

Lost Peck Environmental Improvements and Flood Alleviation Scheme

Peckham Common

Peckham Rye Common (the 'Common') is located in the London Borough of Southwark. The roughly triangular shaped open space offers large areas of recreational grassland and some ornamental gardens. The area has much historical and wildlife conservation interest and constitutes a destination to the local neighbourhood.

Sections of the Common get naturally wet and boggy in winter, limiting the use of those parts for sports and other recreational activities. Additionally, in big storm events, large volumes of storm water run down the path of the 'lost' River Peck on the Common, crossing the East Dulwich Road into the Northern Triangle and beyond, exposing this section of the common to the risk of flooding along with properties in the surrounding area.

Hydrological modelling reveals that during a once in a lifetime (1 in 100 years) storm event, 105 mm of rain could fall in the Peckham Rye Park area in just two hours, which is typically the average amount of rain which falls over a two months period. This volume of water is around 48,000m³ (equivalent to 19 Olympic-sized swimming pools) and would overflow the natural historic floodplains of the River Peck, affecting over 200 properties in the local area!

Peckham Rye Common is already acting as a natural buffer during the flood event. However, through the analyses undertaken, two potential areas were identified that can be enhanced to keep the northern section of the common dryer, protect properties in the area (Area A), and to improve the Common at the same time (Area B).

The objectives of the Lost Peck Scheme is to enhance the environment, make the whole of the Common attractive to the public, and make the Common dryer in order to facilitate more sports and recreational activities most times of the year. The scheme will also alleviate flood risk north of the Common by collecting surface water flowing north along the course of the 'lost' River Peck, and discharge the collected flow into the sewer in a controlled manner within forty-eight (48) hours of the storm. It also uses this opportunity to approach the issue in a sustainable way, improve the local amenities of the park, and enhance the biodiversity.

Please note that the scheme is not designed to have permanent surface water features; the flooded and ponded areas shown in the maps represent once-in-a-lifetime storm events, and significant flooding within the common is not expected for events less frequent than 1 in 20 years.



