



8 RAVENSBURY TERRACE, EARLSFIELD
A response by Wandle Valley Forum to London Borough of Wandsworth
On further revisions to the application
Application number 2016/5183

January 2018

Wandle Valley Forum was established in 2005 and is the primary consultative forum on Wandle Valley issues for the Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust; the London Boroughs of Wandsworth, Merton, Sutton and Croydon; Greater London Authority and other statutory bodies

1. Wandle Valley Forum provides support and an independent voice for over 120 community groups, voluntary organisations and local businesses and for everyone who shares a passion for the Wandle. We were established in 2005 and provide the primary consultative forum on Wandle Valley issues for the Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust; the London Boroughs of Wandsworth, Merton, Sutton and Croydon; Greater London Authority and other statutory bodies. Wandle Valley Forum monitors planning applications for developments which impact on the special qualities and character of the Wandle Valley. We make representations on developments which raise Valley-wide issues by reason of their strategic significance or potential to set a precedent.
2. Wandle Valley Forum has reviewed the further amendments to proposals for redevelopment of this important site alongside the Wandle for residential use. We have considered the proposals in the context of the Wandle Valley Forum Charter (<http://bit.ly/27Yal2m>) and existing development plan policies.
3. The Wandle Valley Forum Charter identifies a need for development to “*leave space along the river bank, support public access, encourage a naturally functioning river and respect the Wandle’s local character.*” This is a significant location where development has a direct impact on the river.
4. The revised proposals are much less satisfactory than those proposed in 2016. We are especially concerned by the failure of the development to respond to its riverside setting:
 - the loss of the 3m wide riverside walk is unacceptable – provision of space along the river is a necessary requirement for all development on the banks of the Wandle
 - proposals to connect drainage routes directly from the street to the river to deal with overland flow will introduce toxic road runoff and provide a pathway into the river for other pollution incidents

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Please respond to Chair, Wandle Valley Forum, c/o 43 Bramcote Avenue, Mitcham CR4 4LW

- there is no recognition of the need either to soften the river bank or provide compensation which will enhance habitat elsewhere along the river
- there is no respect for or response to the views along the small tributary running along the boundary which provides an important connection to Wimbledon Park.

5. We object to the revised application on the grounds of these impacts and the conflict with development plan policy.