Consultation Statement: Kensington Canalside Opportunity Area Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

July 2021

Regulation 12 of the Towns and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

The Council has prepared a Kensington Canalside Opportunity Area Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). In accordance with Regulation 12 of the Towns and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, this Consultation Statement sets out:

Regulation 12 (a) (i) the persons the local planning authority consulted when preparing the supplementary planning document

The Council undertook several stages of engagement with residents before the Draft SPD was published for consultation.

1. Stage 1
   (1.1) Initial Conversations with existing with known organisations and community groups (October 2018- April 2019)
   For initial stage of engagement, the Local Planning Authority conducted conversations with approximately thirty individuals or groups known to them including residents’ associations, community groups and local businesses.

   (1.2) Dalgarno Newsletter (Jan 2019)
   An article was included in the Dalgarno Newsletter introducing the Opportunity Area to the residents and businesses and providing contact details for the team inviting people to get in touch.

   (1.3) Initial online Polls (14/3/2019 - 24/4/2019)
   For the above stage of engagement, the Local Planning Authority created two online polls and launched the projects online website on ‘Give My View’. These polls were advertised to those groups/ people who had been spoken to.

2. Stage 2
   (2.1) Drop-in sessions (18 March – 30 March 2019)
   For the above stage of engagement, the Local Planning Authority advertised 4 drop-in sessions in and around the Kensington area to introduce the Opportunity Area to the wider public and to begin engagement. The drop-in sessions were advertised with leaflets delivered to 6848 addresses around the KCOA site and handed out at the Sainsbury’s supermarket which is on the Opportunity Area site. Engagement posters were developed around emerging topics and feedback cards handed out at each session. 40 comment cards were received. The drop-in sessions were held as follows: Canalside House – 18 March
Grand Union Studios – 20 March
Sainsbury’s - 27 March
Dalgarno Community Centre – 30 March

(2.2) Online polls (24/4/2019 – 24/7/2019)
For the above stage of consultation the Local Planning Authority also ran 6 online polls that matched up with the topics presented at the Drop-in sessions. These were advertised on social media and 853 unique users responded to the polls in total.

(2.3) Dalgarno Newsletter article (June 2019)
The ‘Give My View project’ website was advertised in the Dalgarno newsletter with a QR code for people to scan and access the polls.

3. Stage 3
   (3.1) Workshops (12 and 13 July 2019)
The Local Planning Authority commissioned ICENI to conduct a ‘Kensal Canalside community weekend’ over two days with the purpose of sharing knowledge and obtaining feedback to inform the emerging KCOA SPD. The event was advertised with 6,848 A5 flyers delivered twice, door-to-door in the Ladbroke Grove Area, via social media, direct email invites to key stakeholders and with a three-quarter page advert in the North Kensington News. A total of 40 people attended these workshops.

   (3.2) Online Polls
A set of polls relating to transport and access went live following the above workshops, the results of which fed into the development of the draft SPD.

4. Stage 4
   (4.1) Video and poll- A video summarising the work to date undertaken on the SPD was produced that fed back on some of the previous poll results the Council had received. A poll was run alongside this.

5. Stage 5
   (5.1) Draft Kensal Canalside Opportunity Area SPD (6-week consultation between 12 April 2021 to 24 May 2021)
The Local Planning Authority has a Local Plan consultation database which has in excess of 2,300 consultees. A mail out was sent to all consultees on the Local Plan database by email and post (if requested) notifying them of the consultation and inviting comments. This notification was also sent to all persons who had requested to be notified of updates on this SPD.

The documents were also available on-line under ‘current consultations’ on the planning pages of the Council’s website and were open to anyone for
comment. Documents were made available in all local libraries in the Borough for reference and hard copies were also available in Kensington Town Hall upon request. Two hard copies were also distributed upon request during the consultation period.

The Local Plan database includes ‘general’, ‘specific’, ‘prescribed’ and ‘local’ consultation bodies as required by legislation. The ‘general consultation’ bodies include voluntary bodies such as the Kensington Society, the Chelsea Society and Tenants and Residents Associations, bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups such as London Gypsy and Traveller Unit, bodies representing religious groups such as Christ Church Kensington, bodies representing the interests of disabled persons such as Action Disability Kensington and Chelsea and bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying out business in the Royal Borough such as KC Chamber of Commerce.

The ‘specific’ and ‘prescribed’ consultation bodies consulted included the Environment Agency; Natural England, Historic England, the Highways Agency, the Clinical Commissioning Group, Thames Water and the Mayor of London (GLA).

The ‘local’ consultation bodies consulted included individual residents and persons carrying on business in the Royal Borough who signed up to the above database or visited the specific pages of the Council’s website.

In addition to the Council’s website, in accordance with Regulation 35 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, the documents were also made available for inspection during normal office hours at Kensington Town Hall and at local libraries in the borough.

As with all previous stages of the consultation, a link was provided to the Draft SPD on the Kensal Opportunity Area website. (https://www.givemyview.com/kensalcansalside) It was also highlighted in the North Kensington News.

Regulation 12 (a) (ii) a summary of the main issues raised by those persons

(1) Stages 1-4
Summaries of all engagement prior to the six-week consultation are attached to the SPD.

(2) Draft Kensal Canalside Opportunity Area SPD
The Council received 53 responses to the consultation. The key themes raised are summarised below:
• Responses raised significant concerns around transport including traffic and congestion and the impact on public transport such as bus operation from an increase of residents to the area.
• Comments were made on the proposed plans to implement a cycle route through the Kensal Green Cemetery and the impact of any development on the cemetery itself and its setting.
• There were concerns raised over the impact of tall buildings on the Kensal site.
• Concerns were raised on the height of buildings that may come forward and the number of homes referenced in the SPD and whether this was an overdevelopment of the site.
• Responses showed general support for the superstore but questions were raised on the parking that will be available here.
Other issues raised include:
• Clarification was requested with regard to the exact number of homes the site will deliver.
• Clarification on the impacts on existing transport networks of the development including the number of homes envisaged for the site.
• Further explanation needed on how development will protect the heritage of this area and how tall buildings will be assessed in line with Development Plan policies.

Regulation 12 (a) (iii) how these issues have been addressed in the supplementary planning document

(1) Stages 1-4
Each stage of engagement has fed into the next and helped inform the Draft Supplementary Document as it has emerged.

(2) Draft Kensal Opportunity Area Supplementary Planning Document
A detailed consultation schedule explaining how these issues have been addressed is available on the Council’s website. The Council’s response to each comment has been presented in these tables and sets out how comments have been addressed. The Council’s responses were made available alongside the Draft Kensal Canalside Opportunity Area SPD.