



PUBLIC REALM INCLUSIVITY PANEL

SUMMARY REPORT **VOL. 2**
NOVEMBER 2023

INTRODUCTION

Working in groups



This is the second of our booklets about the Public Realm Inclusivity Panel (PRIP) and coincides with the second masterplan exhibition in November 2023. The panel has been working together for over a year now, and since the last booklet in February have welcomed new members whilst others have moved on.

This booklet reviews the work of the PRIP between January and September 2023 which took place over seven sessions. There was a review of the masterplan, four creative sessions, one visit to Elephant Park and a tour of the Earls Court site itself.

In February the panel reviewed the full proposals at the masterplan exhibition and they will do so again at the exhibition this November.

During the next stage, the panel will become involved at a more detailed level as the proposals are worked up towards a planning submission in 2024. ECDC envisages the panel's work continuing after planning too.

THE PANEL MEMBERS

2022-23

BRIDGET



BEN



DANAH

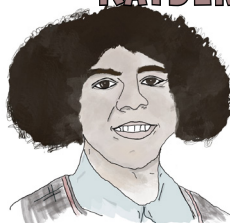


ISAAC

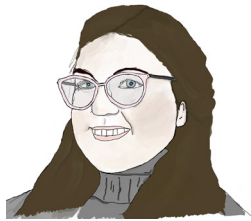


KARIM

KAYDEN



LIZZIE



LUCY

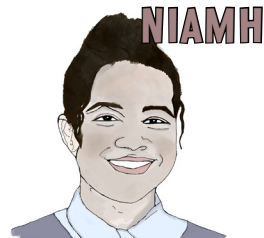
MARK



NADINE



NATASHA



NIAMH



SHIRLEY



SUZANNE



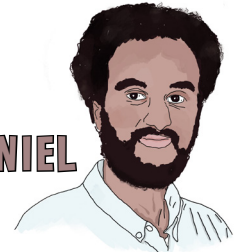
URSULA

2023-24

BRIDGET



DANIEL



BASIT



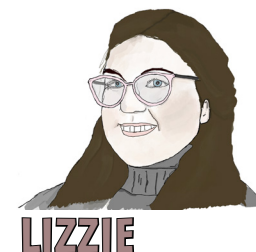
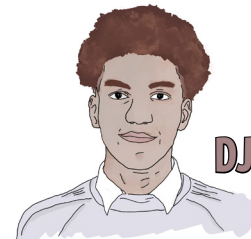
ELLIE



