

NORTH QUAY

Stage 1 Consultation Summary

11 November 2019

1. Overview

This document provides a summary of feedback from the first stage of public consultation for North Quay. The consultation has focused on presenting the emerging principles for the site and approach to mix, public spaces and connections.

2. Events and attendance

Three public exhibitions were held in different locations to the north, south and west of the site. 126 people attended the events. The majority of attendees were local residents.

Date	Location	Attendance
Tuesday 5th November (3pm-7pm)	Marriott Hotel, Hertsmere Road	48
Thursday 7th November (3pm-7pm)	Canary Wharf Ideas Store	51
Saturday 9th November (10am -2pm)	St Matthias Community Centre	27
		126

3. Feedback analysis

55 people provided written feedback at the events through completing a feedback form.

Q1 What is your connection to the area?



RESIDENT 44 | WORKER 22 | SHOPPER 3 | STUDENT 3 | VISITOR 1

Q2 What are your priorities for North Quay?



Q3 What qualities do you want form the public space being provided at North Quay?



Q4 Our proposals include new pedestrian routes through the site to improve connections between Poplar and Canary Wharf. Do you think this will benefit the area?



YES 44 | NOT SURE 9 | NO 2

Q5 Would you welcome additional retail in this location?



YES 31 | NOT SURE 16 | NO 9

Q6 Is there anything you think the local area could benefit from?

No. of comments	Topic
12	More public spaces and green areas
7	Things for children to do
7	Improved connections from Poplar to Canary Wharf
6	Community spaces / venues with activities
5	More varied retail offer
5	Improved social infrastructure
5	Events and attractions
4	Training opportunities
4	Better cycle infrastructure
4	Homes - particularly affordable housing
2	Flexible workspace

These topics are described in more detail in Section 4.

Q7 Is there anything else you would like to raise in relation to the emerging proposals.

No. of comments	Topic
6	Improving connections between Poplar and Canary Wharf a priority
4	Concerns relating to height and overshadowing
3	Important to consider pedestrian experience along north of site / Aspen Way
2	Development should feel spacious at ground level
2	Family homes needed in the area
2	Improvements needed to cycle and pedestrian infrastructure
2	Independent retail and cafés and bakeries needed over bars and restaurants
2	Character of the development
1	More play opportunities needed in the area
1	Support needed for local community services
1	Concern about pollution and proximity to Aspen Way
1	Concern about construction impact

The detail surrounding these topics is provided below.

4. Key themes from consultation

The key themes that have emerged through initial consultation and written feedback are summarised below in order of priority.

Public spaces

The need for attractive public spaces was raised more than any other issue in the written feedback. Comments mainly related to the need for safe spaces, green spaces and spaces next to the dock. There was a strong view that spaces should feel welcoming, inviting and inclusive rather than corporate in order to bridge the gap between Canary Wharf and the more residential areas to the north. Comments also included suggestions for spaces which reflect ecology, sustainability and wellbeing.

Connections

Many people could see the benefit in improving the connections through North Quay to Poplar as well as improving the east-west integration of the site. It was generally considered that the existing Poplar Link Bridge needed to be improved to make the link more appealing. More information was requested on how the bridge will be integrated into the proposed development.

Family friendly activities

Activities or places for children and families to visit was high up the agenda. There was a view that more people from the wider area could benefit from facilities at Canary Wharf if there was more a more diverse offer and if there were things to do at the weekend. A children's education / 'discovery-style' centre was suggested. Family friendly public spaces were also mentioned.

Community spaces / venues

Similarly, there were a number of suggestions for facilities that would serve the community, such as affordable spaces to hire and cultural facilities. Poplar Union was mentioned as a reference.

Events and attractions

Suggestions for live events and attractions received a high percentage of comments, with the view that they could improve social links in the area and provide a reason to visit North Quay.

Impact on neighbours

Several people living in buildings to the west of the site raised initial concerns regarding height, impact on views, as well as potential overshadowing.

Retail

The need for retail received mixed views, although the majority felt that it would be of benefit to the area. The majority of written comments suggested that independent or mid-level shops would be preferable to more big brands and would help to give North Quay a different identity that would support the local area and not be inward looking or only for the benefit of people working at Canary Wharf. Suggestions included groceries, bakeries and cafés over bars and restaurants.

Pedestrian and cycle infrastructure

Existing pedestrian and cycle infrastructure around the site is considered to be poor. People are keen to see improvements here in terms of accessibility and safety. How pedestrians enter the site from Aspen Way and the quality of public realm along the main road and beneath the DLR was questioned. A new east-west cycle route was also suggested, along with improved north-south links.

Social infrastructure

Several people noted a need for more health and education facilities in the area, specifically GPs and secondary schools.

Housing

There were mixed views on the need for more homes. Respondents felt there was more of a need for family housing and affordable housing (specifically social rent) over more luxury homes.

Training opportunities

Access to training courses was raised alongside the need for a more aggressive and visible training programme for Poplar residents. There was a suggestion for links with the College.

Workspace

Where workspace was referenced it was regarding the need for more variety, with smaller offices, flexible set ups and co-working spaces all suggested so that smaller businesses can benefit from the proximity to Canary Wharf.

Character

Feedback on character related to the opportunity for North Quay to step down in scale to respect the context of Poplar, the need for the development to feel inclusive, and to make more of the history of the docks in the design approach.