

Ealing Regional Park

Appendix 1 – Creating a Regional Park Cabinet Report

13 September 2023

Economy and Sustainability



Statement of Ambition:

Ealing's Regional Park will be as transformative for West London as the Elizabeth II Park has been for East London.

Vision: Ealing Regional Park More than a Day Out

The Ealing Regional Park will become a **new destination** for lovers of nature, culture and play. A space to replenish your health, support the local economy and have fun.

The park will act as a **new green lung for London**: strengthening our climate resilience whilst improving air quality for future generations.

The Strategic Perspective

Council Plan

Local Plan

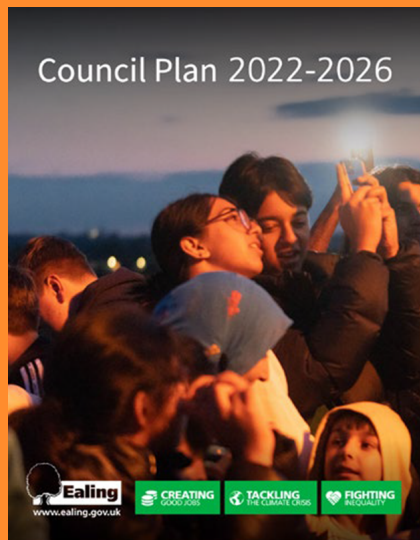
Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy

Biodiversity Action Plan

Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Sports Facility Strategy

Cultural Manifesto



Why are we doing this?

Climate Action

The creation of a Regional Park would be a major transformation of the landscape of Ealing to deliver a wide range of significant benefits including:

- Making Ealing a more vibrant, green, and attractive place to live and visit.
- Supporting nature recovery in Ealing by providing more space for nature-rich habitats and potential new species reintroductions.
- Increasing the carbon storage and sequestering capacity and contribute to the Council's carbon reduction targets.
- Providing more opportunities for Ealing's residents to connect with nature.
- Providing much needed flood resilience
- Increase mental health and wellbeing of residents
- Encourage walking and cycling
- Improve air quality
- Increase community engagement amongst residents, reducing loneliness

Why are we doing this?

Climate Action

Ealing Council declared a climate emergency in April 2019, committing to treat the climate and ecological emergency as a crisis requiring immediate and vital action. Our aim is to become carbon neutral, as a borough and an organisation by 2030.

The Council Plan commits to create 10 new parks and open spaces, give back to nature 800,000 m² through re-wilding and re-introducing wildlife, and pioneering 10 new community growing spaces. Furthermore, it pledges to make our streets and open spaces beautiful and resilient through planting another 50,000 trees, work towards increasing the proportion of the borough covered by tree canopies to 25%

Why are we doing this?

Population Growth

The 2021 Census has shown that Ealing's population has **grown by 8.5%** since 2011.

In 2021, Ealing's population stood at 367,100, making it the **3rd largest borough in London** after Croydon and Barnet.

It is forecasted to be **nearly 400,000 in the ten years from 2021 to 2031.**

Why are we doing this?

