology of paddling pool site, which is believed to be of Holocene origin.
- Creation of amphibian hibernacula in the vicinity of the pond

3. Policy

The following section sets out general policies that inform the remainder of the management plan which is more site-specific. These policies were developed by the London Wildlife Trust (LWT) to inform the management of their reserves and have been adapted below. They include policies on ecological principles and amenity, as well as those on health and safety and volunteering. These policies may not reflect current LWT policy and it is anticipated that they will have to be reviewed and amended to reflect LB Haringey's requirements.

3.1 General principles on ecological issues

3.1.1 Continuity of habitat and community assemblages

The primary interest of Queen's Wood is as ancient woodland which is a highly valued and irreplaceable wildlife habitat. This means that the management proposed does not seek to alter the predominantly wooded nature of the site, rather to maintain various ecological and historic aspects of the wood, including the creation of areas of coppice as suitable locations. Management to maintain or reinstate non-woodland habitats maybe recommended in areas outside of the ancient woodland boundary (compartment M) where the target habitat would have greater value than the existing habitats.

3.1.2 Prevention of local extinctions

Management to prevent accidental local extinctions, particularly of plant species, and to encourage natural recolonisation, will be carried out.

3.1.3 Survey and monitoring

A survey is carried out to establish baseline ecological interest and monitoring to assess the effects of management. It is important that protocol adopted is designed to assess the effects of management rather than gather large amounts of species data. For example, moth surveys are of interest in establishing the value of the site and the management requirements for important species, but are too specialised and expensive to be carried out on a regular basis. Conversely bird or butterfly transects carried out regularly over a number of years will yield information on the effectiveness of management and can be carried out cheaply by non-specialists. Bird and bat monitoring should be carried out on an annual basis and vegetation surveys regularly but less frequently. Records should be sent to the local

biodiversity records centre (BRC) - Greenspace Information for Greater London (GIGL). Of equal or greater importance to species survey and monitoring is monitoring the quality and timeliness of management and the condition of features such as bird and bat boxes.

3.1.5 Invasive species

Queen's Wood has retained a largely native flora dominated by species such as oak, hornbeam, bramble, ivy and holly.

The holly at Queen's Wood comprises a range of hybrids involving the native species and Highclere holly *Ilex x altaclerensis* (and *Ilex aquifolium* x *Ilex perado*), and possibly other species. The overall abundance of holly has been identified as a management issue through out-competing native shrub and ground flora and inhibiting tree regeneration. By blocking views, particularly near paths, it can reduce the amenity attractiveness of the wood and lead to a sense of insecurity. On the positive side it helps to reduce access thereby limiting damage to soils and ground flora, as an evergreen it is attractive, and it provides habitat structure for birds. There is uncertainty over the degree to which it suppresses other vegetation. Holly can grow in dry shaded locations (characteristic of much of the wood), and these areas probably naturally support a limited amount and variety of vegetation below the canopy. For these reasons further holly removal is recommended only in areas where this is likely to result in improvements to the ecology or amenity value of the wood.

Ivy is dominant in parts of the wood and its abundance may be due to ground disturbance or to heavily shaded conditions beneath areas of hornbeam dominated canopy. There appears to be potential for ivy to suppress other ground flora species because it is evergreen and can overtop smaller species, such as wood anemone. It has been suggested that ivy may inhibit recruitment of ground flora species in secondary woodland¹⁷. Non-native species of ivy have been noted being among the few non-native species that can colonise the interior of ancient woodland, where they may form dense carpets¹⁸. No published information on the effectiveness of control of ivy in woodland is available. However, in areas where

¹⁷ Biological Conservation Volume 101, Issue 3, October 2001, Pages 291-304 Vegetation changes during 100 years of development of two secondary woodlands on abandoned arable land Ralph Harmer, George Peterken b, Gary Kerra and Paul Poulton

¹⁸ British Wildlife Volume 8, number 4, April 1997 The effects of urbanisation on urban woodlands David Bevan, Oliver Gilbert.

ground flora may be adversely affected by excessive shading from outgrown coppice, it seems possible that control of ivy may have a beneficial effect on vernal species. Experimental control of ivy through mechanical removal, or even through herbicide treatment, when native ground flora is dormant, could be considered.

Non-native species such as snowberry, pheasant berry and cherry laurel are present in limited amounts and are unlikely to aggressively colonise, and therefore require management rather than removal. Other horticultural species as present in such low numbers that their presence is of interest as examples of colonisation and management is not currently required.

Japanese knotweed is present in limited amounts in compartment L where it is managed by pulling and compartment M where treatment with glyphosate has been proposed. Due to shading it is not considered a significant issue in compartment L, which is ancient woodland, and continuing management will provide adequate control. Eradication from compartment M is recommended as a precursor for future management of the site. Japanese knotweed is included in Part II of Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) in respect to Section 14(2) which makes it an offence to plant or otherwise cause these species to grow in the wild, although it is **not** an offence to have it on your land per se. Care must be taken that management activities do not cause it to spread either on or off site.

Grey squirrels are native to North America and were introduced to the UK in the late 19th century. They are well documented as causing damage to trees and woodland though eating buds and stripping bark. They were once shot in the wood, presumably because of the damage they caused. In Southeast England grey squirrels cause very conspicuous bark damage to hornbeam. They also damage a wide range of other species, including sycamore, beech, oak, sweet chestnut, pine, larch and Norway spruce.

Trees younger than 10 years are not normally damaged because their stem and branches are too small (<50 mm diameter) to support a grey squirrel. Bark on the main stem of trees older than 40 years is normally too thick to strip, but grey squirrels will strip the thinner bark on the larger branches in the crown. Trees from which the bark is most easily stripped by squirrels are generally the fastest growing

and those with the most sap¹⁹. A study at Lady Park Wood found that squirrels preferentially debarked intermediate sized (10–25 cm d.b.h.) and stems in stands aged 40–50 years. Other species and stand areas of <100 years' growth remained largely unscathed. Within the 10-year period squirrels had critically affected the successional development of the wood²⁰. Other reports note that intermediate sized stems to 40cm diameter at breast height (d.b.h.) are most severely damaged, with most damage occurring at around 4 metres.

Bark stripping results in the death of only 5% of trees, but significant damage occurs through reduced growth rate, snapped stems, crown die back and reduced seed production (Forestry Commission 2007).

The prevalence of damage to rapidly growing stems of intermediate size suggests that maturing coppice regrowth, particularly of hornbeam will be significantly affected. The potential for grey squirrels to affect successional development within woodlands suggests that near permanent changes in habitat structure and species composition could arise in coppice areas.

Control measures frequently employed are shooting, live trapping (both single and multiple animal traps) and Warfarin poisoning (Forestry Commission 2007). Trapping can achieve up to 90% capture but should be carried out collaboratively with adjacent landowners for best effects. This is potentially possible here with City of London, LB Haringey (at Parkland Walk) and LUL but not with private landowners. The welfare of animals would be a difficult issue to resolve if culling was implemented as the site is heavily used by the public. The cost of implementing any of the above measures is unlikely to be met by any of the organisations that would need to be involved.

For reasons above it is considered unrealistic to recommend squirrel control at Queen's Wood. Rather, management proposals should take account of squirrel damage, and in particular coppicing and pollarding should be on a small scale and with proposals to compensate for squirrel damage, should it occur, if necessary though planting or selection of seedlings of less susceptible species such as silver

¹⁹ Controlling Grey Squirrel Damage to Woodlands Forestry Commission August 2007

birch, wild cherry or ash..

3.1.6 Planting and other introductions

Natural regeneration and colonisation is the preferred option for conserving and enhancing woodland habitat. However, Froglife has proposed planting in the scheme to create a wildlife pond at the paddling pool site, which is necessary to hasten its development as an educational resource.

