## River Cray and Southern Marshes Area Framework



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#### Note:

This area framework should be read in tandem with All London Green Grid SPG Chapter 5 for GGA05 which contains statements in respect of Area Description, Strategic Corridors, Links and Opportunities. The ALGG SPG document is guidance that is supplementary to London Plan policies. While it does not have the same formal development plan status as these policies, it has been formally adopted by the Mayor as supplementary guidance under his powers under the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (as amended). Adoption followed a period of public consultation, and a summary of the comments received and the responses of the Mayor to those comments is available on the Greater London Authority website. It will therefore be a material consideration in drawing up development plan documents and in taking planning decisions.

The All London Green Grid SPG was developed in parallel with the area frameworks it can be found at the following link: http://www.london.gov.uk/publication/all-london-green-grid-spg.

## **Foreword**

Bexley is one of London's greenest boroughs. Our diverse green infrastructure is made up of 1391 hectares of parks and open spaces central to the character and identity of the Borough. Also, our river system includes the River Thames forming the northern boundary of the borough and the Cray and Shuttle rivers located in the south of the borough. These corridors are important defining features of the boroughs landscape and views. They are also important resources for transport, heritage, biodiversity, sport and recreation. Our Vision is for a quality environment made up of a green grid infrastructure which is cohesive, comprising a wide variety of open spaces, well connected by attractive green corridors. The Green Grid will support regeneration, reduce flood risk and enhance biodiversity. It will provide for opportunities for recreation, leisure and education and will celebrate heritage features to provide a sense of identity and focus on community pride.

We are very fortunate to have had the opportunity to be part of the process in formulating the All London Green Grid. We are developing valuable partnerships in Bexley to provide high quality, well designed and multi functional green and open spaces that fit within the overall strategic network for London. This Framework has built on the work carried out as part of the pioneering East London Green Grid. It has already provided direction and focused opportunities to help deliver successfully over a dozen projects in Bexley and has focused on future opportunities that we are keen to explore further.

Partnership working and using funding opportunities to support projects will protect and enhance Bexley's unique open spaces and waterway network making lasting connections. We are grateful for the active support of our partners on this important initiative and would like to thank all the local people and organisations who have given their time to help develop this exciting programme.



Councillor Linda Bailey Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Regeneration Bexley Council

#### Introduction – All London Green Grid Vision and Methodology

#### Introduction

The various and unique landscapes of London are recognised as an asset that can reinforce character, identity and environmental resilience. Delivered alongside existing infrastructure such as transport, utilities and schools an enhanced network of open spaces and green infrastructure can serve to shape and support new and existing communities, respond to the challenges of climate change, support economic development and deliver an improved quality of life.

The All London Green Grid ihas been developed to provide a strategic interlinked network of high quality green infrastructure and open spaces that connect with town centre's, public transport nodes, the countryside in the urban fringe, the Thames and major employment and residential areas. This approach has been extremely successful in accelerating delivery of green infrastructure in East London through the East London Green Grid (ELGG).

Policy 2.18 of the London Plan (July 2011), promotes the provision of an integrated green infrastructure network and supports the extension of the Green Grid to the whole of London.

The ALGG objectives are to:

- adapt to climate change and promote urban greening
- increase access to open space
- increase access to nature, and to conserve and enhance biodiversity
- improve sustainable travel connections
- promote healthy living
- conserve and enhance heritage features and landscape character
- enhance distinctive destinations and boost the visitor economy
- promote sustainable design, management and maintenance
- enhance green space and green infrastructure sector skills
- promote sustainable food production
- improve air quality and soundscapes
- improve the quality of and access to the Greenbelt and the urban fringe
- conserve and enhance the Thames and its tributaries riverside spaces

#### **Area Frameworks**

Area Frameworks help to support the delivery of the All London Green Grid objectives. By identifying how the All London Green Grid can be delivered at the landscape scale and across administrative boundaries. To achieve this they;

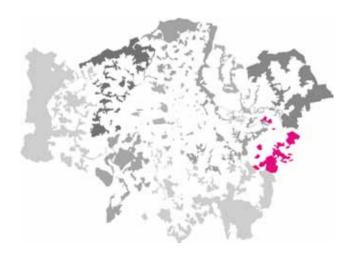
- establish a comprehensive baseline understanding of each area
- define a vision, area objectives and strategic opportunities for each area
- ensure that sub-regional and strategic projects interface with Borough level planning, regeneration, transport and open space strategies and processes
- identify the resources required and form bidding strategies to deliver the funding for strategic projects
- consolidate resources, coordinate efforts and facilitate partnership working
- support the preparation of Delivery Strategies
- address the recommendations of the Drain London research project and ensure that the possible flood and surface water management opportunities are incorporated within the ALGG.

ALGG Area Frameworks expand on the implementation points and strategic opportunities identified in the All London Green Grid Supplementary Planning Guidance to the London Plan. Subject to boroughs agreement ALGG Area Frameworks can also form part of Local Development Plans, Development Plan Documents and or Joint Area Action Plans.

#### Partnership - Working

Strong and open working relationships with many partners are key to delivering the All London Green Grid. By setting out strategic objectives and opportunities at the sub-regional level, the Area Frameworks help to encourage and facilitate existing and new partnerships that involve regional and local government; government agencies; regeneration and environmental organisations; private green space managers; and the green space jobs and skills sector.

The Green Grid process includes the formation of Area groups, to implement the Green Grid vision, objectives and projects, at the landscape scale. By utilising and expanding existing structures and forming new groups where they do not exist already, 11 ALGG area groups have been established across London. A London-wide Project Board and a Working Group provides the strategic management structure for the ALGG project.



#### Introduction – ALGG Framework Plan

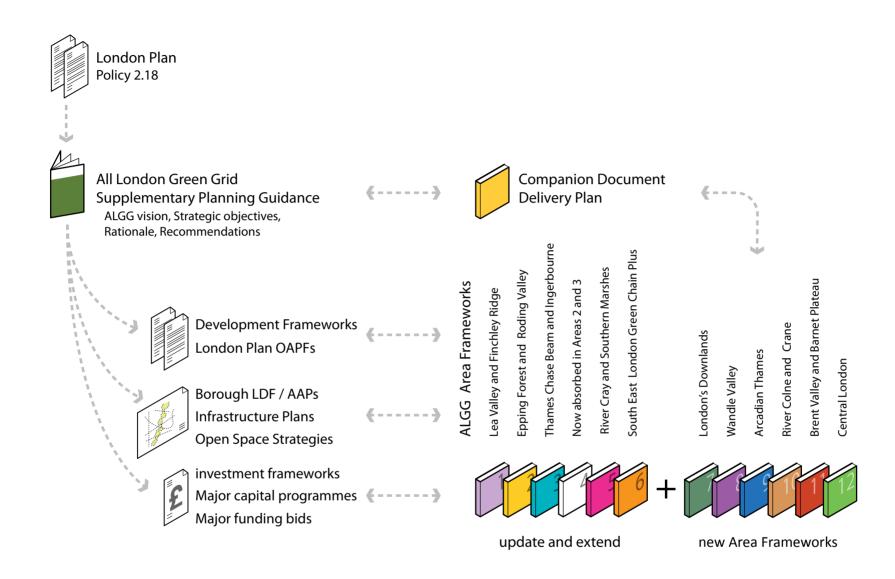


The map above illustrates the strategic Framework Plan for the All London Green Grid SPG to the London Plan. The composite drawing illustrates open space typologies, open space deficiency and primary transport corridors. It identifies strategic opportunities for the Green Grid area.

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Strategic Corridors
Strategic Links
Metropolitan Park Opportunities
Regional Park Opportunities
Regional Parks
Metropolitan Parks

District Parks
Local Park and Open Spaces
Small Open Spaces - Pocket Parks
Other / Private Open Spaces
..... Strategic Walking Routes
Strategic Cycling Routes



#### **Area Frameworks have 4 Sections**

#### Section 1 Area Strategy

This section examines the context and baseline conditions, to propose a vision, area objectives and a set of area strategic opportunities in line with the ALGG SPG. Together these form a framework for future change, project development and evaluation.

#### Section 2 Project Identification

A schedule of project suggestions for consideration by the area group, design advisor and working group. Including interventions to be delivered through development, and those requiring site acquisition. Each project is mapped and described in a rolling project list.

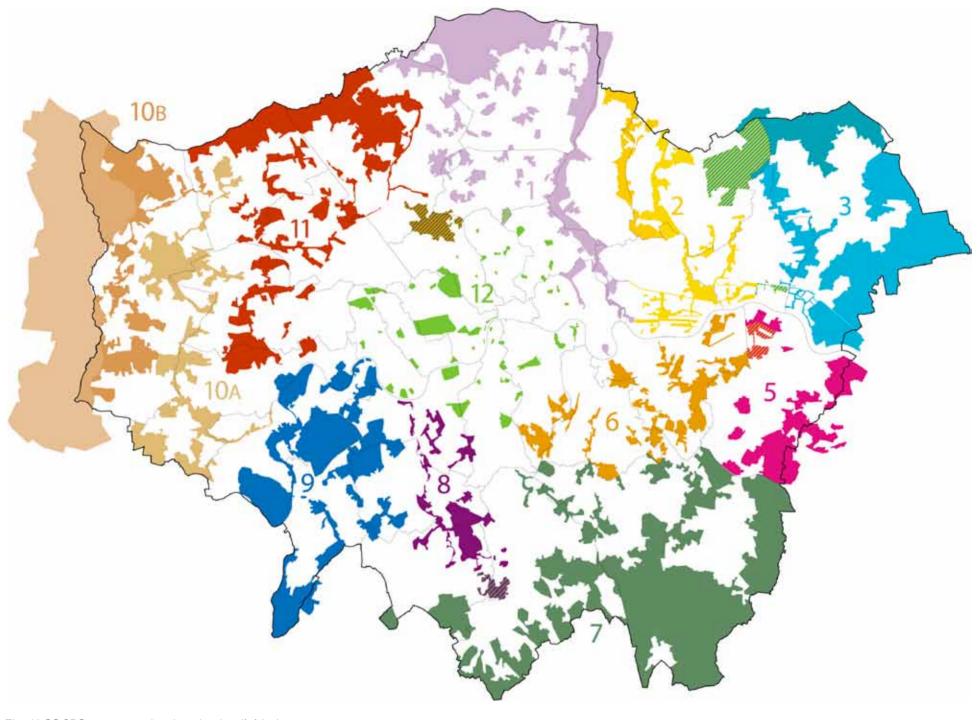
#### Section 3 Phase Two Delivery

The results of the area's project review and assessment, identifying the projects which best deliver the strategic objectives, as well as those which are feasible and deliverable. Thereby constituting a next phase of delivery.

#### Section 4 Forward Strategy

The area chair and design advisor summarise a particular delivery and funding strategy to take forward the first phase of delivery.

#### Introduction – ALGG Governance



The ALGG SPG proposes that London be divided into eleven Green Grid Areas as illustrated above. The formation of ALGG Area steering groups bring together the London boroughs, representatives of partner agencies and other stakeholders to develop and implement the Green Grid vision, objectives and projects, area by area.

Map derived from GiGL data 2011 - @ Crown Copyright and database right 2011. Ordnance Survey 100032216.

- 1 Lea Valley and Finchley Ridge
- Epping Forest and River Roding
- 3 Thames Chase, Beam and Ingrebourne
- 4 Is now absorbed in Area 2 and 3
- 5 River Cray and Southern Marshes
- 6 South East London Green Chain Plus
- 7 London's Downlands
  - Wandle Valley
- 9 Arcadian Thames
- 10 River Colne and Crane
- Tarvor comic arra cranc
- 11 Brent Valley and Barnet Plateau
- 12 Central London



# Area Strategy

This section examines the local and strategic context to establish a distinct vision and set of objectives for Area 5. These have been developed to establish a framework for future change, project development and evaluation.

#### Area Strategy – Area Description

#### **Area Description**

The River Cray and Southern Marshes include parts of the London boroughs of Bexley and Bromley. The Cray Riverway leads from Footscray ten miles northwards to the Thames. Its path runs initially through a wide and open meadow landscape. In stark contrast to the north side of the Thames, the geology here includes major bands of chalk which rise close to the surface. This chalky character defines much of the flora and fauna of the river valleys. The woodlands of Chalk Wood and Joydens Wood bordering the open meadows at Footscray straddle the geographic boundary between Bexley and Dartford, where the Green Belt includes the slopes of the North Downs which contain ancient woodland connected by hedgerows surrounded by open farmland. North of Old Bexley village the valley is characterised by extensive woodland, grazed water meadow, horse paddocks and arable fields. The river path is disrupted by the significant barrier of a major road and rail crossing. Further northwards the landscape changes in quality, where major canalisation, settlement, landfill and transport infrastructure impact on the natural course of the river. Thames Road marks the boundary to the marshes. Here the river runs through a hidden landscape of abandoned wharves before joining the River Darent in a striking landscape of tidal mudflats and reedbeds. These extend to the tidal flood barrier which marks the outfall to the Thames. The river divides the Crayford and Dartford Marshes. The settlements on the western edge of the marsh are a mixture of formerly river-based industries and the relatively new housing estates of Slade Green and Howbury. Right on the edge of the marshes lies one of the oldest markers of settlement, the twelfth century Howbury Moat. The chalky walls of this moated manor house now enclose a tangled wilderness of a garden whose oldest trees stand up out of the open landscape of the marsh.

Similar ancient markers can be found at Hall Place,
Danson House, and Lesnes Abbey, major monuments
whose original foundation was bound up with
ownership and management of their surrounding
estates. Lesnes Abbey and Lesnes Abbey Woods form
a unique and rich landscape in a key location between
low lying Thamesmead/ Abbey Wood and West Heath /
East Wickham and is located on a ridge.
Erith, Crayford and Dartford Marshes all retain

Erith, Crayford and Dartford Marshes all retain characteristics of historic grazing marsh, despite being largely isolated from the Thames by heavily engineered flood defence structures. Scattered grazing, mostly by horses, still takes place. Work by

the Managing the Marshes Partnership, the Belvedere Wetlands Programme and others has served to slow the degradation as well as improve the landscape. All of these Thames-side marshes carry the scattered remains of military structures. Additionally Dartford Marshes carries obvious physical evidence of the now demolished, isolation hospitals which occupied this site from the beginning of last century. One poignant feature is the clearly defined route of the tramway which was built to transport smallpox sufferers from the Thames jetty across the marshes to the hospital at Joyce Green. Joyce Green was also historically the site of a flying ground used by the local firm of Vickers, for test flights of their production aircraft. Little of this area is currently open to formal public access, and lack of clarity in land ownership represents a major challenge to the future development of publicly accessible open space.

One of the most prominent Thameside piers can be found nearby at Erith. Immediately adjacent to the main supermarket car-park, the pier is linked by the Thames path to a series of municipal riverside gardens. At this point the river frontage offers dramatic open views, both along the line of the river and across to the ongoing landfill restoration at Coldharbour. This sequence of urban open spaces with their strong links to the Thames offers a unique and unrealised potential in terms of enhancement to public access and the ongoing development of the tidal habitats of the Thames foreshore.

#### **Strategic Context**

Bexley's Green Grid proposals are fully aligned with national and regional strategies and policies. At the local level, the Green Grid working group has promoted close collaboration between officers working on the Local Development Framework (LDF) and the Bexley Regeneration Framework. Four significant open spaces strategies were produced since 2006 – the River Cray strategy, the River Shuttle strategy, the Ridgeway strategy and the Managing the Marshes strategy.

The proposed projects have been developed in order to support emerging LDF policies relating to the improvement of existing open spaces and addressing open space deficiency, creating and improving green corridors and public access to open space including the Blue Ribbon Network, and enhancing local wildlife and biodiversity. The proposed projects will also contribute towards achieving visions and actions for Erith and Thamesmead identified in the relevant LDF documents and other strategies.

Many of Bexley's numerous green spaces are fragmented by roads, housing and other developments. Moreover, open space is unevenly distributed across the borough's wards and many areas are deemed deficient in terms of access to local, district and metropolitan parks and open spaces. Parish Wood Park on the River Shuttle won funding through the Mayor's Priority Parks Programme in 2009. Access improvements through a land-swap as well as a new wetland and play area have recently been completed and officially opened by the Mayor. A masterplan is in place for further access and river improvements to open spaces on the River Shuttle. The industrial areas that stretch along the Thames east of London, including North Bexley, were formerly the location of many of the capital's dirtiest industries, leaving behind a legacy of environmental degradation and land contamination. The Mayor's Industrial Capacity suggests a reduction within Bexley of 45 hectares by 2026, whilst Bexley's own evidence sets a 43-50 hectare reduction over the same period. The Belvedere Wetlands Programme which was completed in 2011 included improvements to the environment and infrastructure which will help attract investment in business, housing and other sectors. Much of the Framework Area is adjacent to the Rivers Thames, Cray and Shuttle and is at risk from flooding. This has an impact on development in these areas. For example, although the River Thames is well defended from flooding, development requirements are more stringent. However, the River Cray and, in particular, the River Shuttle do not benefit from flood defenses, meaning that development opportunities are restricted.

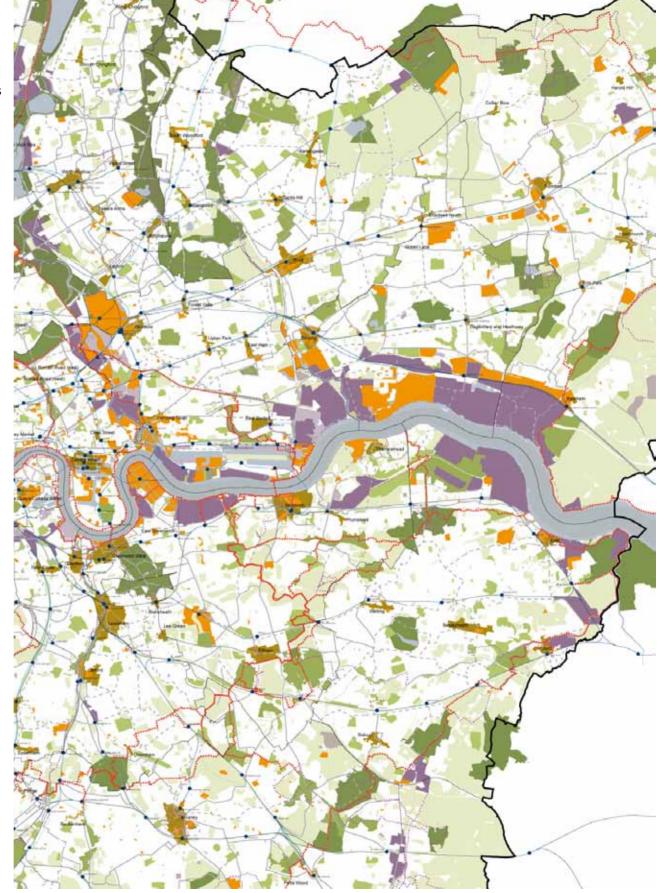
The historical merger of the borough's towns and villages, combined with the remaining, large areas of designated employment land (particularly near to the River Thames) and protected open space, has restricted the area's recent growth. Population and housing growth are relatively limited compared to surrounding areas. Its location in the heart of the Thames Gateway, in conjunction with two designated London Plan Opportunity Areas (that cover large parts of the north of the borough), provides opportunities to enhance the borough and is a key driver behind the future housing and employment growth ambitions of Bexley.

