

Protect Our Greenspaces

Population Pressures

UK Population:	60,975,000
London Population:	7,172,091
Richmond-upon-Thames Population:	172,335
Kingston-upon-Thames:	147,273

Source: [UK Office of National Statistics](#), 2006 based sub-national population projections 2006-2031

London Population Projections

2011	7,816,800
2021	8,390,100
2031	8,857,900

Source: [UK Office of National Statistics](#), May 2008, 2001 Census
See also: [Population Map – London](#) (PDF)

London Population Density:	59.87/ha
Richmond-upon-Thames Population Density:	30.00/ha
Kingston-upon-Thames Population Density:	39.50/ha

Development Pressures

House building: Permanent Dwellings Completed by Tenure and Region

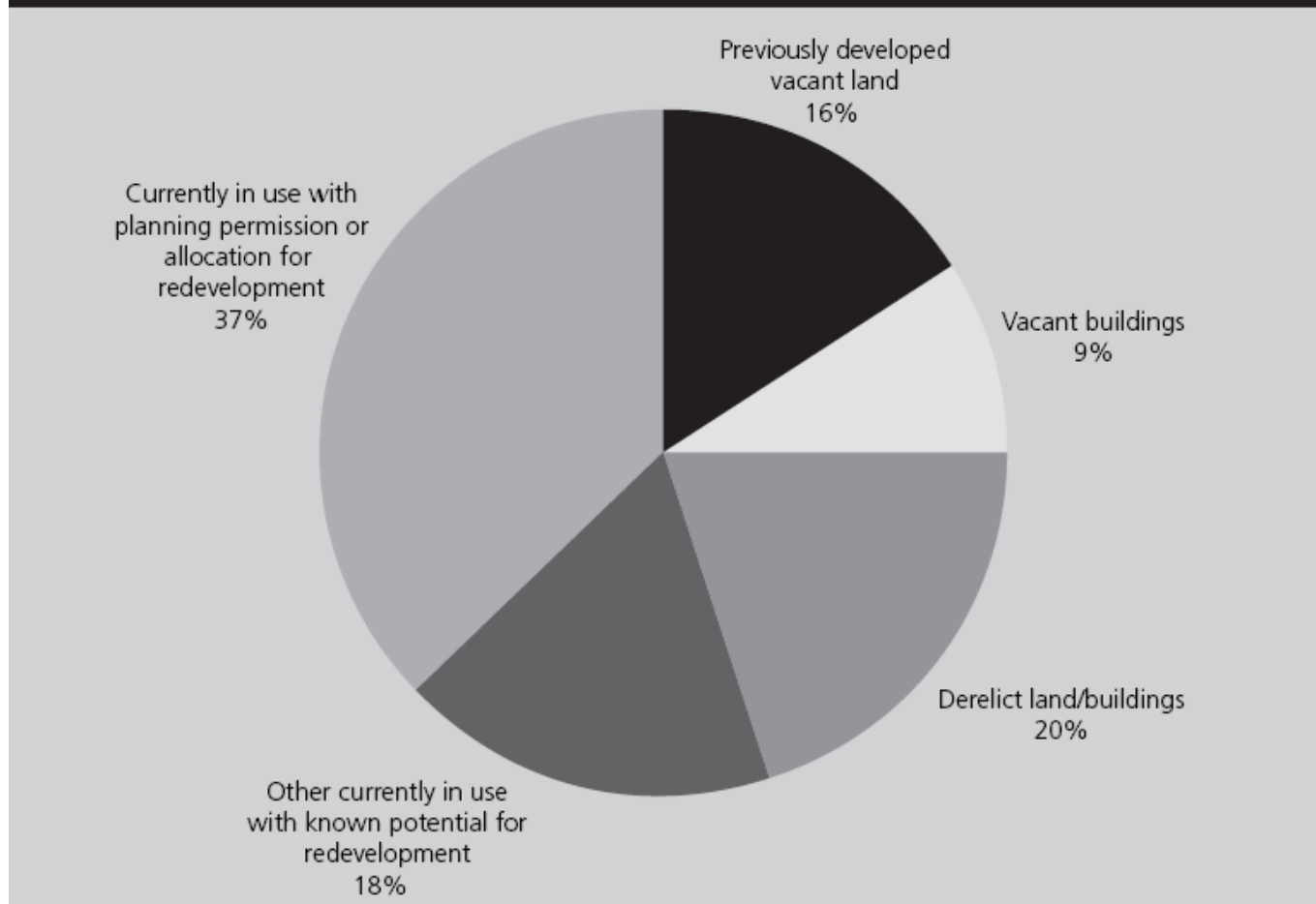
Region	Year	All dwellings
LONDON	2005-6	18,810
	2006-7	22,760
	2007-8	20,740
ENGLAND	2005-6	163,400
	2006-7	167,680
	2007-8	166,990
UK	2005-6	214,910
	2006-7	218,660

