# **Clapham Common Tree Strategy**

**Action Plan** 

2012 to 2022







## Clapham Common Tree Strategy – Action Plan

## Contents

## 1 Action Plan

1.1 Summary	2
1.2 Administrative /managerial tasks	7
1.3 Establishing partnership agreements	9
1.4 Arboricultural operations / works	10
1.5 Arboriculture survey	11
1.6 Events	12
1.7 Education and promotion	13
1.8 Character Areas	14

#### 1.0 Clapham Common – Tree Strategy Action Plan

- 1.0.1 The Actions Plan details the tasks needed to achieve the aims and objectives for Clapham Common (the Common) and Vision for Tree Cover, as establish in the Tree Strategy and illustrated in the Vision Plan. The action points, identified by character area within Section 6 of the Tree Strategy, are addressed and allocated a timescale for implementation. The Action Plan also identifies the individual or group it is anticipated will be responsible for the task. It is recognized that this may change overtime as Partnership Agreements with Stakeholders develop.
- 1.0.2 This Action Plan is restricted to a period of 10 years and is broken down into three cycles, corresponding with the Council's cyclical tree survey program. As the Action Plan is led by the information collected as part of the tree condition survey, detail tasks (i.e. planting locations, tree removal) can only accurately be identified by the lead officer, for the first three year phase. The detail for subsequent tasks shall be prioritized, following analysis of the tree condition survey in 2014 and 2017. It is expected that the analysis and breakdown of the tree survey will be undertaken by the lead Tree Officer in conjunction with consultation with Stakeholders.

#### 1.1 Summary

1.1.1 The matrix at Table 1 illustrates the rationale behind the decision making process and provides options for individual tree management. Whilst the availably of resources will dictate what works can be undertaken each year, it is expected that the dead and dying trees will be the first to be replaced. This will form the first tranche of replanting in year one and two. The decision to remove trees that are in a poor condition will be determined by their amenity and ecological value. Special management principles may be deemed appropriate for trees such trees, particularly if they have a high amenity value and if their condition does not limit life expectancy to below 10 years. Succession planting of key character feature trees and avenues is recognized as a priority and recommended as a pre-emptive measure in the interests of sustainable management. However, the availability of funding will set the volume for replanting and the use of special management principles. It is realistic to expect that the timescales for achieving the Action Plan tasks, will fluctuating with funding levels.

- 1.1.2 Replanting can be divided into the broad criteria which encompass the following:
  - Priority -replacement of Dead / Dying, Poor trees with high amenity value Short term aim
  - Succession anticipation of trees lost, focusing on high amenity trees medium term aim
  - Infill Replanting to achieve a pattern of historic tree cover (circa 1895) and general planting for biodiversity objectives –Long term aim
  - **Woodland / Group** Staggered increase to the extent of existing woodland or to create compact woodland groups Long term aim
- 1.1.3 Trees in fair condition, which have a high amenity value, should receive the most intensive management, as a means to promote their longevity and maintain mature canopy cover. Works will largely be restricted to general tree pruning to remove defective parts or hazardous pieces of deadwood, but may also include special management principles. Cost effective measures, such as removing weed competition, bacterial washes and mycorrhizal applications should be considered first. Based on the response, on a case by case basis, vertical mulching or soil decompaction can be recommended. In all cases, the decision to implement special management principles should be balance with the wider management aims of the Common such as ecological priorities, recreation and sports usage.
- 1.1.4 Trees that are in a good and excellent condition are unlikely to require extensive tree works or need intensive management in the short to medium term. As all pruning works have the potential to allow the ingress of pathogens, tree pruning should be limited to dealing with health and safety issues. Pro-active management around the high value and excellent quality trees should be considered, to avoid direct damage or compaction of the soil within rooting areas. This can be included in the procedural matters and letting of Parks events to ensure that valuable trees are fully considered and accommodated (e.g. ground protection)
- 1.1.5 Tree condition will be assessed and recorded by the Tree Officer as part of the cyclical tree survey program, but a guide for other Stakeholders, is provided at Table 2.

