

11 February 2014



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Dear resident

Re: HS2 replacement housing newsletter and new sites for consultation

I'm sure you are aware that Camden has been actively opposing the Government's proposals for a new high speed railway from Euston to Birmingham due to the significant negative impacts on our communities. Despite our opposition we have also been planning for the worst case scenario if this project goes ahead to protect our communities' interests and get the best outcome for Camden people.

For the residents faced with the prospect of losing their homes, this means building new high quality council homes in their local area close to their families, schools and medical services. We consulted widely in the summer about possible sites to build these replacement homes and we are very grateful for the responses received. The results are featured in the newsletter enclosed, but generally the Regent's Park community understood the difficult situation we are in and welcome initiatives to create new homes for residents directly affected by HS2.

Since the summer, the Metropolitan Police have stated that the Albany Street Police Station will continue to be in use and this unfortunately means we are unable to use this site. As a consequence we went back to the drawing board and found some new sites. These have been produced with the feedback from our original consultation in mind, where respondents felt that using existing built areas, creating regenerative benefits and causing minimal disturbance were favourable. The new sites therefore are as follows:

- Troutbeck rooftop homes – creating a new level on Troutbeck.
- Stavely / Newby rooftop homes – replacing existing bedsits in Stavely and creating a new level on Newby.
- Camden People's Theatre – converting vacant areas into residential whilst retaining and potentially improving the theatre's facilities.
- The Victory pub site – potential redevelopment project.
- St Bede's Mews housing – creating new family homes on an underused parking area near St Bede's Hall

New sites consultation

What is it? Like the original sites we are opening these sites up for public consultation. We want early views on the suitability of the new locations for creating new replacement housing. Of course some residents will be more affected than others and we encourage you to try and understand the proposals to make an informed judgement on how suitable these new sites are. We will do our best to engage with the community, listen to what people say and ensure that feedback is taken onboard.

Dates: Friday 14 February to Thursday 27 March

Ways to respond: There will be an online feedback form with supporting documents. You can pick up paper copies from the One Stop Shop, H-pod and Surma Centre.

What happens next? This is your earliest opportunity to comment on the sites. The sites that are taken forward will go through a design process, which we will involve you in throughout each stage. At the end of the design process a decision will be made on whether to take these forward to planning. A planning application will then be submitted and if accepted we can then start building.

For background information on Camden's responses to HS2 please visit our website Camden.gov.uk/hs2. If you would like more details or would like to arrange an appointment to talk with us personally then please contact Lucy Gick on (020) 7974 3705 or Marc Howard on (020) 7974 4981.

We will continue to lobby the Government and HS2 Ltd for the best possible outcome for you. For further information on the consultation and updates on HS2 proposals in Camden, please visit: www.camden.gov.uk/hs2.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Hayward', written in a cursive style.

Cllr Sarah Hayward
Leader of Camden Council