

Funding Green Spaces Projects

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Parks for
London

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Overview

- **Who we are & what we do**
- **Funding green space projects – why?**
- **Funding mechanisms**
- **Case study**
- **Useful resources**





Parks for London works with landowners and managers to protect and improve London's green infrastructure

→ <https://parksforlondon.org.uk/>

Our core objectives

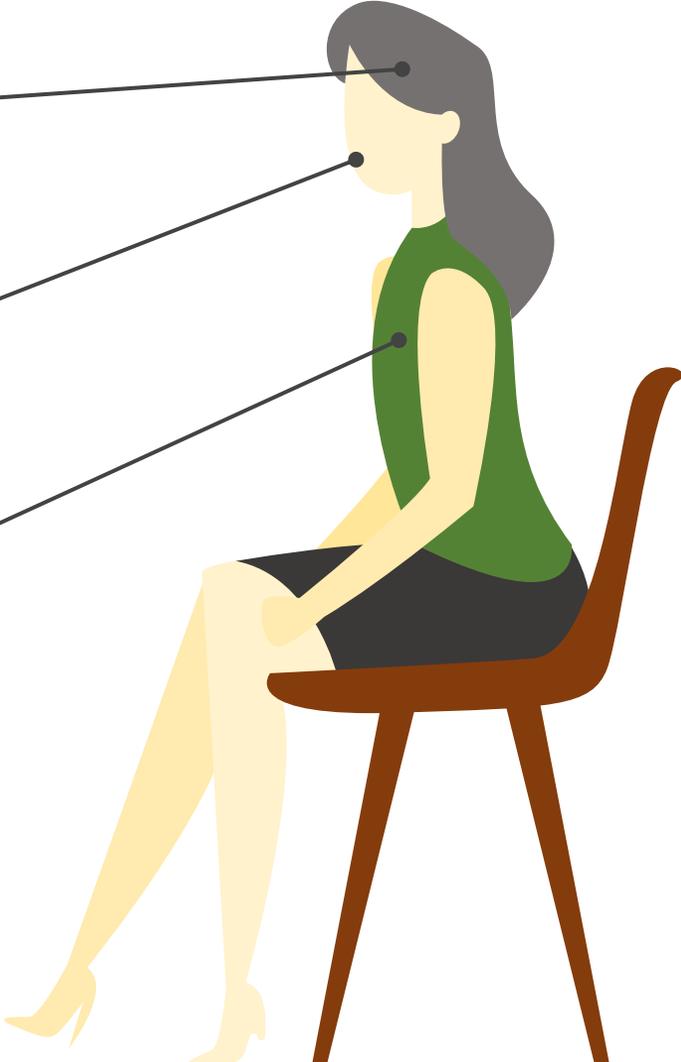
Advise



Advocate



Promote



“Strategically addressing the impact of climate change inevitably means resourcing our parks, green and blue spaces in their critical role to protect people and nature.”

