Rewilding Enfield Chase

Environment and Climate Action Scrutiny Panel

Tuesday 17th January 2023





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Rewilding Enfield Chase

Northaw Great Wood

Enfield Chase

Lee Valley White Water Centre

7.8

Enfield Town

Broxbourne

Southgate

Edmonton Green

Key benefits

- Habitat creation
- Public health and wellbeing
- Heritage landscape restoration
- Flood risk reduction
- Carbon capture

Hampstead Heath

Walthamstow Wetlands Epping

Rewilding Enfield Chase Vision

- •Restore the natural landscape of Enfield Chase for the benefit of people and wildlife
- •Create a mosaic habitat of woodland, grassland and wetlands with improved access
- •Diversify and strengthen the rural economy





Rewilding Enfield Chase Multiple Benefits

- •Enhanced biodiversity restoring ecological processes
- •Health and wellbeing access to nature leads to improved mental and physical health
- •Air quality greening helps to improve air quality by capturing particulates and encouraging active transport
- •Climate mitigating the impact and adapting to climate change
- •Water reducing the impacts of flooding, pollution and drought







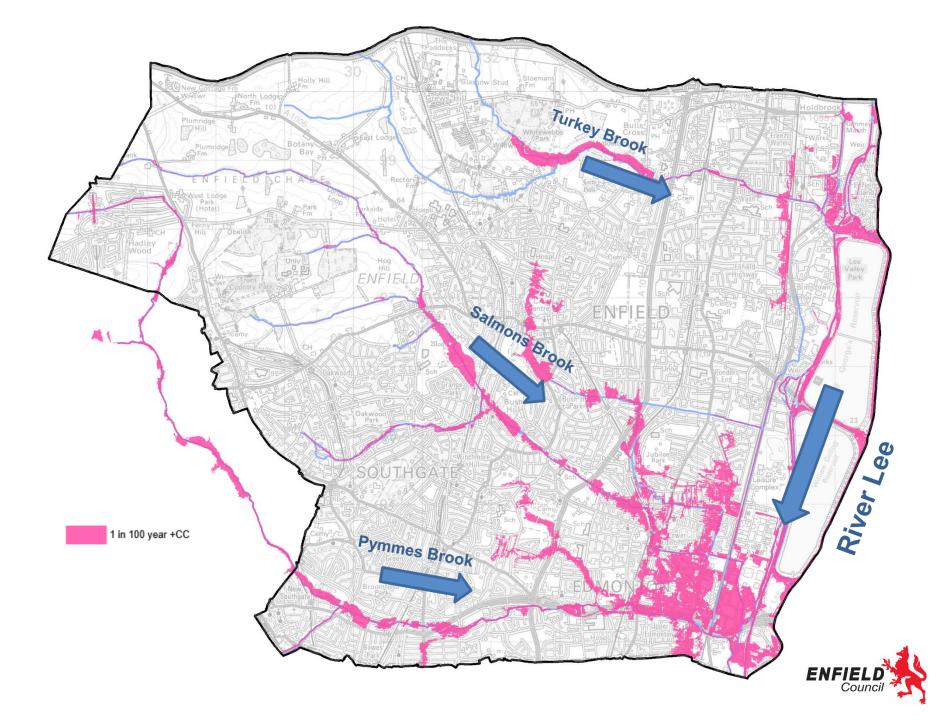
Enfield Chase farming today





Enfield Chase wood pasture





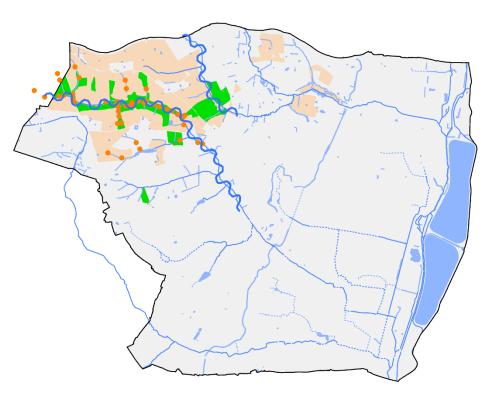






Natural Flood Management measures include:

- River restoration
- Re-connecting floodplains
- Ponds and wetlands
- Woodland creation







