

periscope



Parks and money

Green for Victory

Issue 04
Trent Country Park
Spring 2021

This is the first of Periscope's research publications. However, this is by no means the first research project that our studio has undertaken. Research is and always has been deeply ingrained within our everyday. It is the way we think, talk, design and act.

The *Green for Victory* series stems from our work over recent years with local authorities and public bodies across London; from the increasingly frequent conversations we have regarding quantifying and qualifying green space, and the simply impossible expectation that this can be done in one succinct line. From the green 'war' we find ourselves fighting daily.

We would like to thank Dan Epstein for his infinite knowledge of London's parks, and for being our critical friend for the project; our park storytellers for their generosity and time, and finally, a big thank you to our beloved parks for their perseverance.

Green for Victory: Parks and money

Published: Periscope 2021

First Edition: June 2021

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Periscope is a design practice skilled in the fields of architecture, landscape and urbanism, seeking to meet the challenges of our and future generations. We design and deliver resilient projects that work for people and planet, grounding our interventions within their greater ecological, topographic and social fabric.

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Foreword

It's an ordinary Saturday afternoon and my desk seems to have morphed into a drain, slowly sucking away any scraps of motivation I have left. What would you do to seek relief? Perhaps you would open your window, sit in your garden or go for a walk?

I get up, put on a jacket (there's no pressure to fuss about how presentable I look) and leave for my local park. It's a five minute walk if I take the shortest route or about twelve minutes if I detour through the Edwardian suburbs.

For those of us who have this opportunity, this may seem mundane but our pursuit of this kind of quietness is essential. Green spaces are spaces to get away, to contemplate, to be silent or to simply be in relation with the natural environment around us. Our verdant spaces are our lungs, they help us breathe both literally and metaphorically.

Environmental activists such as Donelle N. Dreese state that place is inherent to how we nurture a sense of wellness through the establishment of a community. So what happens to a community's sense of self when there is a lack of access to nature?

It is time we start viewing our parks as necessary basic rights and not luxuries. It is obvious that the provision of adequate green space directly reflects the existing structural inequalities of a city. Contemporary urban life in cities like London is often linked to chronic stress and insufficient physical activity. So it is no coincidence that this lack of nature manifests as both mental and physical ill health and is found to be higher among those who come from low income households and vulnerable communities like refugees.

Green for Victory is a call for policy makers to take responsibility in maintaining a meaningful relationship of reciprocity with local people and their green spaces. How can we conjure emotion, meaning or memory from bureaucratic mediums like maps and graphs?

It turns out that it is the subtleties found in each of our individual stories that make a difference. The multiplicities found in personal experiences, from the honest Google reviews of Trent County Park to the sensitive care taking of Barking Park by the local cafe owner Marina Sanduleac, show us the richness of the in-between and the everyday that we as readers can find familiarity in. This intimacy is realised in local culture and is something that we can lose once we're out of its sphere.

As you make your way through this research, you may recognise that it's not just about ticking off the number of times you see the colour green on a map. Perhaps it's about reconfiguring or expanding our understanding of communal care-taking. To see green space as cultivating ecological communities using languages of care. After all, as we continue to permeate other organisms and environments, we human beings are only one component of the ecosystem. A relationship that will always be mutually necessary and sustaining.

Nasra Abdullahi
New Architecture Writers

Introduction

London is growing both greyer and greener. More dense and more intense. In our time of radical urbanisation, environmental and economic crisis, and daily battles against social, mental and physical illness, we are lucky to find ourselves living in the heart of one of the richest, lushest and most cared-for National Parks in the world.

Statistically, London claims to be the greenest major city in Europe - at 47% green it is the third-greenest of its size in the world. It is home to almost as many trees as people; it is the first National Park City, the world's biggest urban forest.

Yet Londoners still desperately lack access to nature. In 2016, government statistics reported that 1 in 9 children in Great Britain did not set foot in any natural space - park, beach, forest or likewise - for over a year; and our capital's urban growth rate continues to radically outstrip the provision of new green spaces. As the sheer demand put on parks during the COVID crisis in 2020 highlighted, however green London may claim to be we still find ourselves in a mounting green space crisis.

So how can London be so statistically green, yet the equivalent natural benefits not be felt on a personal level? If we are to transpose the claim that our capital is almost 50% green into our daily London life, then shouldn't the average rush-hour commute down Old Street be at least half as verdant as a roam across the rugged fells of the Lake District? If London is truly a mighty forest then shouldn't the air be at least a fraction as fresh and mind-clearing as a stroll across the Brecon Beacons?

Unfortunately, the disparity lies in that much of London's 67.5 million hectares of green space remains inaccessible and disparate, either over-sanitised or poorly maintained. Our urban nature is not revered with the same wonder as a truly natural landscape. It is there sure enough, but we remain disconnected.

This gap between the amount of available green space versus the actual integration of it into daily London life escapes statistical analysis. Although a multitude of initiatives exist to quantify green space through data and stats, few go so far as to interrogate or measure true landscape value - to understand what parks really mean to people, and understand our true connection (or lack thereof) to urban nature.

But how could they even begin to quantify this? Nature is not an asset, nor subject to the financial 'developer' vocabulary of urban green space. The inherent benefits of connecting with nature are subjective, personal and felt. They differ from person to person, from day to day, or are discernible across prolonged timescales - such as in health and the combating of stress. The value of nature encompasses an entire ecosystem of issues and reasoning. As Natalie Bennett, former leader of the Green Party said, "true value is just beyond valuation".

The International Green Flag Award is currently the closest that Britain has to assessing quality or value of our green spaces. However the award focusses primarily on the provision of facilities rather than the real reasons why people love parks, or the true benefits of nature to society. If the Green Flag Award criteria were applied to a National Park, a forest or a range of mountains, they would more than likely fail. People do not visit National Parks for their toilets.

It is time to establish a planning system that understands its green spaces through a more natural and less quantified method of valuation. A system that, to paraphrase David Attenborough, acknowledges humans as ‘being part of nature’ as opposed to ‘apart from nature’. One that appreciates nuance, change, locality and specificity of place. Such subjective qualities are hugely undervalued - difficult to analyse, easy to blow away. Yet they are how we live, and to start to understand these qualities is the only way we can begin to explain the disparity between our city’s apparent abundance of green, and the absence of nature in our everyday urban life.

***Green for Victory* tackles London’s current lack of a sufficient natural value system, by interrogating the gap between the stats and the stories. It collates a multifaceted, collaborative and purposefully subjective assessment of London’s parks - a methodology that looks to embrace subjective views and individual stories on an equal footing to government statistics.**

Across four issues, we tackle four core challenges that disconnect London’s people from their parks, and that are not explained through stats alone. We move through scales from the citywide, to tread through four boroughs in the far North, South, East and West. Visiting the publicly ‘top rated’ parks of each borough, we talk with the people who know the parks best. We bridge the gap between statistics and the personal experience, to discuss what qualities our parks both have and lack, and what really keeps nature at arm’s length.

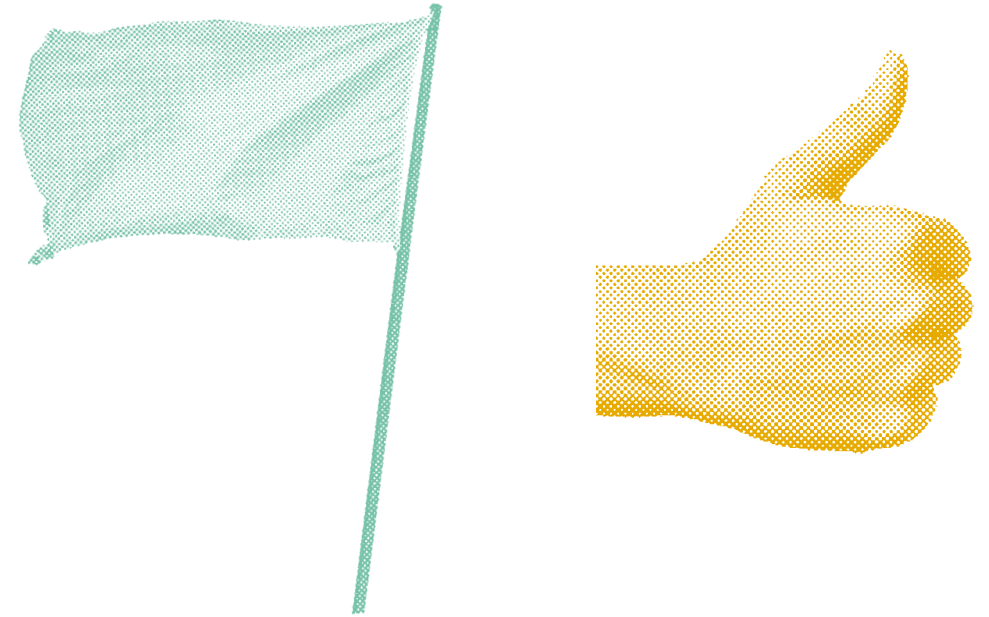
Finally, from our collected tales we take up arms, identifying the issues that the stats sweep over and perceiving our parks through the eyes of their people. In quiet protest against numeric quantification, we draw a communal portrait of each park, addressing each core issue. The park portraits reframe our relationships, calling for re-connection between people and parks, and insisting we re-establish ourselves as ‘part of nature’.

Green for Victory

- Issue 01 Parks and the wild
Richmond Park, Richmond upon Thames**
- Issue 02 Parks and open doors
Barking Park, Barking and Dagenham**
- Issue 03 Parks and responsibility
Wandle Park, Croydon**
- Issue 04 Parks and money
Trent Park, Enfield**