The area also shares with some of its neighbours a designated area adjacent to the River Thames, called the Thames Policy Area, which helps protect and enhance the role of the river. The area already holds a good record of parks management.

#### Area Strategy – Strategic Context

One park holds Green Flag status, and Bexley was awarded Beacon Council status for "Improving Urban Green Spaces" in 2002/03. Even though the public regards Bexley's open spaces as one of the most positive aspects of the borough, 9% of residents do not use parks and open spaces citing reasons such as safety and difficulties of access.

Work to date has led to some major improvements to the environment and better public access. However, much remains to be done.



Green Open Spaces

Town Centres

Strategic Housing Land Availability

Strategic Employment Land

Strategic (Regional) Walking Routes

London Cycle Network - Existing

---- London Cycle Network - Proposed

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#### Area Strategy - Vision

#### **Vision**

Bexley has a major role to play in delivering the Green Grid in South East London. Bexley's vision will strengthen green links including those to the South London Green Chain and to Dartford and North Kent. It will support investment and regeneration by creating accessible high quality open space. Flood risk will be reduced through an increased surface water storage capacity, naturalisation of rivers, and sustainable drainage systems.

Biodiversity will be enhanced by the targeting of identified habitats and species with active support in locations including the River Cray and ancient woodlands such as Chalk Wood, Joydens Wood, and Lesnes Abbey Woods. Better outdoor recreation and leisure facilities will be provided to attract people from a wide range of ages and backgrounds. Educational programmes will be built around biodiversity and local heritage using unique facilities such as the Crossness Beam Engine and Danson Park. Local communities will be given opportunities for involvement in practical projects and the management of sites.

This biodiversity work will help to implement the targets in the Bexley Biodiversity Action Plan Deficiencies in green space will be addressed by the creation of better links and development of sites for community use. Green Grid investment will be fully integrated with existing and emerging policies and demonstrate best practice through exemplar projects. Lastly there is the potential for the creation of the Inner Thames Marshes Conservation Park as a key destination with its own secure funding and management structures.

Bexley's strategy for regeneration is set out in the Core Strategy. Key spatial objectives from the recently approved Core Strategy include:

- Protect the borough's open space resource as a valuable environmental and recreational asset; improve the quality of this resource where required and protect and enhance the biodiversity and ecology of the borough.
- Give high priority to conserving and enhancing Bexley's heritage assets and the wider historic environment, all of which contribute to the borough's distinctiveness, including its archaeology and geology.

- Take account of the impacts of climate change, and reduce flood risk to and from existing and new development, and seek to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, increase energy efficiency, and increase the use of renewable energy sources.
- -Maximise the efficiency of all resources and utilities and maintain the highest standards of water quality for drinking and recreation.
- Protect and improve the natural environment, public health and safety, and amenity for both current and future generations of Bexley residents through policies to minimise noise, air and water pollution, and promote the reclamation of contaminated land.

Core Strategy Policy 17 specifically sets out the vision for Bexley's green infrastructure. Green infrastructure, including open spaces and waterways will be protected, enhanced and promoted as valuable resources, by:

- Protecting metropolitan green belt and metropolitan open land from inappropriate development;
- Seeking opportunities in new development to provide new open space and play space, and ensuring all new developments, where possible, make a positive and appropriate contribution to green infrastructure, and where appropriate, the public realm, either through direct provision of new open space or through planning obligations;
- Resisting harmful backland development;
- Protecting and enhancing the biodiversity, heritage and archaeological values of open spaces, including the Rivers Thames, Cray, Shuttle and their tributaries within the borough;
- Protecting significant green corridors, and seeking opportunities to increase connectivity between the network of green spaces and habitats;
- Working in partnership, seeking funding and supporting projects to promote the restoration and enhancement of open spaces, public realm and the Blue Ribbon Network within the borough;

- Implementing the priorities outlined in the Bexley Open Space Strategy including, where appropriate, rivers and waterways restoration; and providing opportunities within waterside development for river restoration and the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.



### Area Strategy – Objectives









## Increase access to open space and the Green Belt and the urban fringe

To improve the quantity and quality of accessible open space and to enable people to access it more easily, especially in areas of deficiency through;

- -Overcoming physical barriers [i.e. waterways, railways and roads] to existing and new open spaces.
- Negotiating and enabling access to open space where access to the land is currently restricted by the landowner [e.g. Erith Quarry and Swallow Walk Open Space].
- -Developing interconnected and linear parks along existing watercourses such as the River Shuttle, River Cray and the Darent Valley.
- Ensuring all opportunities offered through redevelopment of the urban fabric, particularly existing industrial areas [e.g. Belvedere Wetlands and the Darent Industrial Estate and Joyce Green Hospital], optimise access to and the interface with, the open space network.
- Developing a network of routes within the open space clusters that offer users a range of recreational opportunites and experiences.
- Improving signage and wayfinding to enable access to and movement within the open space network.

## Conserve landscape and the natural environment and increase access to nature

To improve visual and physical access to nature, especially in areas of deficiency, through;

- Ensuring connectivity of habitats along the Thames and its tributaries to encourage a rich biodiversity to flourish.
- Strategic improvements to river courses including naturalisation, canalisation, habitat creation, species re-introduction, and improved management regimes of the water network and surrounding landscapes.
- Identification and protection of natural resources and the habitats of protected species, and, where non disruptive, enabling access to currently inaccessible sites.
- Optimising the ecological value of sites of nature conservation importance, especially in Metropolitan Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation such as Lesnes Abbey, Foots Cray Meadows, Crayford Marshes and Chalk Wood.
- Developing public facilities and activities which encourage public understanding and engagement with the natural resources in their vicinity.

#### Adapting to climate change

To utilise the open space network to help minimise flood risk and reduce the impact of the 'heat island effect'through;

- Increasing flood storage capacity through increased open space provision within the flood zone, and where appropriate the de-canalisation of watercourses [e.g. Crayford Marsh Environmental Regeneration, River Cray Environmental Improvements and the Wansunt Channel]
- Reducing water run off by promoting the installation of green roofs and sustainable urban drainage through development policies.
- Changing management regimes of amenity open space to cope with increased drought conditions and increase areas of street tree cover, and natural plantscapes to provide shade and combat the 'heat island effect'.
- Utilising the potential of flood defence structures to create paths and improve access to currently inaccessible open space [e.g. Erith Riverside Gardens].

#### Making sustainable travel connections

To improve connections to and between open spaces, to create an integrated network of green space. This can be implemented through;

- Extending and enhancing cycle routes [e.g. Sustran's Greenways] through the open space network]
- Developing pedestrian and cycle routes through the area as major sustainable transport routes.
- Improving routes from urban centres and transport hubs to the open space network, such as at the Erith Western Gateway.
- Capitalising on the routes of watercourses to create characterful pedestrian and cycle routes [i.e. The Shuttle Riverway and the Cray Greenway].
- Delivering new pedestrian and cycle routes across existing infrastructural barriers, such as the Ridgeway: Crossness Gateway.
- Developing routes into and across neighbouring communities.
- Negotiating access to existing routes that are currently inaccessible [e.g. Southern Marshes Cycle Link].
- Building upon existing walking routes and trails such as the Thames Path.

#### Area Strategy - Objectives









## Enhancing distinctive visitor destinations and boosting the visitor economy

To improve the quality and range of visitor destinations to attract visitors from near and far through:

- Improving and publicising existing visitor attractions, facilities, and amenities including nature reserves, golf courses, equestrian centres, football and atheltics stadia, scenic walking routes, heritage features [e.g Hall Place, Lesnes Abbey and Danson Park]
- Promoting the inherent characteristics of the Southern Marshes as a visitor destination [e.g. Crossness Visitor Centre].
- Encouraging local organisations to maximise the potential of current facilities and introduce new activities within the existing open space network.
- Encouraging the coordination of diverse and complementary programmes and facilities by various authorities, landowners, and organistaions.
- Encouraging and facilitating the organisation of events by local communities.
- Offering activities such as festivals and open days to encourage a sense of place, ownership and shared local identity.

#### Promote healthy living

To ensure that the green space network within the area supports the development of healthy communities through;

- Improving existing and creating new playspaces and sports facilities within the open space network. [e.g through the Borough-wide Outdoor Gym Programme]
- Improving access to healthy recreational opportunities, including walking, gardening, cycling, rowing, horse riding.
- Encouraging the use of sustainable travel connections such as The Shuttle Riverway.
- Identifying areas of health inequality and obesity in relation to the openspace network, and improving access to open space for those in most need.
- Providing suitable facilities and activities for the local demographic such as sports facilities for young people and easily negotiable routes for the elderly.

#### Promote sustainable food production

To build upon the presence of existing productive landscapes within the Bexley area through;

- Improving the quality, facilities, management and sustainability of Bexley's 36 existing allotment sites, such as Old Farm Park and Allotments,
- Creating new food growing opportunites, allotment sites and community gardens within the open space network [i.e. Swallow Road Open Space]
- -Encouraging and enabling social enterprise schemes such as the Larner Road Community Orchard.
- Looking for opportunites to extend the provision by exploring possibilities for creating other productive landscapes such as coppicing, fish ponds and orchards and projects such as The Ridgeway: Grazing Enclosures.

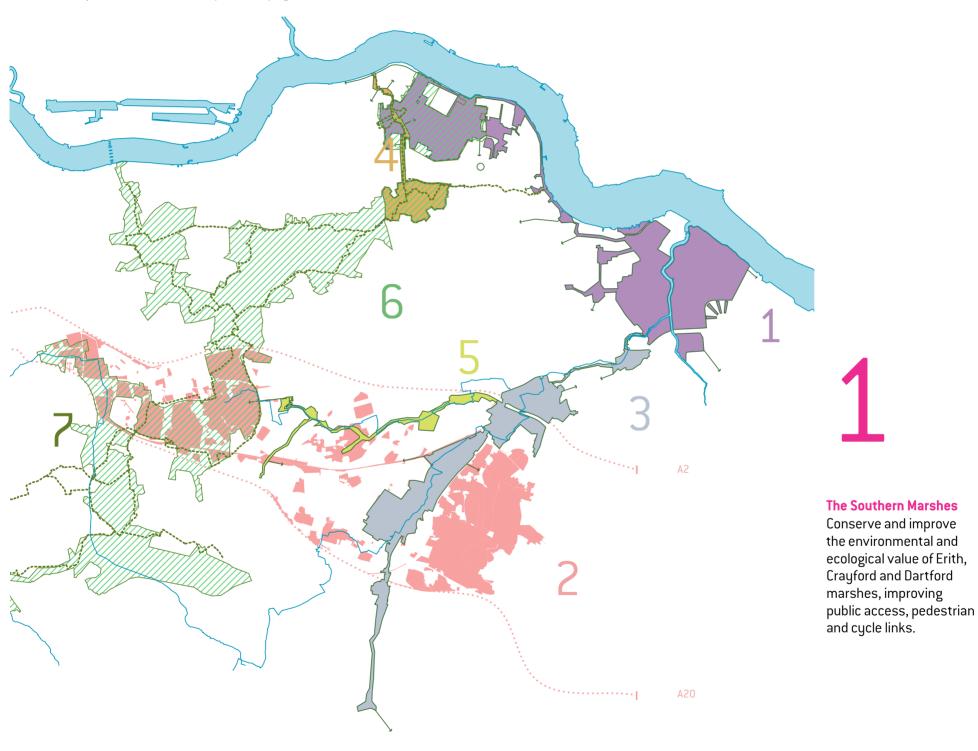
## Promote green skills and sustainable design, management and maintenance

To develop green space and green infrastructure sector skills in order to maintain a high quality green space network and support London's transition to the low carbon economy through;

- Engaging the public with open days, short courses, and opportunities for voluntary work [e.g.Volunteering Action, Bexley School Grounds Programme].
- Integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation into all areas of green skills education and training.
- Providing coordination, access to expert advice, training and knowledge transfer across various green space organisations.
- Providing instructional signage and interpretation throughout the green space networks, such as at Lesnes Abbey, the Ridgeway and Erith and Crayford Marshes.

### Area Strategy – Opportunities

A number of strategic opportunities have been identified within the River Cray and Southern Marshes areas. These are significant opportunities - rooted in real or aspirational projects which are spatially specific - which have the potential to deliver the Area Vision and Objectives described on previous pages.



 $\label{thm:map:converged} \textit{Map derived from GiGL data 2011} \cdot \textbf{@ Crown Copyright and database right 2011}. Ordnance Survey 100032216.$ 

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#### A2 and A20 Corridor

Conserve and enhance the rural character and intimate scale of the landscape between the A2 and A20, exploring opportunities to increase the flood storage capacity of the local floodplain.

#### **River Cray Corridor**

Maximise the potential of the River Cray corridor to create a high quality, accessible riverside environment, including strengthening connections of green spaces between the A206 and A2 and links to surrounding green spaces and countryside on the urban fringe, including the Chalk Link to the North Downs.

#### **Thamesmead Link**

Strengthen and enhance the landscape connections along the Thamesmead Link from Lesnes Abbey Wood to the Thames riverfront including Erith Marshes.

#### **River Shuttle Link**

Enhance the river character and recreational use of the River Shuttle Link and strengthen the connections between its open spaces, improving public access.

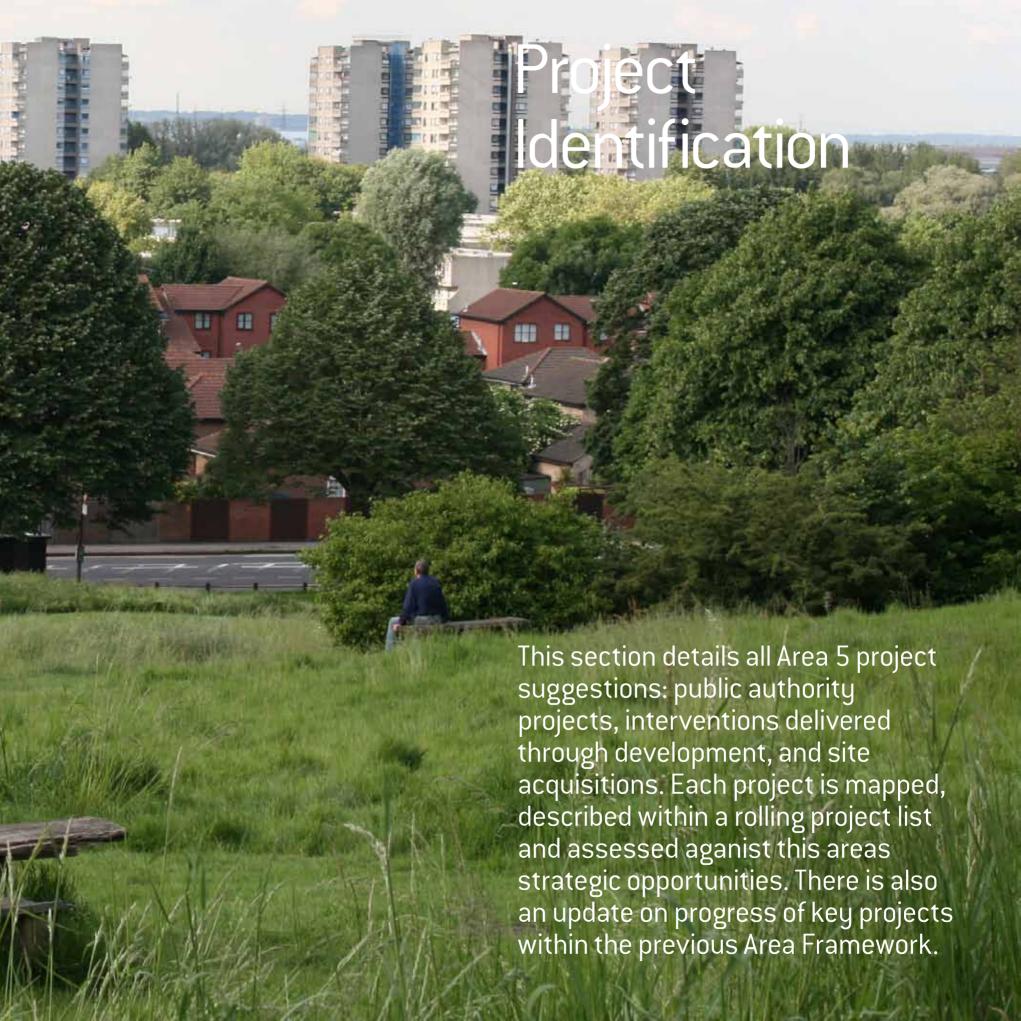
#### SE Green Chain Park

Examine the feasibility of developing the South East London Green Chain as a Regional Park opportunity.

#### **SE Green Chain Walk**

Promote and enhance the long distance South East London Green Chain footpath and links by improving accessibility into and through the area, particularly access from its edges.





#### Project Identification - Project Update

Since the publication of the original Bexley, River Cray and Southern Marshes Area Framework in 2007, substantial progress has been made in the development of the open space network in the River Cray and Southern Marshes areas.



#### 5.1.01 Erith Marshes

The Belvedere Green Links Programme, has invested in improving the Erith Marshes. Enhancing public access through improved signage, lighting and gateway features, new pathways and additional viewing mounds, seating and interpretation panels and enhancing biodiversity and flood storage through desilting and improvements to Belvedere dyke.



#### 5.1.05 Links to Abbey Wood and Railway Crossing

As part of the Belvedere Green Links Programme we have completed improvements to the Abbey Link Bridge between Lesnes and Southmere Park/Erith Marshes. Improved entranceways to St. Katherine's Road and Belvedere Road entrances to Southmere Park and Erith Marshes. A walking and cycling map for Belvedere has been developed that promotes connections to Lesnes Abbey Wood, which included a new lighting scheme.