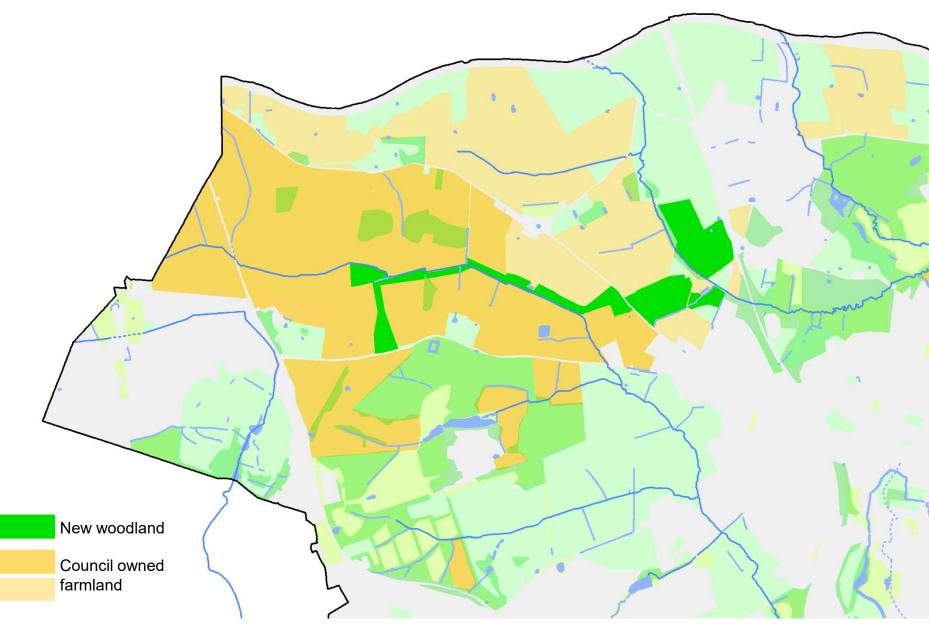
Enfield Chase Woodland creation





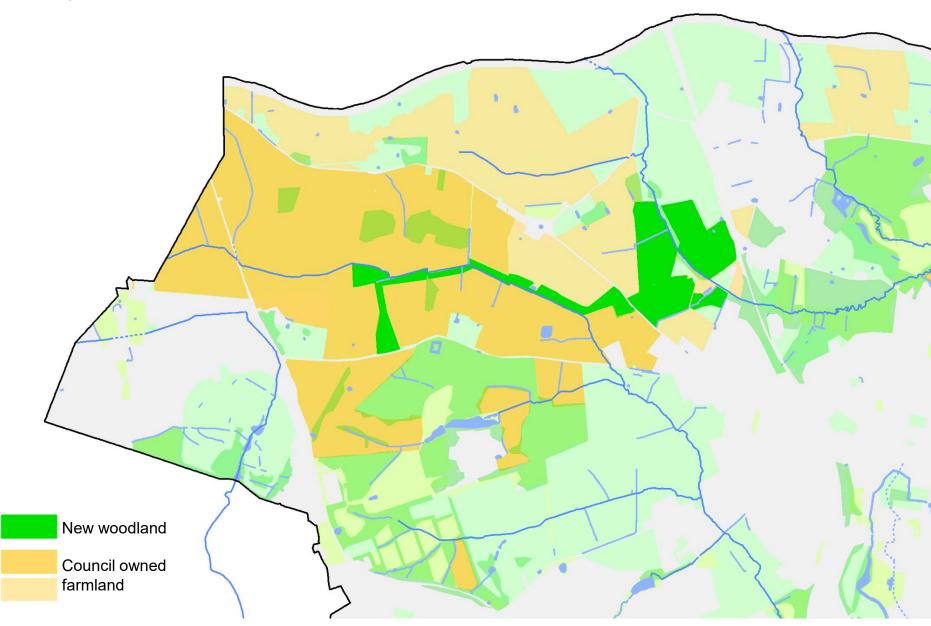
Years 1-2 2020-22

•100,000 trees planted over 60 hectares



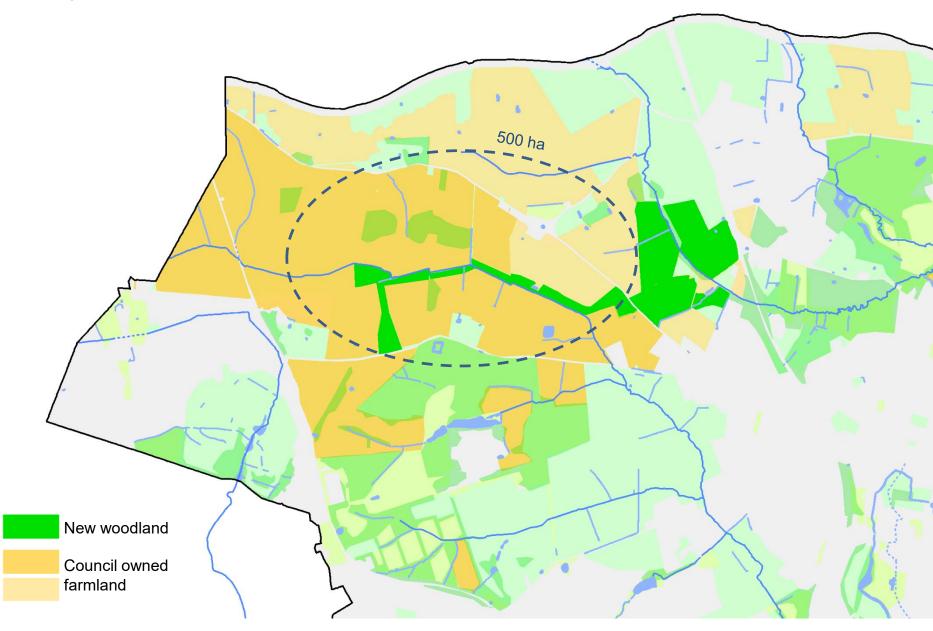
Year 3 2022/23

•Planting 34,000 trees across 20 hectares



Future Years 2024 and beyond

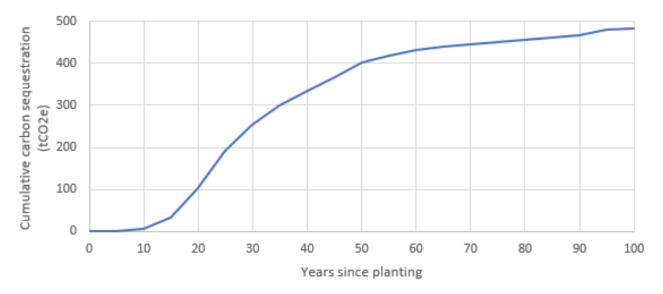
•Planting 1 million trees would require 500 hectares



Carbon Capture

- Woodland creation, together with other forms of rewilding and landscape restoration, has significant potential to help achieve Enfield Council's aim of becoming carbon neutral by 2030
- Enfield's Climate Action Plan estimates by 2030, following direct action to reduce emissions, there will still be a potential gap of 585 tCO₂e (tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions) per year between the emissions the Council continues to produce and the target of zero
- Using a conservative estimate for carbon sequestration of 5.6 tCO₂e/ha/year, estimates of carbon capture can be made for the Enfield Chase woodland creation project

| Woodland Creation Targets | Year | Estimate Carbon tCO ₂ e/year |
|---|------|--|
| 80 ha (current proposals) | 2023 | 448 |
| 140 ha (Climate Action Plan) | 2025 | 784 |
| 500 ha (estimated area required to plant 1 million trees) | 2030 | 2,800 |

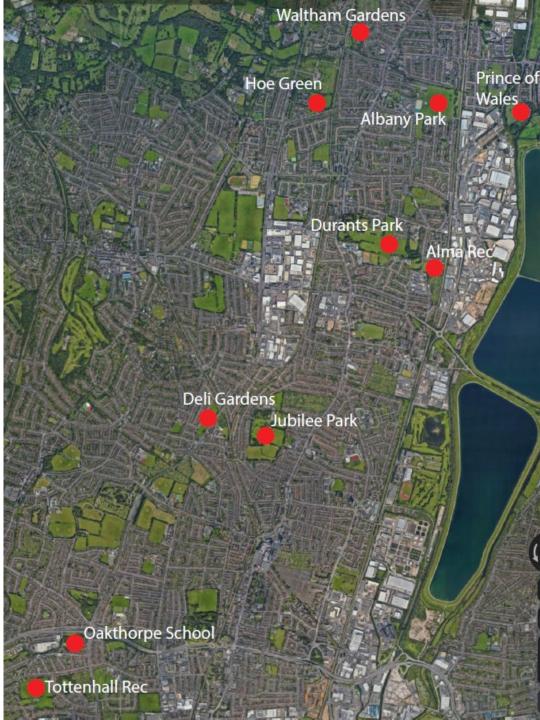


Estimated cumulative carbon sequestration for a typical single hectare of woodland over 100 years (www.woodlandcarboncode.org.uk)



