

**POLICY GO3: BIODIVERSE HABITATS**

KTNF supports the protection and encouragement of areas of biodiverse habitat. KTNF recognises the need to increase the biodiversity of green spaces and other planted areas to assist the survival of native species of flora and fauna, and improve the resilience of ecosystems.

Proposals affecting sites are identified on Map 6. Bio-diverse Habitats which protect and enhance existing biodiverse habitats at the following sites will be supported:

1. Ingestre Wood and Nature Trail.
2. Planting alongside railways. If existing habitats are likely to be adversely affected by proposed development, these shall be replaced with equivalent biodiverse habitat for wildlife.

Proposals will be supported which encourage new areas of biodiverse habitat within new developments, such as:

- a) Extending 'green corridors' alongside the railways, to connect with Hampstead Heath in future developments;
- b) Using landscaping which provides habitats that support native species and creating wildlife areas, which can be small, e.g. bee houses and bird boxes, or larger, e.g. wildlife gardens, to increase biodiversity in public open areas;
- c) Supporting proposals which improve biodiversity in the large, enclosed blocks of private gardens, including planting of native species trees and shrubs as a haven for wildlife; and
- d) Promoting the use of green roofs and green walls. Supporting the use of brown roofs, composed of local soils promoting indigenous biodiversity, within business areas and light industrial buildings.

**Reasoned Justification**

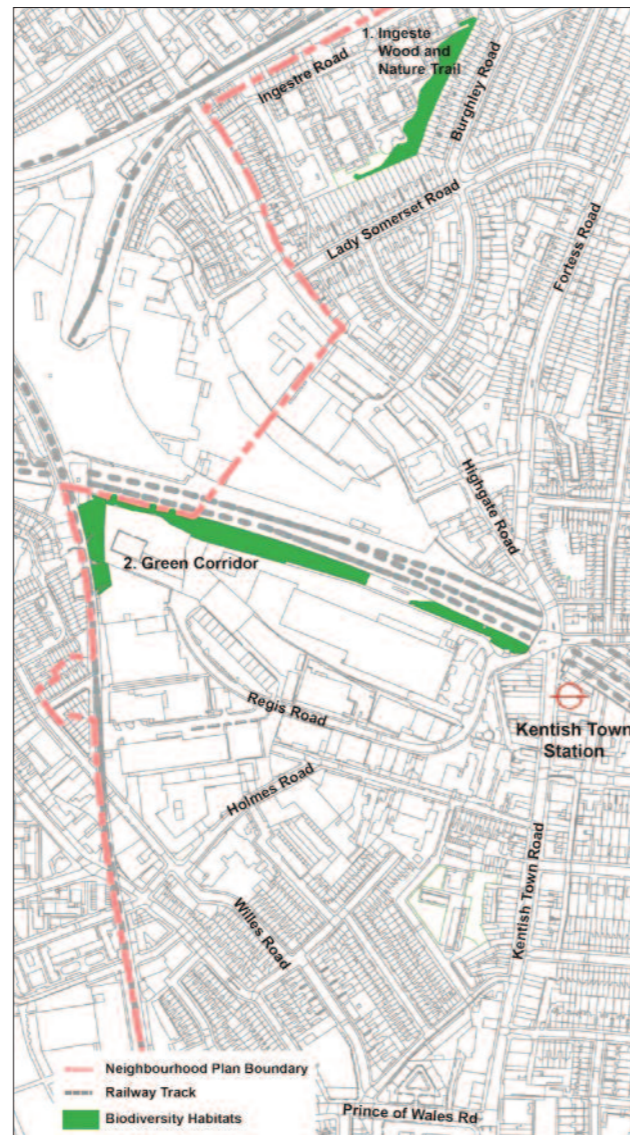
Ingestre Wood and Nature Trail is the only wildlife preserve within the area, and KTNF would like to see it protected to ensure its long term sustainability. While the Green Corridor, on Map 6: Bio-diverse Habitats, is marked on the map of the Camden Biodiversity Action Plan 2013 – 2018, Ingestre Wood and Nature Trail is not. This area of Biodiversity must be recognised and protected by Camden Council.

