

Enfield Chase Restoration Woodland Creation Scheme Stakeholder Engagement

February 2020

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Striving for excellence



Foreword

Enfield Council has declared a climate emergency with a pledge to become carbon neutral by 2030. Whilst the Enfield Climate Action Plan primarily focuses on reducing the Council's own emissions, these first 100,000 new trees are also an essential part of our aim to reduce the amount of the harmful greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide in our atmosphere.

This woodland creation scheme will significantly increase the number of trees in our borough and alongside flood management features like ponds and wetlands, build on our pioneering work in enhancing biodiversity and providing habitats for birds and other animals.

It is our hope this new woodland will enhance nature's beauty for communities across Enfield as a place to enjoy for generations to come.



Ian Barnes
Deputy Leader of Enfield Council
Chair of The Climate Change Task Force

[3 – Overall vision](#)

[4 – Design principles](#)

[5 – Concept plan](#)

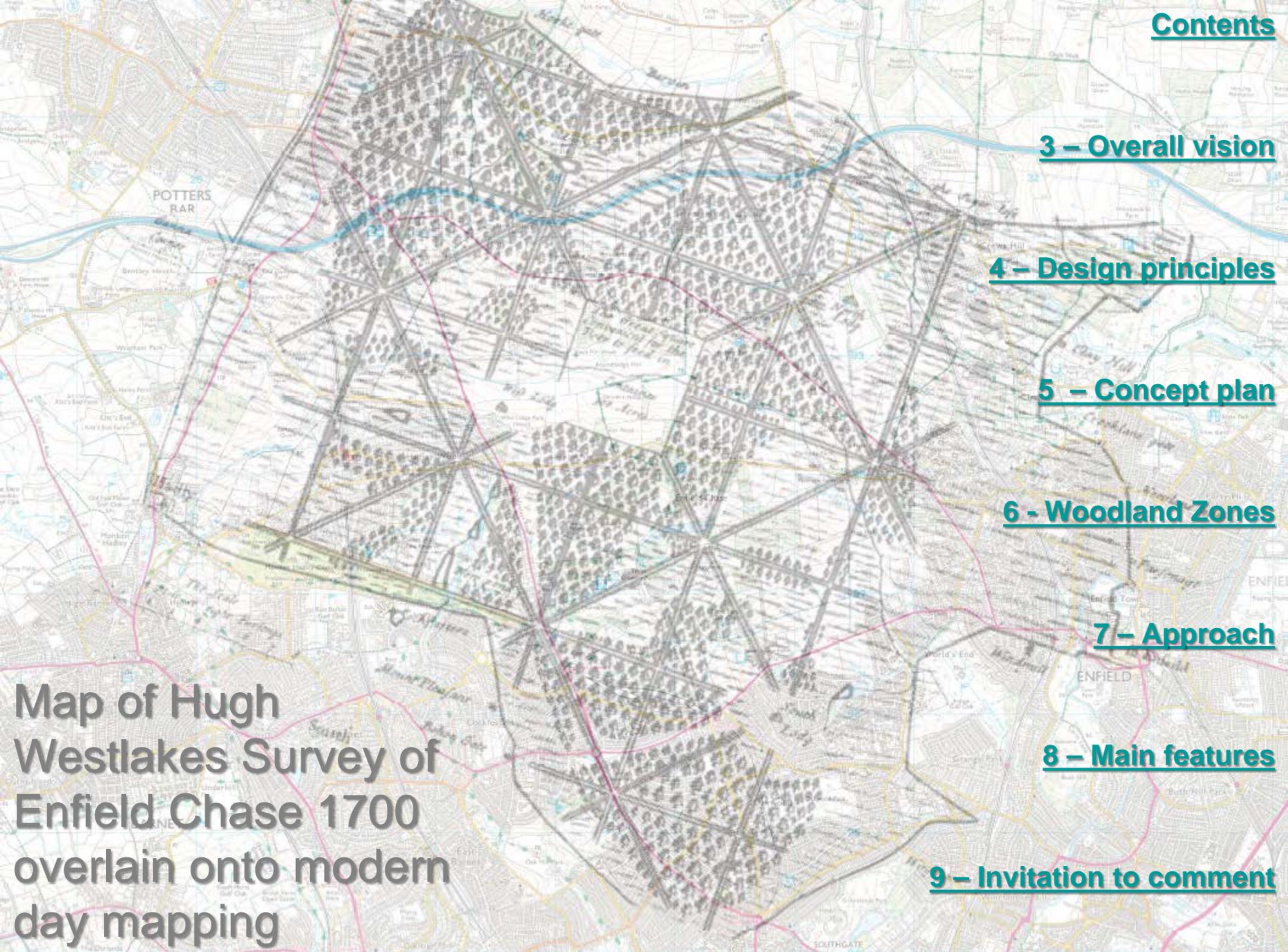
[6 - Woodland Zones](#)

