Proposed Regionally Important Geological / Geomorphological Site
(proposed in Ealing 2026 Development Strategy - Final Proposals, June 2010)

Site Reference: GLA 20
Site Name: Horsenden Hill
Site Type: Natural exposure
Summary: Dollis Hill Gravel Formation, Pleistocene
Claygate Member, London Clay Formation
London Clay Formation, Pleistocene

Grid ref: TQ 16256 84381
Area (ha): 43.15
Borough(s): London Borough of Ealing
Ownership: London Borough of Ealing
Access: Open access, contact the ranger’s office for group visits

Site Description:
This site is a hill in the London Clay capped by the Claygate Member and Dollis Hill Gravel Formation. The Dollis Hill Gravel is a river terrace deposit from the pre-diversionary Thames. It forms hill-caps that decline in elevation northwards, indicating deposition in south-bank tributaries of the ancestral Thames. The gravel is composed of angular flint (58%), rounded flint (32%), quartz/quartzite (1.8%) and Lower Greensand chert (7%).

Horsenden Hill is the highest point in North West London with excellent views of the surrounding area. There are information boards explaining the view, this would be an ideal position to explain the geological landscape.

Stratigraphy and Rock Types:
Time Unit: Pleistocene      Rock Unit: Dollis Hill Gravel Formation
Rock Type: Sand and gravel Details: Gravel, sandy and clayey in part, with some laminated silty beds. Sand and gravel, locally with lenses of silt, clay or peat and organic material.

Time Unit: Eocene      Rock Unit: Claygate Member, London Clay Formation
Rock Type: Sand, silt and clay Details: Interbedded fine-grained sand, silt and clay

Time Unit: Eocene      Rock Unit: London Clay Formation
Rock Type: Clay, silt, sand Details: Fine, sandy, silty clay / clayey silt. Glauconitic at base.

Geodiversity Topic: Geomorphology; lithostratigraphy; sedimentology
Geodiversity Value: Small exposures of units accompanied by good Geomorphological features and good access

Date of Last Survey: 05/12/2007