LEONARDO



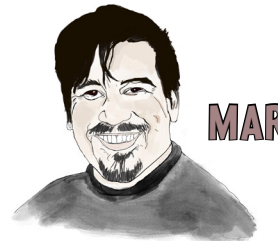
DJIBRIL



LIZZIE



LUCY



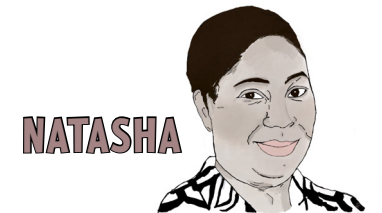
MARK



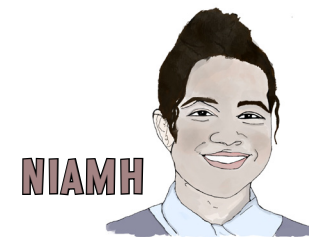
MILA



NADINE



NATASHA

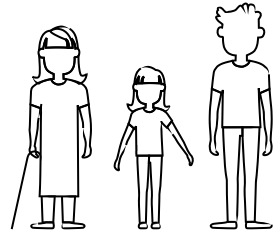


NIAMH

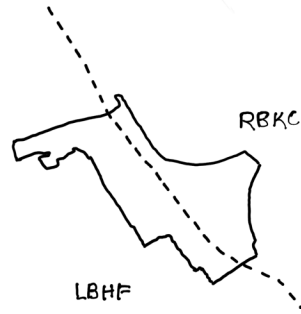


SUZANNE

2023-24



14 MEMBERS
of various ages
and abilities



2 BOROUGHES
London Borough of
Hammersmith & Fulham
and Royal Borough of
Kensington & Chelsea

5

are members of local
disability groups

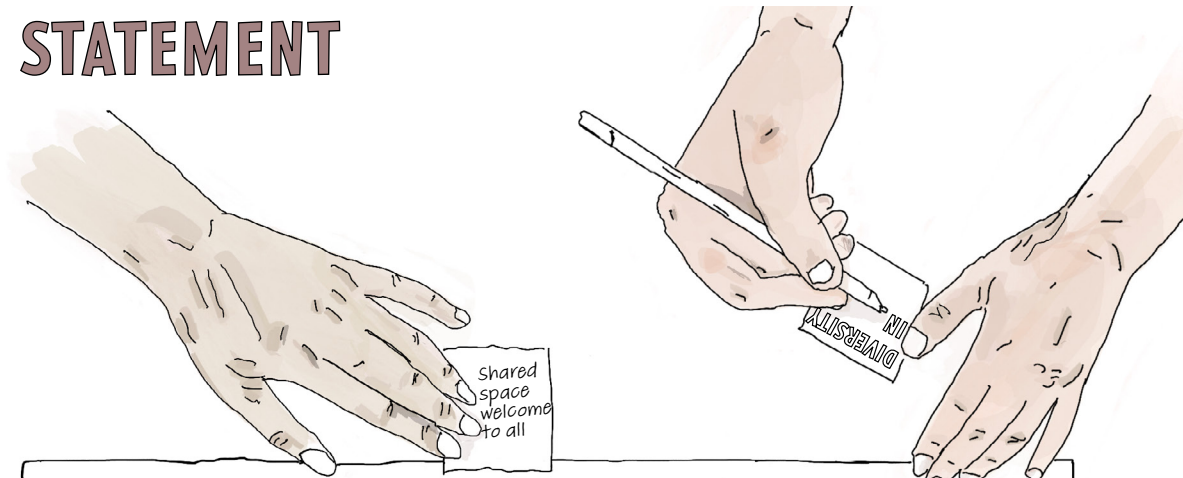
6


are under 18


2

are over 60


INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT



 **The Public Realm Inclusivity Panel (PRIP) are:**
a diverse group of local people, aged 14 and up, who have a range of lived experiences, requirements and support needs

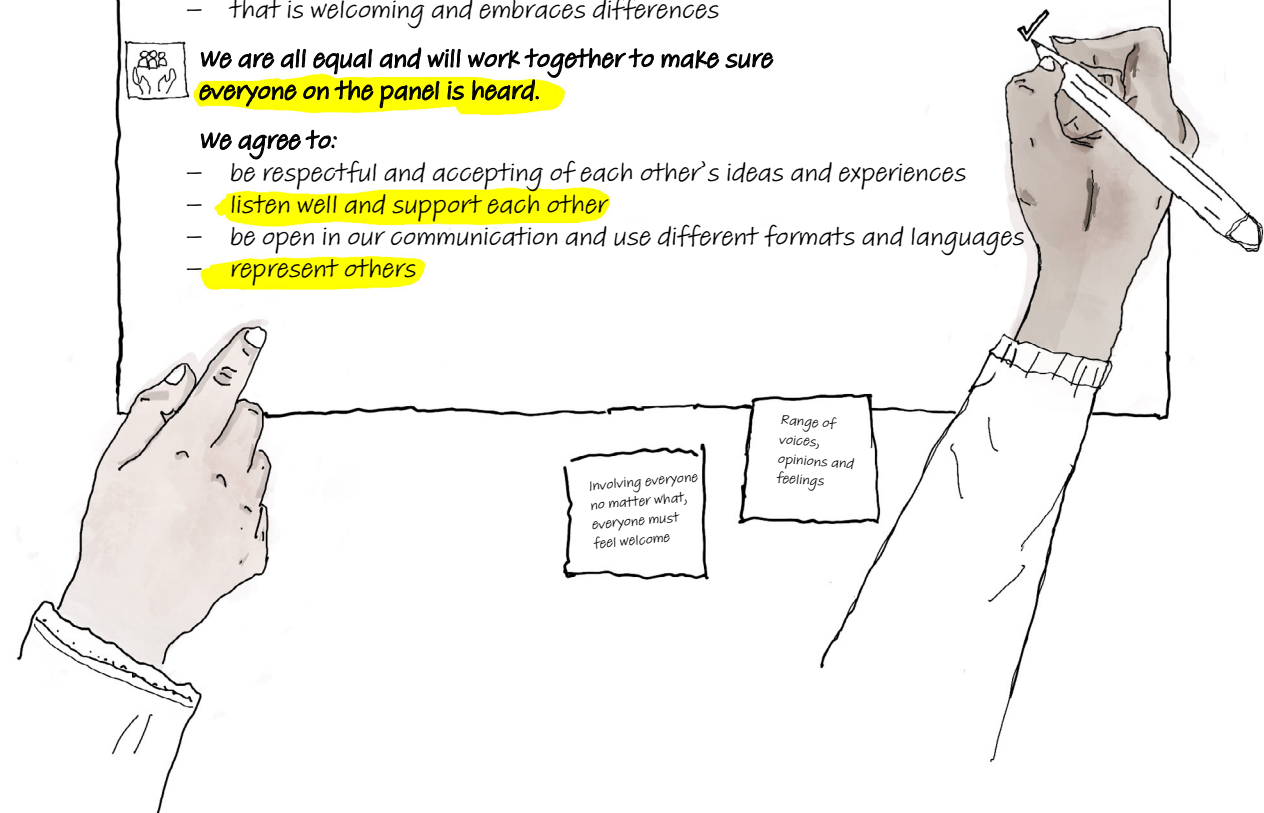
 **We are working together to help the Earls Court Development Company co-create a place:**

