



Hartham Common

ACTION PLAN 2023 – 2028

ENGAGEMENT DOCUMENT

Produced by:



On behalf of:



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1. INTRODUCTION

A new five-year action plan is being produced for Hartham Common. This action plan will be inserted as an additional Appendix to Hartham Common Action Plan (GAP) 2018-23. It will guide management of the site between 2023 and 2028 based on established aims and objectives. This engagement document sets out how stakeholders can contribute to shaping the action plan.

GAPs are essentially map-based management plans that provide focus and direction for the running and improvement of open spaces. They provide a clear, logical process to determine the activities that should take place over a stated period of time to achieve the objectives for the site.

The new action plan is being produced by the Countryside Management Service (CMS), part of Hertfordshire County Council's Countryside and Rights of Way Service, on behalf of and in partnership with East Herts District Council. The completed document will inform the management actions to be undertaken over the next five years, commencing in April 2023.

Engaging communities is integral to the production of GAPs, to ensure that stakeholders are fully aware of and able to interact with the plan production process. The engagement period will run from 17th May to 14th June 2023. Please use the contact details in Section 6 to comment on the aspirations for the site.

This document has been broken down into easy to read sections:

Section 2 reviews recent management of the site.

Section 3 describes the structure of the new action plan and its relationship with the existing GAP.

Section 4 contains the draft action plan.

Section 5 summarises the public engagement methodology, setting out how and when stakeholders can contribute to the plan.

2. REVIEW OF PROGRESS

There have been some significant achievements over the last 5 years against the objectives set out in the Greenspace Action Plan which ran from 2018 to 2023. There are many objectives which require further actions, some of these are subject to funding.

The Hartham and Beyond project has been delivered and helps to achieve key objectives to build links with the surrounding countryside and community. This project was completed in 2022 and included installation of directional signage, an interpretation panel and promotion locally. The project is designed to link Hartham Common to the wider countryside and bring walkers into Hartham Common.

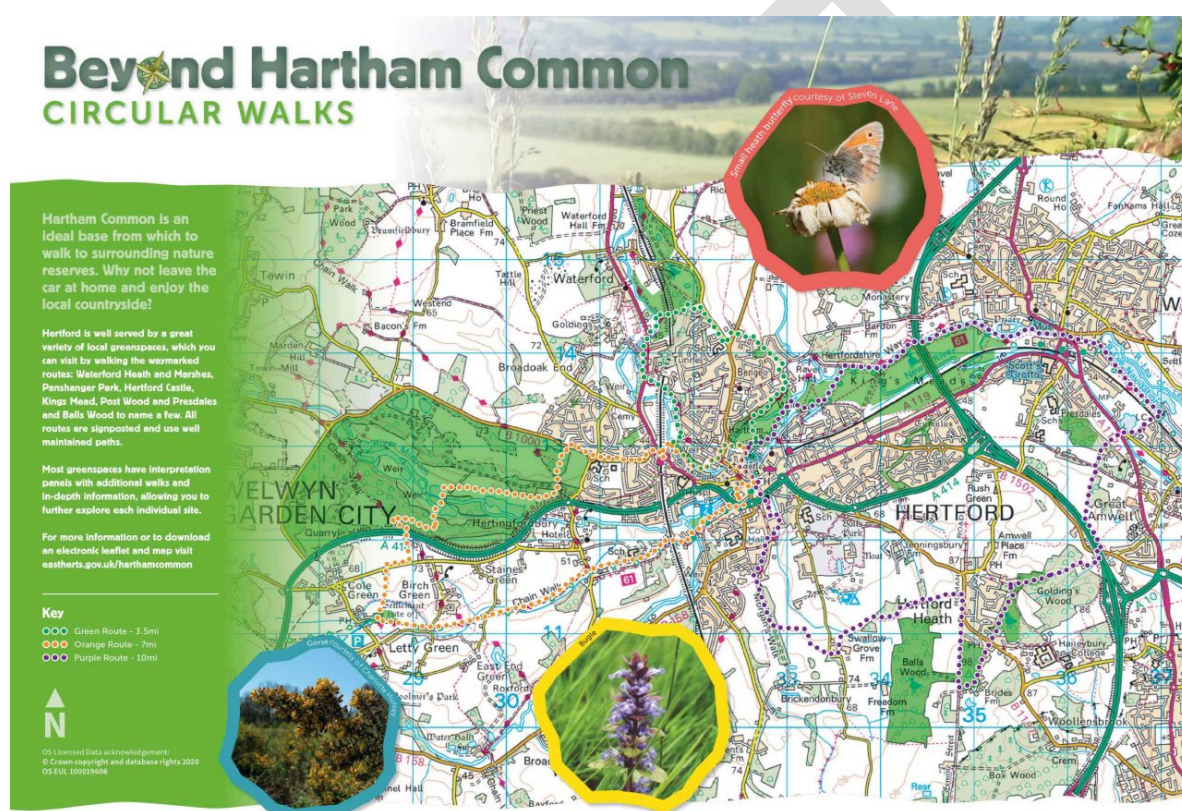


Figure 1: Image showing interpretation panel for Hartham and Beyond project.

The Warren woodland works began in January 2022 following a trial area of thinning. The work follows a Forestry Commission Management Plan for the area. This involved thinning of 4 compartments approximately 0.2ha each by 15-20% through a mixture of glade creation and halo thinning. Once thinning was completed, underplanting of these areas took place. Survival of this underplanting was mixed, in part due to the lateness of planting and the dry summer. Further thinning works were carried out in three compartments in January 2023 and again further underplanting took place. The objective of this woodland management is to diversify the species mix and the ages of trees within the woodland. In addition, some laurel was removed from within The Warren and treated with herbicide to control regrowth. Laurel is a

non-native species which can spread rapidly through a woodland and outcompete native species, so it needs to be removed. Coppicing and thinning of vegetation has been carried out by the two stepped weir and woodland along the path between the two stepped weir and the leisure centre.