## 5.1.06a Southmere Park, Woodland Walk Linkages and Thamesmead Park Improvements

This project focused on improving awareness of the marshland area by defining clear access routes and interpretation that will enable the local residents to benefit from this wonderful natural feature. Some of the key improvements included new fencing, new paths, signage and way finding features, new seating and horse paddock improvements.



#### 5.3.01 Belevedere Wetlands

The Belvedere Wetland project was created to restore the hydrological system in Belvedere and Erith Marshes to improve flood alleviation and enhance wetland habitats to protect and encourage key wildlife such as Water Voles.

A management plan was developed to ensure the long term sustainability of the restored works. Over 300m3 of extra flood storage capacity has been created here.

#### Project Identification - Project Update



#### 5.4.02a Erith Yacht Clubhouse

Delivered in partnership with funding and support from the HCA, Sport England, the Cory Environmental Trust and the Royal Yachting Association, the redevelopment includes a new clubhouse with teaching rooms, function rooms, changing and community facilities. A pontoon provides easier access to the water and landscaping works have been undertaken around the site. The new facilities will enable the club to build on their work with schools and young people, and provide for disabled sailing.



#### 5.6.03 River Cray Flood Alleviation

As a result of widening Thames Road to make it a dual carriageway some flood plain was lost. In order to replace this the land between the railway bridge and River Cray to the south of Thames Road was lowered to create extra capacity and return it to the pre-dualing capacity. These works were carried out in November 2007. Coir rolls and plant mats were planted in April 2008. These have really taken hold and it's now a well established area.



#### 5.6.05 Crayford Town Centre Corridor

The River Cray and Crayford Town Centre have seen significant enhancements in recent years. Working with Thames 21's Riverkeepers, the community and the Council have come together to clean the river along it's length through Crayford and reconnect people to the river. Path and signage improvements have helped bring more people to the newly cleaned river corridor and this have been further enhanced by larger scale park projects along the river in the town. centre.



#### 5.6.08 Hall Place and Gardens

Grants from Sport England and the National Lottery have enabled the development of a new sports pavilion as well as major renovation and enhancement of the house. This enabled more of the house to be open to the public, with increased space for exhibitions and new visitor facilities. New educational assets were developed and the school programme is now running at full capacity. Better signage and physical access improvements to the site and to the River Cray walk have also been included.



#### 5.8.01 River Shuttle Action Plan

This plan provided a vision for the river and identified actions to improve water quality, form and function, biodiversity and community engagement based on results from a detailed field survey and stakeholder consultation. Actions were prioritised and costed and potential external funding was identified. The first implementation in 2010 was the construction of a wetland in Parish Wood and habitat enhancement using bioengineering in Marlborough Park. Further actions are planned. for 2011-2015.



#### 5.9.01 Danson Park Phase 1

Works to improve wildlife habitats in and around the lake and to improve water quality, have been undertaken over the past 5 years. Restoration of the lake banks and new and improved fishing platforms have been installed. The establishment of more bankside vegetation has now increased habitats for aquatic and terrestrial wildlife. The reed beds provide new wildlife habitats. There are plans to extend the reed beds as well as carry out environmental works within the bog garden and adjacent rock and pond gardens.

#### Project Identification – Clusters

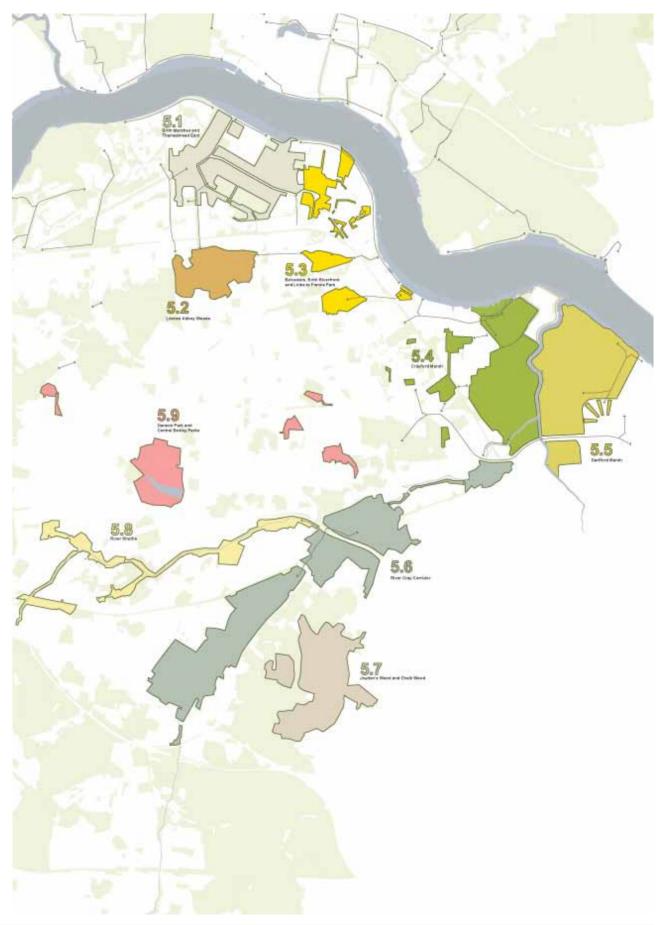
#### Clusters

The River Cray and Southern Marshes Green Grid Area is sub-divided into nine strategic areas which relate to the natural landscape characteristics and typologies of the areas whilst providing a framework to cluster various development projects together. These project clusters cross multiple ownership and operational boundaries and relate to smaller identified projects which are either related geographically or typologically.

The projects may be implemented independently but form part of the wider cluster strategy. This ensures that when various projects within a cluster are realised, the larger vision for that areas is achieved.

The project clusters area outlined as:

- 5.1 Erith Marshes and Thamesmead East
- 5.2 Lesnes Abbey Woods
- 5.3 Belvedere, Erith Waterfront and Links to Franks Park
- 5.4 Crayford Marsh
- 5.5 Dartford Marsh
- 5.6 River Cray Corridor
- 5.7 Joyden's Wood and Chalk Wood
- 5.8 River Shuttle
- 5.9 Danson Park and Central Bexley Parks



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#### Project Identification – Clusters



5.1 Erith Marshes and Thamesmead East Enhancement of the quality of the environment in Thamesmead and links to neighbouring open spaces.



5.2 Lesnes Abbey Woods Improved transport links, improvements to the park and setting of the ancient abbey ruins, and an improved and relocated visitor centre.



The regeneration of Erith waterfront and creation of western linkages to Frank's Park and the South East London Green Chain.



5.4 Crayford Marsh

A cluster of projects associated with area of historic grazing marsh taking in significant heritage and habitat elements, links to local communities, and neighbouring parks and open spaces to the west.



5.5 Dartford Marsh

a cluster of projects associated with area of historic grazing marsh taking in significant heritage and habitat elements, links to local communities, and the Kent Green Grid.



5.6 River Cray Corridor

A comprehensive strategy for public access and environmental improvements to this unique chalk river.



5.7 Joyden's Wood and Chalk Wood

Enhancement of large area of existing ancient woodland extending across the GLA boundary into Kent. Improvement of pedestrian and cycle links to Cray Riverway and the wider area.



5.8 River Shuttle

River restoration strategy with consideration of access, biodiversity and flood mitigation.



5.9 Danson Park and Central Bexley Parks

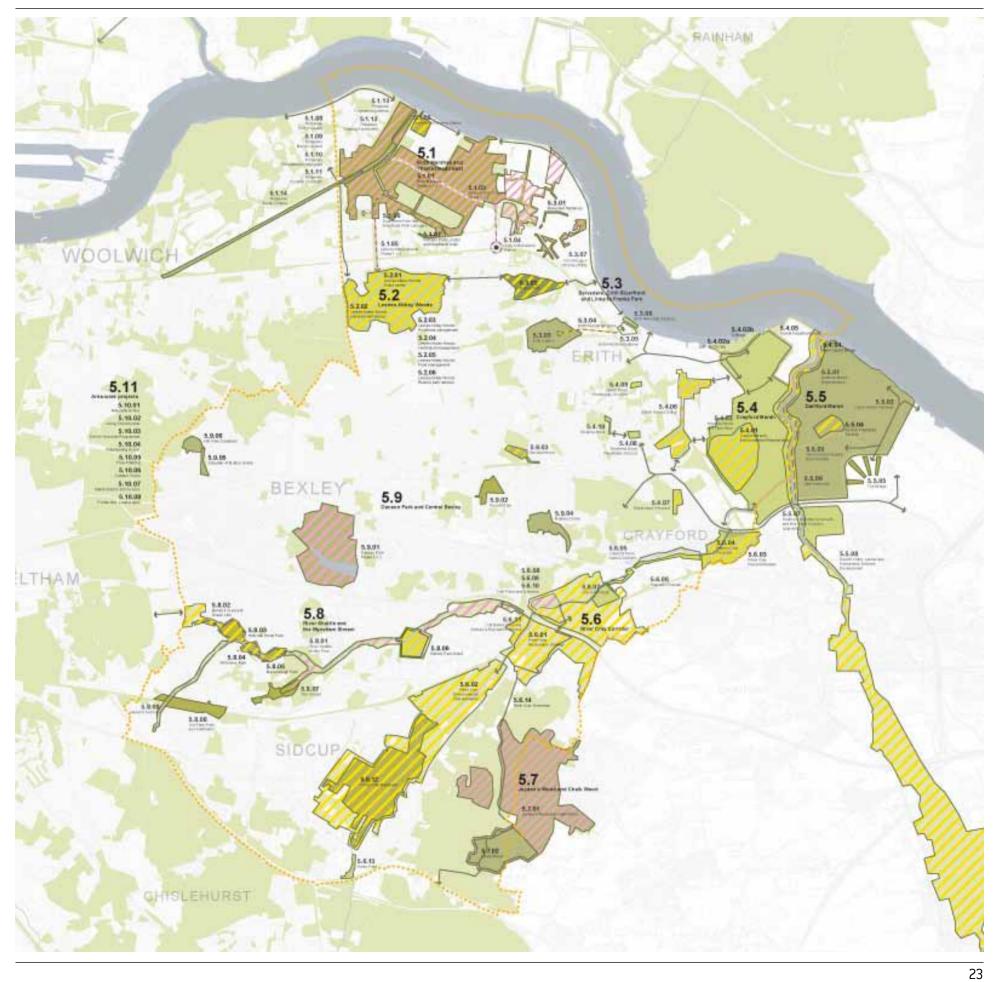
Investment in existing public parks in area with significant deficiency in public access to open space.

#### Project Identification – Projects Map

#### Identified projects

The River Cray and Southern Marshes Framework is composed of a number of projects of various types including: open space improvements, open space creation, habitat or riparian improvements, feasibility studies and promotion and linkage projects.

- Open Space Projects
- Open Space Projects
  - Nase Two Project
- Completed Project
- **←** Linking Project
- Phase One Link
  - Buildings and Structures
- 2.1.03 Project Code
  - Related Open Space



Complete

Phase one

Project number	Project name	Project Description	Next Steps	Project size (ha / m)	e Project owner	Total cost	Funding in place	Funding required * on set
5.01	Erith Marshes and Thamesmead	East						
5.01.01a	Erith Marshes Improvements Phase I	Erith Marsh is the most westerly of three tracks of grazing marsh in Bexley and Dartford. It has a narrow frontage to the River Thames and is made up of Crossness Nature Reserve and Crossness Southern Marsh. Substantial investment was made to the sites in 2005/06. More work is required to enhance public access, and to restore and manage the grazing marsh in line with the Managing the Marshes strategy and management plan. The Environment Agency is developing a number of high level options for managing flood risk in the Thames Estuary. A formal public consultation will be undertaken in 2007. Erith Marshes have been recognised as having significant potential for very occasional idial flood storage (1 in 100 years rate maximum), that would be green Grid Objectives. Following on from this the £10m Belvedere Green Links Programme, has invested in improving the Erith Marshes enhancing public access through improved signage, lighting and gateway features, new pathways and additional viewing mounds, seating and interpretation and enhancing biodiversity and flood storage through desilting and improvements to Belvedere Dyke.	A management and maintenance plan is has been developed and ongoing monitoring will take place.	111.7 ha	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean)	£2.8m 2011 update from projected 1000000 (2007	£0 )	£28,000,000 3
5.01.01b	Erith Marshes improvements Phase II	Crossness Nature Reserve and Southern Marshes form part of the Erith Marsh complex and are a valuable local asset within the LB Bexley. Visitor numbers are currently low; site improvements could increase usage and increase the site's ability to become a good local educational resource. The project would provide new ponds and dipping platforms for enhanced school visits; fencing, gates, resurfaced footpaths and entrance feature to enhance access; wetland enhancements including new scrapes, tern rafts, sand martin and kingfisher banks, ditch restoration, wildlife nesting tower	The individual projects that make up this proposal are all easily delivered without the need for feasibility studies in our view Elements of project can be broken down as in case the project needs to be tailored according to funds available.	-	Thames Water's Crossness Nature Reserve Manager, Karen Sutton	£200,000 [approx.]	None	£200,000
5.01.02	Crossness Pumping Station - The Great Stink Project	Crossness Pumping Station, on the River Thames at Thamesmead, is a core part of the Thames Gateway's cultural infrastructure. Plans to develop 'The Great Stink as a major heritage attraction are underway. This project aims to allow local people and visitors to the area to enfit from this unique facility, learn about a key part o Britain's industrial history, develop new skills and enhance the area's green spaces. Its location in Thamesmead, one of the most deprived communities in the Thames Gateway, makes it a particularly important project. Improving the cultural offer of the area will be key to regeneration - attracting a more diverse range of families particularly high income households. This supports the success of the Tavy Bridge redevelopment and future schemes which seek to redress Thamesmead housing will create a new tourist attraction at the heart of one of the Gateway's most deprived communities. The buildings have now been restored and the space create where the public exhibition will take place.	f s ,	2.9 ha	Partnership CET (Mike Jones), LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Desiree Shepherd), Thames Water	£3,815,380	£3,615,380.00	£200,000 0
5.01.03a		The bridge viability was investigated as part of the Belvedere Green Links Programme as a possible project. However investigations revealed it was not possible to put in a this stage to put in a bridge crossing due to likely costs verses current usage. At grade pedestrian crossing point was also investigated but this deemed unviable due to traffic flow and speeds across Eastern Way. The solution was to cut back vegetation to improve visibility and footway improvements making this route safe for pedestrians, with a long-term aspiration for a bridge crossing here.	Long-term aspiration is for a bridge crossing see phase 2.	798 m	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean)	£62,432	£0	£1,500,000 0
5.01.030	Eastern Way Crossing Phase II	Aspiration is to provide a pedestrian bridge crossing point over the A2016 (Eastern Way) to link the northern and southern grazing marshes, as well reconnecting to the existing footpath network the road originally severed. The bridge will also seek to overcome severance of the communities to the south from the Thames frontage.	This will be a project that will become more viable as the area develops.	798 m	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Anna Bourne)	£1,500,000	EU	£1,500,000 0
5.01.04	Links to Belvedere Station	Pedestrian and cycle links along existing public highways providing enhanced connections between Erith Marshes and Betvedere railway station. Extensive work has been completed as part of the Betvedere Green Links Programme to the station and on improving accessibility from the station to Erith Marshes and the Employment Area. This includes range of public realm treatments at the Betvedere Station, Picardy Flyover, Norman Road, Station Road as well as new fencing, improved lighting, footway re-surfacing, benches and signage.		601 m	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean)	£731,648. 2011 update from projected 160000 (2007)		£100,000 0
5.01.05a	Links to Abbey Wood and Railway Crossing	Improvements to the Abbey Link Bridge between Lesnes and Southmere Park/Erith Marshes have been completed as part of the Belvedere Green Links Programme, through the delivery of improved entranceways to St-Katherine's Road and Belvedere Road Entrances to Southmere Park and Erith Marshes. A walking and cycling map for Belvedere has been developed that promotes connections to Lesnes Abbey Wood, which included a new lighting scheme.		722 m	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean)	£180,000	£0	£100,000 0
5.01.05b	Links from Abbey Wood Railway Station to Lesnes Abbey Wood	Pedestrian and cycle links along existing public highways and station signage and access improvements. This is to integrate the station into the wider area and improve linkages to the adjacent heritage site and historic marshes. The bridge is a long term aspiration.	Explore opportunities arising from the Abbey Wood Station upgrade and Lesnes Abbey Wood Enhancement Project. Linking up with Thames Water and Gallions.	722 m	LBB (Anna Bourne and Mark Taylor)	£100,000	£0	£100,000 0
5.01.06a	Southmere Park, Woodland Walk linkages and Thamesmead Park Improvements Phase I	This project has two phases. The first phase focused on Thamesmead Park improvements. These included new fencing, new paths, signage and way finding features, new seating and horse paddock improvements. The Southmere Park and the Woodland Walk project is still aspirational and will be delivered in phase 2.		6.9 ha	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean), Gallions HA (Tom Broad)	£381,089		1
5.01.06b	Southmere Park, Woodland Walk linkages and Thamesmead Park Improvements Phase II	Wetland creation and other enhancements to woodland on eastern section as mitigation for development on adjacent land. Potential for habitat creation and habitat enhancements to existing lake to western end. Wetland creation will include water vole habitat. Potential for the development of a farming project on Southmere Park with a focus on animal weflers and managed grazing. This project will become a community resource. In addition, Gallions are bidding for funding from Parks for People towards linking up 3 parks in Thamesmead.		6.9 ha	Gallions HA (Tom Broad)	£5,062,911		:
5.01.07	Veridion Park London and Woodland Walk	Project to enhance linkages from employment sites to open spaces and the River Thames. Tree planting in Woodland Way has been completed. This planting includes black poplar – a Bexley Biodiversity Action Plan target species.		6.1 ha	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean)	£562000. 2011 update from projected 60000(2007)	£0	£60,000 1
5.01.08	Ridgeway: Path Crossing	Proposal to wayfinding improvements to connect with Green Chain and Footpath 2 and to augment edible species on the Ridgeway.			Thames Water (Rosemary Waugh)			
5.01.09	Ridgeway: Marsh Lookout	Proposal for improvements to the existing ramps, signage and furniture at the crossing point on the Ridgeway and Green Chain Walk. Creation of a viewing platform including augmenting the existing forage species of plum trees and blackberries.			Thames Water (Rosemary Waugh), LBB (Desiree Shepherd)			
5.01.10	Ridgeway: Enlightened Underpass	Proposal for an artist lighting commission to be delivered with young people to illuminate the currently dark and gloomy underside of the flyover using renewable energy sources and turn a threatening environment into a gateway for the Ridgeway.			LBB (Saskia Delman)	see 5.12.03c		
5.01.11	Ridgeway: Football Club Path	Proposal to improve the ramped access on the north side of Ridgeway and create an entrance to the football club with hard landscaping augmented with planting.			LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Desiree Shepherd)	£532,013		£532,013
5.01.12	Ridgeway: Grazing Enclosures	Proposal to license sites for horse grazing. The license will include welfare clause and each site will have an enclosure and shelter. Grazing is an effective means to maintain grassland and control invasive shrubs.			Thames Water	£20 per linear metre fencing & £5000 Demountable enclosure	k	
5.01.13	Ridgeway: Crossness Gateway	Proposal for level access onto east end of Ridgeway from Thames Path to co-ordinate with the proposed link road and entrance to Crossness visitor Centre, prioritising pedestrian and cycle movement over vehicular traffic.			Tilfen/Crossness Engines Trust/ Thames Water	£38,283		
5.01.14	Ridgeway: The Social Cinema	Proposal for improvements to the existing ramp on the Ridgeway near the Arches at Harrow Manor Way flyover to create an outside space for the MyPlace Youth Leisure Zone, to be designed and delivered in consultation and Collaboration with young people.			Thames Water (Rosemary Waugh) /Trust Thamesmead (Mick Hayes)/ LBB (Jacqueline Skinner)	96525 (£81525 capital + £15000 community engagement)		£96,525
5.02	Lesnes Abbey Woods							
5.02.01	Lesnes Abbey Woods Enhancement Project	Lesnes Abbey Woods is one of the largest open spaces in the London Borough of Bexley. The site is of regional importance for its wealth of human and natural heritage and yet it does not have the facilities of infrastructure to fully engage or attract visitors to explore what it has to offer. Located near areas of deprivation and with poor access to other quality open space, Lesnes should be able to reach out further to local people as well as those further afield-making the most of Crossrail which will terminate at Abbey Wood Station.  £3m bid to heritage lottery has been submitted to improve interpretation and access throughout the site, undertake a number of conservation projects to preserve the heritage and biodiversity features of the site, develop and deliver a community, education and volunteer event and training programme spanning 5 years and upgrade current facilities e.g., re-work the current visitors facility into a education resource, provide additional play facilities and events facilities and sevents facil	Secure HLF funding to develop a master plan for the site.	91.2 ha	LBB (Mark Taylor / Rod Lean)	£3,000,000	03	£3,000,000 1
5.02.02	Lesnes Abbey Woods Visitor Centre	Lesnes Abbey Woods is one of the Borough's 5 most important Flag Parks and is the second largest open space in the Borough already and important open space the site is of borough and regional importance for its human an natural history. With Cross rail terminating at Abbey Wood Station, there is the potential to dramatically increase the number and range of visitors to this important site. A wide range of improvements have been proposed and are being taken forward largely in a HLF lottery bid. However even if it is successful, it will not fund a new innovative visitor centre, that has been deemed to be required to help fully unlock the site's potential. The building is too small too inflexible and the current layout and content is poor. The preferred option is for a wistor centre, which in addition to providing improved interpretation of the park, would be built to a sustainable design and would showcase these elements to the public and be a flexible community space to encourage different groups into the park. Depending on the size of the building and facilities proposed within it, around £2 million is the estimated cost of such as a modern, energy efficient building.	Explore funding opportunities.	91.2 ha	LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£2,000,000	£0	£2,000,000 1
5.02.03	Lesnes Abbey Woods - Woodland managements	To implement the recommendations in the management plan, looking at re introducing a range of coppicing pollarding and high forest management.	Review management plan and explore funding opportunities.	65ha	LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£85,000.00		
5.02.04	Lesnes Abbey Woods - Heathland management	To implement the recommendations in the management plan, looking at continuing restoration of the heathland.  To implement the recommendations in the management plan, looking at works to 5 ponds.	Explore funding opportunities.  Explore funding opportunities.	2ha	LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor) LBB Parks and Open	£6,000.00		
0.02.00	management		oro randing apportunities.	1ha	Spaces (Mark Taylor)	200,000.00		