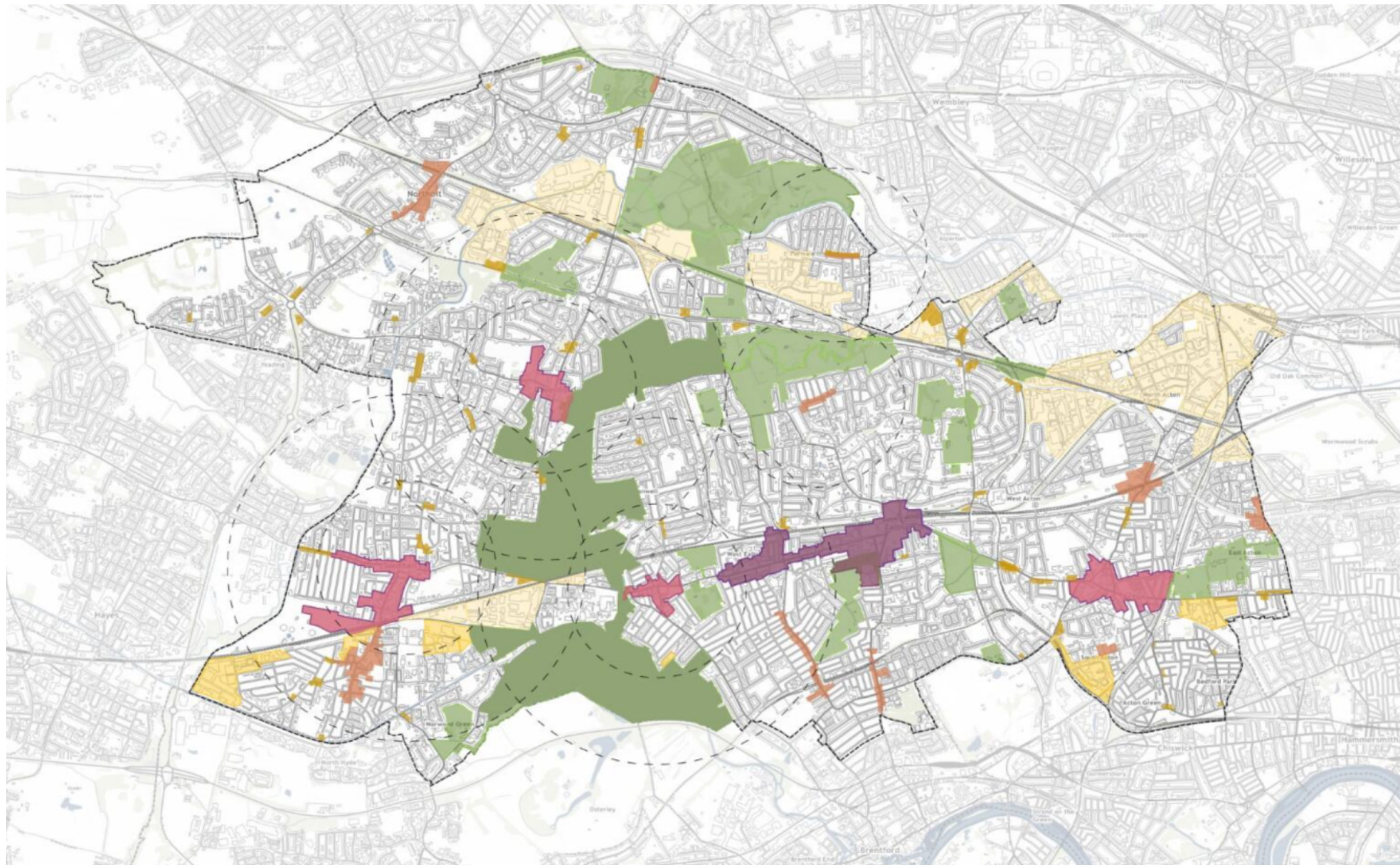
Accessibility

A regional park at the heart of Ealing with new east-west and north-south active travel routes will be within 20 minutes round trip of Greenford, Hanwell, and Southall town centres.

