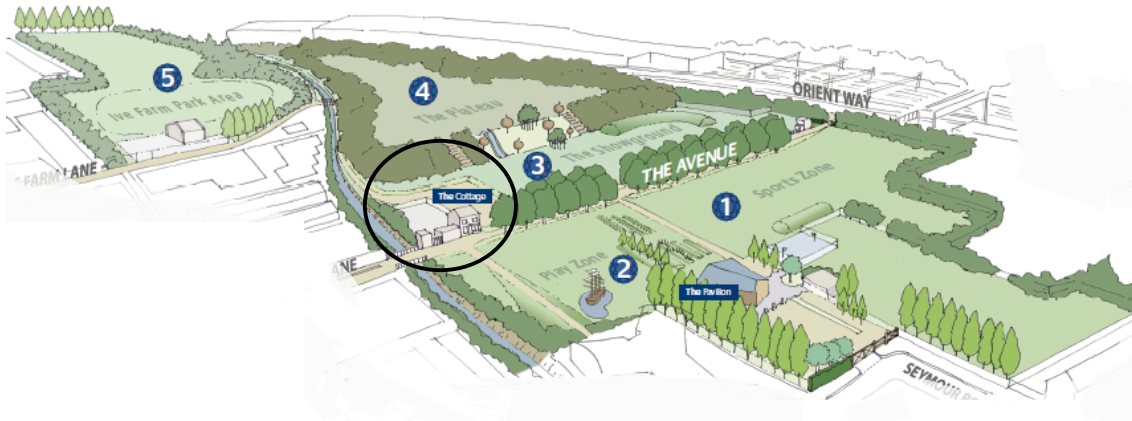


Cycle Hub Leyton Jubilee Park



What is the project?

Waltham Forest Council is planning to create an educational cycling hub in one of its key parks: Leyton Jubilee. A building will be constructed, extending from an existing cottage in the grounds, which will act as a multifunctioning focal point for the borough's emerging commitment to cycling. Once complete, this modern centre will be home to changing rooms, a workshop space for bike maintenance and recycling, bike racks and storage, an education centre from which cycle proficiency training will be provided, and lastly, a cycle café which will capture cycling enthusiasm across the Borough.

The Borough is currently undergoing a £27m investment from Transport for London to reconstruct its roads into more cycle-friendly highways. The park itself is bordered by two key pillars of the Mini-Holland infrastructure: Lea Bridge Road and Church Street. Lea Bridge road in particular is the single biggest capital investment of the ground-breaking Mini-Holland scheme and the Council is aiming to pursue a project which will embed cycling into the wider park and leisure provision. This hub will be a crucial engagement tool for Mini-Holland, attracting new groups to the cycling community.

Leyton Jubilee Park sits in the South East of London Borough of Waltham Forest, with important links to the Olympic Park. It is the borough's largest park with substantial potential to become a key area for outdoor sport, leisure and wellbeing in the borough. This project will be part of a wider master-planning initiative for the site, aiming to maximise the use of the park and encourage healthier lifestyles for our communities.

The area surrounding the park is one of the most densely populated in the borough, demonstrating a need for green open space where residents can exercise and relax. The park straddles two wards: Leyton and Lea Bridge. The following health measures: life expectancy for men, life expectancy for women and the percentage of children in reception who are obese; are all worse in Leyton and Lea

Bridge, than the average for Waltham Forest or London¹. This presents a compelling case for investment in health initiatives in this area.

Key features of the project:

- **Cycling education centre:** This will form the focal point of the hub. The centre will be a driving force for community engagement and behaviour change around the cycling agenda. The centre will host cycling proficiency training for all age groups, and the project will partner with a social enterprise or similar to deliver this programme.
- **Storage and workshop:** A key area of learning for many budding cyclists is bike maintenance and recycling. The storage and workshop space will provide a classroom environment in which to teach these skills.
- **Cycle-friendly café:** The café will form an important strand of this project by providing a venue for the social side of the cycling world. Similar initiatives across London have been successful, for example the Lock 7 café in Hackney, and this project will aim to replicate this good practice. The existing provider for the café in Leyton Jubilee Park is leaving, offering a timely opportunity to radically change the focus of the café.
- **Changing room space:** The cottage currently hosts a running club which uses the existing changing room facilities. The changing rooms will be kept and the running club will continue to be accommodated in the centre: diversifying the focus from cycling, to a broader 'healthy lives' agenda.
- **Widening participation:** People from managerial and professional occupations are more likely to cycle than those from 'intermediate/routine' and 'manual occupations'². This project will aim to attract more diverse groups, making cycling more accessible by encouraging children from low-income households to become involved.
- **Building community capacity:** A key facet of the project will be ensuring the long-term sustainability of the park. This will involve increasing community ownership and unlocking local skills.

Partners

The Council has identified a number of potential partners this project will aim to work with.

- Lammas Sports College (on the boundary of the park, currently managing some of the facilities)
- Eton Manor running club

¹ GLA, *Ward Profiles*, [Accessed October 2015] available at: <https://files.datapress.com/london/dataset/ward-profiles-and-atlas/2015-09-24T15:52:38/GLA-ward-profiles.pdf>

² Department for Transport, *Statistics on public attitudes to transport*, [Accessed: October 2015] available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-on-public-attitudes-to-transport>

- Cycle Confident
- Local schools
- The Conservation Volunteers

How much will it cost?

London Borough of Waltham Forest is dividing the costs into two stages. The first budget will provide resource to undertake a thorough planning and feasibility process, and the second will outline the funds needed for project implementation.

Phase 1: Scoping & planning

Initially **£30,000** will be spent undertaking a full feasibility study. The Council will commission an architect to undertake this work, taking the planning up to RIBA Scale of Work 2. This level of planning will provide concept design, including outline proposal, structural design, building services systems, outline specifications and preliminary cost information. Phase 1 will also involve the development of a high level business plan for the revenue costs associated with this project.

Phase 2: Project implementation

At this stage (that is, prior to full feasibility work up) the costs of project implementation are estimated using examples of similar projects. The Council is therefore preliminarily seeking to secure funds totalling **£500,000** for the implementation of this cycling hub at Leyton Jubilee Park. We are hoping that the funds will come from a variety of sources, including match-funding from the Council itself, and we are currently scoping potential funders.

The Council is currently approaching TfL to secure a contribution towards the feasibility study, as this project will support the Mini-Holland work. In addition, a number of Landfill Community Funds are to be approached. Lastly, the Council is exploring the possibility of pursuing EU funding opportunities, as well as considering a larger Sport England Facilities bid to support the project.

What will the Council contribute?

As well as traditional match-funding in terms of financial resources, the Council will also complement any funds offered in the following ways.

Staff time: The council has a project manager dedicated to the master-planning of Leyton Jubilee Park. This project will form a central part of the wider programme of works in the park, and as such will benefit from a significant proportion of staff time.

Land: This project will be implemented on freehold Council-owned land.

Skills and expertise: The Mini-Holland scheme has resulted in the Council having a large team with a strong skillset around cycling project implementation. These skills will be crucial in delivering this project to a high standard.