Project	Project name	Project Description	Next Steps	Project size	e Project owner	Total cost	Funding in place	Funding require	ed *
number	ŕ			(ha / m)			runding in place	Pulluling required	Stage
5.02.06	Lesnes Abbey Woods - Restore comprehensive path network.	The woodland is over 65 ha and has a wide path network that connects all areas of the wood and surrounding parkland. However the path network is not well maintained. Much of the wood is on a steep shope and thus suffers from erosion caused by heavy rain. The steepness of much of the woodland means that to enable as many people as possible to climb these sections the old woodland stair cases need to be restored and where possible extended. Drainage systems put in along side new path works should ensure erosion by surface run off is not a problem in the future. This project is required to unlock (together with adequate signage) the more of the woodland to more people, as many do not use it due to the unsuitable pathways and poor directional signage.	Explore funding opportunities.		io LBB Parks and Open n Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£556,100.00			
5.03	Belvedere, Erith Waterfront and	Links to Franks Park							
5.03.01	Belvedere Wetlands	Protection and enhancement of existing drainage diches and further development of habitat rich dich systems through use of sustainable urban drainage, linked to future industrial development sites. Development of public access throughout the area with new pedestrian and expertaget into enhanced wetland habitats. It is important that improvements for public recreation are developed in a way which respects the natural interest of the area. Pollution control and the avoidance of artificial banks will be encouraged to enhance the water vole habitat. Consultation with businesses and residents will be necessary.		11.9 ha	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean)	£1,347,726	£15,000	£60,000	2
5.03.02	Franks Park	Enhancement of existing woodland habitats, including management of neglected sweet chestnut coppice. Improvements to public access links such as woodland paths, particularly towards the residential areas to the south and west to address issues of open space deficiency. Removal of invasive, non native species. New directional signage on public height way to tell inform people that park is there as can't be seen from any major highway.	Some work has been carried out, with improvements to the Green Chain path and play facilities. More Woodland work is required and so to are improvements to woodland paths.		LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£80,000	£6,000	£74,000	3
5.03.03	Erith Quarry	The site is in Private ownership and it is yet to be confirmed what their plans are for the site. A Ground Contamination study and draft Master plan has been prepared by the owner. There is the potential for Beskey to acquire the land and to seek the funding to make the site more accessible for the general public by developing it into district park with general landscape management footpaths and signage.		20.7 ha	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Seb Salom)				0
5.03.04	Erith Pedestrian Links	This project comprises 3 pedestrian routes: Two of the three pedestrian routes as part of this scheme have been implemented with the third of these routes to be implemented as part of 2012/13. There were proposed elements as part of these routes that have yet to be implemented and these elements were primarily traffic cairning elements. These have not been progressed as there is simply not enough funding to carry out all of these elements. If additional funding becomes available the Council would look to introduce these elements. These elements would help slow traffic speeds in residential areas creating a safer environment for pedestrians and thus more inviting for pedestrian use. Where practical and feasible some traffic calming elements of this scheme have been implemented. Carlon Road is an example of this where traffic calming was implemented as part of the pedestrian route improvements. This location is a densely populated residential area with moderate pedestrian movements particularly, school children. The safety record at this location dramatically improved with no recorded collisions at the location since the scheme was introduced over a year and half ago.		904 m	LBB Public Realm Management (Linda Jackson)	£1,150,000	£700,000	£450,000	3
5.03.05	Erith Western Gateway Public Realm	This project will support the regeneration of the Erith Western Gateway. A series of new and substantially enhanced public realm spaces associated with the western approach to the Erith Town Centre. These spaces will include pedestrian and cycle connections westwards to the Erith Green Chain Link and eastwards towards Erith Riverside Gardens. This project is one of the Mayor's Great Spaces Projects.		2.9 ha	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Sunny Ee)				1
5.03.06	Erith Riverside Gardens	Redevelopment of Erith Riverside Gardens to create an enhanced relationship between Erith Town Centre, the River Thames and foreshore. This will include new public facilities, park areas and public access to the river edge and including river defence improvements to increase accessibility to the Thames. This project is part of 5.3.5 which is of the Mayor's Great Spaces Projects. Improvement is also needed to the riverside footpath upstream of Erith Riverside Gardens. The present path is unattractive and feels unsafe. Green landscaping should be integrated into the route as opportunities arise.		1 ha	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Sunny Ee)	£4,400,000	£0	£4,400,000	1
5.03.07	National Cycle Network Route 1 (Thames Path)	The Thames Path is part of the National Cycle Network (NCN) developed and promoted by Sustrans in partnership with local authorities, in this case Bexiey. Route 1 within this ALGG area stretches from the Greenwich borough boundary centre to Barnes Cray, along the River Thames. Improved quality of route signing and continuity, improved links required.	Continued improvement of route, creation of route map to publicise at local events.	5km	LB Bexley / Sustrans				
5.04	Crayford Marsh								
5.04.01	Crayford Marsh Environmental Regeneration	Management and enhancement of Site of Metropolitan importance for Nature Conservation. Ditch re-profiling works, water level management, infrastructure, habitat enhancement, bat biodiversity. Improvement of public access to this highly important area of historic grazing marsh. The joint management of Crayford and Dartford Marshes by Bexley and Dartford should be considered. The Environment Agency is developing a number of high level options for managing flood risk in the Tharnes Estuary. Crayford Marshes have been recognised as having significant potential for very occasional tidal flood storage (1 in 100 years rate maximum), that would be compatible with Green Grid Objectives. Biodiversity £400,000 (inc water level management) pan £5,000. but project £5,000 and surveys £35,000, water vole survey, habitat enhancement and monitoring), Community engagement £250,000, Modelling of flood defences and response to climate change £100,000, Education and visitor interpretation £2.75m, Covernance and surveys/plans £250,000, Infrastructure £3m, Environmental up-grading £400,000, Technical study needs commissioning regarding modelling of tidal creek. This is all linked to the Prologis Planning Application and market conditions.		219.4 ha	LBB (Mark Taylor, Bob Smith and Desiree Shepherd)	£7,150,000	£2,201,000	£4,949,000	2
5.4.02a	Erith Yacht Club	The Erith Yacht Club has returned its club ship, the Folgefonn, to Norway in exchange for a brand new purpose built Sailing Clubhouse. The EYC is now an accredited RYA training venue for the SE. The project has been delivered in partnership with funding and support from the Homes & Communities Agency, Sport England, the Cory Environmental Trust and the Royal Yachting Association. The redevelopment includes a new clubhouse via function rooms, changing and community facilities. A pontoon providing easier access to the water has been installed, and landscaping works undertaken around the site. The new facilities will enable the club to build on their work with schools and young people, and provide for disabled sailing, It will enbel the club become the Thames' premier sailing venue for sailing competitions and championships, and ensure Bexley has a legacy from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games		0.8 ha	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Desiree Shepherd)	£3,200,000			3
5.04.02b	Erith Saltings	The intertidal area to the north of the flood defences at Crayford Marshes (Erith Saltings) has been identified as being under threat from erosion. The Saltings comprise one of the last significant pieces of intertidal salt marsh within the inner Thames, are an important Biodiversity Action Plan habitat, and play a key role in protecting the landward flood defences. A study has been undertaken to investigate the possible causes of the cause of the sales sopions which could be taken forward to reduce the rate of erosion and promote recovery through active intervention. The preferred option is the construction of an erosion control structure (a gravel ridge) to prevent further erosion and potentially allow new salt marsh to establish. Additional resources are required to progress the project through from design to implementation stace.	Detailed design required for solution including a full EIA and consultation.	7.5 ha	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Desiree Shepherd)	£680,000		£580,000	
5.04.03	Howbury Moat and Tithe Barn	Aspiration to establish a visitor centre focusing on the Norman moat and medieval agricultural buildings on Crayford Marshes, proposed by Managing the Marshes management group. This is linked to 5.4.01 Crayford Marsh Environmental Regeneration project and the Prologis development.		1.7 ha	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Desiree				0
5.04.04	New Darent Bridge	New pedestrian and cycle crossing point linked to Environment Agency flood barrier at the mouth of the river Darent. Mouchel Parkman's feasibility study has been completed including draft structural designs and mechanical & electrical installation designs; funded under London Cycle Network+ and TfL Greenways funding. There is a need to work across administrative boundaries to link up with the Kent Thameside Green Grid. No is funding available at present and Sustrans have withdrawn funding towards implementation. Scheme currently on hold.		1.2 ha	Shepherd) LBB Engineering Services (Andrew Bashford)	£1,500,000	£0	£1,500,000	3
5.04.05	Darent Industrial Estate	Small scale environmental improvements are proposed such as resurfacing and signage as measures to reduce fly tipping and improve access.		30 ha	LBB Engineering Services (Roy Billings)	£60,000	£0	£60,000	2
5.04.06	Slade Green Central	Slade Green contains several open spaces which offer limited opportunities for local people and yet could contribute to the provision of much needed amenity facilities. A strategy is needed, developed with local people's input, to improve access to these, to consider layout and site uses in the context of the redevelopment potential of the wider area of Slade Green. A warning of contaminated soil must be taken into account in developing proposals. This site of Borough Importance for nature conservation could become a place for informal recreation and enjoyment of nature, by continuing native hedgerow planting, including species to attract butterflies, planting clumps of low scrub as occure for birds, developing a pond or deepening existing ditches, and by developing management plan to promote public recreation and habitat for butterflies. Some of the sites are now known to support reptiles and amphibians and these must be considered in any proposals.		21.6 ha	LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£25,000	£0	£25,000	2
5.04.07	Shearwood Crescent/Medway Road Open space	Community consultation and design for the creation of community open space. A land contamination study will be required.		7542 m	LBB (Mark Taylor and Rupert Cheeseman)	£50,000	£0	£50,000	2
5.04.08	Northend Road Rec	This closely-mown recreation ground is surrounded by high boundaries and disconnected from residential areas. Access is difficult and at present the site is uninviting with little wildlife value. It could be improved by making the perimeter fencing more inviting, reconnecting the site to its surroundings and introducing planting and appropriate management to increase biodiversity. New technologies including bioremediation or renewable energy could be considered. Community consultation will be necessary to understand the aspirations of the residents around the site. The site could benefit from enhanced boundaries, planting, signage, a play area.			3LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£100,000	£0	£40,000	2
5.04.09	Larner Road community orchard	I Restoration of an overgrown and neglected area to provide improved ecological value and public access. There are existing wild fruit trees in the area so we would like to build on this by conserving these trees and planting more. We are also looking for opportunities to improve habitat for key species. We'd like to work within the Green Grid project to make sure our work fish with wider habitat objectives. There will also be opportunities to improve habitat in the wider regeneration of Larner Rd-current barren areas of mown grass will be reprovided by new communal/ park gardens.	Community consultation early 2012. Outline planning application 2012. Detailed design 2012 -13.	Approx 100m x 200m	Delivered by Orbit Homes on behalf of Orbit South HA as part of our Affordable Homes programme in partnership with the Homes and Communities Agency		subject to confirmation		
5.04.10	Swallow Walk Open Space - Creation of new Public Open Space	An area already used by the public, but it is not officially public open space (it is education land). There are proposals to transfer it to Parks & Open spaces but revenue budgets need to be determined and significant capital works would be required to bring it up to adoptable standards. However the site is strategic in its location and connects two sections of community together. It also offers the opportunity to create a new allotment site in a area of high demand.			LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£300,000.00			
5.05	Dartford Marsh								
5.5.01	Dartford Marsh Environmental Regeneration	Habitat restoration and improved public access. Increased public access and major on-site capital projects/ environmental improvements to be developed with landowners through the Managing the Marshes Dartford steering group. The project is sponsored by Kent County Council and the client is Dartford Borough Council. A grazing marsh restoration project on East End Marsh (part of Dartford Marshes owned by DBC) is in it's second year. The project is focusing on scrub clearance and dritch restoration and is being funded under the SITA Trust Enriching Nature programme and the Wetland Habitat Project Fund (administered by KCC). The project will		253.9 ha	Groundwork Kent and Medway (Emma Ventham)	£220,000	£0	£220,000	
		be completed in 2013. The project is overseen by the Managing the Marshes Steering Group.							

