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NEWS: Residents help shape the future of Ham Close

Feedback from over 150 residents in Ham and Petersham regarding the proposed future of Ham Close has been published.

Over the past two years RHP, in partnership with Richmond Council, has been working with local residents and stakeholders on what improvements they would like to see in the local area, and to develop a vision for Ham Close.

Throughout June and July, over 150 residents attended a number of design workshops. These sessions aimed to give residents, RHP and the Council the opportunity to work together to come up with the best possible design solution for the Close should redevelopment go ahead.

Workshops included a session on financial viability, which set the scene for developing a local proposal.

Following this, the design workshops focused on specific aspects of development proposals for Ham Close, including traffic and transport, open space and landscaping, community facilities and local services, design approach and the impact of construction.

The workshops enabled the community to put forward their views on the key issues to be considered should redevelopment go ahead, give their feedback and help identify innovative design solutions and opportunities.

A presentation, summarising the diverse and sometimes conflicting feedback is now available online. RHP and the Council are currently working with the architects to feed in, where possible, all the feedback into potential design proposals for the site.

Proposals will be published for full public consultation later in the autumn.

Geoff Fox, Director of Development for RHP, said:

"Thank you to everyone who came along to one or more of the design workshops over the summer. We're committed to providing our customers who live at Ham Close and the wider community with a range of opportunities to input their views on the potential redevelopment so that together we can identify and develop the best possible design solution for the Close.

"Many local people often have a far more detailed understanding of Ham Close and the surrounding area which is invaluable in evaluating if redevelopment is possible. P363/16 22/09/2016

We're looking forward to further engaging with our customers and local people during the consultation in the autumn."

Cllr Pamela Fleming, Richmond Council Cabinet Member for Environment, Communities and Business, said:

"We know that people are really passionate about Ham, especially the future of Ham Close. This was especially evidenced in the workshops over the summer – where many people came together, to help find a way forward.

"It is clear that people have a lot of ideas about how the plans could develop. And, often those ideas conflicted with others. However, I would like to thank everyone who participated.

"We are committed to making sure that residents of Ham Close and the wider community are as fully informed and engaged in this process as possible. And, I look forward to further working with them in the future."

See the feedback and information about the future of <u>Ham Close</u>.