
HACKNEY LOCAL PLAN 2033 (LP33)

Consultation Summary Report- Summary of consultation undertaken November 2016 – April 2017

LONDON BOROUGH OF HACKNEY

1.0 Consultation on the New Plan for Hackney – LP33

1.1 Local Plan 2033 is an important document for setting out a vision for what Hackney will be like in 2033 and the planning policies to guide and manage development and investment in the borough. Producing a plan involves evidence gathering, consultation and formal examination by a planning inspector before it can be adopted.

1.2 The council has completed an initial stage of consultation and evidence gathering to develop a growth strategy for Hackney in 2033, identify opportunities for change, and to inform new policies.

1.3 At this first stage, the Local Plan documents underwent public consultation between Wednesday 02 November and Wednesday 24 December 2016. The date for receiving consultation responses was extended to Monday 16 January 2017.

1.4 The consultation sought views on the Local Plan options and asked for respondents to set out their alternative ideas. The consultation also included a call for sites, requesting submission of locations for development.

2.0 Approaches to the Consultation and the Consultation Process

2.1 The Council used a wide range of media, events, workshops and meetings to inform individuals, stakeholders and organisations about the Local Plan, and to seek comments.

2.2 A great effort was made to ensure that the young people and a broader range of ethnic groups are engaged and represented in feedback on Hackney Local Plan preparation.

2.3 The Council used Citizen Space Consultation Hub to host survey questionnaires and to collect responses from respondents, with the Council's website supporting the consultation through a dedicated webpage with web links to the LP33 Summary document, other consultation documents and related web-content.

2.4 Announcements and notifications about the dates, venues and consultation activities were made before the start of the consultation to a wide range of individuals, stakeholders and organisations through the publication of a press release in the 31st October 2016 issue of Hackney Today publication, various HCVS managed e-newsletters, Hackney website, twitter and Facebook pages, and Hackney Business Network e-newsletter.

2.5 Printed copies of the LP33 summary document, along with packs of the eight topic questions documents, Consultation questionnaires, Monitoring forms and flyers, were provided in all the borough's libraries, Council offices and some community centres.

2.6 Consultation letters, mails and emails were sent to approximately 3000 statutory Consultees and individuals on our database informing them about the dates and events of the consultation.

2.7 A series of pre-publicised, open events and workshops were organised by the Council and held in the Borough' libraries, community centres and in public venues for members of the public to discuss the Local Plan with Council Officers and to provide feedback.

The dates and locations of these drop-in events and workshops are shown in the table below;

Event/Workshop	Venue	Date
Borough Wide Pub watch - (Council event)	Hackney House – 25-27 Curtain Road,	2 nd Nov. 2016
Hackney Central Masterplan - (Joint event with Growth Team on Hackney Central Masterplan)	Junction of Mare Street and Westgate Street	10 th Nov. 2016
Stoke Newington Town Hall Consultations. – (Joint event with Growth Team)	Stoke Newington Library - Stoke Newington Church Street	11 th Nov. 2016
Wally Foster Community Centre - (Drop-in session)	Wally Foster Community Centre -Marsh Hill, Homerton Road	14 th Nov. 2016
Shoreditch – (drop in session)	Hackney House -25-27 Curtain Road, Hackney,	17 th Nov. 16
Wrens Park Community Hall, Springfield – (Drop in session)	Warwick Grove, E5 9LL - Upper Clapton	21 st Nov 2016
Woodberry Down – (Drop in session)	The Redmond Community Centre Kayani Avenue	22 nd Nov 2016
Community Engagement Event – (Community event)	Clr James, Dalston Library Dalston Lane	24 th Nov. 2016
Winterfest - (community event)	The Redmond Community Centre Kayani Avenue	7 th Dec 2016

2.8 An extensive series of Stakeholder and Interest group meetings and workshops were undertaken for the consultation, including meetings with Hackney Youth Parliament, the business community, Developers, Partnership Board, neighbouring boroughs, and area-based boards and forums.