Complete

Phase one

Project number	Project name	Project Description	Next Steps	Project size (ha / m)	Project owner	Total cost	Funding in place	Funding required	Stage *
5.5.03	Joyce Green Hospital (the Orchard)	Assess site for potential for public access, interpretation, water bodies and recreation facilities to contribute to green space for activities adjacent to new housing development. Contamination report required first. En		10.8 ha	Groundwork Kent and Medway (Emma Ventham)				0
5.5.04	Former Fireworks factory	Development of site as nature reserve with controlled public access due to contamination 'hot spots'. Greenwich University are actively seeking partners to safe-guard the on-site heritage and biodiversity. Works to existing historic structures, contamination works, ditch re-profiling and creation, habitat enhancements.		7.5 ha	Greenwich University (Debbie Bartlett)				0
5.5.05	The Bridge	Creation of new public access green space associated with new housing development on the edge of Dartford marsh. Creation of new pedestrian and cycle linkages to marsh. Creation of new ditch systems and wetlands to form edge / gateway condition to marsh.		5 ha	Dartford Borough Council (David Fletcher)				0
5.5.06	New Wetlands west of Bridge development	Creation of new public access leisure wetland areas associated with proposed gravel extraction by current landowners. Improved public access to Darent river corridor. Planning consent has been received for surface improvements to the existing riverside path for the Thames Riverside path between Johnson's Wharf and Dartford Creek (ref 10/01114/FUL)		11.9 ha	Groundwork Kent and Medway (Emma Ventham)				0
5.5.07	Southern Marshes Cycle link and Bob Dunn corridor upgrading	Creation of east-west pedestrian and cycle link running parallel to Bob Dunn Way with associated links onto Dartford and Crayford Marshes. New planting and habitat creation to support open grassland and wetland habitats of the marshes.		27.2 ha	Dartford Borough Council				0
5.5.08	Darent Valley Landscape Partnership Scheme Development	The Darent valley has a wealth of heritage (natural and industrial) and significant communities living and working along its length. There are major issues of accessibility and engagement by communities along the valley demonstrated through consultation and partner project work. This project focuses of improving; habitat connectivity, landscape, biodiversity, accessibility, public engagement and understanding of the heritage and value of the valley. This is a 2 phased project with this project requesting funding to enable the development of a stage 1 HLF bid for the Darent Valley.	An assessment of potential landscapes for a LPS was undertaken by the Kent Downs AONB Unit in collaboration with HLF. The Darent valley was determined as the top priority for a future scheme given its location (Thames gateway), heritage and need. The development phase based on recent applications-£100,000. Longer-term implementation £100,000. Longer-term implementation £100,000 upwards. delivery 2014 onwards subject to funding.	the estuary	Partnership Project - currently KDAONB Unit are chairing the working group (Nick Johanssen)	~ £100,000 based on known LPS development phases.	In kind resources are available through the partners ~ £10,000	£90,000	
5.06	River Cray Corridor								
5.06.01		Development of a restoration strategy for the whole river to restore better channel and riparian habitat - Morphological survey, BAP species surveys and production of recommendations to naturalise sections whilst reducing flood risk and enhancing biodiversity interest.		67.3 ha	Environment Agency	£320,000	£0	£320,000	1
5.06.02	River Cray Environmental Improvements	A strategy is in place for the regeneration of the River Cray in Bexley. This comprises biodiversity projects with a focus on BAP species and the eradication of invasive species, enviro-crime reduction, and a River Keeper, access and interpretation projects, education, community participation, and flood alleviation. New projects including Upper College Farm could be considered in the future for flood management. Funding secured for some invasive species management, graffiti cleaning, wildlife rescue, footpath repairs, the installation of flow deflectors and planting to deter graffiti.		67.3 ha	LBB/ NWKCP	£740,000	£40,000	£700,000	3
5.06.03	River Cray Flood Alleviation	As a result of widening Thames Road to make it a dual carriageway some flood plain was lost. In order to replace this the land between the railway bridge and River Cray to the south of Thames Road was lowered to create extra capacity and return it to the pre-dualing capacity. These works were carried out in November 2007. Coin rolls and plant mats were planting in April 2008. These have really taken hold and it's now a well established area. This project enhances the Metropolitan Green Belt.		28 ha	Bob Smith	£300,000	£0	£300,000	6
5.06.04	Barnes Cray Pastures	Potential land acquisition by agreement subject to funding being secured - Footpath upgrade, invasive species removal and wetland habitat creation on existing area of traditional riverside pasture. Fly tipping clearance will be necessary.		28 ha	LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Desiree Shepherd)				0
5.06.05	Crayford Town Centre Corridor	Enhancement of existing river corridor associated with the River Cray as it passes through Crayford Town Centre. The Crayford Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan 2005 proposes the creation of a mixed use development for the BT Island site. In this context, Crayford Bridge riverside walk will be created on BT Island North. This project is linked to a series of redevelopment projects proposed for Crayford Town Centre over the next few years and will need to address flood relief issues together with public access and biodiversity. Projects currently include Maxim Road, Riverside Remembrance Garden and Waterside refurbishment. Several large projects are proposed; Crayford Station Pedestrian Link, Crayford Road/Acorn Junction, Roman Way improvements, River Cray Walkway and Pedestrian Links. Desilting of the river will be necessary.		2 ha	Nicola Elcock		£2,200,000		0
5.06.06	Wansunt Channel	The River Wansunt runs from an outlet of the Hall Place Flood reservoir, across Crayford Rough, along Stadium Way, then across Crayford Industrial Estate, Acom Industrial park, to the North of the former Samas Roneo site and onto Barnes Cray Pastures and Crayford Marshes. It is proposed to de-canalise the Wansunt Channel as part of fluvial flood management of sites adjacent to Crayford Town Centre.		0.7 ha	LBB Engineering Services (Bob Smith)	1000000 - 5000000	£25,000	£25,000	1
5.06.07	Crayford Rough	State of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation. A Wildlife phase open habitat survey and management plan were developed for the site and should form the basis of any work. The aim is to enable the River Cray Walk to run along the river across this site and to development of the site as new publicly accessible open space and nature reserve. Over a Third of the site is to be handed over to the Council as part of a 106 agreement with Sainsbury. However further funning would still be required for further work on the newly acquired public section, as well as a long term solution for the rest of the site which is still in private ownership with little management. and management arrangements with owners of two other areas has not been secured, there is potential for the river path to be part of a planning gain for a piece of fand owned adjacent to the Rough. but there is no time scale for this. work on the following headlines will have to focus on the soon to be public section only: access and signage works, invasive species control, Habitat improvements (from the management plan) and path creation.	Path 30k	8.7 ha ( just under 4ha is coming to Council ownership and public open	LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£250,000	£30,000	£220,000	0
5.06.08	Hall Place and Gardens	Development of house and gardens as visitor attraction and educational centre. Enhancing physical relationship between gardens and the river Cray. Linking pedestrian and cycle access to Hall Place into public access strategy for the whole of the Cray Valley. New Changing rooms and upgrading of sports field.		7.7 ha	Bexley Heritage Trust	£8,900,000	£0	£8,900,000	0
5.06.09	garden	A sensory garden suitable for a range of different disabilities so focusing on scent, touch, sounds and layout to enable less mobile access.			Bexley Heritage Trust	£40,000.00			
5.06.10	Hall Place - Trim trail  Old Bexley Links & St Mary's Recreation ground	A course with a range of different exercise features/equipment along the route i.e.: a station approximately every 200m.  Coordinated plan for pedestrian and cycle links across A2 and other elements of road and railway infrastructure around Old Bexley to create direct access routes along Cray Valley, and to the River Shuttle. River Cray cycle route condition survey (Green CRISP) completed.  Will form part of the River Cray Strategy 5.6.01.		2.1 ha	LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor) LB Bexley Engineering Services (Andrew Bashford)	£20,000.00			0
5.06.12	Foots Cray Meadows	Foots Cray Meadows is the largest Open Space in the Borough and one of the most important for wildlife and local history. The aim is to conserve and enhance both the natural and human history and undertake, were appropriate, interpretation of key heritage features. The main project areas are:1). Lake Restoration. Desilting of the lake and reconstruction of the banks and islands. See report for full details specifications and options. Could be part of a bigger River Cray project that is being proposed by the EA. 2) Historic Landscape: Looking to interpret both the House and the Capability Brown landscape. Providing ground arkings, clearance and exposure of some key areas of the footprint of the house, and graphical information regarding the house and supporting historical landscape. 3) Fisheries Improvement 4) Trim Trail.  There is also potential for major works to river course with associated habitat creation providing both flood relief and enhanced biodiversity. Creation of enhanced public access to river course of an all interpretation of Mansion may be considered through Heritage Lottery Bld.		214.3 ha	LBB Engineering Services, Parks & Open Spaces and Public realm	£650,000	£34,000	£617,000	2
5.06.13	Hales Field	River restoration and naturalization. Creation of enhanced public access to river corridor and linkages to upper and lower stretches of the Cray valley. Undertake a full wildlife and flora survey of site.		1.5 ha	LB Bexley				0
5.06.14	River Cray Greenway	Pedestrian and cycle route from the mouth of the River Darent to the A20 Maidstone Road / LB Bromley Boundary. Following public highway and a variety of footpaths. This route would serve both short local utility trips and longer leisure journeys, and would increase the profile of the river as a local destination. The route intersects with the NCN and London Cycle Network Plus (LCN+) to link across the Borough.	Cycle Route Implementation Stakeholder Plan (CRISP) complete in Feb 09. This report detailed a number of recommendation for development of the routes - these require action.	13km	LB Bexley			£1.25 million	TBC
5.07	Joyden's Wood and Chalk Wood			101 -:	1000	007.7		057.7	
5.07.01		Enhancement of large area of existing ancient woodland extending across the GLA boundary into Kent. Improvement of pedestrian and cycle links to Cray Riverway and the wider area. The joint management of these woods by Bexley and Dartford should be considered. Woodland needs management, control of invasive species and reintroduction of coppicing. Signage to and from Joydens Wood to enable better access and linkages. Access/path improvements at entrances to the two sites. Replacement of old fencing along the bridle way.		191.9 ha	LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£80,000	£0	£80,000	2
5.07.02	Chalk Woods	Some sections of bridal way require upgrading drainage works, sections of bridal path fencing require renewal and more significant and long term woodland management (such as coppicing) works are necessary. Fencing protects woodland areas from damaging incursion from horses.			LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£60,000			
5.08	River Shuttle			50.01		0770 077	000.005	67.10.022	
5.08.01	River Shuttle - Action Plan	Production of river restoration strategy. Selective de-canalisation and environmental improvements to this significant but currently highly degraded watercourse. Link up fragmented, isolated water voles colonies. These works have the potential to create new habitats as well as provide important flood alleviation measures. Work to the river corridor should also include improved public access routes and links to existing neighbouring communities. £30,000 secured towards a morphological survey of the river, consideration of the links between Greenwich and Bexley, and access study.		52.3 ha	Laurence Pinturault	£770,000	£30,000	£740,000	2
5.08.02	The River Shuttle - Berwick Crescent Green Link	To provide a better green link from Parish Woods to Holly Oak Wood, with a range of river enhancements and signage. Taken from The River Shuttle Parks Masterplan. Project elements are individually costed and thus not all elements would need to be included at any one time.			LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£60,000.00			
5.08.03	The River Shuttle - Hollyoak Wood	River work, signage, interpretation, new trim trail and other recreation opportunities woodland management and extension. New pathways and other park furniture and infrastructure. Taken from The River Shuttle Parks Masterplan. Project elements are individually costed and thus not all elements would need to be included at any one time.			LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£400,000.00			
5.08.04	The River Shuttle - Willersley Park Master Plan	River work signage, interpretation new trim trail and other recreation opportunities including BMX improve opportunities for biodiversity and public access. New pat ways and other park furniture and infrastructure. Taken from the River Shuttle Parks Masterplan. Project elements are individually costed and thus not all elements would need to be included at any one time.			LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£400,000.00			
5.08.05	Park	Access and General infrastructure improvements, tree and shrub planting, extensive river works, new pathways, etc. Taken from The River Shuttle Parks Masterplan. Project elements are individually costed and thus not all elements would need to be included at any one time.			LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£520,000.00			
5.08.06	The River Shuttle - Bexley Park Wood	Murchison woods clearance. Management of woodland for increase public use and to deal with Health & Safety issues in a fenced section of Bexley Woods.			LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£20,000			

Project number	Project name	Project Description		Project size Project owner (ha / m)	Total cost	Funding in place	Funding required
5.01	Erith Marshes and Thamesmead	East					
5.01.01a	Erith Marshes Improvements Phase I	Erith Marsh is the most westerly of three tracks of grazing marsh in Bexley and Dartford. It has a narrow frontage to the River Thames and is made up of Crossness Nature Reserve and Crossness Southern Marsh. Substantial investment was made to the sites in 2005/106. More work is required to enhance public access, and to restore and manage the grazing marsh in line with the Managing the Marshes strategy and management plan. The Environment Agency is developing a number of high level options for managing flood risk in the Thames Estuary. A formal public consultation will be undertaken in 2007. Erith Marshes have been recognised as having spinificiant potential for very occasional tidal flood storage (1 in 100 years rate maximum), that would be green Grid Objectives. Following on from this the £10m Belvedere Green Links Programme, has invested in improving the Erith Marshes enhancing public access through improved signage, lighting and gateway features, new pathways and additional viewing mounds, seating and interpretation and enhancing biodiversity and flood storage through desilting and improvements to Belvedere Dyke.	A management and maintenance plan is has been developed and ongoing monitoring will take place.	111.7 ha LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean)	£2.8m 2011 update from projected 1000000 (2007)	03	£28,000,000
5.01.01b	Erith Marshes improvements Phase II	Crossness Nature Reserve and Southern Marshes form part of the Erith Marsh complex and are a valuable local asset within the LB Bexley. Visitor numbers are currently low; site improvements could increase usage and increase the site's ability to become a good local educational resource. The project would provide new ponds and dipping platforms for enhanced school visits; fencing, gates, resurfaced footpaths and entrance feature to enhance access, wetland enhancements including new scrapes, tern rafts, sand martin and kingfisher banks, ditch restoration; wildlife nesting tower	The individual projects that make up this proposal are all easily delivered without the need for feasibility studies in our view. Elements of project can be broken down as in case the project needs to be tailored ac	50ha Thames Water's Crossness Nature Rese Manager, Karen Sutton	£200,000 rve [approx.]	None	£200,000
5.01.02	Crossness Pumping Station - The Great Stink Project	Crossness Pumping Station, on the River Thames at Thamesmead, is a core part of the Thames Gateway's cultural infrastructure. Plans to develop 'The Great Stink as a major heritage attraction are underway. This project aims to allow local people and visitors to the area to enfel from this unique facility, learn about a key part o Britain's Industrial history, develop new skills and enhance the area's green spaces. Its location in Thamesmead, one of the most deprived communities in the Thames Gateway, makes it a particularly important project. Improving the cultural offer of the area will be key to regeneration - attracting a more diverse range of families particularly high income households. This supports the success of the Tavy Bridge redevelopment and future schemes which seek to redress Thamesmead housing will create a new tourist attraction at the heart of one of the Gateway's most deprived communities. The buildings have now been restored and the space created where the public exhibition will take place.	f s	2.9 ha Partnership CET (Mike Jones), LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneral (Desiree Shepherd), Thames Water	£3,815,380	£3,615,380.00	£200,000
		the existing footpath network the road originally severed. The bridge will also seek to overcome severance of the communities to the south from the Thames frontage. The bridge viability was investigated as part of the Belvedere Green Links Programme as a possible project. However investigations revealed it was not possible to put in a at this stage to put in a bridge crossing due to likely costs verses current usage. At grade pedestrian crossing point was also investigated but this deemed unviable due to traffic flow and speeds across Eastern Way. The solution was to cut back vegetation to improve visibility and footway improvements making this route after for pedestrians, with a long-term aspiration for a bridge crossing here.	crossing see phase 2.	798 m LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean)	£62,432	£0	
5.01.03b		Aspiration is to provide a pedestrian bridge crossing point over the A2016 (Eastern Way) to link the northern and southern grazing marshes, as well reconnecting to the existing footpath network the road originally severed. The bridge will also seek to overcome severance of the communities to the south from the Thames frontage.	more viable as the area develops.	798 m LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Anna Bourne)		£0	£1,500,000
5.01.04	Links to Belvedere Station	Pedestrian and cycle links along existing public highways providing enhanced connections between Erith Marshes and Belvedere railway station. Extensive work has been completed as part of the Belvedere Green Links Programme to the station and on improving accessibility from the station to Erith Marshes and the Employment Area. This includes range of public realm treatments at the Belvedere Station, Picardy Flyover, Norman Road, Station Road as well as new fencing, improved lighting, footway re-surfacing, benches and signage.	'	601 m LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean)	£731,648. 2011 update from projected 160000 (2007)	£60,000	£100,000
5.01.05a	Links to Abbey Wood and Railway Crossing	Improvements to the Abbey Link Bridge between Lesnes and Southmere Park/Erith Marshes have been completed as part of the Belvedere Green Links Programme, through the delivery of improved entranceways to St-Katherine's Road and Belvedere Road Entrances to Southmere Park and Erith Marshes. A walking and cycling map for Belvedere has been developed that promotes connections to Lesnes Abbey Wood, which included a righting scheme lighting scheme.		722 m LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean)	£180,000	£0	£100,000
5.01.05b	Links from Abbey Wood Railway Station to Lesnes Abbey Wood	Pedestrian and cycle links along existing public highways and station signage and access improvements. This is to integrate the station into the wider area and improve linkages to the adjacent heritage site and historic marshes. The bridge is a long term aspiration.	Explore opportunities arising from the Abbey Wood Station upgrade and Lesnes Abbey Wood Enhancement Project. Linking up with Thames Water and Gallions.	722 m LBB (Anna Bourne and Mark Taylor)	£100,000	£0	£100,000
5.01.06a		This project has two phases. The first phase focused on Thamesmead Park improvements. These included new fencing, new paths, signage and way finding features, new seating and horse paddock improvements. The Southmere Park and the Woodland Walk project is still aspirational and will be delivered in phase 2.		6.9 ha LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean), Gallions HA (Tot Broad)	£381,089		
5.01.06b	Southmere Park, Woodland Walk linkages and Thamesmead Park Improvements Phase II	Wetland creation and other enhancements to woodland on eastern section as mitigation for development on adjacent land. Potential for habitat creation and habitat enhancements to existing lake to western end. Wetland creation will include water vole habitat. Potential for the development of a farming project on Southmere Park with a focus on animal wetlera end managed grazing. This project will become a community resource. In addition, Gallions are bidding for funding from Parks for People towards linking up 3 parks in Thamesmead.		6.9 ha Gallions HA (Tom Broad	£5,062,911		
5.01.07	Veridion Park London and Woodland Walk	Project to enhance linkages from employment sites to open spaces and the River Thames. Tree planting in Woodland Way has been completed. This planting includes black poplar – a Bexley Biodiversity Action Plan target species.	'	6.1 ha LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Rod Lean)	£562000. 2011 update from projected 60000(2007)	93	£60,000
5.01.08	Ridgeway: Path Crossing	Proposal to wayfinding improvements to connect with Green Chain and Footpath 2 and to augment edible species on the Ridgeway.		Thames Water (Rosema Waugh)	iry		
5.01.09	Ridgeway: Marsh Lookout	Proposal for improvements to the existing ramps, signage and furniture at the crossing point on the Ridgeway and Green Chain Walk. Creation of a viewing platform including augmenting the existing forage species of plum trees and blackberries.		Thames Water (Rosema Waugh), LBB (Desiree Shepherd)	ry see 5.12.03c		
5.01.10	Ridgeway: Enlightened Underpass	Proposal for an artist lighting commission to be delivered with young people to illuminate the currently dark and gloomy underside of the flyover using renewable energy sources and turn a threatening environment into a gateway for the Ridgeway.		LBB (Saskia Delman)	see 5.12.03c		
5.01.11	Ridgeway: Football Club Path	Proposal to improve the ramped access on the north side of Ridgeway and create an entrance to the football club with hard landscaping augmented with planting.		LBB Strategic Planning and Regeneration (Desi Shepherd)	£532,013 ree		£532,013
5.01.12	Ridgeway: Grazing Enclosures	Proposal to license sites for horse grazing. The license will include welfare clause and each site will have an enclosure and shelter. Grazing is an effective means to maintain grassland and control invasive shrubs.		Thames Water	£20 per linear metre fencing & £5000 Demountable enclosure		
5.01.13	Ridgeway: Crossness Gateway	Proposal for level access onto east end of Ridgeway from Thames Path to co-ordinate with the proposed link road and entrance to Crossness visitor Centre, prioritising pedestrian and cycle movement over vehicular traffic.		Tilfen/Crossness Engine Trust/ Thames Water	s £38,283		
5.01.14	Ridgeway: The Social Cinema	Proposal for improvements to the existing ramp on the Ridgeway near the Arches at Harrow Manor Way flyover to create an outside space for the MyPlace Youth Leisure Zone, to be designed and delivered in consultation and Collaboration with young people.		Thames Water (Rosema Waugh) /Trust Thamesmead (Mick Hayes)/ LBB (Jacqueline Skinner)	capital + £15000		£96,525
5.02	Lesnes Abbey Woods						
5.02.01	Lesnes Abbey Woods Enhancement Project	Lesnes Abbey Woods is one of the largest open spaces in the London Borough of Bevley. The site is of regional importance for its wealth of human and natural heritage and yet it does not have the facilities of infrastructure to fully engage or attract visitors to explore what has to offer. Located near areas of deprivation and with poor access to other quality open space, Lesnes should be able to reach out further to local people as well as those further afield-making the most of Crossrail which will terminate at Abbey Wood Station.  Em bid to heritage lottery has been submitted to improve interpretation and access throughout the site, undertake a number of conservation projects to preserve the heritage and biodiversity features of the site, develop and deliver a community, education and volunteer event and training programme spanning 5 years and upgrade current facilities e.g., re-work the current visitions facility into a education resource, provide additional play facilities. It is hoped once the Lesnes Abbey Woods Enhancement Projects is designed and delivered, the site is a better position to increase visitor experience and numbers creating a stronger business can	Secure HLF funding to develop a master plan for the site.	91.2 ha LBB (Mark Taylor / Rod Lean)	£3,000,000	£0	£3,000,000
5.02.02	Lesnes Abbey Woods Visitor Centre	Lesnes Abbey Woods is one of the Borough's 5 most important Flag Parks and is the second largest open space in the Borough already and important open space the site is of borough and regional importance for its human an natural history. With Cross rail terminating at Abbey Wood Station, there is the potential to dramatically increase the number and range of visitors to this important site. A wide range of improvements have been prosed and are being taken forward largely in a HLF lottery bid. However even if it is successful, it will not fund a new innovative visitor centre, that has been deemed to be required to help fully unlock the site's potential. The building is too small too inflexible and the current layout and content is poor. The preferred option is for a wistor centre, which in addition to providing improved interpretation of the park, would be built to a sustainable design and would showcase these elements to the public and be a flexible community space to encourage different groups into the park. Depending on the size of the building and facilities proposed within it, around £2 million is the estimated cost of such as a modern, energy efficient building.	Explore funding opportunities.	91.2 ha LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£2,000,000	£0	£2,000,000
5.02.03	Lesnes Abbey Woods - Woodland managements	To implement the recommendations in the management plan, looking at re introducing a range of coppicing pollarding and high forest management.	funding opportunities.	65ha LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£85,000.00		
5.02.04	Lesnes Abbey Woods - Heathland management	To implement the recommendations in the management plan, looking at continuing restoration of the heathland.	,	2ha LBB Parks and Open Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£6,000.00		
5.02.05	Lesnes Abbey Woods - Pond management	To implement the recommendations in the management plan, looking at works to 5 ponds.		Less than LBB Parks and Open 1ha Spaces (Mark Taylor)	£50,000.00		







#### Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders:

Thames Water

#### Governance:

London Borough of Bexley

#### **Project Owner:**

Thames Water's Crossness Nature Reserve Manager: Karen Sutton

#### Land Ownership:

Thames Water, managed by their Conservation, Access and Recreation Team within External Affairs

#### Planning Issues / Designations:

SMINC and a S106 managed in partnership with LB Bexley; Crossness Southern Marshes is a SMINC Local authority planning permission may be required for elements of this project: Land drainage consent not required.

#### Borough:

London Borough of Bexley

#### OS grid reference:

TQ 495002

Size - Area: 50ha

Next Steps: Design and delivery

**Total Cost:** £250,000

Funding in Place: None

Funding Required: £250,000

#### 5.1.01 Erith Marshes Phase II

The Thames Water-owned Crossness Nature Reserve and Crossness Southern Marshes form part of the Erith Marsh complex and is a valuable local asset within the LB Bexley.

The project objective will improve biodiversity, increase visitor numbers and povide an enhanced visitor experience. Visitor numbers are currently low and parts of the site are prone to abuse/vandalism. An increase in biodiversity and an enhanced visitor experience will be acheived by providing improved access, wildlife features to view and interact with, and a managed environment that is welcoming to visitors. The project would provide new ponds and dipping platforms for enhanced school visits; fencing, gates, resurfaced footpaths and entrance feature to

enhance access; wetland enhancements including new scrapes, tern rafts, sand martin and kingfisher banks, ditch restoration and wildlife nesting tower to improve biodiversity and encourage increase use by visitors both locally and regionally.





#### Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders:

HCA, Heritage Lottery Fund, English Heritage, Welcome trust, Cory Environmental Trust, Biffa,

Governance: Crossness Engines Trust

**Project Owner:** Crossness Engines Trust

**Land Ownership:** The site is owned by Thames Water with long lease to CET

**Planning Issues / Designations:** Planning Permission already acquired. Detailed design of the access road still to be ratified by the Planning Authority.

Borough: London Borough of Bexley

Size - Area: Landscaping 1Ha, Access Rd 500m

#### Next Steps:

Detailed design to be agreed and funding secured to be delivered.

**Total Cost:** £902,000

Funding in Place: £687,000

Funding Required: £215,000

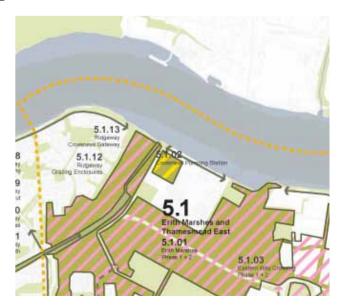
#### **5.1.02 Crossness Pumping Station**

The project is to both design and construct an access road to the exihibition space, whilst also to landscape the area surrounding the grade 1 listed building which has been upgraded for a new visitors and exhibition centre. An Interpretation and Landscaping plan has been approved by HLF.

The Crossness Engine Trust (CET) has managed to gain a lot of support for the design and build of the visitors centre in a listed grade 1 building. Due to security issues Thames Water requires that The CET gain a new access route outside of their site to the facility. The access to this site is on Tilfen land against the flood defence. Complex land negotiations and construction methods will be required for this aspect of the works.

The timing of the landcaping works is linked to the Access Road programme late 2012/ early 2013. Both elements of this project will look to deliver an enhanced, distinctive visitor destination, whilst increasing access to nature (Crossness Nature Reserve) and managing flood risk (monitoring of river wall).

A shortfall of £200,000 has been identified to bring the access road to fruition, with £15,000 sought for the landscaping elements.





#### Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders:

LBB, HLF, Bexley Heritage Trust, Natural England, English Heritage, Lesnes Abbey Conservation Volunteers, Trust Thamesmead

#### Governance:

LB Bexley to manage, setting up working and steering groups draing in other stakeholders / partners

Project Owner: LB Bexley (Mark Taylor)

Land Ownership: London Borough of Bexley

#### Planning Issues / Designations:

Site is Metropolitan open land and A Site Of metropolitan importance for Nature conservation. Over 7ha of the site is designated an SSSI. It is an area of archaeological search and part of the SE London Green Chain.

Borough: LB Bexley

**OS** grid reference: 54800-17850

Size - Area: 88 ha

#### **Next Steps:**

Delivery of the development stage, seek match funding for proposed delivery phase and for elements outside the HLF Project identified within LBB's outline master plan.

Total Cost: £4,093,474

Funding in Place: Development grant from HLF £244,586 (

£220,586 HLF £24,000 LBB)

Funding Required: £3,848,888

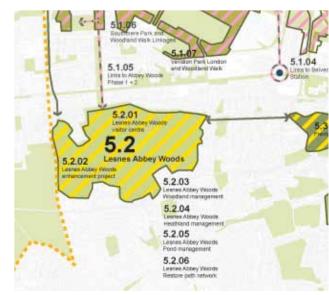
#### 5.2.01 Lesnes Abbey Woods Enhancement

Lesnes Abbey Woods is one of the largest open spaces in the London Borough of Bexley. The site is of regional importance yet it does not have the facilities of infrastructure to fully engage or attract visitors to explore what it has to offer. Located near areas of deprivation and with poor access to other quality open space, Lesnes should be able to reach out further to local people as well as those further afield-making the most of Crossrail which will terminate at Abbey Wood Station.

A £3m bid to heritage lottery has been submitted to improve interpretation and access throughout the site, undertake a number of conservation projects to preserve the heritage and biodiversity features of the site, develop and deliver a community, education

and volunteer event and training programme spanning 5 years and upgrade current facilities e.g. re-work the current visitors facility into a education resource, provide additional play facilities and events facilities. It is hoped once the Lesnes Abbey Woods Enhancement Projects is designed and delivered, the site is a better position to increase visitor experience and numbers creating a stronger business case for the proposed new visitors facility over the longer term.

The whole project has been phased, the first phase will seek funds from HLF for £3million matched by LBB and funding for the second phase is currently being investigated.





**Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders:** London Borough of Bexley and Transport for London

**Governance:** The project is overseen and delivered by the Crossness Engines Trust.

Project Owner: TFL / LB Bexley

Land Ownership: Public highway

Planning Issues / Designations: None

Borough: LB Bexley

**Next Steps:** Future funding from TfL will pay for small pedestrian improvement, however, if more extensive funding was made available measures to help slow down traffic could be installed to improve the safety of pedestrians on these routes.

**Total Cost:** £450,000

Funding in Place: £30,000

Funding Required: £410,000

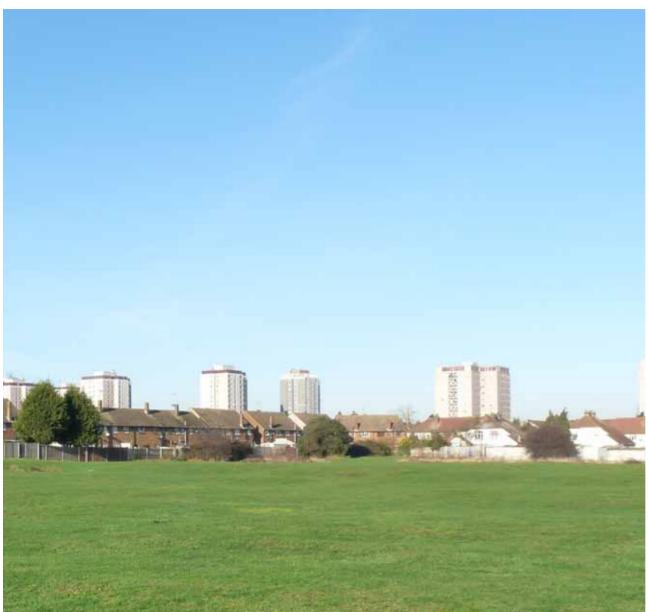
#### 5.3.04 Erith Pedestrian Links

Erith pedestrian links is comprised of three walking routes aimed at encouraging local residents to walk to Erith Town Centre. The three routes all link up with the main North South corridor formed by the A2016 / A206 Bronze Age Way to Northend Road, which in two instances must be crossed to access Erith Town Centre. These routes are the Lesnes Heath / Holly Hill link and the Northumberland Heath / Erith Railway Station link. Both of these routes aim to improve pedestrian facilities and create a safer environment for road users, thus encouraging people to walk to and from the Town Centre. The third route the Northend link aims to develop and formalise walking routes from Slade Green Rail station, the Howbury Centre and its adjacent sites, providing a direct link to Manor

Road which leads to Erith Town Centre.

The scheme is aimed at exploiting the potential of local routes to the town centre and Erith High Street. This project makes sustainable travel connections and will contribute to enhancing distinctive local destinations. As this project is walking and cycling it also helps promote healthy living.





#### Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders:

LB Bexley.

Project Owner: LB Bexley (Mark Taylor)

Land Ownership: London Borough of Bexley

**Planning Issues / Designations:** Designated as urban open land

**Borough:** London Borough of Bexley

**OS grid reference:** Craydene OS 55780-17670. Whitehall Lane OS 55210-17660. Howbruy Lane OS 55220-17640

Size - Area: 12.2 Ha total

**Total Cost:** £25,000

Funding in Place: None

Funding Required: £25,000

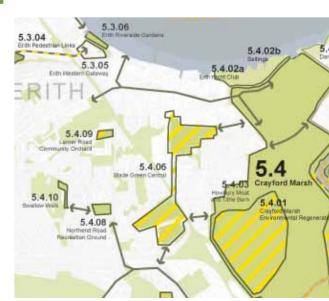
#### 5.4.07 Slade Green Central

Slade Green contains several open spaces which offer limited opportunities for local people and yet could contribute to the provision of much needed amenity facilities. A strategy is needed- developed with local people's input - to improve access to these, to consider layout and site uses in the context of the redevelopment potential of the wider area of Slade Green.

This site of Borough Importance for nature conservation could become a place for informal recreation and enjoyment of nature, by continuing native hedgerow planting, including species to attract butterflies, planting clumps of low scrub as cover for birds, developing a pond or deepening existing ditches, and by developing management plan to

promote public recreation and habitat for butterflies. Some of the sites are now known to support reptiles and amphibians and these must be considered in any proposals.

The overall objective is to improve these three open spaces with realistic but desirable schemes that deliver: biodiversity improvements; public access; and landscape improvements together with new attractive appropriate and low maintenance facilities.





Associated Projects: Larner Road Estate Regeneration

**Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders**Orbit South HA, Homes and Communities Agency

Project Owner: Caroline Field, Regeneration Project Manager

Land Ownership: Orbit South

**Planning Issues / Designations:** Planning application to be

submitted 2012

Borough: LB Bexley

OS grid reference: Erith

Size - Area: 2ha

**Next Steps:** Community consultation early 2012. Outline planning application 2012. Detailed design 2012-13

**Total Cost:** £100,000

Funding in Place: TBC

Funding Required: £100,000

#### 5.4.09 Larner Road Community Orchard

Restoration of an overgrown and neglected area to provide improved ecological value and public access. There are existing wild fruit trees in the area and this existing condition may be built upon through conserving these trees and planting more. There are numerous opportunities to improve habitat for key species, fitting in with wider habitat objectives. There will also be opportunities to improve habitat in the wider regeneration of Larner Rd - current barren areas of mown grass will be reprovided by new communal/park gardens.

The area (known locally as the Dell) is currently designated an area of local ecological interest but public access is poor. There is no proper path, it is not open to view, is perceived as dangerous and

attracts dumped rubbish. This project will improve and promote access to a semi-wild open space. The Dell provides sustainable urban drainage (SUDS) for the Larner Rd estate. We will link the improved community orchard to a community development programme to encourage local people to make use of wild foods and fruit. Nearby schools have been offered fruit tree planting in their grounds to raise awareness among children (and families) of the value and interest of hedgerow foods.





#### **Associated Projects:**

Dartford Marsh Environmental Regeneration

#### Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders:

Supported by the Managing the Marshes (Dartford ) Steering Group Funders - SITA Trust UK Enriching Nature programme, Wetland Habitat Project Fund

#### Governance:

The project is overseen by the Managing the Marshes (Dartford) Steering Group. The delivery agency is Groundwork Kent and Medway

#### **Project Owner:**

Emma Ventham, Groundwork Kent and Medway

#### Land Ownership:

Dartford Borough Council

#### Planning Issues / Designations:

No planning approvals required.

Borough: Dartford

**OS grid reference:** TQ 554176

Size - Area: 45ha

#### **Next Steps:**

Yrs 1 and 2 of the restoration project have been completed. Year 3 is due to start in September 2012 for completion in early 2013

#### **Total Cost:**

£180,574

Funding in Place:

#### **Funding Required:**

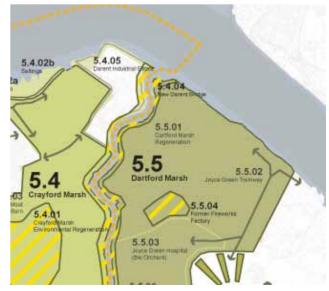
£150,000

# 5.5.01 Dartford Marsh Environmental Regeneration (East End Marsh Restoration)

East End Marsh is an area of 45ha of degraded grazing marsh that forms part of Dartford Marshes. The site has not been formally managed for conservation and is now under the ownership of Dartford Borough Council which wants to restore the site to grazing marsh. The aim of the project is to return East End Marsh to an ecologically functioning grazing marsh. This will be achieved through habitat management works including scrub clearance, and ditch re-profiling and vegetation clearance.

Dartford Marshes is a key site for water voles and ditch restoration work proposed as part of this project will enable these now isolated ditches to be reconnected with the main body of the marsh.

This will enable water voles to re-colonise these ditches and establish sustainable populations. Years 1 and 2 of the restoration works are now complete. Work on year 3 of the programme will begin in September 2012 for completion early in 2013. Dartford Borough Council are also looking to undertake some access enhancement work that will improve access running north - south through the site. The project will help to increase access to open space and access to nature whilst managing flood risk (through ditch restoration).





#### Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders

A working group is established made up of key stakeholders; Dartford Borough Council, London Borough of Bexley, Kent Wildlife Trust, Kent County Council, Kent Downs AONB Unit, NE, EA, North West Kent Countryside Partnership and Greening the Gateway Kent and Medway.

#### Project Owner:

Caroline Drewett, North West Kent Country Partnership.

#### Project Manager:

Partnership Project - currently KDAONB Unit are chairing the working group (Nick Johanssen)

#### Planning Issues / Designations:

The project development will directly deliver the Green Grid, Kent Downs AONB Statutory management plan and Kent's Environment Strategy.

#### Borough:

LB Bexley, Dartford, Sevenoaks

#### Size - Area:

Darent valley from the estuary through to Westerham, Sevenoaks

#### **Total Cost:**

£100,000 based on known LPS development phases.

#### Funding in Place:

£10,000

#### **Funding Required:**

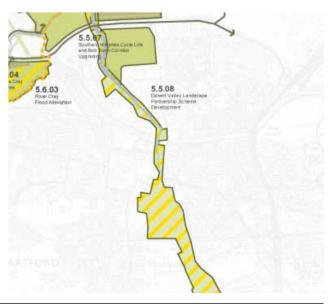
£90,000

# 5.5.08 Darent Valley Landscape Partnership Scheme Development

Landscape Restoration, enhancement and Community engagement. This is a phased project;
1) Development of a 5 year Landscape Partnership Scheme application for the Darent Valley to HLF and b) Implementation of the DVLPS. This bid focuses on phase 1 - development.

