



## Stanmore Marsh Wetlands, Brent River Catchment, Stanmore, Harrow

*“What a fantastic transformation! A few years ago this was a dull and neglected piece of land, but today Stanmore Marsh is a beautiful, bright and welcoming open space ...Not just that, but new open space provides better flood alleviation.” Cllr Graham Henson, Harrow Council’s cabinet member for environment.*

### The story so far

This lost, historic wetland was an under-used space with culverted spaces. It has been transformed by creating new wetland habitats, rehabilitating a seasonal pond and restoring a section of the Edgware Brook. Just over 4ha of open space is now a vibrant community space.

### The river was restored by

- Installing seasonal ponds and swales
- Creating 400m<sup>2</sup> of wetland (3150m<sup>3</sup> of additional flood storage)
- Restoring 330m of main river and 400m of other watercourses

### How has it helped wildlife?

- The creation of a new gravel bed channel with naturalised banks is better suited to wildlife
- A new integrated wetland not only increased water storage but improved biodiversity
- A new range of habitats, created by planting 10,000 spring bulbs, trees and a wildflower meadow, has attracted new wildlife

- Planting 10,000 native spring bulbs, extra trees and a wildflower meadow and restoring a seasonal pond has brought in a new range of habitats to benefit wildlife

### How has it helped people?

- Better access to the site was created by a new footpath and improving entrances
- A children's play area has been created
- Local schools have used the marsh as a space for outdoor sessions
- The area is now a space which can stage events and activities for the community

### How does it protect against flooding?

- The project adds to existing flood storage and defences on the Edgware Brook and Silk Stream because the wetland now acts as a natural store for excess water

### Partnership organisations

London Borough of Harrow, Thames21, Environment Agency, Thames Water, GLA, Mayor of London’s Big Green Fund, Local schools and residents associations.



*AFTER – restored seasonal wetland*



*AFTER – The site now benefits from a naturalised river*



*Nearest Station: Canons Park Jubilee Line*