

EXCHANGE

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King's Cross Central Update

Consultation Update
Islington and Camden Councils finished their extensive public consultation on the proposals for King's Cross in October 2004. The consultation period ran over 16 weeks and more than 260 responses were submitted to the councils.

All responses are available to view at either council's offices, or online at:
www.islington.gov.uk/kingscrossteam,
www.camden.gov.uk/kingscross

Islington Council's Observations
Because the main site lies within Camden, as a neighbouring authority Islington Council must submit its own set of

comments on the planning applications, known as Formal Observations. The observations will be treated the same as



responses from local residents and statutory agencies.

The observations outline the council's views on the proposals

and seek possible amendments to them by drawing on the consultation responses, as well as on internal consultation within the council. The observations report went to the West Area Committee on 3 March 2005 and was approved with some minor amendments to the report.

A number of residents at the committee meeting raised questions and made comments on the report. It was agreed by the West Area Committee to add a paragraph saying that buses would not be suitable on Copenhagen Street in its current configuration. This was in connection to concerns over traffic increase if

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Issue Four Spring 2005

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Neighbourhood Framework – The Last Word

We are consulting on the **Neighbourhood Framework Document**, NDF, one last time. This is your final chance to make your views known. The Neighbourhood Framework Document is already planning policy—it will influence planning decisions in your area. However, recent changes in the planning system, mean



that it will only be valid for three years. To extend the life of the plan we now have to have it adopted under the new planning system. This requires that a Sustainability Assessment (SA) be completed and that an additional round of public consultation be undertaken.

Between **25 April** and **3 June 2005** you can

view the Neighbourhood Framework Document at any local library (not mobile libraries), at the Municipal Offices at 222 Upper Street, on our website, or you can have a copy sent to you (phone Alan Mace 020 7527 2619). He is also happy to visit any groups who would like to

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King's Cross Central Update, continued from page 1.

Copenhagen Street were extended into the development site by the proposed alignment of Goods Street. The committee also agreed that the wording on the demolition of the Culross and Stanley buildings south of the canal to be strengthened saying that the council "does not support" the demolition of these heritage buildings. The formal observations have now been sent to Camden Council and the developer. You can read the report on our website —see details on the back page.

tion for the Triangle will be determined.

The site is split between Islington and Camden Councils and there are a few options for how the application could be determined. One option would be for Camden Council to delegate their powers to determine this particular application to Islington Council. This option would need full council approval by both Camden and Islington.

Another option is for both councils to determine the application separately. No decision has been made yet, but we will inform parties concerned when an agreement has been reached.

expecting modifications to the proposals for the main site and the Triangle some time in the spring/summer of 2005. These modifications are unlikely to alter the proposals in great deal, it will remain a high-density urban development, but there will be some changes to footprints and layout of buildings etc.

Following the submission of the modifications there will be another consultation period of 21 days when the public can view and comment on the changes. The exact dates are still unknown, so please keep watching out for any news at:

Triangle site

A member of the public raised a question at the committee meeting as to when there will be a decision on how the applica-

Amended Scheme
Camden Council is

www.camden.gov.uk/kingscross



Picture above from www.london2012.org



The London Olympic Bid and King's Cross

The media have recently covered the London bid to host the Olympics in 2012. If successful, this would have a number of impacts on King's Cross, not least as the pressure to deliver an integrated transport system would grow. The pressure on London's underground stations is already high, but with the announcement of the plans for a new concourse (there is optimism that this would be enough to convince the IOC members that London is improving its transport networks and services.

development is planned to start in 2007, a good few years before the games, so the impact is unlikely to be significant. King's Cross is on course for change with or without the Olympic Games.

By 2012, the high speed Channel Tunnel Rail Link extension will take people from Stratford to King's Cross St. Pancras in seven minutes.

Stratford station will be further improved and upgraded to deliver spectators to and from the Olympic Park.

£1bn per year of improvements to London Underground include a 45% increase in capacity on the Jubilee line, which will serve the main Olympic facilities.

£17bn is being spent on London's transport system before 2012.

The decision on which city will host the Games in 2012, London, Madrid, Moscow, Paris or New York, will be announced on 6 July 2005. You can read more about the bid at:

www.london2012.org



Picture above from www.london2012.org

Yes to the Northern Ticket Hall

The Department of Transport announced in February 2005 that they will put £400m towards the revamp of King's Cross Station including the Northern Ticket Hall and the Western Concourse. These improvements are

important for the King's Cross Central scheme as presented by Argent King's Cross. The work on the Northern Ticket Hall came to a halt in 2004 because of costs running over previous estimates. The new concourse will alleviate

pedestrian congestion and show more of the original façade of King's Cross, which has been hidden by the temporary canopy built in the 1970s. Construction works are estimated to finish in 2009.



