



ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2018

We have enjoyed another challenging but productive year promoting London's precious green spaces and a better life for Londoners. Following the earlier review of our strategy, we embarked on the year with a renewed sense of purpose. This report prepared on behalf of the Trustee Board outlines the main activities we have undertaken for the public benefit having regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

STANDING UP FOR OUR GREEN SPACES

Our core purpose remains to fight for London's green spaces and the benefits this brings to us all. We have assisted with more than 30 local campaigns to protect green spaces from development threats, including Metropolitan Open Land in the Lea Valley, Greenwich and Richmond, and Green Belt in Redbridge and Enfield. Many of these campaigns are ongoing.

To help us stand up for green spaces working with Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GIGL), in August we completed a vital project to produce a comprehensive map of all of London's Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land. This showed that just over 22% of land in Greater London is designated as Green Belt and just under 10% is designated as Metropolitan Open Land. The associated report *London's 'Protected' Land* includes detailed data on the extent, location and character of this land by borough. This information will be kept up to date on an annual basis, which will be vital for all those seeking to defend some of London's most precious green spaces.

We also contributed to a *State of the Green Belt* report produced in August by national CPRE, as well as a report on the London Metropolitan Green Belt which was launched earlier this year. Both reports revealed a big increase in the loss of Green Belt for housing development in the wider South East and across the country.

We produced a manifesto for the local elections in May urging all candidates and parties to protect green spaces. We also conducted a survey to find out what were Londoners top environmental concerns with over 500 responses. These revealed that reducing traffic on our streets along with litter reduction, greening the streets, planting and protecting trees, enforcing recycling and improving our parks were among the top priorities for Londoners. We followed up our survey by writing to all newly elected council leaders urging them to take action on these issues. We also initiated a joint campaign with like-minded groups to develop a 'healthy streets' scorecard to measure the performance of London Boroughs in promoting more people friendly streets.

We pursued these and related issues in submissions and meetings with the Deputy Mayor for the Environment, London's Commissioner for Cycling and Walking, Tideway, the London Legacy Development Corporation, the London Tree Partnership, the Leader of Hounslow Borough Council, Members of Parliament Greater London Assembly Members, and officials at the Greater London Authority and Transport for London.

SPACE TO BUILD

During the year, we continued to promote our influential research *Space to Build* which shows there are many alternatives to building on our precious green spaces to meet London's need for new housing, including vacant or underused buildings and previously developed, 'brownfield' land. We wrote to all London MPs in May informing them there is enough wasted space in London to provide new housing for 40 years without touching precious green space and urging them to help improve the Government's National Planning Policy Framework which was being reviewed. With financial support from the National CPRE charity we carried out detailed research on brownfield capacity in the London Borough of Enfield where the Local Plan is under review.

We participated in a seminar on the 'Future of Metroland' organised by The Smith Institute, alongside colleagues from the Future of London, arguing for a green, place-based approach to regeneration and renewal in London's outer boroughs. And we contributed to a submission by National CPRE to the Government on the Thames Estuary Growth Commission's 2050 Vision setting out the need for an environmentally sustainable, landscape-led approach to regeneration of the area.

DRIVING IN CIRCLES

In February we published our report *Driving in Circles* which shows how extensive car-dependent development in the Green Belt beyond Greater London's borders will lead to 5 million extra car journeys a week. Evidence shows that most of the trips made by people living there will be by car even where developments are within walking or cycling distance from rail stations. We pointed out that this undermines the Mayor's efforts to reduce traffic congestion and air pollution, and calls into question the Government's promise to protect London's Green Belt.

THE LONDON ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

The London Environment Strategy was published in May shortly after our last AGM where the Director of Environment at the Greater London Authority (GLA) set out the Mayor's aspirations. The final strategy which extends to more than 440 pages is the first integrated strategy covering air quality, green infrastructure, noise, waste and climate change. Our call for strong policies to protect and improve green spaces, promote more tranquil spaces and local food production, prevent light pollution, and reduce car-dependent development were reflected in the final strategy. We also made a submission supporting the Mayor's proposals for the Ultra Low Emission Zone for central London introduced in April this year.

