The Royal Borough is rich in art and culture and is host to many national institutions, museums, and significant cultural events and festivals. The borough also has a number of public libraries, leisure centres, parks and open spaces. Map 2.1 details a comprehensive listing of culture, arts and leisure in Kensington and Chelsea broken into the classifications of: ‘Culture and Arts: Museums, Galleries, Exhibitions, Theatres and Music’, ‘Community Arts Venues’, ‘Events and Festivals’, ‘Libraries’, ‘Sports and Leisure’ and ‘Cinemas’.

Survey data show that residents are satisfied with the culture, arts and leisure facilities in the borough and this data can be seen in figure 2.1 compared against data for inner London. Satisfaction is particularly high for museums and galleries, and parks and open spaces.

**CULTURE AND ARTS**

The borough is home to many museums, galleries, exhibitions and other cultural and artistic institutions and venues. The council manages two small museums; The Leighton House Museum and Art Gallery and the Linley Sambourne Museum. There are three major national museums located in South Kensington; The Science Museum, The Natural History Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum. See table 2.1 for visitor figures. The Saatchi Gallery opened in autumn 2008 in Chelsea and the borough is also home to Kensington Palace and the Royal Court Theatre. See map 2.1 for the location of these and many more museums, galleries, exhibitions, theatres and cultural venues located in the borough as well as community arts venues.
Culture, Arts and leisure in Kensington and Chelsea 2008

- **Culture, Arts: Museums, Galleries, Exhibitions, Theatres, Music**
  - Leighton House Museum and Art Gallery
  - Linley Sambourne Museum
  - Ice House Gallery
  - Orangery Gallery
  - Science Museum
  - Natural History Museum
  - Victoria and Albert (V&A) Museum
  - National Army Museum
  - Carlyle’s House
  - Royal Court Theatre
  - Royal Hospital Museum
  - 20th Century Theatre
  - Cadogan Hall
  - Chelsea Old Town Hall
  - The Muse
  - Louise T Blouin Foundation
  - Kensington Palace
  - Saatchi Gallery
  - Museum of Brands, Packaging and Advertising
  - Chelsea Physic Garden

- **Events and Festivals**
  - Chelsea Flower Show
  - Portobello Rd Film Festival - Westbourne Studios
  - Portobello Rd Film Festival - Inn on the Green
  - Portobello Rd Film Festival - Hornimans
  - Holland Park Opera and Theatre
  - London Fashion Week
  - Earl’s Court Festival
  - Chelsea Festival

- **Libraries**
  - Kensington Library
  - North Kensington Library
  - Chelsea Library
  - Brompton Library
  - Notting Hill Gate Library
  - Kensal Library

- **Sports and Leisure**
  - Kensington Leisure Centre
  - Chelsea Sports Centre
  - Westway Sports Centre
  - Portobello Green Fitness Club

- **Cinemas**
  - Chelsea Cinema
  - Cineworld Fulham Road
  - Gate Cinema
  - Odeon Kensington High Street
  - Cineworld Kings Road
  - Coronet
  - Electric Cinema

- **Community Arts Venues**
  - Lazy Daisy Café
  - Inn on the Green
  - ACAVA Blechynden Studios
  - Open Door Friendship Centre
  - Tabernacle Arts Centre
  - Troubadour Café

- **Notting Hill Carnival Area**

Source: The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Transport, Environment and Leisure Services - Arts and Leisure
Updated: N/A
The borough has six public libraries as located on map 2.1. Table 2.2 shows the numbers of visitors, issues of items and items in the catalogue for each library.

### Table 2.1
Visitor figures for museums and galleries in Kensington and Chelsea 2005/06 - 2007/08

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Leighton House Museum and Art Gallery</th>
<th>Linley Sambourne Museum</th>
<th>Science Museum</th>
<th>Natural History Museum</th>
<th>V&amp;A Museum (Kensington Site)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005/06</td>
<td>14,347</td>
<td>4,409</td>
<td>2,019,931</td>
<td>3,180,753</td>
<td>1,902,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006/07</td>
<td>15,944</td>
<td>3,703</td>
<td>2,604,612</td>
<td>3,776,108</td>
<td>2,751,042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007/08</td>
<td>16,021</td>
<td>3,849</td>
<td>2,711,680</td>
<td>3,652,003</td>
<td>2,280,759</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Sourced directly from institutions
Updated: Annually

