



York Gardens Park
Open Space Information Sheet

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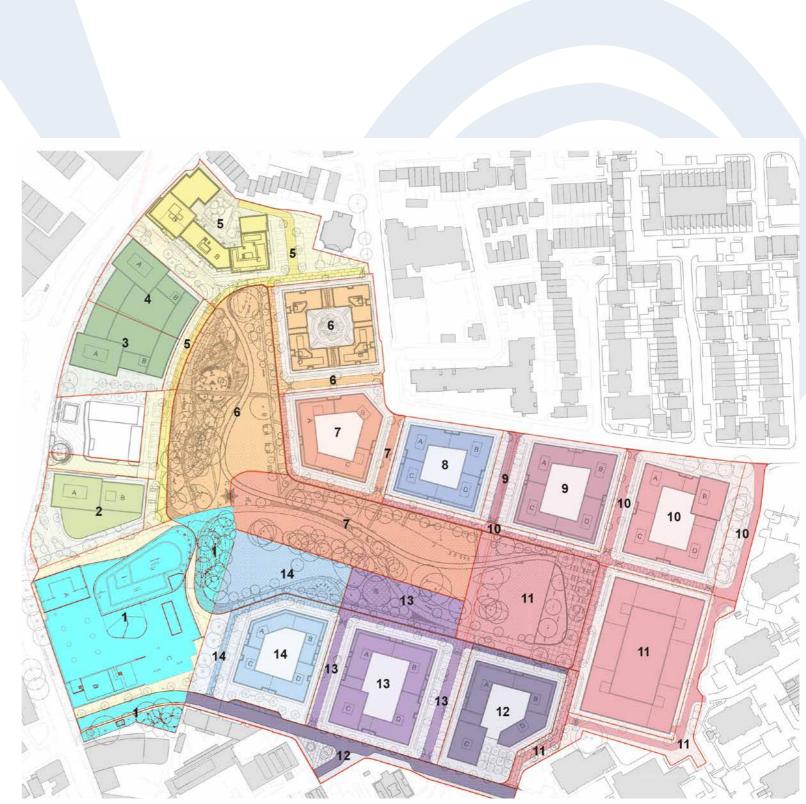
Introduction

York Gardens Park currently lays against the busy York Road, and is split by the access route to the pumping station. It is considered an underused, poor quality piece of open space. There is a clear lack of wayfinding throughout the site with unclear, unlit routes, making it both hard to orientate oneself and unsafe during darker hours. In relation to the wider context, access to the River Thames from Clapham Junction is hard to navigate.

The objectives of the team from the onset were to bring York Gardens Park into the centre of the site and extend it out into the streets so it draws people in from the edges of the estate, to retain as many of the existing trees as possible, to improve connectivity and way-finding and to create large urban 'green park', as well as a more direct and legible routes through the Estate with a piece of high-quality pedestrian priority public realm that connected Clapham Junction to the River Thames.

The consultation process has informed the programme of activities offered within York Gardens Park and the planting strategy, which has evolved from discussions with LB parks and biodiversity team and the aspiration to promote a healthy, more sustainable landscape.

The bulk of the park is to be delivered in two phases early in the programme, with an additional temporary landscape being implemented at the onset.

