

# WE ARE SHAPING.

# WE ARE NEWHAM.



# OUR LOCAL PLAN.

[newhamco-create.co.uk/en/projects/newham-local-plan-refresh](https://newhamco-create.co.uk/en/projects/newham-local-plan-refresh)



People at the Heart  
of Everything We Do

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# MAYOR'S FOREWORD

We are commencing this refresh of our Local Plan at an exciting and challenging moment in time. As the centre of London continues to move eastwards and we prepare to welcome City Hall to the Royal Docks, we are seeing increasing interest in building new homes, starting new businesses and investing in Newham. As a Council we are seizing these opportunities – delivering new council homes and encouraging new growth industries like the digital and environmental sector to start up in Newham.

At the same time, the COVID-19 crisis exposed and exacerbated some of the deep-seated inequalities and challenges faced by many residents and businesses in our borough: high rates of unemployment, child poverty and residents in precarious and low paid jobs. Our residents are deeply affected by the housing crisis and face poorer health outcomes than in other parts of the country. These challenges are not faced equally across our borough – we know that race, gender and age all influence residents' opportunities and outcomes.

As we look forward to the COP26 climate conference in Glasgow in November, we are also reminded that our climate is in crisis and that we have a limited period of time to make meaningful changes to tackle this crisis and reduce our impact on the planet.

In the 'Towards a Better Newham' Strategy, we have set out an ambitious approach to tackle these challenges and create a fundamental shift in how our economy, society and environment work to support and improve residents' health and wellbeing, reduce poverty and structural inequalities while protecting the planet – both locally and globally. A new Local Plan provides us with an opportunity to consider how the use and development of land and buildings in Newham can deliver these aspirations.

Of equal importance, this Local Plan provides us with the opportunity to deliver our promise to 'put people at the heart of everything we do'. This means making sure the design, function and feel of neighbourhoods creates places people can call home and want to start businesses in. Key to delivering this is embedding the principles of 15-minute neighbourhoods into the Local Plan refresh: creating networks of easily accessible community and civic facilities and local shops.

This document is here to start a conversation – a new Local Plan cannot be written without your ideas – and so I would urge everyone with an interest in Newham to get involved and help shape our future together.



**Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz OBE**

# INTRODUCTION

## What is this document?

This document is one of the first steps in developing a new Local Plan for Newham. In this document we have started to identify the key challenges and opportunities for the borough and how we can best address these through our planning policies. This has been informed by:

- feedback we've received from residents on other consultations;
- monitoring of key outcomes;
- emerging market trends;
- new council strategies and objectives – including our post COVID-19 Recovery and Reorientation Strategy; and
- requirements from changing national and regional planning policy.

Our engagement on this document is the start of the discussion which will result in a new Local Plan. Your input is an invaluable part of the preparation process for the new Local Plan and will inform the development of a vision, objectives and policies to help create a happy, healthy and well Newham for all.

**The document asks questions to help capture your views.**

**Please feel free to respond to any or all of the questions and to comment on any other issues you feel are important or relevant to planning policy.**

**Please also let us know if we have missed any policy areas.**

## How to be part of the conversation:

The consultation will run from 18th October 2021 to 17th December 2021.

Full details of how to submit comments can be found at [www.newham.gov.uk/localplanrefresh](http://www.newham.gov.uk/localplanrefresh) or on our Local Plan Refresh consultation platform at [newhamco-create.co.uk](http://newhamco-create.co.uk).





# ALL ABOUT LOCAL PLANS

## What is a Local Plan?

The Local Plan is the key planning document which we will use to shape, plan and manage growth, regeneration and development across the borough over a 15 year period. The new Local Plan will set out a vision, strategic priorities, spatial strategy and planning policy framework. We will use it to assess planning applications and guide our decisions on:

- the location, amount and type of development in the borough
- the standards that development should meet
- what it should look like
- what services and infrastructure are needed, where
- how all residents will benefit from the growth and development

However, there are limitations on what can be controlled through the Local Plan. For example some forms of development do not require planning permission, for example some changes to the use of a building or some alterations to a house. The planning system cannot specify who or which business occupies a development. Planning also operates alongside other types of regulation, such as licencing and environmental health legislation.