The dates and locations of these meetings are shown in the table below;

Workshop/Meeting	Venue	Date
Planners User Forum	HSC	20 th Sept 2016
Youth Parliament Elections' and Presentation Night	Forest Road Youth Centre	20 th Oct. 2016
Hackney Down Ward Forum - (meeting)	Hackney Downs	16 th Nov 2016
Developers Breakfast – (workshop)	Artic Room – Picture house, Mare Street	5 th Dec 2016
Youth Parliament – (Follow-up Forum)	Forest Road Youth Centre	12 th Dec 2016
Planners User Forum - (workshop)	1 Hillman Street	12 th Dec 2016
Hackney Society Planning Group	Offices of Wilmington, 6-14 Underwood Street, N1 7JQ.	19 th Dec 2016
Kings Park and Lea Bridge Joint Ward Forum (meeting)	Nye Bevan Hall,	25 th April 2017

2.9 A greater effort was made to reach out and engage the “hard to reach” individuals and communities in the consultation. In collaboration with HCVS – Hackney Community Voluntary Services, we were invited to and attended various workshops and meetings organised by and for various communities and different categories of individuals within those communities. For example; Carers Rights Day workshop was for individuals and groups that provide care services, SIG meeting was organised for people who work with people with learning disabilities and the devolution workshop was organised for people in health and social care industry.

The dates and locations of different stakeholder meetings are shown in the table below;

Event/Meeting	Venue	Date
Devolution - User led Social & Healthcare Workshop (HCVS)	Arcola Theatre (Studio 4), 24 Ashwin Street	9 th Nov. 2016
Learning Disabilities SIG Meeting (HCVS)	HCVS offices – 24-30 Dalston Lane	16 th Nov. 2016
Carers Rights Day - City & Hackney Carers Centre (HCVS)	Tomlinson Centre - Queensbridge Road	24 th Nov. 2016

3.0 Results of the Consultation

3.1 The majority of responses were submitted via the online consultation hub (Citizen Space) and the rest were submitted via email, letters, and paper copies. Responses that were received offline (not through Citizen Space) were manually entered into the Citizen Space database.

3.2 Responses were received from Statutory and Public Bodies, including neighbouring boroughs, the GLA and Transport for London. Representations were also received from individuals, landowners, consultants and community groups such as Nightingale Residents Association, Dalston Conservation Area Advisory Committee, Hackney Downs Users Group and Chizuk.

3.3 In total the consultation generated 66 individual responses some of which were from groups representing a greater number of people. A total of 676 comments were made. The table below shows how the 676 responses were distributed among the eight topic areas, growth options and site nominations.

Sections	Questions	Comments from responses
Growth	1	51
Sites	3-5	36 (13 sites nominated)
Meeting Hackney Housing Needs	6-8	84
A strong and competitive economy	9-11	64
Vibrant town centres	12-16	88
Hackney's people	17-20	78
Improving accessibility and promoting sustainability	21-23	77
Hackney's green and public space	24-26	64
Protecting and enhancing heritage and leading the way on good urban design	27-29	73
Hackney's response to climate change	30-32	61
		676

3.4 A summary of the main issues raised during the consultation is set out in appendix 1.

4.0 Next Steps

4.1 Consultation on a Draft Local Plan is due commence in October 2017. comments made on the Draft Plan will help inform the final version of the Plan which is due to be published for consultation in Summer 2018 before it is submitted to the

Government for examination. It is anticipated that the Plan will be adopted late 2018/early 2019.

Appendix 1 Main issues raising from the consultation

Generally there is recognition of the need to accommodate growth in the borough and the growth areas identified. There were request for more details regarding quantum, nature and locations to accommodate the growth.

Meeting Hackney's Housing Needs

Approach - Seek to deliver a range of housing including affordable and specialist to meet demand.

- Council should work with developers to maximise the capacity of sites, not necessarily for developers' profits.
- Should concentrate on improving standards and range for existing residents (old, young, families) rather than more market housing
- The top issue affecting Hackney residents is housing affordability both to buy and rent, closely followed by the cost of living.
- Housing availability, and its suitability and quality are also of concern.
- There are concerns that Hackney may no longer be a place where communities and families can stay together.
- Supporting residents with health needs is a very important issue.
- Conditions in the private rented sector need to be improved.
- What is currently classed as affordable is not affordable to most groups of people.
- There is a growing need to house elderly people, but also pressure for accommodation that are appropriate for younger people and families.
- Any new plan must emphasise the need for public space and resist smaller and smaller acceptable standards for housing unit space.
- A single approach to residential mix, (i.e. borough wide housing mix based on demographic projections) is not appropriate in all locations and across all tenures. Certain locations are more suited to family units, and others to a higher proportion of smaller units. Although it is acknowledged that no single unit type should dominate a development, the mix should be informed by site location and context instead of a general approach across the entire Borough.
- The Council should work with developers to maximise the number of all homes.
- Shared ownership is not best option for many in Hackney.
- More shared ownership for those finding it difficult to save for deposit.
- Capping rents would be beneficial.

A strong and competitive economy

Approach - Protect employment land and floorspace, seek to accommodate a range and affordable spaces, and opportunities for local residents.