Source: [Communities and Local Government](#); previously developed land that may be available for development, August 2008

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See also: [Communities and Local Government: Land use change statistics \(England\) July 2007- provisional estimates \(PDF\)](#)

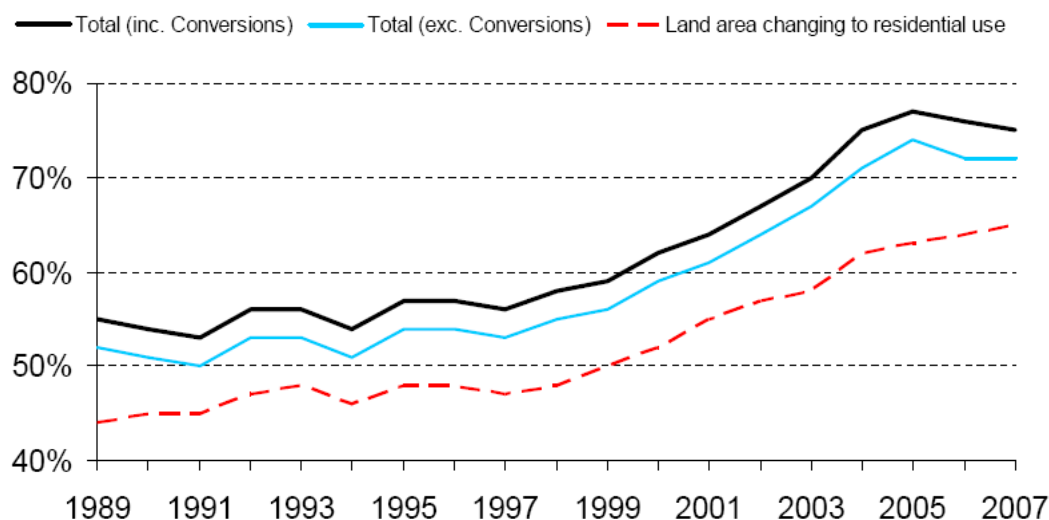
Figure 2: Previously-developed land suitable for housing by land type



- In 2007, on a provisional estimate, 75% of dwellings (including conversions) were built on previously-developed land. This compares to 76% in 2006.
- In 2007, on a provisional estimate, new dwellings were built at an average density of 45 dwellings per hectare. This compares to 41 dwellings per hectare in 2006.
- In 2006, 2% of dwellings were built within the 2007 Designated Green Belt and 5% of land changing to residential use (from any use including residential) was within the Green Belt. These figures are unchanged from 2004.
- In 2006, 10% of dwellings were built within areas of high flood risk and 7% of land changing to residential use was within areas of high flood risk. This compares to 9% and 6% respectively in 2005.

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Figure 1: Proportion of new dwellings on previously-developed land and previously-developed residential land, 1989 to 2007



- London has the greatest proportion of dwellings (including conversions) built on previously-developed land (96 per cent in 2007), whereas the East Midlands has the smallest proportion (62 per cent in 2007).

