



London Rivers Action Plan A Tool for Planners.

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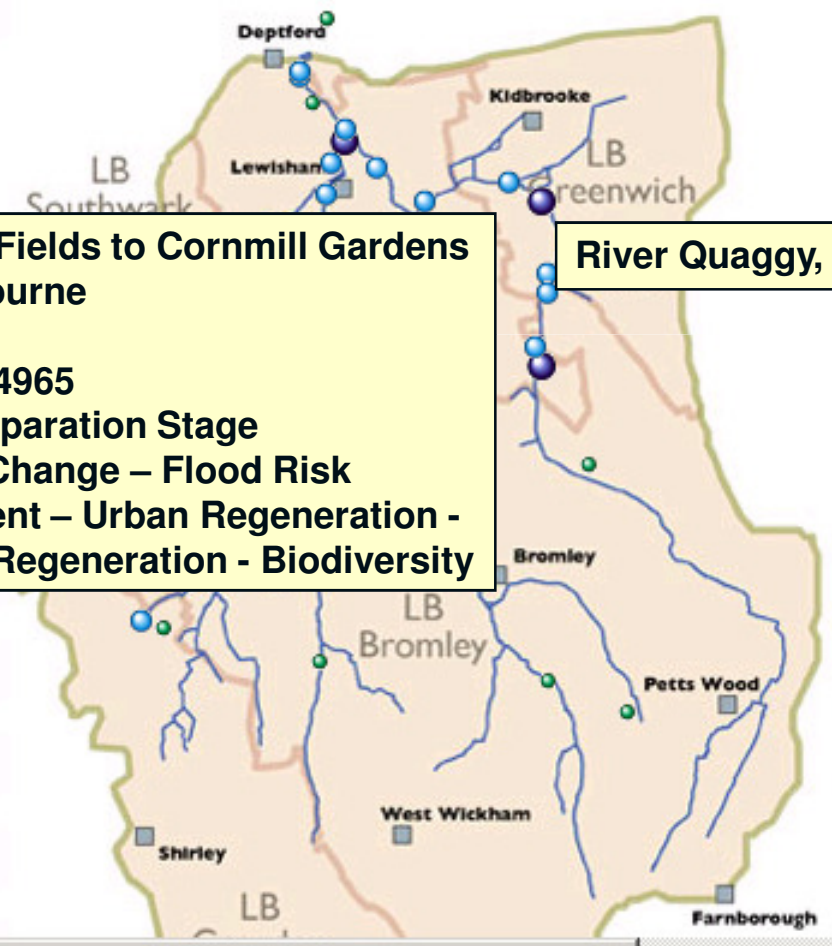




- the Centre
- Membership
- River Projects
- Map of River Projects
- London Rivers
- News and Events
- RRC Conferences
- Workshops
- RRC Talk

River Ravensbourne catchment

The dots show locations of various restoration and study projects. The brown lines indicate the London Boroughs which that catchment falls within.



Project Name: Ladywell Fields to Cornmill Gardens
Main River: Ravensbourne
Reach Length: 780m
NGR: TQ3781874965
Project Status: Early Preparation Stage
Key Aspirations: Climate Change – Flood Risk
 Management – Urban Regeneration -
 Access & Regeneration - Biodiversity

River Quaggy, Sutcliffe Park



the River Restoration Centre

Working to restore and enhance our rivers

- the Centre
- Membership
- River Projects
- Project Advice & Reports
- List of Practitioners
- News and Events
- RRC Conferences
- Workshops

River Quaggy, Sutcliffe Park



For years the River Quaggy at Sutcliffe Park was lost and Local residents only became aware that a river was there flooded more frequently as development increased. Rather than deepening and widening the hidden channel, a decision was made to manage flood risk with a strategy for river restoration for the local community. The project aimed to provide additional form of ponds and lakes, whilst creating an attractive open



River Quaggy at Sutcliffe Park

Techniques: Re-meandering, backwater creation, de-culverting

Project location: Eltham, South East London

River: Quaggy

London Borough: Greenwich

Project end date: 2003

Length: Approx 500m

Upstream grid reference: TQ411748

Partners: Environment Agency, Quaggy Waterways Action Group, Breheny Engineering, Greenwich Council



Boardwalks close to the river and informal wetland area link people to nature

Site background

For years the River Quaggy at Sutcliffe Park was lost underground in a culvert. Local residents only became aware that a river was there when their homes flooded more frequently as development increased. Rather than further deepening and widening the hidden channel, a decision was made to combine flood risk management with a strategy for river restoration that would benefit the local community.

Objective

- To provide additional flood storage area in the form of ponds and lakes, whilst creating an attractive open space for the public.



Open water providing space to manage flood risk and provide access to nature

Design

A new 'low-flow' meandering channel was cut through the park, following its original alignment. The previous culvert was retained, enabling it to take excess water in times of extreme flood events.

Flow is now regulated between the two watercourses by a sluice. To provide further flood water storage, the park itself was lowered and re-shaped to create a floodplain capable of storing a maximum of 85,000 cubic metres of flood water. A network of boardwalks, pathways and viewing points were designed to encourage access to the river and ponds, all of which were an integral part of the scheme for community and wildlife enhancements.

Subsequent Performance - RRC's views

The combination of the new smaller open river together with the old culverts is a good demonstration of how to regulate flow for a range of environmental and flood conditions that should both help reduce future flood risk and low flow scenarios associated with climate change impacts. In addition people have been reconnected to waterscapes and locally completed surveys have indicated that visits to the park have increased by 73%. The open watercourse and wetland pond areas have sustained a range of native plant species since project completion which, together with the natural gravels found at the site, provide a range of habitats necessary for wildlife diversity.

