



Waterlow Park Trust

TAG Memorandum of Advice to Trustee

Date: 30th October 2025

Subject: Consideration of BBQ Group 'supplementary report 2025' (July) and advice to trustee

The Trust Advisory Group (TAG) discussed the report of the BBQ Group in order to arrive at the following recommendation:

A full ban on BBQs should continue in force for the 2026 season.

If requested by Camden TAG will review the situation next year ahead of the 2027 season. Any such review would need to be based on appropriately funded new proposals that address the issues below which have lead to the current temporary ban, and this advice.

- Charcoal and wood BBQs generate a large amount of smoke, and are bad for both environment and health.
- Impact on neighbours, notably Highgate Cemetery (noise, traffic, smoke)
- Unrestricted numbers leading to over-crowding of available space and 'spilling over' of people with BBQs
- Lack of human resourcing for enforcement leading to damage and undesirable behaviour
- Lack of sufficient toilets and other facilities for larger numbers
- Lack of adequate traffic management and control
- Disruption from larger unauthorised groups often with loud music
- Unauthorised groups attempting to run chargeable events
- Organised games, and behaviour which impacts other park users

TAG request that assuming the recommendation to continue the BBQ ban in 2026 is applied, that the Trust work with Camden on communications and engagement to ensure that communities who are impacted realise they are still welcome, but need to bring pre-cooked food, apply ahead of time if coming in larger groups, and do not amplify music, charge, or run games.