Work on the new leisure centre is progressing well with the main phase of the works underway. The project is due for completion during summer 2023. This improvement of the facilities will help to provide a wider range of facilities to the people of Hertford. Other improvements to the entrance have made the space more open and welcoming. This included a new play area which was completed in 2021 and provides play equipment which is in keeping with the surrounding landscape because of the design and materials used.



Figure 2: Photo of grazing compartment.

Management of the grazing compartment and ponds has continued during the GAP 2018-23 period. The grazing compartment to the east has recently had the fence repaired so it is suitable for cattle but the compartment to the west needs some fencing repair work to make it secure enough. Further achievements over the last 5 years include repairing the steps and supporting the path which passes through the upper part of The Warren.

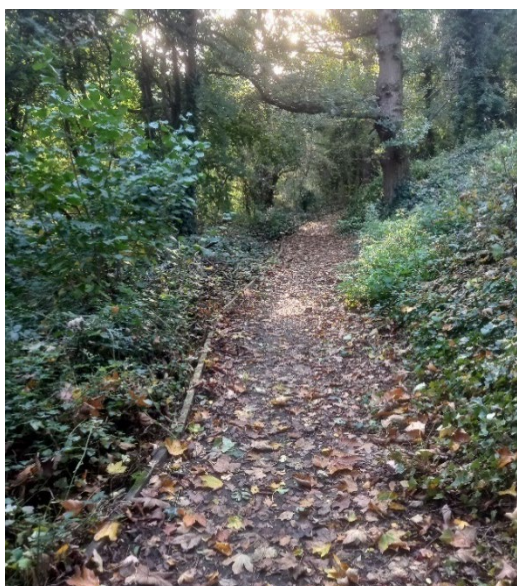


Figure 3: Upper footpath through The Warren

The achievements of the GAP 2018-23 will be built on through continuing woodland management work within The Warren following the Woodland Management Plan. The grassland management of the whole site should be assessed to look for opportunities for habitat enhancement through a grass cutting regime change. The areas around the football pitches to the east of the site could be allowed to grow longer and cut less regularly or put on an annual cut and collect if access allows



Figure 4: Photo of the River Beane with vegetated banks.

One other project which has not yet been delivered was the 'Hartham Common Rivers Project' because we were unsuccessful in the application for a Water Environment Grant. This project will be included in the action plan for 2023-28 but remains subject to the identification of a source of funding.

3. GREENSPACE ACTION PLAN (GAP) 2023-28

The Hartham Common Greenspace Action Plan 2018-23 was agreed in 2018 following engagement with stakeholders and the local community. The document includes a description and evaluation of the site and sets out broad aims and objectives. The objectives have not changed since 2018, and we therefore intend only to produce a new five-year action plan as a new Appendix to the existing GAP.

Hartham Common Action Plan 2018-23 can be downloaded for reference from the following link:

[Hartham Common GAP 2018-23](#)

The new five-year action plan is a simple, easy to read plan for use by officers of East Herts District Council and members of the public, it also acts as a guide to the work of volunteers. The plan is largely map based, with sequential, annual management maps to show the actions planned for each year. The resulting change is represented on the map for the following year. The document will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains effective and relevant.

The plan will be costed and potential funding sources identified. Once the final action plan is agreed, external funding will be sought to enable the plan to be delivered.

4. ACTION PLANS AND MAPS

4.1 Annual management and development actions

Abbreviations: EHDC – East Herts District Council; CMS – Countryside Management Service; Vols – Volunteers; GGMS - Glendale Grounds Maintenance Services; Con – Contractor; EA – Environment Agency; CRoW – Countryside and Rights of Way; EvAc – Everyone Active; HA – Highways Authority; CRT – Canal and Rivers Trust; SUS- Sustrans, RPII Inspector – Register of Play Inspectors International Inspector; HCClub – Herts Canoe Club, HMWT – Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust, HTC – Hertford Town Council.

Ref no	Obj ref	Action	When	Lead	Delivery	Est Cost £	Funding	Project/ Appendix ref	Status	Notes
0.1	C1 E3	Deliver Grounds Maintenance Contract.	All year	EHDC	GGMS	Contract rates	GM Budget	n/a		
0.2	J2	Annual review and update of action plan.	Apr	CMS	EHDC/CMS	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
0.3	A2	Carry out annual audit review of pathways.	Apr	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
0.4	B1 B2	Tree safety audit and associated works.	Ongoing	EHDC	EHDC/ GGMS	Contract rates	GM budget	n/a		
0.5	B1 B2 C3 C5	Quarterly risk assessment and hazard review.	Ongoing	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	GM budget	n/a		
0.6	B1 B2 C3 C5	Arrange for work identified in quarterly risk assessment and hazard review to be completed.	Ongoing	EHDC	GGMS/Con	Contract rates	GM budget	n/a		
0.7	C2-4	Audit all site furniture and fittings, to include benches, bins, bollards etc. Map all items and produce a report suggesting changes (i.e. replacements/relocations/ refurbishments).	Nov-Dec	EHDC	EHDC	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		
0.8	C2-4	Undertake repairs/replacements/ installation of site furniture in	All year	EHDC	Con/Vols	Internal resource	GM budget	n/a		

		accordance with previous year's audit.								
0.9	F1	Play area safety audit by RPII Inspector.	Jul	EHDC	RPII Inspector	Contract rates	GM budget	n/a		
0.10	B4	Consult with leisure service provider to resolve the problem of littering associated with football matches	Ongoing	EHDC	EHDC/ GGMC	Internal resource	GM Budget	n/a		
0.11	A1	Maintain all entrances across the site free from encroaching vegetation and obstructions.	Ongoing	EHDC	EHDC/ GGMS CMS/Vols	Internal resource	GM Budget	n/a		
0.12	E4	Regular monitoring of grazing to ensure compliance with grazing agreement, and maintenance and security of infrastructure.	Jun-Sep	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
0.13	A2 G2	Monitor steps and revetments along The Warren woodland path and carry out repairs when needed.	As required	EHDC	Con/CMS/ Vols	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		
0.14	E5 G2	Volunteer event to pull <i>typha</i> from the ponds within the grazing marsh; pulling to take place before the <i>typha</i> has set seed in summer. Removal of any willow saplings at the same time.	Jun-Jul	CMS	CMS/Vols/	Set contribution	n/a	9.5		
0.15	E5 G2	Carry out Himalayan balsam pulling along the river-banks.	Jun-Jul	CMS	CMS/Vols/ HCClub	Set contribution	n/a	9.4		
0.16	E1 G2	Maintain planted trees.	All year	EHDC	GGMS	n/a	n/a	9.6		