3.1.7 Ivy

Mature, arboreal ivy should always be retained because of its value to birds, bats and invertebrates. Ivy is occasionally perceived as a threat to trees but rarely damages healthy specimens. While ivy removal is not recommended, arboricultural inspections should include monitoring trees with heavy ivy cover close to the pathways and site boundaries.

3.1.8 Dead wood

This is an essential habitat for many species of birds, invertebrates, bats, bryophytes and fungi. Removal of dead wood and 'tidying-up' leads to relatively sterile conditions and takes away an essential part of the woodland ecology. The aim is to provide as much standing and fallen dead-wood as possible without compromising other management aims or safety. Currently there is a limited amount of deadwood in Queen's Wood, as such, all timber produced through woodland management should be retained on site in order to build up a supply of deadwood in varying stages of decay.

There are good quantities of standing deadwood throughout the site ranging from entirely dead trees to those with small areas of rot and a number of trees are likely to have internal cavities of value to birds and bats. All standing deadwood should be retained and ideally the amount should be increased. Where it is necessary to thin the canopy, for instance to favour a particular species, consideration should be given to killing selected trees in a standing position by ring-barking (i.e. removing a strip of bark around the trunk, which kills the tree but leaves it standing). If this is not appropriate trees should be felled leaving a long stump to provide nesting sites for some species. However, public safety must always take precedence in areas of high public use, consequently any trees which are in a demonstrably unsafe

²⁰ UK Forestry Volume 70, Number 1 Pp. 17-29 1995 A decade of grey squirrel bark-stripping damage to beech in Lady Park Wood, P. MOUNTFORD

condition must be made safe (though not necessarily felled) especially where they are near boundaries or footpaths - although a precautionary approach erring on the side of minimising habitat damage must be taken. Information should be provided for visitors about the role of dead wood in the reserve and that they should be aware of the potential hazard that it may pose to those who stray off the designated paths.

3.1.9 Use of herbicides

Herbicides are damaging to the environment to a greater or lesser extent, and can be a danger to the public. Consequently their use should be restricted to necessary tasks, and only if other management methods are inappropriate or have failed. Use must be in accordance with the relevant pesticide policy.

3.1.10 Climate change

Appropriate future management of the wood could, to a limited extent, mitigate the predicted effects of climate that could affect the wood. These are broadly, an increase in summer droughts, increased winter rainfall, and the potential for new plant pathogens, both due increased climate stress to trees and the possibility that altered climate may favour new pest species. These issues are reflecting in later sections of the plan in a number of ways. Recommendations for reinstating surface drainage and reducing runoff would enable damp habitats a moisture loving species to be retained, if drought becomes more prevalent. The design of new drainage features would have to accommodate the potential for very wet weather and the intense runoff and erosion associated with it. A cautious approach to coppicing had been recommended in terms of extent of additional areas. Maintaining the majority of existing woodland cover is likely to minimise the potential for any invasive and pathogen species to alter the species composition of the wood.

3.1.11 Review of Management Plan

This management plan is written to cover the next 5 years and should be reviewed at the end of this period. In addition, the plan should be reviewed annually by the site staff and the Friends of Queen's Wood to ensure that the work is being carried out and that it is having the desired effect.

3.2 General principles on amenity issues

3.2.1 General safety

Safety is a priority as there is free public access to the site. All boundaries, steps, bridges, footpaths and other visitor facilities need to be inspected regularly and any necessary remedial action taken immediately. Regular inspections must also be carried out of all trees near boundaries and footpaths, to ensure they are in a safe condition, i.e. not about to fall over or shed dead branches onto an area frequently used by the public. Appropriate action should be taken but in recognition that standing dead wood is an essential feature of the woodland ecosystem. Vegetation should be regularly cleared to maintain sightlines in areas which may become very enclosed and create a real or perceived threat to the public. This is most likely to be the case at access points which are often quite narrow and bordered by dense vegetation.

3.2.2 Access

The reserve has pedestrian access to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Consequently the local authority has a responsibility to ensure that all footpaths and other visitor facilities are in good condition. There is currently a byelaw prohibiting cycling in the wood. The existence of the byelaw is appropriate given the high levels of pedestrian use, the steepness and narrowness of the paths, and the damage to the site that would arise from any increase in off-path access. Any proposals to alter current access must take account of the site's designation as an LNR, as management of LNRs must be based principally on the site's nature conservation interest.

There is evidence of informal access, with alternative routes to the main path present in much of the site. Off-path access is causing soil compaction and damage to ground flora at a number of locations and measures to reduce damage, such as dead hedging or the formalisation of access with steps or paths, should be implemented.

A small number of residents whose back gardens adjoin Queen's Wood have created access points into the wood directly from their properties. These encroachments can be detrimental to the wood by creating additional footpaths which cause damage to the ground flora. Additionally informal access is unsightly and detracts from the wood's value as a public space. The Friend's of Queen's

Wood are already engaged with adjoining residents and seek to resolve these issues on a case by case basis. Such an approach is likely to be the most effective, and is most efficiently carried out by The Friends as they work in the wood on a regular (almost weekly) basis. The Local Authority should provide additional support where necessary by issuing letters to adjoining residents requiring all unofficial access points to be removed and by carrying out enforcement action if required.

3.2.3 Litter

Litter makes a site look untidy and uncared for and can spoil the enjoyment of visitors. Some litter can also be unsafe, or lethal to small mammals and some invertebrates. Litter will be cleared on a regular basis. Hazardous waste (syringes) must be removed from the site regularly and safely by an approved contractor.

The wood also suffers from fly tipping by some adjoining residents who have tipped garden and building waste into the wood, and by the public along Queen's Wood Road. Fly tipping damages the wood by smothering ground flora and potentially introducing invasive species and hazardous substances, as well as reducing the aesthetic value of the wood and being a possible health hazard. As noted in Section 3.2.2 above, when requested, the Friends already engage with residents on management issues and should be supported by the Local Authority. Fly tipping along public highways should be removed by the Local Authority as soon as it is reported.

3.2.4 Dogs

Dog walking is likely to be among the main recreational activities at the site but the associated issue of fouling is also evident, and disturbance to wildlife and the threat of uncontrolled dogs to people, may also be an issue on occasion. The ancient woodland ground flora at the site is likely to be adversely affected by soil nutrient enrichment caused by dog fouling. It is important that existing dog bins are regularly emptied and well maintained to ensure that dog owners can dispose of dog waste in a responsible manner as easily as possible. Relevant byelaws and information on responsible dog walking at the site should be included on information boards.

3.2.5 Fires

Fires are not likely to be a major issue at the site except in drought conditions. Fires should be tackled only by the fire service.

3.2.6 Firearms

All incidents of people carrying firearms should be immediately reported to the police; no action should be taken by staff or volunteers against individuals carrying firearms.

3.2.7 Signs and interpretation boards

There is a need for more interpretation of the wood both on site and through written material and the website. Interpretation should be addressed by a separate strategy and is not covered in this management plan.

3.2.8 Lighting

Queen's Wood is of borough-level interest for bats. Bat boxes have been provided to increase the numbers roosting at the site, the creation of the wildlife pond in the former paddling pool is likely to further increase the numbers present, and additional recommendations for bats are provided below. Lighting is known to deter some species of bat and some woodland species are particularly sensitive to increased light²¹.

Night time illumination is currently present on the path from Queen's Wood Road to Priory Gardens and at the Lodge where there are also security lights. Any replacement or refurbishment of lighting in these areas should aim to minimise light spillage, for instance by directing light downwards and using hoods to reduce glare. Additional lighting within the woodland should not be provided under any circumstances, in accordance with the site's designation as an LNR. Any severe light spillage from adjacent properties should be addressed if possible through contacting the owner (in some cases this may be achieved simply by lowering the angle of security halogen lamps). It is understood that lighting along Queen's Wood Road has deterred bats from using the woodland edge (C. Blaney pers. com.). The highways department should investigate ways of reducing light spillage with advice from an experienced bat worker.

