



Nine Elms Vauxhall Partnership Community Engagement Statement

**‘A new London Quarter for the benefit of
the whole community’**

INTRODUCTION

Nine Elms on the South Bank is London’s biggest regeneration opportunity and the Nine Elms Vauxhall Partnership (the Partnership) is committed to ensuring the community (both existing and new) benefits from this opportunity in terms of employment, business, improved access and public realm.

The Partnership will provide leadership on the development of the whole opportunity area and a number of specific projects and initiatives. This Community Engagement Statement explains how the Partnership will engage with local stakeholders on the issues it leads on; sets out a series of commitments and says how we will meet those commitments.

The majority of community engagement and consultation work is carried out directly by individual partners – principally Wandsworth Council, Lambeth Council and Transport for London, as well as by developers as part of their planning process and this is expected to continue.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement is defined as developing and sustaining a working relationship between one or more public bodies and communities (including those groups that represent their interests) to help them both understand and act on the needs or issues that the community experiences. The aim of community engagement in regeneration is to involve residents, local businesses and community groups in the process of planning, designing and implementing action to regenerate their community.

Community engagement in this context will include informing, consulting and involving local people in a variety of activities with the aim of:

- building ownership of and confidence in the regeneration programme
- creating a greater sense of pride in the area
- increasing skills and capacity of the local community
- creating a stronger sense of citizenship

Key objectives are therefore:

- to inform the local community about the developments and infrastructure affecting the Nine Elms Vauxhall area
- to consult with the community on Partnership led projects
- to support community engagement activities of individual partners where appropriate
- to involve community representatives in the design and delivery of projects and initiatives where possible

WHO WE WILL ENGAGE

Communities in this document refers to local residents, service users, local businesses, community groups and other stakeholders who have an interest in the Nine Elms Vauxhall regeneration. The definition of 'local' will be determined by the particular issue being addressed. The area of local benefit for employment, training and business support will be the whole boroughs of Lambeth and Wandsworth while the Partnership on the majority of other issues will engage with communities living in the immediate surroundings (approximately within a mile of the programme area).

The Partnership recognises that communities of interest, such as amenity societies, will seek regular engagement and we will endeavour to meet these demands within the resources we have available.

Any engagement activity will be designed to take into account the diversity of the communities in the area.

HOW WE WILL ENGAGE

By offering and using a range of engagement methods and channels we aim to inform and capture views from as wide a range of stakeholders as possible. We will:

1. Hold an annual Expo in the programme area inviting all stakeholders to attend to inform and consult on specific projects / initiatives as appropriate
2. Regularly engage with local community groups to inform them of progress and sign post specific consultation processes being led by other partners. Identified groups currently include:
 - Local Ward Councillors
 - Wandsworth's Eastern Area Housing Panel
 - Battersea Power Station Community Forum
 - Battersea Society, local amenity group
 - Community Engagement Advisory Group established to bring together interests in Wandsworth
 - Wandsworth Chamber of Commerce
 - Kennington Oval Vauxhall Forum, umbrella community organisation

- Vauxhall One business improvement district
 - North Lambeth Housing Forum
 - Vauxhall Society, local amenity group
 - Stockwell Partnership, umbrella community organisation
3. Use a range of media including our website www.nineelmslondon.com, dedicated pages on Wandsworth and Lambeth Council websites, the Partnership e-newsletter and others, leaflets / bulletins and press releases
 4. Work in partnership with the Local Authorities, GLA, TfL and developers / landowners to support and add value to their consultation and engagement through for example exhibitions, road shows, drop in sessions and workshops.

COMMITMENTS

- To explain why we are consulting and the possible outcomes from the consultation
- To invite, directly and through community networks, the widest possible spectrum of communities to participate
- To organise events and provide information in ways that are convenient and accessible to the people whose views we are seeking
- To present information in an appropriate format, using non technical language and offering support
- To make information about the views expressed available to participants and other interested parties
- To evaluate the consultation and engagement process we undertake to assess its effectiveness and to take account of this feedback when organising future events
- To feed back the results of consultation to those with whom we have engaged
- To be available to answer telephone queries during work hours
- To respond directly or signpost on letter and email enquires within 10 working days