0.17	D1 D2	Secure external funding to ensure viability of capital works.	Ongoing	EHDC/ CMS	EHDC/CMS	n/a	n/a	n/a		
0.18	G4-5 H3	Information sharing to take place via regular website updates (EHC, CMS, ParksHerts) and news articles.	All year	EHDC/ CMS	EHDC/CMS	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
0.19	H2-3	Maintain and update Hartham Common webpage with links to new management plan, details of upcoming works, improvements, and events.	All year	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
0.20	F5 H1	Promote site to fitness instructors, boot camp etc.	All year	EHDC/ EvAc	EHDC/EvAc	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
0.21	F4 F6 G3 H1-2	Promote a range of free volunteer led Hertfordshire Health Walks on Hartham Common, incorporating circular routes where possible.	All year	CMS/E HDC	CMS/EHDC/ CRoW	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		
0.22	G5 H1-2 F6	Promote the opportunities that the park offers as a location for events and activities in and around Hertford.	All year	EHDC/ EvAc	EHDC/EvAc	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
0.23	I1-2	Maximise Hartham Common's potential to contribute to wider strategic networks.	Ongoing	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
0.24	G2-G5	Engage with local groups that are interested in Hartham Common and make use of their knowledge/skills/time.	Ongoing	EHDC	EHDC/CMS	n/a	n/a	n/a		
0.25	E1 E3	Cut and collect areas around football pitches to the east of	Annually	EHDC	EHDC/ GGMS	GM Budget	n/a	n/a		

		the site, if the access allows, at least during the off-season.								
0.26	A2 G2	Cut and clear grass from steps towards St Leonard's Church twice a year.	April and Aug	CMS	CMS/Vols	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		

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4.2 Year 1 Actions 2023-22

Ref no	Obj ref	Action	When	Lead	Delivery	Est Cost £	Funding	Project/ Appendix ref	Status	Notes
1.1	E1 E2 E12	Discuss annual surveying of otter and water vole with HMWT.	Jul	CMS	Vols/HMWT	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.2	E1 E2 E5 E12	Survey wet pools and ponds to provide information about their condition and species that they support to help to inform management.	May-June	CMS	Con	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.3	A2	Consult with Herts Rights of Way regarding the condition and long-term maintenance of FP 86 between Port Hill and St Leonard's Church; agree a maintenance plan and seek funding for improvements.	Nov-Dec	EHDC/ CMS	EHDC/ CMS	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.4	A2 B4	Confirm ownership of bridges and organise safety checks and any repairs required (bridge by tennis courts and Marshgate Drive).	Aug	EDHC	EHDC/Con	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.5	A1 A2	Liaise with the owners of Marshgate Drive bridge (River Lee) and the car park re improvement works required to the bridge (weight restriction for maintenance vehicles) and car park resurfacing.	Aug	EDHC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.6	A1 E7 E10	Carry out works sensitively to improve the views and access from/to Marshgate Drive car park into the park. Once ownership has been confirmed	Oct-Feb	CMS	CMS/Vols	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.7	B4	Communicate with the owners of the area of land near Mashgate Drive to find out if it can be transferred into EHDC ownership.	Aug	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		

1.8	B3	Review non-refundable deposits related to staging of large events to account for additional litter costs/ commission additional litter picking when required.	Dec	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.9	A6 E8 E10	Rotate or install some of the benches near the eastern football pitches to face the river.	Apr-Jun	EHDC	Con	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.10	E7 G2	Maintain by coppicing and thinning vegetation in identified areas to establish viewpoints along the rivers and between different parts of the site.	Ongoing	CMS/ EHDC	CMS/Vols/ GGMS	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		
1.11	E11	Replace/repair damaged interpretation panel by bridge from Mill End and interpretation panel north of the River Beane and close to FP86.	Apr-Jun	EHDC	EHDC/CMS/ Vols	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.12	A3	Consult with the Highway Authority and negotiate the installation of brown tourist signs on the road networks around Hartham Common.	May-Jun	CMS	CMS/HA	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.13	A2 G2	Surface and reprofile path from St Lenard's Church to the steps and replace steps.	Aug-Oct	CMS/ EHDC	CMS/Vols/ Con	Set contribution	Funding to be identified.	n/a		
1.14	A6 E1 E8 E11 F6	Seek funding for the 'Hartham Common Rivers Project' Projects to include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement to bank profiles. Revetment of the spit and establish pond area; Creation of formal paddling points on the River Beane with improved access to the water's edge; Tree works to reduce shading of river. Rewetting of the former swimming pool, to included 	Jul-Mar	CMS/ EHDC/ EA	CMS/EHDC	TBC	External funding	8.3		

		vegetation clearance and dredging of silt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation and viewing platform. 								
1.15	E3	Continue to maintain conservation cut margins beside all watercourses.	Ongoing	EHDC	GGMS	Contract rates	GM budget	n/a		
1.16	B3 E8	Review solutions to restrict unauthorised boat access up the River Beane from the Lee Navigation.	Apr-Jun	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.17	B3 E8	Investigate current fishing activities and look to implement charging for fishing across the site.	Apr-Jun	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.18	E6 E12	Commission bat survey of The Warren.	Sept	CMS	Con	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.19	E6 E12	Apply for conservation area consent for the Warren tree work.	Sept	CMS	CMS	n/a	n/a	n/a		
1.20	E6 E12	Selectively fell compartments of the Warren Woodland based on the Woodland Management Plan and replant with appropriate native tree mix.	Oct-Feb	EHDC/ CMS	GGMS	Internal resource	Tree work budget/ External funding	8.4		
1.21	E9	Explore, develop proposals for a new leisure space on the old pitch and putt site.	Apr-Jul	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
1.22	J1-J2	Review Year 1 Action Plan.	Mar 24	EHDC/ CMS	EHDC/CMS	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		

