

Gibson. P

Site/location: Land adjacent to the tram tracks from Dundonald Road to Wimbledon

I have been reading the proposed LDF documents and am puzzled by some of the policy changes being proposed.

As I read it, there are two proposed changes to the green space alongside the tram tracks, adjacent to the footpath from Dundonald Road to Alt Grove. It appears that the land forming the green corridor is being changed to exclude the actual tram tracks and that the whole area is losing its Area of Nature Conservation Importance.

Could you please confirm whether that is correct and, if so, let me know the rationale for the change to the ANCI designation.

I am particularly interested as I have been trying, mainly unsuccessfully and for many years, to get the Council to exert pressure on the Mayor and LTA to get the land cleared of litter (please go and have a look - also the Network Rail and Colas land adjacent to the footpath). I hadn't realised that it had the designation which could have strengthened the case for improvement. It seems an eminently suitable area for ANCI status and should be properly managed as such. I fear that loss of the designation will encourage the neglect to continue or worsen.

The area appears rich in birdlife and has a variety of trees and shrubs and forms an attractive approach to the town centre.