

NEWS: Report on a future vision for Ham Close published

A report outlining potential improvements to Ham Close and the surrounding area has now been published.

As part of its' Uplift Programme, Richmond Council, in partnership with RHP, commissioned the Prince's Foundation, to work with local residents and stakeholders to hear their views on what improvements they would like to see and consider a potential vision for Ham Close.

Following a consultation, the Prince's Foundation have produced a full report of their findings. The report highlights five key principles on which any future vision of Ham should be based. These are:

1. **Remaining in the Community:** Any resident of Ham Close wishing to remain in the community, should be able to do so
2. **Retain and enhance green space:** Green space is a key asset to the area, and improvements should be made to enhance its setting and character, and to reduce the perception of anti-social behaviour.
3. **Create a heart to Ham Close and Ham, retain and support a village feel:** Community Members value the village setting of Ham Close, but many feel it lacks a centre or 'heart'. Redevelopment could provide a centre for Ham Close and Ham, as well as help retain and improve its village feel.
4. **Better integrate Ham Close:** The buildings in Ham Close are seen as disconnected from Ham's village setting. An improved layout could better integrate the estate into the wider community.
5. **Improve community facilities:** Community facilities could be improved, for instance by co-locating the youth centre, clinic and library.

A report will now be presented to both the RHP Board and Richmond Council's Cabinet in January, considering the principles and vision in the report and outlining

the next possible steps. At the heart of any future development or improvement opportunities will be the subject of full public consultation and engagement.

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

“Ham Close is an integral part of the local area and home to over 190 households. We know from our previous consultations, such as the All in One, that residents do want to see improvements.

“However, we also know that whatever we propose has to be right and must be done in partnership with local residents. Therefore, together with RHP, we are thoroughly reviewing all of the results and January’s Cabinet Report will outline our proposals for the next steps and further engagement with residents.

To see the full report, go to: www.richmond.gov.uk/ham_uplift