4.3 Year 2 Actions 2024-25

Hartham Common Rivers Project

Ref no	Obj ref	Action	When	Lead	Delivery	Est Cost £	Funding	Project/ Appendix ref	Status	Notes
2.1	A6 E1 E8 F6 E11	Implement works identified under the 'Hartham Common Rivers Project' once funding is secured and consents granted. *Subject to funding*	All year	CMS/EHDC	CMS/EHDC/Con	TBC	External funding	8.3		
2.1a	A6 E1 E8 F6 E11	Carry out improvements to bank profiles for wildlife and stability.	Apr-Mar	CMS/EHDC/EA	CMS/EHDC/Con	TBC	External funding	8.3		
2.1b	A6 E1 E8 F6 E11	Undertake revetment of the spit and establish pond area.	Apr-Mar	CMS/EHDC	CMS/EHDC/Con	TBC	External funding	8.3		
2.1c	A6 E1 E8 F6 E11	Create formal paddling points on the River Beane with improved access to the water's edge.	Apr-Mar	CMS/EHDC	CMS/EHDC/Con	TBC	External funding	8.3		
2.1d	A6 E1 E8 F6 E11	Carry out tree works to reduce shading of river and new planting.	Apr-Mar	CMS/EHDC	CMS/EHDC/Con	TBC	External funding	8.3		
2.1e	A6 E1 E8 F6 E11	Undertake rewetting of the former swimming pool, to include vegetation clearance and dredging of silt.	Apr-Mar	CMS/EHDC/EA	CMS/EHDC/Con	TBC	External funding	8.3		
2.1f	A6 E1 E8 F6 E11	Develop and install new interpretation.	Apr-Mar	CMS/EHDC/Vols	CMS/EHDC/Con	TBC	External funding	8.3		
2.1g	A6 E1 E8 F6 E11	Liaise with local landowners to reduce cattle poaching and carry out tree removal.	Apr-Mar	CMS/EHDC	CMS/EHDC/Con	TBC	External funding	8.3		
2.1h	A6 E1 E8 F6 E11	Partially remove weir in River Lea adjacent to leisure centre to enable fish passage and remove impoundment	Apr-Mar	EA/CMS/EHDC	EA/Con	TBC	External funding	8.3		
2.2	A3	Consult with Canal and River Trust about including Hartham Common on fingerposts and other signage.	May-Jun	EHDC/CRT	EHDC/CRT	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		

2.3	A3	Ensure Hartham Common is included on any appropriate new signage in Hertford Town Centre/Sustrans routes.	May-Jun	EHDC/HTC/SUS	EHDC/HTC/SUS	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
2.4	A1	Audit all access points, including transition between car parks and open space.	Jul-Sep	EHDC/CMS	EHDC/CMS	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		
2.5	G3	Investigate the potential for a barbeque area	Apr-Jun	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
2.6	E6 E12	Apply for conservation area consent for the Warren tree work.	Sept	CMS	CMS	n/a	n/a	n/a		
2.7	E6 E12	Selectively fell compartments of the Warren Woodland based on the Woodland Management Plan and replant with appropriate native tree mix.	Oct-Feb	EHDC/CMS	GGMS	TBC	Tree work budget/ External funding	8.4		
2.8	E9	Implement the plans for a new leisure space on Hartham Common on the old pitch and putt site. Plans to be developed in year 1 of this action plan.	Oct-Feb	EHDC	EHDC/CMS/Vols/Con	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		
2.9	E7	Apply for felling licence to coppice/thin trees in section of the path/steps up to St Leonards Church	Aug-Sept	CMS	CMS/FC	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		
2.10	E7 G2	Light coppice/thin of trees in top section of the woodland either side of path (steps/ramp) to St Leonards Church to allow in more light and improve drainage.	Oct-Feb	CMS	CMS/Vols/Con	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		
2.11	B5	Audit of current and future lighting provision in the park.	Dec-Jan	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
2.12	E7	Apply for felling licence to coppice/thin/remove some overhanging branches from willow overhanging the River Beane near the grazing compartment, if Hartham	June-Aug	CMS	CMS/FC	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		

		Common Rivers Project does not go ahead								
2.13	E7 G2	Coppice/thin shrubs and small trees between the Warren footpath and former pitch and putt area.	Oct-Feb	EHDC/ CMS	GGMS/CMS / Vols	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		
2.14	J1-2	Review Year 2 Action Plan.	Mar 25	EHDC/CMS	EHDC/CMS	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		

4.4 Year 3-5 Actions 2025-28

Ref no	Obj ref	Action	When	Responsible	Delivery	Estd Cost £	Funding	Project/ Appendix ref	Status	Notes
3.1	A2 G3	Improve event access.	Year 3 Apr-Sep	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
3.2	A2 A6 E6	Look at feasibility and costs to control erosion on the slopes of The Warren woodland (particularly in the middle); including the provision of seating.	Year 3 Jul-Sep	EHDC/CMS	EHDC/CMS /Con	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
3.3	H1	Review provision of catering on site.	Year 3	EHDC	EHDC	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
3.4	E7 G2	Coppice woodland edge to prevent encroachment into the grazing compartment.	Year 3 Oct-Feb	CMS	CMS/Vols/ GGMS	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		
3.5	E6 E12	Apply for conservation area consent for the Warren tree work.	Year 3 Sept	CMS	CMS	n/a	n/a	n/a		
3.6	E6 E12	Selectively fell compartments of the Warren Woodland based on the Woodland Management Plan and replant with appropriate native tree mix.	Year 3 Oct-Feb	EHDC/ CMS	GGMS	Internal resource	Tree work budget/ External funding	8.4		
3.7	E7 G2	Coppice and thin established shrub vegetation around the footbridge by the weir.	Year 4 Oct-Feb	CMS	CMS/Vols	Set contribution	n/a	n/a		
3.8	E6 E12	Apply for conservation area consent for the Warren tree work.	Year 4 Sept	CMS	CMS	n/a	n/a	n/a		
3.9	E6 E12	Selectively fell compartments of the Warren Woodland based on the Woodland Management Plan and replant with appropriate native tree mix.	Year 4 Oct-Feb	EHDC/ CMS	GGMS	Internal resource	Tree work budget/ External funding	8.4		
3.10	E6 E12	Apply for conservation area consent for the Warren tree work.	Year 5 Sept	CMS	CMS	n/a	n/a	n/a		

