

## Case Study: Bankside Urban Forest

'Better Bankside' is a Business Improvement District (BID) based between London Bridge and Waterloo. Like other BIDs, Better Bankside have a local focus on improving the environment within the BID area and one initiative includes coordination of the Bankside Urban Forest – a long-term partnership project that works to improve the network of streets, pavements, squares, parks and public spaces between the riverside and Elephant and Castle. The strategy is not literally to turn the area into a forest, although it does create opportunities for greening, using trees, planted walls, and other means. By adopting an ecological approach to designing and investing in the public spaces and streets in the area, there are greater opportunities to support local economies and conserve historic street patterns and connectivities.

Since its launch in 2007, Bankside Urban Forest has planted over 250 trees, increased green cover in the neighbourhood by more than 1000m<sup>2</sup> and improved over 10,000m<sup>2</sup> public space across the area.



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