[7 – Approach](#)

[8 – Main features](#)

[9 – Invitation to comment](#)

**Map of Hugh
Westlakes Survey of
Enfield Chase 1700
overlay onto modern
day mapping**



Overall Vision

To create a long-term, multi-functional, publicly accessible, sustainable woodland within the rural area of Enfield in order to benefit the local community and improve the environment of Enfield

This engagement document aims to communicate the ambitions and processes behind the project and seek feedback and comment from relevant stakeholders.

Design Principles

The woodland will be guided by a series of overarching design principles:

Woodland will be composed of **mixed native species**, predominantly **broadleaf** with some **woody shrub**, **conifers** and **riparian species** where appropriate. A core of productive species will provide long-term sustainability.

Species mix and layout will aim to look and feel **natural** – for example, by avoiding grid planting and **softening edges with mixed species**.

The **open character** of the Salmons Brook valley will be retained by incorporating natural flood management features like **ponds** and **wetlands**, and allocating some areas of **natural regeneration**.

The **historic context** of the area will be preserved and enhanced, with key **views** identified and protected.

Space for **amenity** features such as **footpaths**, **glades** and **picnic areas** will be incorporated.

Varying planting densities with lower concentrations of planting in the vicinity of footpaths, other amenity spaces and woodland edges.

Concept Plan

Enfield Woodland Creation Scheme

Plan showing the areas of POTENTIAL woodland creation.

All areas shown are indicative only at this time and subject to further planning and terms.

The proposals shown are part of a non-binding proposal being prepared as a Woodland Creation Design Plan

LEGEND

Potential Woodland Creation Areas

- Potential planting areas
- Potential for natural regeneration alongside river restoration

Footpaths

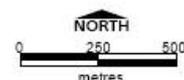
- Existing public rights of way / permissive footpaths
- Potential improved footpath