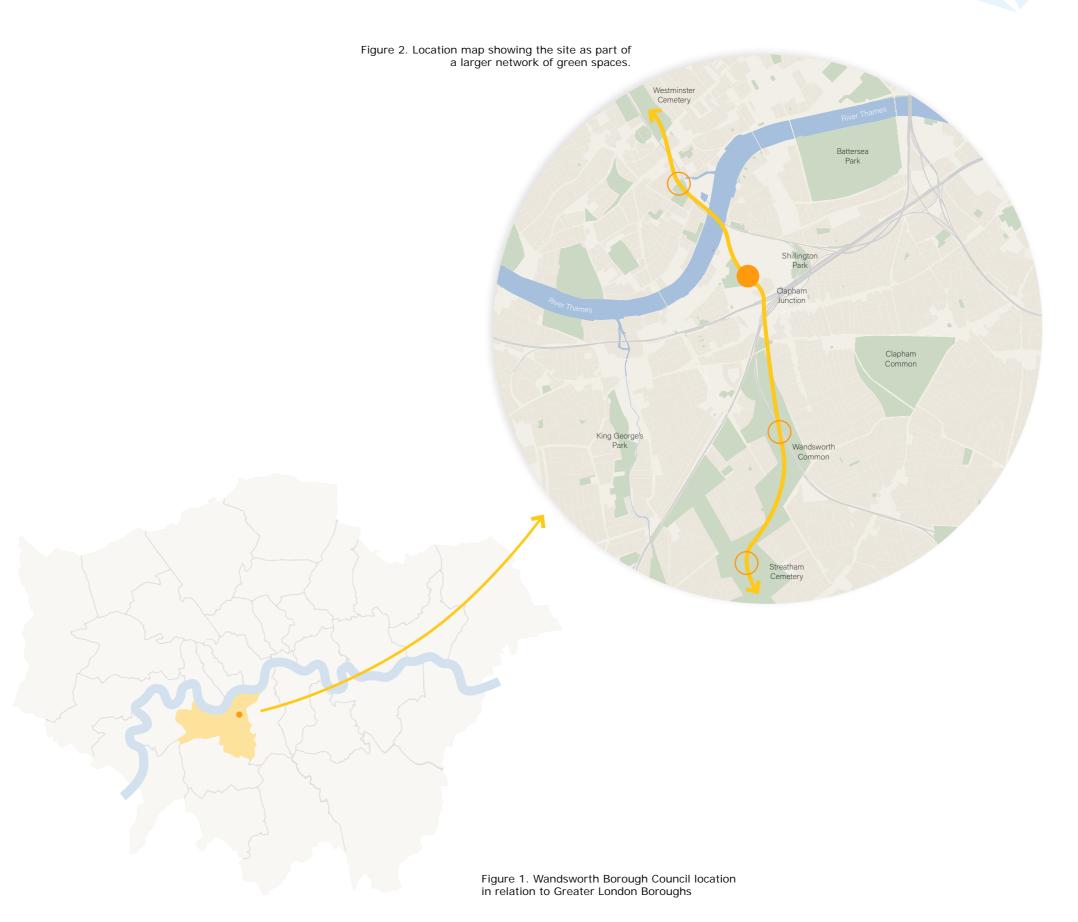


Existing Open Space Wandsworth's Green Open Spaces

The site sits between York Road and Clapham Junction Station. It represents an important link from Wandsworth Common, through Clapham Junction and out to the Thames Path beyond.

Having seen many changes throughout the years, the Winstanley and York Road area lacks a clear way-finding and spatial hierarchy. The various redevelopments of the site in the 20th century resulted in a series of fragmented green spaces with no apparent function.

A clear aspiration from the outset is to improve wayfinding and create a route through from Wandsworth Common to the Thames Path and reconnect the site both locally and on a regional scale, improving the wider green infrastructure while creating purposeful amenity green spaces.



Existing Open Space York Gardens Park Landscape Character

A scattered Green Space

The Council's 'first new park for fifty years', York Gardens Park, was formally opened in 1972, to provide open space for the new housing nearby. Today it is an enclosed area of amenity grass (mown), with scattered trees and a small amount of ornamental planting (predominately rose beds), and a dense planted buffer adjacent to York Road.

Set in the middle of the park is York Gardens library & community hall, a children's centre and the Thames Water Falconbrook pumping station to which the access road effectively divides the gardens in two. The access road is "used for unauthorized parking by visitors to the York Gardens library and community hall resulting in most visitors avoiding this central section as it is unwelcoming and potentially hazardous."

Once a year there is the 'Get Active Battersea' festival within York Gardens, which is popular with the community, otherwise it is generally used by dog owners (with a large amount of dog fouling reported) and used by the students of Thames Christian College whilst they wait between classes.

The remainder of the green spaces are 'left-over' spaces scattered throughout the site, with little function/ use. There is a clear lack of way-finding throughout the site with unclear, unlit routes, making it both hard to orientate oneself and unsafe during darker hours.

A main benefit of the existing site is the quality and variety of the existing trees, which give it a leafy environment.

The main objectives of the proposals are to:

- Retain the premise of a verdant environment, with tree-lined streets and a central leafy park.
- Provide a clear, coherent structure for open spaces and provide a variety of functions to maximise use, with a limited number of dead zones/ left-over spaces.



Aerial image

¹ York Gardens 'A Project Brief' - Draft September 2014, Park Service LB Wandsworth

Existing Open Space York Gardens Park Landscape Character

Landscape Character Areas





2 York Gardens Park south

3 Rose gardens

Illustrative plan of existing green space across the site



Existing Open Space York Gardens Playground







Location Plan



- 1 View of rose garden and newly planted trees
- One O'clock Club outdoor play area
- 3 View of York Gardens Playground
- 4 View of mounded area and mature trees

Existing Open Space York Gardens Playground



Existing Open Space York Gardens Park South







Location Plan



- 1 View of Parkside development
- View towards Plough Road
- 3 Entrance to York Gardens Park
- 4 View of southern York Gardens Park

Existing Open Space York Gardens Park South





Winstanley & York Road Estate Regeneration

Proposed York Gardens Park





Proposed York Gardens. Summary.

Instrumental to the regeneration is the delivery of a large public open space central to the development.

A noteworthy aspiration of the proposed scheme is pulling York Gardens Park away from York Road and into the centre of the site with housing and mixed-used facilities set around and activating it.

Key features of the park include swathes of ornamental planting, extensive swales, adventure playground, multi-games area, outdoor gym facilities and an aspiration to retain many of the existing mature trees.