01 Green flags vs yellow thumbs

On putting a value on nature



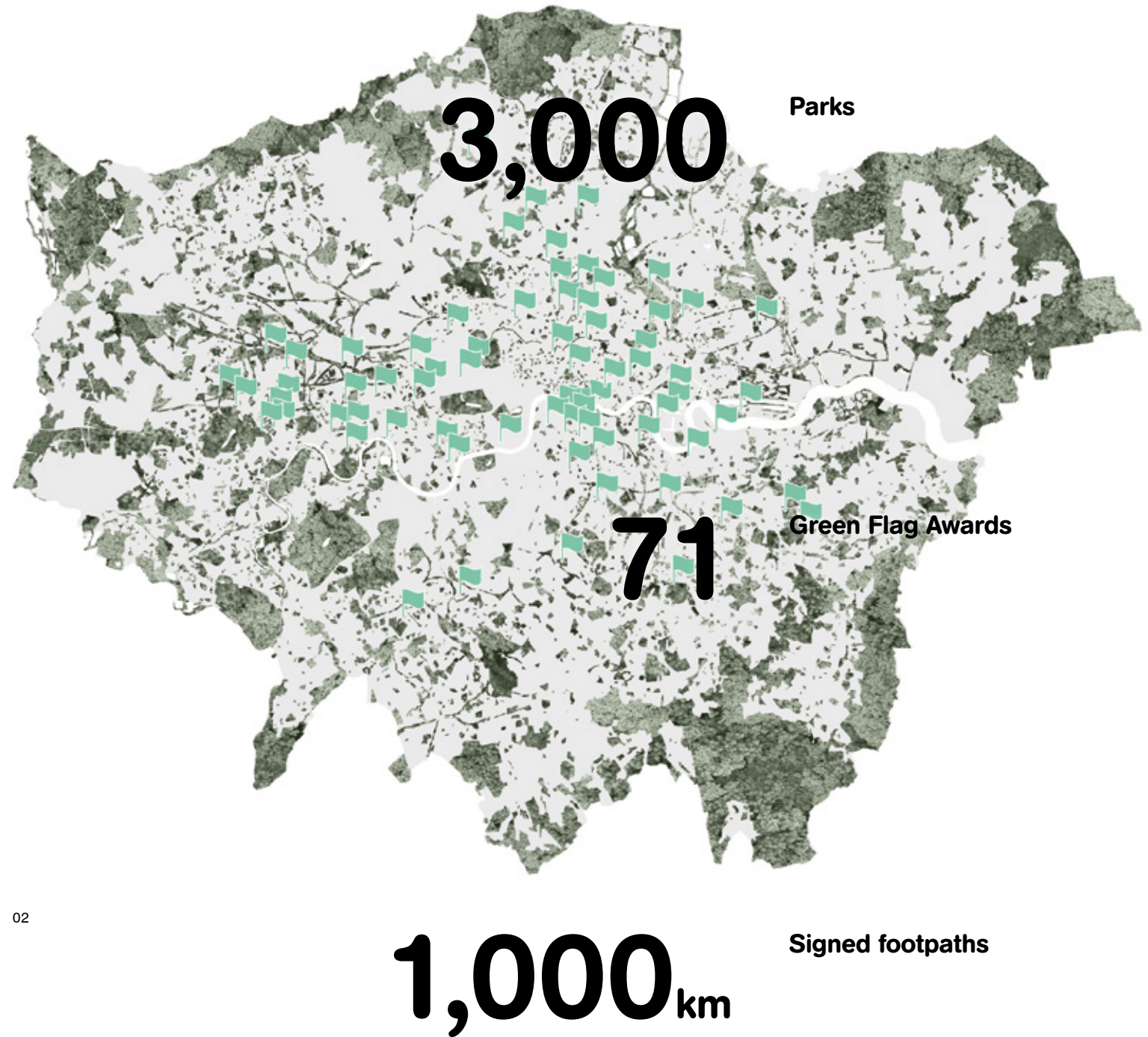
01

How do we assess nature in the city? The Green Flag Award is the most widely recognised standard we currently have to gauge park quality. The international accreditation rewards well-managed green spaces with an ‘international mark of quality’, assessed against an extensive set of criteria, supplemented by a management plan. Green Flags have recently been awarded to university campus lawns clipped and mown on a bi-weekly basis, and retail spaces with an abundance of litter bins and fairground rides.

The Green Flag award focusses on facility provision rather than natural, experiential or ecosystem values. It is primarily a tick-box exercise, the same criteria being applied locally as they are nationally as they are globally.

- Control of dogs/dog fouling
- Personal security
- Play and exercise equipment
- Bins
- Policy on chewing gum
- Marketing plan

Are these the parameters through which we really wish to value our landscape? Would the Lake District, the most visited National Park in Britain, win a Green Flag Award?



02



03

03 The Lake District, England
04 Snowdonia National Park, Wales



04

The Green Flag award may be extensive but it does not go far enough. If we are to take seriously that London really is the first National Park City, we need to approach it with the same mindset and set of expectations as we do a true National Park. This does not focus on quanta or provision of facilities, but rather on the inherent qualities of place. Measuring value through a universal list of tick-boxes is simply not an appropriate approach. It is not how nature works. Similarly, a single uniform measure cannot be used across the whole globe, without relating to local conditions, cultures and contexts.

A WELCOMING PLACE

● **Welcome** ● All major entrances should be visited, and all of the facilities where possible. For large sites such as country parks and waterways, judges should be shown a representative variety of entrances and facilities, and during each subsequent visit their tour should take in a different cross-section ● The welcome given should be appropriate to the site ● Every element of management combines to give a sense of welcome, or otherwise ● Well considered and innovative, yet practical, design features can really encourage people to enjoy using the site. Incorporate elements such as interesting planting, varied textures, and natural and built features that can be explored in play and used for relaxation ● **Good and Safe Access** ● Presence of clear sightlines in and out, and welcoming entrances (but practical ones – vehicular barriers can be used) ● Public transport links and whether they can be improved ● Pedestrian routes – whether they are logical, useful and suitable for the whole range of users. For example, are they wide enough for the likely combinations of cycles/pedestrians/prams/wheelchairs/children/dogs to use safely together? ● Cycles within the site – whether to encourage them with appropriate provision or provide safe storage at entry points. Are cycle routes designed to be complimentary and minimise conflict? ● Vehicles on site (including service vehicles), appropriate signage, control and safety measures, including how shared access between vehicles and pedestrians is managed ● Car parking – if provided, appropriate provision for the quantity and range of visitors ● Equality of access including disabled access – the site should adhere to relevant national legislation and the standards set in the UK Equality Act 2010 as a minimum. On site and online as appropriate, provide clear information on the accessibility of the various routes and areas to different users. Where appropriate, an access statement, a marketing document providing detailed information on the accessibility of your site, could be drawn up and published ● Public access and the safety of residents either on the site (e.g. canals, housing estates, hospitals) or local residents in the immediate vicinity ● **Signage** ●

Sites attracting visitors from a distance may benefit from installing signs from major routes; for others with mostly local and repeat visitors a sign at or near the entrance is enough; for some rural sites, very minimal signage may be appropriate ● Signs should be placed only where needed, for example at entrances, or ‘honeypot’ sites ● Consideration should be given to where they are sited, for example at what angle to approach routes and at what height, so that they can be seen and read easily ● Sign design should be coherent and complement the overall ‘feel’ of the green space ● The information should help users to have an enjoyable visit ● Knowing your visitors, use appropriate maps, accessibility information, infographics, other languages, and display lists of events and activities, by-laws, regulations, and interpretation boards. All of the information should be current ● Messages should be friendly, welcoming and clear ●

● **Equal Access for All** ● Consider the whole community – who is using it now? Are they well served? Who might use it but currently are not? How can it be made safer for them? Are there cultural issues that need to be considered? One of the ways of assessing this is to invite different groups to visit and use the site and provide feedback ● Is the placement of facilities well thought out with a range of busy and quieter areas if the space allows? Are there areas where dogs are prohibited? ● Not all areas have to be made physically accessible to all visitors – but provide information on site where appropriate as well as off-site so that visitors can look up accessible areas in advance. You may consider publishing an access statement, a marketing document providing detailed information on the accessibility of the site ● Staff and contractors on site should be identifiable, helpful and courteous ●

HEALTHY, SAFE AND SECURE

● **Appropriate Provision of Quality Facilities and Activities** ● Play and exercise equipment, trim trails, active volunteering programmes, health and fitness activities and suitable sporting facilities ● Provision of seating; for contemplation, physical rest, solitude, and enjoyment of nature ● Healthy eating options in the cafe ● Lifelines by open water (if deemed appropriate) ● First aid facilities ● Appropriate toilet provision – toilet facilities should be provided where the size of the site or extent of the facilities demands them, and should comply with national disability access regulations ● **Safe Equipment and Facilities** ● This criterion examines whether the equipment and facilities provided on site are safe to use, and that any events or activities held on the site are safely managed ● This might include policies and records on health and safety, risk assessments, food hygiene, noise and pollution levels ● **Personal Security** ● Consider the need for on-site staff presence. Where appropriate, and in line with good practice, there should be permanent staff on site at least during peak hours. Contact details should be clearly provided on signage for out-of-hours problem reporting. Staff should be readily identifiable, approachable, trained and with the responsibility to deal with security situations. Ideally, each staff member should be in telephone or radio contact with base. Where possible, organise grounds maintenance activity to ensure that the same staff are present at particular times, making them familiar to the community ● Consider whether there are clear sightlines and views in and out of the site. Ensure that shrubbery and trees are properly maintained or removed where necessary to avoid creating secluded areas or pathways, and where possible have paths connect with places where people congregate. Consider installing lighting along paths and in car parks used by the public when it is dark. Play areas should be informally visible where possible and ideally overlooked by housing ● Review issues that cause fear for different members of the community – for example, inclusivity, racism, drugs, bullying, vandalism, and vagrancy ● Risk assessments should consider the site as a whole and movements around it, not individual areas ● Carry out disclosure checks on staff where necessary ● Where possible, incorporate the green space into a Police or Community Support Officer beat;

seek powers for designated local authority officers to deal with statutory nuisance from individuals; build safety inspections into the regular staff walk-round; and set up a “watch” group with a monitored telephone number to enable Friends’ and Residents’ groups to report problems easily and provide an early warning of increases in anti-social behaviour ● Any hazards should be clearly marked and adequate steps taken to protect the public ● An Incident Log should be maintained and reviewed on a regular basis, and should form the basis for future decisions ● **Control of Dogs/Dog Fouling** ● Maintain a sound understanding of relevant national legislation and use it as necessary to control dogs on the site. Good practice is to keep dogs out of children’s play areas and off sports’ pitches, and consider making fenced and gated dog-free zones on grass so that children can sit and play with confidence ● Dogs can be excluded or requested to be on a lead at certain times of the year if it has an adverse effect on wildlife ● Consider holding events aimed at dog owners ● Are there strategies in place to handle dog walkers with multiple animals if they cause a problem? ● Liaise with local authority dog wardens and engage with local dog walking groups ● Consider using legislative powers where appropriate ●

WELL MAINTAINED AND CLEAN

● **Litter and Waste Management** ● Both users and staff have a responsibility in keeping a site free of litter and fouling ● An organisational culture should be developed whereby every staff member is prepared to pick up litter when they see it rather than waiting for the routine visit of a maintenance team ● Managers should study the patterns of littering throughout the day, week and year, and should deal with them accordingly ● Consider a specific policy on chewing gum – once it hardens it is costly and difficult to remove, detrimental to wildlife and a blight on the area – and smoking litter, if required ● Where appropriate, bins should be provided on site, with consideration given to providing separate recycling facilities, cigarette stub plates and dog fouling bins. Managers should regularly evaluate the overall provision, location, position, maintenance and emptying of bins. Bins should be carefully and securely positioned and emptied regularly to encourage proper use by the public ● Campaigns and events could be used to reduce particular problems, if appropriate ● Managers should understand and use relevant national legislation to tackle problems ● Managers should be aware of their legal duties under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to keep their relevant land clear of litter and refuse, and the Waste Management Licensing Regulations. These standards apply internationally as a minimum requirement for any Green Flag Award site ● Site waste storage areas should be positioned out of sight of the public and arrangements made to ensure that waste is transported off-site as quickly as possible ● Consider composting horticultural waste for use as a replacement for peat-based products. For example, can you chip clippings and use them as mulch? ● **Horticultural Maintenance** ● There should be evidence that good standards of horticultural practice are being maintained across all areas of the site, e.g. shrub beds, flower beds and grassed areas ● Sites must demonstrate appropriate management of other features, such as water bodies ● Work specifications should emphasise the quality of the end product and new tenders should include assessment of horticultural expertise and staff experience as well as cost ● If not done in-house, smaller contracts could be awarded for specialised items of grounds maintenance, such as shrubberies, lakes and ecology areas ● Can you involve volunteers (through, for example, Friends’ or Conservation Groups, Tenants and Residents’ Associations or green gym programmes) in looking after small areas of a site? It is vital that a dedicated, skilled member of staff is present to provide assistance and oversight and to ensure safety as well as the quality of the finished job ● **Arboricultural and Woodland Maintenance** ● Zoning the site according to levels of use to inform likely levels of risk ● Establishing regular informal inspections (by individuals familiar with the site) and formal (expert) observations at an appropriate frequency. Any problems should be reported, acted upon and these actions recorded ● Identifying any potentially problematic trees and developing an action plan to ensure safety and effective maintenance ● Making plans for replacement of the tree stock over time ● Site managers should have knowledge of key specimen trees and understand how to ensure their upkeep ● Taking suitable biosecurity actions relating to tree stock and measures to avoid the spread of tree diseases, including thorough cleaning of equipment and reputable stock sourcing ● What to do with dead wood on the site – for example, where and when it is left to provide a habitat for bats, hole nesting birds and invertebrates, where and when it is taken away for health and safety or aesthetic reasons ● **Building and Infrastructure Maintenance** ● This section broadly includes the buildings, fences, gates, paths and roadways on site. They should be well maintained and clear of graffiti, flyposting, weeds and potholes as relevant. The management plan should refer to schedules for maintenance, repainting and renewal, and policies for dealing with vandalism, fly-tipping, graffiti and fly-posting. ● **Equipment Maintenance** ● This criterion looks at the policies and procedures in place to carry out checks and maintenance on: the equipment used by staff, the equipment used by the public ●

