



Wandle Valley

# Bringing the Park to Life — From Vision to Reality —

An HLF Resilient Heritage Project

An invitation to a series of Pan London roundtable events  
to consider the future of the Wandle Valley



GREATER  
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Living Wandle  
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wandle



# HLF Resilient Heritage Project

Barker Langham, LDA Design and Architecture 00 are working on an exciting new project with Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust (WVRPT) in south London. The Trust is seeking to become a more robust and sustainable organisation, in conjunction with delivering its Heritage Lottery Fund Resilient Heritage Project, 'Bringing the Park to Life – From Vision to Reality.'

Over the next 10 months, the consultant team will work to shape the future of the WVRPT, improving its business and funding model and creating a partnership that will enhance social investment and financial security.

## Background

### The Wandle Valley Regional Park

The Wandle Valley Regional Park, in South West London, covering Croydon, Merton, Sutton and Wandsworth, is a vibrant network of over 40 green spaces, and 12 nature reserves, linked by the River Wandle, covering 900 hectares. The Wandle Valley has a rich history, deriving from its industrial heritage, unique natural environmental and wildlife attributes.



# The Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust

The Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust (WVRPT) aims to be the leadership and coordinating organisation, charged to deliver a new regional park in South West London. A charity and limited company, the WVRPT, aims to be a non-statutory partnership covering the boroughs of Wandsworth, Merton, Sutton, and Croydon.

**Our shared vision** is for the Wandle Valley to be a coherent and vital part of London's green space network, creating a place, rich in heritage, where people are proud to live, work and play, that contributes to the economic vibrancy of South London.

**Aiming to**, embed **green infrastructure** delivery as essential **economic development, health and wellbeing, culture and heritage, resilient landscapes**, and for the protection and enhancement of **landscape and biodiversity** for **Wandle Valley** communities.

We are extremely grateful to have received funding from The Heritage Lottery Fund, with further support from Clarion Housing, Wandle Housing, the Environmental Agency, the London Borough of Wandsworth, the Living Wandle Partnership, the Greater London Authority, IDVerde Landscape, Viridor, and the Architectural Heritage Fund.

## Roundtable dates

- 21 May 2018 -

The Future of the Wandle Valley: A Creative start for a transformative project

- 24 September 2018 -

Creating resilient landscapes: A New 'Ecology' for the future

- 8 October 2018 -

What's in it for us? Creating and Sustaining Value for major landscape scale projects

- 5 November 2018 -

Landscape for people

- 3 December 2018 -

Synthesising innovative practice: New models of management for landscape scale projects

# The Future of the Wandle Valley:

## A CREATIVE START for a transformative project

Date: 21 May

Time: 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Location: Committee Room 2 - GLA, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London SE1 2AA

Chaired by: Ken Worpole

### Aim:

Our team are looking to create a long-term and sustainable model for the vision, management and sustainable funding of the Wandle Valley and its future development. We have begun our 10-month process, and to give the work momentum we have developed an initial set of concepts and opportunities for the area based around three main themes: the governance structure to deliver new strategic objectives; financial models that can sustainably fund the area; and physical infrastructure that creates value within and for the Wandle. We would like to share these ideas with you as a basis for a facilitated and creative discussion. This discussion with you, as important strategically minded people, will create a platform for challenge, invention and reflection at what is the start of this transformative and exciting process.



# Creating RESILIENT LANDSCAPES:

## A New 'Ecology' for the Future

Date: 24 September 2018

Time: 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Location: Committee Room 2 - GLA, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London SE1 2AA

Curators: Frazer Osment and Ben Croot, LDA Design

### Aim:

The future of the Wandle Valley will depend on the creation of a complex ecology in which people, nature and enterprise coexist.

Delegates will explore how to achieve strategic impact and investment in major landscape scale green infrastructure when dealing with multiple delivery agencies and fragmented ownership. Emerging concepts which conceptualise the Wandle Valley as a complex ecology will be explored. These go beyond the traditional notion of the 'regional park' as a singular entity with a coherent identity and management and seek a model for social, economic and environmental resilience by integrating and building common purpose amongst diverse actors.