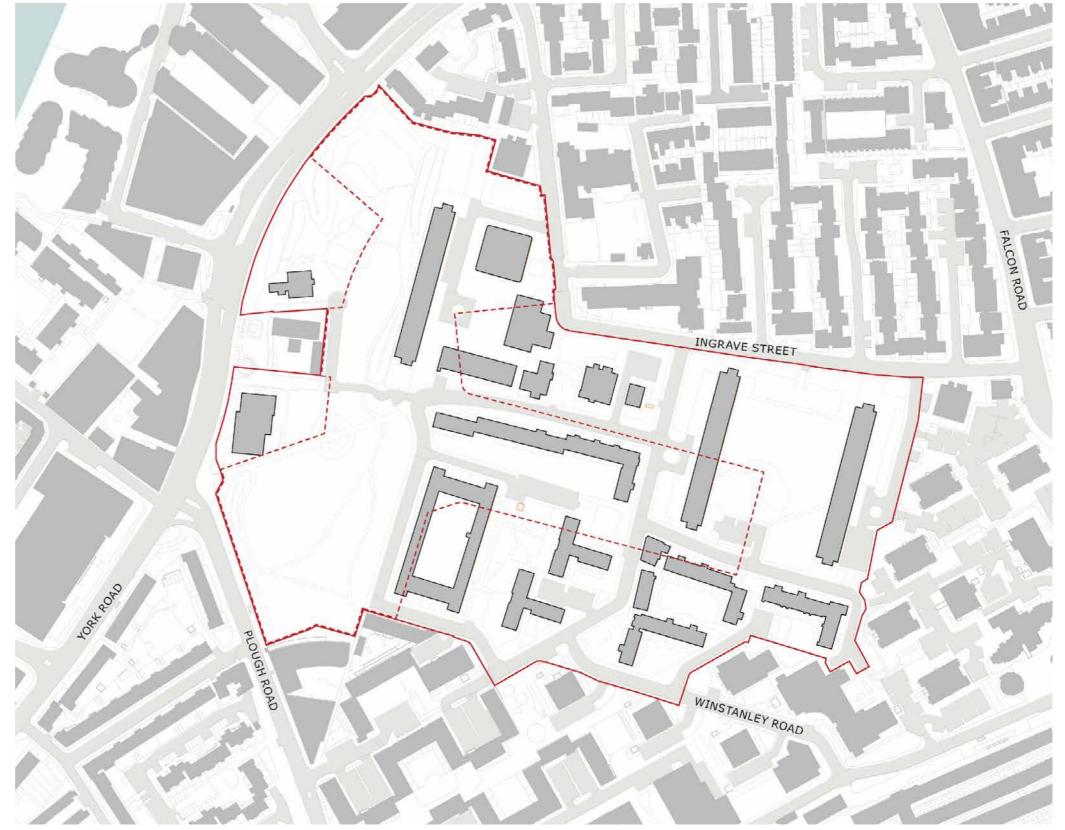
Planning Status.

A hybrid planning application covering the whole site was submitted on January 2019. The proposed open space is part of the detailed application, together with part of the development plots.

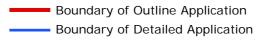
The complete application can be viewed in Wandsworth Council Planning Portal (www. wandsworth.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/search-planning-applications/). The application number is 2019/0024

The application received planning approval under full committee the XX 2020 securing the delivery of the York Gardens.





Existing site showing planning application boundaries





Illustrative plan of York Gardens Park showing planning application boundaries

Proposed York Gardens. Location

The site in its existing condition does provide a a verdant setting, however, York Gardens Park is split by the access route to the pumping station and is considered an underused, poor quality piece of open space. The remainder of green spaces are 'left-over' spaces scattered throughout the site, with little function/ use. There is a clear lack of way-finding throughout the site with unclear, unlit routes, making it both hard to orientate oneself and unsafe during darker hours. Access to the River Thames from Clapham Junction is hard to navigate.

The objectives of the proposal are to bring York Gardens Park into the centre of the site and extend it out into the streets, to retain as many of the existing trees as possible, to improve connectivity and way-finding, introducing pedestrian priority into the public realm and connecting Clapham Junction to the River Thames.

The objectives of a central park, legible, safe routes, improved connectivity and residents courtyards are upheld in the proposed masterplan. The key changes were the extension of 'green' in place of the urban 'pocket park' and the activities offered within York Gardens Park (which have been informed by consultation with residents i.e. removal of the amphitheatre) and the planting strategy, which has evolved from discussions with LB parks and biodiversity team and the aspiration to promote a healthy, more sustainable landscape.



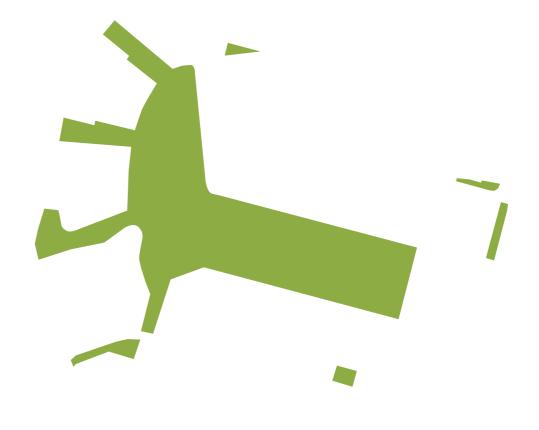
Existing site aerial view



Current masterplan



Existing green space provision diagram



Proposed green space provision diagram

The proposed York Gardens Park sits at the centre of the masterplan. Around its periphery is a pedestrian priority street, 'York Gardens Drive' that is separated from the park by a vegetated swale.

The park extends out towards York Road in wide, planted, 'Park Plazas' and streets are tree lined.

Routes are clear, lit and provide direct ways to key destinations as well as more meandering routes for leisure.

At the key junctions between park and streetscape, urban squares provide the interface between park and street and knit the masterplan with the surrounding area.

An improved link between Clapham Junction and the River Thames is achieved by a straightened Winstanley Road, which also serves as the primary route to the new Leisure and Community Centre and future York Road developments (including RADA and the Candle Factory).

There is also an aspiration to provide pedestrian crossings at several points across York Road.

Key future developments

Urban squares - Gateway spaces

Park's swale

Activity areas

York Gardens Drive (Shared space/ home-zone)

York Gardens Park Promenade

York Gardens primary paths

Park plazas

Green streets

Potential future pedestrian routes

Potential future pedestrian crossings

Key focal points

Clapham Junction Station





Proposed York Gardens. Landscape strategies **Movement and Connectivity**

As a result of the implementation of York Gardens centrally to the development, the movement strategy significantly improves connectivity and legibility across the site

Objectives

- 1. Create strategic links between Clapham Junction, York Road and the river.
- 2. Respond to key desire lines according to the Winstanley Pedestrian Flow Assessment by Momentum Transport.
- 3. Clear hierarchy and routes for way-finding and
- 4. Design must consider the future pedestrian connections through the Falcon Estate.