		Table P213 Land Use Change: Proportion of new dwellings on previously developed land, by local authority, 1991-94 to 2003-06				
ODPM Codes	ONS Codes	Government Office Region County and Local Authority area	<i>Percentage</i>			
			Proportion of new dwellings on previously-developed land			
			1991-1994	1995-1998	1999-2002	2003-2006
Z5630	00AX	Kingston upon Thames	73	92	98	95
L5810	00BD	Richmond upon Thames	80	90	95	99

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Density of new dwellings

The latest national and regional estimates for the density of new dwellings are for 2007, while the latest local authority estimates are for 2003-06. Density is measured in dwellings per hectare. PSA6 (from the 2004 Spending Review) stated that, by 2008, new housing development in each region should avoid developments of less than 30 dwellings per hectare and encourage those between 30 to 50 dwellings per hectare.

- In 2007, on a provisional estimate, new dwellings were built at an average density of 45 dwellings per hectare.
- The density of new dwellings increased by 80 per cent between 2001 and 2007 (see Figure 3). In 2001, the figure was 25 dwellings per hectare.
- In 2007, on a provisional estimate, new dwellings on previously-developed land were built at an average density of 51 dwellings per hectare. This compares to 47 dwellings per hectare in 2006 and 28 dwellings per hectare in 2000.

Figure 3: Density of new dwellings, by previous land type, 1989 to 2007

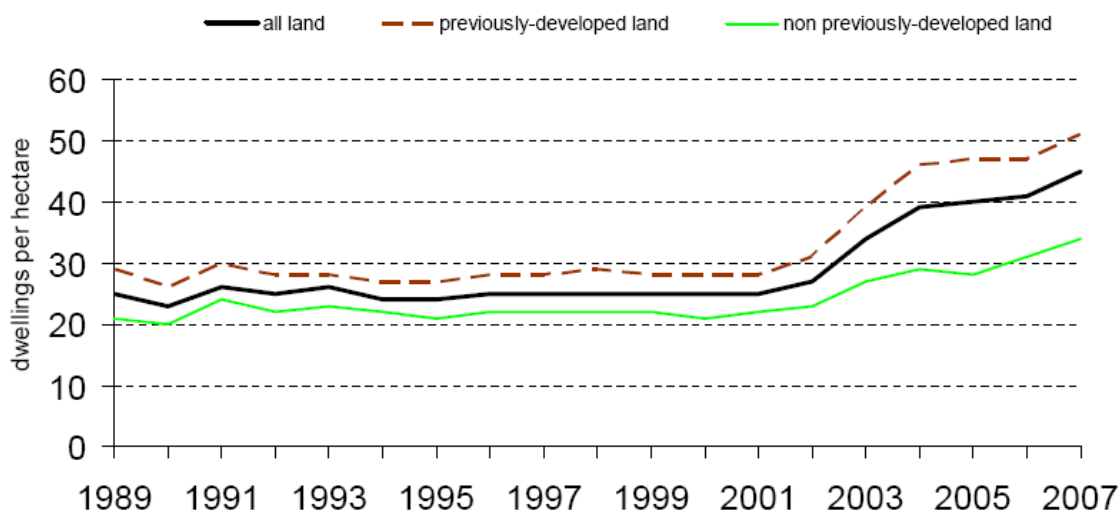


		Table P232 Land Use Change: Density of new dwellings, by local authority, 1991-94 to 2003-06				
ODPM Codes	ONS Codes	Government Office Region County and Local Authority area	Density of new dwellings			
			1991-1994	1995-1998	1999-2002	2003-2006
Z5630	00AX	Kingston upon Thames	38	40	39	60
L5810	00BD	Richmond upon Thames	47	44	50	54

