

Councillor Pamela Fleming
Joint Deputy Leader – Environment, Business and Community
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7 November 2017

Dear Resident,

Future of Ham Close – St. Richard's Church of England Primary School playing field consultation

Richmond Council and RHP have been working in partnership with local residents and stakeholders to develop a vision for the future of Ham Close.

A consultation held in autumn 2016 asked for feedback on the principle of a redevelopment. Residents and the wider community had their say on concept proposals for Ham Close, which incorporated feedback from a series of community workshops held in summer 2016. Please visit www.hamclose.co.uk to view the autumn 2016 concept proposals and for further information on the programme.

Overall, more than half of the 305 people who responded to the consultation agreed that more affordable housing is needed in the Ham area. There was also net agreement amongst RHP's Ham Close customers (tenants and leaseholders) that a redevelopment of the Close would benefit them and their household, others living on Ham Close and the wider community.

The autumn 2016 consultation proposals showed a change to the western boundary of Ham Close. This boundary change would involve using a strip of Council-owned playing field land which is currently used by St. Richard's Church of England Primary School. This is located at the rear of the playing field adjoining Ham Close.

St. Richard's CE Primary School currently has c.15,500m² of school playing field. This includes a variety of types of space such as habitat areas, hard surface areas and informal play and social areas in addition to traditional grass pitches. The proposed disposal of 687m² (approximately 4%) would result in there being approximately 14,800m² of playing field at St. Richard's. This exceeds the minimum requirements set out by the Department for Education of approximately 10,000m² for the school. To mitigate the loss of land the Council is proposing to provide a multi-use games area to provide benefit to the school and wider community all year round.

This boundary change is needed to enable phase one of the redevelopment to take place on open areas of land (part of which would be the school playing field

land). This would allow Ham Close residents to stay on the Close until their new homes are ready, rather than moving off the Close and returning at a later point.

The Council is now asking for your feedback on this proposed boundary change. Residents will have another opportunity to have their say on the proposed development as a whole and its design in 2018.

The consultation will launch on Thursday 9 November and will be open until Thursday 21 December 2017. If you have any questions please email: consultation@richmond.gov.uk. Please visit <https://haveyoursay.citizenspace.com/richmondce/st-richards-17> to view the consultation materials and complete the consultation survey.

If you do not have internet access, please contact Consultation Team, Third Floor, Civic Centre, 44 York Street, Twickenham, TW1 3BZ or phone 020 8891 1411 for a copy of the consultation materials. Copies will also be available in Ham Library.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pamela A. Fleming". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Cllr Pamela Fleming (Richmond Council Joint Deputy Leader - Environment, Business and Community)