Fig. no 1: Surface Water Flooding in Herne Hill, Southwark 2013

STRATEGIC SUDS STORAGE AND CLEANSING



Fig. no 2: Tanner Springs Park, by Ramboll Studio Dreiseltl

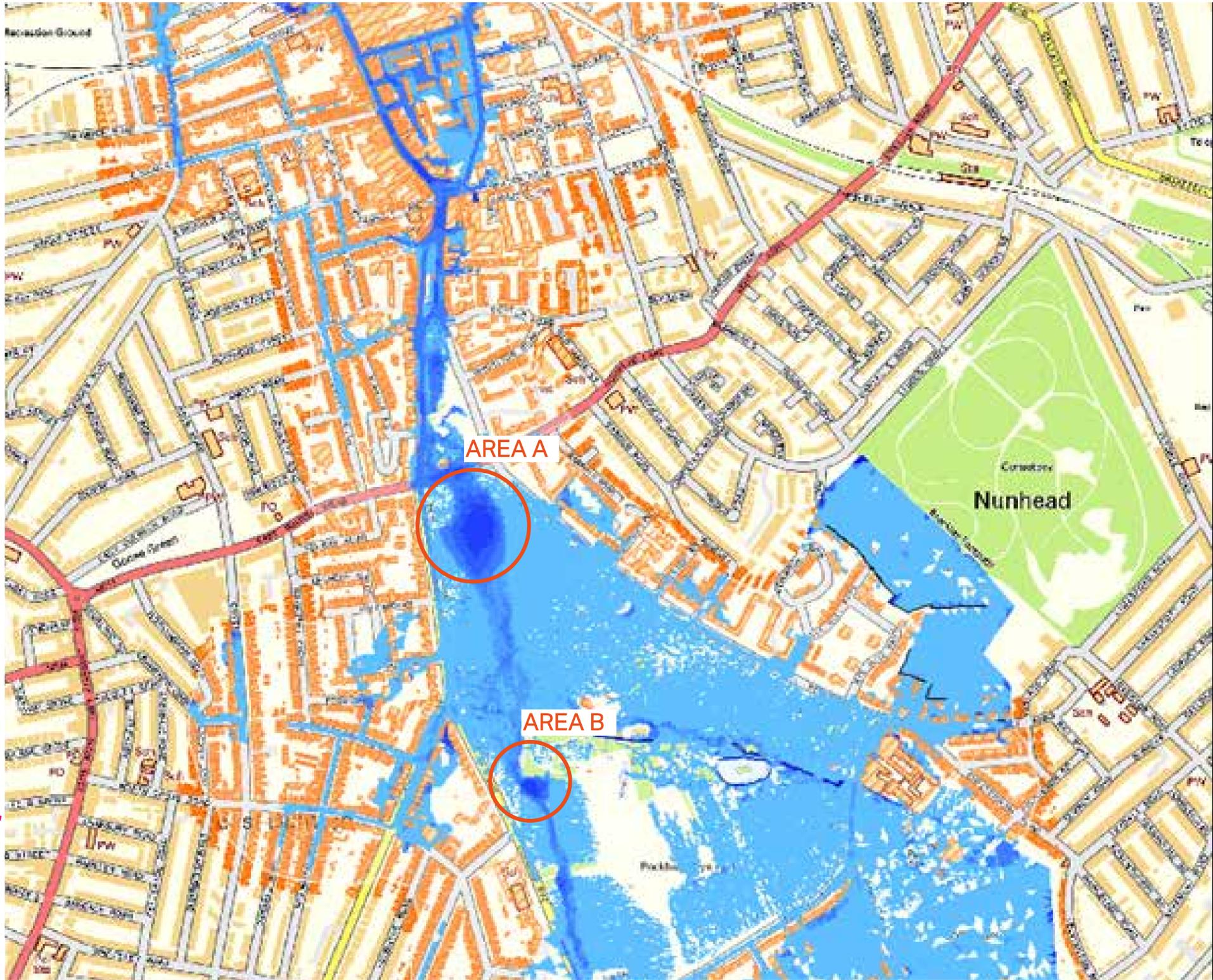


Fig. no 3: Simulated Surface Water Flooding Event for Peckham, 1 in 100 years

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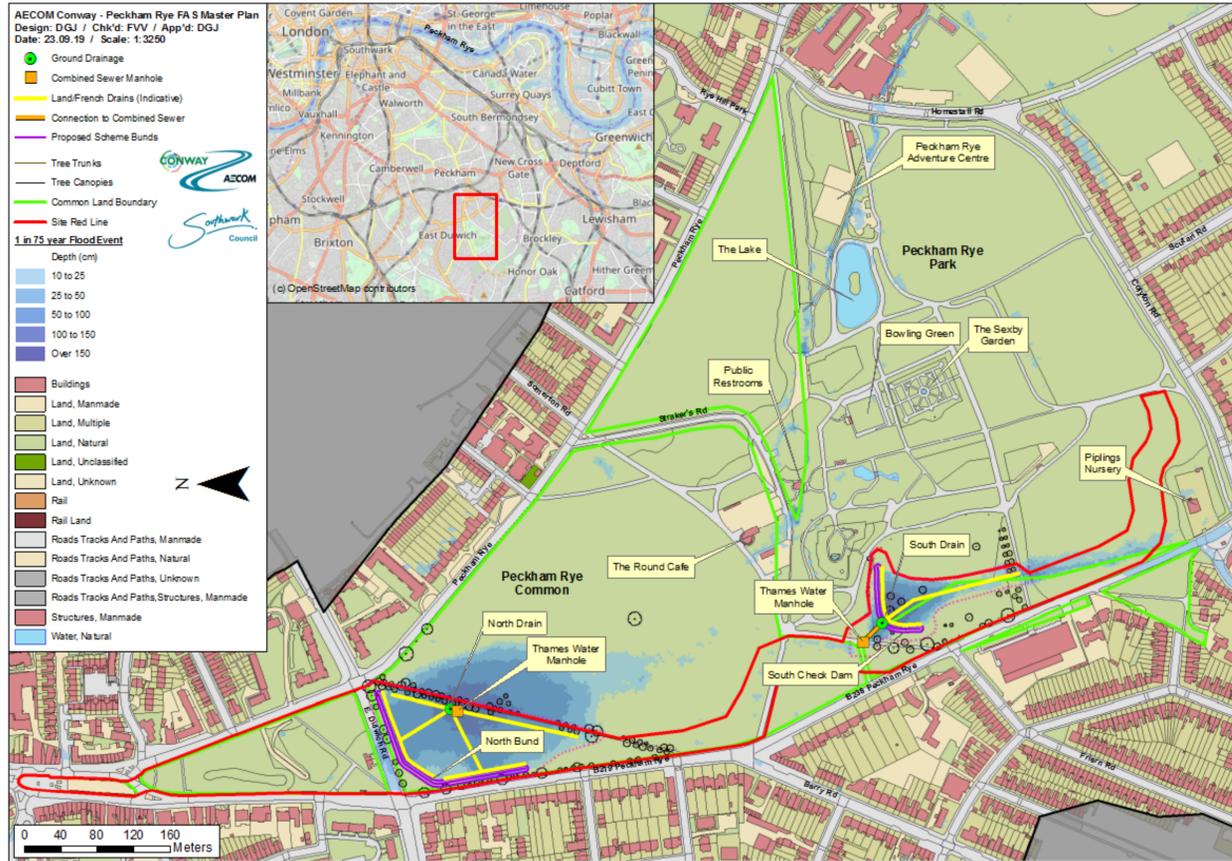