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

● **Managing Environmental Impact** ● Judges will be looking to see that, where possible and where relevant, measures have been taken to reduce impact on the environment as the opportunity arises – usually when replacing old features or creating new ones ● Water efficiency – installing features to reduce water consumption and reuse rainwater where possible, in building, infrastructure and water bodies whether that be across whole canal systems, large water bodies or individual ornamental water features ● Energy saving or efficient features installed within buildings, in new vehicles and machinery ● Renewable energy generation on site or procurement of off-site power ● Measures taken to improve air quality ● Measures taken to stop pollution into water ● Measures taken to reduce noise pollution ● Purchasing choices give equal consideration to sustainable and socially and environmentally sound sources, alongside value for

money ● **Waste Minimisation** ● Have all facilities on the site been considered – cafes, concessions, sporting facilities, site operations? ● How is green waste handled? Is it mulched and put back on site? Is compost made from clippings? ● Recycling facilities should reflect the collection facilities available locally and be suitable for the type of litter generated and for the site itself ● **Chemical Use** ● Where are pesticides and fertilisers used? ● What would happen if there was no treatment? Is there a problem? ● Is there a way of altering the environment to prevent the problem? ● What physical or mechanical control methods are available? ● What biological control methods are available that can supplement the environmental, physical and mechanical methods in use? ● What are the least toxic chemical controls available that can supplement environmental, physical, mechanical and biological methods ● **Peat Use** ● Avoid purchasing plants grown in peat or products containing peat. Request relevant information from your suppliers ● Use alternatives to peat such as appropriate recycled waste, or coir ● Make your own compost from cuttings ● **Climate Change Adaption Strategies** ● Likely impacts of climate change and some of the mitigating factors ● **Torrential Rain: Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS)**, re-naturalising of modified water courses and flood plains and other flood reduction strategies, soil binding ● Drought: adaptive vegetation, rain water harvesting and soil mulching ● Wind: tree layout and design, and public safety ● Heat: suitably tolerant vegetation, shade and waterbodies for cooling off ● Opportunities to enhance ecological networks and habitats or populations of species so that they are better able to adapt to a changing climate through, for example, choices for planting or their positioning ●

BIODIVERSITY, LANDSCAPE AND HERITAGE

● **Management of Natural Features, Wild Fauna and Flora** ● Potential for sites to form part of a network for wildlife, as natural floodways or open spaces, to buffer and enhance ● The presence of any ancient trees, or historic tree or plant collections and how they are identified, managed and promoted ● Local historical or social links with types of biodiversity or particular habitats ● Links to wider local and national strategies – including Local Nature Partnerships, National Pollinator Strategy, health and wellbeing and nature, natural play, forest schools, involving people in ‘growing their own’, green infrastructure and climate change adaptation ● **Conservation of Landscape Features** ● The management plan should contain a statement, recognising: ● what landscape features are present and their relationship to each other (natural and landscaped features; trees – individual, groups, avenues, plants and planting; geological; important view lines; open areas) ● where they came from (social and cultural importance) ● what has come since ● specific reference to any conservation designation applied to the landscape (registered park or garden, conservation area, scheduled ancient monument and local designations) ● **Conservation of Buildings and Structures** ● The entirety of the estate is important and managers should recognise the whole setting even if it isn’t within their remit. For cemeteries, canals, areas of social housing and large campuses for example, the buildings and structures physically dominate the site and they should be part of the management plan, even if only to ensure ongoing consultation with the relevant stakeholders ● Key developmental stages in the history of the place can be represented through enhancing structures and buildings from different eras ● Buildings should be in use where possible, ideally by groups involved in the life of the site ● Friends’ groups could be encouraged to take over or look after some of the heritage features and improve or extend their use ● Buildings or structures identified as in need of maintenance or restoration should have a vision and a plan to maintain them. The site should be safely contained, kept unblighted, and signage erected to let the public know what is happening ● Ruins shouldn’t be allowed to be dangerous but they can be managed appropriately. For example, cemeteries often contain memorials that are in a ruinous condition. The approach to management is important. Heritage England publish guidance on managing ruins ● Not all buildings have to be kept: ongoing community consultation is important, and even if it is a relevant part of history but the community are happy if it goes and is either replaced with a better alternative or it is no longer needed, then it doesn’t need to stay. Judges will be interested in the decision-making process and appropriateness of the outcome for the people using it, rather than the outcome itself ●

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

● **Community Involvement in Management and Development** ● A variety of methods could be used to involve communities, including: forums, questionnaires, surveys, as well as outreach work to schools, youth organisations, faith groups and organisations that represent people with disabilities. Particular consultation should be aimed at the 13–19 age group, often one of the hardest groups to engage with ● Providing evidence of active engagement with, and understanding of, communities might be the analysis of survey results or outcomes or decisions made at community forum meetings, ideally summarised and referenced in the management plan ● It is important that groups are fairly represented and conflicting demands are equitably balanced when decisions, particularly those involving significant redesign and investment, are made ● It can be better to approach representative groups individually, rather than try to bring them together. However, where groups are disproportionately interested in one part of the site, a quarterly meeting of all interested parties can be useful. Use methods as appropriate to seek to identify and resolve conflicts between user groups ● Groups should be approached and supported in developing their vision for different use of the space. Where it is unachievable, clear feedback should be given and alternatives explored where possible ● ‘Friends’ Groups’ are often an indication of community engagement, but there doesn’t have to be one – judges are looking to see regular engagement across the whole community – those geographically local to the site and its existing users ● Some sites will have obvious bodies for consultation, such as allotment associations, student bodies, residents’ groups, sporting committees, historical societies or friends’

groups. Also involve others with impact on or who are impacted by the site – other site departments or contractors, local residents, businesses, faith or interest groups and people running events or facilities on the site ● Reflect the local multicultural community – try to get representation from all groups in the locality. It may mean going out to some groups as they wouldn’t engage with more traditional techniques ● Properly supervised by a dedicated member of site staff, groups can be involved in the day to day running of the site, and can sometimes leverage additional funding, providing great benefit to all ● Community involvement in some sites, such as cemeteries and crematoria still in use, may not comprise the traditional groups. It might be better to engage with users through feedback via funeral directors. Friends’ groups could be established for historic cemeteries and may be able to carry out supervised works on the site ● **Appropriate Provision for Community** ● Is there potential for any conflicts between user groups that need to be managed? Could the area be better zoned? ● Is there fair provision – for all ages, sectors of the community, and all types of activities that the site encourages? ● Play equipment should be physically challenging, functional and imaginative, catering for a range of ages and physical abilities, located in a safe area away from main roads, dogs excluded. Opportunities for wild and free play are equally valuable and develop imagination, connection to nature and stimulate senses. Can you link better to existing facilities, events and programmes already underway to encourage wider engagement with them? ● Would it help to make a study of patterns of use across the day, week or year? ● Have you considered what people do when they visit the site? ● Can the site provide informal space for community events or social get-togethers? ●

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

● **Marketing and Promotion** ● There should be an appropriate marketing plan for the site, referenced in the management plan, which at its most basic level ● The extent and depth of this plan should be appropriate to the type of site. For example, a major heritage attraction drawing visitors from across the globe would have a very different marketing plan to that relating to the grounds of a housing association or campus, small local park or recreation area, a sensitive nature site, or an active cemetery or crematorium ● It could be part of a larger organisational strategy, but there should be specific detail on this particular site - understanding the site and it’s current and potential users ● Events are not always the best idea. There might be better ways engage visitors. It may be best to take expertise out of the site, for example into schools or local groups, especially those that would otherwise hesitate to engage, perhaps because of age or culture ● **Appropriate Information Channels** ● There are a range of methods for marketing green spaces, which might include: ● Publication and distribution of annual reports and management plans (have these available to leaf through in the cafe, reception or other public buildings) ● Online visitor information sites; those with facility for reviews and comments make a good monitoring tool ● Social media ● Events calendars – on notice boards, online, in newsletters ● Local and free press ● Local radio ● Well trained and approachable staff – rangers, contractors or other staff, all of whom should be clearly identifiable ● Printed media – posters, banners, leaflets, flyers or reverse sides of parking/bus tickets ● Links to Green Flag – use your achievement of a prestigious international award to promote the site. Fly the flag and use the Green Flag Award website to promote the site; a free, fully updatable web page is available for every winning site ● Share others’ communication channels, for example those of the managing organisation, and partner organisations ● Local noticeboards – physical and online ● Sometimes, marketing is done practically by taking the experience of the site to others – for example taking plants or animals, giving talks on growing vegetables or wildflowers, or on the history of the site, to schools or local groups rather than them coming on to site ● The marketing of cemeteries and crematoria has to be carried out in a very sensitive way and might comprise a leaflet detailing the history of the site and any interesting historical features. It should also contain useful numbers – where to go for support after a bereavement, how to register a death and a list of local Funeral Directors, for example. This could be completely financed by an Undertaker ● Sensitive sites that are actively seeking to control visitor numbers, for example to protect the environment, could decide their marketing strategy was to approach schools or other groups to arrange scheduled visits and promote events taking place at other sites ● **Appropriate Educational and Interpretational Information** ● Signage and interpretation boards on site and online information detailing the social and built heritage and unique biodiversity features of the site ● Nature walks, green gym programmes, healthy activities, creative conservation, or links with local history or other interest groups ● Welcoming or providing Forest Schools or equivalent outdoor learning experiences for local schools ● Promoting growing your own food – allotment provision or healthy eating areas or guidance on growing at home ● Establishing links with local groups for people with disabilities

MANAGEMENT

● **Implementation of Management Plan** ● Applicants need to have a management plan and be using it. Judges will be looking for evidence that it is used in practice. They will be interested to know how familiar people are with the management plan and may ask members of staff and community representatives, as well as assessing overall how well-run the site appears to be ●