Picture above from www.bbc.co.uk

Neighbourhood Framework—The Last Word, continued from p.1

talk about the document in more detail—interpreters can be provided.

Any comments and views can be sent to the team using the contact details on the back page of Exchange.

Past consultation success

During 2004 we held a number of public consultation events for the AAPs. As an

incentive for people to attend, we launched the 'I Love KX' initiative and pledged to plant one tree for every 40 visitors to these events. As a result, five trees will be planted in the King's Cross Area. We would like to say a

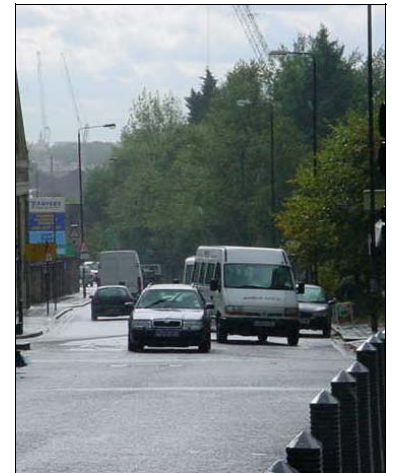
BIG THANK YOU

to all people attending the consultations and for contributing useful

ideas, advice and comments.

Changes in the King's Cross Team

Alan Mace who has been a member of the King's Cross Team since May 2003, is now moving on to another post in the council, and we would like to say many thanks for all your work and good luck!



St. Pancras Chambers application

St Pancras Chambers has been empty for many years, but now it seems that something is happening to the old Victorian building. Manhattan Loft Corporation and LCR have submitted applications to Camden council for planning permission and listed building consent to convert St Pancras Chambers into 68 residential apartments and a 245-bed hotel.

The Chambers were originally used as a hotel when it was

opened in 1876. Both the train shed as well as the Chambers on the front, have been recognized as one of the greatest examples of Victorian monumental Gothic architecture in the country, and is definitely one of the most recognised landmarks in London. And in 1997 the internal staircase was famously featured in the Spice Girls first music video!

The applications also ask to convert the Chambers to include

leisure facilities such as a leisure centre, cafe, two bars, a restaurant and conference facilities.

The public consultation on the planning applications closed on 30 September 2004. Camden Council approved the plans at their Development Control meeting on the 24 March 2005.

Building work could start as early as this year.





King's Cross Projects Update

Kate Greenaway Nursery

recently celebrated the opening of a new extension to its building. This will mean that the nursery can offer more services to local families.

The nursery now needs to improve the outside space to provide a high quality play area for very young children. The King's Cross Team has

helped to secure funding towards this. Many families with children have limited access to open space. The aim is to provide them with access to a safe and welcoming outdoor facility. This work will be carried out in phases and will eventually lead to the re-landscaping of the open area and the installation of new play equipment.

There is more good news for play areas on the Delhi Outram Estate. The King's Cross Team will shortly be consulting on possible improvements to the play areas on the estate. This could lead to the renewing of play equipment for 5-11 year olds.
Photo left: Julian Grenier, Headteacher of Kate Greenaway

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Για μετάφραση τηλεφωνήστε
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Argent sole developer of King's Cross Central

The planning applications for King's Cross Central were submitted by Argent St George which was a partnership between two companies: Argent Estates Ltd and St George Ltd. But in November 2004, Argent Estates Ltd announced that they had gained all interests in St George (Kings Cross) Ltd. This happened because

St George Ltd separated itself from the partnership and any further involvement in the Kings Cross Central project.

This means that **Argent (Kings Cross) Limited** now replaces Argent St George. The applicants will therefore in future publications be referred to as Argent Kings Cross

or (AKC). These changes apply to only the legal name of the applicant, and the proposals themselves remain unaffected.

You can read more about this at:

www.argentkingscross.com

ARGENT · KING'S · CROSS

Comments, complaints, ideas...contact us!

Please contact **Susanna Strandell** on 020 7527 3505 to join our mailing list for future issues of **EXCHANGE** or e-mail: kxteam@islington.gov.uk.

If you wish to discuss a particular project or issue in person, please visit us at: **Contact Islington, 222 Upper Street**, but please note that an appointment may be needed.

Please recycle this newsletter.

For more information on all of the above visit:
www.islington.gov.uk/kingscrossteam



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