

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

BY FRIENDS OF WATERLOW PARK ON BEHALF OF CAMDEN COUNCIL

1- 25 February 2022

Proposed *Nature Education Area* in Upper Woods, Waterlow Park

Dear Park Users,

Please consider the following proposal and send your comments - positive or negative - and suggestions. Click the "[Contact Us](#)" link and choose "*Consultation*" as the topic.

The change in use for the area is suggested to provide a place for groups to explore nature. The proposed new woodland for nature study is outlined in red on the Waterlow Park map below. This enclosure has holly hedges and shrubs on three sides. A low wooden fence would be added along its Northern path, with access through a gate.

Aims

- 1) Making a section of the Upper Woods more welcoming to park users by addition of log seating. This can be used like an outdoor class room for group instruction or used by individuals, friends and families to spend some time observing nature.
- 2) Exclusion of dogs should lessen the disturbance to wildlife and to nature exploration by children.
- 3) Enhancing the sense of woodland enclosure with additional hedging, planting and a low fence.
- 4) Increasing the biodiversity of the woodland through the addition of native plants and wildlife-friendly habitat like log piles. Educational features can include bug hotels, bird boxes, casts of animal foot prints, and profiles of commonly encountered plants, insects, spiders and birds.

Conservation, Changes and Impact

What will remain the same?

- The woodland character with trees and shrubs will be preserved.
- The entire area will remain accessible to park users, except for dog walkers.
- The appearance of the area will be retained on three sides: from the tennis courts, from the lawn with the Petanque pitch and along the main path leading South from Highgate High Street.

What will change?

- Dogs will be excluded from the Nature Education Area.
- Additional planting of shrubs, hedging and fencing will complete the enclosure of the woodland along the Northern and Eastern edges.
- Two wooden gates to be added at the North and South entrances.

