

CREATING A FAIRER FUTURE FOR THE CALLY

Workshop Report for the first floor hall at West Library

WE ARE
CALLY

Supporting more young people into jobs and training at West Library

Public Works, the architects, gave a presentation on the proposed works for West Library first floor hall. The key points presented during the workshop were:

Improved access to the first floor:

- Install a lift which provides direct access to the first floor.

Supporting local youth organisations and extending the existing jobs offer for young people by having:

- Space that compliments the existing employability services. A number of local youth providers would benefit from a more central location on the Cally, with access to high quality equipment.
- Employment and training advice organised by youth organisations, VCS, potential employers and the Council.
- Delivery of training and workshops and group work sessions with young people.
- Support entrepreneurial opportunities.

A space to develop entrepreneurship and showcase local skills and creativity

- The potential for a co-working space which young people can 'drop in' and use.
- A space for small exhibition and events led by young people, to showcase local talent and creativity

IT access for young people:

- Offer an informal space where young people can use computers and free WIFI.



The first floor hall at West Library



The first floor hall at West Library



Office spaces at the first floor hall in West Library



Exterior facade and entrance of West Library

Monday 16 November 2020

Workshop Report for the first floor hall at West Library

Proposed improvements

Public Works presented some early ideas of what could be done to improve the West Library first floor hall space.

- A new lift connecting the ground floor to the first floor hall and services
- Additional services and accessible toilets
- New office, co-working counselling spaces in support of the new council-led youth employment support offer
- Including space:
 - for private and sound-proof 1:1 meetings to provide support and advice to young people
 - for youth employment and training advice
 - designed to provide counselling and trauma informed approaches with young people
 - for flexible events and workshop which promote the access to creative industries and digital media, and to support entrepreneurial opportunities for young people
 - for training and workshops, and group work sessions with young people
 - for exhibition and events led and run by young people to showcase local talent
 - for local community groups to book and use to make sure the diverse communities living in Cally get to use the space
 - where Cally Parents can meet in a safe and private environment
 - which is safe and welcoming to young people and their support networks

Case study 1 - Granville Centre

- Visible and recognisable entrance
- Flexible meeting, event, office and co-working spaces
- A safe space for young people



Main hall at Granville Centre



Desk space for co-working at Granville Centre

Case study 2 - ARC Club

- Subdivision of the space in private, semi private and more public areas



ARC Club by Caro Lundin

Monday 16 November 2020

Feedback from residents about the West Library first floor hall

The West Library's unused first floor has been identified as a potential space for young people to develop employability skills supported by the council's youth employment team.

How do you currently perceive or use the West Library?

- "Libraries used to be at the centre of the community"
- "We need better access to internet"
- "Often libraries don't work for young people because of noise issues - soundproofing so people can make noise"
- "The library needs to become more accessible and welcoming to young people - they need to feel safe"
- "It is a space older generations, families and children use. We need to ensure the new youth offer won't impact the older people and families using the main library"

Do know any young people who need support with finding employment?

What are their current struggles?

- "It is very important for the space to be motivational. Where young people can express aspiration and work on progression."
- "Opening hours needs to be considered to allow for more flexibility in the use of the space"

- "You need to think at how you can attract young people into the building - make it more appealing."
- We need to ensure the young people are comfortable in using and being within the space... More attractive and accessible."
- "Good, high level computers are essential ... setting a high standard with everything, to portray the sense that you can come here and achieve whatever you want"
- "Teaching them how to design and produce things ... a space to make and create."
- "If you make a creative space, then people will be creative."
- "Provide workshops from people in the industry, architects or web designers for example."

Are there the local organisations that you know of that are already delivering employment support for young people?

How can services be promoted or built upon? Are there any gaps?

- "You need to look at what's going on already and what are the gaps? The space can be designed and moulded for what's not already within the area."

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Next steps

You can find out more and give feedback online at:

www.islington.gov.uk/westlibrary

Hard copies of the workshop reports and feedback forms are available at and can be returned to a new 'We are Cally' letterbox at the entrance of the Jean Stokes Community Centre.

Timeline:

Summer 2020 - Architects are appointed
Autumn/Winter 2020 - Public Consultation
Spring 2021 - Works to start on site
End of Summer 2021 - Works to end

Residents workshops:

Following the workshop on 16 November you are invited to see and discuss our initial designs on 14 December at our next workshop:

Supporting more people into jobs and training

Online discussion

Monday 14 December, 6.00pm-7.00pm

www.islington.gov.uk/westlibrary

The final stage of workshops will follow on 11 January before we submit a final application for Planning approval.

The new Youth employment hub won't affect the regular Library services.

We are Cally

The improvements to the West Library are part of We are Cally project. This is a £1.6M project aimed at shaping a fairer future for local people in the Cally area by:

- creating better opportunities for children, young people and families
- improving health and wellbeing, strengthening community connections and belonging
- creating jobs and opportunities for local people and supporting local businesses
- making public spaces greener, safer and more attractive for all to enjoy

We want to involve as many local people, community groups and organisations as possible in shaping these plans.

Contact details

If you have a query, please contact us at

Email: **wearecally@islington.gov.uk**

Tel: **020 7527 3858**

Web: **www.islington.gov.uk/wearecally**

Alternatively, you can contact the architects at **079 2671 0660** or **carlotta@publicworksgroup.net**

If you would like this document in large print or Braille, audiotapes or in another language please call 020 7527 3858