

POLICY P12: Wormwood Scrubs

VISION

V1. Wormwood Scrubs will continue to be a cherished public open space, important ecological asset and a protected area of Metropolitan Open Land. New sensitive connections to the north and east alongside carefully considered improvements will bring Old Oak and White City together making the Scrubs more accessible to all Londoners.

V2. OPDC will work with stakeholders and agree any proposals with the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust, the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham and in discussion with the local community to conserve and enhance Wormwood Scrubs.

See policy on page 2 of this document.

- It is difficult to understand, in reading the policies, what exactly the plans are. The image provides much more information and generates a series of concerns.
- The image shows housing development on the northern site of the scrubs which is a very sensitive area.
- It is contradictory to have a policy about enhancing Wormwood Scrubs, while having housing development at the very sensitive area on the northern boundary which will affects the wild life.
- The embankment shown in the image suggests that the boundary is within the Scrubs. It should be within the development and a buffer zone should be included.
- Amenity space should be provided within the Old Oak development sites. There are concerns that the Scrubs is being perceived as the main amenity space.
- Policies suggest enhancement the Scrubs. This is open to interpretation and a definition of what enhancement means should be provided.
- Policies on delivery do not include:
 - a) engagement with local communities. The policy should specify how the local community will be involved long term and continuously in the delivery.
 - b) Proposals on how a transparent model of delivery will be implemented and how this would be monitored is required.
- The proposal for a Wormwood Scrubs Street very problematic. The use of "pathway", as wording, would be more appropriate.
- Policies on connections talk about routes connecting "across, to and from Wormwood Scrubs". Clarification is needed to understand the geography of the specific routes.
- The policy should reflect possible future changes that will be important for the character of the Scrubs. For example, Local knowledge suggests that there might be hidden rivers on the Scrubs.

POLICY

Proposals should plan positively to deliver the place vision by contributing and / or delivering where appropriate and relevant as follows:

Delivery

- a) Agreeing any proposals with the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust and London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham;
- b) Supporting the long-term management and maintenance of Wormwood Scrubs and the Old Oak Community Centre by securing appropriate resources;

Green infrastructure and open space

- c) Conserving and enhancing Wormwood Scrubs in its role as a District and Metropolitan Park for all Londoners through sensitive enhancements by delivering and / or contributing to high quality:
 - i) access to nature and nature trails;
 - ii) outdoor leisure and sports pitches;
 - iii) essential ancillary facilities for appropriate uses where they maintain the openness of Wormwood Scrubs;
 - iv) play space including natural play; and
 - v) appropriate lighting.
- d) Protecting Wormwood Scrubs as Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) by ensuring proposals accord with policy EU1 and with the London Plan;
- e) Conserving and enhancing the Local Nature Reserve and Site of Importance for Nature Conservation designations by ensuring proposals accord with policy EU2;
- f) Supporting climate change resilience by delivering SuDS which address current surface water flooding issues on Wormwood Scrubs and which can potentially contribute to a strategic SuDS network;

Connections

- g) Improving access to Wormwood Scrubs for all Londoners by ensuring development contributes to new and improved sensitive walking and cycling routes, that are designed to accommodate current and future levels of usage, across, to and from Wormwood Scrubs from the surrounding areas;
- h) Providing safe and legible pedestrian and cycle connections between Wormwood Scrubs and Little Wormwood Scrubs; and
- i) Supporting the character of Wormwood Scrubs by ensuring the proposed Wormwood Scrubs Street to the north of Wormwood Scrubs relates sensitively to the open space.