NEW LONDON PLAN

We made a detailed submission in response to the draft *London Plan* issued for consultation by the GLA in December 2017. While welcoming its policies to protect Green Belt and promote brownfield regeneration, we called for stronger policies to protect, improve and extend green and public spaces, and a more realistic approach to meeting London's housing needs, including increased provision of genuinely affordable homes. In November, alongside Just Space which supports community groups in London, we organised a seminar for community and green groups to prepare for the Examination in Public (EIP) which began in January this year. We were invited to participate in, and made written submissions on, 18 sessions of the EIP hearings to discuss the proposed spatial development strategy, housing strategy and supply, design, density, tall buildings, the public realm, noise, and green infrastructure, including Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land. The GLA published alterations to the draft *London Plan* in August a number of which responded to our concerns. It is anticipated that the new *London Plan* will be adopted in 2020.

OUR SPACE

We launched the *Our Space* campaign in January supporting the London Friends of Green Spaces Network to promote the benefits and use of green spaces. Working with the Friends Network we developed a new website and a #goparkslondon challenge in July to promote London's 3000 parks, particularly the less-well-visited ones, and encourage residents and visitors to get out and discover them. We also organised a mini-film festival to celebrate the work of Friends Groups which took place in January this year.

We hosted a seminar in December to explore public access to open space in London, and the issue of 'privately-owned public space'. There are large areas of land across the capital which might look like public space but which is in fact private land with various access restrictions. We developed plans for a campaign to promote rights of public access across London.

TRANQUIL LONDON

Shortly before last year's AGM we published our report on *Traffic Noise in London's Parks*. We produced noise maps showing that almost a third of London's 885 parks are severely impacted by noise from nearby roads. We called for action to reduce and remove traffic from roads impacting on parks, including through traffic filtering and road closures, and to mitigate noise through the use of natural features such as hedgerows. We worked with Tranquil City Collective to develop a proposal for mapping tranquillity in some of London's green spaces and sought project funding. We also made a submission to the London Night Time Commission calling for greater recognition of the need to tackle noise, reduce litter and avoid light pollution connected with the night time economy.

GREEN CLEAN

We have been active supporters of CPRE's national campaign for the introduction of a deposit scheme for drinks containers. In September we collaborated with the Friends of Bow Back Rivers to carry out a Green Clean of waterways to the south of the Olympic Stadium with the support of the Deputy Mayor for the Environment, the London Borough of Newham, the Canal and River Trust, Viewtube Cafe and Thames Water. In just 3 hours we collected 70kg of litter including over 600 bottles and cans. We also issued guidance in October on what Parks Friends groups can do to reduce litter and rubbish and encourage recycling.

PUBLICITY

We received regular coverage of our reports and activities in local press and websites, and television and radio interviews, as well as articles in the professional and technical media. We also commissioned and circulated seven issues of our own *Green London* eBulletin, including a special issue on the draft London Plan.

MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDRAISING

In December we collaborated with the national CPRE charity to organise a Christmas Celebration for our members and supporters. This took place at St Botolph's without Aldersgate attracting over 100 attendees and with a performance by the Hackney Harmony Choir.

We ran two fundraising appeals during 2018. Our regular Summer appeal sought donations towards our work to tackle the extensive noise and air pollution in London's Parks and raised around £4000. We also launched a Winter appeal, linked to the Christmas Celebration, to help us defend green spaces in the London Plan which raised almost £2000. We are grateful for everyone

who donated to these appeals which are a vital source of income.

We were delighted to receive an 'Awards for All' grant of £10,000 from the Big Lottery towards our work on *Our Space* and an anonymous donation of £10,000 towards our work to protect London's green spaces.

