

The Royal Parks Sustainability Policy

The Royal Parks charity manages over 5,000 acres of historic parkland and open spaces across London. This includes eight Royal parks: Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, St James's Park, The Green Park, Regent's Park & Primrose Hill, Richmond Park, Greenwich Park and Bushy Park. The charity also manages other important green spaces in London, including Victoria Tower Gardens and Brompton Cemetery. The eight Royal Parks have been awarded Green Flag status, which recognises them as some of the UK's best-kept green spaces and heritage landscapes. The nature quality of the Royal Parks is recognised through a number of international, national and local nature conservation designations.

We believe that all aspects of our operation should be carried out in a way that takes advantage of enhancement opportunities, minimises our adverse impact on the environment, while maintaining the economic viability of the parks. Therefore, we have developed a [Sustainability Strategy](#) that focuses on four key pillars;

- Conserve and enhance the unique landscapes, built heritage & biodiversity
- People, education, fairness and improving wellbeing
- Mitigation and adapting to climate change
- Sustainable growth - providing environmentally excellent and financially viable green open spaces to the public

Within these sustainability pillars, our key commitments include:

- Effective conservation and enhancement of landscape, wildlife and buildings
- Promoting sustainability messages through learning and engagement programmes for audiences of all ages and backgrounds
- Enhancing biodiversity through appropriate management of The Royal Parks and participation in Partnerships
- Working with Event partners to deliver sustainable events, ensuring everything practicable is done to not negatively impact on biodiversity and maximise waste recycling, minimise energy and mains water use
- Exploring ways of reducing the use of natural resources and utilities as much as practicable, while investigating all realistic possibilities for reduction, recycling and recovery of waste
- Prioritising active and sustainable transport, promoting these modes as first choice for park visitors, staff and contractors, where appropriate
- Ensuring that all our large value strategic procurement decisions consider our sustainable procurement guidelines
- Ensuring that all Royal Parks staff and volunteers are kept informed of the Sustainability Strategy, understand their individual responsibilities within it and, where applicable, in the delivery of the Sustainability Action Plan
- Consulting stakeholders in the decision-making process

The Royal Parks will continually assess all areas of our operations which impact on the environment and incorporate the necessary procedures and controls to prevent environmental damage and pollution. We will comply with all relevant legislation, and with the standards and obligations to which we subscribe. We will set goals and objectives and implement suitable measures to ensure continual improvement in our sustainability performance. The Royal Parks' Sustainability Group facilitates the implementation of the commitments made within this policy, the Sustainability Strategy and the Sustainability Action Plan.

We will strive to provide leadership and expertise in the sustainable management of urban park environments. Working in partnership with like-minded organisations, we will aim to extend the boundaries of sustainable practice and promote sustainable development to the wider community.

Ultimately, we are aiming to improve the health and happiness of millions of people living and working in London, now and in the future, by sustainably managing its parks in ways that encourage visitors to be physically, mentally and socially active, whilst protecting and enhancing what makes them special for future generations.



Andrew Scattergood
Chief Executive
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