- Strong support for the provision of Affordable Workspace to support small businesses and creative industries.
- Need for the Plan to support a diverse economy and mix of business including; workspace, offices, industrial activities, and greater flexibility regarding the use of premises.
- Concern regarding the loss of industrial land and floorspace in the Borough and support for greater protection of these uses and activities in the new Plan.
- There are concerns employment issues are too focused on creative industries and services, and there needs to be consideration of other industrial / employment activities.
- Support for people being able to live and work in the borough to encourage a more inclusive community.
- Some support given for the Night Time Economy however also concerns expressed about the associated impacts (crime, disorder, noise) on residential amenity.
- Strong support for training and apprenticeship opportunities.

Planning for vibrant town centres

Approach - Seek vibrant town centres, balancing facilities including the visitor economy.

- New shops and leisure facilities should be located around existing town centres, near to transport connections.
- There is a need for a wide range of uses catering for all the communities in the borough including new and old.
- Markets are good features of a town centre and should be encouraged.
- Some residents are concerned about antisocial behaviour resulting from the night time economy; others are supportive of the night time economy and it was suggested that diversification of the types of night time uses was needed.
- There is a proliferation of betting shops in some locations.

Hackney's people

Approach - Ensure sufficient provisions and protect existing facilities.

- Concerns regarding growing inequalities between Hackney's communities.
- Over the last 5-10 years, there have been improvements in schools and community safety.
- Shops, local pubs, clubs, cafes and restaurants, work spaces, school or college, local parks and playgrounds, sports and leisure centres and local libraries all provide important places for socialising.
- There is concern about the impact population growth would have in the Borough on local public services. There a need for additional facilities to be linked and/ or part of development proposals especially housing.
- It is encouraging that there is reference to health and planning, as a Local Plan must form the bridge between the built environment and public health in order to promote healthy communities and to support appropriate health infrastructure.
- The protection of community facilities and provision for new facilities is essential and the plan must continue to ensure that all facilities needed by people at all different stages of their lives are protected.

Improving accessibility and promoting sustainable transport

Approach - Maximise sustainable transport network, and encourage walking and cycling.

- Traffic and congestion are major concerns.
- There is widespread support for Crossrail 2, recognising opportunity for higher density and new or improved stations especially access, but need to consider impact.
- There is an urgent need to improve air quality and reduce pollution.
- Promotion of active travel is identified as a means of improving health and well-being in the borough. Improve facilities for cycling, public realm, mores buses particularly electric buses, safer streets / play street / public realm improvements.
- More needs to be done to reduce the number of cars on the borough's roads,

Hackney's green and open spaces

Approach - Maximising use and attractiveness existing open spaces and waterways including public access.

- Green and open spaces are important assets that should be protected, and where possible linked up. Accessibility to and safety issues within open spaces were also considered important.
- New developments should have trees and gardens incorporated as the importance of open space for physical and mental health is recognised.
- Smaller green spaces, including between buildings and on estates are also important and should be safeguarded
- Children's play spaces and allotments were specifically identified as appropriate uses for open spaces.
- In exceptional circumstances, development on open spaces may be appropriate to meet other priorities.

Heritage and Design

Approach – Accommodating growth whilst enhancing the historic environment, and achieving high density without compromising quality.

- Concerns about the negative impact of Tall Buildings on local views. Local people have questioned whether Tall buildings should be built near school playgrounds, parks, gardens, and Conservation areas.
- The impact of Tall Buildings on the Public realm is also a key issue. More attention needs to be paid to the impact of Tall buildings on the street and neighbouring buildings, and social cohesion.
- There was also reference to the impact of Tall buildings on social cohesion, reference to acceptable heights range from 3 to above 7 storeys.
- Support for the characterisation study and the Council's commitment to developing a new approach to making sure that future development enhances local character in the Borough
- Many feel that the Council needs to do more to protect the borough's heritage, and new developments need to respect them.

Hackney's response to climate change

Approach - Promoting sustainable design and construction.

- Many residents felt that their local areas has a cleaner and greener appearance but pollution is a concern; some residents think that it has got worse in over the last five years.
- The Council's approach in encouraging sustainable design and construction is supported by a number of statutory bodies including the Environment Agency, English Heritage, and the GLA, and Sustainable Hackney.
- Council buildings should aim to maximise carbon reductions.
- More information required for central heating sources, retrofitting, waste heat capture, and 'green features' which should implemented where appropriate.
- Applying zero carbon standards should take into account cost implications, heritage integrity, and should not be at the expense of good design.
- Suggested ways forward included- reducing car usage, increase cycling, utilising urban greening, SUDs, and use of the canal for heating and cooling.