

Our Ref 2687

Date 7th February 2024

Councillor Albert Bore
c/o Council House
Birmingham
B1 1BB

Dear Councillor Bore,

PETITION 2687 - LADYWOOD REGENERATION CONSULTATION

I refer to the above petition which you presented to City Council on 12th September 2023 on behalf of residents of Ladywood and Birmingham calling upon Birmingham City Council to have a proper consultation process to explain the large, phased regeneration.

Many Ladywood residents are concerned about the proposed regeneration of where they live and the Council is seeking to assure via regular communications via a digital newsletter and updates to the Council's website Ladywood page. The Ladywood Regeneration Project present a once in a lifetime opportunity for residents to be involved in shaping the future of Ladywood and transforming the regeneration zone in to a 21st century, sustainable, diverse and inclusive state of the art neighbourhood where everyone is proud to live, work and spend their leisure time.

We'd like to reassure residents that the Ladywood regeneration plans are at a very earliest stage and that we are committed to consulting residents thoroughly on their hopes, dreams and aspirations for the transformed Ladywood. The first task to finalise the appointment of our developer and then to fully consult all residents and stakeholders to develop a masterplan for the Ladywood Regeneration Zone. Masterplanning has not yet started but we have already commenced the process of resident engagement in the autumn of 2023 and now in the new year. Our aims is to have engaged as many residents, stakeholders, faith groups, business and schools in Ladywood as possible and secured a competed survey from each by the end of February 2024. Door knocking is proposed for all Council tenants, for housing association tenants and for owner occupiers to ensure that absolutely every resident gets the opportunity to complete a survey – particularly the vulnerable or digitally excluded who may not be able to attend a workshop or complete a survey online. Every voice in Ladywood counts and we want to hear from everyone.

Before any masterplanning application can be submitted, a full and detailed community consultation process will take place. We look forward to residents participating in this consultation process, as it will outline how the neighbourhood will be transformed over the next 15-20 years.

Between now March 2024, we are working to develop a community charter. This written document will:

- Set out how we will consult with residents, businesses and all key stakeholders on the regeneration of Ladywood.
- Identify the most important issues for residents and their ideas and aspirations for the future of this important neighbourhood.
- Outline the main opportunities arising from the regeneration project and the concerns of residents of all ages.
- Ensure we fully understand how Ladywood residents want to be involved and communicated with.

Paul Kitson
Strategic Director of Place, Prosperity and Sustainability
10 Woodcock Street
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To help draw up this community charter, the council has held a series of community consultation workshops with local residents, businesses and stakeholders in October and November 2023. These have been well attended, with over 300 people attending the 12 sessions and are now being repeated with drop in sessions in February. These sessions will continue to be publicised via the Ladywood Regeneration Project digital newsletters and the Council's Ladywood webpage.

Those unable to attend the workshops will still have the opportunity to have their say. A survey is available for all Ladywood residents and will be open till at least the end of February 2024. All comments made by residents will be listened to and will be taken into account when drawing up the community charter and the Ladywood Masterplan.

The ongoing engagement around creating the community charter has allowed us to hear Ladywood resident's key concerns, ones we will look to address and communicate more about in the future.

I hope this response assures all Ladywood residents that the Council is listening, is actively engaging the residents of Ladywood, enabling them to have a clear voice in the regeneration plans and shaping the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Kitson', written over a light grey textured background.

Paul Kitson,
Strategic Director of Place, Prosperity & Sustainability