


King Georges Fields Trust Board Meeting  <b>3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019</b>	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Debbie Jones. Children and Cultural Services	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Title : Activities and maintenance updates</b>	

<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Councillor Amina Ali, Cabinet Member for Culture Arts and Brexit</b>
<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	Stephen Murray. Head of Arts Parks and Events
<b>Wards affected</b>	All Wards
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Forward Plan Notice Published</b>	N/a
<b>Reason for Key Decision</b>	N/a
<b>Strategic Plan Priority / Outcome</b>	<b>A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in</b>

## Executive Summary

This report provides details of planned activities in KGFT sites over the summer period and outlines plans for the development of a ten year maintenance plan.

## Recommendations:

The Board is recommended to note:

1. The details of planned activities for the public for summer of 2019
2. The proposed development of a ten year maintenance plan for King Georges Fields Trust land and buildings therein

## 1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The King Georges Fields charity is registered with the Charity Commission as King Georges Field, Mile End Charity, registered number 1077859.
- 1.2 The Council is the trustee of the charity and the council is the freehold owner of the land which is subject to this report.
- 1.3 The King Georges Fields Charity Board (the Board) is established by section 3.3.12 of the Council's Constitution, which gives the Board the following

functions:

- 3.2.1 To administer the affairs of the King Georges Fields Charity and discharge all the duties of the Council a sole trustee of the Charity
- 3.2.2 To administer the affairs and discharge the duties of trustee of such other charities controlled by the Council as the Cabinet might authorise by resolution

## **2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

2.1 There are no other options

## **3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT**

3.1 Appendix 1 details the planned activities for 2019 taking place on KGFT land and premises.

3.2 Appendix 2 outlines the need for a ten year maintenance plan with associated income annual income targets and scope of plan coverage.

## **4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Mile End Park is an important community asset that is open to all. As the population of the borough increases it, along with other parks, becomes increasingly important as a facility to support healthy living and community activity that helps promote community cohesion.

## **5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:

- Best Value Implications,
- Consultations,
- Environmental (including air quality),
- Risk Management,
- Crime Reduction,
- Safeguarding.

## **6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

6.1 The report and appendices detail planned activities for 2019 and a ten year maintenance plan for KGFT land and premises. There are no known financial implications. All maintenance costs will be covered within existing budgets and income targets.

## **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 trustees have a duty to consider the King George's Field Trust budget that supports the running of Mile End Park. It is consistent with this duty that the trustees are advised of commercial activities within Mile End Park that generate income as well as expenditure in respect of maintenance and upkeep.
- 7.3 As the running of Mile End Park is about ensuring open spaces for residents and visitors to enjoy then it is important that information about free community events in Mile End Park is provided to the trustees so they can satisfy themselves that the park is being appropriately used.
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### **Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents**

#### **Linked Report**

- List any linked reports
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- State NONE if none.

#### **Appendices**

1. Summary of planned events and workshops for 2019
2. Details of proposed development of a ten year maintenance plan.

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

None

**Officer contact details for documents: Stephen Murray. Head of Arts Parks and Events x7910**

### Activities for the financial year 2017/2018

1. During 2017/18 the Parks and Open Spaces team delivered a range of activities within Mile End Park

#### 1.1 Arts Park

- Redesigning and restocking of Arts Park beds at the front and rear of the Arts Pavilion, in particular perennial plants to reduce maintenance and regular watering.
- Work in Partnership with the London in Bloom to host the 50th Anniversary of the London in Bloom Awards in the Arts Pavilion
- Design, develop and install picnic benches in the rear of the Arts Pavilion
- Increase storage for the Arts Pavilion, by identifying suitable external location and installing a container.

#### 1.2 Ecology Park

- Bulb planting of 100 meters naturalised bulbs
- Distribution of 100 tonnes of wood chips throughout the various woodland walk areas with corporate groups.
- Completed the Second phase of the central reservation gapping across the Ecology park.

#### 1.3 Play Park

- 87 regular stay and play actives were delivered with a total attendance of 4,674
- 20 activity sessions were delivered with a total attendance of 2,717
- 7 community events the events included; Park Life: Community Fair & Dog Show, Alexia Memorial Event, Water Festival, Cardboard City, A day by the seaside, Teenie Halloweenie

1.4 Volunteers .We delivered 24 corporate volunteering sessions and worked with 1,456 volunteers.

Volunteers carried out tasks such as

- Management of aquatic planting in the Ecology and Arts lakes, with a particular focus on reed reduction.
- Carried out maintenance to all the natural hedges though out the park
- Created crushed concrete paths though our native food land walks
- Handed weed our native meadow areas
- Painted all the park railings
- Distributed over 10 tons of wood chip that was spread across all the scrub beds around the park.
- Built 20 picnic benches that were distributed across the park.

## Appendix 1 Activities

1.5 Improvement works carried out for Mile End Park included the installation of electronic door entry systems to all 3 pavilions and upgraded the CCTV system to allow viewing of the ecology and arts pavilion at the main office in Locksley street.

1.6 Summary numbers taking part in events and workshops.

<b>Total Individuals benefiting/taking part</b>	<b>4,674</b>	<b>2,717</b>	<b>4,030</b>	<b>1,456</b>
<b>No Events and workshops</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>24</b>
	<b>Stay and Play</b>	<b>MEP Activity</b>	<b>Events MEP</b>	<b>Corp Vols</b>

2. Pavilions hire and activity.

2.1 This is a summary of invoiced income for the pavilions. This is income taken against bookings for 2017/18 financial year and some income may show up in the following financial year. There are staffing and security costs attached to bookings which are shown below. There will also be repairs and maintenance and heat and light costs which are covered by income but not shown here.

	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>
<b>Both Pavilions Invoiced Income</b>	<b>£252,059</b>	<b>£258,300</b>
<b>Staff costs</b>	£47,550	£32,527
<b>Security costs</b>	£13,360	£8,830
<b>Balance surplus</b>	<b>£191,149</b>	<b>£216,943</b>

## Appendix 1 Activities

2.2 Summary of Pavilions usage. Note we hold more exhibitions at the Arts Pavilion than the Eco Pavilion and this explains the difference in free to access days for the public. There are also times when we don't take bookings in order to carry out repairs and an annual repainting.

<b>Pavilions (no of days)</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>
<b>Arts Occupied</b>	280	264
<b>Arts Unoccupied</b>	76	101
<b>Open to the Public / free activity</b>	151	143
<b>Eco Occupied</b>	186	185
<b>Eco Unoccupied</b>	166	209
<b>Open to the public / free activity</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>27</b>