

Proposals to enhance the Histon Road Recreation Ground

Consultation material for the developer funded enhancements to the Recreation Ground,
relating to the development at 137 – 143 Histon Road.

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Introduction

- Cambridge Investment Partnership are consulting on the details for offsite enhancements to the Histon Road Recreation Ground to improve the recreation and play experience, security and to enhance biodiversity in relation to the approved development of 137 – 143 Histon Road.
- Detailed drawings and associated documents can be found via the [online planning portal](#) under reference **24/01354/FUL**
- All feedback received via the survey will be considered by The Cambridge Investment Partnership and will inform the plans for the recreation ground.
- It is important that local residents understand that there are no proposals to build on any part of the recreation ground or to remove any play equipment. The details set out within this pack illustrate opportunity to enhance and add to this valued open space.
- Also working closely with our colleagues in the City Services Team, a variety of Environmental Improvement Project (EIP) and developer funded improvements will be delivered that complement the whole of the green space, for people and biodiversity. If you would like more information on the EIP proposals, please get in touch.

Play

The recreation ground is a treasured and valuable local resource, providing green space for all and opportunities for play for children. There is an opportunity for the development to facilitate enhancement, which will benefit the existing community as well as new residents.

There are no proposals to remove any play equipment from the existing play area.



1
The enclosed tree line along the boundary offers a place for children to play within a natural environment. This could be enhanced through new play elements such as a willow tunnel and be resurfaced with mulch to create a safe area to explore.



2
Small play items could also be installed in front of the existing tree line, such as wooden teepees.



3
Seating area centralised to existing play equipment for parents and carers.

Ecology

The recreation ground provides a green and natural retreat close to the centre of the city and a haven for nature. It is intended for existing planting to be retained and new additions could be added to further increase the ecological value.

The ecology could be enhanced to increase the biodiversity value and it is expected that the management of these areas would be documented to ensure establishment and success. An ecologist will be consulted to achieve appropriate and maximum gain.

The adjacent plan illustrates the areas of opportunity for biodiversity gain through planting, in addition to the introduction of circa.22 new trees within the recreation ground.



Connectivity

The recreation ground offers a space for the local community to play, socialise and enjoy nature. Accessibility is important to consider when exploring ways in which this open space can be enhanced, to ensure that it can be enjoyed by all.

- 1 The approved planning application contains a single access point from the development into the north-east of the recreation ground. It is intended for this route to be kept completely outside the secure play area by a minor reconfiguration of the railings and no new gates being proposed to the east which means that children will not be able to exit the area and those entering the zone will have to do so via the existing gates on the southern side.
- 2 It is proposed to resurface the existing path between the play area and the central path, to improve accessibility for all. This means that the new proposed seating area can be accessed via a level pedestrian route.



Conclusion

- Cambridge Investment Partnership would like to the feedback from users of the recreation ground. All comments will be carefully considered by the design team and will inform the final plans for the area. Please complete the survey on the Citizen Lab platform.
- Detailed drawings and associated documents can be found via the [online planning portal](#) under reference **24/01354/FUL**
- If you have any questions about the proposals to enhance the Histon Road Recreation Ground, please contact Molly Savino, Project Manager on molly.savino@cambridge.gov.uk or call 07704 019538