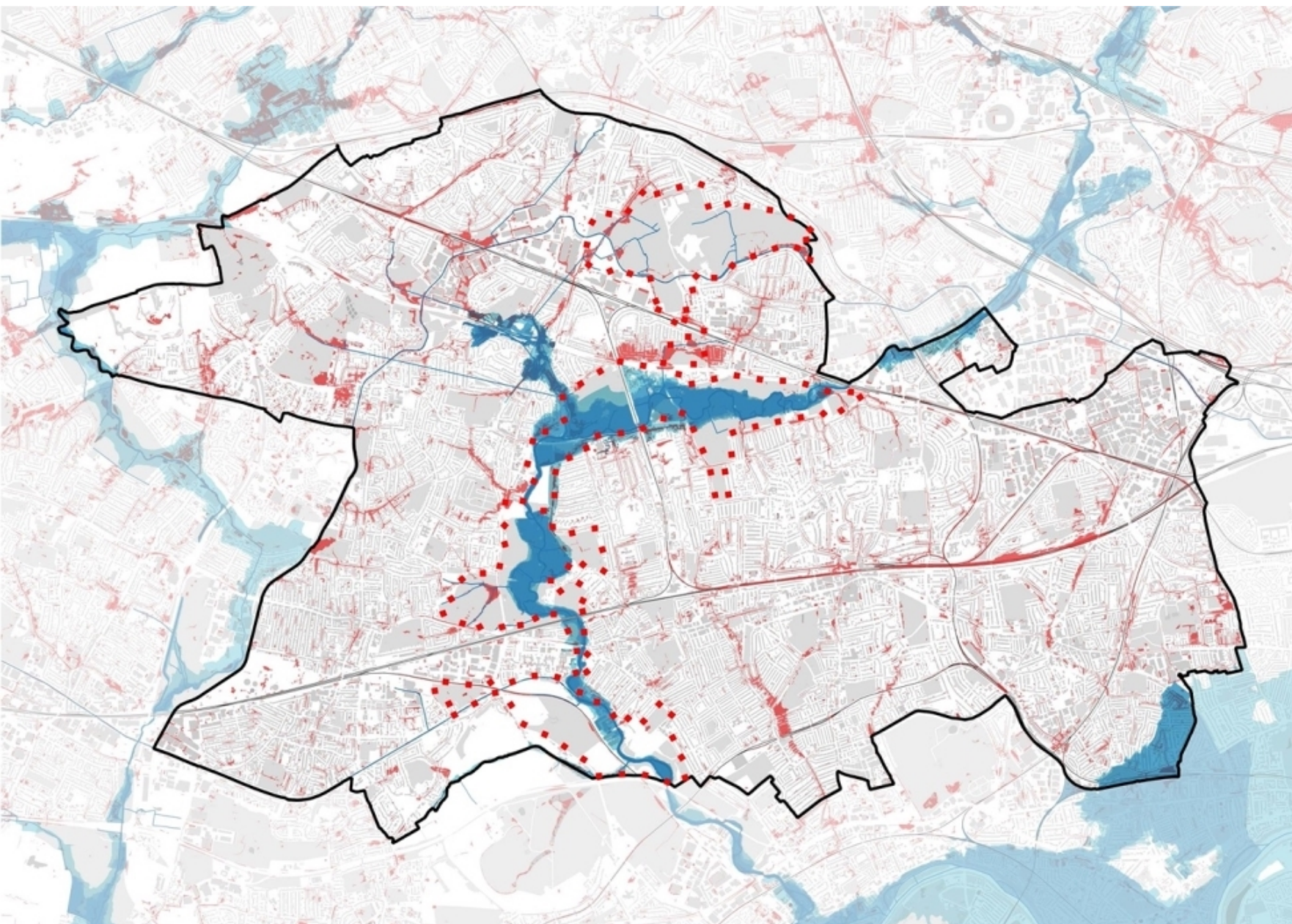
Neighbourhoods within the wards of Northolt Mandeville, North Greenford, Central Greenford, Greenford Broadway, Perivale, Hanger Hill, Pitshanger, Ealing Broadway, North Hanwell, Hanwell Broadway, Walpole, Northfield, Norwood Green, Dormers Wells, Southall Broadway and Lady Margaret would all benefit from being within 20 minutes walking distance of the new park.

It will enable travel by modes other than private car to and between multiple centres from local neighbourhoods and improve public interaction, sociability and access to a wider range of amenities than available currently.