- that is both an everyday place and a special/exciting destination
- that is inclusive, fully accessible and works well for people with disabilities, young people, older people and carers
- that works for everyone/that everyone can enjoy and spend time in
- that is welcoming and embraces differences

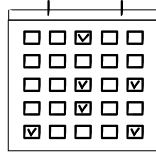
 **We are all equal and will work together to make sure everyone on the panel is heard.**

we agree to:

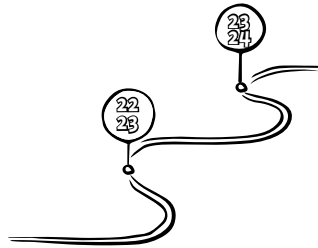
- be respectful and accepting of each other's ideas and experiences
- listen well and support each other
- be open in our communication and use different formats and languages
- represent others



13 SESSIONS



Since the start of the PRIP in July 2022 we have run thirteen sessions.

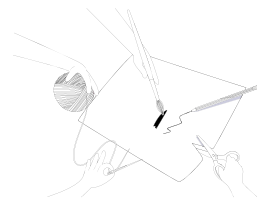


There have been 21 panel members involved so far and the current group of 14 is committed to working until at least June 2024.

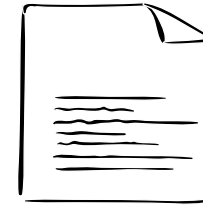
INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT



The inclusivity statement was written by the first group and has been endorsed by incoming members, who are now learning what the panel has been doing for the last year and are getting up to speed for the coming year.

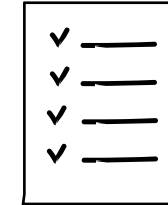


We use a mix of creative sessions, presentations, site visits and discussions to examine strategic and detailed issues around the public realm and public buildings.



