

Have your say: Walking and cycling in Canbury Gardens

Canbury Gardens is a Green Flag park, loved by visitors for generations.

We are planning to introduce shared use trial on the existing footpath so that cyclists and pedestrians can both use this route. This will mean making some changes to the path and signage. We want to hear your comments about the scheme. This will help us ensure the changes meet our priorities for being a fairer and safer borough and by supporting active travel and naturalisation of the river front, we will also be greener.

This document helps you visualise the changes before they are made. There is an online survey for your feedback.

These plans are a step in delivering the masterplan for Canbury Gardens, which was developed together with local people and endorsed by the council in 2021



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KINGSTON
UPON THAMES



Canbury Gardens

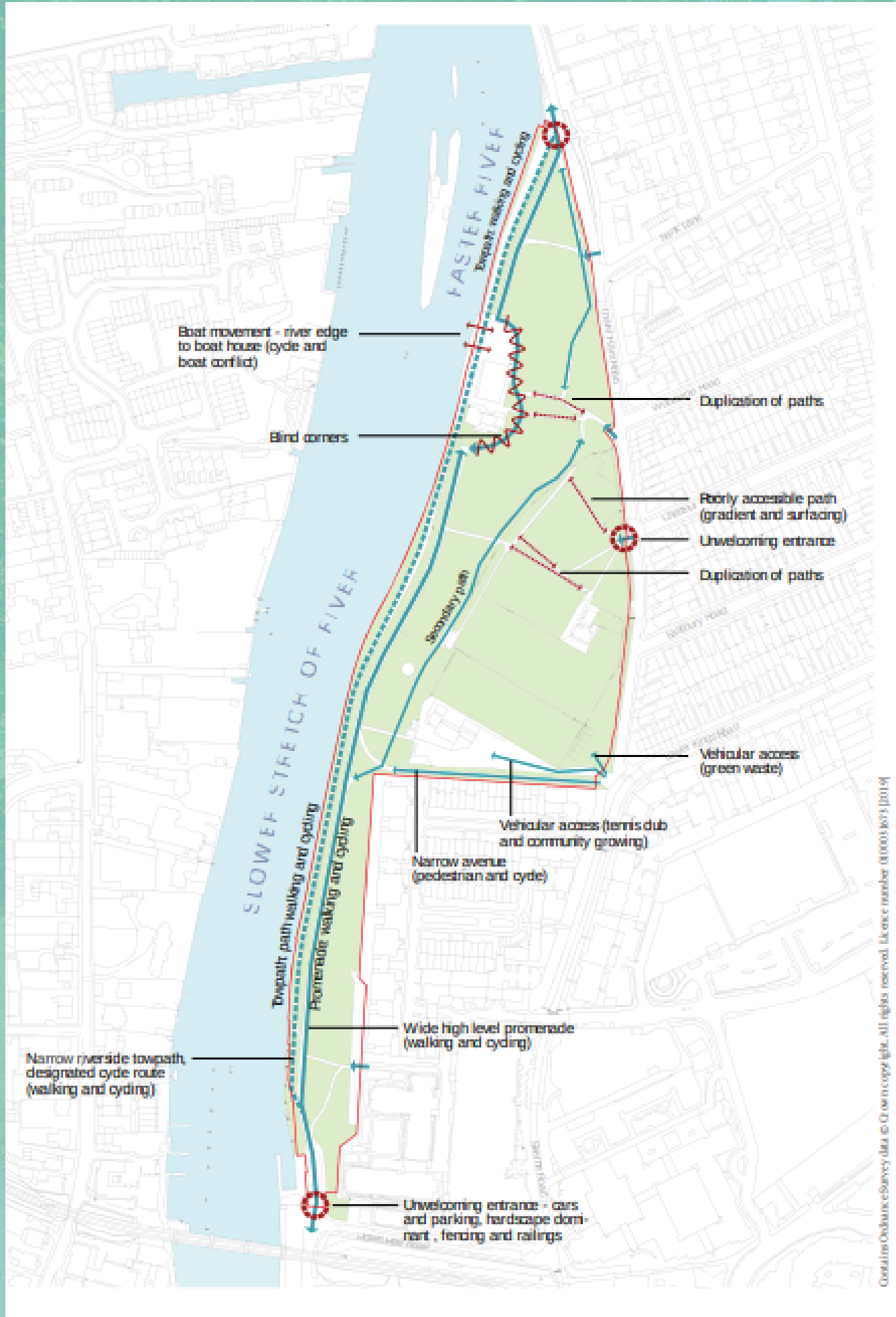
One of Kingston town centre's most popular public spaces

riverside location with

- sports facilities
- bandstand
- playground
- cafe

Awarded the Green Flag, an international quality marker for public spaces

The cycle path is part of National cycle route 4 and the pedestrian paths include part of the Thames Path.



Currently

The map from the 2019 Masterplan document illustrates issues raised with the existing access and movement through Canbury Gardens.

This document is available: kingston.gov.uk/regeneration-1

Currently

The existing cyclepath route is adjacent to the bank of the River Thames.

The existing pedestrian route runs parallel

Many cyclists choose not to use the designated route already opting for the pedestrian path. The cyclepath is obstructed by people accessing the waterfront.

Without the mitigating design features of a designated shared path users are brought into conflict.



Top: Existing cycle path Bottom: Entrance southern end

Changes

The key objectives of the planned changes are:-

- Better separation of path usage by cyclists and pedestrians
- Moving the cycle path to the wider upper level pathway will allow a pedestrian only path on the lower riverside path.
- A pedestrian only lower pathway will allow better flow on the smaller lower riverside path
- A pedestrian only lower riverside path will maximise the physical and visual connections to the river

A shared cycle and pedestrian path would be similar this scheme pictured.



Example of shared path from the Canbury Gardens Masterplan



Changes

The shared use path would be sign posted with signs like these pictured right

at the locations pictured below



North Entrance



South Entrance



Example signage, used on the BeeLine Way shared route

Changes

Along the shared use path would be a shared path logo at a series of locations such as pictured



Example signage

Changes

The existing path pedestrian path would be widened in some places when it is designated for shared use. It will be widened as it goes around the Boat House and the Boaters Inn

The paths would be segregated behind the Boaters Inn into the grassed area.



Behind the Boat House



Behind the Boat House



Behind the Boaters Inn

Changes

These plan show where the changes will be made to the pathway to install signage and the locations for widening and segregating the route.

It is available to download as a PDF document.

The top section is the pathway leading from the South Entrance.

The lower section shows the pathway to the Lower Ham Road entrance.

The middle section connects the two.



Future

Your feedback on the trial scheme now and your experiences of a trial scheme will be used to shape decisions about making permanent changes to routes for cyclists and pedestrians in Canbury Gardens.

A report including initial feedback gained from comments on these plans will be taken to Kingston and Kingston North Neighbourhood Committee In October 2023. Once the trial is underway from November 2023 you will be able to feedback your experiences of using the shared scheme to shape the design of a permanent shared pathway.

If the existing cycle path is no longer needed it will enable the local ecosystem of the riverbank to rewild and return to a more naturalised state. This supports biodiversity and increases public access to nature.