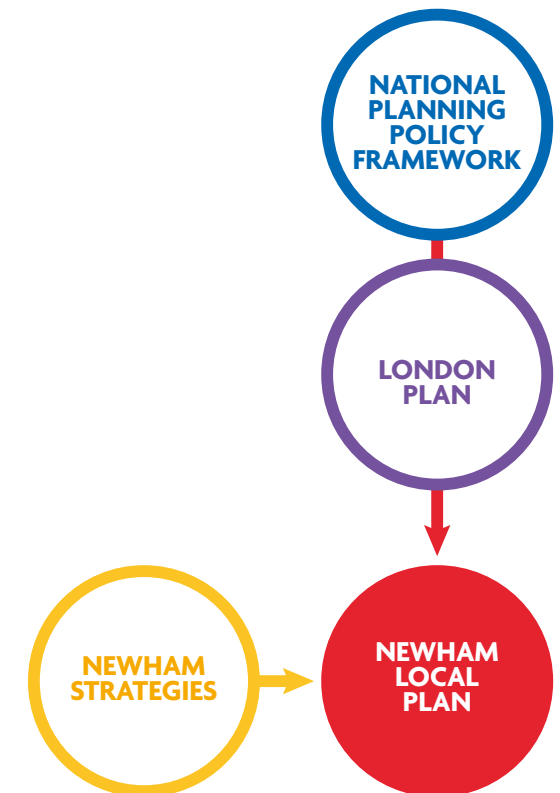
## Why do we need one? Why refresh it?

All Local Planning Authorities are required by central government to have an up to date Local Plan. Without an up to date Local Plan we lose some local discretion on deciding planning applications.

We also need to ensure that our planning policies - reflect our current needs, addresses emerging challenges and help us make the most of new opportunities. Of foremost importance is developing a Local Plan which responds to the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Newham – our residents, businesses and Council – and delivers an equitable recovery which creates an inclusive economy for Newham.

Finally, currently, part of Newham is included within the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) planning authority. In this part of the borough the LLDC develops planning policy and makes decisions on planning applications. The LLDC is due to be disbanded and planning powers to be handed back to boroughs by 2024. We are working with the LLDC and other Host Boroughs to lobby Central Government to allow this Local Plan refresh to include the LLDC area, so that there is an up to date Local Plan, shaped by Newham residents, for our entire borough as soon as planning powers return to Newham.

## What is its relationship to other plans?



The Local Plan must take into account the policies set out by national government in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the policies set out by London's regional government in the London Plan. This means we are required to follow their policy directions unless we have sufficient local evidence to demonstrate a different approach is required.

In 2020, the Government published a White Paper called 'Planning for the Future' which consulted on broad principles for significant changes to England's planning system. As there are not yet any specific details on how and when the Government proposes to take forward these proposals, the Council is proceeding to develop our Local Plan in accordance with the current guidance on Local Plans, but we will also be developing the evidence base we need to progress to the different style of Local Plan proposed by the White Paper.

At the heart of the Local Plan refresh will be the delivery of the Council's core strategies. These include:

- Towards a Better Newham: COVID-19 Recovery and Reorientation Strategy
- Climate Emergency Action Plan
- Tackling Racism, Inequality and Disproportionality
- 50 steps to a Healthier Newham
- Social Integration Strategy

## What other information informs the Local Plan?

### Engagement

- There will be 3 consultations on the Local Plan, of which this is the first.
- At each stage residents, businesses and other stakeholders will be able to tell us what they think the Plan should include, whether we have got the priorities right, whether the Plan is clear enough and if anything is missing.
- These responses will be analysed and fed into the Plan and an engagement report will be produced so you can see how we have responded to each bit of feedback.

### Evidence base

- To make sure we have as good as possible understanding of what we need to build and protect, what we already have in the borough and what the market trends are, we will be commissioning and developing a series of evidence base documents.
- These documents will use and analyse quantitative and qualitative data, site visits and expert input to provide us with this information.
- For some of the key evidence base documents we will be asking residents and other stakeholders to be part of developing these documents, so we can also benefit from your expertise and lived experience of the borough.

- You can also provide feedback on the evidence base documents which will be published alongside future consultations.
- One key evidence base document is the Characterisation Study, which we have started developing with input from a wide range of residents and stakeholders.

### Appraisals

- As we develop the Local Plan, we will be continuously assessing it to check how it, and possible alternative options, may impact existing social, economic and environmental factors within Newham.
- The Plan should be reducing and mitigating any potential negative effects in relation to these factors and seeking ways to deliver improvements and benefits.
- This assessment is contained within the Sustainability Appraisal.
- We have incorporated the Sustainability Appraisal into an Integrated Impact Assessment which also includes an Equalities Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment.
- An Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA) is a way of measuring the potential impact (positive or negative) that the Local Plan may have on different groups protected by equalities legislation so that any such impact can be addressed and mitigated.