As a result, York Gardens Park has two large paths connecting the east and west side of the site. They both lead visitors coming from Clapham Junction and residents of the surrounding estates towards the proposed leisure and community centre and new developments along York Road.

At the centre of York Gardens Park, the paths meet to create a north-south connection as well, enabling pedestrians to walk from Winstanley Road to Lombard Road.

The refurbishment of the Falconbrook Pumping Station (as part of Thames Tideway works), includes significant public realm improvements. This will create an additional attractive route between York Road and York Gardens Park.



Routes across Winstanley Estate



Primary pedestrian routes



Green streets



Potential future pedestrian routes





Proposed York Gardens. Open Space provision

The implementation of the Masterplan does entail a net loss of Public Open Space amounting to 19.7%. This is compensated by providing a more cohesive and usable connected network of spaces, as opposed to isolated pockets of green space. The figures below and subsequent sections of this document demonstrate how the quality of the POS provided offsets the quantitative loss.

The committee report approving the scheme does aknowlede this loss but reconises the increase in quality as sufficient compensation:

"The development proposals would be centred around the re-provided York Gardens, with this new park amounting to 2.49 hectares. Whilst this would constitute a small loss of locally designated open space, the proposed open space would provide an uplift in amenity value owing to the high-quality landscaping works and the inclusion of new recreational facilities and as such this element of the proposals would accord with Policy 7.18 of the London Plan and draft London Plan Policy G4."



Existing York Gardens (as per bid calculation) - 2.65ha Existing York Gardens (as per topographical survey) - 2.61ha

Existing Site - Open Space Calculation



Accessible/ usable amenity green space - 1.72ha Land normally enclosed, designed, constructed, managed and maintained as a public park/ open space.

Used for a variety of informal or social activities including recreation, seating, sunbathing, picnics or kickabouts



Ornamental planting - 0.07ha



Dedicated areas of accessible play & fitness spaces - 0.37ha



Civic space - 0.23ha

Predominantly hard landscaping that provide a focus for pedestrian activity and can make connections for people



Unspecified amenity greenspace - 0.87ha Landscaped areas providing visual amenity or separating different buildings or land uses for environmental, visual or safety reasons



Dense trees/ hedgerow (generally as a boundary) - 0.92ha Limited access - visual amenity/screening only



Public footpaths/ pedestrian circulation - 1.73ha Publicly accessible footpaths, pavements and unspecified areas of hard-standing. Does not include access paths to building entrances

Areas not included within the POS calculations



Private Amenity Space - 1.08ha Includes hard and soft landscape



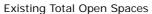
Roads - 1.21 ha



Dedicated parking areas - 0.63ha

Existing Total Open Space







Proposed Total Open Space

Rev 12 Masterplan - Open Space Calculation

Pedestrian priority shared surfaces - 1.17ha

Accessible/ usable amenity green space - 1.36ha
Land normally enclosed, designed, constructed, managed and
maintained as a public park/ open space.
Used for a variety of informal or social activities including recreation,
seating, sunbathing, picnics or kickabouts

Ornamental planting - 0.06ha

Publicly accessible areas dedicated to play & fitness - 0.54ha

Civic space - 0.81ha
Predominantly hard landscaping that provide a focus for pedestrian activity and can make connections for people

Unspecified amenity greenspace - 0.12ha Landscaped areas providing visual amenity or separating different buildings or land uses for environmental, visual or safety reasons

Dense trees/ hedgerow (generally as a boundary) - 0.50ha Inaccessible - visual amenity /screening only

Public footpaths/ pedestrian circulation - 0.97ha
Publicly accessible footpaths, pavements and unspecified areas of
hard-standing. Does not include access paths to building entrances

Areas not included within the POS calculations

Private Amenity Space - 0.80ha

Roads - **0.54ha**

Dedicated parking areas - 0.22ha



Proposed Total Open Space Strategy

Proposed York Gardens. Landscape Strategies Tree and Planting Strategy

The planting strategy seeks to promote biodiversity, provide beauty and seasonal interest throughout the year and to respond to LB Wandsworth Parks Team's request of a low maintenance scheme. Planting is therefore intentionally more naturalistic and wilder in appearance with ornamental/ herbaceous planting kept to a minimum and a 'hands off' approach to management encouraged.

Within the park itself, a number of the existing trees have been retained. These include a mixture of London Planes, Ash, Horse Chestnut and Sycamores. There is a considerable number of new trees being planted (at semi-mature sizes), in the park, streets and courtyards. The approach is 'right plant for right place' and the proposals have been worked through and reviewed with the LB Tree Officer and Park's team.



Existing trees to be retained

T6 Trees in SUDS - no. 35

T5 Street trees - no. 186

T4 Courtyard trees - no. 86*
*Including courtyards within outline app.