3.11	E6 E12	Selectively fell compartments of the Warren Woodland based on the Woodland Management Plan and replant with appropriate native tree mix.	Year 5 Oct-Feb	EHDC/ CMS	GGMS	Internal resource	Tree work budget/ External funding	8.4		
3.12	J1-2	Review Year 3 Action Plan.	Year 3 Mar 21	CMS	EHDC/CMS	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
3.13	J1-2	Review Year 4 Action Plan.	Year 4 Mar 22	CMS	EHDC/CMS	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		
3.14	J1-2	Review Year 5 Action Plan and put together a new Greenspace Action Plan for 2028 – 2033.	Year 5 Mar 23	CMS	EHDC/CMS	Internal resource	n/a	n/a		

ANNUAL ACTIONS (UN-MAPPED)

- Annual review and update of action plan
- Risk Assessment and hazard review and undertaking of works
- Secure external funding for capital works
- Information sharing and updates on websites
- Promote site to fitness groups
- Promote Hertfordshire Health Walks
- Promote Hartham Common as a venue
- Contribute to strategic networks
- Engage with local groups that are interested in the common.



Cut and clear grass from steps towards St Leonard's Church twice a year.

Deliver Grounds Maintenance contract

Annual audit of pathways.

Monitor steps/path in The Warren and carry out repairs as required.

Monitor grazing.

Maintain newly planted trees.

Audit all site furniture and fittings and carry out repairs.

Annual tree safety suvey and associated works.

Manage areas around football pitches as conservation cut if, access allows, at least during the off-season.

Typha and himalayan balsam removal.

Consult with leisure centre regarding litter at football matches.

Play area safety audit.

Maintain all entrances.

Hartham Common

Greenspace Action Plan

Annual Actions (2023-2028)

Legend

- Trees
 - Grazing fence
 - 3G artificial pitch
 - Amenity grass
 - Bowling green
 - Bridge
 - Building
 - Car park
 - Conservation grass
 - Football
 - Grazing
 - Hedge
 - Path
 - Play area
 - Pond
 - Reinforced grass
 - River
 - Riverside vegetation
 - Shrubs
 - Skate park
 - Supermarket
 - Surfaced path
 - Tarmac path
 - Tennis court
 - Tennis surround
 - Vent
 - Weir
 - Woodland
- #### Furniture
- Outdoor gym
 - Welcome sign
 - Small interp panel
 - Interp panel
 - Interp and notices
 - RoW post
 - Finger post
 - Warning sign
 - Bench
 - Litter bin
 - Dog bin
 - Kissing gate
 - Vehicle gate
 - Water trough
 - Street light
 - River barrier

Key

- EHDC
- CMS
- Volunteers
- Glendale Grounds Maintenance
- Herts Canoe Club
- Environment Agency
- Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust
- Highways Authority
- Canal and River Trust
- Hertford Town Centre
- Sustrans
- RPiI Inspector
- Everyone Active
- Contractor

Scale @ A3
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Date
February 2023
Rev
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Hartham Common

Greenspace Action Plan

Year 1 (2023-2024)

Legend

	Trees		Outdoor gym
	Grazing fence		Welcome sign
	3G artificial pitch		Small interp panel
	Amenity grass		Interp panel
	Bowling green		Interp and notices
	Bridge		RoW post
	Building		Finger post
	Car park		Warning sign
	Conservation grass		Bench
	Football		Litter bin
	Grazing		Dog bin
	Hedge		Kissing gate
	Path		Vehicle gate
	Play area		Water trough
	Pond		Street light
	Reinforced grass		River barrier
	River		
	Riverside vegetation		
	Shrubs		
	Skate park		
	Supermarket		
	Surfaced path		
	Tarmac path		
	Tennis court		
	Tennis surround		
	Vent		
	Weir		
	Woodland		

Hartham Common Rivers Project. *Subject to funding*

Scale @ A3
1:5,000

Date
February 2023

Rev
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- Key
- EHDC
 - CMS
 - Volunteers
 - Glendale Grounds Maintenance
 - Herts Canoe Club
 - Environment Agency
 - Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust
 - Highways Authority
 - Canal and River Trust
 - Hertford Town Centre
 - Sustrans
 - RPII Inspector
 - Everyone Active
 - Contractor

Discuss survey of otter and water voles with HMWT.

Review solutions to restrict unauthorised boat access up the River Beane from the Lee Navigation.

Seek funding for the Hartham Common Rivers Project.

Surface and reprofile path from St Leonards Church to the steps and replace steps.

Survey wet pools and ponds for to provide information about their condition and species they support.

Commission bat survey of The Warren.

Consult with Rights of Way on a long term maintenance plan for FP 86

Maintain viewpoints along the river through coppicing

Confirm ownership of bridges and organise safety checks any repairs required.

Selectively fell compartments of The Warren based on the Woodland Management Plan and replant.

Explore and develop proposals for a new leisure space on the old pitch & putt.

Apply for conservation area consent for The Warren tree work.

Install brown tourist signs

Review non-refundable deposits related to staging of large events to account for litter picking costs.

Replace/repair damaged interpretation panel.