The Darent valley has a wealth of heritage (natural and industrial) and significant communities living and working along its length. There are major issues of accessibility and engagement by communities along the valley demontrated through consultation and partner project work. This project focuses on improving; habitat connectivity, landscape, biodiversity, accessibility, public engagement and

understanding of the heritage and value of the valley. This is a 2 phased project with this project requesting funding to enable the development of a stage 1 HLF bid for the Darent Valley. A working group is established who have the capacity and skills to deliver collectively. Funding is needed to contract specialist services (for example heritage assessment), fund the coordination of the project and provide resources for the partners to deliver the project work.





#### **Associated Projects:**

5.6.12 Foots Cray meadows

#### Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders:

NWKCP is a delivery partner

#### Governance:

NWKCP is one of many delivery partners

#### Project Owner:

NWKCP - lead on invasive species programme and some river restoration schemes.

#### Land Ownership:

Landownership agreements are in place through the invasives species control programme.

Borough: London Borough of Bexley

**OS grid reference:** The project covers the length of the river.

Size - Area: Length of the River Cray

**Next Steps:** Additional survey work, landowner liaison and control is needed for the river systems in the borough.

Total Cost: £25,000 Invasive species, River restoration: N/a

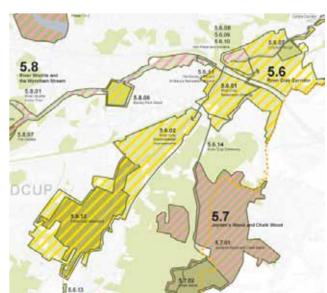
Funding in Place: £22,000 for River Restoration

**Funding Required:** £25,000 for 5yrs Invasive species project. River restoration to be delivered to available budget

#### 5.6.02 River Cray Environmental Improvements

This project is made up of two elements: an invasive species project and a river restoration project. The invasive species programme is coordinated across North West, Mid, and West Kent including the London Borough of Bexley. The project covers the Medway catchment and the Darent, Cray and Shuttle in the Thames catchment. It provides coordinated advice and practical control for floristic invasives (priority Giant Howeed and floating pennywort). A Partnership Officer manages the consents, spray contracting, landowner liaison and project management. The project is a partnership and funded between landowners, local authorities, NE and the Environment Agency. The project is long term due to the nature of the invasives concerned. The Cray

river restoration project is working with partners to restore the biodiversity of the river corridor and improve fish passage (priorities for the Water Framework Directive). This project includes Foots Cray meadows 5.6.12. The restoration and invasives projects increase access to nature and open space and indirectly manage flood risk through river management and restoration.





#### **Associated Projects:**

5.6.02 River Cray Environmental Improvements

#### Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders:

LBB, Thames 21, Environment Agency, Natural England, Friends of Foots Cray Meadows, Brown Trout Trust, North West Kent Countryside Partnership

#### Governance:

London Borough of Bexley

#### **Project Owner:**

LB Bexley (Mark Taylor / Bob Smith)

#### Land Ownership:

London Borough of Bexley

#### Planning Issues / Designations:

London Metropolitan Green Belt and Metropolitan importance for nature conservation. Most aspects involving the river will require EA consent

#### Borough:

London Borough of Bexley

**OS** grid reference: 54750-17180

Size - Area: 98ha

Next Steps: All four main projects have been scoped to different

degrees

Total Cost: £650,000

Funding in Place: £30,000 (EA and planning gain)

Funding Required: £620,000

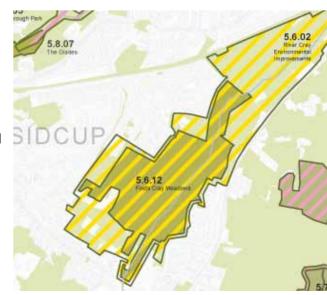
#### 5.6.12 Foots Cray Meadows

Foots Cray Meadows is the largest Open Space in the Borough and one of the most important for wildlife and local history. The aim is to conserve and enhance both the natural and human history and undertake, were appropriate, interpretation of key heritage features. The main project areas are:

- 1) Lake Restoration: De-silting of the lake and reconstruction of the banks and islands. See report for full details specifications and options. Could be part of a bigger River Cray project that is being proposed by the EA.
- 2) Historic Landscape: Looking to interpret both the site of the former House and the Capability Brown landscape. Providing ground markings, clearance and exposure of some key areas of the footprint of the

house, and graphical information regarding the house and supporting historical landscape.

- 3) Fisheries Improvement
- 4) Trim trail: Potential for major works to river course with associated habitat creation providing both flood relief and enhanced biodiversity. Creation of enhanced public access to river corridor and linkages to upper and lower stretches of the River Cray. Limited restoration and interpretation of mansion may be considered through a HLF Bid.





#### **Associated Projects:**

5.8.07 The Glades

#### Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders:

LBB, The Envionment Agency, Thames 21.

#### Governance:

LBB Park & Open Spaces

#### **Project Owner:**

LB Bexley (Mark Taylor)

#### Land Ownership:

LB Bexley

#### Planning Issues / Designations:

Most aspects involving the river will require EA consent

#### Borough:

London Borough of Bexley

OS grid reference: N/a

#### Size - Area:

Length of the River Shuttle

#### **Next Steps:**

Work will proceed on development of priority projects focusing on those with existing funding or identified sources.

Total Cost: £1,400,000

Funding in Place: £19,000

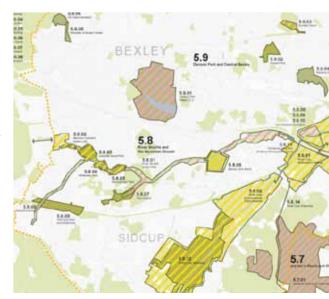
Funding Required: £1,400,000

#### 5.8.02-05 The River Shuttle Parks

The River Shuttle passes through five key green spaces - Berwick Crescent Green Link, Hollyoak Wood Park, Willersley Park, Marlborough Park and Bexley Park Woods. The first four of these are included in LBB's River Shuttle Parks masterplan, the key aims of which are generally in line with ALGG Priorities, i.e. to enhance green infrastructure, support regeneration, reducing flood risk, enhancing biodiversity, providing for recreation and leisure and engaging communities. This masterplan seeks to create a new strong spatial and programmatic coherency between these spaces to increase their collective draw as a local resource and destination, by reconnecting the spaces with each other, and the river Shuttle which runs through them. This will be achieved through the adoption

of ell-developed strategy that includes a common approach to improving access, biodiversity and the river morphology across all four parks, while strengthening the character and special offer of each space on its own terms.

A shared material palette, including path treatments, park entrance treatments, signage and furniture has been developed for all parks and the first instances of these have been succesfully installed at Parish Wood Park, the most Westerly of the Shuttle Parks.





#### Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders:

Bexley Heritage Trust, friends of Danson Park, Danson Stables Restaurant, 42 Restaurant, Danson Park Bowls Club.

#### Governance:

LBB Park & Open Spaces

#### Project Owner:

LB Bexley (Colin Rowland)

#### Land Ownership:

London Borough of Bexley

#### Planning Issues / Designations:

Metropolitan urban land and borough site for nature conservation importance

Borough: London Borough of Bexley

**OS** grid reference: 54730-17520

Size - Area: 65ha

**Next Steps:** Work will proceed on development of priority projects focusing on those with existing funding or identified sources.

Total Cost: £1,485,000

Funding in Place: £500,000 (expected from planning gain)

Funding Required: £ 900,000

#### 5.9.01b Danson Park Phase II

Danson is Bexley's busiest Park hosting a wide range of sporting, community and commercial events through the year. This requires a wide range of high quality facilities and infrastructure if it is to retain quality and desirability.

Many of the improvements listed for Phase two are enhancements to existing schemes or work to ensure the high quality and carrying capacity of this Park, some schemes are essential for long term viability of certain park functions. All schemes need to consider the biodiversity of the site and its landscape heritage. Phase 2 consists of over 23 individual projects which can be delivered separately or in small clusters. At 65ha, the parks strategic importance is also highlighted by the following: it is a site of borough

importance for nature conservation and metropolitan Open Land, and site of grade 1 listed 17th century mansion.

Further investment in the site is required to maintain its popularity with the public and to increase its capacity for and attractiveness to existing and new visitors. Many of the projects increase public access to open space and nature, they also help mitigate or reduce the impacts of climate change and encourage sustainable travel (more walking and cycling) as well as promoting healthy living and providing opportunities to deliver a wide range of formal and informal skills training.





#### Governance:

LB Bexley, Project Sponsor and delivery agent, Parks & Open Spaces and Public Realm

Project Owner: LB Bexley (Mark Taylor)

Land Ownership: LB Bexley, Parks & Open Spaces

**Planning Issues / Designations:** The site is classified as urban open space and an area of borough importance for nature conservation

Borough: LB Bexley

OS grid reference: 5498-1764

Size - Area: 330m

Total Cost: £33,000

Funding in Place: None

Funding Required: £33,000

#### 5.9.03 Bursted Wood

Bursted Wood requires a new path to connect the school and Swanbridge Road with Erith Road, allowing better pedestrian access to Bursted Wood School and Barnehurst Station. The open land adjacent to Bursted Wood is ideal as a safe and quick route between these roads and sites- cutting out a long alterantive walk on the public highway. However, in wet weather the ground along the well trodden path becomes muddy and therefore not suitable for those going to work or school without a change of footwear. By providing a better all-weather surface and considering shared usage with cycles, the scheme will enable better travel connections between to high usage public destinations, which is likely to lead to a considerable increase in walking and cycling along

that route and reduced alternative car journeys which will reduce local air pollution and congestion. It will also promote healthy lifestyle by encouraging more walking and cycling, and will also encourage more people to use the open space and woodland as well as bringing more people in to closer proximity to nature.





#### Governance:

NWKCP is the Project manager and will deliver the environmental projects and training.

#### **Project Owner:**

NWKCP - Caroline Drewett

#### Land Ownership:

The project utilises publically accessible sites.

#### Borough:

London Borough of Bexley, Sevenoaks District, Gravesham Borough, Dartford Borough

#### **Next Steps:**

Secure the funding to enable a detailed project plan and implementation.

#### **Total Cost:**

£300,000 over 3 years (100k for LB Bexley)

#### Funding in Place:

£30,000 match.

#### Funding Required:

Subject to the Chances 4 Change bid being successful, funding from 13/14 financial year onwards for a minimum of £300,000 over 3 years (LBB specifically this would amount to £100,000 over 3 years)

#### 5.10.01 Naturally Active - NW Kent and LB Bexley

This project provides resources and support for the promotion and delivery of accessible outdoor activities through a holistic programme which brings together healthy living, nutrition, physical exercise and social inclusion.

The primary focus will be improving mental wellbeing through direct participation in the outdoors and increasing skills. Extensive testing through a pilot project for Naturally Active demonstrated the need for further groups in N Kent and LBB and the provision of a wider more holistic support network. Coordinated by NWKCP, partners such as Healthy Living Centres will deliver services to key target groups.

The aim of the project is to develop greater skills, capacity and confidence in accessing the countryside

over a 3 year programme for participants and through resources and support the wider community. Sites to be utilised across the NWK and LBB could include; Lesnes Abbey, Darent Valley - Ecology Park Dartford, Danson Park.

Objectives;

- 1) Increase accessibility of open spaces by overcoming isolation, physical and mental barriers of communities.
- 2) increase skills and knowledge within communities through local champions to promote and develop greater understanding of healthy living.
- 3) Develop resources and capacity within communities to provide services for outdoor recreation and healthy living activities.





#### Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders

Lead - North West Kent Countryside Partnership with a working group set up of voluntary organisations e.g. Kent Bat group and Kent Field Club.

#### Project Owner:

Caroline Drewett NWKCP Manager

#### Land Ownership:

Individual landowners and community groups.

#### Planning Issues / Designations:

For sites designated (LWS for example) the relevant organisation will be approached.

Borough: LB Bexley

**OS grid reference:** Various

#### Next Steps:

Completion of the HLF funding bid - End December 2011. Project start - summer 2012 subject to funding.

**Total Cost:** £50,000 (across North, West Kent and LBB)

#### Funding in Place:

HLF bid being submitted for North, West and Mid Kent and the London Borough of Bexley.

#### Funding Required:

£15,000 for a 3 year project.

#### 5.10.02 Living Churchyards

Restoration and biodiversity enhancement of churchyards. The project will work with the church and associated community groups to increase the biodiversity of specifically closed churchyards and a proportion of open churchyards where there is biodiversity need and local interest.

The project will include ecological surveying, site management, training and education.

This project increases access to nature and increases the biodiversity of the sites. It contributes to environmental training for community groups.





#### Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders:

North West Kent Countryside Partnership (NWKCP) working with primary schools in the borough.

**Governance:** Lead and delivery organisation NWKCP (KCC)

Project Owner: Caroline Drewett NWKCP Manager

Land Ownership: Site acquisition is not required.

Planning Issues / Designations: None

Borough: LB Bexley

**Next Steps:** There is a need to develop the project to cover environmental training for teachers on site following the work.

**Total Cost:** £18,000 per year (p/t officer) and £4000 materials budget

**Funding in Place:** HLF bid being submitted for parts of Kent and the London Borough of Bexley.

Funding Required: £18,000 per year (p/t officer) and £4,000 materials budget.

### 5.10.03 Bexley School Grounds Programme

The project will work with local schools to improve their grounds for wildlife and increase environmental education on site. The project is a continuation and an extension of the current scheme. It will directly deliver the LBB Local Biodiversity Action Plan. This project increases access to nature and contributes to green skills for the pupils, staff and volunteers working on the projects.





# **Partner / Supportive Organisations / Funders:**North West Kent Countryside Partnership (NWKCP)

Lead and delivery organisation NWKCP (KCC)

#### Project Owner:

Caroline Drewett NWKCP Manager

#### Land Ownership:

Site acquisition is not required.

Planning Issues / Designations: None

Borough: LB Bexley

**Total Cost:** £10-15,000 per year (min 3 years). The project will be tailored to fit the budget.

Funding in Place: None

Funding Required: ~£10-15,000 per year

## 5.10.04 Volunteering Action in Bexley

Increasing volunteer involvement in environmental community projects. Developing community action in the borough through environmental improvements working with local groups, residents and businesses in Bexley's Parks and Open Spaces.

This project increases access to nature, open space and contributes to green skills for volunteers involved.









## Forward Strategy - Gap Analysis

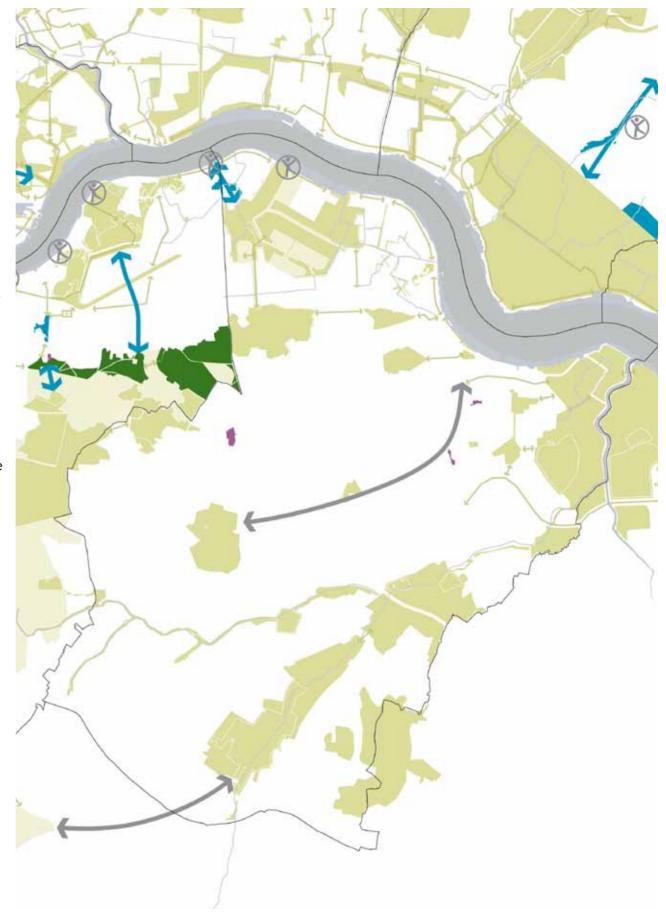
#### **Gap Analysis**

A review of the Green Grid rolling projects list reveals a number of areas which could benefit from further development.

Between Danson Park and the river Thames lies the largest area of deficiency in access to nature. The next stage of project development should identify how this can be addressed, partly through creation of enhanced linkages, partly by making better use of the limited open spaces in this area. Erith Quarry and Slade Green are both areas where significant change is anticipated, but for which, as yet, green space proposals remain in their early stages. There is also a lack of connectivity across pocket parks from Crayford and Erith to Central Bexley, and a deficiency in green linkages from the Southern Ridge to the east.

There is only a single project actively supporting the informal network of livestock grazing and there are currently no major proposals for the development of green linkages to Bromley and the south within the strategy beyond that of the Cray Greenway.

Their are also few projects associated with the the Thames Path, which could enhance access and uses along the river through spaces such as piers, riverside gardens and destinations such as cafés.



Identified projects

Strategic gaps in links

Project recommendations

Improved park / industry boundary

Industrial sites

Map derived from GiGL data 2011 - @ Crown Copyright and database right 2011. Ordnance Survey 100032216.

## Forward Strategy – Recommendations

It is now some three years since the original area framework was produced. Independent evaluation of the earlier East London Green Grid (ELGG) programme has confirmed its role in enabling the various partners and stakeholders to work collectively, to assist in securing funds, and encourage organisations to think about how their activities contribute to the collective benefits across the wider area.

The rationale for this update was to:

- review progress, recognise successes to date and identify reasons for any projects that have progressed more slowly than intended
- refresh the existing area analysis, project programme and delivery strategy in light of current economic operating environment
- increase the range of partners to deliver the programme, fund it and champion it to support future sustainability
- use the refresh process to engage with strategic private sector partners such as the utility companies and selected developers etc to steer their future investments to realise the potential of Green Infrastructure
- ensure close alignment with GLA key programmes such as the Outer London and Mayor's Regeneration Funds and London's Great Outdoors, the Mayor's Low Carbon agenda plus existing housing development and regeneration priorities
- continue to embed the Green Grid into local planning policy to maximise sustainability
- support future exit strategies for the Green Grid to reflect the current Localism and Big Society agendas take on board additional objectives which offer the capability to support economic development
- the capability to support economic development, such as increasing the value of the visitor economy, developing social enterprise models to deliver green space management and maintenance, support the green skills agenda and enable strategic productive landscape projects
- -support the assimilation of the ELGG programme into the All London Green Grid

#### Governance

This updated Area 5 framework has been prepared by a diverse range of stakeholders.

