

Tender Brief: Chesham Station Garden Design



Project overview

[Chesham Station](#) has long been home to a celebrated garden, maintained by dedicated volunteers and recognised with awards such as *Best Station Garden*. The garden is now managed by [Chesham in Bloom](#), a local community initiative.

The Chilterns National Landscape are seeking a garden designer to develop a new design for the station garden that reflects modern eco-friendly gardening practices. We are looking for a design that retains and celebrates key existing features of the garden, while introducing new elements that support biodiversity and sustainability and aligns with site management requirements. We want the new design to strike a good balance—keeping the bits of the garden that volunteers and the community already love, while gently weaving in new ideas that support wildlife, save water, and make the space even more welcoming and sustainable.

Objectives

- Create a refreshed design for sections of the garden that enhances the station's visual appeal and ecological value,
- Incorporate drought-resistant planting, water-saving technologies, and sustainable gardening methods.
- Include interpretation features that would educate station users about eco-friendly gardening and the connection to the nearby [River Chess](#), a globally rare chalk stream.
- Collaborate closely with volunteer gardeners and respect the operational constraints of Transport for London (TfL), who manage the site.



- Produce a design suitable for presentation to landowners and potential funders to secure support for implementation.

Scope of work

- Site assessment and consultation with Chesham in Bloom volunteers and Chesham Station Manager.
- Concept development and detailed garden design.
- Recommendations for sustainable materials and planting schemes and species lists.
- Integration of educational signage and interpretation elements.
- Final design package suitable for funding applications and stakeholder review.

Designer requirements

- Proven experience in eco-conscious garden design.
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with community groups.
- Understanding of public space constraints and TfL site management protocols.
- Creative approach to interpretation and public engagement.

Timeline

All work should be complete by March 2026. Ideally designs should be available before then so they can be circulated to stakeholders and gain landowner agreements.

Quotation and proposal information required

Interested designers should submit:

- A brief outline of their approach to this project that explains how you would meet the specification and requirements.
- A detailed timeline and breakdown of estimated costs for design development. Please indicate in your time plan who will be the key personnel working on this project, including the number of days and costs committed to this project.
- Please specify if VAT is included or excluded
- A portfolio of relevant work.

Evaluation

Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of:

- The quality and clarity of the proposal
- Viability of proposal
- Value for money
- Experience of Consultants

How to apply

If you are interested in this contract, please send a proposal to stephhorn@chilterns.org.uk by 26th November 2025. For an informal conversation or further information, feel free to contact Steph Horn at the same email address.