Coppice/thin vegetation around bridge by weir

Communicate with the owners of this area of land to see if it can be brought into EHDC ownership.

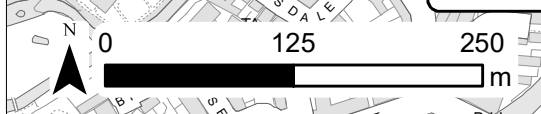
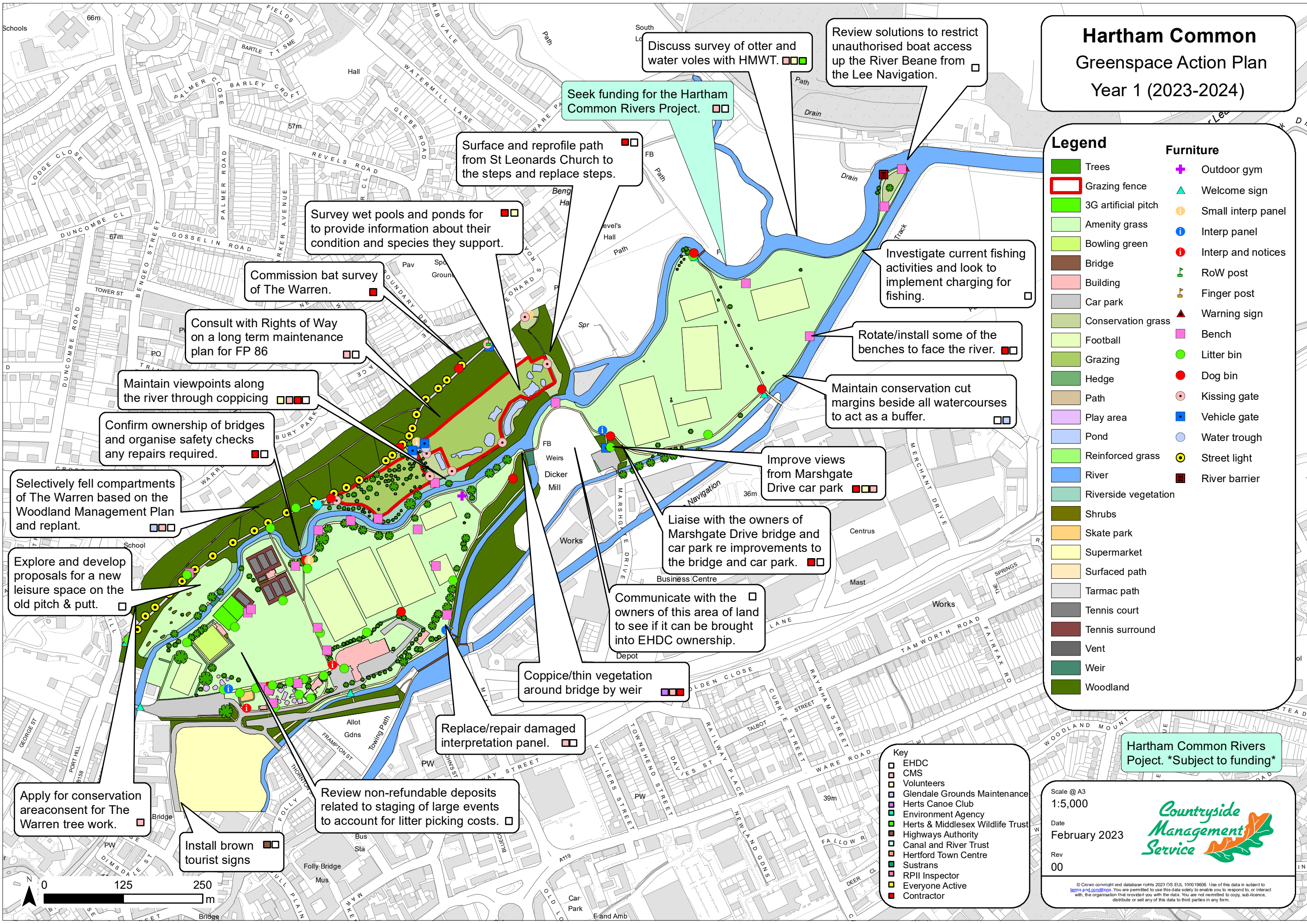
Improve views from Marshgate Drive car park

Liaise with the owners of Marshgate Drive bridge and car park re improvements to the bridge and car park.

Rotate/install some of the benches to face the river.

Maintain conservation cut margins beside all watercourses to act as a buffer.

Investigate current fishing activities and look to implement charging for fishing.



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Hartham Common

Greenspace Action Plan

Year 2 (2024-2025)

Legend

- Trees
- Grazing fence
- Amenity grass
- Bowling green
- Bridge
- Building
- Car park
- Conservation grass
- Football
- Grazing
- Hedge
- Path
- Play area
- Pond
- Reinforced grass
- River
- Riverside vegetation
- Shrubs
- Skate park
- Supermarket
- Surfaced path
- Tarmac path
- Tennis court
- Tennis surround
- Vent
- Weir
- Woodland

Furniture

- Outdoor gym
- Welcome sign
- Small interp panel
- Interp panel
- Interp and notices
- RoW post
- Finger post
- Warning sign
- Bench
- Litter bin
- Dog bin
- Kissing gate
- Vehicle gate
- Water trough
- Street light
- River barrier

Key

- EHDC
- CMS
- Volunteers
- Glendale Grounds Maintenance
- Herts Canoe Club
- Environment Agency
- Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust
- Highways Authority
- Canal and River Trust
- Hertford Town Centre
- Sustrans
- RPII Inspector
- Everyone Active
- Contractor