Proposed Urban Tree Planting in 2022-23 (potential tree numbers in brackets)

- Hoe Green (1,000)
- Durants Park (4,000)
- Deli Gardens (600)
- Tottenhall Rec (1,200)
- Albany Park (2,000)
- Prince of Wales Open Space (1,000)
- Alma Recreation Ground (3,600)
- Jubilee Park (1,100)
- Oakthorpe School (1,100)
- Bury Lodge Gardens (600)







Forty Hall Estate Beaver reintroduction





Forty Hall Estate Beaver reintroduction





Forty Hall Estate Beaver reintroduction



Urban Rewilding Strategic context

•Blue and Green Strategy – includes aim to create wilder, more natural spaces to enable biodiversity to thrive, support the restoration of ecosystems and increase interest among people

•Climate Action Plan – vision states that by 2030, we will have a natural environment that enhances biodiversity, provides significant protection against flooding and which helps to mitigate overheating in London. By 2040 we will have achieved a net increase in green infrastructure of 25% compared to today

•Local Plan – strategic objectives include delivering green infrastructure improvements, including accessible new woodland, rewilded river corridors and new parks and open spaces to support growth

•Council Plan – draft priority actions include enhancing and protecting Enfield's parks, open spaces, woodlands, watercourses, wetlands, trees and shrubs



Urban Rewilding Spatial context

•Proposed sustainable transport links