T3 Feature trees - no. 27

T2 Seasonal trees - no. 83

T1 Multi-stem trees - no. 33

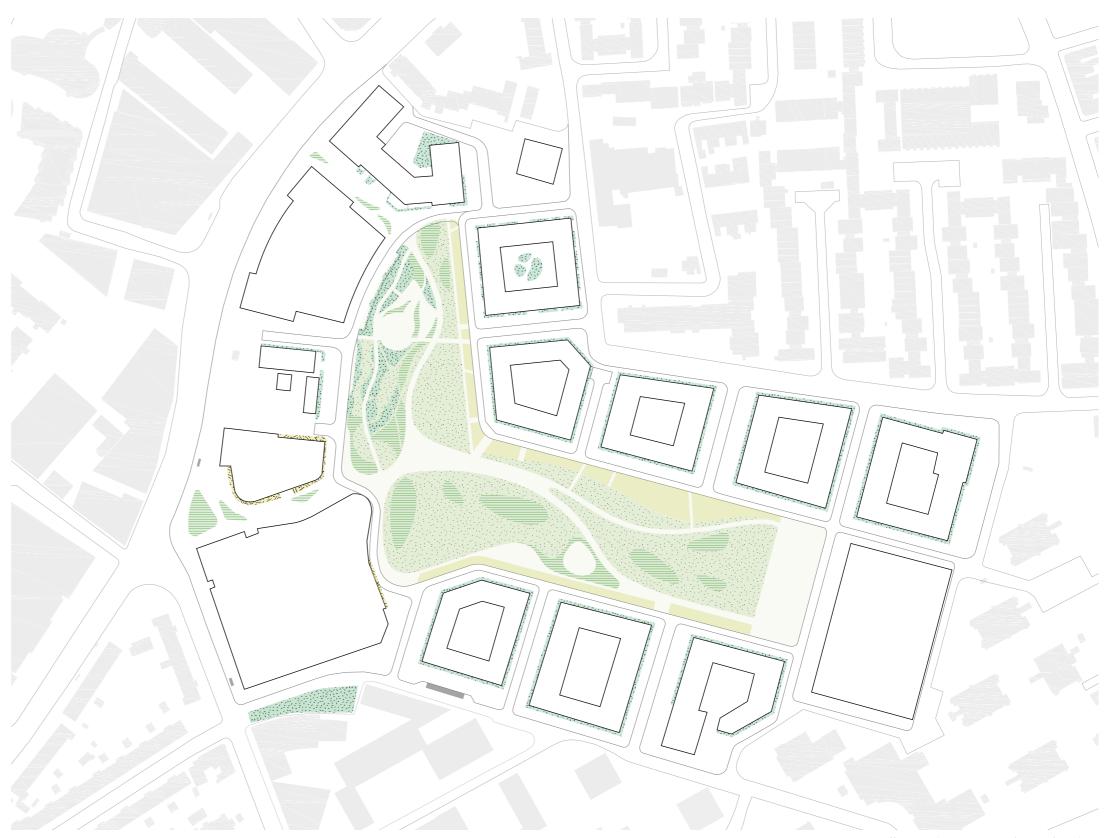


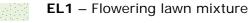
Proposed York Gardens. Landscape Strategies Tree and Planting Strategy

With the retained existing mature trees providing the 'backbone', the proposals introduce a mixture of trees and varying species of meadow (to suit ground conditions) – and a proposed new regime of mowing.

Bulbs are interplanted within the one of the meadow mixes to give early season interest requiring regular maintenance be kept to a minimum.

The park 'is drawn out' between the buildings and out into the streets, so some of the tree species are carried on from park to street and meadow swathes continue through the park plazas between the towers.





Shrub mix (height and species vary)

EM8 – Meadow mixture for wetlands

Ornamental grasses

EH1 – Hedgerow (shade tolerant) meadow mixture with seasonal bulbs



Proposed York Gardens. Details of the new provision.

The following section describes the proposed park in more detail to illustrate what is proposed and to substantiate the claim that the raised quality of the park and open space justifies the net loss in area.

Promoting Healthy Living

The masterplan promotes health by creating a greener, ecologically mindful environment and opportunities for improving physical and mental health. York Gardens Park is integral to this vision, providing a diverse range of play, exercise opportunities and quality open space. The park is open 24 hours a day and has no fence - welcoming people to exercise, play, contemplate and to simply enjoy. It is a robust, simple, flexible and timeless piece of design for all.

York Gardens Park offers a diversity of opportunities, activities and character throughout the year.

The activities have intentionally been spread across the park to maximise full use of the open space and to encourage people to travel through the park and explore activities they may have otherwise overseen. No activity/ group is secluded or placed 'in a corner', therefore offering maximum opportunities for interaction and integration.

A generous area of open lawn offers flexibility to kick a ball or hold the 'Get Active Battersea' annual festival. Running / walking loops around the park link into fitness stations for those who want to do a full work out. The surfaces of the paths / tracks intentionally vary to offer interest.

A Self-Sustaining Park: Materials, Planting and a sense of Community Ownership

A practical materials palette will ensure long term robustness, without compromising upon the quality of public space. A revised path layout minimises hard surfacing whilst delivering the desired lines and access required.

We have retained as many of the existing trees as

possible and planted new trees to permeate plazas and squares with the same verdant character as York Gardens Park.

New water management and SUDS systems have been introduced through the use of swales. These have added texture and softness to the simple palette of trees and grass, added seasonal interest and enhanced the ecology of the park.

An innovative approach to planting and maintenance has been developed with L.B. Wandsworth Parks Service, in order to facilitate a self-sustaining environment, able to evolve alongside the needs of its users. A naturalistic planting scheme will be established that encourages biodiversity. This informal and flexible planting is attractive, sustainable and ecologically sensitive.

York Gardens Park exemplifies an innovative engagement process that establishes a community heart and, therefore, a place of character and distinction. The community's pride in and sense of ownership in the scheme, as well as its practical materiality and planting, will create a truly sustainable neighbourhood.





Masterplan - Site Map Future RADA location York Gardens Park Adventure playground Park Plaza 5 Rooftop play space Falconbrook pumping station open space Block 3 plaza - towards the Candle Factory Block 5 entrance plaza Block 5 courtyard Block 6 courtyard York Place Multi-games area Dog exercise area Landmark/ climb structure Landmark (part of arts and cultural strategy) Gym/ sports station Winstanley Square 18 Newcomen Square 19 Ingrave Square Land North of Grant Road

Illustrative landscape and block plan

Proposed York Gardens. Activities

An Active Park

With health at the heart of landscape concept, there is a range and diversity of activities for all and the proposed activities have been driven from the feedback at consultation with residents.