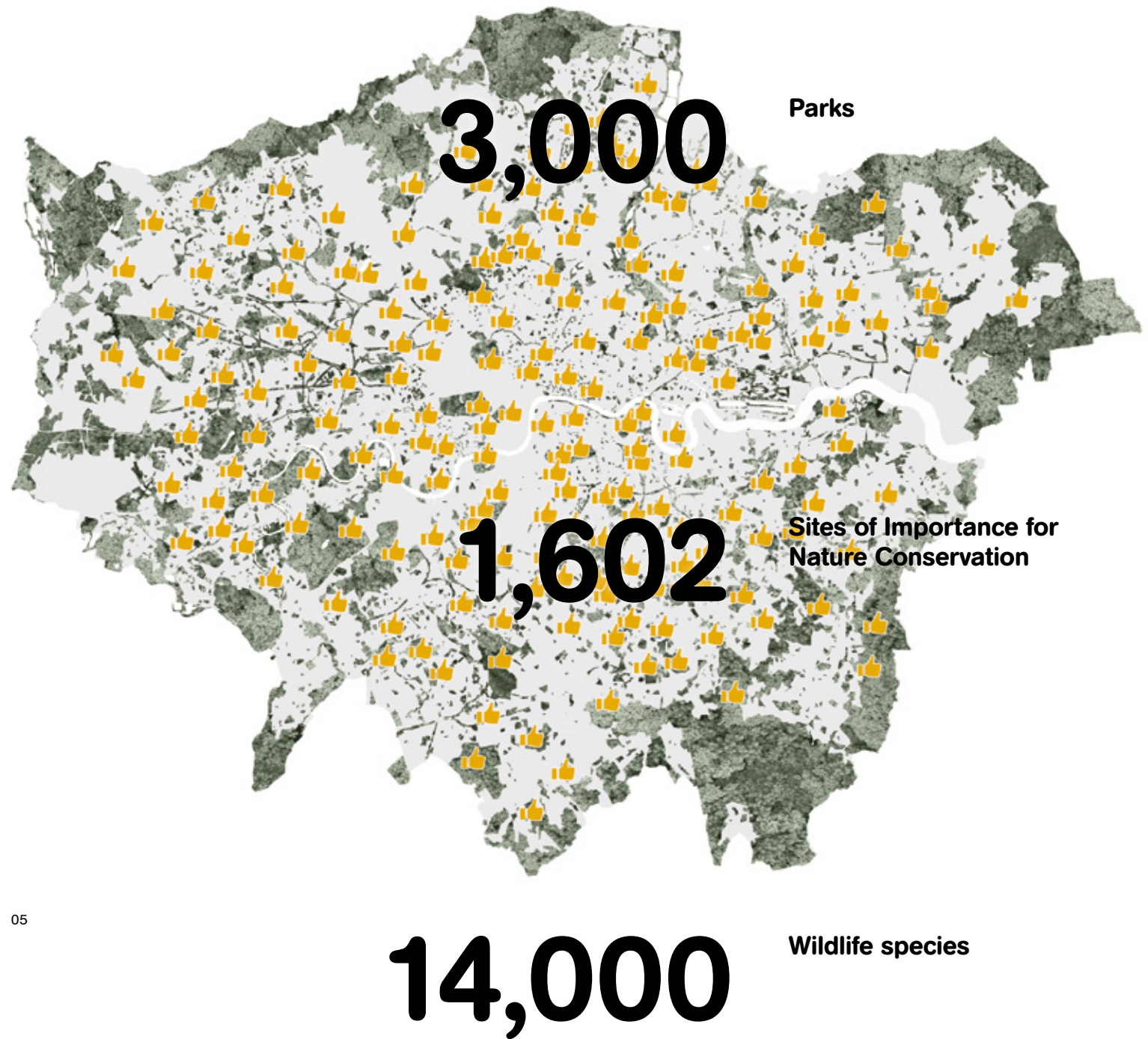
A fundamental shift in perspective is vital in order to take nature seriously within an urban context, and to evaluate its potential. We need to develop an approach similar to that adopted when immersing ourselves in true, vast natural spaces, rather than reducing nature to numeric standards, or treating urban parks as imitations of the 'real thing'.

A truly natural value system would be subjective, personal, communal. It would be formed from the voices of plants, animals and histories as well as from human voices. It would not be an architectural structure, it would be an ecosystem of which, it would recognise, humans are only one part.

The following chapters begin to evaluate parks through a set of more natural values, replacing the dictatorial, finite methodology represented by the 'green flag' with a communal, multi-perspectival concept of the 'yellow thumb'. We look towards understanding parks as a piece of the wild as equally as they are a piece of the city. To values beyond valuation.



05



02 Who pays for our city parks?

On government funding and valuation



06

London's parks may be free to visit, but they come at high cost. Comprehensive maintenance teams and schemes are required for watering, pruning, pollarding, replanting, fertilising, litter-picking, training, cleaning, policing and security, event management... Parks are alive, their needs are manifold and the list goes on. With 92% of park managers reporting budget cuts over the last six years, local councils' abilities to finance the upkeep of their parks is becoming stretched beyond their limits. Yet the value of London's parks far outweighs their cost.

Urban parks play a vital role in mental and physical health, education, environmental quality and thus overall life satisfaction. There are countless documents evidencing the value of greenspace on our lives - this is nothing new. However a direct pricetag is more difficult to define for nature's intrinsic societal worth.

The health benefits of parks have been evaluated and translated to a cash equivalent by bodies including Fields in Trust. FiT have concluded that the life satisfaction gained from visiting a park once a week is equivalent to £974 per person - or a £19 entry price per visit. Thankfully London's parks remain (for now) free to the public, but this statistic begins to give an idea of the immense financial value stored hidden within green spaces.

A study conducted by the National Trust in 2020 found that a £5.5bn investment into the UK's green spaces would lead to a payback of £200bn in tangible mental and physical health costs. On top of this, London's parks are estimated to store 5.5m tonnes of carbon annually, valued at £360m. To cut park funding is a false economy.

Trent Country Park is one of Enfield's largest, most exquisite, biodiverse and

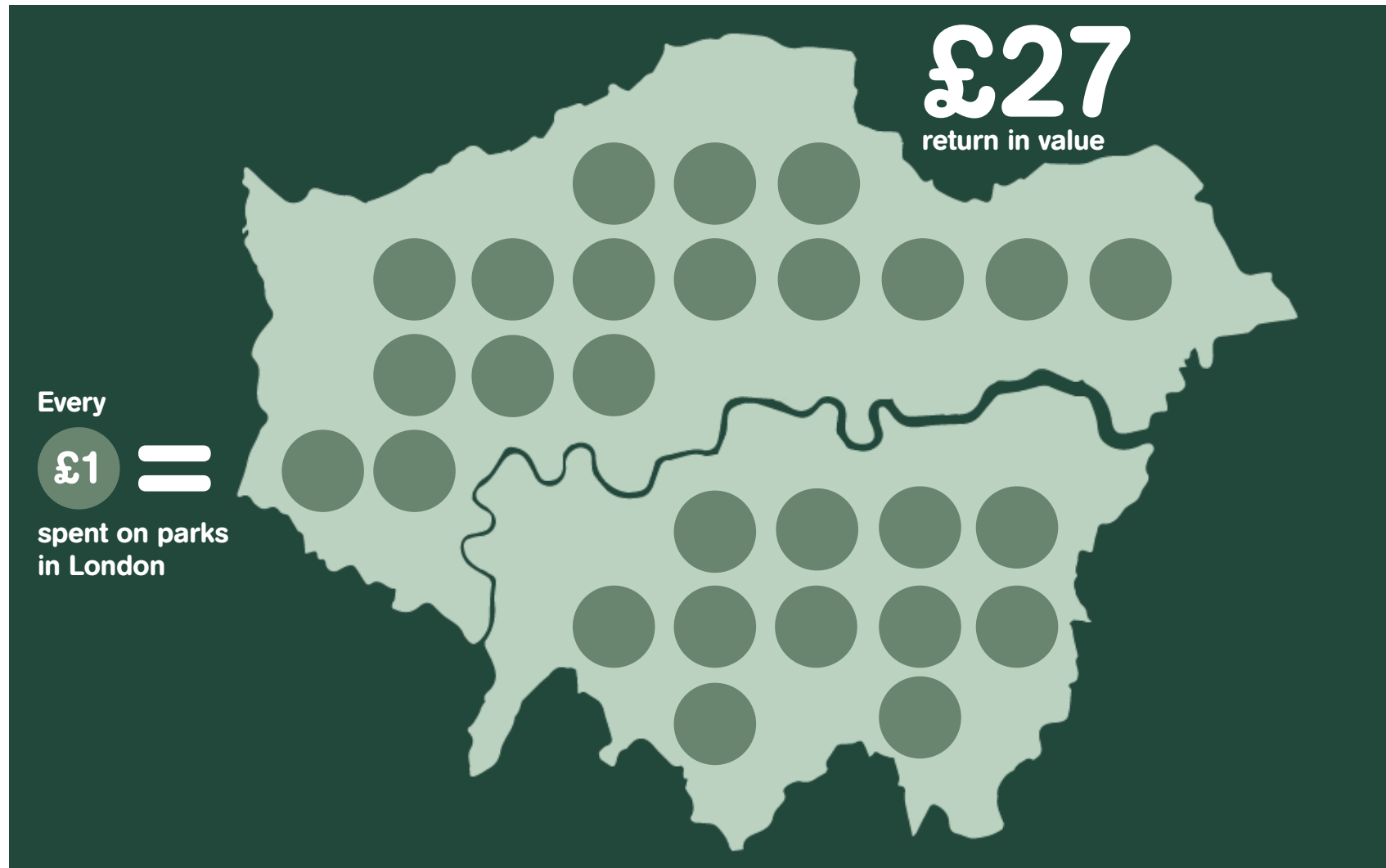
historically significant parks. Despite its designation as Metropolitan Green Belt and being listed in the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England, it has suffered from a long term lack of municipal funding. Over the last decade it has experienced the disappearance of a number of key British protected habitats due to a lack of management. Reduced funding has led to a decline of organised events, leading to a decline in visitors, in turn leading to a reduced societal pressure for change upon the local authority.

Trent Park is an example of a widespread and deep-rooted problem faced both in London and at national level. At a time when urban green space is at a premium and park visits are surging, how can such a huge and obvious capital gain be so hugely overlooked? In this paper, we ask how much it really costs to finance a park, and what the long term return rate of such an investment would be.



07

07 Annual value of green space in England
08 Annual value of green space in London



08

According to the Office for National Statistics, government spending on parks and open spaces in both London and England made up just over 1% of their total budget in 2019-20. This is a proportionally low investment, when compared, for example, to the amount spent on roads.

Yet green space adds a huge amount to public health. In 2017, access to green space was found to save London's NHS £950 million. This is a whopping 32% more than the amount the government actively spent on public health, which totalled at £650m. Of these green space savings, 60% was related to physical health improvements and the rest from mental health.