Judy Ling Wong CBE

GOOD PARKS FOR LONDON 2021

Parks and Climate Change

GOOD PARKS FOR LONDON 2022

Clean Parks for London



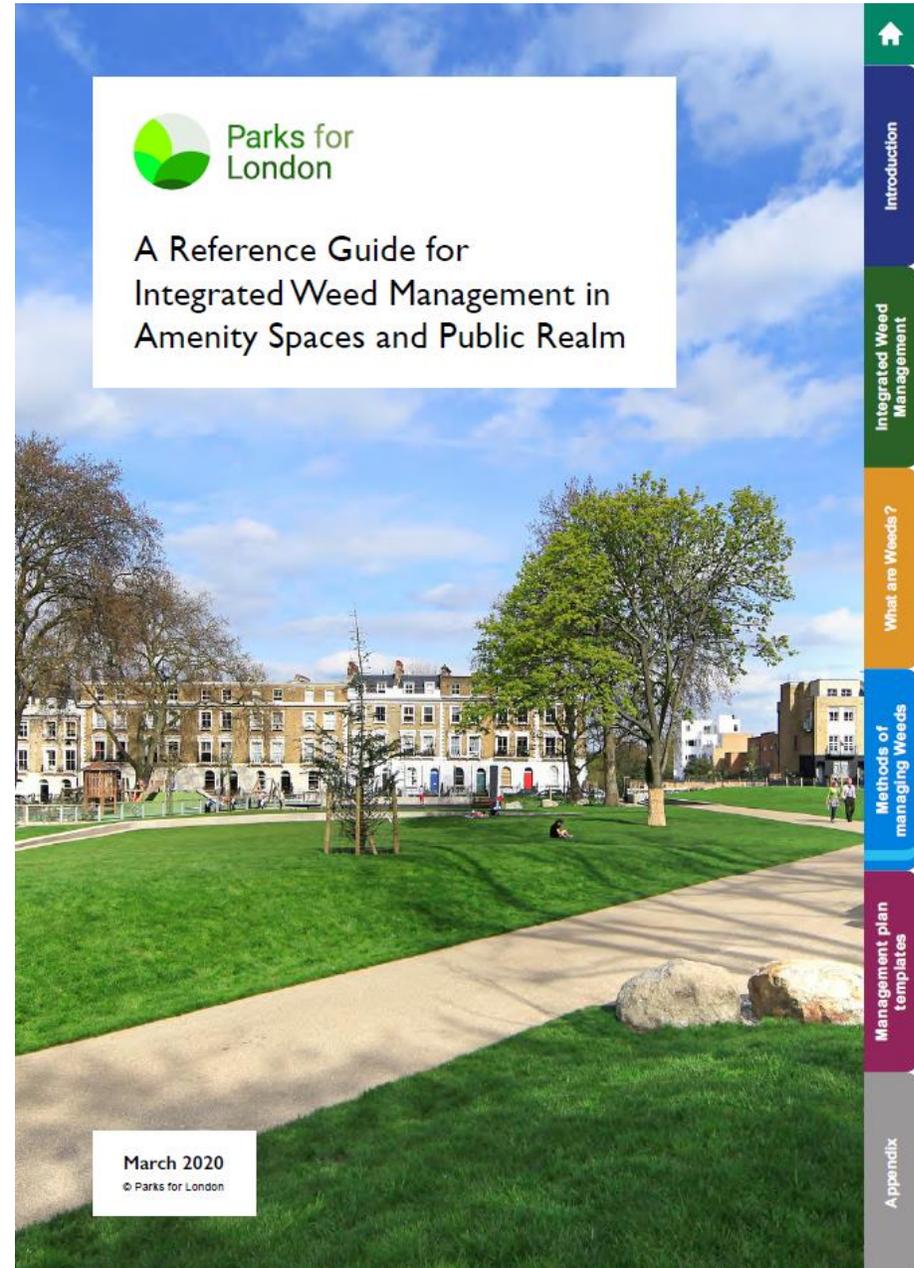
Sponsored by



Green space Quality Manual



Integrated Weed Management in Amenity Spaces and Public Realm



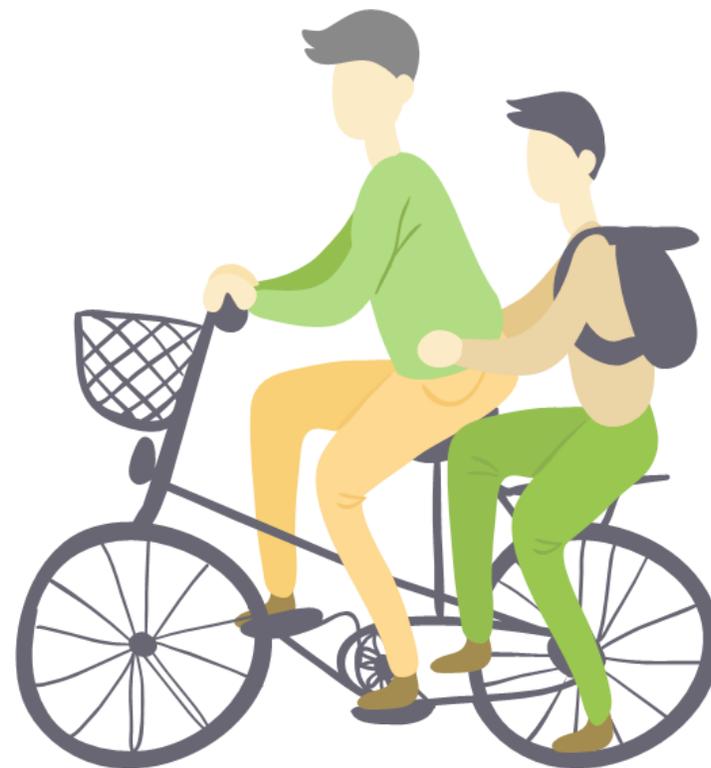
Why bother investing in green space? (1/2)

