

## **FAQs:**

1. **What is a pocket park?**

A pocket park is a small, accessible green space designed to provide recreational opportunities and enhance the local environment. These parks often include features like benches, gardens, and playgrounds, catering to the needs of the community.

2. **Why are we considering creating a pocket park in this location?**

This location was chosen due to its accessibility and potential to serve as a community hub. The goal is to protect existing trees, enhance biodiversity and provide a place that promotes community well-being.

3. **How will this project impact the noise levels in our neighbourhood?**

While the pocket park may introduce some activity-related noise, we plan to implement measures to minimize disruption. These include incorporating natural sound barriers, such as trees and shrubs, to buffer noise. We would also explore extending the local byelaws to include this area which, in turn, would allow Parks Police to undertake any necessary enforcement

4. **Will there be lighting?**

The existing lighting will be retained. Some wildlife species are very sensitive to new lighting so subject to what our ecology surveys tell us about wildlife in the area, we would also investigate short lighting bollards along the pathways.

5. **Will the park attract a lot of visitors from outside our neighbourhood?**

The primary goal of the pocket park is to serve local residents. While it may attract some visitors, the park's design and scale are intended to cater primarily to the immediate neighbourhood, ensuring it remains a community-focused space.

6. **How will the safety of the playground and park be ensured?**

The playground and any necessary safety surface will be built to comply with all relevant British Standards. The parks team would undertake regular safety inspections and ensure any necessary maintenance work happens quickly.

7. **Who will be responsible for maintaining the park?**

Maintenance will be handled by the parks department at Enable. Regular upkeep will include litter removal, and playground / adult exercise equipment maintenance to ensure the park remains clean and safe for everyone.

8. **How will this project benefit the environment?**

The pocket park will result in 540m<sup>2</sup> of new accessible greenspace for Wandsworth. It will also enhance local biodiversity by protecting the existing trees and providing new planting that supports biodiversity.

9. **What are the community benefits of a pocket park?**

The park will provide a safe, welcoming space for children to play, adults to relax, and neighbours to socialise. It will promote physical activity, mental well-being, and a stronger sense of community cohesion.



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**10. How will residents be involved in the planning and design process?**

We are committed to involving residents throughout the project. This includes public consultations to gather input and feedback, ensuring the park meets the needs and desires of the local community. Our early plans are based on feedback about greenspaces across Wandsworth and include elements that we know are frequently asked for.

**11. What features will the pocket park include?**

Proposed features include a playground, seating areas, walking path, adult gym equipment, and planting for biodiversity. We will also retain the mature trees. We welcome suggestions from residents to ensure the park reflects the community's preferences.

**12. How long will the development of the park take?**

We aim to provide regular updates to keep residents informed about the project's progress. We expect that work will be completed in late 2025 / early 2026.

**13. What if I have concerns or suggestions about the park?**

We encourage all residents to voice their concerns and suggestions. You can do this in several ways: complete our online consultation, attend one of our consultation drop-in sessions or contact [parks@enablelc.org](mailto:parks@enablelc.org).

**14. Will the park affect property values in the area?**

Studies have shown that well-maintained green spaces can positively impact property values by enhancing the attractiveness of the neighbourhood. We aim to create a park that adds value to the community in various ways.

**15. Will the park be accessible to people with disabilities?**

Yes, the park will be designed to be inclusive and accessible to everyone, including people with disabilities. This includes wheelchair-accessible paths, playground equipment designed for children with special needs, and sensory planting. Please let us know if there are other things we need to consider to make the pocket park accessible to you.

**16. How is the project being funded?**

The pocket park project is funded by the Wandsworth Capital Grants Programme.

**17. Will there be any cost to residents for using the park?**

No, the park will be free for all residents to use. It is intended to be a public amenity that enhances the quality of life for everyone in the community.

**18. What happens if there are issues or damage to the park?**

We will have a maintenance plan in place to address any issues or damage promptly. Residents can report any concerns to [parks@enablelc.org](mailto:parks@enablelc.org), who will ensure they are resolved quickly.

**19. How will the park affect local wildlife?**

We are undertaking ecological studies to understand what species are already using this area. The park will be designed to support and enhance this local wildlife. Native plants and those known to provide nectar and berries would be included to



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create a welcoming environment for birds, insects, and other wildlife, promoting biodiversity.

**20. Will there be restrictions on certain activities in the park?**

Yes, to ensure the park is a safe and pleasant space for everyone, certain activities such as smoking, littering, and having a BBQ would be prohibited. Clear signage will be posted to inform visitors of these rules.

**21. Can residents volunteer to help with the park?**

We will have volunteer opportunities for activities like planting in the park. Contact [parks@enablelc.org](mailto:parks@enablelc.org) if you want to get involved.

**22. What if the park does not meet the community's needs after it is built?**

We are committed to ongoing community engagement and will regularly review the park's use and feedback from residents. If adjustments are needed, we will work with the community to make improvements.



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