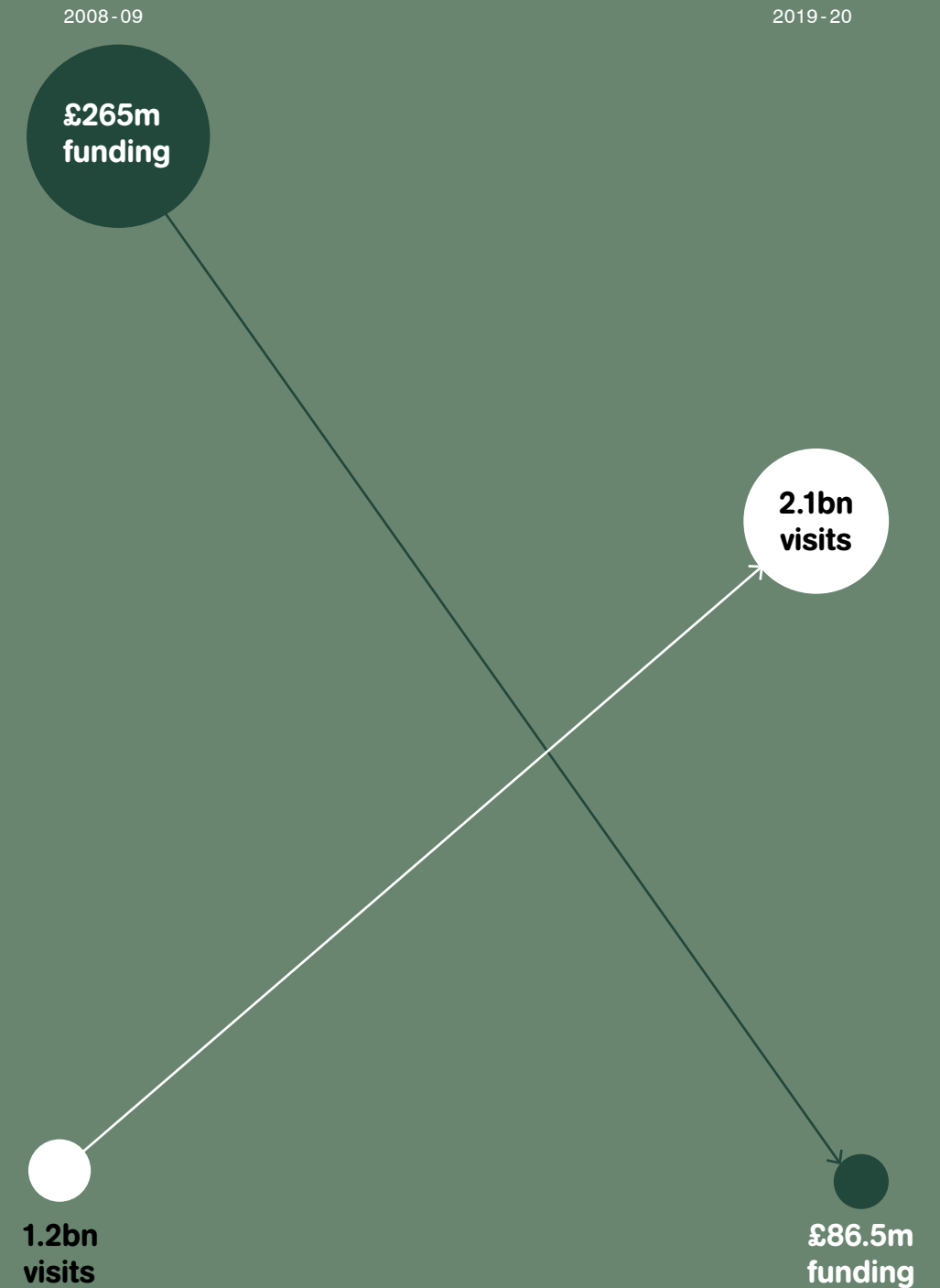
How much money would the government actually be investing in public health if it partially transferred its funds to green space?

Source: Natural Capital Account for London

Natural England is the public charity responsible for monitoring, protecting and restoring the country's natural environment. Although it is a non-governmental organisation, it is a public body dependent for most of its income on the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Over the last ten years, Natural England has found that public visits to green spaces have almost doubled, due to a combination of factors including an increase in living in urban areas, changes in work and wealth, and cultural attitudes towards health and leisure. During this period, rather than almost doubling their capital, Natural England's governmental funding has in fact been cut by 70%. The amount the British public are using greenspaces compared to the amount of money the Government is investing in them is in stark opposition.

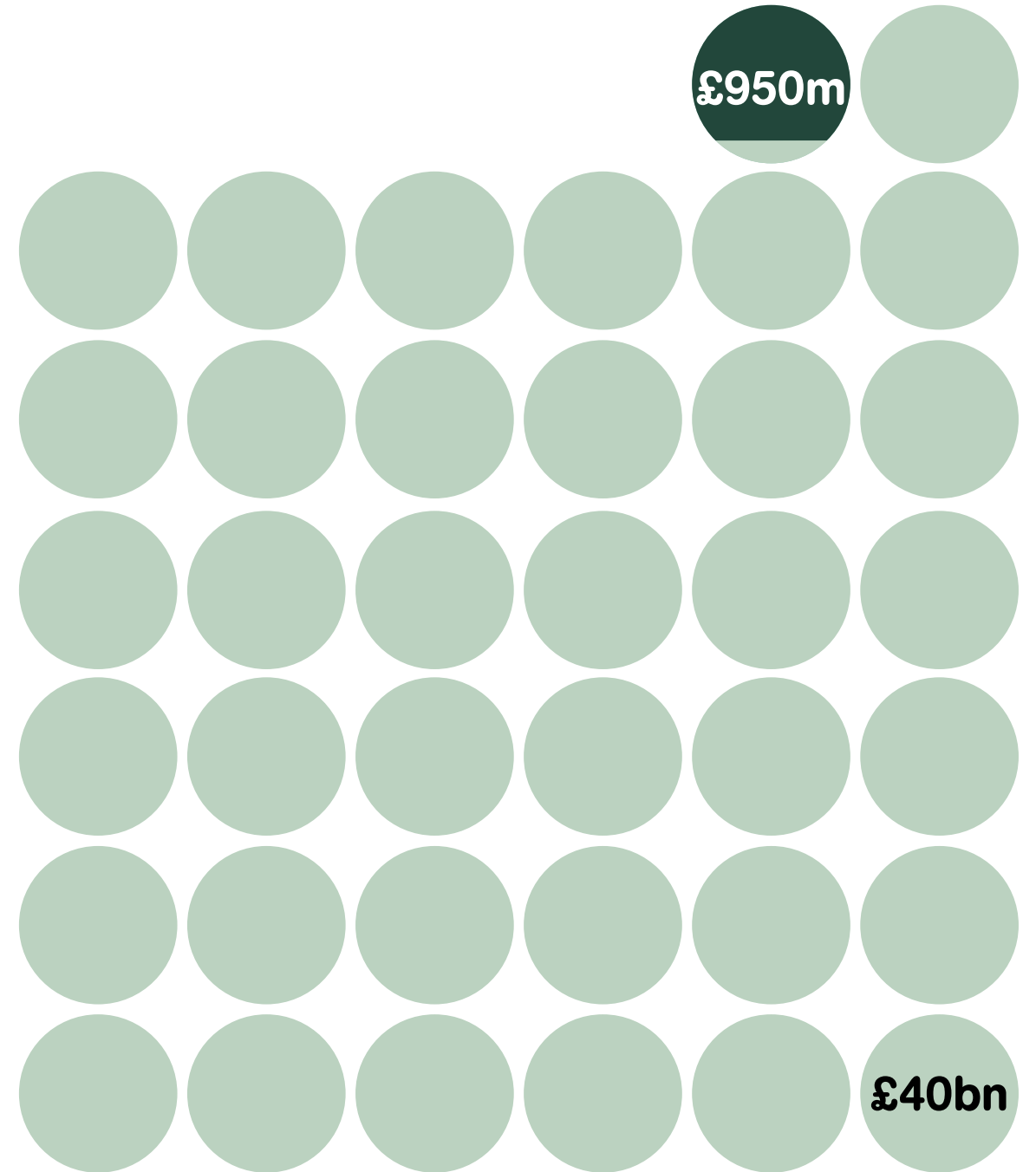
What if government funding was directly linked to how much people use its resources? What if every time a British taxpayer visited a green space, this automatically generated a £1 tax contribution from the Government towards the park?



In 2017, 92% of park budgets had been cut by local authorities. As such, UK parks have increasingly been required to seek funding from other sources.

This often relies on an extensive network of community initiatives, direct sponsorships from businesses, and corporate as well as 'friends' volunteering. In the last 25 years, The National Lottery Heritage Fund has invested more than £950m into over 900 parks across the UK. While this figure seems impressive, it represents only 2.4% of the total £40bn raised by the National Lottery for good causes in the UK.

What if a specific 'National Green Lottery Fund' were to be set up alongside the current 'Heritage' and 'Community' funds?



10

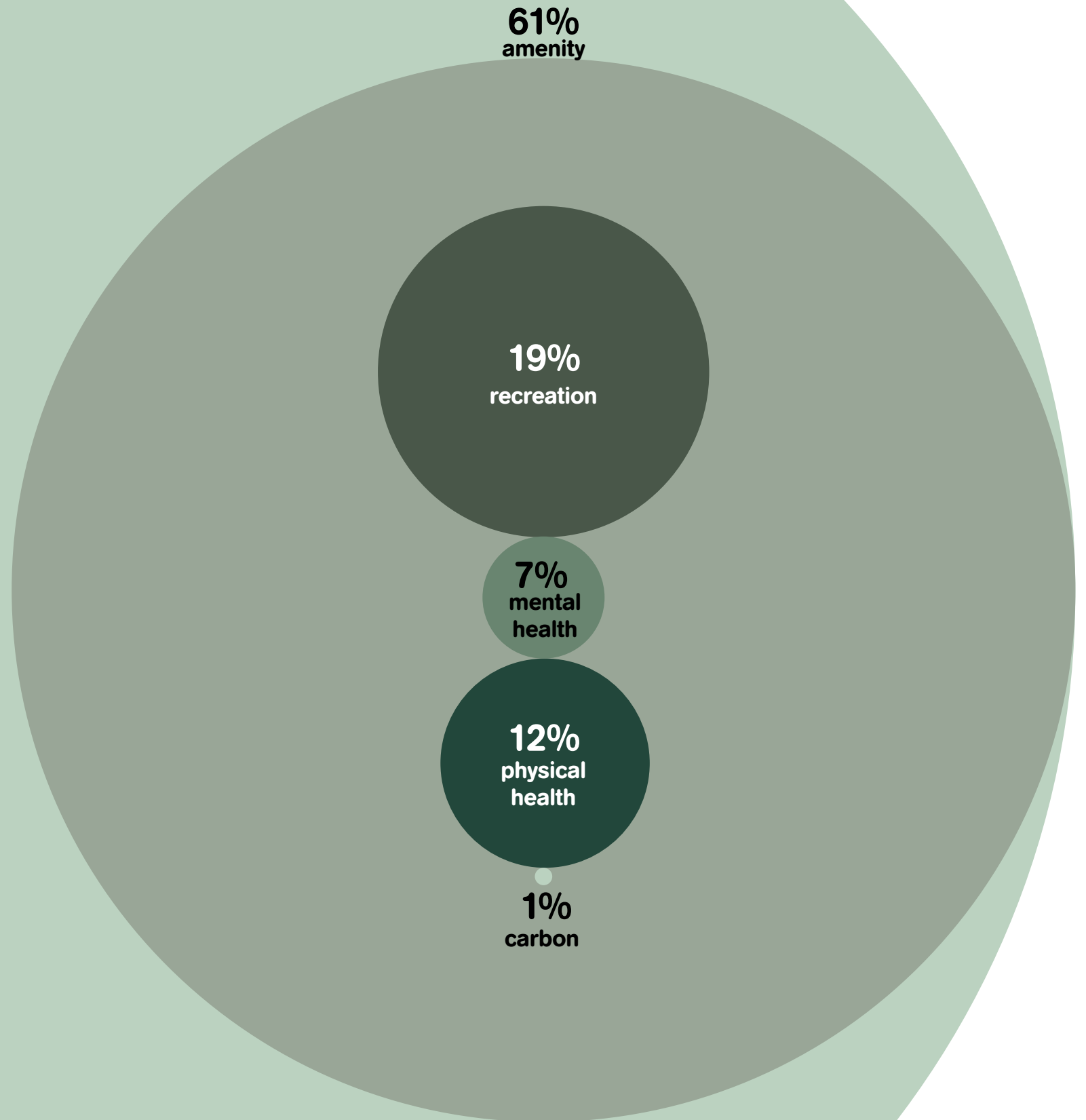
A ground-breaking study published in 2017 showed, for the first time, the economic value of the benefits that Londoners get from their public parks and green spaces.

