



**SOUTH LONDON WASTE PLAN – submitted version
A response by Wandle Valley Forum
September 2020**

1. Wandle Valley Forum provides support and an independent voice for 140 community groups, voluntary organisations and local businesses and for everyone who shares a passion for the Wandle.

2. We have considered the South London Waste Plan in the context of the Wandle Valley Forum Charter (<http://bit.ly/27Ya12m>) and in particular its guiding principle for “*More consistent planning – Secure common planning policies to leave space along the river bank, support public access, encourage a naturally functioning river, and respect the Wandle’s local character*”. This has a particular bearing on the issues identified within the document for some of the specific sites where we believe that the plan is not based on the most appropriate strategy and so is not fully justified.

3. We welcome adjustments made to the plan in respect of our earlier representations to acknowledge the proximity of the following sites to the Wandle and warranting an 8m buffer:

M6 George Killoughery, 41 Willow Lane, Merton CR4 4NA
M10 Maguire Skips, 36 Weir Court, Merton SW19 8UG
M12 NJB Recycling, 77 Weir Road, Merton SW19 8UG
M14 Reston Waste Transfer and Recovery, Unit 6, Weir Road, Merton SW19 8UG
M15 Riverside AD Facility, 43 Willow Lane, Merton CR4 4NA
M16 Riverside Bio Waste Treatment Centre, 43 Willow Lane, Merton CR4 4NA

4. We believe the significance of the Wandle and its role as a green corridor and access route, including the Wandle Trail, requires more significant recognition. The South London Waste Plan should explicitly support any development of sites M6, M10, M12, M14, M15 and M16 respecting the character of the Wandle, its ability to operate as a naturally functioning river and the provision of open space and public access along the river bank. This includes providing a sympathetic boundary to the Wandle Trail for sites M10, M12 and M14. We also note the inconsistency in identifying “*Protecting the amenity of those using the future Wandle Valley Regional Park*” as an issue to consider for site M12 but not for the other sites despite the equal significance of their location in the Wandle Valley Regional Park. This should be addressed in the final plan.

5. Additionally, sites M6, M15 and M16 can play an important role in securing greater access along the Wandle. There is growing realisation of the potential for a new public route running along the east side of the Wandle south from Bennett’s Hole Local Nature Reserve. This would provide a new boundary for Willow Lane Trading Estate offering better access and an improved environment for local businesses and their employees as well as residents.

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

The space for this new route exists along a large part of the river and it can be secured by being addressed as part of any future plans for the development of these two sites.

6. We ask that the South London Waste Plan supports any future development of sites M6, M15 and M16 to include safeguarding provisions for a new public route along the east bank of the Wandle and, where appropriate, to secure its delivery.