²¹ Refs Jones 2000 and BCT 2009 for woodland bats

3.3 General principles on management practice

The following policies relate to management activities carried out by staff or volunteers and are included for guidance only. They will need to be updated and expanded to reflect LB Haringey policy.

3.3.1 Health, safety and risk assessment

It is essential that all activities take place with adequate consideration of health and safety. Management of the sites for nature conservation poses a number of potential risks, which anyone working there must be aware of. All tasks must be carried out with a specific risk assessment to highlight any particular dangers, which must be reviewed bi-annually. All tools must be use only after an initial safety induction. Works must be led by an individual with authority to ensure that all health and safety measures are implemented and with the ability and recourses to deal with any accidents.

3.3.2 Tools

All tools should be of good quality. They should be regularly and properly maintained and they should be securely stored in good dry conditions. Training should be given in the safe use of tools for all new volunteers or where unfamiliar tools are being used. Volunteers using tools should be made aware, or reminded of, safe practice every time they are used. Appropriate tools should be used at all times.

3.3.3 Use of powered tools

There are occasions when use of powered tools is necessary, e.g. strimmers, chainsaws, etc. Powered tools must only be used by a certificated operator having all due regard for health and safety. All power tools must be kept in good working order and stored appropriately when not in use. Vegetable-based chain oils, such as BioSafe, should be used in their operation.

3.3.4 Use of herbicides

There will be a presumption against the use herbicides, although exceptions will be made. Herbicide use must accord to all relevant Health & Safety and COSHH guidelines, and LB Haringey Policy and the person administering it need to be qualified and properly equipped.

3.3.5 Tree-felling

Tree felling must only be done in accordance with the legislation relating to tree felling licences which are issued by the Forestry Authority. Tree felling is a specialist activity and can be very dangerous. Any felling should only be carried out by experienced persons and only if there is no danger to people or property. If there is any doubt the work should be carried out by specialised contractors. Chainsaws should only be used by fully qualified operators.

3.3.6 Movement of felled trees

Felled or windblown trees should be left in situ unless they cross official paths. If large trunks need to be moved this should be usually be carried out through human effort – aided with a mechanical winch if necessary.

3.3.7 Burning

There is a presumption against burning in the site's management plan.

3.3.8 Working with volunteers

Much of the practical management work of the site could potentially be undertaken by volunteers and there is an active voluntary interest in the site through the Friends of Queen's Wood and BTCV. If volunteer involvement is to be encouraged at the site it should take place in accordance with LB Haringey equal opportunities, health and safety, and volunteer policies and with reference to current best practice provided in the NCVO's Management of Volunteers: National Occupational Standards 2008.

4. Aims

4.1 Aims

The principal aims of site management are set out below. They deliberately broad cover both the ecological and recreation aspects of the site. They reflect the policy preceding section and form a basis for the more detailed information on conservation features, management objectives and management procedures provided in the following sections.

- To preserve the largely ancient semi-natural woodland habitats and informal 'rural' atmosphere of Queen's Wood
- To promote the structural and plant species diversity of woodland where appropriate
- To provide additional opportunities for faunal species (birds and bats) where appropriate
- To ensure that that high standards of amenity management are maintained and to enhance amenity value
- To maintain improve aspects of public safety and security where possible
- To maintain the volunteer led management of the wood and increase the involvement of local schools and community groups to maintain and enhance the educational value of the woods.
- To record and monitor wildlife at Queen's Wood in sufficient detail to inform the management of the site.
- To increase public understanding of the site and its value through talks and walks in the wood
- To attain UKWAS status

4.2 Analysis

Table 3 below provides an overview of the issues and trends that should be addressed in the management plan for Queen's Wood. Rather than the broad management aims stated in 4.1 above, the aims stated in Table 3 below are intended to address more specific management issues. They are also reflected in the management prescriptions in the following section.

Table 3: Analysis of the main issues affecting management of Queen's Wood

Issue	Trend (+ or -)	Aim
<i>Regeneration:</i> there is limited regeneration of oak and patchy regeneration of hornbeam in the wood	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To protect existing regeneration of desirable tree species To encourage greater regeneration
<i>Invasive species:</i> certain species notably holly and ivy are over abundant	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue management of holly and other invasive species in appropriate areas (defined above see invasive species) To initiate experimental control of ivy
<i>Coppicing:</i> the wood was formerly managed as coppice with standards but coppicing lapsed until reinstated in the 1990's	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To extend coppicing in appropriate areas taking account of issues such as squirrel damage To manage existing coppice
<i>Visitors:</i> visitors are welcomed to enjoy the wood, but create problems in managing the ecology of the wood	-/+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage greater use of the wood To manage damage from excessive recreational use To continue to use volunteers and increase voluntary involvement To increase onsite interpretation To continue providing educational walks and talks To consider providing an education/visitor centre.
<i>Climatic conditions:</i> the wood is vulnerable to unpredictable weather, particularly drought	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that management doesn't exacerbate climate effects
<i>Size:</i> in management terms the wood is small	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that management is of the correct scale for the wood
<i>Connectivity:</i> although in an urban area the wood is in close proximity to other woodland and open space	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote complementary management with nearby sites
<i>Rare species:</i> The wood is of metropolitan importance for plants and possibly fungi. Some species that are not currently found may remain in the seed bank	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue management aimed at preserving locally rare species To develop new management projects to retain or re-establish rare species through natural regeneration
<i>Drainage:</i> the wood's drainage has been heavily modified and is now in poor condition	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To restore the paddling pool as a wildlife pond To restore surface drainage and increase wetland habitat in the wood

5. Projects

5.1 Access maintenance

Most of the formal paths in Queen's Wood are surfaced in asphalt, much of which is in poor condition and in need of repair. In some areas steep slopes would benefit from being replaced by steps either to provide better access for visitors or to channel informal access to a particular location to reduce damage to the wood. Timber steps constructed from sleepers or similar are recommended as they are fit for purpose, easy to maintain and replace, and can be built by volunteers. Information on how to build timber steps is provided in Footpaths a practical handbook (BTCV 2001) which can be downloaded from <http://handbooks.btcv.org.uk/handbooks/content/section/2352?keywords=steps>.

Possible projects to improve access could be considered:

- A survey of the condition of paths is needed prior to scheduling work on specific paths: for example, in Compartment P - provide steps to direct access down slope from path at boundary with compartment H to Witches' Coven to reduce trampling and compaction of drain-side habitat (compartment Y).
- Paths should be inspected regularly and any cracking in asphalt repaired promptly. Steps should be inspected to check if the tread has become muddy and uneven and if the tops of the railway sleepers or other timber forming the risers have become slippery. Any muddy or uneven areas should be scraped clean and refilled with hoggin in the early winter. Tops of risers should be covered in chicken wire or staples as necessary.
- Many of the entrances to the wood are overgrown and uninviting to new visitors. Consideration should be given to improving sightlines and making them more welcoming.

5.2 Arboricultural inspection

A walk over inspection of the entire site should be carried out annually by the borough's arboricultural officer, so that there is an up to date risk assessment of potentially hazardous trees near the path and boundaries.

5.3 Bat boxes

There are already bat boxes in the wood but the creation of a new pond and coppicing of part of compartment P will improve foraging habitat and increase the chance of occupancy of new boxes.

Schwegler 'woodcrete' bat boxes offer considerable advantages over wooden boxes as they are long lasting and, due to the density of materials, provide relatively stable temperatures favoured by bats. The following models are recommended: 2F for smaller bats including brown long-eared bat, 1FS large colony box especially suitable for brown long-eared and Nathusius bats, 1FF – for inaccessible places as droppings fall from the opening, and also suitable for hanging on walls.