Natural capital is made up of the elements of nature, such as ecosystems, habitats and natural processes, that benefit people directly or indirectly. Benefits can include goods, such as timber and food, and services, such as clean air and water. According to the report, London's natural capital is estimated to have a gross asset value of £91bn spread over 30 years, out of which £56bn is amenity value alone.

How rich would London be if we invested as much as we gain from parks?

£91bn

Total economic value



03 The cost of park vs its value

On our economic relationship with our local parks



12

London's green spaces are invaluable, but their funding is not always a priority. Local councils often lack the funding required for their immediate upkeep, which leads to a much greater loss in value in the long term. Enfield is London's 9th greenest borough, with 1,741 hectares of publicly accessible green space amounting to a Natural Capital value of £2.8 billion in value. Yet it is also London's 9th-most deprived borough. How does investment into local parks and green spaces compare with its relative rate of return?



13

333,794

Population estimate, 2017

40.6

Population density per hectare

9/33

London deprivation rank

72.9%

Employment rate, 2015

35

Average age

80.3-84.5

Life expectancy (years)

45.6%

Public green space

21.7%

Private gardens

How much money do local parks need?

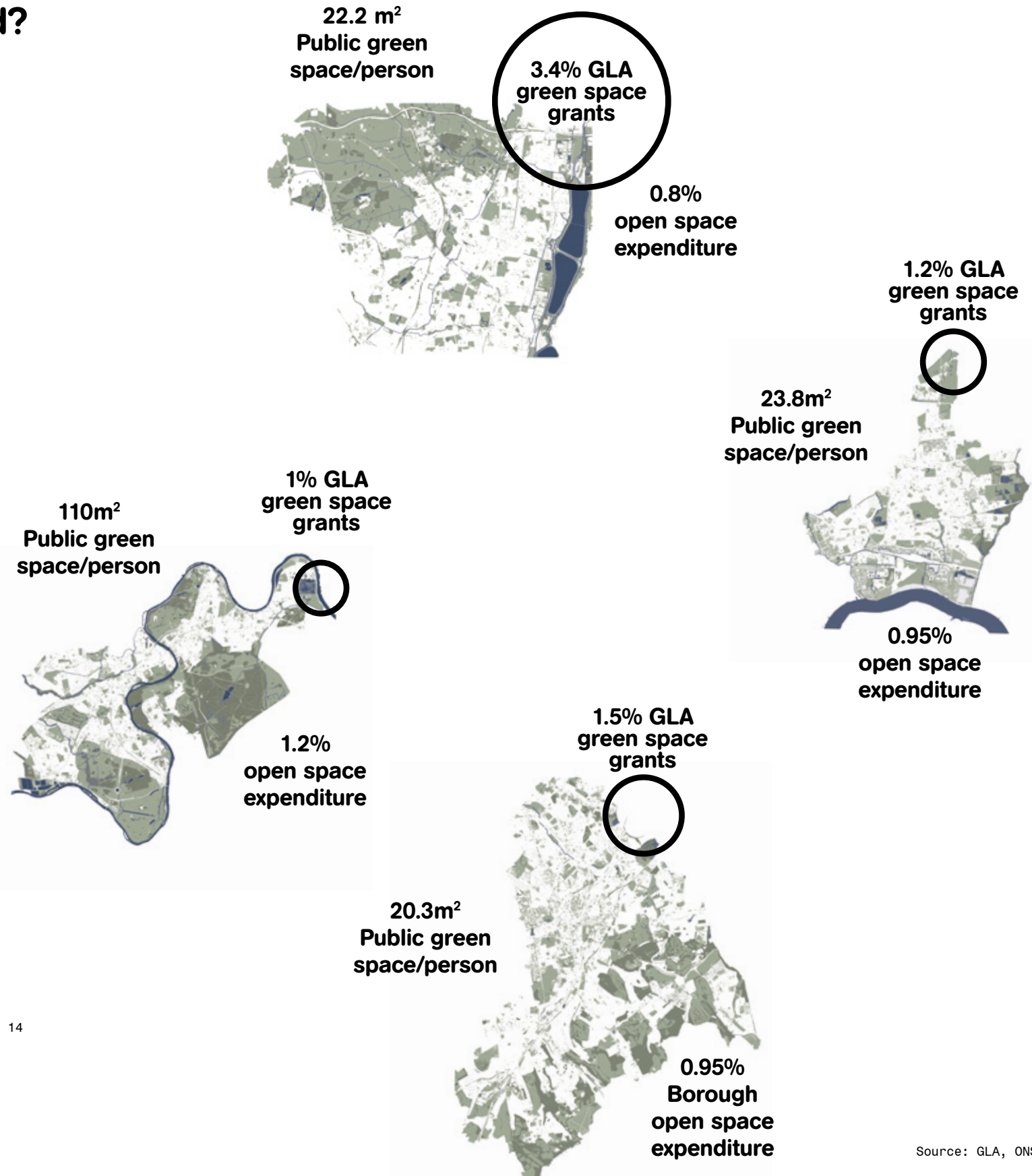
Over the last three years, local boroughs have spent between 0.8 and 1.2% of their total revenue budgets on open spaces. This is not much.

Comparing government investment in public green space across four boroughs in the North, South, East and West of London reveals a huge variation in financing across the city.

Between 2017 and 2020, Richmond-upon-Thames - London's greenest and most affluent borough - invested 50% more of their annual budget into green and open spaces than Enfield council, despite having almost the same proportion of green coverage. Whilst acknowledging there are many pressures influencing specific local authority spending, this reveals a stark discrepancy in the relative importance that Councils place on their green spaces.

Deficiencies in green space funding are often supplemented by city-wide grants, such as the Greener City Fund by the Mayor of London. These grants are usually applied for by local Councils, thus the awarding of them can be used to gauge the active commitment of authorities to invest in their green spaces beyond their own financial limitations.

Of the four boroughs, Enfield has received by far the most funding over the last three years, with between two and three as many grant applications awarded compared to the other three boroughs. The issue is not lack of intent, but lack of resources. These grants have gone some way to help make up what is lacking, but still does not go far enough.



14

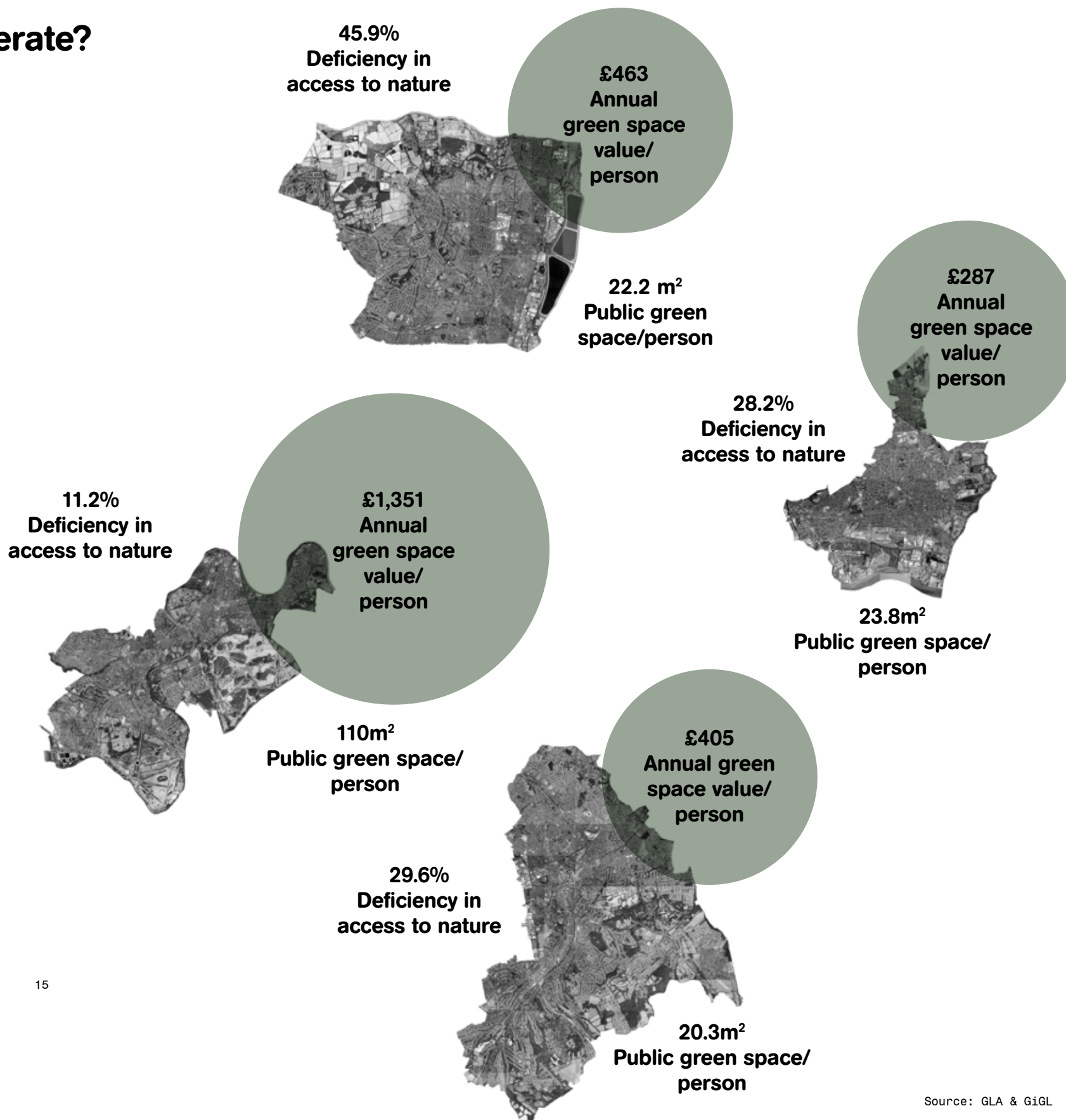
How much value do local parks generate?

In the financial year 2019-20, local council expenditure on public health varied between £10m, £17m, £17m and £24m in Richmond-upon-Thames, Barking and Dagenham, Enfield and Croydon, respectively. This fluctuation is due a multitude of factors, including wealth and deprivation, employment, social background and education. However one of the most crucial contributing factors is access to - and provision of - high quality green space.