In addition to our *Green London* eBulletin, we produced two newsletters for our members and supporters with news of our activities.

Following a thorough review, and with guidance from the CPRE National Charity, a new privacy policy was adopted in line with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations.

TRUSTEE BOARD

We adopted our new Constitution at the AGM last year with a number of relatively minor changes including: changing the name of the Executive Committee to Trustee Board; extend the maximum term of Trustees and honorary officers from 5 to 6 years to align with CPRE National Trustee terms and allow more continuity in Board membership; and require Trustees to make declarations of interest in line with Charity Commission requirements.

John Croxen served as Chair of the Board with Dianne Kennard and Carol Hamcke-Onstwedder as Vice Chairs, Alexander King as Treasurer, Kate Allardyce as Secretary, and Cynthia Jenkins, Danny Garvey and Linda Duberley as General Trustees. In line with the new Constitution, John, Dianne and Cynthia will stand down at this year's AGM. Kate Allardyce will also be standing down for personal reasons. We thank them for their work and dedication over the past few years. Tony Burton was co-opted to the Board in December as a General Trustee following an open recruitment process. Our up to date Register of Trustees is available on the Charity Commission website.

The Trustee Board met on a quarterly basis to review management of the charity and receive reports from staff and honorary officers. The Board also met in October for an Away Day to discuss project development. Following the review of our strategy in 2017, we adopted a new strategic framework for our activities last year which was used to monitor progress. We liaised regularly at staff and trustee level with the national CPRE charity on their Purpose Project and associated Strategic Review, including attending the national AGM and Conference.

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

We were pleased to recruit Tim Fountaine as our part-time Office and Accounts Administrator (0.2 FTE) in July. Tim has already made a start in updating our accounting processes as well as our office equipment and systems to improve our efficiency and save money. He joins Alice Roberts our Head of Green Space Campaigns and Neil Sinden our Director who are also both part time (0.6 FTE). We are grateful to the staff team for their commitment and hard work. They were supported by a number of volunteers over the past year including Sebastian Archer, Emma Booth, Lotte Crawford, Brigid Finlayson, Carol Fisk, Jonathan Halls, Rachel Lillie, Lynne Roberts, Nick Spickernell, and Shane Thompson. We thank them all for their valued contribution. We are also grateful to Alan Baxter for his support in kind.

If you would like further information about any of the matters covered in this report or would like to become more involved in our work, please contact us at office@cprelondon.co.uk

John Croxen
Chair, CPRE London on behalf of the Trustee Board
April 2019

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

Income and Expenditure (£)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Income	Funds 2018	Funds 2018	2018	2017
Total Membership Income	43,724	-	43,724	43,523
Earned Income	-	-	-	-
Grant Income	-	9,900	9,900	-
Donations and branch appeal proceeds	2,905	19,071	21,976	18,258
Contributions to projects	-	-	0	10,600
Legacies and bequests	-	-	0	-
Interest Income	80	-	79.78	90
Total Income	46,709	28,971	75,679	72,471
Expenditure				
Staff salary cost	18,996	28,971	47,967	54,235
Rent	11,850	-	11,850	9,000
Office expenses/ Sundry	3,631	-	3,631	2,341
Project and events cost	2,485	-	2,485	388 <i>Note 1</i>
Publications	1,750	-	1,750	3,471
Dues and subscriptions	173	-	173	10
Insurance expense	596	-	596	585
Professional fees	1,736	-	1,736	1,103
Governance costs	1,791	-	1,791	479
Bank charges	66	-	66	137
Total Expenditure	43,074	28,971	72,045	71,749 <i>Note 2</i>
Surplus/Deficit for the year	3,634	0	3,634	722 <i>Note 3</i>

Note 1- after a review of our outstanding Accounts Payable we found an expense item that was no longer relevant and consequently we have written off that item. The value of the expense was £40.00 and thus the Project and events costs for 2017 has reduced by £40.

