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Wandle Valley

Wandle Valley Partnership Engagement Workshop

31 October 2018 at BedZED Pavilion, Hackbridge, Surrey

Attendees

Kaludija Alasauskaite – Trees for Cities	Trisha Boland – LB Croydon
Polly Bryant – South East Rivers Trust	Tony Burton – Wandle Valley Forum
Mark Callaghan – Sustrans	Vicki Carroll – Wandle Valley Forum
Robin Charlesworth – National Trust	Joe Clark – Environment Agency
Leonie Cooper – London Assembly	Mark Dalzell – LB Sutton
Paul Darby	Mark Davies – Cycling interest group
Petra Davies – London Wildlife Trust	Ingrid Dickenson
David Gentles – London Sport	Nick Golson – Deen City Farm
Sarah Ho – Hoyys	Simon Ingyon – Enable
Dave Lane – National Trust	Claire Morris – SWBA Ltd
Doug Napier – LB Merton	Caroline O’Farrell
Maureen Peglar – Eco Local	Lynn Robinson – LB Sutton
Paul Garside – LB Sutton	Angela Smith – Cycling interest group
Lizzy Spooner-Hathway-White – National Trust	Nick Steiner – Wimbledon Park Friends
Paul Stewart – Environment Agency	Bruce St Julien Bown – Wandle Valley Forum
Mick Taylor – Wandle Industrial Museum	Dave Warburton – LB Sutton
Dave Webb – Environment Agency	Neil Webster – Cyclo Consulting
Karen Wong	Sue Morgan – WVRPT
Frazer Osment – LDA Design	Ben Croot – LDA Design
John Waxman – Barker Langham	Helen John – Landscape Inspire
Joost Beunderman - 00	Lysanne Horrox - WVRPT

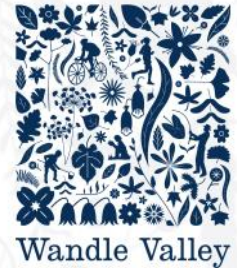
Introduction

This paper summarises the findings of a workshop held with partners and stakeholders on the 31 October 2018 by the Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust (WVRPT) in relation to the production of a Delivery Plan (DP) for WVRPT as part of its Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) resilience planning.

The workshop formed part of a series of workshops, presentations and roundtable events with stakeholders held to inform the ‘Bringing the Park to Life – From Vision to Reality’ HLF resilience planning which seeks to create a more effective and sustainable model for the WVRPT and management of the River Wandle and its catchment as part of a strategic piece of Green Infrastructure (GI) for southwest London. The aim of the workshop was to test the emerging DP thinking. During the course of the workshop, partners and stakeholders were asked to identify



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potential projects across the six strategic aims of the WVRPT and the results of this exercise are provided in Appendix 1.

A short summary overview of the HLF Resilient Heritage project was given by Sue Morgan, CEO of the WVRPT by way of introduction. John Waxman of Barker Langham then presented a short presentation on the emerging governance and business model the WVRPT may take.

Fraser Osment of LDA Design then provided a presentation on the emerging DP and how it fits with other documents being produced as part of the HLF Resilient Heritage commission including the Prospectus and Governance and Business Plan. In a dynamic and changing context, the DP will:

- Set out **how** delivery will be achieved;
- Identify **what** are the priorities
- Define **how** requests for support will be assessed
- Set out how partners will work together

The DP will facilitate the delivery of a set of desired outcomes for the WVRPT allowing it to function as a key piece of strategic GI in southwest London.

Summary of Discussion

The DP makes identifies three priority themes the WVRPT should focus on which were used to structure the workshop. These are addressed in turn below.

Workshop 1 – A Common Infrastructure

The concept of a common infrastructure relates to ensuring a connected and resilient common GI to support good growth in the Wandle through a series of key projects that collectively contribute to the whole. The benefits of promoting a common infrastructure was largely acknowledged by stakeholders who recognised the importance of a clear set of objectives to aim at and the tension between ‘top down’ and ‘bottom up’ delivery. The group also cautioned against over-ambition. It was considered ‘themes’ not specific spaces would be best at unlocking civic energy.

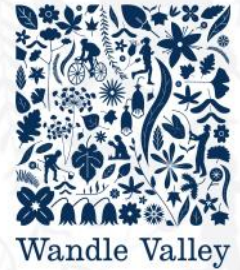
A number of key projects such as a continuous trail and Beddington Farmlands were noted as priorities. The importance of coherent branding and identity was also highlighted as was the need for the infrastructure to be in place before it is promoted, using a common palette of branding. A common design guide was noted as helpful in this regard. The key role of ID Verde, who manage all greenspace on behalf of the four boroughs was also highlighted.