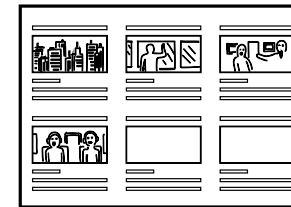
SESSION 7

The new
community
centre



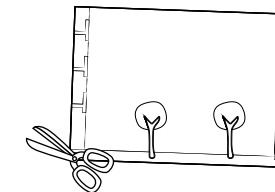
SESSION 8

Masterplan
exhibition
feedback



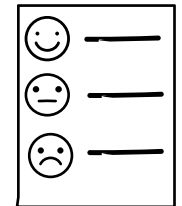
SESSION 9

Gender
inclusivity and
safety



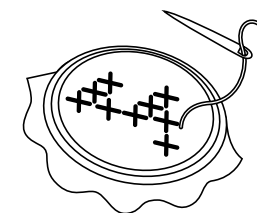
SESSION 10

Movement and
mobility



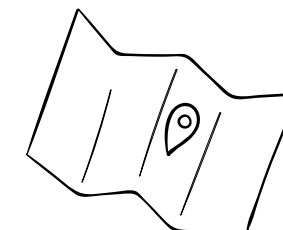
SESSION 11

Elephant Park
site visit



SESSION 12

A wall hanging
for ECDC to
celebrate one
year of PRIP



SESSION 13

Earls Court
site visit

WHAT THE PANEL HAVE BEEN DOING

Reviewing the Masterplan

I cannot see where there will be welfare amenities such as toilets. Can you show me?

The PRIP made me more aware of what everything looks like. When I am outside I think of how aesthetics look and if it is accessible.

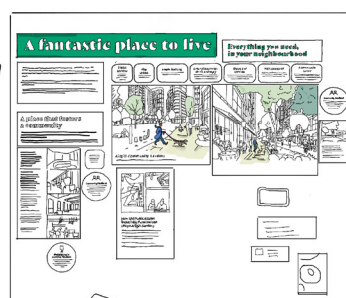
I think that each space in the masterplan will have a variety of uses to cater for different activities and experiences.

The exhibition was clear.

I have got a real idea of how Earls Court will actually look thanks to the combination of all different models, physical photos and sketches.

URSULA

Panel member
15 years old



LUCY

Panel member

The masterplan

In February 2023 the members of the panel visited the masterplan exhibition. This was their eighth session together.

Some of the work at these sessions had included ideas and recommendations that they wanted to be included in the masterplan. They used this session to review whether these recommendations had been incorporated, looking at drawings, text and views of the proposals.

In total there were 33 recommendations. The panel could see evidence that 16 of these had been met so far.

This is an ongoing process and we will visit this masterplan exhibition in November and check on the recommendations again, to see how the proposals are progressing.

WHAT THE PANEL HAVE BEEN DOING

“It has encouraged me to get involved in other projects near my house.”

I am surprised by the level of trust given to us and the interactive nature of the sessions.

KAYDEN

Panel member,
16 years old



ISAAC

Panel member,
16 years old



Mobility & Movement

Mobility and movement need a strategic level of thinking. This was the second session on the subject and there will be more. A key concern for this group is that pedestrians and wheelchair users feel safe and separated from bicycles and scooters. They also want to see ramped routes that aren't overly long and that a route or journey is not tucked away or difficult to find for anyone with mobility needs.

For example, lifts that help people navigate either landscaped areas or buildings should not be hidden away, but as clear and straightforward as stairs or ramp access.

At this session the group worked in pairs and threes, drawing a section through a footpath or street to think about how bicycles, people on foot or in wheelchairs and people seated might use these spaces.

The members of the development team at the session explained how they would be working with these ideas and those of other community groups, specialists and council officers.

WHAT THE PANEL HAVE BEEN DOING

Pedestrians were separated from cars, but not from bicycles and e-scooters, which isn't a problem everywhere, but they should be separated in high-traffic areas.

"The PRIP is informative and helpful. It allows me to have an opinion on what should happen."

NIAMH

Panel member,
16 years old

BEN

Panel member,
16 years old

SUZANNE

I didn't think that we would go out and visit other sites as we have done.

I liked the main park in Elephant Park. The rockery was fun and blended well with the tree house. It felt nice under the trees and had a good visual feeling.

Site visits

The visit to Elephant Park in May 2023 gave the panel a chance to think again about inclusivity, mobility and movement in a real life context.

The panel had a range of responses to the spaces and used green, amber and red flags to distinguish which spaces they might feel safe and free to do as they choose there and which less so.