Boxes should be situated on a tall mature trees at least four metres above the ground (five or six metres or even higher for noctule bats) with the access facing south west or south east. Six boxes over a 20 by 20 metre square area, facing differing aspects, should be provided at each location to increase the chance of occupancy. Boxes should be sited in sheltered woodland edge locations, away from possible frost pockets and areas where they are unlikely to attract vandals. Boxes should be monitored for evidence of use and cleaned annually by a licensed bat worker. If they are not occupied in two years they should be moved to a new location. Inspection and maintenance of bat boxes should be carried out in April and October, when they are least likely to be in use.

Bat boxes are recommended at the following locations but numbers and location should be confirmed with an experienced bat ecologist

- Compartment H – close to Paddling Pool wildlife pond
- Compartment I – close to Paddling Pool wildlife pond
- Compartment N - close to Paddling Pool wildlife pond
- Compartment P - close to paddling pool Wildlife Pond and on trees at edge of newly coppiced area.

5.4 Bird boxes

Several types of boxes should be used and all (where required) should have protective metal plates to stop woodpeckers or squirrels breaking into them to steal young birds or eggs.

Small hole-entrance nest boxes should be used to encourage Coal Tits and Nuthatches. Medium hole-entrance nest boxes should be used for Starlings and Great Spotted Woodpeckers. Large hole-entrance nest boxes are suitable for Stock Dove and Tawny Owl and small open-fronted nest boxes should be used that could potentially attract Spotted Flycatchers. Providing nest sites will help to contribute to and improve the success rate of the breeding species and must be maintained. It is recommended approximately 1/3 of nest boxes are inspected in late winter (on a rotational basis) and any repairs carried out. After they have been used they should be cleaned out with the nesting material removed and any parasites larva/eggs present. A useful source of information is The British Trust for Ornithology Nest box Guide by Chris du Feu. ISBN 1- 902576-81-0 (copied from Darrel – Lambert 2008)

5.5 Coppicing and coppice management

Game (2000) provides a rationale for forest management of Queen's Wood, which remains relevant to the current plan. Historically Queen's Wood was managed as hornbeam coppice with oak standards. Coppicing probably ceased in the 19th century as the wood became enclosed by suburban development and took on an amenity role. Subsequently hornbeam coppice formed a dense canopy, creating heavily shaded conditions on the woodland floor for much of the year. Excessive shade is the main contributing factor to the poor development of the shrub layer, dominance of holly and poor tree regeneration in the wood

The wood could be allowed to develop to high forest consisting mostly of tall standard trees that develop naturally or can be selected from over-mature coppice stools. Over decades canopy gaps would develop due to wind throw, squirrel damage or other causes, and this would light to the woodland floor, allowing regeneration of ground flora and shrub layer, and the establishment of young trees. The creation of natural gaps would be slow and unpredictable process, and may not be sufficient create the conditions to diversify age structure or promote development of woodland ground flora in areas where they are needed. Due to the

wood's small size this could result in the loss of some species, and, at some point, a lack of mature and over mature trees.

Coppicing enables open areas to be created where they will have the greatest benefit. However, it is dependent on re-growth from coppice stools or seed to re-establish a canopy of trees and shrubs to create conditions favouring shade bearing species and unfavourable to light demanding species. The vulnerability of coppice re-growth discussed above (*3.1.5 Invasive species*) and various issues affecting oak regeneration mean that coppicing should be carried out cautiously to avoid changes to the site that may be difficult to remedy.

Recommendations for further coppicing have been made with the following considerations:

- The creation of coppice areas in keeping with the site, the area coppiced in 2009 is sufficiently large to be of benefit.
- Establishing an overall area of coppice that can be managed by volunteers
- The generally negative attitude of the public to tree felling
- The potential for using other management methods such as holly or ivy removal or felling individual or small numbers of trees to achieve beneficial effect, with less risk, effort and expense than coppicing.
- Particular opportunities or constraints in different locations, for instance a lack of regeneration would favour coppicing but the presence of a well-developed ground flora may not.

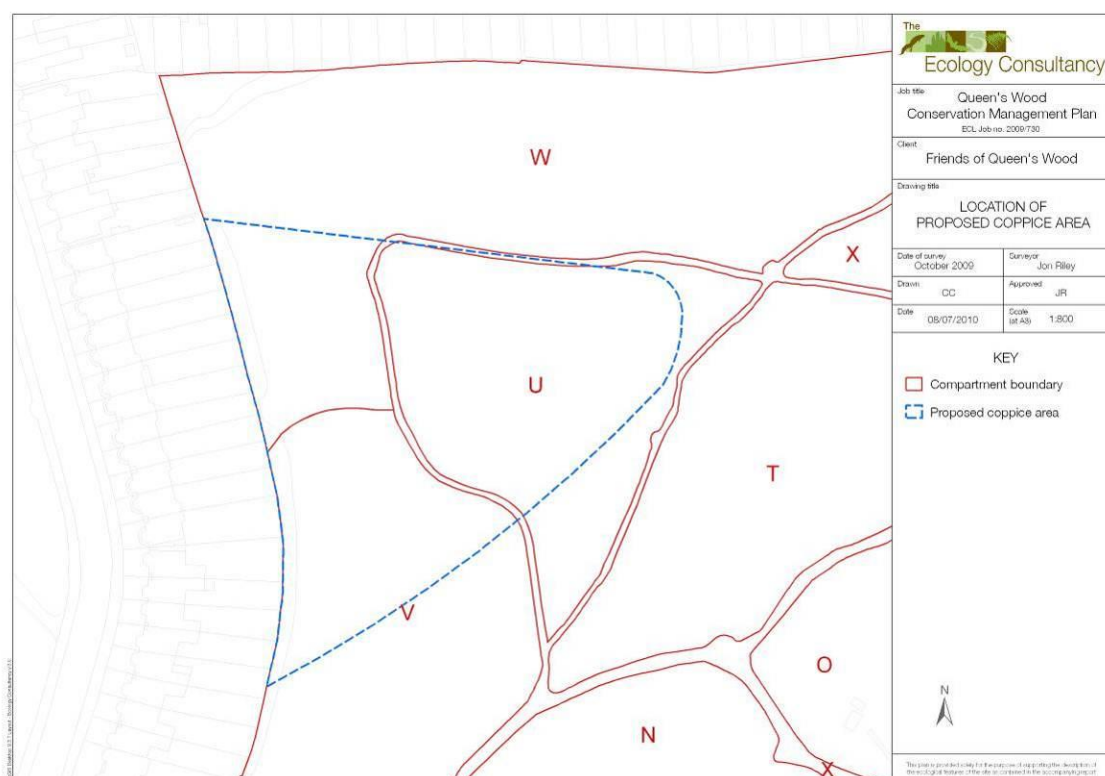
Details on how to carry out coppicing are provided in the BTCV handbook on woodlands <http://handbooks.btcv.org.uk/handbooks/content/section/3758>. This includes basic and more specialised techniques for restoring over-grown coppice, with the key issues being to carry out the work in the winter months, to cut as low as possible and angle the cut outwards to avoid water collecting around the stems. Coppice areas should be periodically weeded to remove unwanted species that may affect re-growth, and select the best-positioned and strongest seedlings. An abundance of fast growing species such as wild cherry, which could out-compete target species (oak and hornbeam), should be heavily thinned. As soon as they fall acorns from the wood should be heeled into the ground in new coppice areas. It may also be necessary to consider restocking of oak in the coppices, in which case stock of local (SE England) provenance should be used.

Information on bats and felling licenses that may be a consideration if felling some trees is provided in Section *5.17 Tree felling below*.

