

West London River Group

River side development – “Wish List”

References:

1. *Thames Strategy – Kew to Chelsea - Part 3 Recommendations*
The Strategy has been adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance by the London Boroughs of Hammersmith & Fulham, Hounslow and Richmond upon Thames. It is material consideration for the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the London Borough of Wandsworth.

The Strategy has detailed recommendations for riverside development: this “wish list” is an attempt to provide a concise and succinct summary. The reader is urged to read part 3 of the Strategy for detail, specifics and rationale.

2. *The London Plan Policy 4C.6*
The uses of the Blue Ribbon Network and the land alongside it should be prioritised in favour of those uses that specifically require a waterside location. These include water transport, leisure, recreation, wharves and flood defence. ...

River related use and access

- Education and community facilities – Thames Explorer Trust/Chiswick Pier model
- Watersports and recreational facilities
- Boat moorings, short and long term, and support facilities
- Piers for passenger service craft – tourist boats bus service
- Where appropriate and useful, use of existing structures e.g. dolphins
- Encourage commercial use
- Development near operational wharves should be compatible with their ongoing use.

Biodiversity

- Imaginative re-assessment of water/land interface
- Where possible remove redundant wharf vertical walls
- Replace with terraces, sloping walls or “vertical beaches”
- Create increased flood storage
- Green corridors both along the river and paths, roads etc., giving access to it
- Plant trees and other flora to enhance but not obstruct views
- Enhance/create wildlife habitat – for fish, birds, voles, bats, *et al*

Riverside walk

- 6m wide but this is a minimum include planting.
- Create chain of pocket parks and open spaces – green chains
- Connect riverside walk with hinterland
- “Street furniture” to be of appropriate quantity and design

Retain where possible evidence of the site’s history and reuse historic artefacts.

Distinctive but unobtrusive signage giving information, directions, history, education, biodiversity etc

Riverside safety

- Vertical walls should have chains and ladders to facilitate emergency egress
(see PLA’s recommendations - the “Hayes” Report.)
- Lighting to provide safety but not adversely impact wildlife