There were a great deal of 'green' spaces, but also some concerns about how cycles moved through the public realm, and whether the play equipment was fully inclusive for wheelchair users.

In September a visit to the Earls Court site itself acted as an introduction to some new members and a chance for everyone to look at level changes across the site, which are a key challenge for the design of the landscaping and routes across the site.

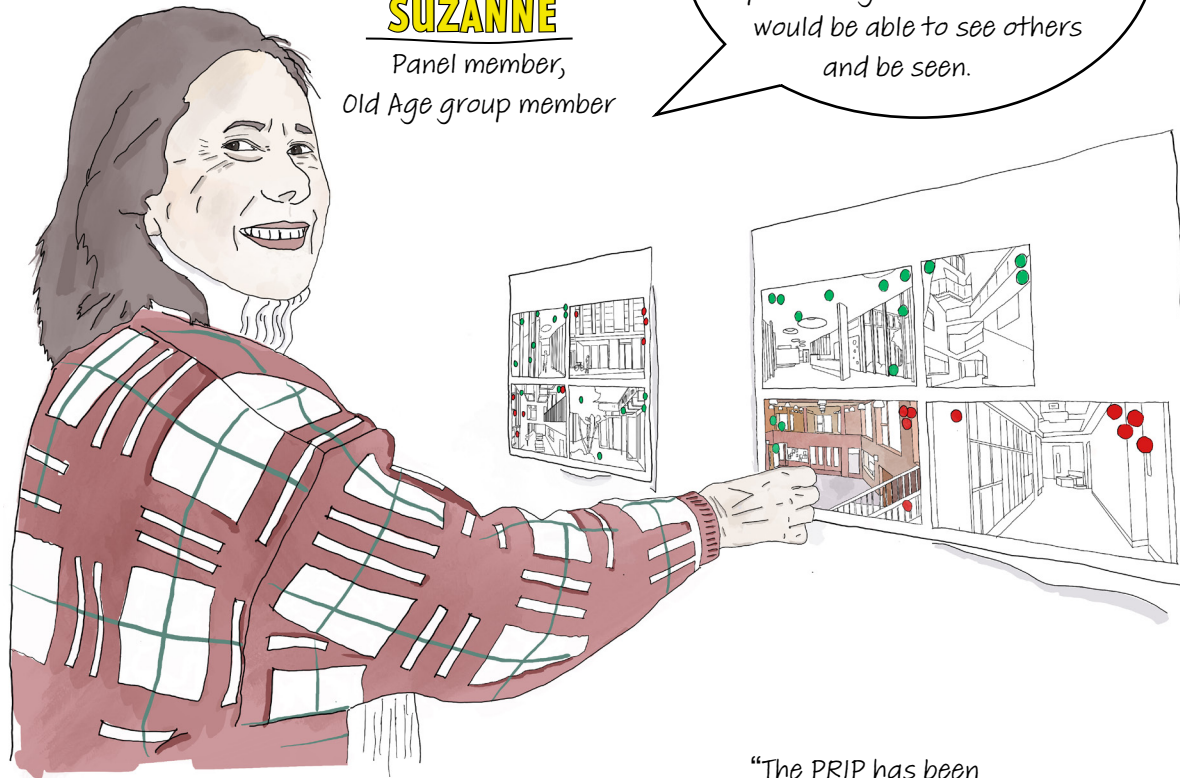
WHAT THE PANEL HAVE BEEN DOING

Reviewing precedents

SUZANNE

Panel member,
Old Age group member

I like
this example as the
space is big. A wheelchair user
would be able to see others
and be seen.



"The PRIP has been
a great forum for personal input.
I have hopes for the buildings and

the development that
grew out of our personal
interactions as a group.

A new community centre

As well as reviewing the masterplan and the public realm the panel have looked at one of the buildings that will be part of the first phase of the development - the community centre, which will be near to the Empress State Building and Aisgill Gardens.

We wanted to hear from the panel about what makes a welcoming community space, so we looked at photographs of similar buildings and spaces and thought about the experience of arriving at a community building and what that entrance space might feel like.

