

King George's Field Charity Board 4 April 2017	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Debbie Jones, Corporate Director Children's Services	Classification: Unrestricted
Title: Update on Mile End Park	

Lead Member	Councillor Asma Begum, Cabinet Member for Culture
Originating Officer(s)	Steve Murray [Head of Arts Parks and Events]
Wards affected	Bow West and Mile End East
Key Decision?	No

Executive Summary

The report presents details of the Mile End Park annual management plan and an update on the activities. These activities are designed to engage with the public, bring visitors to the park and promote the Council's healthy living agenda. In support of the annual plan for the park set out in this report is the King George's Field Trust budget for 2017/18 and the forecast outturn position for the 2016/17 financial year.

Recommendations:

The Board is recommended to:

1. Consider and comment on the Annual Management Plan for Mile End Park set out in Appendix 1.
2. Note the funding for 2017/18 and the forecast out turn projection for 2016/17.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Board has previously requested sight of Mile End Management Plan and budgets in order to be informed of the management of Trust lands in keeping with Charity Commission requirements.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The alternative would be for the Board to be uninformed of management matters that fall within their remit.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

- 3.1 The King Georges Field's Trust, at the meeting in January 2017, requested additional information around budgets and copies of the management plans for Mile End Park. Officers have prepared the information below along with an update on activity planned for 2017.
- 3.2 The budget for 2017-18 sets out the resources required to deliver the objectives in the Mile End Management Plan and provides an update on the forecast outturn position for the financial year 2016-17. The aim is to deliver the key priority outcome in the Council's Strategic Plan that meet the following objective 2.1 An improved local environment.

4. Resources and Planned Activity

- 4.1 The report sets out the activities planned to take place in Mile End Park over the next twelve months as listed in Appendix 2. These activities are designed to engage with the public, bring visitors to the park and promote the Council's healthy living agenda. The format and content is informed by the requirements of the Green Flag Scheme but the document is updated annually to inform the work streams and priorities for the park in the coming year.
- 4.2 The resources allocated for the management of the King George's Field Trust operations in 2017-18 was approved at Cabinet on the 7th February 2017 and Full Council on the 27th February 2017. The breakdown of the expenditure including the incoming resources is shown in the table below. The planned expenditure for 2017-18 is expected to be £878,457. This is lower than in previous years as a result of having now dealt with all the insurance issues relating to the Green Bridge. The estimated incoming resources to fund the expenditure are expected to be in the region of £902,600, resulting in a forecast surplus of £24,143.
- 4.2 The table also provides the projected outturn position for 2016-17 where the total expenditure is expected to be £1,138,000. This will be funded from incoming resources of just under £1,135,000, giving a net deficit of £3,000. This will be resourced from the reserve, which has a balance of £142,000.

- 4.3 The expenditure on the King George's Field Tredegar Square is forecast to be £10,000 for the financial year. The expenditure is expected to be at the same level as in previous years and consists of repairs and maintenance related to grounds maintenance.

Table of Projected Outturn 2016-17 and Budget Breakdown for 2017 - 2018

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		
	2016/17		2017/18
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Forecast</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>	£	£	£
Rentals	640,000	680,000	639,000
Other Lettings	224,000	224,000	164,000
Sponsorship & Donations	19,000	19,000	-
Multi-Pitch Income	62,500	75,000	64,600
Other Income	131,500	136,800	35,000
Total Incoming Resources	1,077,000	1,134,800	902,600
<u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>			
Salaries	214,100	196,000	209,600
Employee Related Expenditure	4,300	3,700	3,800
Agency	46,600	64,000	32,000
Rent	75,900	75,900	75,900
Repairs & Maintenance	469,057	493,957	367,957
Energy & Water	63,000	70,900	63,000
Other Services	161,100	166,800	84,300
Communications	-	-	-
Stock & Equipment	53,200	55,600	39,500
Fees & Insurance	8,900	11,300	2,400
Total Resources Expended	1,096,157	1,138,157	878,457
Net (Expenditure) /Income	(19,157)	(3,357)	24,143

- 4.4 There are currently no planned reductions for the King George's Field Trust's budget as part of the Council Medium Term Financial Strategy. However, the finances for King George's Field Trust will need to remain resilient to deal with a number of budget pressures that have been identified in the budget.

Budget Pressures

- 4.5 **Stepney 3 G Pitch** – A condition of the funding for the Stepney 3 G pitch is that a sinking fund is set up for the replacement of the pitch. The cost of replacing the pitch, based on an initial ten year life cycle cost including 5%

compound inflation, is estimated at £222,888. This assumes an annual contribution to a sinking fund of £22,288. The budget for 2017-18 currently assumes a surplus of £24,143 which can be used for the required renewal sinking fund.

- 4.6 **Repairs and maintenance** – The key item of repairs in Mile End Park for the coming year, other than grounds maintenance, will be the repairing of the leak the pond behind the Ecology Pavilion. 2016 -17 saw multiple repairs and replacements to the many water features in the park as pumps came to the end of their lives. As equipment is replaced there is the need to ensure adequate maintenance regimes are in place to get the best from the equipment.
- 4.7 **Mile End Management Plans** – Attached at Appendix 1 are the management plans for Mile End Park. The format and content is informed by the requirements of the Green Flag Scheme but the document is updated annually to inform the work streams and priorities for the park in the coming year.

5. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 5.1 The budget for the management of the King George's Field Trust operations in 2017-18 was approved at Cabinet on the 7th February 2017 and Full Council on the 27th February 2017. The financial implications of the Annual Management Plan have been reflected in the budget table and narrative of the report.

6. LEGAL COMMENTS

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 The trustees have a duty to keep the accounting records and it is consistent with that duty to consider and comment on the Mile End Park annual management plan and to consider both the King George's Field Trust budget for 2017/18 and the forecast outturn position for the 2016/17 financial year .

7. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 Parks are free for all residents to access and the Council looks to make them safe spaces where all sections of our community are comfortable using the facilities contained there.

8. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The budget is based on securing best value within the context of continuing to maintain Mile End Park in accordance with the objectives of the Trust.

9. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

- 9.1 The management of Mile End Park is focussed on providing good quality green spaces in a sustainable way.
- 9.2 The commercial aspects of the park directly link to supporting the maintenance of this key green space.
- 9.3 The park plays an important role in promoting bio diversity and educating the public on environmental issues.

10. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The parks staff operate a comprehensive risk process which covers all activities within the park by users and staff.

11. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Parks staff work closely with colleagues and the Police to reduce ASB and crime within the park.

12. SAFEGUARDING IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 No safeguarding risks or benefits have been identified

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Management Plan for End Park for 2017-18
- Appendix 2 - Mile End Park Activities Planned for 2017 -18

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

- List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.
- These must be sent to Democratic Services with the report
- State NONE if none.