Fig. no 4: Mastermap of Peckham Common and Park with proposals
 *Ponded areas are not a permanent feature of the scheme; they represent once-in-a-lifetime storm events (1 in 75 years), for which we are designing for.

Legend

- Mound against E. Dulwich Road
- Mound against Peckham Park
- New permeable surfacing for footpath along E. Dulwich road and width provided for cycling
- Biodiversity improvements
- Bulb planting
- Extension of green space

--- Boundary of Peckham Park
 - - - Boundary of Peckham Common



Fig. no 5: Proposed Concept Masterplan

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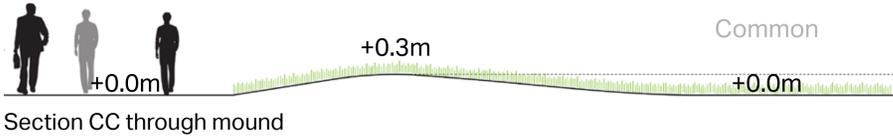
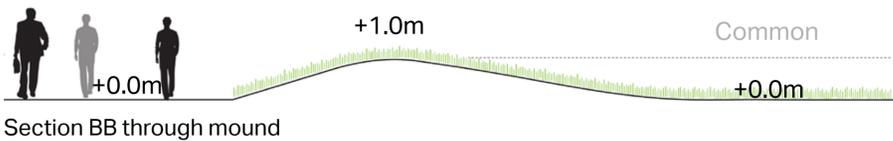
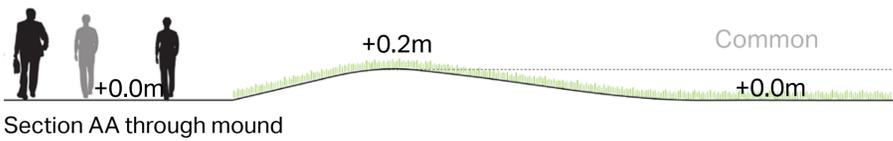


Fig. no 6: Concept sections through mound

- 1 Mound against E. Dulwich Road
- 3 New permeable surfacing for footpath along E. Dulwich road and width provided for cycling

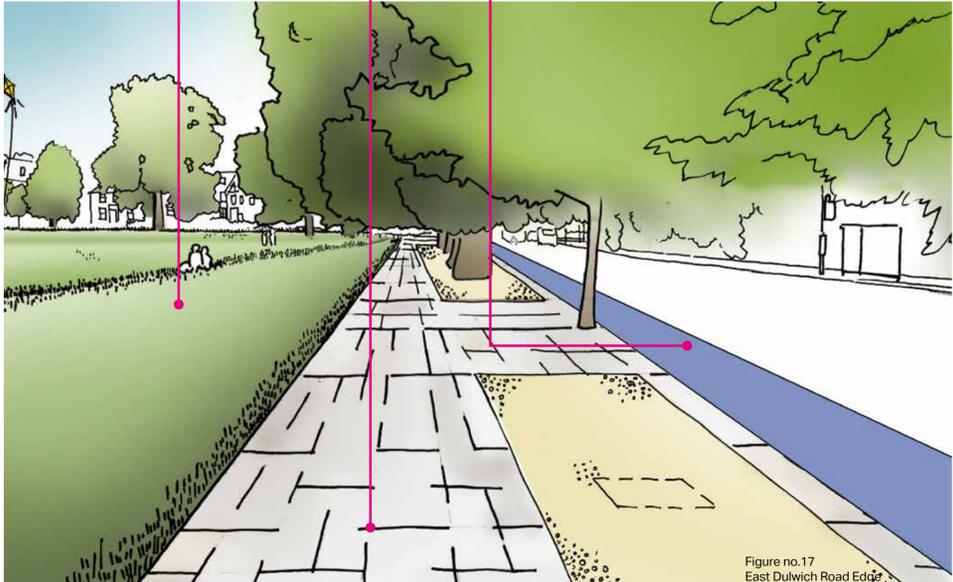


Fig. no 7: Artist Impression of proposed mound and improved spaces for cyclists



Fig. no 8: Location of proposed mound near East Dulwich Road; the 'donkey rail'



Fig. no 9: Bund constructed as part of the Herne Hill Scheme in Dulwich Park, an important play feature.