- A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a systematic approach to predicting the potential health and wellbeing impacts of the Local Plan. An HIA identifies actions that can enhance positive effects on health, reduce or eliminate negative effects, and reduce health and social inequalities
- At this consultation, we are also seeking comments on the Integrated Impact Assessment Scoping Report which outlines what we consider to be the main social, economic, environmental, health and equality factors within Newham and the appraisal framework we will use to assess the Plan.
- At future Plan stages we will also be completing a Habitats Regulation Assessment, which will consider the potential impact of the Local Plan on significant natural habitats.

### Viability

- National legislation requires us to assess the likely financial cost of delivering the policies and requirements in the Plan to make sure they are not so expensive that they prevent needed development from occurring. This is called a Viability Assessment.
- Viability assessments will be undertaken for the next two stages of the Local Plan and will also be available to provide comments on.

## What are the stages of Plan making?

MILESTONE	INDICATIVE DATE
First Engagement and Consultation <b>*WE ARE HERE!</b>	Autumn – Winter 2021
Preparing the Draft Local Plan	Winter – Summer 2022
Consultation on the Draft Local Plan (Regulation 18)	Summer – Autumn 2022
Amendments to the Local Plan to create the Submission Local Plan	Winter 2022 – Winter 2023
Consultation of the Submission Local Plan (Regulation 19)	Spring 2023
Preparing the Local Plan Submission	Spring - Summer 2023
Submission of the Local Plan to the Secretary of State	Autumn – Winter 2023
Examination of the Local Plan	Winter – Summer 2024
Adoption by the Council	Autumn 2024



**3RD BIGGEST POPULATION** of all London Boroughs and its projected population in 2030 is anticipated to be **465,435**.



London's second **MOST ETHNICALLY DIVERSE** borough.



**49%** of households are classified as **LIVING IN POVERTY** and 52% of children grow up in low income households.



Average median **HOUSE PRICE** stand at **£415,000** as of December 2020.



Average **PRIVATE RENTS** have **INCREASED** by around **40%** between 2014 and 2019.



**WASTE COLLECTED** per head is **BELOW** the national average at 341kg per head.



Contains around **12,535** registered **BUSINESSES** with 94% of businesses employing less than 9 people.



**2%** of **JOB**s are within retail, administration & service and health & education sectors.



**MICRO-BUSINESS COUNT** was one of the fastest growing in London, expanding by **145%** between 2010-18.



Range of **LEISURE PROVISION** at Atherton, East Ham and Newham Leisure Centres and Manor Park Fitness Centre had around **1,753,205** visits in 2018/2019.



Has **TEN LIBRARIES**. Canning Town Library was first opened in 1893 and still operates in the original building on Barking Road.



**GREEN SPACE** covers **13.1%** of Newham, compared with 39% for London as a whole.





**56%** of residents **FEAR CRIME** and antisocial behaviour in their neighbourhood.



**31.5%** of residents who are employed **NEVER WORKED FROM HOME** in 2020 (compared to 47.7% on average in London)



Resident satisfaction with **SHOPPING** facilities is high, at **88%**.



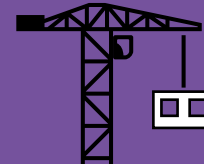
In 2018, Newham's **HIGH STREETS** hosted **52%** of retail jobs, **61%** of jobs in accommodation and food services, and **38%** of jobs in other service industry jobs.



In July 2021 the **ROYAL DOCKS TURNED A CENTURY OLD**. It was once the country's gateway to the world, bringing in produce from across the globe.



The **LONDON PLAN** classifies Stratford as a Metropolitan Centre and East Ham as a major centre.



The Royal Docks and Beckton Riverside Opportunity Area is identified as having indicative capacity for at least **30,000 HOMES** and **41,500 JOBS**.



Newham has the highest death rate attributable to **AIR POLLUTION** in England.



Newham has a **PUBLIC TRANSPORT** mode share of around 41%, almost 6% higher than the inner London average.



**CYCLING** modal share in Newham is **POOR**, around 2-3%.



Newham has the fourth lowest **CAR OWNERSHIP** rate per head in UK.