Why are we doing this? 20-minute neighbourhoods



Why we are doing this? Climate action and flood risk



- Detailed river network
- Flood Zone 3a surface water
- Flood Zone 3b
- Flood Zone 3a
- Flood Zone 2

Key Themes

Health & Wellbeing

Leisure

Public Art

Play Spaces

Sport

Heritage

Nature

Food
Production

Active-travel

Sustainability

Green
Infrastructure

Bio-diversity

Woodland &
Forestry

Accessibility

SUDS

Culture

Placemaking

Community

EDI

Community Facilities

F&B Outlets

Employment & Skills

Tourism

Economy

Education

Local Business
Economy

Sustainability & Accessibility

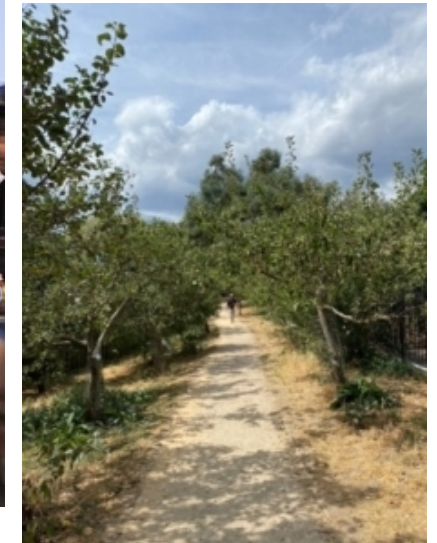
Biodiversity & Rewilding

Green & Blue Infrastructure Network



Active Travel Opportunities

Improve Accessibility



Local Food Production

Community Ownership & Stewardship



Flood Management - SUDS

Sustainable Woodland & Forestry

Health & Wellbeing

Leisure / Sport

Nature

Play Spaces

Community Meet-ups

Public Art

Volunteering Opportunities

Farming

Sensory & Stimulating Environment

Intergenerational Heritage

Learning Centre



Economy & Culture

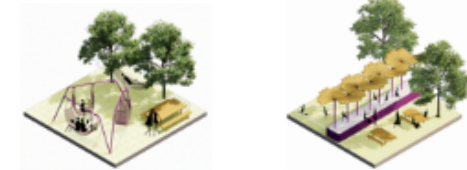
**Cultural
Destination**

**Permanent
Outdoor and
Indoor Venue**



**Tourism (incl.
Camping)**

Cafés



**Community
Facilities**

**Local
Business
Economy**



**Enabling
Development**

**Education,
Employment
and Skills**



How do we get there? Cabinet Report – 2 stages

Stage 1 (September 2023)

- Agree the statement of ambition and vision
- Commission consultants and budget to develop a business case
- Reflect principles in the Reg 19 Local Plan spatial policy
- Agrees in principle to the closure of Perivale Park Golf Course subject to the outcome of the proposed consultation.
- **Undertake engagement and set up a sounding board**
- **Confirm the exact geography**

Stage 2 (Summer 2024)

- Land assembly update
- Full Business Case

Outstanding track record

- The 'London in Bloom' borough of the year award - Gold for nine years in a row
- Green Flags for 26 parks and open spaces
- Northala Fields
- Restored Walpole Park and Gunnersbury Park
- Implemented the Greenford to Gurnell Greenway



Feedback and discussion

Next Steps

- Draft consultancy brief
- Prepare communications plan prior to the cabinet report date
- Soft market testing for an outdoor cultural venue
- Engage with GLA and adjacent boroughs