Hartham Common Rivers Project. *Subject to funding*

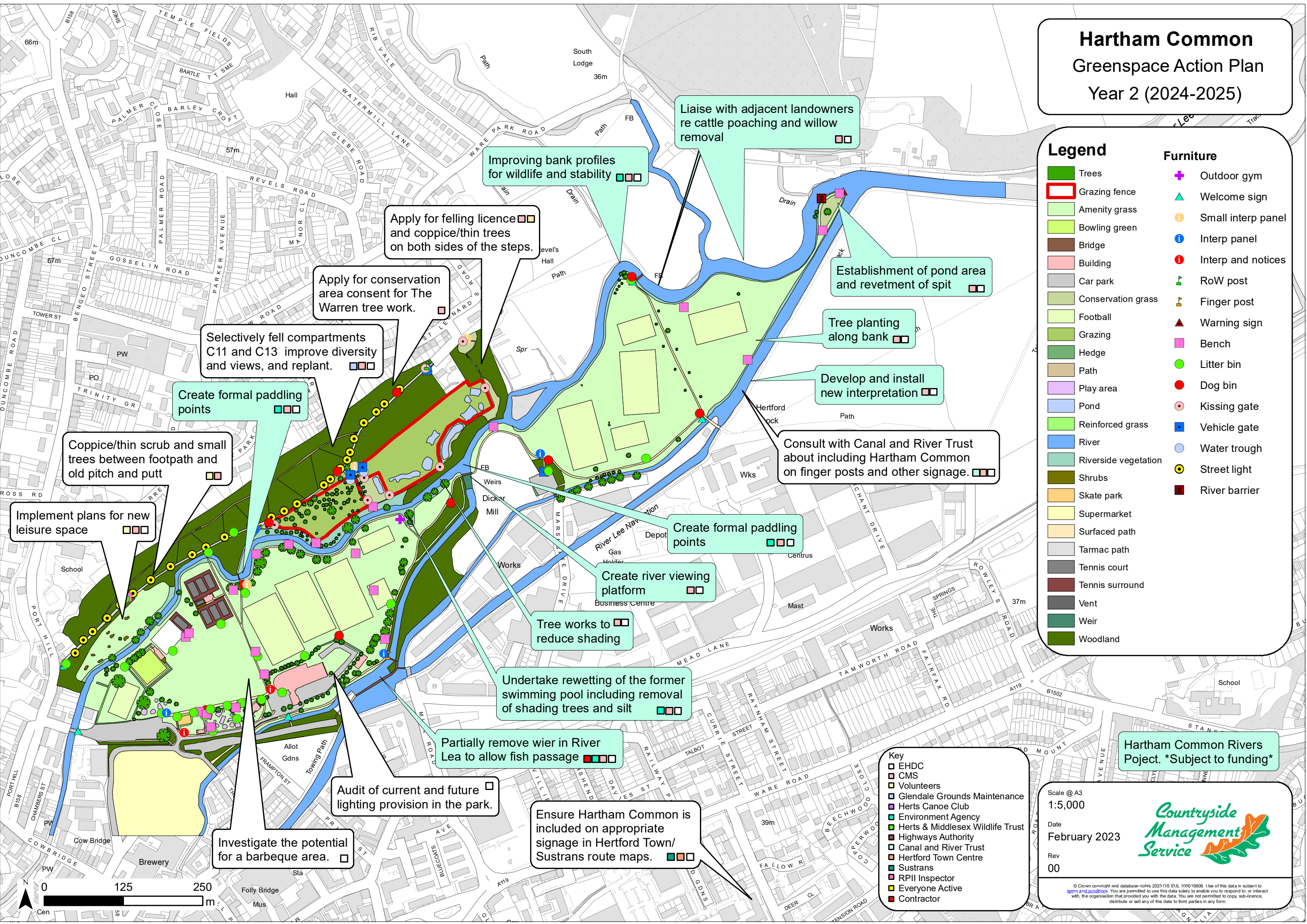
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Date
February 2023

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Improving bank profiles for wildlife and stability

Apply for felling licence and coppice/thin trees on both sides of the steps.

Apply for conservation area consent for The Warren tree work.

Selectively fell compartments C11 and C13 improve diversity and views, and replant.

Create formal paddling points

Coppice/thin scrub and small trees between footpath and old pitch and putt

Implement plans for new leisure space

Liaise with adjacent landowners re cattle poaching and willow removal

Establishment of pond area and revetment of spit

Tree planting along bank

Develop and install new interpretation

Consult with Canal and River Trust about including Hartham Common on finger posts and other signage.

Create formal paddling points

Create river viewing platform

Tree works to reduce shading

Undertake rewetting of the former swimming pool including removal of shading trees and silt

Partially remove wier in River Lea to allow fish passage

Audit of current and future lighting provision in the park.

Investigate the potential for a barbeque area.

Ensure Hartham Common is included on appropriate signage in Hertford Town/ Sustrans route maps.