1. Multiple benefits of green spaces:

- People / Communities
- Health and Wellbeing
- Biodiversity
- Climate mitigation

2. Connects to local and national agendas:

- Placemaking
- Economic regeneration
- Sustainable travel
- Cleaner air
- Green skills & employability
- Levelling up



Why bother investing in green space? (2/2)

3. Green space matters to people

- Parks and green spaces frequently top the list of what makes people want to live in an area
- Increased appreciation and value post-pandemic
- Strengthen communities – encourage interaction
- Improve relationships with housing associations / local authorities

4. Green space improvements are a low-cost investment in civic infrastructure with demonstrable return on investment

- Parks = £6.6bn of natural benefits to communities per year
- Benefits calculated as £140 per year for every urban resident OR
- Between £7-£8 return for every £1 spent on parks
 - Natural Capital Account for London:
https://parksforlondon.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Natural_capital_account_for_london.pdf

The Value-Proposition – some financial models

1. Natural Capital Accounting

- Considering nature as a series of assets with quantifiable benefit
- Provides a business case for investment and framework for management
- Provides a value for green space either in financial terms i.e. £x value of services per year OR as capital asset value (lifetime value)

2. Traditional analytical approaches

- Regression, trend and perception analysis

3. Social return on investment (SROI)

- Understanding value creation through capital allocation – social, economic and environmental

Funding Mechanisms (1/2)

1. Planning/Development (S106), landfill tax, community infrastructure levy (CIL)
2. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) / Business backed funding
3. Statutory authorities / local authorities
4. Commercial & investment opportunities – rental fees, cafes, sports facilities, sponsorship, green bonds

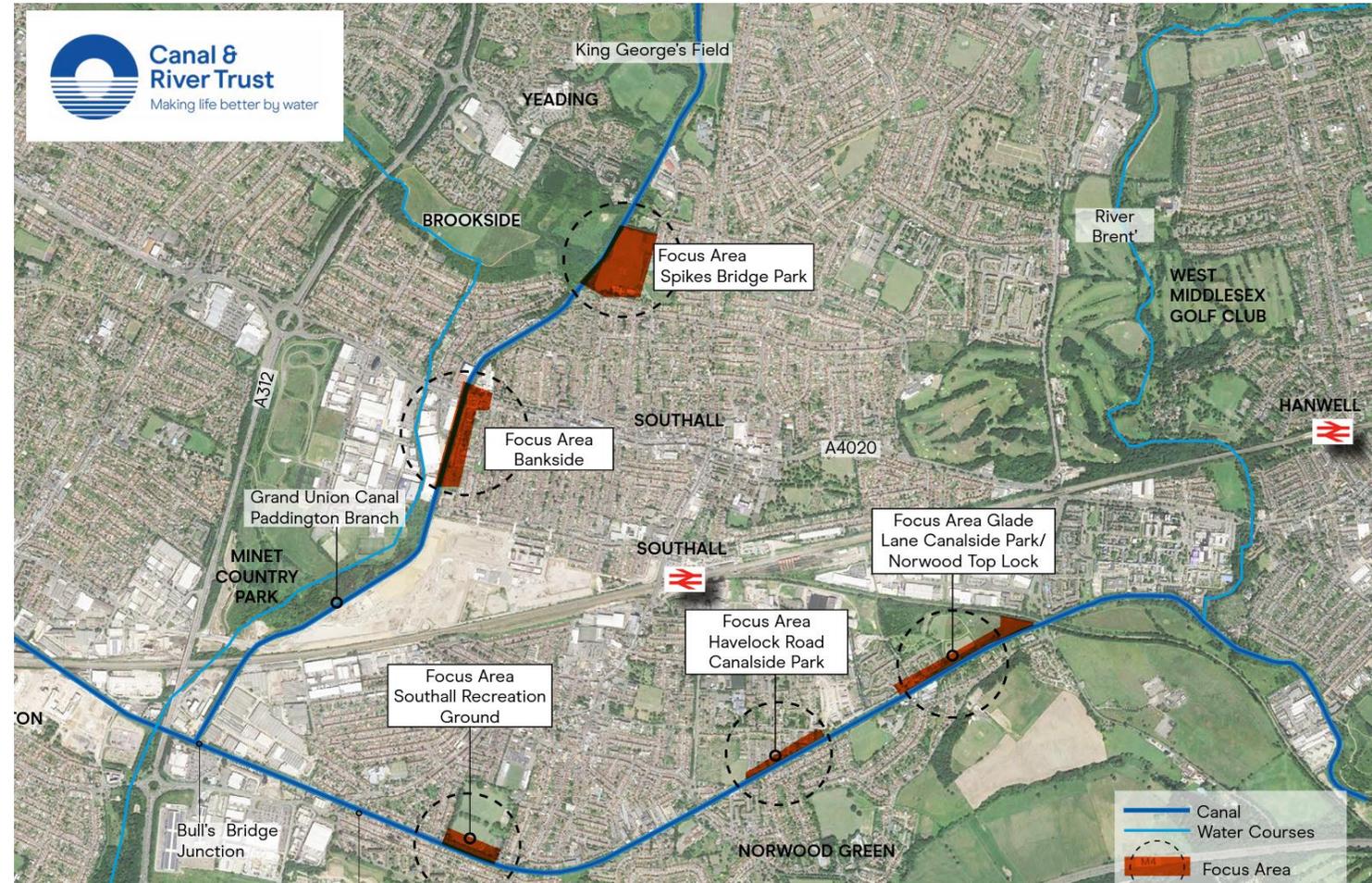
Funding Mechanisms (2/2)