Watercourses

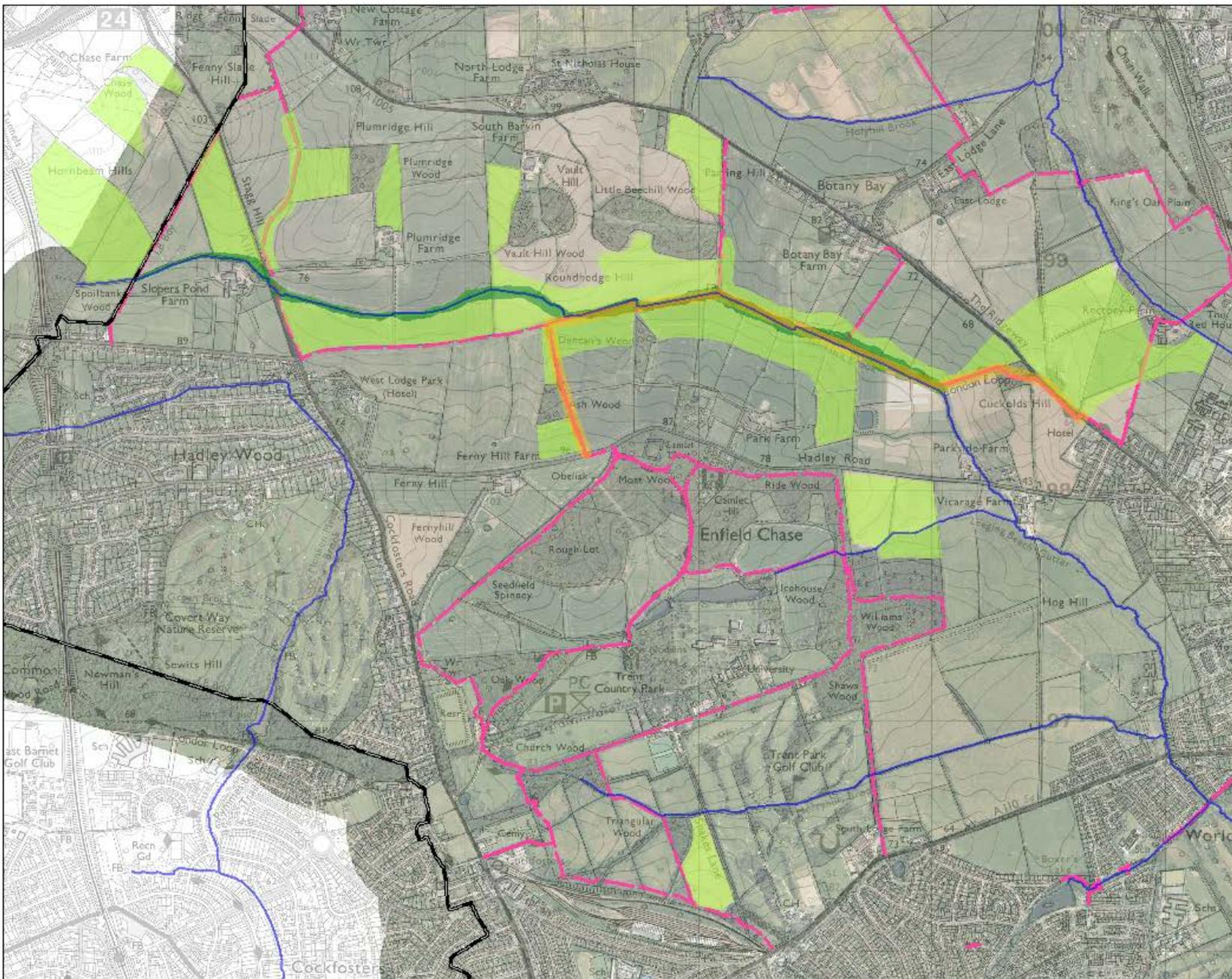
- Main Rivers

Borough Boundary

- Enfield Boundary



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Woodland Zones

In order for the proposals to meet the overall design principles the woodland will be split into four different characteristic zones:

Watercourse Zone – Providing a long-term sustainable woodland along the primary watercourses

Landscape Restructure Zone – Taking the opportunity for more effective catchment management whilst also supporting wider landscape re-structuring to strengthen long term resilience and ecological connectivity

London Loop Zone – Taking the opportunity to improve the user experience along the route of the London Loop path by enhancing its amenity and wildlife value and potential

Parkland Zone – Preserving the integrity of nearby Trent Park and taking the opportunity to extend habitats

These zones will be informed by existing topography, character, soil types, ecology and heritage and characterised by the planting density, open space provision, species mixes and management regime.

Approach

The concept plan presented here is being submitted as part of a **Woodland Creation Design Plan** by Enfield Council to the Forestry Commission. This is a process which ensures that the woodland is being designed appropriately and meets UK standards.

Once this process is complete it is anticipated that the woodland will be delivered in phases over the coming years, with direct funding from the **Forestry Commission** and others subject to agreement.

The proposals will continue to be developed throughout 2020 with first phases of planting at a location within the concept plan due to start in winter of 2020 / 21.

Enfield Council are working with **Thames21** on a project which closely aligns to the Enfield Chase Restoration which focusses on Natural Flood Management in the Salmons Brook Catchment. Support will therefore be provided by this project and will include volunteering associated with tree planting.



Main Features

- Up to 170 hectares of new woodland including planting and natural regeneration
- Woodland design to consider ecology, local history, landscape, drainage and silviculture
- Improvement of up to 3km of existing footpath along the London Loop to enhance access for walking, running and cycling
- Features of interest within the design including signing, seating and interpretation
- Volunteer and community planting events
- Consideration of wider environmental strategy and vision for the area
- Approximately 100,000 trees to be planted across 60 hectares in the next 3 years as part of the first phase
- Contribution to the objectives of the Councils Climate Change Task Force

Invitation to comment

This document has been shared as part of a process of gathering views of stakeholders.

Comments are being welcomed in order to inform the design of the woodland, please use the details at the foot of this page.

If you would like to discuss in person we will be holding a **drop-in** event for the opportunity to view the proposals and submit comments.

Drop-in event date: Monday 23rd March 2020 10:00 – 14:00

Event location: Conference Room, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield, EN1 3XA

Please register intention to attend using details below

For comments, to register interest and declare intention to attend drop-in event:

woodland@enfield.gov.uk

020 8132 0963

Closing date for comments: Friday 1st May 2020