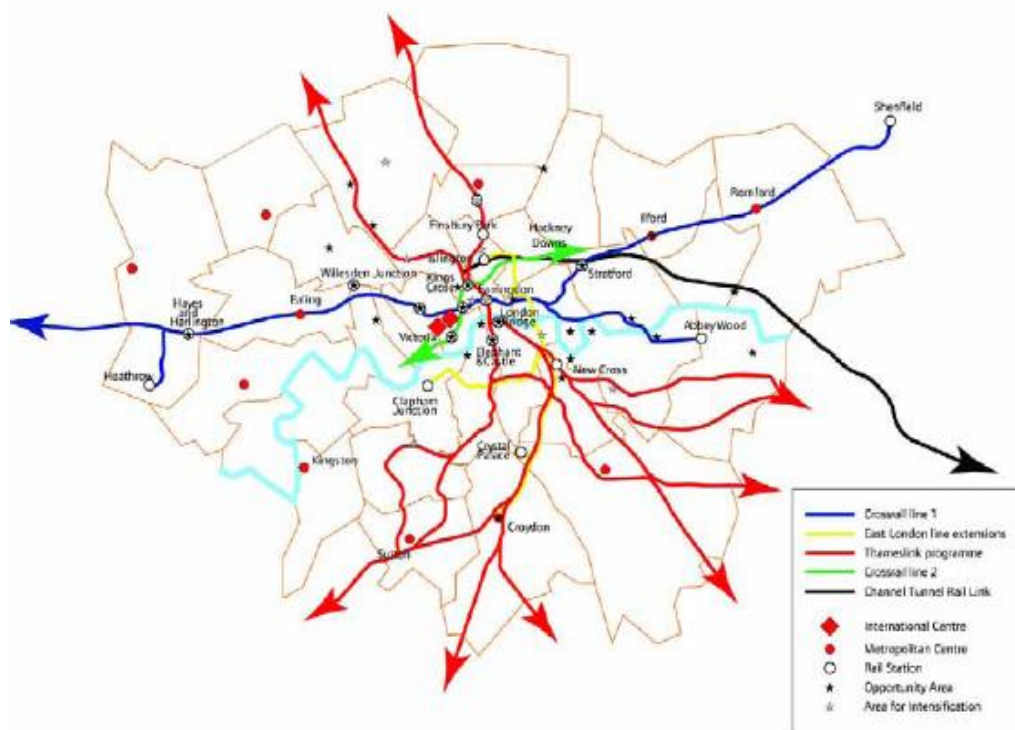
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More detailed information can be found in the Live Tables at www.communities.gov.uk, including information at regional and local authority level (which is given as a multi-year average).

The London Plan

Source: [The London Plan / Transport Repercussions](#), Feb 2008

map 3C.1 Proposed major rail transport schemes and development opportunities in London



source GLA and Transport for London
note The last four categories are combined where location is similar

“Open spaces play a vital role: They provide a valuable resource and focus for local communities; can have a positive effect on the image and vitality of areas and can encourage investment. They provide a respite from the built environment or an opportunity for recreation.

“They promote health, wellbeing and quality of life. They are also vital facilities for developing children’s play, exercise and social skills. They play a crucial role in adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, protecting and enhancing biodiversity, reducing flood risk and contributing positively to urban micro-climates.”

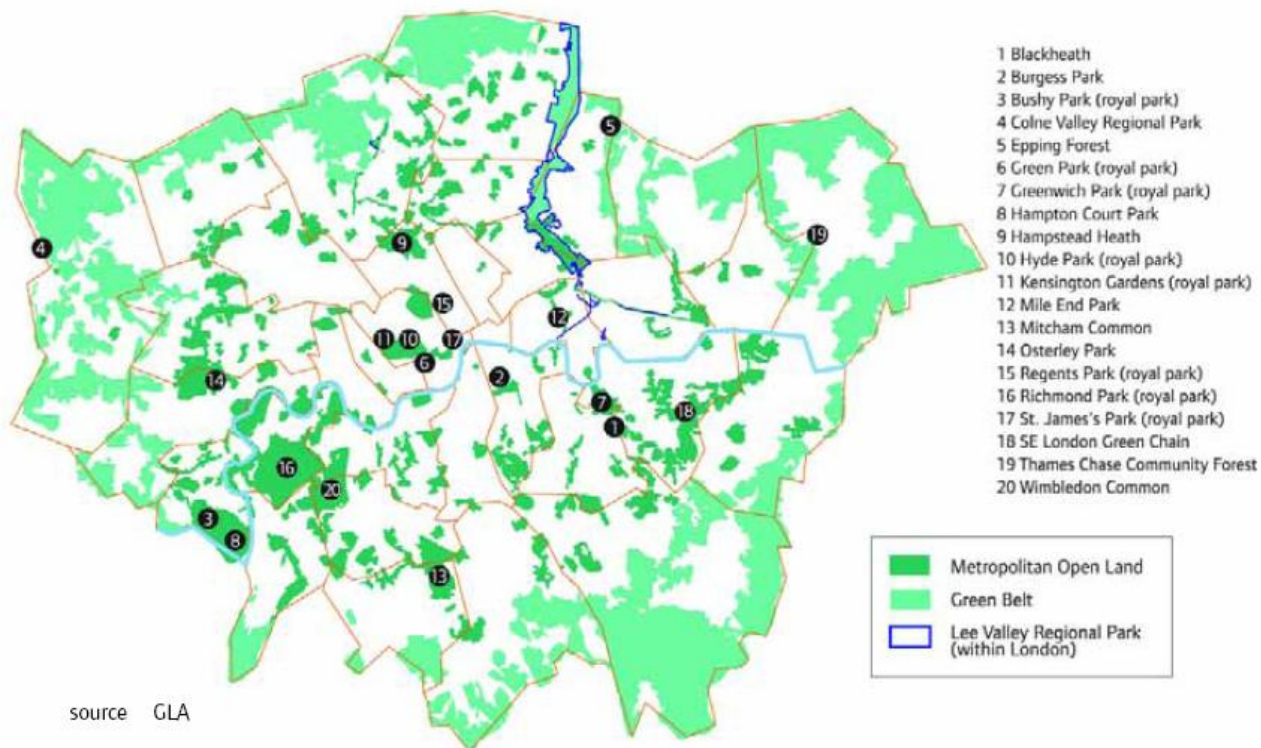
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Open Spaces