Richmond-upon-Thames has significantly more green space than the other three boroughs. Enfield and Croydon sit at the other end of the scale, suffering from greater deficiencies in nature. Deficiency in nature in turn leads to a poorer average level of mental and physical health, thus greater local public health expenditure.

The Natural Capital Account for London measures monetary green space value, through quantifying the sum of amenity and recreational benefits alongside mental and physical health savings. This results in a total annual 'green space value' per person, which varies borough-by-borough. Comparing the calculated 'values' across the four boroughs, it is immediately clear that the parks of Richmond-upon-Thames are by far the highest. A higher 'green space value' increases general health and well-being, leading to lower public health costs, and freeing up more council money. If this is reinvested in green spaces, the knock-on effect will continue.

Across London, boroughs have been found to save an average of 96% the amount they spend on public health due to green space. By increasing their financing of green space, boroughs suffering from deficiency in nature and without enough financing for their parks, such as Enfield and Croydon, could unlock potential public health savings far greater than their investment.



04 Tales from the community

On community values and money



16

Google reviews are often overlooked within data collection, in favour of more formal and controlled questionnaires. But Google provides a safe space for the free and equal expression of opinion, and is a powerful platform representative of communal demographic that people trust. According to the online community, Trent Park in Enfield is ‘stunning, with hills and wooded areas’. How does its value align with its cost?



17 Mature trees, Trent Park

18 Tree, Trent Park



★★★★★ 3 months ago

Tranquil, pleasant, well worth a visit and excellent environment

Choose your moment of pleasure in a peaceful and enticing environment.



19

★★★★★ a month ago

This is without a doubt the best Country Park you will find in North London. The ideal place to go for a walk, relax in the sun, have a picnic and ride a bike. There are plenty of parking spaces, and a really nice cafe next to the car park. There is no better feeling than a walk around Trent Park, because you do get the feeling that you are in the countryside whilst admiring the stunning scenery.

I would strongly recommend anyone to bring a camera with, as there are plenty of opportunities to take decent Landscape and Nature stills. [The best place to take photographs is around the open fields](#) and of course The Japanese Garden!

19 Open field, Trent Park



21

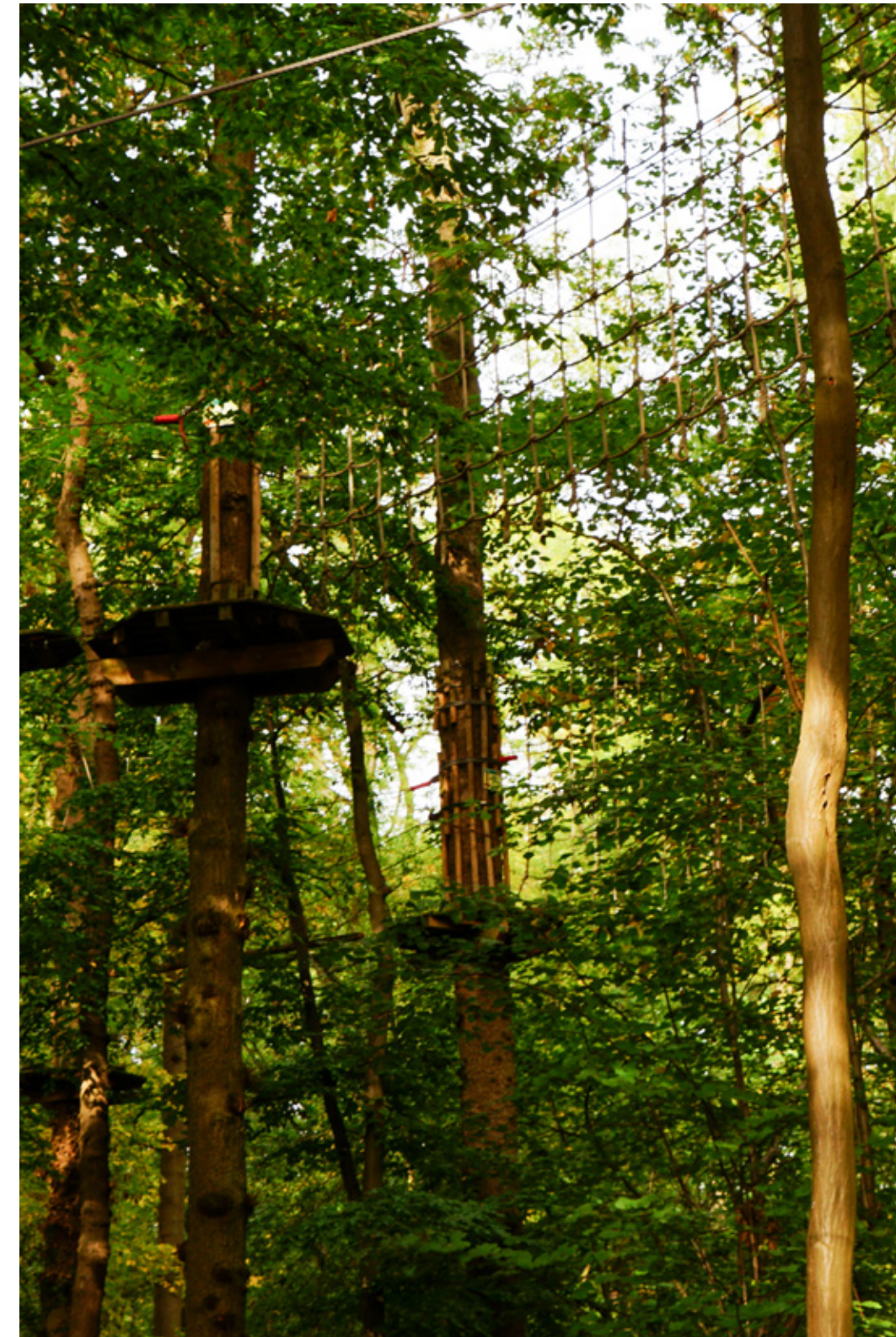
★★★★★ 3 months ago

Had a fresh woodland walk, passed lovely lakes, good for social distancing, lovely cafe with really nice icecream on a hot day. Also has a small wooden play area for kids. My son was bike riding all around the park. Has a go ape climbing activity for older kids and adults for when everything opens an gets back to normal. Great areas for summer barbeques! Also has a small animal place, not sure what is there as not been in it yet!

20

20 Climbing platform, Trent Park

21 Climbing course, Trent Park





22

★★★★★ 2 months ago

Great open space with woodlands, walkways, cycle paths, lake, picnic area, public toilets and cafes.

[Lots and lots of free parking](#)

22 Mature trees, Trent Park



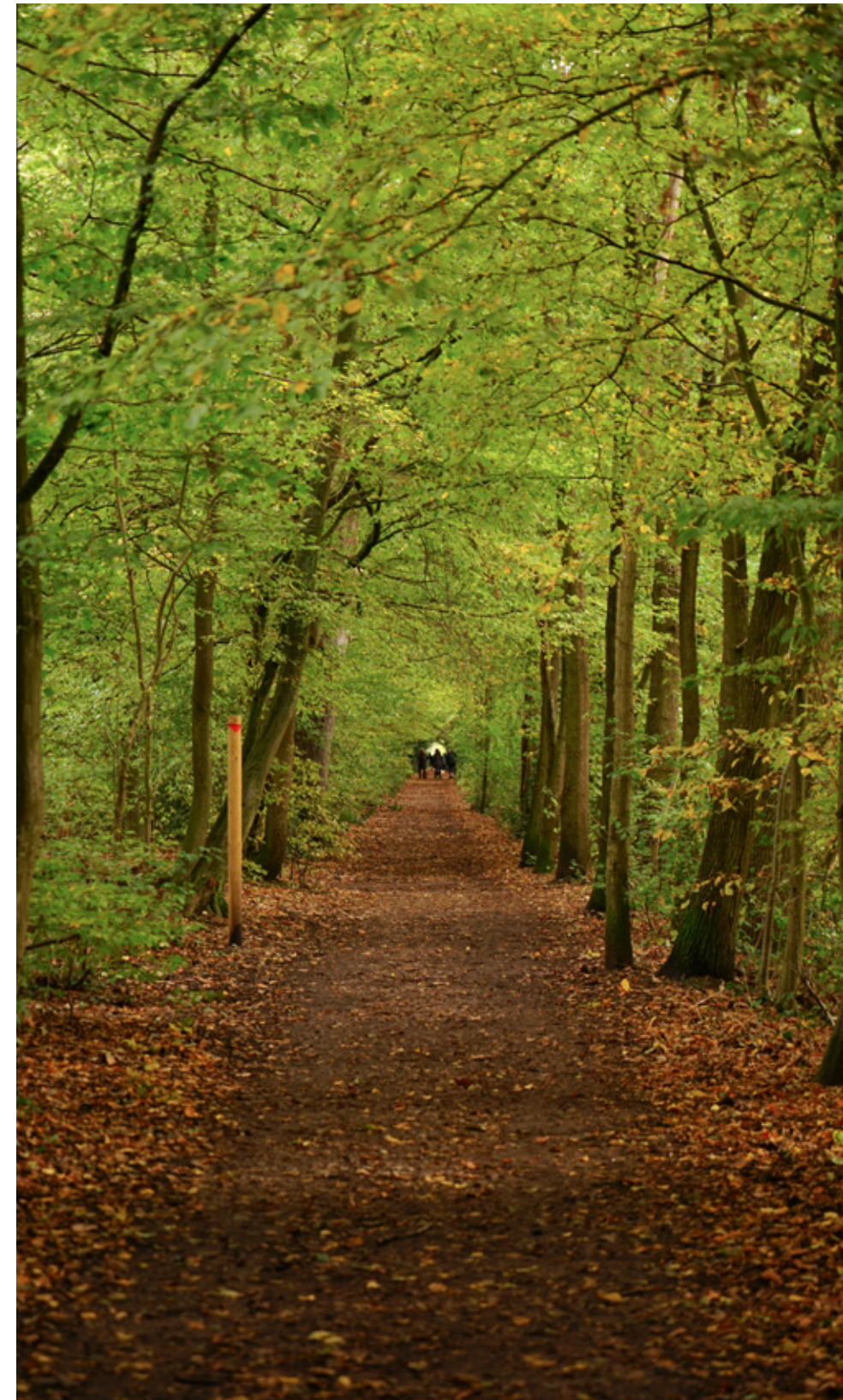
23

★★★★★ 7 months ago

I love taking my dog here. There's all sorts of areas to explore from thick woods, open fields, meadows, small rivers, lakes, paved paths (if you don't want to get too muddy), an obelisk, a couple of coffee shops and even a Japanese water garden.

23 Glade, Trent Park

24 Tree avenue, Trent Park



24

05 Denis and Sheila's tale

On a Friend of Trent Park



25

Denis J Vickers is an independent ecologist with over 30 years' experience working in ecology and nature conservation. In 2017 he conducted a habitat survey of Trent County Park with his partner Sheila, commissioned by the park's friends group following concerns about local biodiversity and habitat degradation. We set off on a hike around the park together, to better hear, see and feel the strains the park has recently been under.

