







Landscape & environment

Join the conversation "What are your views about our proposed approach to landscape and the environment?"

Emerging landscape plan



Our landscape proposals build on the site's historic character and geographic position in the city. The emerging masterplan proposes a central park connecting Millennium Green back to a new urban square at the threshold to the city centre.

This sweeping green space reflects the typical landscape character of strays and green corridors which connect the wider countryside to the heart of the city - in this case linking York Central to the River Ouse corridor and evoking the distinctive pattern of rail lines which shape the site.

Sustainability and energy

YCP is developing a range of sustainability measures:

- Integrated approach to Green Infrastructure including water management and biodiversity.
- A low carbon approach.
- High performance buildings in relation to heating, cooling and energy use.
- Desire to reduce traffic to improve air quality and support healthy lifestyles.
- A broad mix of uses which responds to the needs of surrounding neighbourhoods and the wider city.
- Creation of a mixed and balanced community and diverse, distinctive streets and spaces.

Open spaces

A range of play opportunities have been identified to deliver new open space at York Central, including:

- Informal amenity space in the park, recreational areas, the urban square and the boulevard.
- Playground for children.
- Sports facilities in the parks and local green spaces.

Biodiversity

As well as new areas for activities, the park will create quieter places to support plants and animal life. The railway yards already contain habitats including areas of limestone ballast (the stones which form a bed for rail lines) as well as open grassland and trees. The Holgate Beck is as an important site of ecological value which provides a seasonal wetland environment and a link to the River Ouse.

Water management

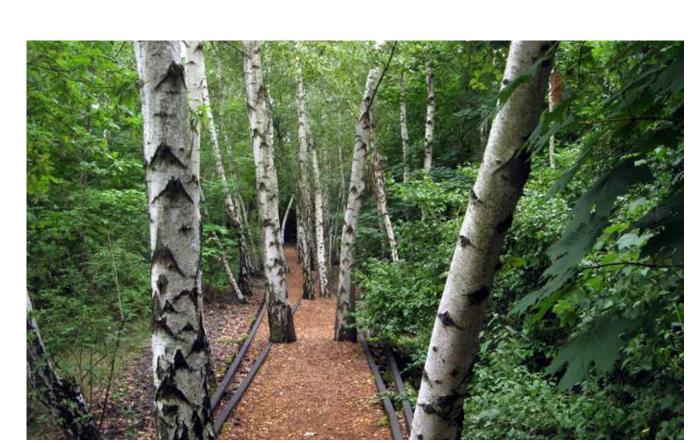
The western part of the site is within Flood Zones 2 and 3. The Great Park provides a large surface area that can be used for the retention of water in extreme rainfall and flooding scenarios. In a 30-year flood scenario excess water could be held in SUDS channels and a pond before flowing into the Holgate Beck. In rarer flood scenarios the west end of the park can be used as a retention basin. The use of water as a theme within the park could create habitats and leisure spaces that are attractive to both people and local fauna.



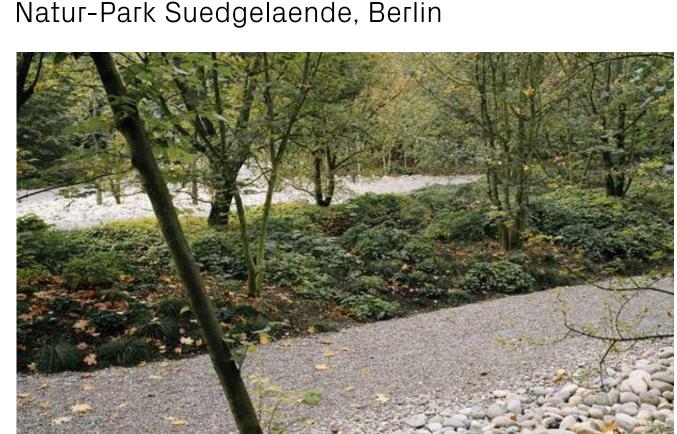
Example of possible uses for open space



Example of possible uses for open space



Natur-Park Suedgelaende, Berlin



Novartis Campus Park, Basel



Example of water management



Example of walkway by water



Cultuurpark Westergasfabriek, The Netherlands