Parks for London

SUPPORTER UPDATE

March/April 2021

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Communications Officer—new post at Parks for London

We're excited to be expanding our team and are currently advertising for a Communications Officer to support our work to champion parks and green spaces and to transition to becoming a Centre for Excellence. Details about the role can be found on our website here. Please do circulate via your networks.

Covid-19

⇒ We will continue to update our **Covid-19 guidance** web page in the resources hub — see page 2 for link.

⇒ We are working with a number of London Boroughs and London Sport to encourage **Parkrun** to take a pan-London approach to their activities. Currently it appears they are leaving it to volunteer race directors to negotiate arrangements. We will keep you posted on progress.



⇒ London Sport have confirmed that the extension of the **football season** into June is a one off, so will not impact on the cricket season beyond this year.

⇒ In March, academics from the University of Westminster held a webinar to explore **green spaces and wellbeing during Covid-19**, drawing on their recent research. Panellists from key organisations joined the discussion, including the Landscape Institute and Parks for London. The webinar is available on YouTube to view here.

Managing Waste

⇒ Socialising outdoors is increasing as we're now well into the second stage of the roadmap out of lockdown and the weather is getting much warmer, so our parks and green spaces are going to get even busier. Lots of eateries are getting 'park-ready' to deliver food and hampers straight to parks and Timeout have just produced a list of their top picks to deliver to parks. So it looks like we'll have to get sign-ready to keep litter under control.

⇒ We have produced TOR's for our new **Waste Management Action Group,** to help tackle the waste and recycling issues most pressing for land-managers. The first meeting will be held on 21st May 2021, if you would like to join this group please do get in touch.



Waste Management (cont'd)

In our last update we let you know about our new partnership with Eco Green Communities who are offering to install 500 fully funded eco litter and dog stations in parks across London for a year. A number of London boroughs and other land owners have already signed-up and pilots are about to get underway. There are still stations available so please get in touch if this is of interest, the stations provide space for your bespoke signposting, community messaging or public information. The pilot is exclusively available to **Supporters of Parks for London**.

Cool Spaces Project Phase II—reminder to register your spaces!

In March the GLA & partners invited stakeholders to register sites as cool spaces, in support of the GLA's Phase 2 Cool Spaces Initiative. The initiative seeks to establish and promote a network of mapped accessible cool spaces across the city, providing places where Londoners can take respite from intensely hot weather in the summer. The Project Steering Group is keen to get a wide spread of cool spaces from across Greater London, so please register your sites by 14th May here. More detailed information, including an alternative approach to enable multiple outdoor public open spaces to be uploaded, will be sent to stakeholders shortly.

Meetings for your diary

⇒ **Parks and Green Spaces APPG Meeting, Tuesday 18th May 2021, 11am to 12 noon (online)** - the second meeting of the this Group will review progress made in the 5 years since the launch of the Select Committee Inquiry into the Future of Public Parks in 2016.

⇒ **Heads of Parks Services meeting, Tuesday, 8th June 2021, 10am to 12am, (online)**

⇒ **For other meetings see our events diary.**

Website—Quick links

⇒ News

⇒ Events

⇒ Covid-19 Guidance

⇒ Health Parks Toolkit

⇒ Integrated Weed Management

⇒ Green Space Quality Manual

Asset Management Action Group The Group reconvened in April and will be developing an Asset Management Policy Template, which will be available later this year.

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