Coppicing or coppice management is proposed in the following compartments:

- Compartment K – assess coppicing and thin wild cherry to promote re-growth of hornbeam, which is badly affected by squirrel damage.
- Compartment K – if there is significant re-growth by 2015 this compartment should be considered for re-coppicing.
- Compartment N – monitor coppice re-growth from 2003, carry out selective management of regeneration if required
- Compartment P – monitor coppice re-growth from 2009, carry out selective management of regeneration if required
- Compartment V – Coppice the full extent of wet woodland
- Compartment W – Coppice the full extent of wet woodland
- Compartment U – Coppice 50% of stream-side woodland i.e. that adjoining Compartments V and W.
- Figure 3 below shows the approximate extent of proposed coppicing of wet woodland in Compartments V, U and W

Figure 3: Approximate location of proposed coppicing of wet woodland



5.6 Dead hedging

Dead hedging is already used extensively and effectively in the wood to control access and protect uncommon species or vulnerable areas, including new coppice.

Dead hedging is proposed in the following compartments, either to protect existing features or as management associated with other projects described later in the plan. The extent of dead hedging that can be carried out may be limited by the amount of material produced by management activities elsewhere at the site. If this is the case chestnut paling could be used as alternative or work can be prioritised according to need (to be determined during the course of the plan)

- Compartment A – dead hedge to continue to protect and encourage expansion of sanicle
- Compartment C – dead hedge to protect common cow-wheat and young oaks in north west of the compartment near the road
- Compartment H - dead hedge to protect cow-wheat and any tree regeneration of note
- Compartment N - provide dead hedging between foot path and drain (compartment Y) to reduce human and dog access to drain-side flora
- Compartment P - provide dead hedging close to drain (compartment Y) to ensure that activities associated with the Paddling Pool wildlife pond does not damage wet habitat in compartment Y, as may arise if large numbers of school children using the pool for educational visits spread out from its immediate vicinity.
- Compartment P - provide dead hedging close to path at boundary with compartment H to Witches' Coven to channel informal access to reduce trampling and compaction of drain-side habitat (compartment Y)
- Compartment T – create dead hedges at 90° to the drain, up and down stream of areas of good ground flora to deter walkers from following stream and damaging ground flora
- Compartment U – create dead hedges at 90° to the drain, up and down stream of areas of good ground flora to deter walkers from following stream and damaging ground flora

5.7 Deadwood and hibernacula

The provision of deadwood is among the general projects described at the end of the management plan. The proposal to convert the Paddling Pool into a wildlife

pond includes the provision of hibernacula. It is recommended that these are placed within disturbed areas and former garden planting in compartment O, and the area of the former changing rooms in compartment Z.

5.8 Drainage

As described above (Section 3), Queen's Wood is drained by two small channels that meet at the Dog Pond in northeast part of the wood and flow into a storm drain on Wood Vale. Compartment Y comprises the main channel flowing out to Wood Vale and southerly branch of the drain in the southwest of the wood. Parts of the southern drain are piped below ground, but some sections flow above the surface where pipes have broken or become blocked. The main part of the drain is entirely below ground.

These drainage features are heavily modified and damaged by excessive public access, but have historical and nature conservation interest. In the upstream section a surface channel should be recreated by removing sections of redundant piping, to provide bank-side habitat for a range of characteristic sedges. Down stream of the Dog Pond wet woodland habitat should be created through re-establishing the surface channel of the drain and damming its flow to create a series of wetland areas. Such management will complement the proposal to replace the disused paddling pool with a wildlife pond, and will assist in delivering the London Biodiversity Action Plan for wet woodland.

The implementation of these projects is beyond the scope of volunteers or a nature conservation NGO and should be designed by engineers, hydrologists and ecologists. The depth of the pipe from paddling pool to Wood Vale is not known and a key issue will be to provide a surface channel with the correct gradient to provide conditions for habitat creation and storm water storage, and avoid any potential for flooding on Wood Vale. There is some potential for increased siltation with the removal of pipe work from the channel upstream of the Dog Pond, but current storm water runoff is not very silty, and as such any increase in siltation is likely to be short term only.

The main tasks associated with the above drainage works are as follows:

- Compartment Y – remove remaining sections of ceramic pipe where appropriate (adjacent to compartment N and in compartment P)

- Compartment Y – restore and reline Dog Pond and direct overflow from Paddling Pool wildlife pond to it.
- Compartment Y – investigate potential to re-establish surface drainage downstream of Dog Pond to grille at Wood Vale access. Dam the course to reduce runoff.
- Compartment Y – carry out any drainage works necessary at the grille and drains at Wood Vale to facilitate the proposal to restore surface drainage.
- Consult Richard Barnes (GLA) re possible funding for the works from the London Biodiversity Action Plan for wet woodland.

5.9 Education and interpretation

The Friends of Queen's Wood, in cooperation with Haringey Council, have recently renewed the interpretation boards at the entrances to the wood. The Friends also hold public meetings to increase awareness and understanding of the work being done in the wood and run regular guided walks on the history and ecology of the wood both for the public and for specific groups such as BTCV.

School groups are encouraged to visit the woods. Two groups are currently using the woods for educational purposes. They are the Rudolf Steiner Schools and the Forest Schools organisation. Both groups involve the children in woodland activities and nature education and simple craft activities that do not harm the wood's resources. In addition the RS schools have musical activities, such as songs and dances, in the woodland setting. These groups have had permission from the wood manager and the Conservation Officer. Other school groups seem to use the woods informally from time to time for walks and woodland activities such as tree climbing and building dens. As Highgate Wood is so near and has better resources they cream off the formal activities for local schools. We hope that the Frogpond will provide a resource for local schools and other groups in the future.

Although accessible to huge numbers of people, the potential for involving schools and the general public is limited by a lack of teaching and associated welfare facilities. A resource centre at the wood would be readily accessible by residents and schools in the west of the borough, and could complement the ecology centre at Railway Fields in the east.

A resource centre cannot easily be added to an ancient wood. One possibility might be compartment M, which is not part of the ancient woodland or possibly the Lodge should its lease come up for renewal. Any centre could be used as a classroom and meeting room, office space, storage, loos etc.

It is beyond the scope of a conservation management plan to consider how this proposal could be funded or implemented and any proposals should take into account the possible impacts it might have on the funding and sustainability of other environmental education within the borough such as at Railway Fields and Wolves Lane.

5.10 Holly, cherry laurel, snowberry removal

The potentially adverse effects of holly and some other non native species through shading and competition with native plants have been discussed above (*Section 3.1.5 Invasive species*), and *Section 2.3 Description of compartments* noted where holly removal has already been carried out in accordance with the 2000 management plan. The following recommendations for clearance refer to additional areas in the 2000 plan where holly was noted as an issue, to features described in the plan that would be particularly vulnerable to dense shade, and to areas recorded during site visits in 2009/10. It is recommended that holly is removed by coppicing i.e., cut to ground level in the winter months (see section 5.5), and grubbing up of smaller plants, with arisings used for dead hedging as described in Section 5.6

- Compartment A – remove holly (by coppicing ideally followed by stump treatment) from bank running southwards from road - of potential value for flowering plants and bryophytes
- Compartment B – remove holly from bank running southwest from road - of potential value for flowering plants and bryophytes
- Compartment C – remove cherry laurel and any holly encroaching on to bluebell or other native ground flora (carry out a spring survey)
- Compartment D – remove holly within and competing with regeneration in the centre, east and west of the compartment and in the vicinity of wild service trees in the west (protect and open up habitat around pill sedge during clearance)
- Compartment E – remove holly affecting tree regeneration

- Compartment F – monitor holly and remove any competing with tree regeneration/guelder rose or shading common cow-wheat.
- Compartment G – monitor snowberry, grub out any affecting vernal ground flora
- Compartment J – remove holly around site of hard fern (now gone) to provide more open habitat that may favour development of young plants. Remove holly close to fallen wild service tree in the southwest of the compartment
- Compartment N – thin holly from wood bank (running northwards from the eastern boundary of compartment M) – of potential value for flowering plants and bryophytes

5.11 Ivy control/monitoring

The potential for ivy to have an adverse effect on ground flora, was discussed above (*Section 3.1.5 Invasive species*). In some parts of the wood the control of ivy may be a means of maintaining or improving ground flora without the risk of coppicing old hornbeam, which may result in poor regeneration and invasion of weedy species.