**Table 1 -Action Plan Decision Matrix** 

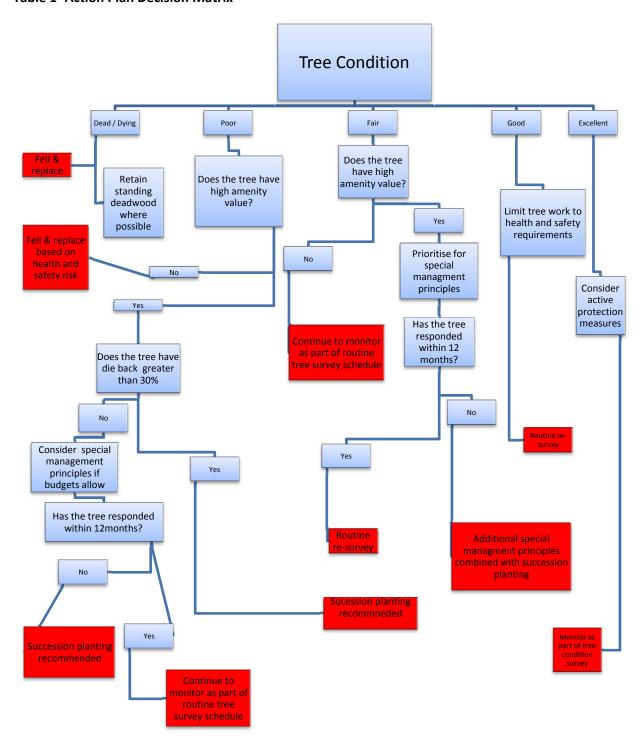


Table 2 -Tree Condition and Landscape Contribution Guide

High amenity value  Tree in a visually prominent position and/or comprising a historic landscape feature (mature, possibly over mature trees)
Excellent  Mature tree free of visible defects combined with high landscape value, located in a prominent position
Good Mature trees with minor defects or those which can be rectified with remedial pruning Young or middle aged trees which have good future potential
Fair Young or middle aged trees with limited landscape value Mature trees with major structural defects or declining physiological condition
Poor Trees with significant defects or rapidly declining in physiological condition
Dead / Dying  Either non living growth (can be considered for safe retention for wildlife habitat) or in a condition which results in a limited life expectancy and/or severely diseased

## 1.2 Administrative / Managerial Tasks

### \*TSO –Tree Strategy Objective

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale Year (Y)	TSO*
Assign Council Officer to lead on the Tree Strategy	Council	<ol> <li>Implement tree strategy and action plan</li> <li>Ensure continuity in management</li> <li>Provide primary contact for Stakeholders</li> </ol>	Y1	4
Roll out tree planting request system	Council	<ol> <li>To ensure         systematic approach         to replanting         requests</li> <li>Promote sustainable         management of the         Common</li> </ol>	Y1	1, 3
Write specification for special management principles	Council	1. Operational requirement	Y2	3
Tender special management principles to arboricultural contractors	Council	1. Establish site specific bacterial washes and mycorrhiza application rates 2. Recycling of tree surgery waste for mulching 3. Allow budget profiling	Y2	3,4
Explore funding streams	Council & Stakeholders	1. Identify who must make the individual funding application, based on eligibility 2. Make applications to applicable funding sources	Y2 – ongoing	1

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale Year (Y)	TSO*
Full consideration and inclusion of excellent quality and/or high amenity value tree in the set- up procedures of Parks events	Council	<ol> <li>Proactive management to avoid damage / soil compaction</li> <li>Promoting longevity and sustainable tree cover</li> </ol>	<b>Y</b> 4	1,4
Review of Tree Strategy	Council & Stakeholders	<ol> <li>Analyze and review progress of action plan and tree strategy document</li> <li>Reprioritize tasks not complete</li> </ol>	Y 4, 7 & 10	4

## 1.3 Establishing Partnership Agreements

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale Year (Y)	TSO
Establish communication stream between Council and Stakeholders	Council	<ol> <li>Promote Partnership         Agreements</li> <li>Identify primary contacts</li> <li>Review and reaffirm         existing relationships</li> <li>Promote the sustainable</li> </ol>	Y1	4
Launch Tree Strategy	Council & Stakeholders	management of Clapham Common	Y1	4
Formulate planting plan based on priority locations and availability of funding	Council & Stakeholders	<ol> <li>Sustainable management of Common</li> <li>Extend tree diversity and age structure</li> </ol>	Y1, 4, 8	2, 3
Setup Social Networking group to inform on progress and future action plan tasks	Council and/or Stakeholders	<ol> <li>Establish Partnership         Agreements</li> <li>Communicate action         tasks</li> </ol>	Y2 ongoing	4
Establish borough wide Tree Wardens group	Council	Establish partnership agreements	Y4	1,4
Allocate individual or small groups to oversee each character area	Tree Wardens	<ol> <li>Generate community involvement</li> <li>To assist Tree Officers in monitoring the health and condition of important trees</li> </ol>	Y5 ongoing	1,4

## 1.4 Arboricultural Operations / Works

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale Year (Y)	TSO
Issue all emergency and health and safety tree works	Council	<ol> <li>Fulfill Councils duty of care</li> <li>Manage the tree stock through best practice</li> </ol>	Y1 , Y 4, Y7	1
Issue all essential tree works as identified in the tree condition survey	Council	<ol> <li>Fulfill Councils duty of care</li> <li>Manage the tree stock through best practice</li> </ol>	Y2, Y5, Y8	1
Issue all desirable tree works as identified in the tree condition survey (depending on availability of budgets)	Council	1. Encourage sustainable management	Y3, Y6, Y9	1
Removing unnecessary tree stakes	Council	Manage the tree     stock through best     practice	Y5	1,3
Erect bird and bat boxes	Council & Stakeholders	<ol> <li>Biodiversity gains</li> <li>Community involvement</li> </ol>	Y6, Y10	4
Remove all inappropriate monoliths	Council	<ol> <li>To remove hazards</li> <li>To ensure tree         features match         character areas</li> </ol>	Y8 ongoing	3
Create standing deadwood in woodland and ecology areas	Council & Stakeholders	1. Biodiversity gains	Y3, Y5, Y9	4