Activities include chess tables, basketball hoops, fitness areas, an adventure playground, skateable elements, a designated dog area as well as walking/ running loops and places to sit, swing or just 'be'.

The park is inclusive and accessible to all with activities available throughout the year.

































Proposed York Gardens. Activities





Location of activities across the development (Illustrative Masterplan)

Proposed York Gardens. **Cultural & Wayfinding Strategy**

Cultural & Wayfinding Strategy

Clear way-finding is important in navigating and orientating people to and through the site.

A strong cultural strategy engages the community and embeds the new development into its context.

At key points across the masterplan, focal points of sculpture, play, seating and signage help 'flag' the park and act as destination and meeting points.

Sculptural lighting guides people through the park plazas and across the park and gives playful, colourful points to the naturalistic scheme.

All of these elements and community involvement, reinforce the York Road & Winstanley Estate's unique identity.





Proposed York Gardens. **Cultural & Wayfinding Strategy**

Opportunities









Signage/ sculpture

Climbing structure

Tree house

Swings for all









Feature lighting

Multi-game graphics

Surface treatments

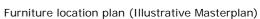
Custom prints

Furniture Strategy

The park offers a range of seating and playable opportunities. These have been located across the park so there are frequent places to stop, rest and relax.

In line with the utilitarian approach to material selection, they will either be concrete or timber and they will be robust.





Furniture Palette



Backless concrete bench Simple, robust and flexible, these benches can be sat on from a number of directions.



Curved modular seating
A linear curved concrete bench provides both seating and play.



Picnic tables
A large picnic table, with integrated chess boards, encourages a wider range of social activities.



Skateable elementsBespoke skateable elements.



Timber bench with backrestsThese provide opportunities for more leisurely sitting.



Lounge chair
These are located in the sunniest parts of the site for people to relax.



Reused tree trunks
By recycling some of the removed trees,
attractive seating and play opportunities are
created.

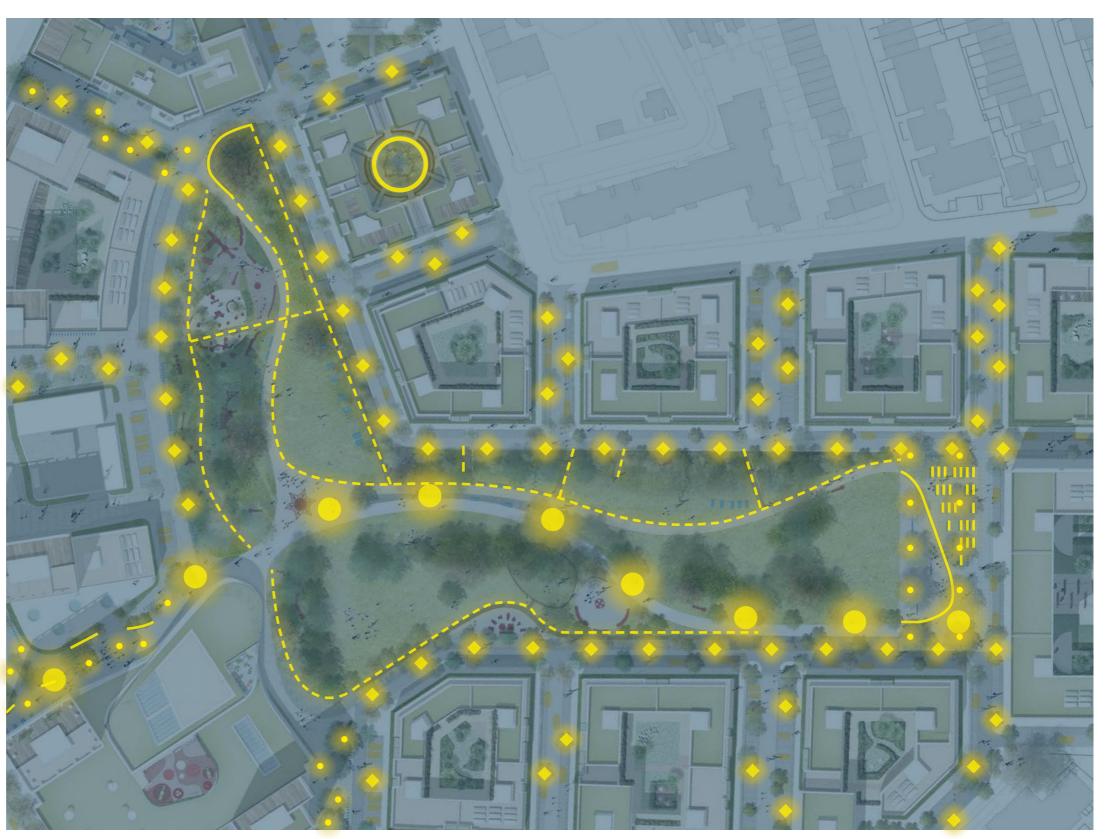


Stepping logsNaturalistic, playable elements.

Lighting Strategy

Well lit streets will promote safety at night, contribute to easy wayfinding and enhance the character of various spaces throughout the park.

- Feature lighting along the main promenade path acts to guide people through the centre of the park - to and from the leisure and community facility.
- Shared surfaces and residential streets are well lit from above with street light columns to ensure good visibility for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.
- Further lighting aims to enhance the character of different spaces and routes through the park. There will be uplighting in trees and integrated lighting in benches and bollards.





