

December 2024

The Aylesham Centre, Peckham

Engagement Strategy Addendum

Document reference: AC14.2A

Berkeley
Designed for life



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**Addendum to Engagement Strategy (document ref. AC14.2) dated July 2024
December 2024**

Document ref. AC14.2A

Since submitting the application, the Applicant has not conducted any additional public engagement activity.

Since the submission of the Application, the Council has raised some queries regarding the Engagement Strategy (document ref. AC14.2) submitted in support of the Application. This addendum sets out a response to the queries raised.

Engagement Strategy Summary

LBS Comment

Still limited detail on accessibility needs of pedestrians, wheelchair users, or those with buggies. This section should include how were these groups (those with issues around accessibility) were engaged with and include explicit design solutions that have been incorporated.

Applicant Response

Our engagement strategy was designed to ensure inclusivity and accessibility for all participants, particularly those with accessibility issues.

Some key measures included:

- **Venue Selection:** We chose venues in accessible key locations, close to key transport links, ensuring they were on the ground floor with step-free access to accommodate individuals with mobility challenges and families with buggies.
- **Communication:** All event materials and communications were provided in accessible formats, including large print, braille, and digital formats compatible with screen readers.
- **Feedback Mechanisms:** We actively sought feedback from participants with accessibility needs to continuously improve our engagement methods and ensure their voices were heard and valued.

Events targeted at families were held to promote the on-going consultation to those with young children. This gave the applicant the opportunity to hear directly from families that use the Aylesham Centre.

Meetings held with Southwark Disablement Association discussing the day-to-day issues face in and around rye lane, the shopping centre and what support the scheme could provide with those with disabilities.

Similar feedback from this group was received from the panel of Community Champions.

Through a series of five workshops, as set out within the Engagement Summary (document ref. AC14.2), the Community Champions Panel was engaged with, and a broad range of topics were discussed including

building design, materiality, and creating welcoming and accessible routes and public spaces. The Panel highlighted the importance of prioritising accessibility, including:

- Step-free access to buildings and open spaces;
- Use of non-slip materials for paving/landscaping – with consistency of surfaces;
- Adequate width of routes and building / shop entrances.

Transportation: Accessible transportation options were highlighted and arranged for panel members, ensuring ease of travel to and from the meetings.

Assistance: On-site assistance was available to support individuals with disabilities, including personal aides.

Details on how the items raised above have been incorporated within the design proposals are set out within the Design and Access Statement (document ref. AC02).

Response should include consideration of ability to adapt to climate change including reducing risks fuel poverty and managing potential overheating.

A community engagement strategy can effectively address the ability to adapt to climate change, reduce fuel poverty, and manage potential overheating through several key approaches:

Education and Awareness: As part of our consultation informing the community about climate change impacts and the importance of adaptation measures. This includes workshops and informational sessions on energy efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainable practices.

Inclusive Planning: Involving community members in the planning process to ensure that their needs and concerns are addressed. This helps in designing solutions that are practical and widely accepted.

Feedback and Adaptation: Continuously gathering feedback from the community to assess the effectiveness of implemented measures and make necessary adjustments. This ensures that the strategy remains responsive to changing conditions and community needs.

Our approach includes consideration of a number of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures such as;

Carbon-Efficient Materials: We prioritise the use of materials with low carbon footprints in construction to reduce overall emissions.

Mechanical and Electrical (M&E) Systems: We implemented appropriate M&E systems designed to

enhance energy efficiency and reduce environmental impact.

Renewable Energy Sources: We incorporated renewable energy sources such as solar panels to minimise reliance on non-renewable energy.

Sustainable Drainage Techniques: We integrated sustainable drainage solutions, including rainwater attenuation through landscaping, to manage water runoff effectively.

Full details of the design measures proposed to respond to climate change are set out under Section 7.2 of the Sustainability Statement (document ref. AC08) submitted in support of the planning application.

Further detail is needed on the number of businesses, and clarification of how many businesses want to return. This is not evident from the Business Relocation Strategy either.

Refer to BRS Addendum (document ref. AC05A).

Document mentions 'Community Plan' but does not detail when and how this document will be produced in any detail – this should be expanded upon. Can a copy of the Community Plan be provided?

The proposed Community Plan is intended to document our commitment to the local community and set a new aspirational vision for the proposed redevelopment and how we may ensure a thriving and cohesive environment for our residents, neighbors' local businesses and the wider community. The commitment for this (and its scope) could be secured by condition or s.106 obligation).

The plan will identify actions and opportunities for events, activities, projects and strong local partnerships, which will deliver and help support the local community alongside any legal obligations set out in a S106 agreement. This bespoke community plan will be built on on-going community engagement and underpinned by detailed research of the existing communities needs and priorities, identified through a community needs assessment.

Using this research, we will then work with key stakeholders, community groups and local businesses to agree and strategically plan a calendar of events and activities to help address the needs of their networks and the wider community. Through the establishment of an appropriate and thoughtful governance structure overseeing the community plan, we aim to empower local people to have a voice and actively participate and engage with their community. This fosters a sense of togetherness and ownership and creates a base for the long-term stewardship of the community plan. This will also ensure the community are able to continue delivering positive social benefits well after we have completed construction.

Following a positive outcome at planning committee, a working group will be established, chaired by our in-house community team and comprised of key stakeholders, community groups and individuals who want to positively contribute to the community. Once agreed with the working group, the plan will then be implemented ahead of construction works starting on site. The plan will be reviewed annually to consider new residents, changes within the community and previous outcomes and feedback.