### 1.5 Arboricultural Survey

Task	Responsibility		Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Identify tree(s) for special management based on priority locations and availability of funding	Council		Sustainable management of Common Promote longevity of high value trees and historic landscape features Retain and enhance the individual character areas	Y3, 5 & 8	1,4
Tree Condition Survey	Council	2.	and succession planting program	Y3/4 & Y6/7	1,4
Review of Tree Condition Survey	Council & Stakeholders	1.	To priorities tree planting and special management principles based on budget and resources	Y3/ Y4 & Y6/7	1,4

#### 1.6 Events

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Establish annual planting events for planned / sponsored trees planting	Council & Stakeholders	<ol> <li>Creating partnership agreements</li> <li>Biodiversity gains</li> <li>Community involvement</li> <li>Promoting the Council and the Common</li> </ol>	Y1 – ongoing	1, 2
Organize working parties for Woodland Management Tasks	Council & Stakeholders	<ol> <li>Creating Partnership         Agreements</li> <li>Biodiversity gains</li> <li>Community involvement</li> <li>Promoting the Council and the Common</li> </ol>	Y1 – ongoing	1,3, 4
Provide tree felling demonstrations	Arboricultural Contactor & Council	<ol> <li>Community involvement</li> <li>Promote the Councils         Tree Section and their work     </li> <li>Educational value</li> </ol>	Y3 –ongoing	4
Habitat pile creation (relocation of fallen and pruned deadwood to woodlands and ecology areas)	Council & Stakeholders	<ol> <li>Creating Partnership         Agreements</li> <li>Biodiversity gains</li> <li>Community involvement</li> </ol>	Y4 – ongoing	3,4
Heritage Tree Walk – to encompass high value trees and key historic features	Council & Tree Wardens	Promoting the Common and the value and benefits of trees	Y5 – annual	4
Tree Fungi Forage – Presentation	Council	<ol> <li>To pass on identification skills to Tree Wardens</li> <li>Community involvement</li> <li>Promote Councils Tree Section and their work</li> <li>Educational value</li> </ol>	Y2 – annual	4

### 1.7 Education and Promotion

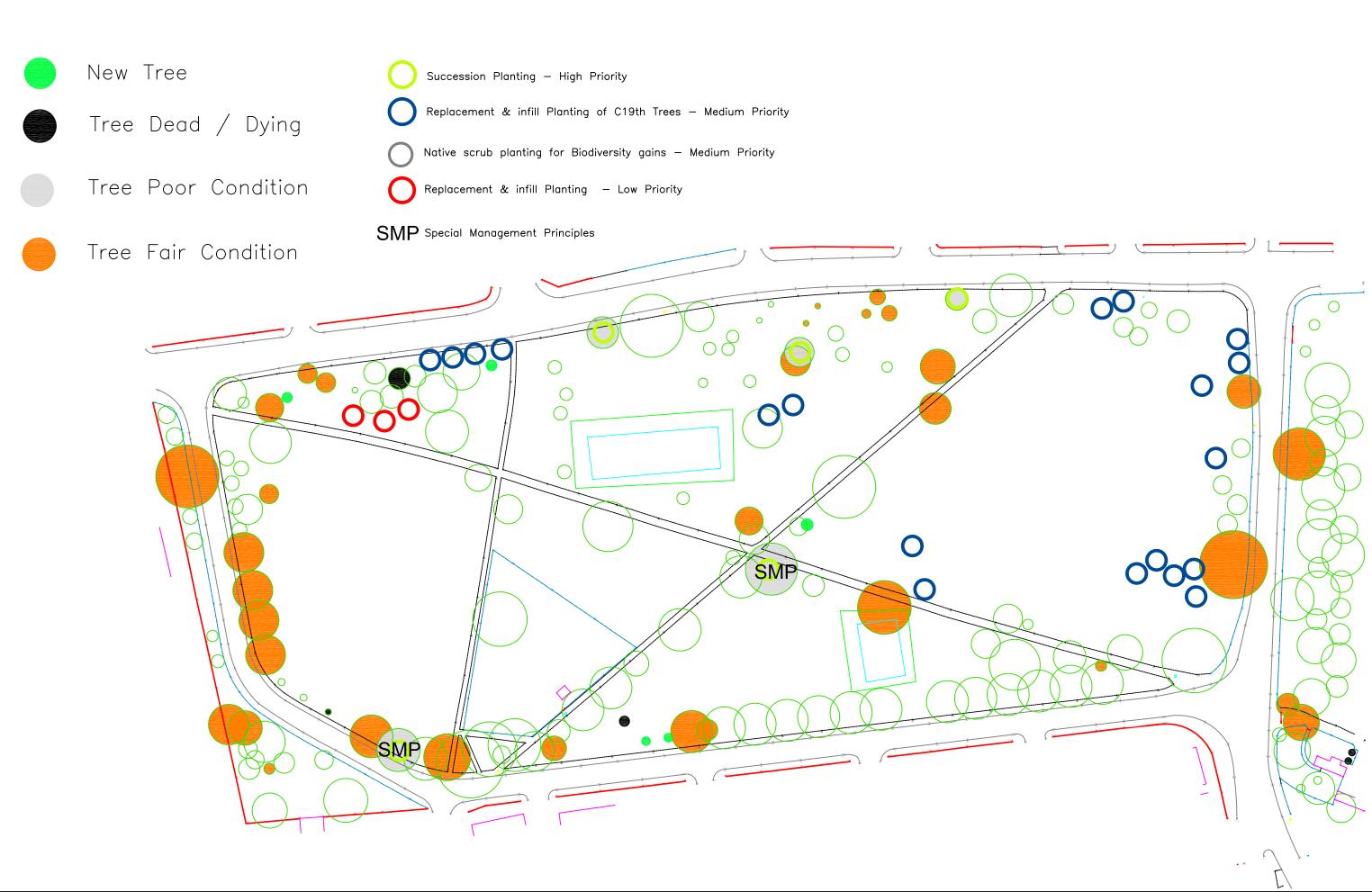
Task	Responsibility		Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Make links with London Environmental Education Forum and local schools to promote the Common as outdoor class room	Council	2.	Education value Promote befits of trees and the Common Establish Partnership Agreements	Y3 – ongoing	4
Erection information boards around key features (i.e. Battersea Woods) and high value specimen trees	Council	1. 2.	Education value Promote befits of trees and the Common	Ongoing (dependent on funding)	4
Publish and advertise Community events in local and Council press and social networking site	Council & Stakeholders	1.	Establish partnership agreements	Y1 – Ongoing	4
Appoint Tree Wardens as local liaison	Stakeholders		Acting as a contact between the community and the Council or other authorities Establish partnership agreements	T3 ongoing	4
Publish tree removal policy (establish as borough-wide policy)	Council	1.	To assist tree section in dealing with tree enquires	Y4	4
Publish tree pruning guidance (establish a borough-wide policy)	Council	1.	To assist Tree Section in dealing with tree enquires	Y4	4