There is no information on the value of ivy removal in managing ancient woodland ground flora, or on how to remove it. As such an experimental approach should be developed and only small areas should be attempted initially. Due to variation in the wood there would be little value in attempting to assess effects through comparison with a control plot. Rather a before and after comparison should be made, which will require a baseline survey and comparison with abundance of ivy and ground flora species in subsequent years. Management activities and recording must be standardised to allow comparison of data in different years. Findings should be distributed through Conservation Evidence www.conservationevidence.com/ and at some stage could be published.

Ivy control is likely to be labour intensive but could readily be carried out by volunteers if manual control is carried out, the possible control options are as follows:

- Manual control by pulling/surface digging which is likely to rapidly decrease ivy cover and allow easy removal or arisings, but would involve soil compaction and disturbance

- Manual control by strimming or cutting with shears which is likely to have slower effects than pulling and will spread propagules, but would result in limited soil compaction and disturbance
- Chemical control would be possible as ivy is evergreen and could be treated with a systemic herbicide when ground flora is dormant, however some species such as yellow archangel are present during the summer and chemical control is therefore problematic.

It is considered that careful manual control through pulling is likely to be the most effective method of control. If carried out in the late summer or early autumn when vernal species are fully dormant, it may not result in damaging levels of disturbance.

Experimental ivy control should be carried out in the following compartments

- Compartment B – survey extent of ivy and whether encroaching on vernal ground flora
- Compartment T - carry out experimental ivy control in areas with good ground flora
- Compartment U - carry out experimental ivy control in areas with good ground flora

5.12 Japanese knotweed management

Japanese knotweed management is already being carried out or is proposed in the compartments listed below and should be continued

- Compartment L – continue to manage Japanese knotweed by pulling stems during the summer and removing arisings to the colony present in compartment M
- Compartment M – remove Japanese knotweed (spray with glyphosate for three years +) in advance of improving the nature conservation value of this area.
- Compartment Q - manage Japanese knotweed by pulling stems during the summer and leaving arisings on top of the colony

5.13 Litter and dog bins

Litter and dog bins are already present in areas where LB Haringey staff can regularly empty them.

- Compartment A –path from Queen’s Wood Road
- Compartment E –path from Queen’s Wood Road
- Compartment L –close to path to Muswell Hill Road
- Compartment P –at the exit to Wood Vale

Bins should be inspected four times yearly and requirements for repairs or replacement reported to LB Haringey’s Recreation Services Department.

5.14 Logs and brash

All trunks and branches from tree felling should be retained on site. They should be left as large timbers that cannot be readily moved or rolled down slopes, and in partially shaded areas where they can provide the best conditions for invertebrates. Where possible, twiggy material (brash) should be retained on-site and used for site management (screening, blocking informal access points and paths etc. However, excessive amounts could be unsightly and a fire risk and should be chipped and removed from site.

5.15 Ownership

Compartment M is the responsibility of Homes for Haringey. Responsibility is to be transferred to LB Haringey Recreation Service. The change in control would reflect the compartment’s designation as part of the LNR, consolidate responsibilities in a single, more appropriate department.

5.16 Pond management

Manage Compartment Z and other wildlife ponds in accordance with Froglife management notes in Appendix 2 of their project plan (01.08.09).

5.17 Private properties - access from

A number of owners of properties backing on to the wood have created illegal access points from their back gardens to the wood through which they have dumped garden and building waste. This is potentially damaging as it can smother small woodland plants, introduce invasive species and cause local changes to soil chemistry, as well as affecting people’s enjoyment of the wood. The Friends of Queen’s Wood should monitor access or dumping and where sufficiently severe the council’s Enforcement Department should write owners and charge them for any remedial work carried out. Current issues of illegal access and/or dumping are present in the following locations

- Compartment C
- Compartment G
- Compartment V
- Compartment W

5.18 Sight lines maintenance

Dense holly can obscure sightlines and should be removed to enhance the public's sense of security and safety. Currently holly growth either side of the path from Queen's Wood Road between compartments A and B needs to be cut back considerably. More generally, the Friends of Queen's Wood should carry out an audit to identify if there are any other areas where sight lines should be improved

5.19 Surveys and monitoring

Monitoring is proposed for species groups that can be identified by non-specialists and that are considered most likely to provide information on the effects of management if carried out regularly and over the entire period of the plan. In all cases the inferences drawn from management can only be indicative as there are a great number of additional variables that will affect the distribution of species at the site.

Birds: Bird monitoring is proposed in order to assess the effects of woodland management. The presence of nest boxes may also result in a positive change in the numbers and diversity of breeding species. It is recommended that an approach based on the discontinued Common Bird Census is adopted.

A territory-mapping approach should be used to estimate the number and positions of territories of each species present at the site during the breeding season. Eight to ten visits should be made between late March and early July and all contacts with birds, either by sight or sound plotted on 1:2500 maps. Each bird's species, with sex and age where possible, and also activity such as song or nest-building should be noted. It should then be possible to match the distribution of bird territories with habitat features.

Plants: Plant surveys should be carried out in all compartments where management is proposed the year before management is implemented and annually thereafter, ideally by the same recorder. Surveys of particular populations should record the whole compartment using the DAFOR scale and fixed point photography. The

extent, number and condition of rare species or those that reflect management aims should be recorded species. A list of notable species at the wood is provided in Table 1 above. Key species to be considered for monitoring, because they are ancient woodland indicators or associated with specific conditions such as damp areas are listed below. Species which are very rare at the wood have been omitted as they may naturally be of sporadic occurrence, or may decline for reasons unrelated to management.

- *Anemone nemorosa* Wood anemone
- *Carex remota* Remote sedge
- *Carex sylvatica* Wood-sedge
- *Conopodium majus* Pignut
- *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* Bluebell
- *Lamiastrum galeobdolon* Yellow archangel
- *Melampyrum pratense* Common cow-wheat
- *Melica uniflora* Wood melick
- *Milium effusum* Wood millet
- *Oxalis acetosella* Wood sorrel
- *Ranunculus auricomus* Goldilocks buttercup

Bats: Bat activity may also provide additional information on the effects of management and provide an indication of good positions for erecting bat boxes. A protocol based on the National Bat Monitoring Programme should be adopted. The location of 12 marked stopping points along the site should be identified, reflecting habitat type, the location of management activities (including bat boxes), and off site commuting routes. Monitoring visits should be carried out on two evenings in July. At each of the 12 stopping points heterodyne ultrasonic detectors should be used to listen for common and soprano pipistrelles for two minutes then re-tuned for noctule, natterer's and serotine bats whilst walking to the next stopping point. The survey should start twenty minutes post sunset.

5.20 Tree regeneration management

As discussed throughout Parts 2 and 3 of this plan there is poor regeneration of dominant tree species – oak and hornbeam – in most of the wood. The surveys carried out in 2000 and 2009/10 were not sufficiently detailed to assess the condition and management needs of regeneration patches and they should be

revisited in the summer months to determine their viability and management needs. Areas requiring consideration are listed below.

