

HAM AND PETERSHAM



Description

Ham and Petersham has a wealth of semi-rural open space linked by the Thames and by historic routes including Ham Avenues leading to Ham House. This is the least accessible part of the Borough, for public transport, with no train/underground stations. The area is socially very mixed with expensive housing stock with large gardens in the older parts of Ham and Petersham and dense social and private housing in the more recently developed areas. The area should be considered in conjunction with Royal Borough of Kingston; Richmond areas and with links across the river Thames to Twickenham area.

Characteristics -Facts and Figures

- Population 8500
- Open space 705.8 hectares
- Bounded by the Thames to the west and Richmond Park to the east. Socio-demographic - parts of Ham are identified as a Social Exclusion Priority Area.

Maps

The accompanying area maps show analysis of:

- Hierarchy - the location of open spaces categorised according to the London Planning Advisory Committee (LPAC) size based hierarchy.
- Function - the main functions or types of open space e.g. parks and gardens; recreation ground; cemetery; allotment etc.
- Quality - an assessment of the overall quality of the open space, considering landscape quality, condition etc.
- Opportunities - identifies opportunities to improve access to open space, restore views, remove barriers to access etc.

Audit of Current Provision

| NAME | AREA | FUNCTION | LPAC | PRIORITY |
|--------------------------------|-------|--------------|----------|----------|
| BEAUFORT COURT PLAY AREA | 0.15 | Open Space | S | 114 |
| HAM VILLAGE GREEN | 1.03 | Open Space | S | 56 |
| LODGES THE, PETERSHAM | 0.03 | Open Space | S | 27 |
| MELANCHOLY WALK, HAM | 0.10 | Open Space | Lin | 24 |
| PETERSHAM RD (HIGHWAYS) | 0.25 | Open Space | S | 21 |
| RIVERSIDE DRIVE PLAY AREA | 1.18 | Open Space | S | 72 |
| SANDY LANE RECREATION GROUND | 0.63 | Open Space | L part | 54 |
| ROCKS LANE PG | | Playground | PG | 90 |
| VINE RD Rtc PG | | Playground | PG | 120 |
| ST ANNES PASSAGE ^{ti} | 0.11 | Allotment | Not LPAC | 80 |
| WESTFIELDS | 0.69 | Allotment | Not LPAC | 56 |
| CASTELNAU LIBRARY | 0.02 | Library | S | 35 |
| HARRODS NEW OPEN SPACE | 0.35 | Private | S | 28 |
| BURNELL AVENUE OPEN SPACE | 0.96 | Semi-natural | M part | 28 |
| COPSE CONSERVATION AREA, HAM | 10.00 | Semi-natural | L | 28 |

| NAME | AREA | FUNCTION | LPAC | PRIORITY |
|---|--------|---------------|----------|----------|
| HAM AVENUE HORSE RIDES | 0.87 | Semi-natural | S/Linear | 28 |
| HAM AVENUES CONSERVATION AREA | 1.58 | Semi-natural | S | 32 |
| HAM COMMON LOCAL NATURE RESERVE | 37.00 | Semi-natural | D | 28 |
| HAM COMMON POND OPEN SPACE | 9.22 | Semi-natural | L | 28 |
| HAM LANDS CONSERVATION AREA | 72.00 | Semi-natural | M | 24 |
| PETERSHAM COMMON | 6.37 | Semi-natural | L | 21 |
| PETERSHAM LODGE WOODS CONSERVATION AREA | 4.00 | Semi-natural | S | 21 |
| PETERSHAM MEADOWS | 8.30 | Semi-natural | L | 21 |
| RICHMOND PARK (PART) | 545.36 | Semi-natural | R | |
| ST ANDREW'S CHURCH | 0.49 | Cemetery | Not LPAC | 21 |
| BEAUFORT COURT PLAYGROUND | | Playground | | 114 |
| RIVERSIDE DRIVE PLAYGROUND | | Playground | PG | 72 |
| SANDY LANE PG | | Playground | PG | 54 |
| HAM RIVERSIDE PITCHES | 3.15 | Sports Ground | L | 90 |
| HAM RIVERSIDE PLAYING FIELD | 4.19 | Sports Ground | L | 42 |
| KING GEORGE'S FIELD | 4.03 | Sports Ground | L | 84 |
| RIVERSIDE HAM STREET (PARK) | 0.30 | Sports Ground | S | 42 |
| WALNUT TREE MEADOW | 1.32 | Allotment | Not LPAC | 72 |
| HAM LIBRARY | 0.09 | Library | S | 21 |
| SUDBROOKE GOLF COURSE | 41.49 | Private | | |

Analysis of access to parks and open spaces

100% of the area is within 3.2 km of a metropolitan/regional park, Richmond Park.

100% of the area is within 1.2 km of a district open space.

100% of the area is within 400m of a local open space

96% of the area is within 400 m of an equipped playground

100% of the area is within 500 m of a site of nature conservation interest.

Note this analysis does not take into account GLA advice which recommends that a 10 minute rail journey or 15 minute bus journey can also increase the catchment area of larger parks.

Barriers to access are shown on the accompanying maps.

Commentary - Local Considerations and Issues

Ham and Petersham are extremely well provided with open space, however there is no central well known open space with staff, cafe etc. Concentrations of young people give some people cause for concern. There is also a small pocket of deficiency in playground provision.

Opportunities to address issues.

Designate areas of open space which are used by the public as formal Public Open Space.

Improve marketing and local knowledge of the wealth of well linked open spaces opportunities in the area.

Develop positive events, activities and focus for young people.

Recommendations/Priorities for Ham and Petersham

Following analysis the following sites/priorities have been identified:

- Designate the meadows at the front of Ham House and Petersham Meadows as a Public Open Space (not designated on current UDP map) and improve awareness and access.
- Explore improving access between Ham and Petersham and the Thames by improving signage.
- Explore a dry safe walking/cycling route when the Thames floods.
- Explore opportunities to gain access to areas, which are currently restricted open spaces. E.g. Access once per month to local people free of charge to Ham House.
- If physical access is not possible, explore opportunities to improve views into the sites or 'visual access' such as opening views into land off Ham Avenues and Sudbrooke Golf Course.
- Create pleasant walking and cycling routes between sites - as proposed on the plan.

- Replace the ageing pavilion at King George's Field with an on site multi-use pavilion and treat the site as a Key Park by providing staffing.
- Carry out priority improvements identified by the Disability Access Audit - see appendix.
- Improve knowledge of open space opportunities through marketing/signage improvements. Add to signage scheme.
- Work with Youth Services and Policing Agencies to develop events and activities for young people focused around Ham Youth Club.
- Develop opportunities for S106 agreements to improve access and management of the towpath from local development opportunities.
- Implement the Restoration Plan for Ham Avenues.
- Explore improvements to public transport to improve access into this very rural area.
- Explore a foot/cycle link across the Thames at Eel Pie.
- Reduce the distance to Playgrounds by exploring replacement of Beaufort Court playground.