Background Information: case studies

Beckenham Place Park

Lee Valley Park

Allestree Park, Derby

Case Study: Beckenham Place Park

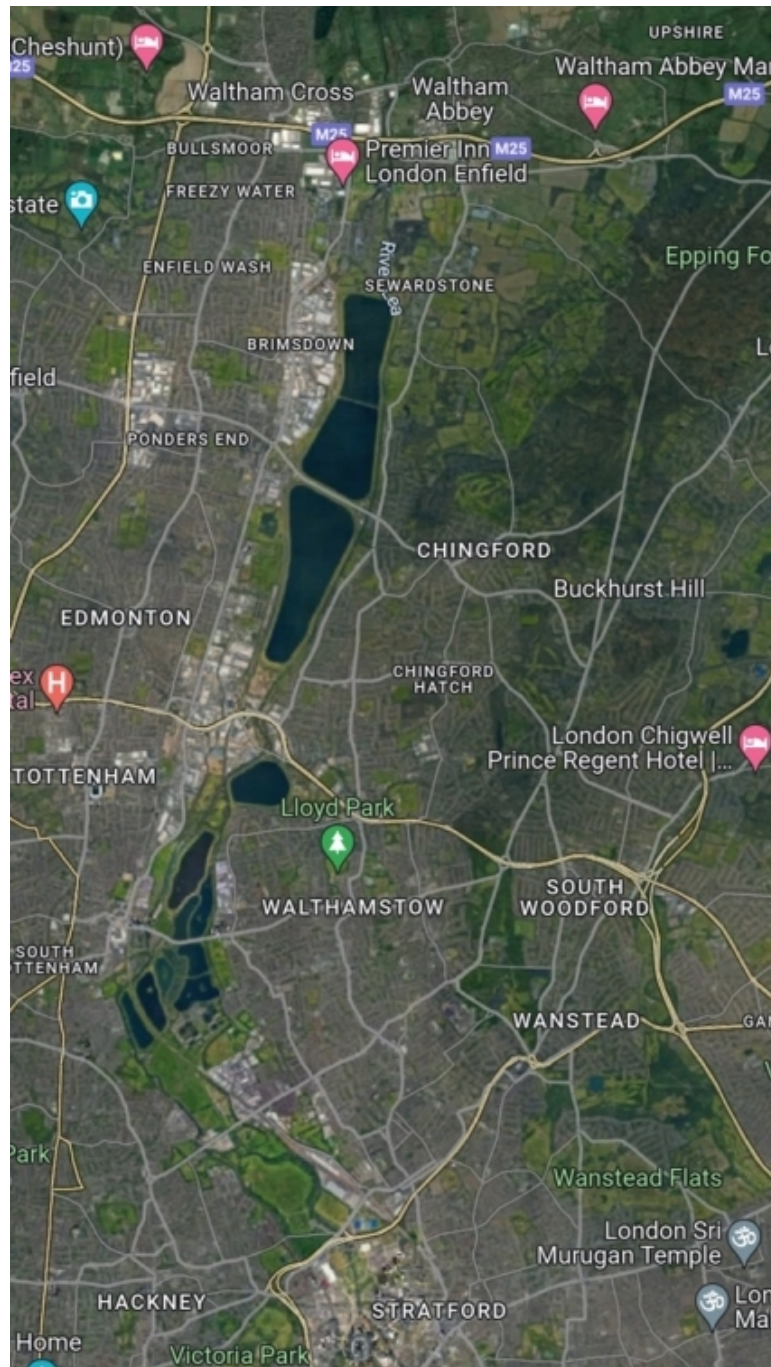


Before – The majority of the park was a golf course from 1972



After – The golf course was removed in 2016 and park improved with HLF/GLA funding including the hugely successful outdoor swimming lake. There is a new £17.7m park flood alleviation scheme currently in planning

Case Study: Lea Valley Park



- **Lea Valley Park at 4046 Hectares is about 7x the size of Ealing's potential 583 Hectare new park.**
- **It could be compared to the urban valley floor section of Lea Valley Park which comprises a series of medium to large scale operational drinking water reservoirs and could be considered the less interesting part of the park for residents and wildlife.**
- **The advantage the Ealing park has in comparison is that it has the potential to be a high-quality landscape in the heart of urban Ealing.**

Case Study: Rewilding Allestree Park, Derby



More than 2,000 people gave their views and ideas about how Allestree Park could look when it's transformed into the UK's largest urban rewilding space.

The project took a significant step forward when the Derby City Council's Cabinet discusses the [results of a 12-week public consultation](#), and set the way for what happens next.



Derbyshire Wildlife Trust worked with Derby City Council and the University of Derby to present a variety of ideas for rewilding. The proposals ranged from passive rewilding with little or no intervention to active rewilding which would