## 1.8 Character Areas

#### 1.8.1 Battersea Rise

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Replace all dead and dying trees and within identified gaps in avenues	Council	Increase age diversity	Y 1 to 3	2
Introduce succession next to failing trees	Council	Sustainable tree management	Y2 to 6	2, 3, 4
Infill planting to the east of the area to replicate 1895 layout (avoiding conflict with sports pitches)	Council	Maintaining historic character and landscape features	Y5 to10	2, 3
Identify key tree(s) for special management principles (based on availability of resources	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1
Monitor results of special management	Council & Stakeholders	Priorities budget allocation	Ongoing	1
Precautionary special management principles – ground protection for events, removing turf / mulching around important trees	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1, 4
Update planting/ special management principles Plan following cyclical tree condition survey	Council & Stakeholders	Encourage sustainable management	Y 4 and 7	1,4

# Action Plan - Battersea Rise



#### 1.8.2 West Side

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Replace all dead and dying trees and within identified gaps in avenues	Council	Increase age diversity	Y 1 to 3	2
Introduce succession next to failing trees prioritizing Avenues and Horse Track	Council	Sustainable tree management	Y2 to 6	2,3,4
Infill planting using native species along boundary with fairground site to enhance wildlife corridor	Council & Stakeholders	Extend tree diversity	Y 6 to 10	2,3
Identify key tree(s) for special management principles (based on availability of resources	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1
Monitor results of special management	Council & Stakeholders	Priorities budget allocation	Ongoing	1
Precautionary special management principles –for sports events i.e. removing turf / mulching around important trees	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1,4
Update planting plan following tree condition survey	Council & Stakeholders	Encourage sustainable management	Y 4 and 7	1,4

## Action Plan - WestSide

- New Tree
- Tree Dead / Dying
- Tree Poor Condition
- Tree Fair Condition
- Succession Planting High Priority
- Replacement & infill Planting of C19th Trees Medium Priority
- Native scrub planting for Biodiversity gains Medium Priority
- Replacement & infill Planting Low Priori
- SMP Special Management Princip