- Compartment C – assess and thin tree regeneration to favour oak at both eastern and western end of the northern part of the compartment
- Compartment D – assess oak regeneration the east, centre and west of the compartment and whether thinning and/or felling of mature trees to promote saplings, or restocking is warranted
- Compartment F – thin tree regeneration to favour oak if sufficiently vigorous to warrant selection, otherwise thin generally.
- Compartment G – assess oak regeneration the northern part of the compartment and whether thinning and/or felling of mature trees to promote saplings is warranted
- Compartment I – assess tree regeneration and whether thinning and/or felling of mature trees to promote saplings is warranted
- Compartment L – assess hornbeam regeneration in the lower and eastern end of the compartment and thin if required
- Compartment Q - assess oak regeneration close to the paths between compartments Q and R and whether thinning and/or felling of mature trees to promote oak saplings is warranted
- Compartment R - – assess oak regeneration and whether thinning and/or felling of mature trees to promote oak saplings is warranted

5.21 Tree felling

Based on the information provided in Section 2.3 and recommendations in 5.16 above, recommendations for felling to improve light levels to notable trees, areas of tree regeneration or to shrub or ground layers are made below. These are initial recommendations made on the basis of a review of the 2000 management plan and site visits carried out in the winter. Recommendations should be confirmed or revised on the basis of a spring/summer site inspection/

- Compartment B – remove 3 hornbeam in southern part of the compartment
- Compartment C – remove sufficient overhanging trees in the vicinity of oak regeneration at both eastern and western end of the northern part of the compartment (protect grassy clearing with cow-wheat in the west)
- Compartment M – remove all trees (including any low-quality trees in adjacent compartments) encroaching on old hornbeam pollards and wood banks along the northern and eastern edges of the compartment.

- Compartment N – subject to extent of squirrel damage thin hornbeam regrowth shading areas of hawthorn and hazel shrub layer.
- Compartment N – remove 1 or 2 hornbeam close to compartment Y that are excessively shading ground flora (thin spiked wood sedge etc.

Tree work should be carried out following advice from the borough's arboricultural officer, as to whether the work can be carried out by parks maintenance staff/volunteers, or requires a trained arborist. If the former, then adequate training, PPE and health and safety precautions will be required. Long stump (1-1.5m) should be left to increase the amount of standing dead wood at the site.

Depending on the numbers, size and species of trees involved a felling license may be required. Further information is available in the Forestry Authority leaflet "Tree felling: getting permission" (July 1997)
[http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/wgsfell.pdf/\\$FILE/wgsfell.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/wgsfell.pdf/$FILE/wgsfell.pdf)

All trees to be felled should be assessed for their potential to support roosting bats. Any tree considered to have value for bats, due to the presence of holes, splits or heavy ivy cover, or considered to be of notable value for nesting birds, should not be felled for reasons other than safety. Any tree with roost potential should be felled only after the presence of bats has been determined²². If bats are present, work may require a European Protected Species (EPS) License from Natural England. In other cases, where the risk of bats being present is sufficiently low, section felling may be necessary to avoid killing bats in the process of tree removal. Tree felling should be carried out in the winter, outside of the bird nesting season. Refer to Appendix 1 for legislation pertaining to bats and nesting birds.

²² Trees posing an immediate risk to public safety can be felled immediately, ideally in sections

6. Ten-year work programme

Queen's Wood management plan 2010 - 10 year management schedule														
Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
Access maintenance														
Carry out condition survey of paths to confirm need for maintenance and upgrading	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Carry out repairs to paths and steps as required.	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Compartment P - provide steps to direct access down slope from path at boundary with compartment H to Witches' Coven		✓				✓								
Bat boxes														
Compartment H – provide 1 or 2 bat boxes close to Paddling Pool Wildlife Pond (TBC by bat ecologist)		✓			✓									
Compartment I – provide 1 or 2 bat boxes close to Paddling Pool Wildlife Pond (TBC by bat ecologist)		✓			✓									
Compartment N - provide 1 or 2 bat boxes close to Paddling Pool Wildlife Pond (TBC by bat ecologist)		✓			✓									
Compartment P - provide 1 or 2 bat boxes close to Paddling Pool Wildlife Pond (TBC by bat ecologist)		✓			✓									

Queen's Wood management plan 2010 - 10 year management schedule

Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
bat ecologist), and 4 or 5 boxes on trees at edge of newly coppiced area.														
All compartments – monitor and bat boxes and consider moving if there is no evidence of use				✓				✓			✓			✓
Bird boxes														
Erect birds boxes throughout wood, initially at 10/ha and type (Darrel Lambert 2008) with more subsequently if there are high levels of occupancy				✓	✓				✓					✓
Clear and repair approximately 1/3 of boxes per year (subject to access)														
Coppicing and coppice management.														
Compartment K – assess coppicing and thin wild cherry to promote regrowth of hornbeam, which is badly affected by squirrel damage.	✓			✓		✓						✓		
Compartment K – if there is significant regrowth by 2015 this compartment should be considered for recoppicing.	✓			✓					✓					
Compartment N – monitor coppice regrowth from 2003, carry out selective management of regeneration if required (year TBC by monitoring)	✓			✓	✓									
Compartment P – monitor coppice regrowth from 2003, carry out selective management of	✓			✓	✓									

Queen's Wood management plan 2010 - 10 year management schedule

Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
regeneration if required (year TBC by monitoring)														
Compartment V – Coppice the full extent of wet woodland	✓			✓		✓	✓							
Compartment W – Coppice the full extent of wet woodland	✓			✓				✓	✓					
Dead hedging														
Compartment A – dead hedge to continue to protect and encourage expansion of sanicle	✓	✓				✓			✓					
Compartment H - dead hedge to protect cow-wheat and any tree regeneration of note	✓	✓				✓				✓			✓	
Compartment N - provide dead hedging between foot path and drain (compartment Y) to reduce human and dog access to drain-side flora	✓	✓			✓					✓			✓	
Compartment P - provide dead hedging close to drain (compartment Y) to ensure that activities associated with the Paddling Pool wildlife pond does not damage wet habitat in compartment Y	✓	✓				✓			✓				✓	
Compartment P - provide dead hedging close to path at boundary with compartment H to Witches' Coven to reduce trampling and compaction of drain-side habitat	✓	✓			✓				✓				✓	

Queen's Wood management plan 2010 - 10 year management schedule

Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
Compartment T – create dead hedges at 90o to the stream, up and down stream of areas of good ground flora to deter walkers from following stream and damaging ground flora	✓	✓			✓				✓				✓	
Compartment U – create dead hedges at 90o to the stream, up and down stream of areas of good ground flora to deter walkers from following stream and damaging ground flora	✓	✓			✓				✓				✓	
Deadwood and hibernacula														
Compartment O – create hibernacula associated with wildlife pond at the disused paddling pool site within disturbed areas and former garden planting in this compartment.			✓				✓						✓	
Drainage/Siltation														
Compartment Y – remove remaining sections of ceramic pipe where appropriate (adjacent to compartment N and in compartment P)			✓				✓							
Compartment Y – restore and reline Dog Pond and direct overflow from Paddling Pool wildlife pond to it.			✓				✓							
Compartment Y – investigate potential re-establish surface drainage downstream of Dog Pond to grille at Wood Vale access. Dam the course to reduce runoff.	✓			✓		✓								

Queen's Wood management plan 2010 - 10 year management schedule

Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
Compartment Y – carry out any drainage works necessary to grille and drains at Wood Vale access to facilitate proposal to restore surface drainage.		✓	✓						✓					
Education and interpretation														
Compartment M – develop proposal for educational building to provide resources for activities in the wood and habitats (pond etc primarily for education rather than conservation)	✓			✓					✓					
Holly, cherry laurel, snowberry removal														
Compartment A – remove holly from bank running southwards from road - of potential value for flowering plants and bryophytes	✓			✓	✓						✓			
Compartment B – remove holly from bank running southwest from road - of potential value for flowering plants and bryophytes	✓			✓	✓						✓			
Compartment C – remove cherry laurel and any holly encroaching on to bluebell or other native ground flora (carry out a spring survey)	✓			✓	✓						✓			
Compartment D – remove holly within and competing with regeneration in the centre, east and west of the compartment and in the vicinity of wild service trees in the west (protect and open up habitat around pill sedge during	✓			✓		✓						✓		

