

King George's Fields Trust Board 28 th November 2018	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Debbie Jones, Children's and Culture Directorate	Classification: Unrestricted
Mile End Park update	
Report Author Stephen Murray, Head of Arts, Parks and Events	

REASONS FOR URGENCY

The report was not published five clear days in advance of the meeting. Therefore, before this report can be considered at this meeting, the Mayor would need to be satisfied that it is necessary to consider the Mile End Park update without that consideration being delayed to a later meeting. The Mayor may also take the view that it is important that there is no delay in member oversight of the management of Mile End Park including the planned activities and major maintenance issues.

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on items related to the management of Mile End Park including the planned activities and major maintenance issues. It also provides an update on the other parks that are within the Board's responsibilities.

Recommendations:

The King George's Field Charity Board is recommended to:

1. Note the update on activities in Mile End Park Appendix 1 and
2. Note the update on spend and income Appendix 2.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 This is an update and does not require decisions.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The alternative would be not to take regular updates but this would go against the expectations of the Charity Commission.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 Appendix 1 is a summary of activities that have taken place to date. This includes an analysis of the type of events taking place at the two Mile End Pavilions where we try to achieve a balance between income generation and free to access events for the public.
- 3.2 The activities programmed aim to provide something for all age ranges and families. The urban adventure playground programme is targeted at 10 to 25 year olds, the arts and other workshops younger children and the “stay and play toddler group self-explanatory.
- 3.3 Appendix 2 is an update on income and expenditure. It gives starting budget, spend to date and forecast for the year. The yearly forecast shows a projected over spend of £5,200 in Mile End Park and a projected surplus in Stepney Green giving an overall projected surplus of £20,485. The expenditure includes a sum of £80,000 for repairs and maintenance carried over from 2017-18, delayed in order to check details of works done. This was offset by a one off backdated rental income from the Climbing Wall of £100,000.
- 3.4 Any surplus created are put into reserves and carried forward.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The parks managed under the auspices of the King George's Field Charity Board are fully accessible public open spaces for the enjoyment and benefit of all communities in the borough.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

None

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

As stated in 3.3 above, Appendix 2 details all income and expenditure to 31/10/18 with forecast for remainder of 2018/19. A projected surplus of £20,485 is expected for 2018/19. This will be transferred to reserves at year end and carried forward to 2019/20. There are no other financial implications.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 The Council is the Trustee of the Mile End Charity pursuant to the Governing Document which is a Scheme dated 28th February, 2000. The Council is also the trustee for Tredegar Square with the Trust deeds. The Council's Constitution establishes the King George's Fields Charity Board to administer the charities affairs and discharge the Council's trustee functions.
- 7.2 The purpose of the charity is to preserve the Park Lands in perpetuity as a memorial to King George V under the provisions of the King George's Fields Foundation. The 1965 Scheme which established the Foundation gave its purpose as “to promote and to assist in the establishment and to promote the preservation throughout the United Kingdom of Playing Fields for the use and enjoyment of the people...” Additionally, the trustees may “ apply the land to

such charitable purposes as are set out in the Recreational Charities Act 1958".

- 7.3 As trustees, the Board must make sure that the charity is carrying out the purposes for which it is set up, and no other purpose. Further, the Board must act in the Charity's best interests and manage the Charity's resources responsibly.
 - 7.4 This report provides information to the Board so that the trustees can undertake their duties.
 - 7.5 In considering this report and its recommendations, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty).
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Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

NONE

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Mile End Park Activity Update October 2018
- Appendix 2 - King George's Fields Trust Budget update Oct 2018

Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012

NONE

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