5. Alternative management structures – Tenant Management Organisations, charitable trusts
6. Third-sector partnerships / Multi-agency collaboration
7. Charitable giving - crowdfunding, trusts and foundations, other philanthropic investment

Multiple Agency Collaboration – Case Study

Southall Grand Union Canal Wellbeing Way

- A collaboration between: Catalyst Housing, Canal & River Trust, Ealing Council, Sport England and National Lottery funded 'Let's Go Southall' initiative
- £700k from Mayor of London Green & Resilient Spaces grant fund after significant community engagement
- Project co-designed with members of the local community who will also be encouraged to get involved and participate in its delivery



EXERCISE



Outdoor gym stations



TRIM TRAILS AND LOOP ROUTES



Cycling



Walking



Jogging



Dog walking

FORMAL AND INFORMAL PLAY



Activities for all ages and abilities



How can we create more special canal places in Southall?

INVESTIGATE OPPORTUNITIES AND INNOVATIVE WAYS TO ENABLE:

- Creating attractive and inviting spaces on and around the canal
- Linking the canal from nearby areas
- Improving the environment
- Providing opportunities to enjoy the canal and connect with the water and nature
- Providing opportunities to connect with others and enjoy family time outdoors
- Provide nice places to wander, dwell, exercise
- Link community culture and the canal

IMPROVE SIGNAGE & INTERPRETATION



Directional signs and information boards



FOOD GROWING

Edible planting
Community orchards



SOCIALISE



Cultural, Art and Heritage events



Family gatherings

Volunteering and social events



Bird watching

WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENTS



Wildflower meadows



Bat boxes



Bug hotels



Bird boxes



Rain-gardens

Useful Resources

- Parks for London Funding Update – by request – email ed.stannard@parksforlondon.org.uk
- Parks for London: Resources Hub - <https://parksforlondon.org.uk/resources-hub/>
- TCPA Funding sources for green infrastructure - https://tcpa.org.uk/resources/funding-sources-for-green-infrastructure/?utm_source=Green%20Infrastructure%20Partnership&utm_campaign=1b6f26476b-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_08_31_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f4eb0dc7a3-1b6f26476b-103376421
- DSC Funds Online – Large UK Directory of trusts & foundations - <https://fundsonline.org.uk/>
- NESTA – Rethinking Parks - <https://www.nesta.org.uk/project/rethinking-parks>
- Charitable Giving to Parks & Green Space Report: <https://futureofparks.leeds.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/26/2019/07/Final-report-Charitable-Giving-to-Parks-and-Green-Spaces.pdf>

Thank you



<https://parksforlondon.org.uk/>



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