Queen's Wood management plan 2010 - 10 year management schedule

Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
clearance)														
Compartment E – remove holly affecting tree regeneration	✓			✓		✓						✓		
Compartment F – monitor holly and remove any competing with tree regeneration/guelder rose or shading common cow-wheat.	✓			✓		✓						✓		
Compartment G – monitor snowberry, grub out any affecting vernal ground flora	✓			✓			✓						✓	
Compartment J – remove holly around site of hard fern (now gone) to provide more open habitat that may favour development of young plants. Remove holly close to fallen wild service tree in the southwest of the compartment	✓			✓			✓						✓	
Compartment N – thin holly from wood bank (running northwards from the eastern boundary of compartment M?) - of potential value for flowering plants and bryophytes	✓			✓			✓						✓	
Ivy control/monitoring														
Compartment B – survey extent of ivy and whether encroaching on vernal ground flora				✓	✓									
Compartment T - carry out experimental ivy control in areas with good ground flora				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Compartment U - carry out experimental ivy				✓		✓		✓						

Queen's Wood management plan 2010 - 10 year management schedule

Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
control in areas with good ground flora														
Japanese knotweed management														
Compartment L – continue to manage Japanese knotweed by pulling stems during the summer and removing arisings to the colony present in compartment M			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Compartment M – remove Japanese knotweed (spray with glyphosate for three years +) in advance of improving the nature conservation value of this area.			✓		✓	✓	✓							
Compartment Q - manage Japanese knotweed by pulling stems during the summer and leaving arisings on top of the colony			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ownership														
Compartment M - investigate transfer of ownership of this area from LB Haringey Housing Department Recreation Services	✓						✓							
Pond management														
Compartment X – Froglife/Groundwork to provide management proposals for Paddling Pool wildlife pond to be incorporated into this plan														
Private properties - access from														
Compartment C – monitor access and any	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								

Queen's Wood management plan 2010 - 10 year management schedule

Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
dumping or damage from adjacent properties. LB Haringey to write to resident if damage is being caused														
Compartment G – monitor access and any dumping or damage from adjacent properties. LB Haringey to write to resident if damage is being caused	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Sight lines maintenance														
Compartment A – maintain clear sightlines along path from Queen's Wood Road forming the western boundary of the compartment				✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	
General audit and improvements		✓	✓			✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
Tree regeneration management														
Compartment C – assess and thin tree regeneration to favour oak at both eastern and western end of the northern part of the compartment	✓			✓		✓					✓			
Compartment D – assess oak regeneration the east, centre and west of the compartment and whether thinning and/or felling of mature trees to promote saplings is warranted			✓			✓					✓			
Compartment F – thin tree regeneration to favour oak if sufficiently vigorous to warrant selection, otherwise thin generally.			✓			✓						✓		

Queen's Wood management plan 2010 - 10 year management schedule

Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
Compartment G – assess oak regeneration the northern part of the compartment and whether thinning and/or felling of mature trees to promote saplings is warranted			✓				✓					✓		
Compartment I – assess tree regeneration and whether thinning and/or felling of mature trees to promote saplings is warranted			✓				✓					✓		
Compartment L – assess hornbeam regeneration and in the lower and eastern end of the compartment and thin if required			✓					✓					✓	
Compartment Q - – assess oak regeneration close to the paths between compartments Q and R and whether thinning and/or felling of mature trees to promote oak saplings is warranted			✓					✓					✓	
Compartment R - – assess oak regeneration and whether thinning and/or felling of mature trees to promote oak saplings is warranted			✓					✓					✓	
Tree thinning														
Compartment B – remove 3 hornbeam in southern part of the compartment	✓			✓				✓						
Compartment C – remove sufficient hornbeam in vicinity of tree regeneration at both eastern and western end of the northern part of the compartment	✓			✓			✓							

Queen's Wood management plan 2010 - 10 year management schedule

Management tasks	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10
Compartment M – remove all trees (including any low-quality trees in adjacent compartments) encroaching on old hornbeam pollards and wood banks along the northern and eastern edges of the compartment	✓			✓		✓								
Compartment N – remove 1 or 2 hornbeam close to compartment Y that are excessively shading ground flora (thin spiked wood sedge etc.	✓			✓		✓								
Compartment U – remove 1 or 2 hornbeam close to ditch that are excessively shading ground flora.	✓			✓		✓								

Appendix 1 Breeding Birds of Queen's Wood 2008

Species (<i>Latin name</i>)	Status at the site	BOCC/BAP status	Notes
Blackcap (<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to eleven territories were located
Great Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>)	Non-breeding	Amber	Seen flying over the site
Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i>)	Non-breeding	Amber	Seen flying over the site
Stock Dove (<i>Columba oenas</i>)	Breeding	Amber	Up to seven males were heard singing and seen in display flight
Green Woodpecker (<i>Picus viridis</i>)	Breeding	Amber	One or two territories were located
Willow Warbler (<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>)	Possible breeding	Amber	A single male was heard in April but not seen or heard on subsequent visits
Redwing (<i>Turdus iliacus</i>)	Winter visitor	Amber	Up to ten birds present during February and March.
Mistle Thrush (<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>)	Breeding	Amber	One breeding pair were present
Dunnock (<i>Prunella modularis</i>)	Breeding	Amber	Two singing males were located
Sparrowhawk (<i>Accipiter nisus</i>)	Breeding	Green	Mewing heard and a male seen hunting
Feral Pigeon (<i>Columba livia</i> 'feral')	Non-breeding	Green	Seen flying over the site
Woodpigeon (<i>Columba palumbus</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to thirty singing males were located
Tawny Owl (<i>Strix aluco</i>)	Breeding	Green	One male was heard, an adult was seen in May and a young bird was rescued.
Great Spotted Woodpecker (<i>Dendrocopos major</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to ten territories were located
Eurasian Jay (<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to five pairs were located
Common Magpie (<i>Pica pica</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to five pairs bred
Carrion Crow (<i>Corvus corone</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to four territories were located
Great Tit (<i>Parus major</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to thirty two territories were located

Species (<i>Latin name</i>)	Status at the site	BOCC/BAP status	Notes
Blue Tit (<i>Parus caeruleus</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to thirty eight territories were located
Coal Tit (<i>Parus ater</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to three territories were located
Long-tailed Tit (<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>)	Breeding	Green	Two pairs were located
Chiffchaff (<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>)	Breeding	Green	Four territories were located
Goldcrest (<i>Regulus regulus</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to three territories were located
Winter Wren (<i>Troglodytes troglodytes hiemalis</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to forty two territories were located
Eurasian Treecreeper (<i>Certhia familiaris</i>)	Breeding	Green	Two territories were located
Eurasian Nuthatch (<i>Sitta europaea</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to five territories were located
Eurasian Blackbird (<i>Turdus merula</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to thirty six territories were located
European Robin (<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to forty territories were present
Chaffinch (<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>)	Breeding	Green	Up to five territories were located
European Greenfinch (<i>Carduelis chloris</i>)	Breeding	Green	One singing male was located
Eurasian Siskin (<i>Carduelis spinus</i>)	Non-breeding	Green	Heard flying over the site
European Goldfinch (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>)	Non-breeding	Green	Heard flying over the site
Grey Heron (<i>Ardea cinerea</i>)	Non-breeding	Green / London BAP	Seen flying over the site
Canada Goose (<i>Branta canadensis</i>)	Non-breeding	No status	Heard flying over the site
Harris's Hawk (<i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i>)	Non-breeding	No status	An escaped falconers bird was seen on two dates

Species (<i>Latin name</i>)	Status at the site	BOCC/BAP status	Notes
Ring-necked Parakeet (<i>Psittacula krameri</i>)	Non-breeding	No status	Seen flying over the site
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>)	Breeding	Red	One male was heard during the February survey.
Starling (<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>)	Non-breeding	Red	Family groups were seen in May but no evidence of breeding on site was discovered
Song Thrush (<i>Turdus philomelos</i>)	Breeding	Red	Up to nine territories were located



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