Indicative lighting layout (Illustrative Masterplan)

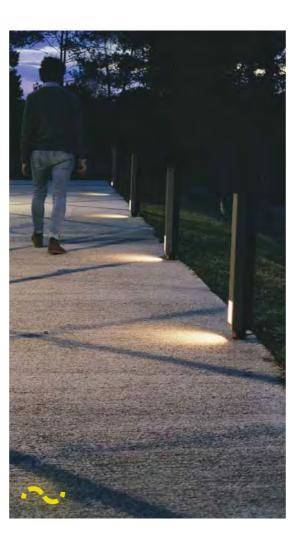
Lighting Strategy



Feature lighting
Distinctive lighting marks a clear route through the park.



Street lighting
Street lighting columns ensure good visibility for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.



Lighting bollardsThese enhance atmosphere and emboss the texture of surrounding materials.



Integrated lighting
Lighting integrated with furniture
amplifies its character and clarifies
walking routes in low light.

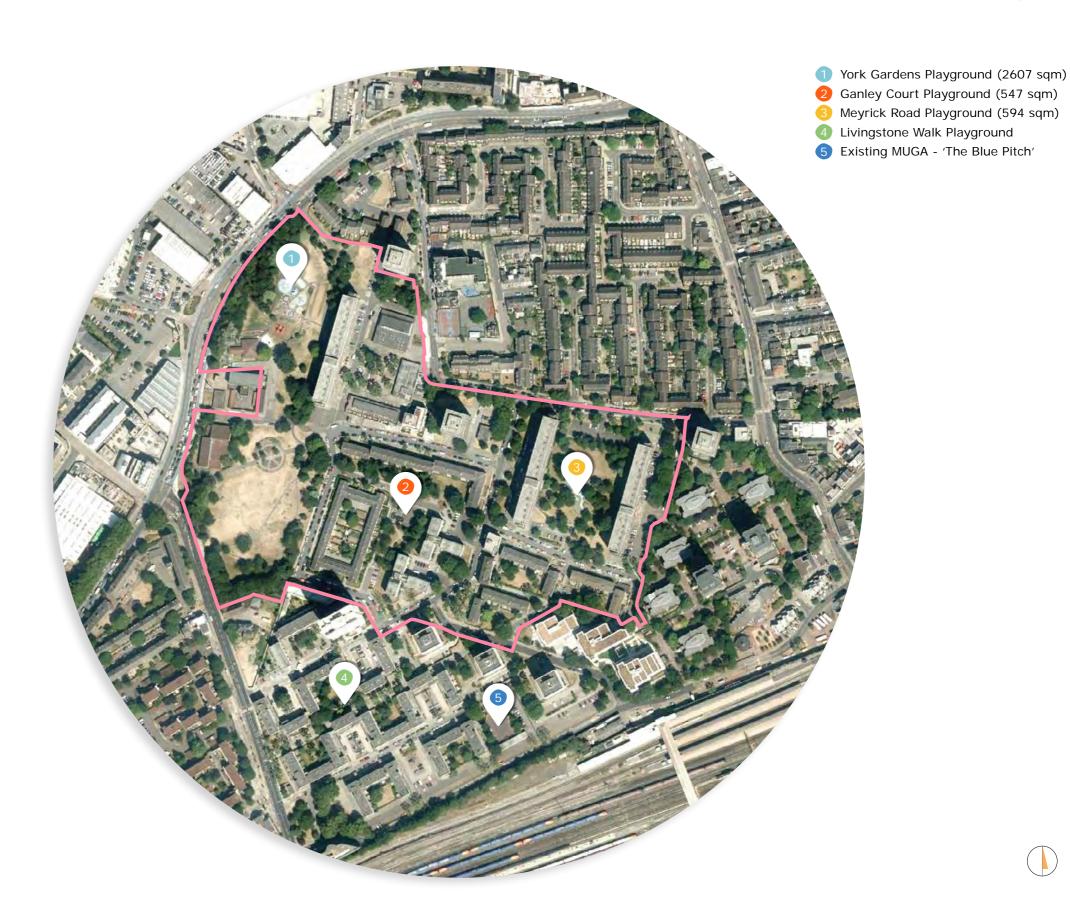


UplightersThese capitalise upon tree canopies, bringing a new dimension to the verdant landscape at night.