Note 2- This figure has decreased by a value of £39 from the numbers originally provided for 2017 as a result of the explanation in Note 1. The reason it has adjusted by £39 rather than £40 is due to rounding errors.

Note 3- The surplus for the year has increased by a value of £39 from the numbers originally provided for 2017 as a result of the explanation in Note 1. The reason it has adjusted by £39 rather than £40 is due to rounding errors.

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

Current Assets	2018	2017	
Cash at bank and in hand	£	£	
	79,450	73,559	
Prepayments	£	£	
	-	2,829	
Net current assets	£	£	
	79,450	76,388	
Current Liabilities	2018	2017	
Accounts Payable	£	£	<i>Note 4</i>
	2,922	1,699	
Payroll Liabilities	£	£	
	933	1,114	
HMRC Overpayment	(£1,262)	£	<i>Note 5</i>
		-	
VAT Liability	(£352)	£	<i>Note 6</i>
		-	
Total Current Liabilities	£	£	
	2,241	2,813	
Net Assets	£	£	
	77,209	73,575	
Capital and Reserves	2018	2017	
Funds brought Forward	£	£	
	73,575	72,853	
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	£	£	<i>Note 7</i>
	3,634	722	
Total Capital & Reserves	£	£	
	77,209	73,575	
Of which Restricted Funds	£	£	<i>Note 8</i>
	10,000	10,000	

Please see Note 1

Note 5- The negative value for liability is a result of an overpayment to HMRC that we are expecting to be reimbursed for.

Note 6- The negative value for this liability is a result of an overpayment of VAT that we are expecting reimbursement for.

Note 7- Please see Note 3

Note 8- The £10,000 of restricted funds carried over from 2018, and all received during 2017, related to Green Spaces projects, were spent with the exception of £10,000 received late in the year which has been carried over to 2019

Treasurer's Report

CPRE London's financial position strengthened in 2018 thanks to the efforts of the staff to continue to monitor costs and increase funding through multiple channels. The core income from membership subscriptions increased marginally by less than 1% from £43,523 to £43,724. Donations and Branch Appeal proceeds also grew by 20% including once again a generous private donation of £10,000. The London Parks appeal and National Park City week event particularly helped drive this increase. The most significant increase in income came from a Lottery Grant fund of £9,900. We have not received such grant funding in recent years and therefore this represents a significant increase that offsets the end of the formal joint work with the London Green Belt Council and its associated funding. Total income therefore was £75,651, an increase of 4% from 2017 (£72,471).

Overall expenses increased slightly by less than 1% to £71,962 in 2018 from £71,789 in 2017. This was primarily due to an increase in Project and Event Costs from £428 in 2017 to £2,485 in 2018. In 2017, our Director was still new in the role and the new focus on fundraising took a significant portion of his and our other employee's time. In 2018 staff were able to increase work on Projects and Events, specifically on the Our Space project, producing a manifesto for the local elections, the Green Clean and influencing the London Plan. Finally, we saw an increase of 57% in Professional fees from £1,103 in 2017 to £1,736 in 2018. This change was due to our taking on a new Independent Examiner who, unlike our previous Examiner, is not working pro bono.

The outcome of this is a year-end surplus of £3,634. This is the second year running that CPRE London has been able to run a surplus, up from the £682 surplus in 2017. CPRE London remains in a strong and improved net asset position of £77,209 with year-end cash balances of £79,450, which includes restricted funds of £10,000 for Green Spaces work.

CPRE London took on a new examiner in 2018, following David Tillet's retirement, who supported us with the submission of the 2017 accounts to the Charity Commission. Judith Brookfield, our new Independent Examiner, will again support us with the 2018 accounts submission later this year. I would like to thank Judith for her support in 2018 and look forward to working with her again in 2019.

Alexander King
Treasurer, CPRE London
April 2019