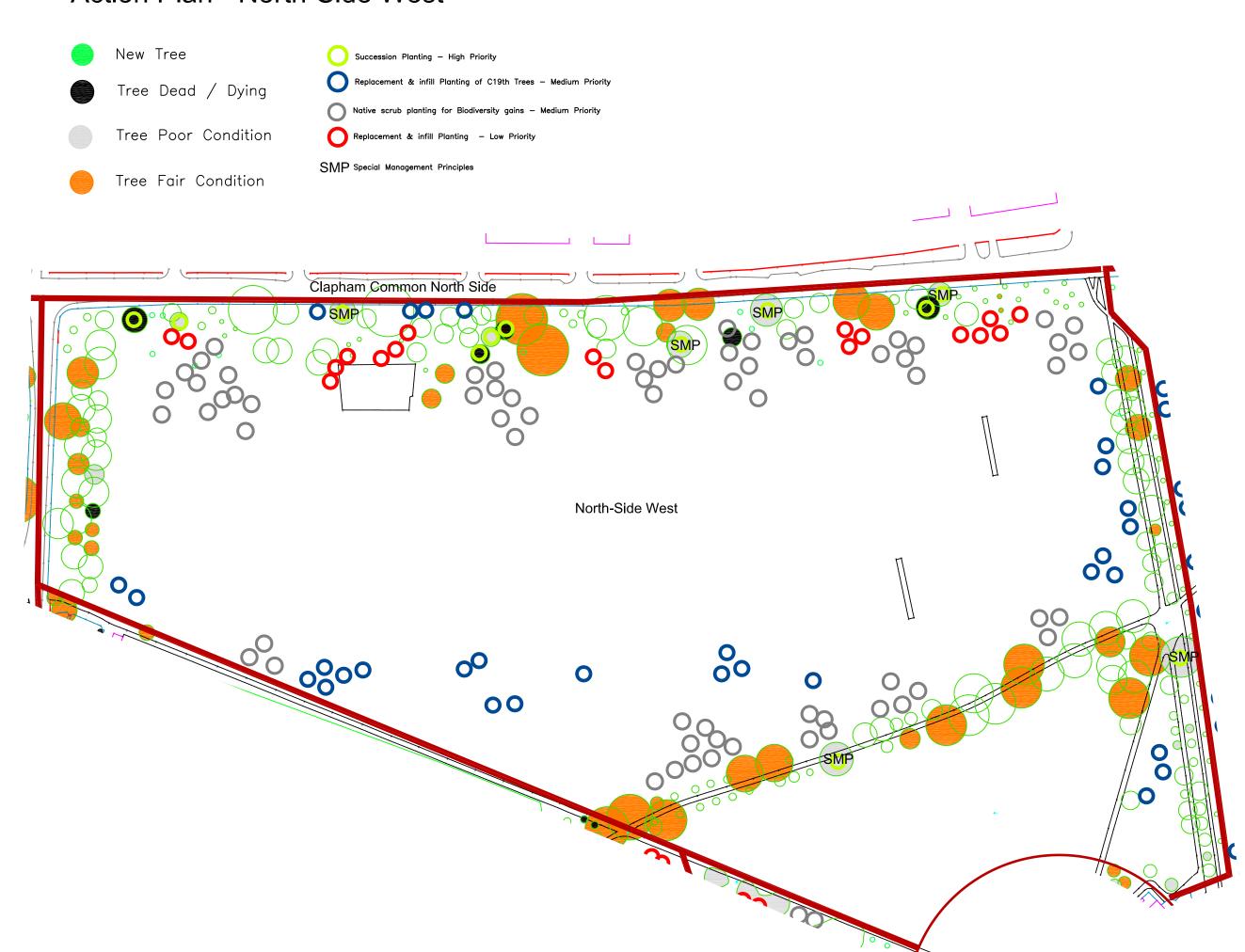


#### 1.8.3 North-Side West

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Replace all dead and dying trees and within identified gaps. Focus initial resources on Springwell Group	Council	Increase age diversity	Y 1 to 3	2
Introduce succession planting next to failing trees prioritizing those along the northern boundary	Council	Sustainable tree management	Y2 to 6	2,3,4
Infill planting using native species along internal north / south cycle track	Council & Stakeholders	Extend tree diversity  Break up visual uniformity of avenue	Y 8 to 10	2,3
Infill planting using native species along boundary with Battersea Wood and Ecology Core, avoiding conflict with sporting events and other ecological management objectives	Council & Stakeholders	Extend tree diversity	Y 8 to 10	2,3
Erect low fencing to direct pedestrians away from desire lines along the northern boundary, to facilitate the use of the main footpath	Council & Stakeholders	Halt soil erosion and compaction in root areas of trees  Ensuring loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	<b>Y</b> 5	1,4

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Identify key tree(s) for special management principles (based on availability of resources	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1
Monitor results of special management	Council & Stakeholders	Priorities budget allocation	Ongoing	1
Precautionary special management principles for major events i.e. suitable ground protection	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1,4
Update planting plan following tree condition survey	Council & Stakeholders	Encourage sustainable management	Y 4 and 7	1,4