Workshop 2 – 1000 Flowers

The concept of 1000 flowers aims to help individuals and communities to deliver and bring forward remarkable projects specific to them. The projects may be perceived as small, or insignificant but through cumulative mass of numbers a significant positive impact is delivered – the blooming of 1000



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flowers. The difficulty of defining 'small' projects was noted and key to any assessment process was that it should be transparent and fair and also robust and flexible. Also important was the need to provide a clear governance remit in terms of the WVPRT structure between strategic board and delivery partnership, allowing both groups to focus on what they do best. The setting of targets or drafting of lists of projects was not generally welcomed but being able to measure success was recognised as important. A list of strategic projects was considered helpful as was the need to deliver 'early wins' and tangible benefits - the timing of projects was considered important. The ability to demonstrate value for money and learn from learning outcomes should be recorded and acted upon. The need for projects to capture the imagination and to secure buy in from project initiators without becoming over bureaucratic was recognised, empowering local communities and the role of the Wandle Forum was highlighted in this. Volunteering and skills were recognised as very important and the opportunity to upskill and provide training as part of these projects was encouraged. The use of technology was also highlighted as an important factor as was the need to provide support after initial guidance. The ability to access micro-grants was seen as an important enabler.

Workshop 3 – Influence and Alignment

The question of how can the WVRPT best influence was put to the workshop attendees. In addressing this question, the importance of a clear DP and Vision was considered fundamental to how the WVPRT best influences decision makers. Attendees were of the opinion there was no currently joined up approach between boroughs, despite duty to cooperate, although it was recognised the Wandle Forum has had some success.

The need for consistent policy(ies) was recognised, possibly through an SPD and the idea of a National Park or AONB was discussed. The role of neighbourhood planning was also noted. Engagement with private sector partners was encouraged.

The opportunity for the WVRPT to become an influencer itself, through technical authority or statutory consultee status was also made. The need to target the right people and understand the business architecture was highlighted, particularly in large organisations where different departments operate and have different responsibilities, particularly at the GLA which was considered to be a key influencer.

To be successful it was felt there needed to be a framework of common policies, key objectives and shared outcomes for the WVPRT.

APPENDIX 1

<p>LANDSCAPE</p>	<p>‘Replacement for Irrigation Bridge, Hackbridge’ ‘Hackbridge Ecology Centre’ ‘Green Ribbon / Corridors’ ‘Greening of Hackbridge Town Centre’ ‘Making Wandle Delta accessible’</p>
<p>NATURAL SYSTEMS AND RESILIENCE</p>	<p>‘Flood risk management’ ‘SPD for catchment plan’ ‘Restore all chalk stream habitat’ ‘Water voles’ ‘Tree planting’ ‘Focus on impacting as many ecosystem services as possible (in a positive way)’ ‘River wall restoration’ ‘Fish passage and weirs’ ‘Community SUDs’ ‘Stop with the LED lighting along paths’ ‘De-culverting Norbury Park’</p>
<p>HEALTH AND WELLBEING</p>	<p>‘Wandle Trail and Quietway’ ‘Rangers and volunteer programme’ ‘Public access to Beddington Farmlands’ ‘Engage with Clinical Commissioning Groups’ ‘Full and part time activators to deliver activities’ ‘Measure active lifestyle projects to improve health of residents’ ‘Restrict industry which causes air pollution along the Wandle’ ‘Dedicated cycle venue at Beddington Farmlands’</p>
<p>HERITAGE AND CULTURE</p>	<p>‘More museum hubs’ ‘Accessible history’</p>



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	<p>'Museum base Ravensbury'</p> <p>'Celebrate Wandle industrial heritage'</p> <p>Don't forget today in tomorrows heritage'</p>
PEOPLE AND COMMUNICATION	<p>'Wandle Rangers'</p> <p>'Volunteer training roots to work'</p> <p>'hyperlocal community'</p> <p>'Involve schools through projects'</p> <p>'Outdoor labs for schools'</p> <p>'Community support and micro grants'</p> <p>'Maintain annual events'</p> <p>'Need for environment planning law for locals'</p> <p>'Need to promote wider Wandle valley'</p> <p>'Council's need to enforce regulation'</p> <p>'Local groups action research'</p> <p>'Bring the project summaries to life'</p> <p>'Decentralised collaboration'</p>
ECONOMIC GROWTH	<p>'Digital connections'</p> <p>'Wandle Valley accreditation for business'</p> <p>'Enable walking and cycling routes for commuters'</p> <p>'Greening the BIDs'</p> <p>'Natural capital for business case'</p> <p>'Make Hackbridge a major gateway to WVRP'</p>