The role of this group is to:

- ensure the outcomes from the area framework refresh are locally embedded and endorsed
- enable groups to be expanded/consolidated where

required to take on board partners in the new areas and maximise future sustainability

- encourage the projects to be underpinned by robust local funding strategies
- maximise partnership processes to assist in delivery

It is proposed that this group continue to provide the ongoing governance requirements for this area framework supported by other local partnerships where they exist.

The current governance requirements of the framework have previously been supported by funding from the earlier East London Green Grid programme to fund the role of Area Chair. Future funding for this task is currently not available. In the short term therefore we see a reduced set of support activities continuing until further funding can be identified. The majority of the area framework now falls within the London borough of Bexley and they will continue to provide the Area Chair role for the next framework period.

#### Programme Overview

The top priority for all the projects within the forward programme is to improve the quality of life of all people in Bexley and Bromley. With a population of 220,000 set to increase by 23,000 by 2016, the programme will consider the infrastructure required to support this development including open space provision, whilst protecting and enhancing the area's biodiversity. It will also seek to build on the high quality innovative exemplar projects such as those and Erith Marshes which formed a part of the earlier framework.

In the short term (next 1-2 years) there will be a focus on taking forward a number of earlier ELGG supported/prioritised projects to fruition particularly those that work to maximise the landscape quality and complement existing strategies for area based improvements. We also intend to fast track improvements to resolve outstanding key links that affect the usability of strategic path networks. These short term ambitions continue the earlier framework priorities to improve physical access, routes and overcome barriers to allow people to get to and through the existing open space resource in particular major river corridors such as the Shuttle and the Cray. This will help to better connect the neighbouring communities to the open

space network and encourages use and a sense of ownership amongst local residents.

Short term ambitions are exemplified by completed or ongoing projects such as the River Shuttle Park projects, Foots Cray Meadows and Lesnes Abbey Woods, alongside Borough-wide schemes such as Living Churchyards, Volunteer Action

In the medium term (2-5 years) we will further develop larger scale projects such as Crayford Marsh Environmental Regeneration, as well as development-linked open space enhancements such as Southmere Park, Woodland Walk Linkages and Thamesmead Park Improvements Phase II, The Bridge and associated New Wetlands whilst also focusing on the creation of new open spaces in areas of high deficiency in access to nature, such as Northend Road Rec, Crayford Rough and Swallow Walk Open Space.

In the longer term (5-10 yrs) there are desires to implement linkage projects such as the eastern Way Crossing Phase II, New Darent Bridge and to reactivate open spaces currently out of public ownership such as Erith Quarry, Barnes Cray Pastures and Joyce Green Hospital.

The Green Grid has always sought to maximise the capacity for spaces to become better connected and this will continue to be an overarching ambition.

#### **Funding**

The current economic operating environment presents a number of challenges to deliver the framework's vision. We will need to look carefully at external funding sources and package projects successfully to maximise the capacity to lever in funding support and attract green grid investors.

This aspect has already been a significant feature of the delivery of the earlier framework but we anticipate we will have to work even harder to secure this funding in an increasingly competitive environment. Some of the key sources of potential capital funding are summarised below:

- Private sector including Planning Obligations and its successor Community Infrastructure Levy as well as innovative approaches to land management such as use of dowries
- Specific private sector organisations where they are the landowner

## Forward Strategy – Recommendations

- Landfill Operators and the Landfill Communities Fund.
- National bodies such as Natural England, Environment Agency, English Heritage
- The Mayor of London/Transport for London
- Local councils through forward capital programmes and reuse of capital receipts
- The Heritage Lottery Fund (Heritage Grants and Parks for People);
- The BIG Lottery
- European Structural Funds (ERDF, Intereg and LIFE+)
- Regional Growth Funds through the Local Enterprise Partnerships

Many of the projects in the Phase 1 programme were compiled largely on the basis of deliverability: projects where the funds were substantially in place or where a credible bidding strategy had already been developed, and where there was a project sponsor willing and able to see the project through to completion. As a result of the reduction in available external funding, phase 2 projects contain a greater number of proposals at an early stage which will require further investment to fully develop the scope, viability and funding requirements. LB Bexley has an excellent reputation in respect of securing external funding to deliver its ambitions and this is seen as continuing in the future.

#### **Project Delivery**

The existing established partnerships throughout the area are key to delivering the future programme and in many cases comprise organisations who are leading on the delivery of individual projects. We hope to be able to maximise the value of these partnerships by enabling better co-ordination of the smaller projects, building them where relevant into more cohesive packages that deliver better synergy and ultimately a bigger end product.

Earlier integration with schemes which address flood alleviation in the framework presents a number of opportunities for alignment with wider green infrastructure improvements complementing future proposals evolving out of the Drain London assessments. In this respect the Environment Agency will be a key delivery partner.

The broadening of membership hopes to include the private sector which will produce a number of opportunities to increase the level of private sector contribution to deliver green grid projects.

#### Stakeholder and community engagement

Organisational stakeholders have been actively engaged in the preparation of the updated Framework through direct involvement in a working group that has met on a number of occasions to oversee progress and input to the development of the vision and provided specific project details. This has been complemented by a series of one to one engagements with specific key stakeholders where required. The wider group has also been involved in the selection of projects which will act as a focus for delivery of phase 2.

The strategic nature of the green grid process does not always lend itself to meaningful community engagement however it is priority that engagement forms an underpinning element of the development and delivery of all projects within the rolling project list. The current agendas around Big Society and Localism are clearly evident within open spaces and we will seek to use these priorities to underpin our approach and future delivery. Specific projects have had detailed community engagement throughout their development. The completion of a number of key projects within the earlier framework means that their future value will rely on meeting ongoing community needs.

The LB Bexley has to date demonstrated innovative solutions to community ownership and maintenance through funding secured to develop the concept of river keepers working in partnership with Thames 21 on the Shuttle and the Cray. This has increased the number of volunteers who monitor these river stretches and raised the quality of these water based resources for both wildlife and people.

#### Programme management

The Rolling project list represents a large and complex programme of diverse projects spanning at least a decade. Management of this programme as a whole is a task beyond the capacity of the local stakeholder groups at present. Additional support, in terms of staff and systems is required to perform this task competently.

The Green Grid programme to date has therefore involved an overarching programme management function provided by Design for London. This has enabled the co-ordination of seed funding packages to increase momentum within projects and central collection of outputs and impacts from

the programme to demonstrate its value. Whilst the current economic environment has in the short term reduced the resources to carry out these tasks. It is felt that in order to ensure a coherent future programme external funding should be obtained to continue this function.

#### Long term management and maintenance

The green grid programme in the past three years has had to consider explicitly the issues of long term management and maintenance. There are a number of innovative examples such as the use of dowries that have met these requirements on projects.

Major projects within Area 5 will hopefully continue. The challenge will be to ensure the smaller adjoining spaces and connections are addressed too. The area framework will continue to address this on a project by project basis.



## Appendices – Baseline Description

#### Accesible open space

This map demonstrates the predominance of open space along the River Cray and the ridge of the South East London Green Chain. Aside from Danson Park, the area between these two linear features is poorly served, with only a scattering of small scale open spaces, mostly in private ownership. This map also clearly shows how much of the open space within the Cray Valley is in private ownership, including most significantly Crayford and Dartford Marshes.

#### **Managing Climate**

A large swathe of land adjacent to the Thames including Thamesmead, Belvedere and Erith falls within the area at risk from tidal inundation. There is also a limited element of tidal flood risk at Barnes Cray. Only limited fluvial flood risk exists within the area, associated with the Rivers Cray and Shuttle. These fluvial flood risk areas have minimal impact on existing settlements, although the retail centre of Crayford, south of the Cray, is significantly affected.

# Regional, Metropolitan, District and local composite open space deficiency plan

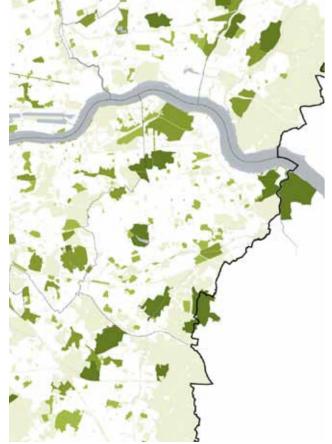
Park deficiencies can be clearly seen to the north of Bexley Heath and Barnehurst stations, Slade Green, Erith, and west of Sidcup. These deficiencies reflect the relatively small scale of public open spaces within these areas. The regional park opportunities identified for the South London Green Chain and the Inner Thames Marshes would together make a big impact.

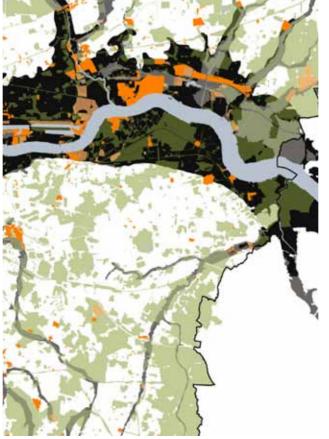


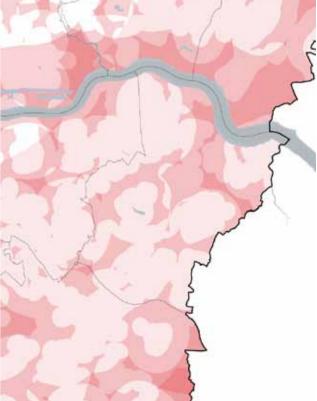




Urban Areas Deficient in Open Space







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## Appendices – Baseline Description

#### **Access to Nature**

The deficiencies in access to nature reflect the park deficiencies of the previous map. In respect of the biodiversity classifications, the Cray Valley holds several sites of Metropolitan Special Interest for Nature Conservation. However it is worth noting that neither Crayford nor Dartford Marsh currently hold the status of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Enhancing these areas to bring them up to SSSI status should be a medium term goal for the Green Grid in this area.

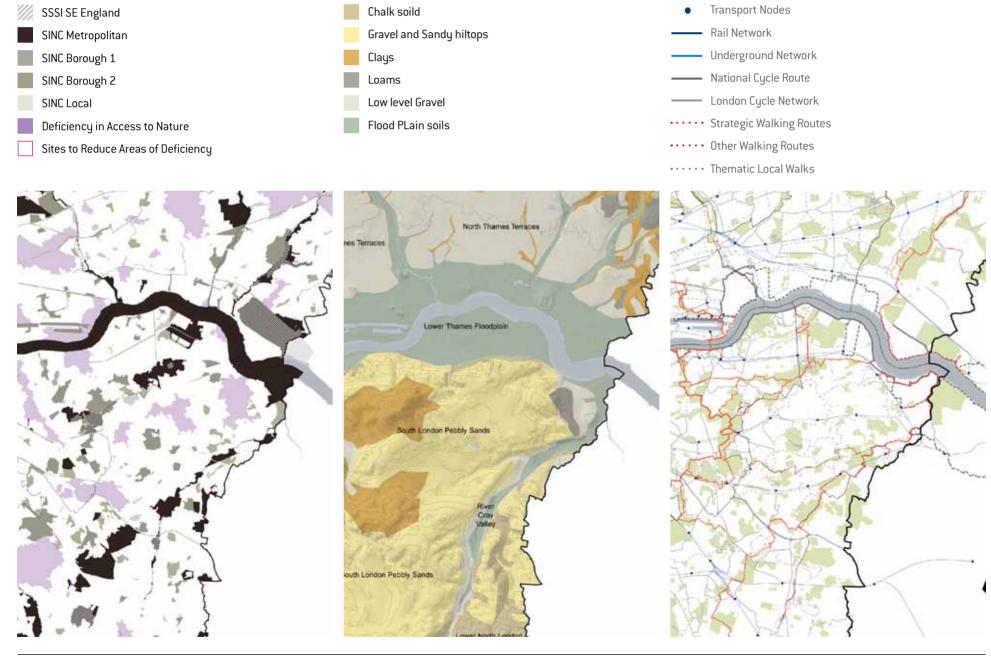
#### **Ecological and Landscape zones**

The area displays a range of geological features, from floodplain soils adjacent to the Thames and along the Cray, to gravel, sandy uplands, and clay outcrops on the higher ground above the valleys. Significant chalk outcrops occur to the west and south of Chalk Wood and on the escarpment north of Lesnes Abbey. The sites of Metropolitan and Borough Importance for nature conservation cover the range of these landscape conditions.

#### **Making connections**

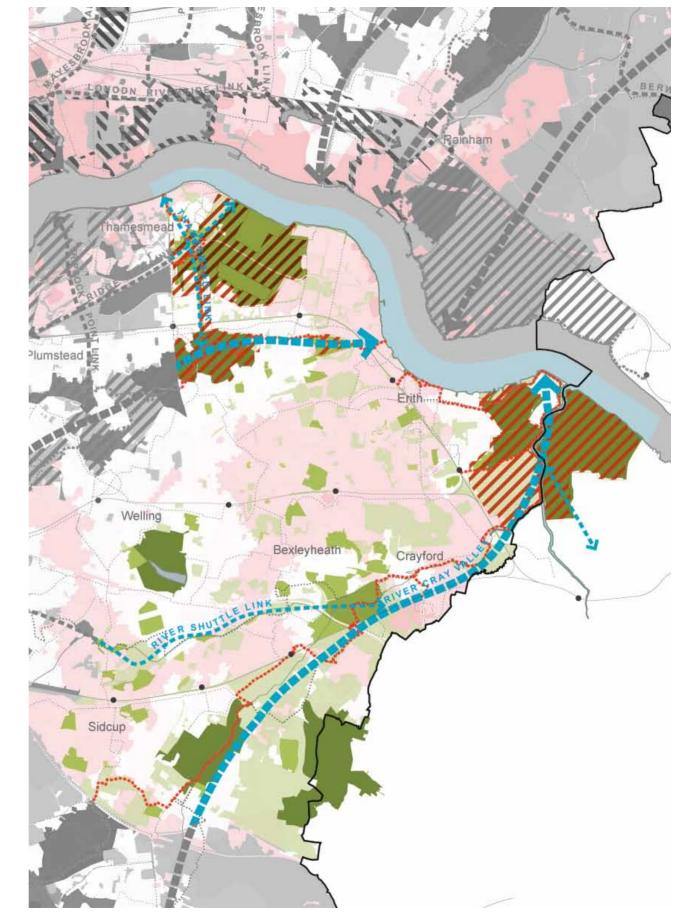
Bexley's main road and rail routes provides good east-west links through the borough but it is much more difficult to travel north-south. The River Thames present a significant barrier in this regard but also has huge potential for transporting of passengers and freight.

Thus stronger north-south linkages are promoted as well as protecting and seeking opportunities to increase connectivity between the network of green spaces and corridors.



## Appendices – All London Green Grid SPG Chapter 5 GGA05 Links

This Appendix is an unabridged copy of the relevant links for GGA05, the ALGG SPG was published on 16 March 2012.



Metropolitan Park Opportunities
Regional Park Opportunities
Regional Parks
Metropolitan Parks
District Parks
Local Parks and Open Spaces
Small Open Spaces - Pocket Parks
Other / Private Open Spaces
Strategic Walking Routes
Strategic Cycling Routes

Strategic Corridors
Strategic Links

 $\label{thm:map:condition} \textit{Map derived from GiGL data 2011} \cdot \textbf{@ Crown Copyright and database right 2011}. Ordnance Survey 100032216.$ 

## Appendices – All London Green Grid SPG Chapter 5 GGA05 Links

#### The Thamesmead Link

Connects the Thames riverfront and the Green Chain and includes Erith Marshes, Lesnes Abbey Woods and Southmere Park. The lower part of the link is characterised by canals, lakes and wetland habitats. A green route connects Lesnes Abbey Wood with Southmere Park, and the path continues along the Thamesmead canal system and through the housing estate to the river adjacent to the Victorian Pumping Station. The route crosses up and over the Ridgeway — the path that sits atop the Southern Outfall Sewer which runs to the Crossness works on the west side of Erith Marshes. Thamesmead has areas of high-density residential housing and a challenging mix of issues requiring management.

#### The Ridgeway Link

is an elevated path established above a major Victorian sewer. It forms a green link between the Thames Path at Crossness Sewage Treatment Works, to Plumstead. It is a key gateway from the west into the rich network of green open spaces and waterways in Thamesmead and Erith Marshes.

#### The River Shuttle Link

runs from Avery Hill Park within the South East London Green Chain to Hall Place. It links a number of open spaces of various types including small local parks, school playing fields, a golf course, a number of narrow linear spaces between back gardens, woodland and allotment gardens. The Shuttle Riverway footpath follows most of the river course and links the open spaces together.

## Appendices – Group Membership

#### Sub-area chair

Desiree Shepherd

An experienced Project Manager in environmental and public realm improvement projects, Desiree specialises in managing multidisciplinary teams and stakeholders to ensure quality delivery in line with client needs. Trained as an environmental planner, she has worked on and delivered a number of projects, policies and frameworks e.g delivery of multi million pound Erith Yacht Club, Shenstone Park (awarded the Charles Burr award), various other public realm/open space improvement schemes. She has a good working knowledge of the drivers and policy context for undertaking regeneration within London.

#### Design for London design advisor

East mail@east.uk.com

East is an award winning architecture, landscape and urban design practice established in London since 1995.

East have extensive experience of working at a strategic scale within complex urban landscapes.

#### Members

London Borough of Bexley
Crossness Nature Reserve
Crossness Engines Trust
Gallions Housing Association
Groundwork
Environment Agency
Dartford Borough Council
North West Kent Country Partnership
Orbit Homes (Orbit South Housing Association)
Bexley Heritage Trust
Trust Thamesmead
Thames 21
Thames Water

#### Glossary of Terms

ALGG	All London Green Grid
EA	Environment Agency
ELGG	East London Green Grid
EU	European Union
GAF	Growth Area Funding
GI	Green Infrastructure
GLA	Greater London Authority
HLF	Heritage Lottery Fund
LDA	London Development Agency
LDF	Local development framework
LWT	London Wildlife Trust
NE	Natural England
NT	National Trust
SAUL	sustainable and accessible urban landscapes
S106	Section 106 Agreement for planning gain
TfL	Transport for London
WVRP	Wandle Valley Regional Park

#### Credits:

Authors: East, Design for London

#### Photo Credits:

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#### Notes:

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