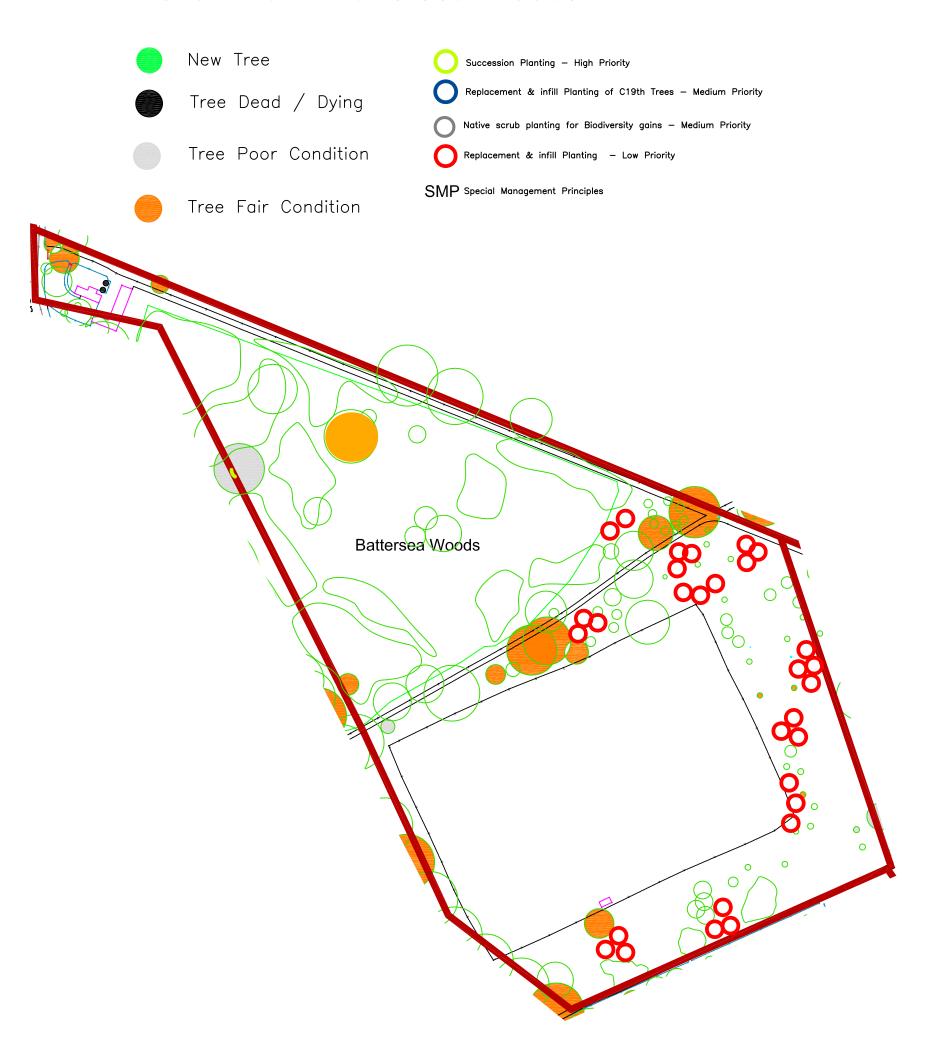
## Action Plan - North-Side West



#### 1.8.4 Battersea Woods

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Update Battersea Wood Management Plan	Council & Stakeholders	Manage tree stock through best practice	Y2	1,3
Introduce under planting within existing woodland	Council	Extend tree diversity	Correspond with Woodland Management Plan	2
Extend range of woodland through planting compact groups with native species to create glades	Council & Stakeholders	Extend tree diversity Enhance wildlife corridors to link the two woodland areas on common	Y 4 and 8	2,3,4
Carryout thinning operations	Council & Stakeholders	Sustainable management  Increase light infiltration to woodland floor Biodiversity gains Establish Partnership Agreements	Corresponding with Woodland Management Plan	4
Develop woodland edge through staggered removal of trees	Council & Stakeholders	Improving age and height structure of woodland Biodiversity gains Establish Partnership Agreements	Corresponding with Woodland Management Plan	1,4
Identify key tree(s) for special management principles (based on availability of resources	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1
Monitor results of special management	Council & Stakeholders	Priorities budget allocation	Ongoing	1
Update planting plan following tree condition survey	Council & Stakeholders	Encourage sustainable management	Y 4 and 7	1,4

# Action Plan - Battersea Woods



## 1.8.5 Ecology Core and Mount Pond

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Identify suitable dead / dying trees within ecology core area to be retained as standing deadwood	Council	Encourage sustainable management	Y1	1,2
Replace on those dead and dying trees which have high amenity value	Council	Increase age diversity	Y 1 to 3	2
Infill planting within ecology core using compact groups with native species	Council & Stakeholders	Extend tree diversity Enhance wildlife corridors to link the two woodland areas on common	Y 4 to 8	2
Priorities over- mature Ash trees along Windmill Drive for special management principles (based on availability of resources	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1,4
Monitor results of special management	Council & Stakeholders	Priorities budget allocation	Ongoing	1
Update planting plan following Cyclical tree condition survey	Council & Stakeholders	Encourage sustainable management	Y 4 and 7	1,4