Fig. no 10: Precedent image for similar scheme Dulwich Park



Fig. no 12: Natural play area example in Hackney council



Fig. no 13: Seasonal Interest planting example in Muscari Road



Fig. no 11: Northern triangle, proposed location for bulb planting and natural play



Fig. no 14: Northern Triangle Plan

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Expected Benefits

Presently, the park supports a rich natural habitat with a wide range of tree species. The Common also provides multiple environment benefits to the local community.

The proposed scheme with the temporary water storage during big storm events and land drains will make the common dryer while reducing the flood risk to 120 properties at significant risk of flooding to 11 by making careful modification of the existing common and park without impact to the public.

The scheme will enhance and improve the biodiversity along the site by proposing native species that reflect the local botany and character of the site. The scheme also ensures ecological linkages to the Park, with no or minimum disturbance of the existing ecology and biodiversity.

Additionally, the proposed scheme incorporates new natural play opportunities, specifically around the northern triangle without interference to the existing play areas around the site. This will enhance the recreational uses of the common.

Moreover, it targets to protect mature trees around the site and densify them when possible especially at the buffer area of the park. This helps in improving the air quality around the area and creating a noise barrier. Almost all existing ecological areas within the common will be preserved as they are valuable to biodiversity with some improved and made more attractive and accessible, promoting monitored wildlife habitats when possible. These measures will attract more people to this seemingly abandoned section of the common.

The scheme adapts the existing green spaces to build resilience instead of building extensive underground drainage works. The scheme will aim to reconnect the split neglected green parcels of the Common and encourage active travel while retaining the open character of Peckham. All activities and amenities are maintained and used as an asset to revive and reactivate the Common and make it a destination for the local community.

Furthermore, the scheme include the resurfacing of the southern footpath along East Dulwich Road and make it accessible again. Excess space along this footpath against the road will be used to create a partly segregated space for cyclists along East Dulwich Road. These will encourage more sustainable means of transportation.

Through the core principles and approaches mentioned above, the scheme provides a maximum number of benefits and improves the recreational and amenity value of the Common as a whole.

Public Engagement

In order to insure that the landscape proposal meets the satisfaction and needs of the local community and the public, there were continuous public consultations and community engagement events. The results and information gathered from these sessions was reflected in the outline design sketches and will constitute a base evidence to support the application for funding and the implementation of the scheme.

Some of the activities undertaken as part of the consultation process includes;

Activity	Outcome	Date
Site Walkover		
Organized site walkover with key stakeholders	Identify Opportunities and Constraints	25/10/2017
Public Engagement/Options Development		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design Workshop with all key stakeholders and the public (only friends of Peckham Rye attended) Attend AGM Attend Community Council meeting (stand at the meeting) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand and appreciate the issues and local aspirations Engage with consultees to develop design proposals Obtain local knowledge to help understand the flooding mechanism 	9/11/2017
		7/12/2017
		30/05/2018
Online Consultation		
Questionnaire for preferences and comments on the scheme made available online to the wider community, this included options for northern triangle, road edge treatment for E Dulwich Road and planting palette.	Collect comments and preferences on the scheme from the wider community (70 responses)	18/06/2018 to 28/08/2018
Final Exhibition		
Presentation of outline design and online consultation results to the wider community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present results of online consultation to local community (20 people attended throughout the day) Address any issues raised in the comments section of the online consultation 	08/09/2018

Table 01: Outline of the key activities in the scheme consultation process



Fig. no.23: Stakeholder site visit



Fig. no.15: Location of Mound 1 against East Dulwich Road



Fig. no.19: Existing aligned Tree Planting along path



Fig. no.21: Informal pathway view



Fig. no.24: Stakeholder workshop



Fig. no.18: Location of Mound 2 against the woodland in the park



Fig. no.20: Entrance gateway



Fig. no.22: Street view from Park



Fig. no.25: Public consultation session