



## Streateries consultation – Great Queen Street

### What's the challenge on Great Queen Street?

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed how people in Camden live, travel and work. Since the start of the pandemic many of us have been spending more time closer to home, making our neighbourhoods more important than ever. We want our streets to be safe spaces for you to walk and cycle, for children to get to and from school safely and healthily, for businesses to be able to flourish and for you to be breathing cleaner air. COVID-19 has created new challenges for our local economy and the Council is committed to supporting our local businesses to reopen safely as lock down measures ease. We are working to provide new ways to support and boost our local high streets and town centres whilst keeping them safe and secure for our communities.

Social distancing rules mean that indoor seating, once allowed will continue to be limited. In 2020 the UK Government introduced new legislation to make it easier for businesses to apply for pavement licences for outdoor eating and drinking so that they could continue to trade, but many pavements in the borough are too narrow to allow tables and chairs outside.

During 2020 we set up a Streateries programme to support the hospitality sector so that they could continue to trade, particularly during the summer months. **A Streatory is a car free outdoor dining space in the road for restaurants, cafes and other businesses to place tables and chairs and so that pedestrians can pass safely all while maintaining social distancing.**

To help the hospitality sector's recovery, we are now reviewing our existing Streateries programme and proposing new locations ready for businesses to use as lockdown eases. It is vital that we consult now to help those businesses across the Borough who need to have additional space for outdoor dining and take advantage of the Government's recent extension of the temporary licensing arrangements. This will enable our businesses to reopen safely as soon as possible after restrictions ease on 12<sup>th</sup> April, in line with the Government's roadmap out of lockdown.

## What is being proposed?

There are several restaurants and cafes on the section of Great Queen Street, between Drury Lane and Parker Street, in Covent Garden. We are carrying out a consultation so that you can have a say to help shape the new designs for new temporary Streateries for outdoor dining outside nos. 32-35 and nos. 37-39 Great Queen Street.

We propose the following changes:

- Outside nos. 32-35 Great Queen Street: remove 17 metres of residents' parking to create a safe space for tables and chairs, with barriers placed at the edge of the new space to replace parking.
- Outside nos. 37-39 Great Queen Street: remove 20 metres of shared use loading and 'out of hours' residents' parking, to create a safe space for tables and chairs with barriers placed at the edge of the new space to replace the parking.
- Outside no. 60 Great Queen Street (Freemasons' Hall):
  - remove 10 metres of pay by phone parking space to provide a new loading bay;
  - convert 20 metres of pay by phone parking space to shared use residents' parking and pay by phone parking space.

After the consultation, we will carefully consider the responses, alongside other information, to help us decide whether or not to progress the scheme. Should a decision be made to proceed, we would implement the changes on a temporary basis, under a Temporary Traffic Order (TTO).