# Action Plan - Ecology Core & Mount Pond

- New Tree

  Succession Planting High Priority

  Replacement & infill Planting of C19th Trees Medium Priority

  Native scrub planting for Biodiversity gains Medium Priority

  Tree Poor Condition

  Replacement & infill Planting Low Priority

  SMP Special Management Principles

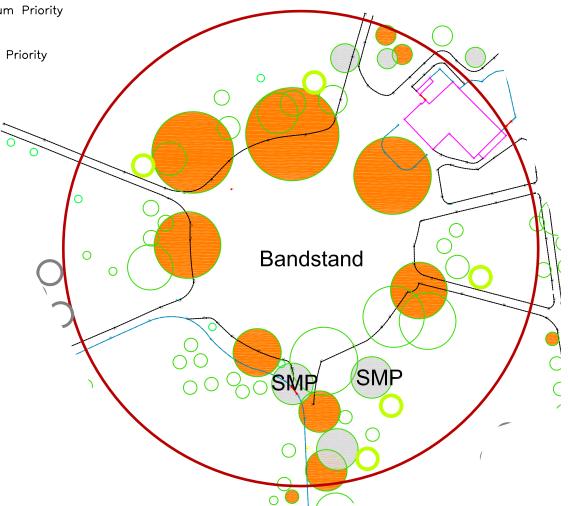
#### 1.8.6 Bandstand

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Replace dead and dying trees	Council	Increase age diversity	Y 1	2,3
Introduce succession next to failing trees	Council	Sustainable tree management	Y2 to 4	1,2
Identify key tree(s) for special management principles (based on availability of resources	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1
Monitor results of special management	Council & Stakeholders	Priorities budget allocation	Ongoing	1
Precautionary special management principles – ground protection for events, removing turf / mulching around important trees	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1,4
Update planting plan following Cyclical tree condition survey	Council & Stakeholders	Encourage sustainable management	Y 4 and 7	1,4

# Action Plan - Banstand

- New Tree
- Tree Dead / Dying
- Tree Poor Condition
- Tree Fair Condition

- Succession Planting High Priority
- Replacement & infill Planting of C19th Trees Medium Priority
- Native scrub planting for Biodiversity gains Medium Priority
- Replacement & infill Planting Low Priority
- SMP Special Management Principles



### 1.8.7 North –Side East

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Replace all dead and dying trees, prioritizing identified gaps in historic avenues	Council	Increase age diversity	Y 1 to 3	2,4
Introduce succession next to failing trees, prioritizing Fagus Group	Council	Sustainable tree management	Y2 to 6	1
Infill planting using native species to the east of the internal north / south cycle track	Council & Stakeholders	Extend tree diversity Break up visual uniformity of avenue	Y 8 to 10	2
Infill planting around Long Pond replicate 1895 layout (avoiding conflict with sports pitches)	Council	Maintaining historic character and landscape features	Y5 to10	3
Erect low fencing to direct pedestrians away from desire lines along the northern boundary, to facilitate the use of the main footpath	Council & Stakeholders	Halt soil erosion and compaction in root areas of trees Ensuring loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Y5	1
Identify key tree(s) for special management principles (based on availability of resources	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1,4
Monitor results of special management	Council & Stakeholders	Priorities budget allocation	Ongoing	1

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Precautionary special management principles – ground protection for events, removing turf / mulching around important trees	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1,4
Update planting plan following cyclical tree condition survey	Council & Stakeholders	Encourage sustainable management	Y 4 and 7	4