Source: Office of National Statistics; [Neighborhood Statistics](#); Physical Environment

	Richmond u/ Thames	Kingston u/ Thames	London	England
Land that is unused or maybe available for redevelopment; estimated dwellings (count dwellings, March, 2004)	990	1,330	132,060	986,050
Total area of all land types (m ² thousands Jan 2005)	58,552.79	37,237.36	1,596,244.06	132,323,721.60
Area domestic gardens (m ² thousands Jan 2005)	11,350.64	11,506.56	380,654.36	5,654,140.41
Area of green space (m ² thousands Jan 2005)	29,721.24	13,567.45	610,160,80	115,741,625.40

map 3D.3 London's strategic open space network



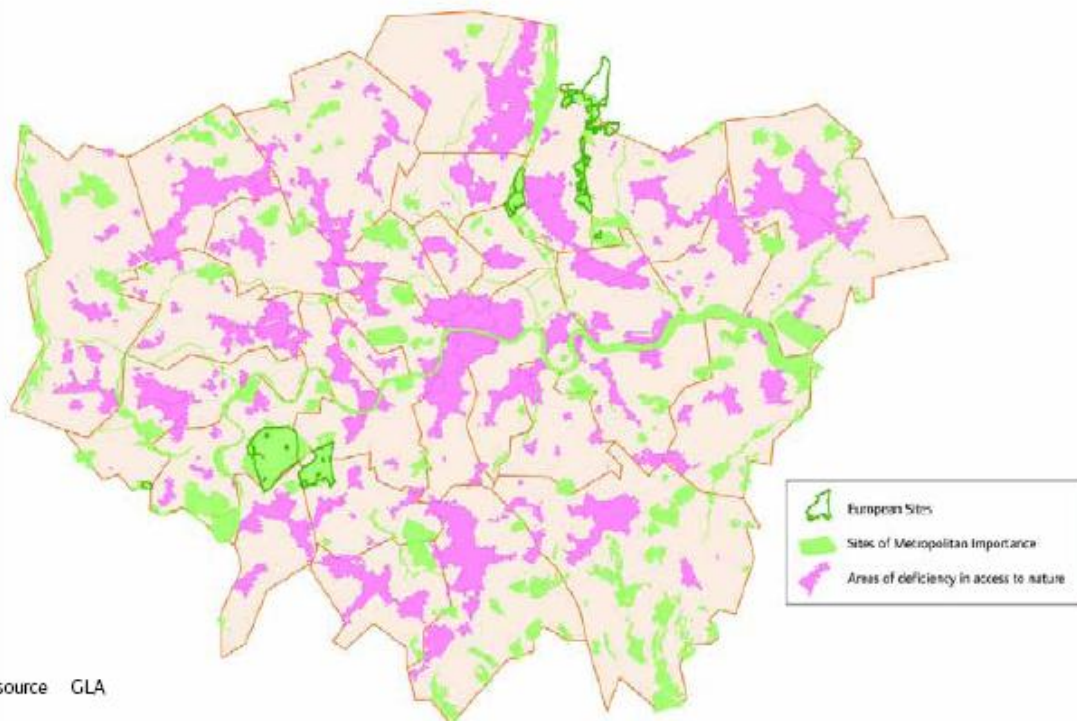
Source: [The London Plan](#), Feb 2008

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The Mayor will and boroughs should resist development that would have a significant adverse impact on the population or conservation status of protected species or priority species identified in the UK, London and borough Biodiversity Action Plans. Appropriate policies for their protection and enhancement and to achieve the targets set out in BAPs, should be included in DPDs.

Where development is proposed which would affect a site of importance for nature conservation or important species, the approach should be to seek to avoid adverse impact on the species or nature conservation value of the site, and if that is not possible, to minimise such impact and seek mitigation of any residual impacts. Where, exceptionally,

map 3D.4 Sites of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation and areas of deficiency in access to nature in London



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Utility Pressures

Water Repercussions

Source: CIWEM: [Water shortages should prompt rethink of ODPM development plans](#), (Word Doc) Aug 2005

Nick Reeves, CIWEM's Executive Director, said:

"Nearly every new building that goes up places further stress on scarce, undervalued water resources, since the vast majorities do not include water efficiency measures. Plans for thousands of houses are already moving into the building phase, but the Government has yet even to publish its much-vaunted Sustainable Buildings Code, let alone make water efficiency measures mandatory."

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Economic value of green spaces

Source: CABE - [Does money grow on trees?](#) (PDF), 2005

BENEFIT	GOOD QUALITY GREEN SPACES CAN...
ECONOMIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add value to the surrounding property, both commercial and residential, consequently increasing tax yield to maintain public services • Contribute to attracting tourists • Encourage employment and inward investment to an area • Help to create a favourable image of a place
SOCIAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide places for quiet contemplation and reflection, for relaxation, informal recreation, peace, space and beauty • Provide opportunities to improve health and personal fitness and take part in a wide range of outdoor sport and activity • Provide safe areas to meet, talk and play, for free association of friends and strangers, for families and between the generations • Provide cultural links with an area's past, giving a sense of place and identity • Provide opportunities for community events, voluntary activity and charitable fund raising • Provide an educational resource – an outdoor classroom stimulating ideas on art, design, the environment and natural sciences
ENVIRONMENTAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide habitats for wildlife, aiding bio-diversity • Help to stabilise urban temperatures and humidity • Absorb pollutants in air and ground water • Provide opportunities for the recycling of organic materials • Slow stormwater run off and reduce drainage infrastructure • Provide a sense of the seasons and the links between the natural world and the urban environment

THE BENEFITS COMMONLY ATTRIBUTED TO URBAN GREEN SPACES
 Urban Green Space Taskforce Report Working Group 1; Reviewing Current Information

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When considering the social and environmental benefits of urban green space the following examples, identified by the Task Force, have the greatest potential to contribute to the overall case of economic benefit:

- Promoting healthy living and preventing illness by providing places for physical activities. The potential savings for local health providers, Primary Care Trusts and ultimately the NHS is profound as a healthier more active population reduces the strain on acute clinical services. This is recognised and encouraged in HM Treasury's independent report, 'Securing good health for the whole population'.
- Supporting environmental sustainability by countering pollution and helping to promote ecologically sensitive towns and cities. An investment in environmental infrastructure, for example, using parks as part of a sustainable urban drainage system, increases the urban environment's ability to accommodate excess water and reduces subsequent flood risk and the attendant costs of reparation.
- Fostering community development, social inclusion and local pride by giving people the chance to participate in the design, management and care of their local spaces. Regaining a sense of ownership and guardianship over public space is a key priority in tackling anti-social behaviour.

Not only are there potential savings to be made from reduced maintenance costs for the local authority on repairing physical infrastructure, there are potential savings to police authorities as levels of crime and ASB are affected.