



Rain Gardens for Lower Ham Road

Kingston council is planning to create "Rain Gardens" at the Kings Road end of Lower Ham Road, to reduce flooding there. We understand, these typically have the following characteristics, such as in the examples below.

Purpose: To manage surface water, reduce pressure on drainage systems and combat flooding in urban areas.

Design: Shallow, planted basins that collect rainwater from roads and pavements, often using specific plants tolerant of wet and dry conditions.

Benefits: Create habitats for pollinators, beautify streets, and make cities more resilient to climate change.



Council officer James Lester outlined the proposal to CARA Committee and Len Cowking (leader of Canbury Gardeners) last Thursday. In the coming weeks there will be detailed plans on the council's website and a consultation for residents to have their say. CARA Committee support the proposal in principle, and Len confirmed that his gardening group would be happy to maintain a garden of this type. We look forward to seeing the detailed plans.

Reconfiguration of the barrier on Lower Ham Road

The existing planters, installed for the Low Traffic Neighbourhood scheme, are soon to be removed. On each side of the road a rain garden will be created, each with two trees, and through the centre a curved two-way cycle lane will be added, with bollards to prevent vehicles passing through.

Work on this is expected to start before the end of January.



CARA Events survey

Thank you to those have have already completed the **CARA Events survey**, which remains open for more of your views and ideas. So please take a couple of minutes to let us know what events you would like CARA to organise. We will use your responses to help us plan the CARA events programme for 2026. [Click here to complete the survey now, before it's forgotten!](#)

Planned local roadworks

The council wishes to warn residents that UK Power Networks will dig up Richmond Road from Sury Basin to Canbury Park Road for about two weeks, starting in the middle of February. Two lanes will be closed, leaving only one lane open. Expect delays!!

The current status of these works is available [here](#).