## Action Plan - North-Side East

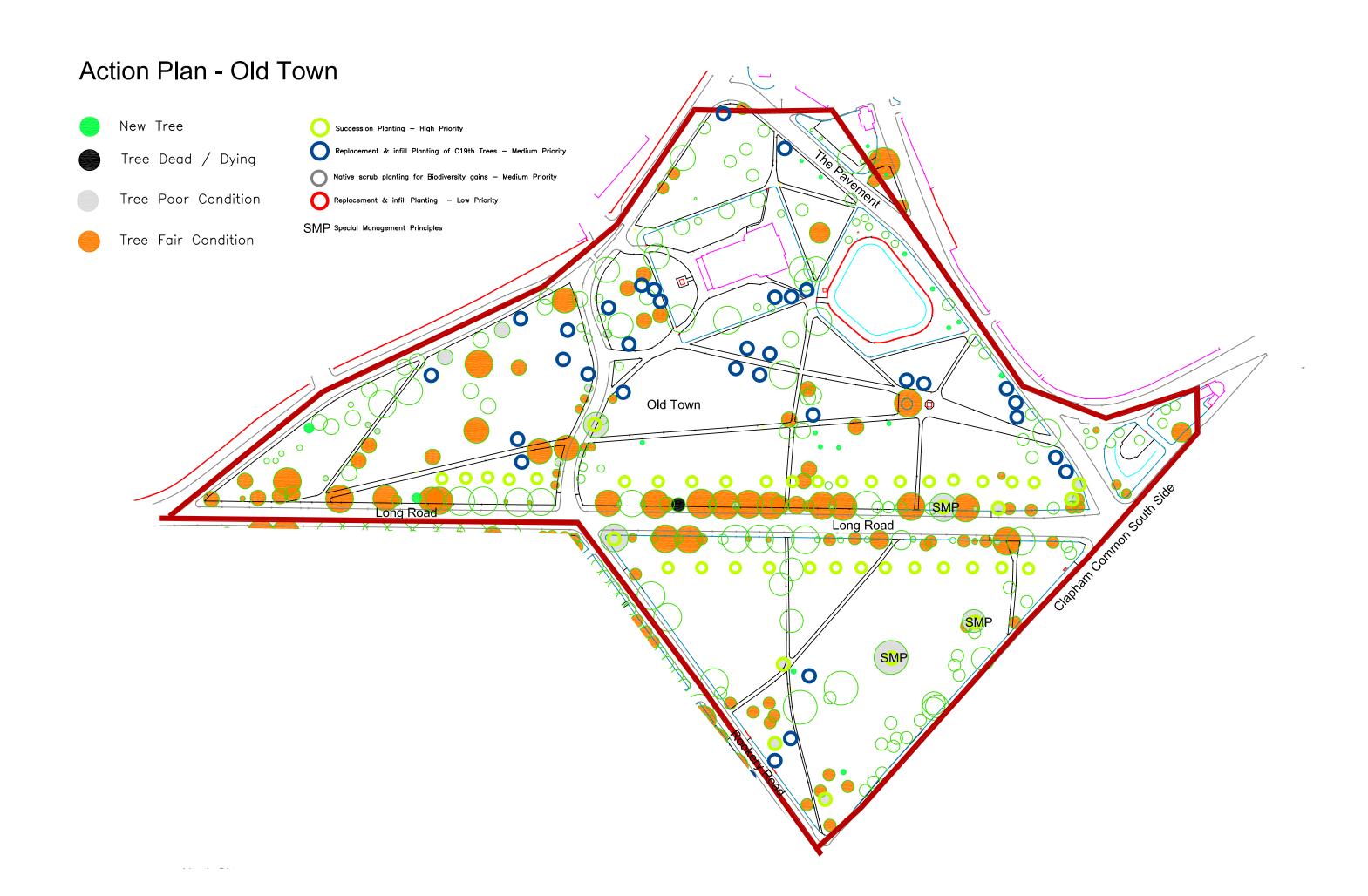




#### 1.8.8 Old Town

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Replace all dead and dying trees, prioritizing identified gaps in historic Avenues	Council	Increase age diversity	Y 1 to 3	2,3
Introduce succession next to failing trees, prioritizing high amenity trees	Council	Sustainable tree management	Y2 to 6	1,2
Infill planting to the west of the area to replicate 1895 layout	Council	Maintaining historic character and landscape features	Y5 to10	3
Remove and poison emerging sucker growth around tube station, public convenience	Council	Maintaining historic character and landscape features	Y3	3
Identify key tree(s) for special management principles (based on availability of resources	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1,4
Monitor results of special management	Council & Stakeholders	Maintaining historic character and landscape features  Budget allocation	Ongoing	1,4
Precautionary special management principles – removing turf / mulching around important trees	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	4

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Staggered removal of poor quality Lime trees within historic Avenue to aid successful establishment of replacement and succession planting	Council	Sustainable tree management	Y5 to 10	3,4
Update planting plan following Cyclical tree condition survey	Council & Stakeholders	Encourage sustainable management	Ys 4 and 7	1,4



#### 1.8.9 South Side

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Replace dead and dying high amenity trees and within identified gaps. Focus initial resources on historic avenues	Council	Increase age diversity	Y 1 to 3	1,2
Introduce succession planting next to failing trees, prioritizing decline Ash along Windmill Drive	Council	Sustainable tree management	Y2 to 6	1,2
Identify key tree(s) for special management principles (based on availability of resources)	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1,4
Monitor results of special management	Council & Stakeholders	Priorities budget allocation	Ongoing	1
Precautionary special management principles for major events i.e. suitable ground protection	Council	Ensuring tree loss to disease damage and neglect is minimised	Ongoing	1,4
Update Nursery Wood Management Plan	Council & Stakeholders	Manage tree stock through best practice	Y2	3,4
Introduce under planting within existing woodland	Council	Extend tree diversity	Correspond with Woodland Management Plan	1,2

Task	Responsibility	Outcome	Timescale	TSO
Carryout thinning operations	Council and Stakeholders	Sustainable management  Increase light infiltration to woodland floor  Biodiversity gains  Establish Partnership Agreements	Correspond with Woodland Management Plan	1,4
Develop woodland edge through staggered removal of trees	Council and Stakeholders	Improving age and height structure of woodland  Biodiversity gains  Establish Partnership Agreements	Correspond with Woodland Management Plan	3,4
Update planting plan following cyclical tree condition survey	Council & Stakeholders	Encourage sustainable management	Y 4 and 7	1

