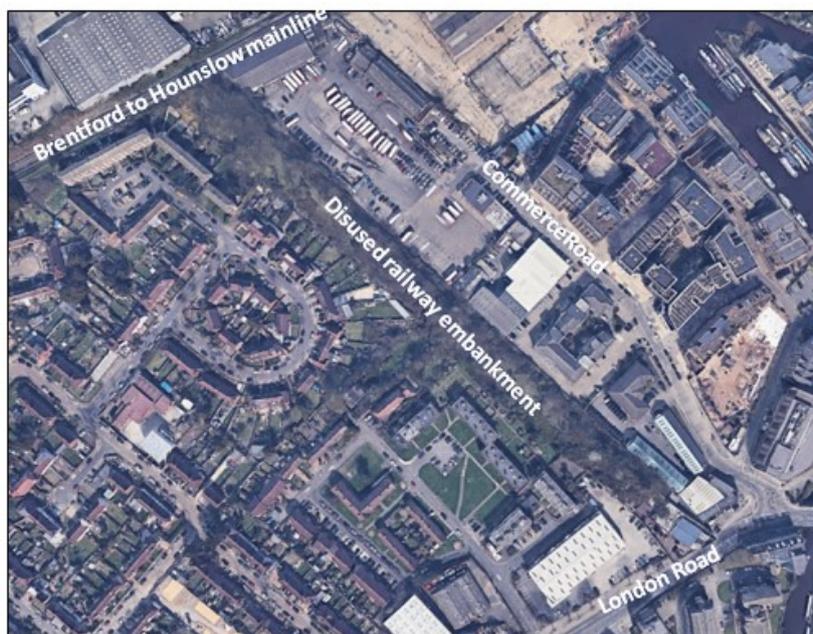


Bringing Brentford's disused railway embankment back into use

A railway used to run 4 miles (6.4 km) from Southall to Brentford Dock. The route, which opened in 1859, was backed by the Great Western Railway and built by the Great Western & Brentford Railway Company. The route was intended mainly for goods traffic but a passenger service commenced in 1860, with Brentford Town station located next to what is now the Carrera Worx site in London Road. The passenger service was withdrawn in 1942.

In 1964 the goods line to Brentford Dock was closed. The track, and the railway bridges over the A4 and London Road, were subsequently dismantled. The ownership of the railway embankment between London Road and the Brentford to Hounslow mainline passed to LB Hounslow and the embankment has been closed to public access for about 50 years.



We strongly believe that the recreational, ecological, and educational value of the site should be realised. The proposal is outlined in LB Hounslow's Draft Vision for Brentford Town Centre (2021)

In June 2021 Brentford Voice made an application for funds from the Mayor of London's *High Streets for All Challenge*. Our application was supported by LB Hounslow, the Hounslow Chamber of Commerce, and two large companies located along the Great West Road. We were unsuccessful on this occasion but our proposal was commended by the Greater London Authority and LB Hounslow.

We are now seeking funds from LB Hounslow to carry out a feasibility study to open the embankment to public access. The site offers the potential to improve access from the Field Lane estate, via the proposed bridge over the canal to Robin Grove, to Brentford Station. In the longer-term, the project could be extended over the mainline railway to open up access from the Great West Road to Brentford High Street.