Project name

Ladywell Fields to Cornmill Gardens

Status

Early preparation stage

Catchment

Ravensbourne

Tributary

N/A

OS grid reference

TQ 37818 74965 to TQ 38016 75583

Length (m) of enhancement(s)

780m

Type of enhancement(s)

Channel enhancements, including low flow meanders; marginal planting; restore pools and riffles; remove concrete bank; re-meandering; establish waterway link footpath.

Reasons for enhancement(s)

Channel uniform with concrete bed and bank. Parts of this section run through public open space but some section have development at the river edge.

Key themes of enhancement(s)

Indicate by ticking one or more that apply.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable urban regeneration/development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity/conservation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisheries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreational amenity (access to nature) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Climate change |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable flood risk management | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state) |

Possible constraints

The site currently is developed and restoration would need to be through the regeneration process.

Potential partnerships

This section falls within the Ravensbourne Water Link Way within the East London Green Grid.
Falls within the Ravensbourne Corridor Improvement Plan.

Approximate cost

Unknown

Possible funding

Unknown

Next steps

Completion of the Ravensbourne Corridor Improvement Plan

Contact details

Primary contact: Dave Webb - Environment Agency

Other

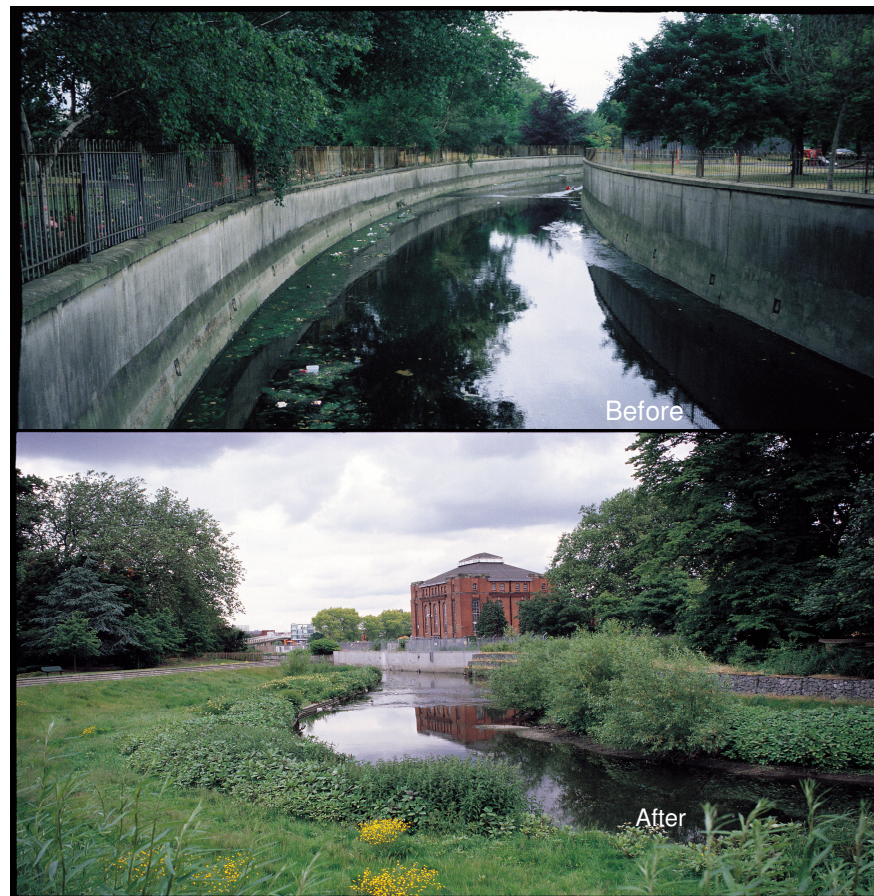
Enhanced Environment

- ⇒ Deculvert 500m of river.
- ⇒ Provide Flood storage for 600 homes.
- ⇒ Create wetlands.
- ⇒ Footpaths and cycleways.
- ⇒ Outdoor classroom.
- ⇒ Increased Park Usage.
- ⇒ Influence Regeneration of Ferrier Estate and Lewisham town centre.



Addressing Sustainable Development.

- ⇒ Improve flood risk management using natural processes.
- ⇒ Adaptation to Climate Change.
- ⇒ Linking people to Nature through Regeneration.
- ⇒ Improve well being.
- ⇒ Enhanced Environment for Wildlife.



Policy Framework and Working with Agencies.

- ➔ PPS9 and PPS25.
- ➔ London Plan.
- ➔ Borough UDP's
- ➔ Olympic Landscape Framework.
- ➔ Thames Catchment Flood Management Plan.



Delivering Opportunities.

➔ Romford Town Centre.



➔ Lewisham, Cornmill Gardens.



Use by Planners.

- ➔ Evidence Base for Strategic Planning: A New Plan for London.
- ➔ Inform LDF's: Ravensbourne Corridor Improvement Plan.
- ➔ Attract funding: Funding confirmed for Ladywell Fields
- ➔ Informing NI action Plan: Included within LB Richmond NI 189 Action Plan

Overcoming Issues.

- ➔ Strategic approach to respond to environmental and social pressures.
- ➔ A platform to utilise the best available evidence.
- ➔ A system to provide evidence to local partnership groups to stimulate wider engagement.
- ➔ Dispelling myths.

Informing Communities.

- ➔ Formation of London Rivers Forum.
- ➔ Help a Park 6 out of 10 include River Restoration.

