

# YOU SAID, WE DID: GREEN AND WATER SPACES

## During our Issues and Options engagement in 2021, you said

- There is need for more open space and improvements to biodiversity.
- Newham's green and water spaces require better maintenance and management.
- Existing and new open spaces need to feel safe and have facilities such as cafes, public toilets, and outdoor gyms.
- Waterways need to have better access.
- Neighbourhoods should be greener.
- Trees should be better protected and more should be planted.
- More play space is needed.



## Our evidence says

- Newham has a low publicly accessible open space rate, with just 0.71 hectares per 1,000 residents. This is lower than neighbouring boroughs.
- The borough also experiences shortfalls in access to nature, areas for community growing and play space.
- Open space is unevenly distributed across the borough and residents can have very different experiences when trying to access open space where they live. Beckton, for example, is relatively well served with publicly accessible green space, with a rate of 2.23 hectares per 1,000 residents, significantly above the Borough average. In contrast, Canning Town South has a rate of just 0.21, well below the Borough average.
- Over the next 25 years, Newham's population will increase by 27%. With this population growth, there will be need for increased provision of green infrastructure to meet demand.
- A Green and Water Spaces Strategy is currently underway, which will support the Local Plan and the work of the Parks department.



## The Plan proposes

- All development to consider and maximise opportunities to provide open space and improve biodiversity.
- Loss of open space will not be allowed if it will create or increase levels of open space deficiency. Some loss may be allowed if it delivers facilities that will improve the way people can use and enjoy a green space, such as a café or public toilets. Any such additions should not have a negative impact on wildlife and biodiversity.
- Clear requirements for the design of open space.
- Requiring development to provide or help to deliver a network of improved, high-quality water spaces and improving access to allow people to enjoy Newham's water spaces.
- Maximising the delivery of 'living building' elements. This means features like green roofs (while prioritising solar panels), green walls, bird nest bricks, bat roost bricks, boundaries which allow hedgehogs to move freely and nature-based Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.
- Introducing a standalone policy on the protection and delivery of more trees and hedgerows in Newham.
- Protecting existing play facilities and maximising opportunities to deliver new and improved play spaces.



WE ARE SHAPING. NEWHAM DRAFT LOCAL PLAN. WE ARE NEWHAM.



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## How can I get involved?



### Online

Use the QR code to visit [Co-Create](#) and read and comment on the Draft Local Plan.



### At our libraries

Read the Draft Local Plan at all local libraries and provide feedback through the printed questionnaire.



### Come to one of our events

Come to one of the following [events](#) to find out more and provide your feedback.



Have your say before 20 February 2023

#NewhamLocalPlan

WE ARE NEWHAM.