### Table 2.2
Visitors, catalogues and issues for libraries in Kensington and Chelsea 2005/06 - 2007/08

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Visitors</th>
<th>Kensington Central Library</th>
<th>Chelsea Library</th>
<th>Brompton Library</th>
<th>North Kensington Library</th>
<th>Notting Hill Gate Library</th>
<th>Kensal Library</th>
<th>Total Visitors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005/06</td>
<td>480,586</td>
<td>361,374</td>
<td>137,647</td>
<td></td>
<td>229,452</td>
<td>72,772</td>
<td>43,125</td>
<td>1,324,956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006/07</td>
<td>446,733</td>
<td>267,007</td>
<td>133,060</td>
<td></td>
<td>290,987</td>
<td>61,960</td>
<td>36,852</td>
<td>1,236,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007/08</td>
<td>405,171</td>
<td>276,786</td>
<td>132,569</td>
<td></td>
<td>239,793</td>
<td>58,793</td>
<td>31,376</td>
<td>1,144,488</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Catalogue</th>
<th>Kensington Central Library</th>
<th>Chelsea Library</th>
<th>Brompton Library</th>
<th>North Kensington Library</th>
<th>Notting Hill Gate Library</th>
<th>Kensal Library</th>
<th>Total Visitors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005/06</td>
<td>8,344</td>
<td>4,336</td>
<td>2,321</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,465</td>
<td>826</td>
<td>813</td>
<td>20,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006/07</td>
<td>12,487</td>
<td>5,998</td>
<td>3,852</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,968</td>
<td>1,248</td>
<td>976</td>
<td>28,529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007/08</td>
<td>11,679</td>
<td>7,134</td>
<td>3,599</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,809</td>
<td>1,905</td>
<td>1,613</td>
<td>31,739</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Issues</th>
<th>Kensington Central Library</th>
<th>Chelsea Library</th>
<th>Brompton Library</th>
<th>North Kensington Library</th>
<th>Notting Hill Gate Library</th>
<th>Kensal Library</th>
<th>Total Visitors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005/06</td>
<td>469,618</td>
<td>187,577</td>
<td>104,521</td>
<td></td>
<td>142,479</td>
<td>43,106</td>
<td>15,607</td>
<td>962,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006/07</td>
<td>430,007</td>
<td>176,236</td>
<td>97,692</td>
<td></td>
<td>122,152</td>
<td>34,783</td>
<td>14,540</td>
<td>875,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007/08</td>
<td>390,658</td>
<td>172,269</td>
<td>98,837</td>
<td></td>
<td>103,463</td>
<td>31,640</td>
<td>15,237</td>
<td>812,104</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Family and Childrens Services - Community Learning
Updated: Annually
PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

When residents are asked what they think is the best thing about living in the Royal Borough they mention local parks more often than any other aspect of life in the borough. Map 2.1 shows where the parks and open spaces in the borough are located and as mentioned figure 2.1 illustrates satisfaction with parks and open spaces in the borough, compared with figures for inner London. Parks and open spaces are also used the most frequently of all culture, arts and leisure activities and usage is above inner London averages. In conjunction with figure 2.1, figure 2.2 illustrates usage figures for culture, arts and leisure. The colour schemes of the chart broadly represent frequent usage ('almost every day', 'at least once a week', 'about once a month'), casual usage ('within the last 6 months', 'within the last year') and infrequent use ('longer ago', 'never used').

FIGURE 2.2
Culture, arts and leisure usage in Kensington and Chelsea and inner London 2006/07

Figures rounded up or down
Source: MORI Best Value General User Survey 2006/07
Updated: Ad-hoc
EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

The borough is host to many well known events and festivals. These include the Notting Hill Carnival, Opera Holland Park, the Chelsea Flower Show and the Portobello Film Festival. The location of these can all be viewed on map 2.1 and it should be noted that some festivals have events at a variety of venues (such as the Chelsea festival) and in these instances a key location is represented on the map. Table 2.1 illustrates visitor figures for events and festivals in the borough from 2006 to 2008.

### TABLE 2.3
Visitor/attendance figures for some of the main events and festivals in Kensington and Chelsea 2006 - 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Notting Hill Carnival</th>
<th>Chelsea Flower Show</th>
<th>Opera Holland Park</th>
<th>Portobello Film Festival</th>
<th>Chelsea Festival</th>
<th>Earl's Court Festival</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday attendance</strong></td>
<td>330,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>157,000</td>
<td>40,500</td>
<td>5,850</td>
<td>3,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday attendance</strong></td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>157,000</td>
<td>44,000</td>
<td>5,880</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attendance over 5 days</strong></td>
<td>157,000</td>
<td>157,000</td>
<td>157,000</td>
<td>45,500</td>
<td>5,880</td>
<td>4,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capacity filled</strong></td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Westbourne Studios</strong>*</td>
<td>5,850</td>
<td>5,880</td>
<td>5,880</td>
<td>7,800</td>
<td>7,800</td>
<td>7,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inn On The Green</strong>*</td>
<td>3,600</td>
<td>3,600</td>
<td>3,600</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>1,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other locations</strong>*</td>
<td>4,900</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>2,050</td>
<td>2,050</td>
<td>2,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Estimates from all locations</strong>*</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Street fair</strong>*</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other events</strong>*</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>2,079</td>
<td>2,079</td>
<td>2,689</td>
<td>2,689</td>
<td>2,689</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Estimated attendance
**This event is capped and sells out every year
***Estimated figures based on capacity of venues and turnover
Source: Sourced directly from festivals and events coordinators
Updated: Annually

SPORT AND LEISURE

Three main public leisure centres serve the borough; Kensington Leisure Centre, Chelsea Sports Centre and the Westway Sports Centre which is run by the Westway Development Trust. Each of the main parks has a range of sports facilities on offer. Table 2.4 illustrates estimated usage figures for each of the three main centres.

### TABLE 2.4
Annual estimated usage figures for sports and leisure centres in Kensington and Chelsea 2006 and 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kensington Leisure Centre</td>
<td>408,357</td>
<td>386,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chelsea Sports Centre</td>
<td>353,706</td>
<td>329,024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westway Sports Centre</td>
<td>503,635</td>
<td>500,596</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Sourced directly from sports and leisure centres
Updated: Annually