A ramble through the woodlands

Interview transcript

Date 11.10.2020
Time 11:15AM - 12:40AM
Location Trent Country Park,
Interviewers Kirsty Badenoch,
Ilaria Catalano
Interviewees Denis J Vickers,
Sheila Gahagan



26

26 Pond, Trent Park

54

Green for Victory - Parks and money

Denis: We've heard an anecdotal story, in Barking and Dagenham, of a group of children who went to the Chase nature reserve and some of them were actually scared of long grass, they had never come across it before.

Periscope: Wow, that's terrifying. We have so many parks but it seems there's a massive lack of access to them. We've been looking at three other parks alongside Trent Country Park - Wandle, Barking and Richmond.

D: I think I've visited all of them at some point. As an ecologist working in London, I've surveyed probably half the parks and open spaces in London. Richmond is obviously a Royal Park so they've got bigger resources and finance. Here, the resources are smaller as it's a borough park, through Enfield Council.

Sheila: They put some money into it but not enough, and because of the lack of money they're not managing it as well as they used to. They're letting trees grow in fields where previously they might have not.

D: If you let trees grow, there are different levels of biodiversity. This field here for example, is cut under... what do they call it now..? It was higher level stewardship which recently changed to what I think is something like environmental stewardship. It was originally European-funded, so who knows what its fate will be now... But at the moment they're paying to have this field managed as well as one or two other areas in the park. But the fields that are across are not being managed at all. There's no money there... They're a rare type of grassland for London - acid grassland - have you come across that?

P: Yes we noticed that in your report. We've only really come across it in our work outside of London.

D: The soil underneath acid grassland is usually sandy or gravelly, sometimes London clay. I think here you've got London clay underneath and the nutrients leach out - it's poor quality soil, but poor quality soil is actually really good for wildlife. The fields over there, because they're not cutting them due to lack of money, they're beginning to wood up. Acid grassland is a national target for conservation in London, but we're gradually losing it through lack of management. There's no money from the central government to do it right. They put up a legal duty on local authority and other bodies to manage it, but it's never enforced.

S: They're just guidelines.

D: The secretary of state publishes a list of priority habitats in England and acid grassland is one of them. But if you were a local authority, where would you draw the line? On one side, you've got social services desperately needing money.

Kid screaming Stop! Stanley stop!*

D: And on the other side, you've got fields that need cutting.

S: Some money is ring fenced and has to be used for the environment.

D: I think Trent Park is the largest park in the borough and it's becoming really busy. Today isn't a particularly nice day, but in summer, it's really busy. And even as the biggest park in the borough, it's probably not big enough for its use anymore.

P: It's difficult not to talk about COVID at the moment as it's changed the use of parks so much, but would you say that was the case before COVID too?

D: COVID has had quite an effect, obviously not so much in management, those same problems are still going on, but over the summer period there were lots more people in Trent Park and in other parks as well, so some areas got trodden down.

Denis and Sheila's story

55

S: The more people you have in the park, the more detrimental it is to wildlife. Because for wildlife to thrive it needs privacy, it needs its own space. That's the difficult balance. That's the thing with access, if there's too much access, it affects wildlife.

D: The other misconception is that woodlands don't need any management and of course, they do. This is an ancient woodland, and about half of the woodland on site is ancient. And by that, it means it dates back to at least the 1600s. It doesn't mean it's only full of old trees, it's the lineage of the trees that's important and that's not been managed.

P: Have you noticed the difference in management over the last 10, 20, 30 years?

D: Here, the main thing is that the meadows are disappearing fast. And you give it another 10, 15 years there won't be any meadow. If you look along the edge of the woods there, you can see a lot of smaller trees. That is secondary woodland, growing in an area that wasn't traditionally woodland, and gradually creeping into the field. Usually it's a good thing, but not at the expense of another habitat, like the rare acid grassland or meadow.

P: The incredibly detailed habitat survey you made of the park was commissioned by the Friends of Trent Park. Was that commissioned to understand management?

D I think they were trying to stir the council into some sort of action, by giving them a baseline survey that you could progress from in terms of management.

P: And did it provoke the council to take any action?

D: Well, we did have one or two meetings with the Friends and the council and there were all types of things said - likely that they would start managing the fields. But when we came past today, I didn't notice that anything has been cut.

And that's my biggest concern. If you read in the report, all our problems are to do with management. If you go to the back of the woods, there's a whole area where rhododendron is growing. Rhododendron is a very pretty plant, but it's not native to the British landscape, it invades at the expense of other trees. If you get a young oak - and oaks may go for 200- 300 years without any intervention - if it's got an understory of rhododendron, it'll prevent the seedlings from growing properly and stunt new trees. In the end, whole swathes of woodland become dominated by rhododendrons.

P: It's such a delicate and complex balance. Have the friends of Trent Park done any maintenance themselves?

D: They have yes, they're a very active group, and have done quite a bit of management over by the ponds.

S: When we were surveying, there were a lot of festivals in the summer. I don't mind the festivals but it's a double-edged sword - it's great for people who can come and enjoy themselves but not that great for wildlife. We wondered how much of the money made from those festivals actually fed back into Trent Park.

D: It's the same with housing, we would have thought that with section 106, maybe the park would have got a substantial contribution, but I'm not sure it has because there's been no change in management. There are things that I'd do differently and maybe the people who manage the park would do differently, if they had the resources. The really nice things about the park are its wide open spaces and naturalness. The landscape in places is quite spectacular for London. You can see right down the valley of the two streams, across the park and the higher ground. The landscape value is amazing here.

P: How would you say Trent Park is special or different to Royal Parks, or just parks in London in general?

D: It's comparable to other Royal Parks in that it has a wide wild area, but it lacks the management of the Royal Parks.

I have a question for you now - why is this pond like this, with no lush vegetation, no wildlife?

P: Is it because of people treading it down?

D: Yes it is, and there are a lot of dogs jumping in. It's also a very shaded area, there are a few hornbeam trees and they're notorious for their very dense canopy. This is the distinct difference, you wouldn't get this in Richmond Park - it's purely down to management. If I were to manage this and had the money, I would remove all the trees on the edge, particularly on the sunny side - fence this off - maybe with some chestnut piling or some other temporary measure and then put in marginal, hardy species that aren't crumpled down so easily.

P: Would you say that other council-owned parks are experiencing similar issues?

D: I think most of them yes, some have been lucky enough to get Big Lottery funding, which is probably the biggest source of finance.

P: What do you feel the park means to the local community?

S: I'm not sure because Enfield is such a big borough, people I know who come to this park tend to live within this area, either from Enfield town area or Cockfosters region. A lot of people probably feel like this is just too far to come unless they're real nature lovers, in which case they might be more likely to go to the Lea Valley. This feels a bit more isolated even for someone else in the borough.

P: So why would you come to this park, if it wasn't for work?

S: I think because it's got that feel, like we've mentioned before, that it's not just a park, it feels like wider countryside. You look out and you don't see houses, you don't hear traffic and when you're in deep in the heart of the park, you can actually believe you're in the countryside.

P: It's actually the first time we've been here and it's unbelievable how close it is to the city. It's such a valuable treasure for London.

D: After the Rio Summit, there seemed a lot of will and money floating around for biodiversity projects. And when the government changed and we fell into austerity, everything changed. And I think the way things are at the moment, it's continuing and COVID hasn't helped at all.

P: It's contradictory, because it's also really increased public demand and awareness for nature and in the city.

S: There's a paradox there as well. One of the Greater London Authority aims was to have more access to nature. That sounds all well and good, but if you've got too much access to nature, you lose nature and so you do to draw the line between the two. I would have areas where people aren't allowed, so nature can just grow wild and give the necessary privacy for wildlife, for birds, especially ground-nesting birds, not to be disturbed by dogs or by people walking through.

P: From all the London parks you've studied, are there any you think are doing it well?

D: I think you have to go back to the Royal Parks, and particularly Richmond, despite their problems with resources. I almost forgot one of my favourite places in London - Bentley Priory open space in north-west London. If you ever get chance you really should go.

06 A call to arms

Towards a collective responsibility

For Denis and Sheila, one of the most damaging impacts of reduced financing is the effect of insufficient management practices - leading to the decline of biodiversity, wildlife and rare habitats.

Unfortunately, the value of our urban green spaces is largely felt indirectly and it accumulates over long timescales. Whilst the government recognises the value of parks theoretically, it fails to translate this demand for better investment into policy, nor does it ring-fence explicit financing for parks.

Part of the problem lies in the fact that governmental responsibility for parks remains unclear - lying between the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Ministry of Housing, Community and Local Government, with neither taking full ownership or initiative.

Without enforced ownership or targeted funding, local boroughs are left to portion out budgets independently. Inevitably, councils must prioritise highly critical and immediate needs, such as public health, education and social services. Parks fall lower on the agenda, often ending up with just 1% of a London borough's total budget for parks and green spaces. This

is an impossible situation to rectify at a local governmental level. In cold hard numbers, investment in green space remains a hugely overlooked and untapped investment opportunity, despite the benefits.

The Economics of Biodiversity: The Dasgupta Review, published in February 2021, pushed for a reform of our measure of economic success to take natural capital into account, and to treat green space as an asset with equivalent status to other produced and human capitals.

If the government doesn't claim this themselves, there is significant enough argument for parks to become a solid investment sink for banks, building societies and co-operatives, on an equal footing with renewable energy, diamonds, precious metals and bitcoin.

In 2020, the annual return of investment of bitcoin was 224%. The equivalent return of park savings for the government is predicted to be 360%. An investment in nature is worth more than its weight in bitcoin, let alone gold.



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Green flags vs yellow thumbs
Image by Periscope

Figure 02 pp. 12-13
The 71 parks of London with a Green Flag Award
Image by Periscope
Data Source: London National Park City & Green Flag Awards

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The Lake District, England
Photograph by Rodney Topor
Licence CC BY-NC-SA 2.0
Modified by Periscope
[www.flickr.com/photos/r_topor/31041479537/]

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Snowdonia National Park, Wales
Photograph by Mike Peel [www.mikepeel.net]
Licence CC BY-SA 4.0
Modified by Periscope
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snowdonia#/media/File:Llyn_Llydaw_from_Crib_Goch_2.jpg]

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The communal 'yellow thumb' value
Image by Periscope
Data Source: London National Park City & GiGL

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Grass, Trent Park
Photograph by Ilenia Catalano
Periscope © 2020

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Annual value of green space in England
Diagram by Periscope
Data source: Natural Capital Account for London

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Data source: Natural Capital Account for London

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Natural England's funding vs. public green space visits
Diagram by Periscope
Data source: Natural England Annual Report & National Trust

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National Lottery Funding for the past 25 years
Diagram by Periscope
Data source: National Lottery Heritage Fund

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National capital economic value
Diagram by Periscope
Data source: Natural Capital Account for London

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Enfield, Barking and Dagenham, Croydon and Richmond upon Thames
Image by Periscope

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London Borough of Enfield
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Data source: Greater London Authority

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Boroughs' public green space and open spaces expenditure
Diagram by Periscope
Source: Greater London Authority, Office for National Statistics, Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC

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Green space value by borough
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Data source: Greater London Authority, Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC

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Photograph by Ilenia Catalano
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Mature trees, Trent Park
Photograph by Ilenia Catalano
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Denis, Sheila and Kirsty by a pond, Trent Park
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Pond, Trent Park
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Your park needs you!
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