There was a sense that this building needed to convey an 'everyday' feel. It is also critically important that lifts are not hidden away and lift users are able to enjoy the arrival and movement through the building as much as people who take the stairs.

WHAT THE PANEL HAVE BEEN DOING

Intergenerational pairs

DANAH

Panel member,
17 years old

NADINE

Panel member,
Disability support
group member



As young people, we don't tend to be heard by the older generation.

BUT I FEEL AS THOUGH I'M TREATED AS AN EQUAL NOW.

Identity & Belonging

As well as thinking strategically and site wide, we look at issues which touch on more personal responses. Our ninth session, which focused on gender and safety used the topics of identity and belonging to shape discussion around the subject.

At each session we use different ways of working together, and at this one, working in pairs with a deliberate mix of ages, we asked the panel to mock up a film story board.

This session revealed that people's own feelings of safety are very much linked to who else is using the space. We were able to think about a huge range of needs and to picture a world where fellow park users might be helpful and supportive of our needs and able to help us overcome tricky situations when we might feel less safe.

All the panel members welcomed a range of experiences, from exciting busy spaces, to more secluded spots. There was a sense that some of the quieter spots may engender a feeling of belonging, particularly if people visit on a regular basis, and this was true for all ages.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

TOM BRANTON

ECDC Development director

« The PRIP is something to look forward to and something to look back on and reference when we are developing proposals – having the ability to say

THIS IS HOW THESE DESIGNS MAKE OUR COMMUNITY FEEL IN A GOOD OR BAD WAY IS REALLY INSIGHTFUL. »



NIAMH

Panel member

The PRIP has made me more aware of the things I see around me in terms of what makes a good space for different people, and I'm constantly looking at how people can interact with the spaces around them.

LIZZIE

Panel member

« The PRIP gives community members, who are traditionally overlooked or sidelined, an opportunity to help bring about inclusivity in Earls Court. It's given me more confidence and encouraged me to get back into work. »

What happens next?

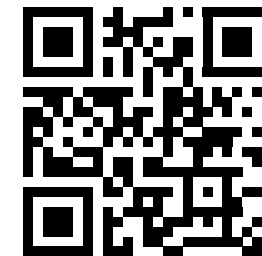
With new members joining in September we have had a chance to reflect on what we had achieved as well as look forward to the next 12 months.

The panel will continue to review the masterplan and begin to look more closely at other parts of the planning application such as the Design Codes and issues such as safety and management. This work will continue beyond planning submission in 2024.

They have built a strong and supportive dialogues within their panel and have helped drive a different way of thinking amongst the design team.

With the skills they are developed and the understanding of the masterplan process, they will now be able to take what they have learned out into the community, and hear other voices. This will be fed back to the development team and into the proposals.

The panel's thoughts on the process have been recorded through surveys and interviews and there is a short film that conveys these that can be found by scanning the barcode here.



The Earls Court Development Company (ECDC) is an Earl's Court based business, responsible for driving the regeneration of the 40 acre-site, former Earls Court Exhibition Centre site on behalf of the Earls Court Partnership Limited – a joint venture between Delancey (on behalf of its client funds and the Dutch pension fund manager, APG) and Transport for London (TfL) that was formed in December 2019. The first decision ECDC took after acquiring the site was to hand back the West Kensington and Gibbs Green housing estates - originally part of the previous owners' masterplan - to Hammersmith & Fulham Council. ECDC has a vision 'to bring the wonder back to Earls Court' with a masterplan which opens up the site to the local community, celebrates the legacy of world-class ingenuity, creates a better piece of city, and responds to the climate emergency. We are committed to working with communities and stakeholders from day one, ensuring the operation of ECDC and the masterplan support the generation of social value and economic inclusion across the local community throughout the lifetime of the project.

**The
Earls Court
Development
Company**

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ZCD Architects are specialists in child and youth engagement. Our work is underpinned by a large body of observational research and direct engagement with children and young people. Our role on the Earls Court masterplan has been to facilitate creative sessions for the Public Realm Inclusivity Panel and to work closely with the design team and client to make sure the panel have their voices heard and have an impact on the masterplan.

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 ZCD Architects

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