

The Plan

The Park Development Framework sets out the Park Authority's aspirations for the Parks development and management.

This leaflet presents a summary of one of the eight Area Proposals for the northern most section of the Regional Park. It stretches from Rye House and the RSPB Rye Meads Nature Reserve in the south to the edge of Ware in the north alongside the River Lea Navigation.

There is also a range of other documents that provide additional information to support the core documents identified above. For more information please refer to our web site and the Park Development Scheme at www.leevalleypark.org.uk/areaproposals

Open up for Area 8 summary

There are a number of core documents that make up the Park Development Framework:

1 Vision, Aims and Principles (adopted July 2010)

Objectives and proposals which will be produced in two complementary documents. These focus on:

Thematic Proposals (adopted January 2011) setting out our proposals throughout the Park for each of our six aims - Visitors, Sport and Recreation, Biodiversity, Community, Landscape and Heritage, Environment.

Area Proposals setting out our proposals for the Park on a more detailed location basis.



The Upper Valley Rye Meads to Ware

Summary of Park Development Framework Area 8 Proposals

About this Document

The Authority is producing Area Proposals to provide greater detail on how it intends the whole Park should be developed.

The Park has been divided into eight areas based on its current and potential visitor offer, the contribution that key resources such as open space, ecology and water make in creating leisure opportunities and the range of sporting and community activity that currently takes place within the Park. The Proposals also take account of the potential impact on the Park of major new development and infrastructure.

This leaflet covers Area 8 the northern most section of the Regional Park. It stretches from Rye House and the RSPB Rye Meads Nature Reserve in the south to the edge of Ware in the north alongside the River Lea Navigation. This document is a summary of the Authority's adopted Proposals set out in Area Proposals Area 8 The Upper Valley: Rye Meads to Ware (April 2019) (available at www.leevalleypark.org.uk/areaproposals). It should be read alongside the Authority's Vision Aims Principles document and the Adopted Thematic Proposals both of which relate to the whole Regional Park area and which set the framework for the more detailed proposals presented here.

www.leevalleypark.org.uk



The Park
The Lee Valley Regional Park is a fantastic mix of world class sport and leisure venues, heritage sites, gardens, nature reserves and riverside trails.

1 As owner and manager of land and facilities within the Park
Created in 1967 through an Act of Parliament, the Lee Valley Regional Park Act 1966, the Park includes 10,000 acres (4,000ha) and winds its way 26 miles along the banks of the River Lea from Ware in Hertfordshire, down through Essex, North London and through the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park to East India Dock Basin on the River Thames.

2 As a champion, leader, facilitator and coordinator within the Park
The Park Act places a duty on the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority to develop, improve, preserve and manage the Park, either directly or through others as a place for

3 As a statutory planning consultee
" [...] the occupation of leisure, recreation, sport, games or amusements or any similar activity, for the provision of nature reserves and for the provision and enjoyment of entertainments of any kind."

The Proposals

Summary of Area 8 Proposals

The Upper Valley: Rye Meads to Ware

8. A.1 Rye Meads and Stanstead Abbots

- Work with the County and District Councils and other stakeholders to deliver major environmental improvements at the entrance to the Regional Park from Rye House station and Rye Road.
- Work with landowners and other stakeholders to deliver the Roydon Loop link of the Lee Valley Pathway from Roydon station through to the Toll Road
- Engage with operators and other stakeholders to consolidate and enhance leisure activities at Rye House Stadium and the Rye House Kart Raceway including substantial environmental improvements at the road frontage.
- Maintain and enhance facilities for visitor and recreational moorings, boat repair and maintenance and other boat related services at Lee Valley Marina Stanstead Abbots to support recreational use of the waterways. Access to the marina to be improved.
- Support the range of sailing activities provided by the Hertford County Yacht Club at Stanstead Abbots Lake. Safeguard the southern end of the lake, Stanstead Innings as a refuge for wildlife and an access to nature site.
- Protect, restore and enhance existing habitats throughout the area, including removal of non-native invasive species.
- Work with other landowners to improve the ecological connectivity, particularly for wetland mammals and bats along the waterways and between key sites; for example

- Rye Meads, Ryegate Farm and Stanstead Innings.
- Habitat improvements to be delivered at Stanstead Innings Lake, including to the shoreline and islands to maintain biodiversity. Restore and create new areas of reed and improve fish stock to maximise potential for Bittern.
- Co-ordinate and support partnership working with the RSPB, Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust and the Authority's Youth and Schools Service to protect, promote and enhance opportunities to enjoy, study and 'access' nature at the Rye Meads Nature Reserve & RSPB Centre.
- Protect, enhance and manage the landscape as set out in the Landscape Strategy Guidelines for Character Areas A2 Rye Meads and G1 Ryegate Farm/ Terbets Hill.
- Work with landowners and stakeholders to conserve and enhance the positive character and quality of the countryside and farmland lying outside but adjacent to the eastern boundary of the Park.
- Preserve and enhance the heritage value and interest of Rye House Gatehouse, its setting and surrounding moat in accordance with its status as a Scheduled Monument and Grade 1 listing.
- Ensure future upgrades at Rye Meads Waste Water Treatment Works to increase the existing treatment capacity do not have a detrimental impact on the adjacent Rye Meads SSSI, Rye Meads Nature Reserve and the Lee Valley Special Protection Area.

8.A.2 Amwell and into Ware

- Work with East Herts District Council, Greater Anglia and other stakeholders to establish a primary gateway for the Park at Ware, including for example new signage and public realm enhancements to celebrate the start and end of the Park adjacent to the Lee Navigation and Amwell End.
- Prepare a feasibility study with Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust and other stakeholders for the provision of a new, small scale visitor centre at the Amwell Nature Reserve.
- Opportunities for recreational visitor moorings and boating focal points to be developed at Ware and Stanstead Abbots.
- Work in partnership with Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust to protect Amwell SSSI (part of the Lee Valley Special Protection Area 2000) as an internationally important wetland.
- Explore options with Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust, the Canal & River Trust and other stakeholders to incorporate, open up and manage Tumbling Bay area as part of the Amwell Nature Reserve.
- Protect, enhance and manage the landscape as set out in the Landscape Strategy Guidelines for Character Area: A1 Amwell floodplain.
- Protect and enhance the framed and intermittent views of the Regional Park from Hollycross Road on the eastern boundary.
- Work with the Environment Agency and the Canal & River Trust to improve and maintain water and ecological quality to meet Water Framework Directive objectives and the actions identified within the Thames River Basin Management Plan and to enhance ecological conditions and recreational amenity.
- Support the continued agricultural use of land within the Park and work with landowners to maintain public rights of way. Options to improve the ecology of farmland to be explored.

