

Our Parks Sponsored Policy

1. Introduction

1.1 Vision RCL recognises the wish of many residents to remember loved ones with a sponsored bench, or tree in a public park, garden or in an open space. We are happy to accommodate requests.

2. Objectives

2.1 This policy has been produced with the following guiding principles:

- To be respectful and sympathetic to those seeking to purchase a sponsored bench, or tree.
- To balance the contrasting needs of a variety of park users.
- To ensure that sponsored benches, or sponsored trees fit into the current landscape.

2.2 The policy will ensure that sponsored benches and trees:

- Will not cause offence to others
- Benches and trees are not out of place in the parks or gardens in which they are placed.

2.3 This policy relates to all parks, gardens and opens spaces that Vision RCL manages.

3. General

3.1 All sponsored benches and trees must be paid for by the applicant before the completion of installation

3.2 Vision RCL will attempt to accommodate the wishes of applicants at all times, but it may limit the number of sponsored benches and trees in a particular area, park, garden or open space.

- 3.3 Vision RCL accepts no responsibility if a sponsored bench, or tree is damaged, vandalised or stolen.
- 3.4 Vision RCL reserves the right to remove sponsored benches, or trees at any time.

4. Sponsored benches

- 4.1 Applicants can apply for benches to be installed in parks, gardens or in an open space in memory of loved ones. These may be refurbished benches, but additional benches in new locations may sometimes be considered.
- 4.2 Benches must be of the type and colour specified by Vision RCL in order to be coordinated with any other benches already situated in the intended location.
- 4.3 All benches are fixed on to a concrete base. The installation of this work would be undertaken by Vision RCL.
- 4.4 Sponsored plaques for benches can be purchased from Vision RCL. For costing please email: - parks.enquiries@visionrcl.org.uk, or call 020 8554 9967/020 8708 5437.
- 4.5 No additional mementoes, e.g. statues, flowers, wreaths, vases, etc. will be permitted on or around the benches.
- 4.6 Should there already be sufficient benches in the parks, gardens or open spaces of the applicant's choice; the applicant may be offered an alternative choice of parks and open spaces for the bench.
- 4.7 The total cost of the installation of a sponsored bench will be dependent on the type of bench allowed. Please refer to the sponsorship webpage for costings. Vision RCL will procure the bench and all materials and labour.
- 4.8 Vision RCL, in accordance with its current maintenance programme, will maintain any sponsored bench. It accepts no replacement liability for the plaque or bench at the end of its useful life. Any replacements of benches or plaques will be the responsibility of the original applicant and this process must follow the same application procedure within this policy.

5. Sponsored Trees

- 5.1 Sponsored plaques will not be permitted on the trees; however a metal sponsored plaque can be purchased from Vision RCL. The metal plaque would be installed in front of the tree carrying your suitably worded inscription. For costing please email:- parks.enquiries@visionrcl.org.uk, or call 020 8554 9967/020 8708 5437.
- 5.2 No additional mementoes, e.g. statues, flowers, wreaths, vases, etc. will be permitted on or around the trees.
- 5.3 Applicants can apply for trees to be installed in parks, gardens or in an open space in memory of loved ones. Trees will need to be chosen to fit into the planting scheme and the current landscape of the chosen park, or open space. A choice of trees and plants and their cost will be provided to the applicant. Please refer to the sponsorship webpage for more information.
- 5.4 Vision RCL will maintain the tree or plant in line with its current maintenance programme.
- 5.5 Vision RCL will only plant trees during the winter months, when they have the best chance of survival.
- 5.6 Vision RCL will not be liable for the replacement of old or diseased plants. Any replacements of sponsored trees or plants will be the responsibility of the original applicant's and will follow the same process as the procedure within this policy.
- 5.7 Should there already be sufficient trees in the parks, gardens or open spaces of the applicant's choice; the applicant may be offered an alternative choice of parks, gardens and open spaces for the tree.

6. Review

- 6.1 The content of this policy will be revised every five years.

For further information please visit our sponsorship website:
<https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/leisure-sport-and-the-arts/parks/sponsorship-across-parks-and-open-spaces/>