The plan recognises the importance of planting alongside railways, which forms part of a network of green corridors for wildlife across London. Reducing dependence on pesticides in public open spaces is also important. Development of the Murphy site is an opportunity to increase the biodiversity and effectiveness of these green corridors, and to connect them to Hampstead Heath.

Green and brown roofs protect surfaces from UV light and reduce drainage infrastructure, lower energy demands, improve air quality, increase biodiversity and ecological networks and reduce flooding. They also address the lack of public open and green space.

The policy conforms to L B Camden's Core Strategy policies CS13.28, CS14.18, CS15, CS16, and Development Policies DP31 and DP32. The following documents are relevant to Policy GO3: Camden Biodiversity Action Plan 2013 – 2018 and Green Action for Change – Camden's environmental sustainability Plan (2011-2020) Second Annual Review, October 2013.

"There is clear evidence to show that brownfield sites offer many opportunities for wildlife in the city – they can, in fact, provide more wildlife habitats than the agricultural countryside." Design Council CABE – The Value of Public Space.



▲ Map 6: Biodiverse habitats

COMMUNITY & CULTURE POLICIES

**POLICY CC1: PRE APPLICATION CONSULTATION**

Applicants proposing major developments that include 10 (or more) dwellings or 1,000 square metres of floorspace are strongly encouraged to actively engage in consultation with KTNF and the wider community, including hard to reach groups and groups with protected characteristics, as part of the design process prior to any planning application being submitted.

**Reasoned Justification**

This policy aims to strengthen Camden's current planning consultation processes and requirements. LB Camden encourages pre-application community consultation relating to major development applications. Local people say that they want more and earlier consultation. On 7 December 2012 at the KTNF Public Meeting and Exhibition, 25 attendees ticked "Like" on their Statement of Community Consultation comment form. Nobody ticked "Dislike".

Policy CC1 encourages more in-depth pre-application community consultation on all major planning applications. Where developers chose to engage in Pre Application discussions with KTNF and the local community, the community and Forum will be familiar with such proposals for major developments in the KTNF Plan Area before a formal application is submitted. This would enable local residents, businesses and organisations to comment on proposals at a time when developers are in the

earliest position to consider them.

Policy CC1 conforms to Core Strategy policies: Camden CS4 and CS5 in addition to Camden's adopted Development Policies DP1, DP3, DP5, DP13, DP22, DP24; NPPF paragraphs 69 and 188 and NPPG: Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 20-009-20140306

"Less than half [of the residents in Camden] (48%) agree that they can influence decisions in their area. Q14: Which, if any, of these might make it easier for you to influence decisions in your local area? 33%: If I knew what issues were being considered. 26%: If local service providers got in touch with me and asked me. 25%: If I thought local service providers would listen. 22%: If I could give my opinion online, by email or by phone. 21%: If I had more information about how to get involved."

*Camden Social Capital Survey 2008*

**POLICY CC2: STATEMENTS OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND STATEMENTS OF NEIGHBOUR INVOLVEMENT**

Further to a Development Brief, Applicants proposing major developments or proposals involving community uses are strongly encouraged to submit a Statement of Community Consultation to KTNF and LB Camden.

Applicants proposing demolitions, extensions or conversions to residential buildings and demolitions, extensions or change of use to non-residential buildings are strongly encouraged to submit a Statement of Neighbour Involvement

**Reasoned Justification**

This policy aims to encourage community consultation prior to the submission of a planning application and to encourage developers to show with whom and how they have consulted with the local community by way of a Statement of Community Consultation for major development or proposals involving community uses. In the case of smaller scale developments in residential areas, the Plan seeks to encourage the preparation and use of Statements of Neighbour Involvement. These will give an indication of the extent to which developers have engaged with the local community and in particular those most closely affected by small scale developments in residential areas.

A Statement of Community Consultation to accompany a planning application shall include all relevant information needed to facilitate an informed and effective consultation, which may include, but be limited to:

1. An explanation of how a broad cross-section of local people, both in the immediate area likely to be affected by the development proposals and in the wider neighbourhood, were consulted on the development proposals in a timely fashion.
2. A description of the means used to involve and engage with local people in consultation – how provision was made for comments to be put forward in different ways; for example, a variety of publicity platforms and the opportunity to provide web-based