

Briefing

London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea



PARKS POLICE SERVICE

The Shared Parks Police Service was formed on 1st April 2013, following in the footsteps of the RBKC Parks Police Service and the LBHF Parks Constabulary. The Service provides a reassuring high visibility patrolling presence across ninety parks, open spaces and cemeteries across both boroughs, together with four 'out of borough' cemeteries. The service operates between 0700 and 2300 in summer and 0700 and 2200 hours in winter, 365 days a year, carrying out on average, 1800 patrols and dealing with 130 incidents each month.

23.5 Constables (FTE) are split into three shifts each supervised by a Sergeant and the Unit is managed by the Parks Police Inspector. Named 'Ambassadors' are appointed for each park to liaise with friends groups and regular park users.

Officers are appointed under legislation which allows local authorities to appoint Constables to enforce Park Byelaws and Regulations and they are authorised to report and arrest offenders when necessary, as well as issuing Fixed Penalty Notices for dog fouling, depositing litter and enviro-crime offences. Officers are issued with body-worn cameras which allow them to record dog fouling and anti-social behaviour and they have proved useful in defusing difficult situations as well as evidence gathering.

The Service operate a problem solving approach and as well as carrying out high visibility patrols to deter crime and anti-social behaviour works with multi-agency partners to tackle problems at their source and prevent them re-occurring. This work has been recognised through the award of one gold and three silver awards from the Mayor of London's Safer Parks Initiative in recent years. It also contributes to the criteria for the annual 'green flag' awards.

Parks Police work very closely with Homeless charities and with HM Immigration Service to identify vulnerable homeless people sleeping out in parks and open spaces and putting them in touch with support services. We also ensure those overseas visitors who overstay their conditions of entry are identified and repatriated.

Duties also involve planning and facilitating public events across both Boroughs such as the Varsity Boat Race, The Notting Hill Carnival, Opera Holland Park, Remembrance Parades, Freedom Marches and the H&F Fireworks Displays.

We also provide a policing presence in Bishops Park during the arrival and departure phase of Fulham Football Club home games.

As part of the Council's Safer Neighbourhoods Division the Service contribute towards the Council's duty under S.17 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 to *"do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area"*.

About twenty percent of the Unit's work relates to dogs and their owners. Regular educational events, dog shows and free 'micro-chipping' are held in our parks and we enjoy a close working relationship with Dogs Trust 'City Dogs' programme. We have initiated a number of successful

prosecutions against the owners of dangerous dogs as well as undertaking plain clothes patrols to detect dog fouling and offences contrary to the Dog Control orders.

A number of Officers are trained as LALO's (Local Authority Liaison Officers) and work closely with the Borough's Emergency Services Team to provide logistical support at major incidents and civil emergencies.

The service operates a fleet of five marked vehicles (including an electric van, which has helped reduce our carbon footprint by 28%) and ten pedal cycles.

We work closely with the Parks Department, The CCTV Control Room, The Neighbourhood and Estate Warden Teams and partners from a wide range of public sector organisations and community groups to achieve our mission statement - *"To ensure our parks and open spaces remain safe and welcoming places for all"*

Amongst the Teams other tasks are:

- *Locking 11 Parks within Hammersmith and Fulham at dusk.*
- *Enforcing the Controlled Drinking Zone (CDZ)*
- *Securing landing sites for HEMS Helicopter*
- *Truancy & Anti-terrorism awareness Patrols with MPS*
- *Reporting crime and ASB within the parks*
- *Finding missing children and adults in the parks*
- *Investigating fly tipping and prosecuting offenders*
- *Dealing with lost and found property within the parks*
- *Recovering hypodermic needles and stolen motorcycles*
- *Talks to primary schools on safety in parks*
- *Junior Citizen and similar educational events*
- *Dealing with Traveller incursions on parks & council land*
- *Support to Borough Major Incident Plan*



The Service were awarded the Joint Council's 'Responsive' award as part of the staff 'Star Awards' in 2014 for their response to the traveller incursion on Wormwood Scrubs which resulted in their departure from the Borough within 2 days.



The LBHF Parks Estate

*Wormwood Scrubs
Bishops Parks
Ravenscourt Park
South Park
Wormholt Park
Hammersmith Park
Wendell Park
Shepherds Bush Green
Margravine Cemetery
Mortlake Cemetery
North Sheen Cemetery
Fulham Cemetery
Hurlingham Park
Eelbrook Common
Brook Green
Lillie Road Recreation Ground
Frank Banfield Park
Furnivall Gardens
Parson Green
Marcus Garvey Park
William Parnell Park
Normand Park
Gwendyr Gardens
Rowberry Mead
St. Paul's Open Space*

+ 27 small parks & open spaces



The RBKC Parks Estate

*Holland Park
Kensington Memorial Park
Emslie Horniman's Pleasance
Little Wormwood Scrubs
Athlone Gardens
St. Luke's Gardens
Avondale Park
Chelsea Embankment Gardens
Colville Square Gardens
Powis Square Gardens
Redcliffe Square Gardens
Ropers Gardens
Tavistock Square
Westfield Park
Cremorne Gardens
Hanwell Cemetery
Gunnersbury Cemetery*

+ 15 small parks & open spaces

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