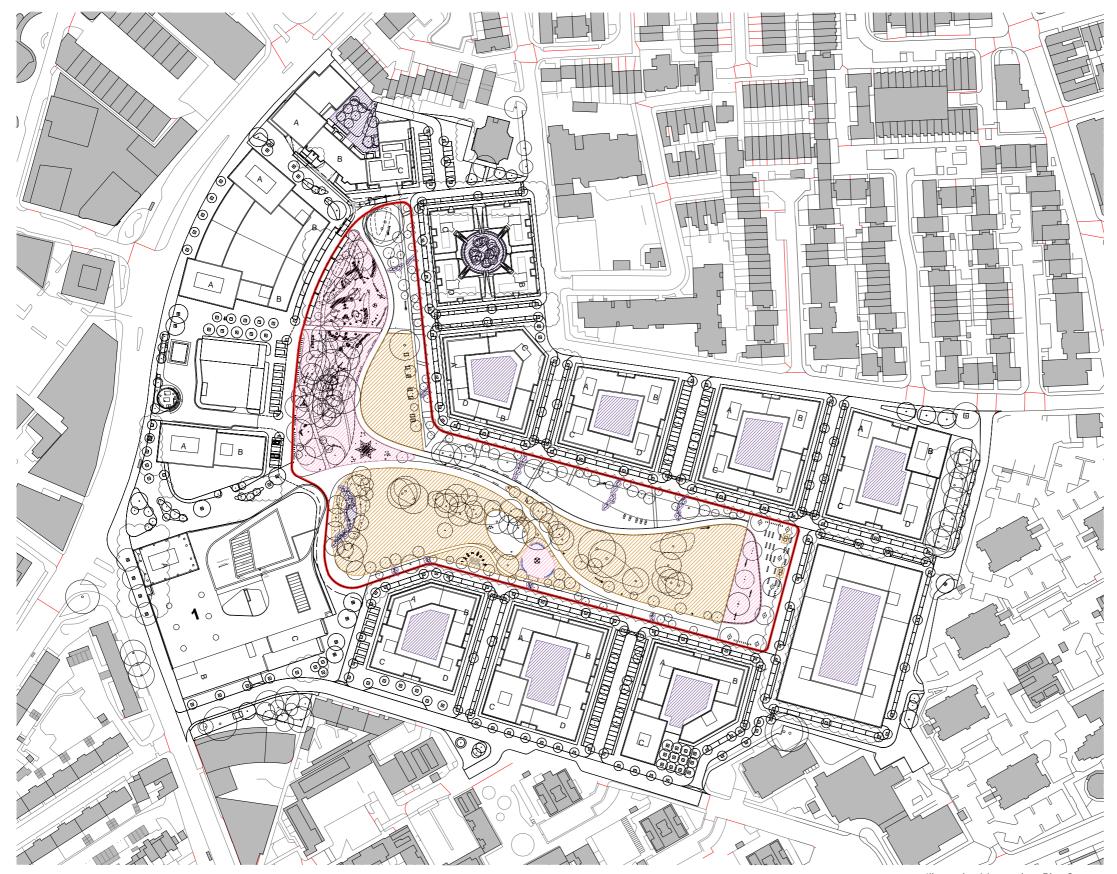
Existing Play in the Area

There is currently a variety of different play spaces scattered across the existing York Road and Winstanley estates:

- Provision for different age ranges.
- Some provision for 12+ age group within 100m of estate - MUGA (soon to be replaced with new MUGA in Land North of Grant Road).
- Kick about amenity grassland users put off by dog mess.
- Existing York Gardens Playground selection of play equipment.









Rev 12 Masterplan - Play Space Calculation

Under 5 yr olds required - 3551.3 sqm
Proposed doorstep play within courtyards - 5,544 sqm*
*Assuming play opportunities covers approximately 60%

5 to 11 yr olds required - 2525.4 sqm Proposed dedicated areas of accessible play - 4,997 sqm

12+ yr olds required - 1736.2 sqm
Proposed kickabout and fitness areas - 9,619 sqm

Total play area required by SPG* - 7891.8 sqm
TOTAL ESTIMATED PLAY AREA - 20,160 sqm
TOTAL ESTIMATED DEDICATED PLAY AREA - 10,843 sqm**

* The "Supplementary Planning Guidance Providing for Children and Young People's Play and Informal Recreation" (March 2012)

**Dedicated play calculation excludes kickabout areas (9,317 sqm)



Proposed Play Areas

- Different play opportunities scattered throughout the park.
- Purposefully dispersed throughout the space to encourage users to explore and move across the park.
- A variety of play opportunities for different age groups young and old.
- Adventure playground set amongst mounds and within trees. Appropriate levels of challenge and risk provided in three different zones.
- Non-directive informal play such as stepping stones and fallen logs invite use by all ages.
 Swings and seating beneath a grove of trees encourage playful social interactions.
- Exercise is encouraged through a playful sports loop with exercise stations positioned along it.
- Doorstep play (0-5 yrs) within courtyards for residents in blocks. Safe and accessible.

Adventure playground

Kick-about areas

Informal play

Sports areas

Doorstep play





The Two Towers



Climbing towers



Slide



Fallen tree trunks



Basket swing



Climbing rope



See-saw

Earth, Wind & Water



Water pump and channel



Willow tunnel



Sound cushions



Sand snake



Small boulders in planting



Sound tubes

Wobbly Forest



Climbing beams



Stepping stilts



Balance beams



Rope course





Balance belt



Wobble dishes

Spiral Top Mountain



Climbing spiral tower



Cube seats

Proposed York Gardens. The Landscape Masterplan. Phased delivery.

There is a phased delivery strategy in place to realise the complete Masterplan and a decant strategy to manage accommodation through a lenghty construction process.

With regards to the park, the intention is to deliver as much as possible, as early as possible so there is always an element of public open space in place for residents to enjoy.

The bulk of the park is to be delivered in two phases early in the programme, with a additional temporary landscape being implemented at the onset.



Masterplan - Site Map

- Future RADA location
 - 2
 - York Gardens Park
- 3 Adventure playground
 - Park Plaza 4
 - 5 Rooftop play space
- 6 Falconbrook pumping station open space
- 7 Block 3 plaza - towards the Candle Factory
 - 8 Block 5 entrance plaza
 - 9 Block 5 courtyard
 - Block 6 courtyard 10

 - 1 York Place
 - 12 Multi-games area
 - **1**3 Dog exercise area
 - Landmark/ climb structure
- Landmark (part of arts and cultural strategy) 15
 - 16 Gym/ sports station
 - 1 Winstanley Square
 - 18 19 20 Newcomen Square
 - Ingrave Square
 - Land North of Grant Road



Illustrative landscape and block plan