The roundtable will be of particular value to planning, regeneration, greenspace and economic practitioners seeking to achieve impactful landscape scale social, economic and environmental change in the context of diminishing capital and revenue budgets and capacity constraints.



# What's in it for us?: CREATING and SUSTAINING VALUE for major landscape scale project

Date: 8 October 2018

Time: 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Location: Committee Room 3 - GLA, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London SE1 2AA

Curators: Darren Barker, Barker Langham and Joost Beunderman, Architecture 00

## Aim:

The great challenge for any landscape scale project is the development of the proposition – what value will it create and for whom, and also how value translates to a sustainable funding model. Globally there is significant best practice for creating new economic structures for sustainability – and new structures for management. Indeed, there are several conversations taking place across the UK that are considering long-term funding for parks; we would like to build on these conversations.

Delegates will discuss the role that major landscape scale projects play in creating a strong 'sense of place' and how this helps to drive and sustain regeneration activity that delivers tangible social and economic benefits as well as environmental ones across wide areas. By exploring the emergent structures for the project, delegates will gain an understanding of how the regional park concept would actually work in practice in the Wandle Valley: directly and indirectly assisting their own efforts to bring about positive outcomes. By looking at funding models utilised successfully elsewhere in the UK and overseas, delegates will also have an opportunity to discuss which model(s) might be best suited to circumstances in the Wandle Valley.

The session would be particularly useful to policy makers and those tasked with delivering regeneration activity in the Wandle Valley.



# LANDSCAPE FOR and BY PEOPLE

Date: 5 November 2018

Time: 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Location: LDA Design, 8-10 New Fetter Lane, London, EC4A 1AZ

Curators: Frazer Osment, LDA Design and Joost Beunderman, Architecture 00

## Aim:

Essential to the success of any urban landscape is its relevance as a resource for people, whether local residents, employees or visitors. Change in the Wandle Valley has the opportunity to enable inclusive growth and create real synergies between people and place. Such 'good growth' ambitions depend on creating a sense of local ownership for local spaces and opportunities for positive impact on health, well-being and local community resilience.

Invited experts will discuss how the full diversity of people who live and work in the area can benefit from the Wandle Valley in the future through intentional and innovative ways of working. Revitalised landscapes can cater to a variety of recreational demands and special needs, and big projects create particular opportunities for integrating civic participation, culture, heritage, health and well-being. Connectivity, transport and access will be central to the visitor experience, but so will opportunities for active local and stakeholder involvement across the four boroughs of Merton, Croydon, Sutton and Wandsworth. We will discuss how the WVRPT can interface with the myriad local organisations, initiatives and groups to capitalise on their creative energy and drive, and how potential pilot projects across the Valley could build on and also benefit the work of pioneers in participatory landscape projects both in the UK and globally.

The session would be particularly useful to policymakers and practitioners focussed on new forms of civic and stakeholder involvement in green infrastructure development.



# Synthesising innovative practice: New MODELS OF MANAGEMENT for landscape scale projects

Date: 3 December 2018

Time: 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Location: Barker Langham, 1 Naoroji Street, London, WC1X 0GB

Curators: Darren Barker, Barker Langham and Frazer Osment, LDA Design

## Aim:

The project team has developed a series of options for the future management of the Wandle Valley that respond to the unique physical, economic, and political context of the area and innovative practices.

The team will explain and present the models for future management, exploring how these concepts were developed, through a robust process of research, analysis and consultation and how this work could be relevant to other projects in the future. In particular, considering proposals in relation to the ongoing nation-wide discussions about green infrastructure, community spaces and sustainable funding.

Delegates will have an opportunity to discuss the practical implications of what is being proposed, and the session will also provide an opportunity to explore how specific groups and organisations would harmonise with the new organisational arrangements if adopted.

The session would be particularly useful to those engaged in delivery activities at the local level, but anyone with a general interest in the future management of the Wandle Valley would also find it of considerable interest.