Hartham Common

Greenspace Action Plan

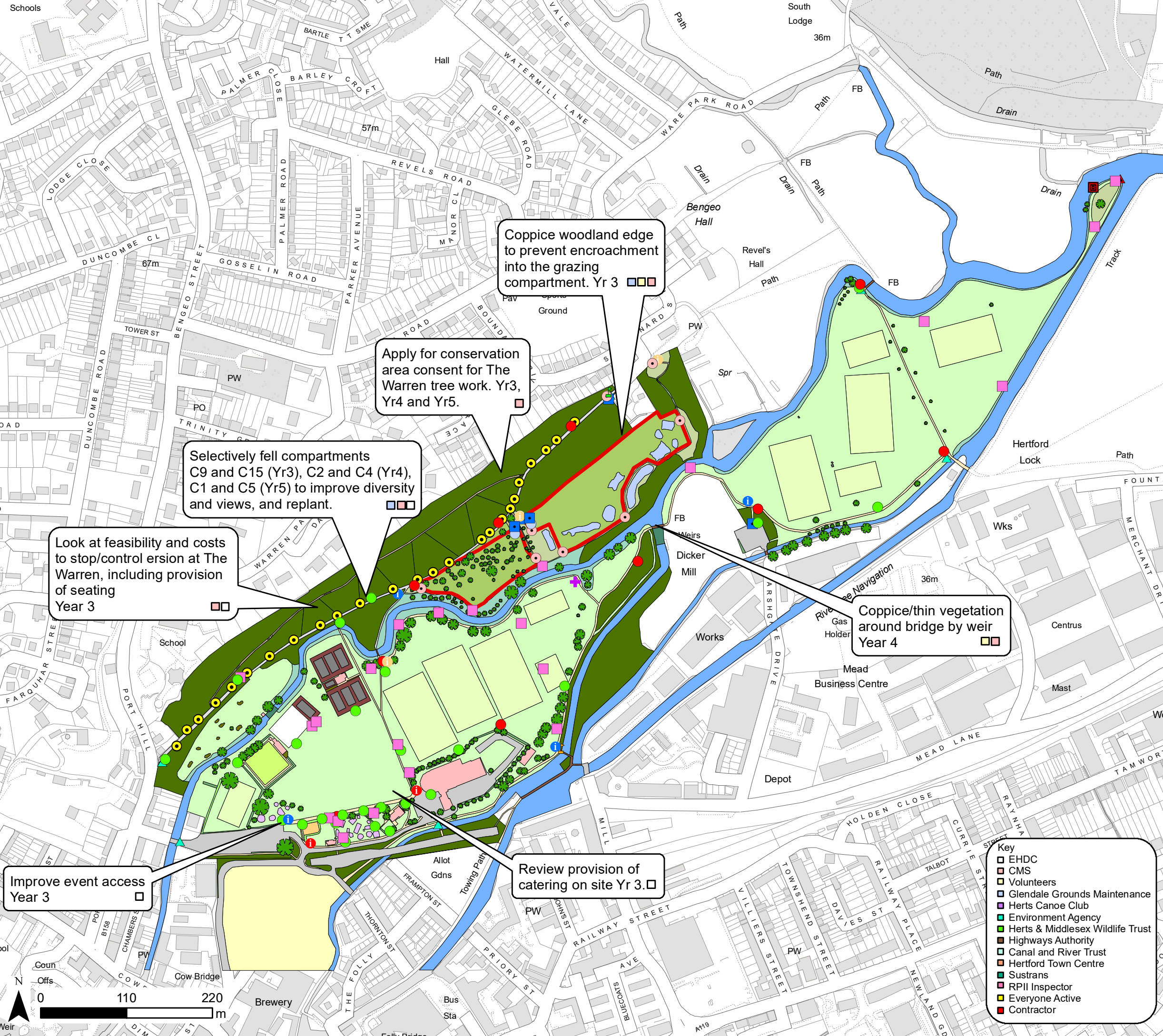
Year 3-5 (2025-2028)

Legend

- Trees
- Grazing fence
- Amenity grass
- Bowling green
- Bridge
- Building
- Car park
- Conservation grass
- Football
- Grazing
- Hedge
- Path
- Play area
- Pond
- Reinforced grass
- River
- Riverside vegetation
- Shrubs
- Skate park
- Supermarket
- Surfaced path
- Tarmac path
- Tennis court
- Tennis surround
- Vent
- Weir
- Woodland

Furniture

- Outdoor gym
- Welcome sign
- Small interp panel
- Interp panel
- Interp and notices
- RoW post
- Finger post
- Warning sign
- Bench
- Litter bin
- Dog bin
- Kissing gate
- Vehicle gate
- Water trough
- Street light
- River barrier



Look at feasibility and costs to stop/control erosion at The Warren, including provision of seating
Year 3

Selectively fell compartments C9 and C15 (Yr3), C2 and C4 (Yr4), C1 and C5 (Yr5) to improve diversity and views, and replant.

Apply for conservation area consent for The Warren tree work. Yr3, Yr4 and Yr5.

Coppice woodland edge to prevent encroachment into the grazing compartment. Yr 3

Coppice/thin vegetation around bridge by weir
Year 4

Review provision of catering on site Yr 3.

Improve event access
Year 3

- Key**
- EHDC
 - CMS
 - Volunteers
 - Glendale Grounds Maintenance
 - Herts Canoe Club
 - Environment Agency
 - Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust
 - Canal and River Trust
 - Highways Authority
 - Sustrans
 - RPII Inspector
 - Everyone Active
 - Contractor

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Date
January 2023

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5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PLAN PRODUCTION PROCESS

5.1 Action Plan Production Process

Effective community engagement is at the centre of successful management plans. The value of a GAP is maximised when it incorporates and balances the aspirations of stakeholders and interest groups. For this new five-year action plan, we are offering one period of community engagement. Stakeholders and site users are invited to read through and make comment on the draft action plan, including detailed proposals and actions. This community engagement will run from 17th May to 14th June 2023.

Following this period of engagement, the final document will be produced, published and the actions will commence. Please be aware that we will not respond individually to comments received through the public engagements; instead, we will produce a summary of comments, noting any amendments made to the plan as a result. This engagement response document will be published online alongside the final action plan. We will retain contact details only for the purpose of keeping respondents informed about the plan development process.

5.2 Stakeholders

- Relevant East Herts District Council Councillors
- Relevant East Herts District Council Officers
- Relevant Hertfordshire County Council Councillors
- Relevant Hertfordshire County Council Officers
- Relevant Countryside and Rights of Way Officers
- Hertford Town Council Clerk
- Hertfordshire and Middlesex Wildlife Trust
- Environment Agency
- Bengeo Neighbourhood Area Plan
- Canal and Rivers Trust
- Dicker Mill Management Company
- Hertford Civic Society
- Everyone Active
- Herts Canoe Club
- Herts Boat Rescue
- Hertford Tennis Club
- Sele Farm Bowls Club
- Sainsburys
- Sustrans
- Local community and site users

6. STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

Thank you for taking the time to read this document. We are keen to receive feedback from you on our proposals for Hartham Common Action Plan 2023-28.

Please return your comments using the contact details below by **Wednesday 14th June** at the latest.

FAO Elgan Adlard

Countryside Management Service
Environment and Infrastructure Department
County Hall
Pegs Lane
Hertford
SG13 8DN

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Phone: 01992 588935