



INVESTING IN BRICK LANE

The Council is committed to supporting Brick Lane's recovery from the Covid - 19 pandemic and wants to use the investment of the Liveable Streets programme to support Brick Lane businesses and the local community in months and years ahead.

These proposals have been developed on feedback based on residents, businesses and local community. We are consulting on these proposals now, so that if they are supported we can implement them in time for Summer to benefit businesses, the local community and visitors. Our proposals:

- Pedestrianising sections of Brick Lane in the evenings and the weekends (Brick Lane will be open to all traffic before 5.30pm on weekdays) to support businesses to trade safely and make use of outside dining space.
- Improving the accessibility of Brick Lane with dropped kerbs and new disabled parking spaces.
- Enhancing the neighbourhood with improved lighting, planting and traffic calming measures to create a better and safer environment for the local community and visitors to walk and cycle around Brick Lane.
- Installing new cycle hangars and cycle stands to encourage sustainable travel.
- Creating accessible and safer school travel routes to improve air quality and road safety for children.

Read more about the proposals in this booklet, and have your say by filling in the survey before 11:59pm on Wednesday 14 April 2021.

COVID-19: Please refer to page 4 for details on our response to the pandemic.



Future visualisation of Brick Lane

Talk.towerhamlets.gov.uk/LSBrickLane

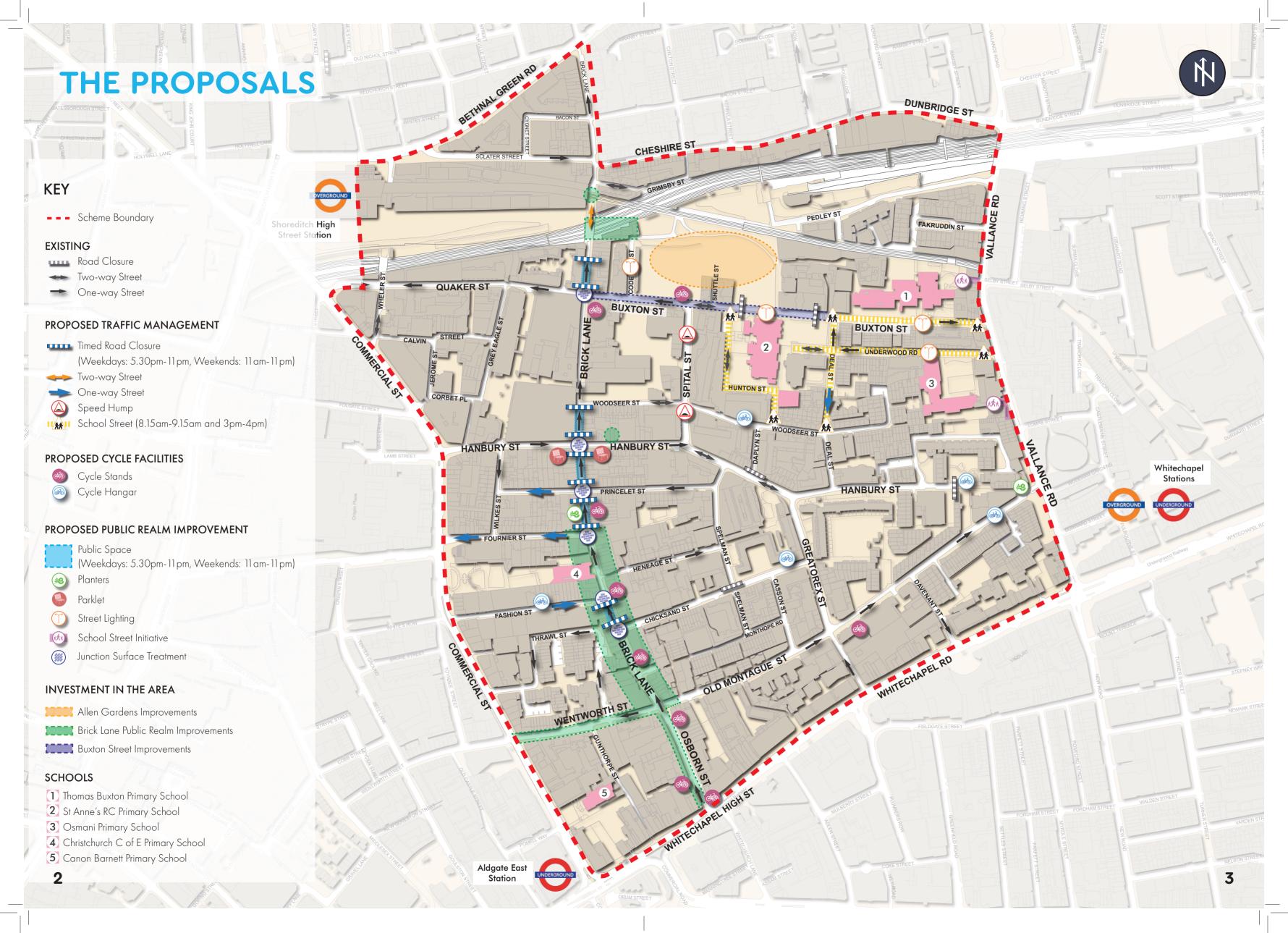
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Email us at LiveableStreets@towerhamlets.gov.uk or call 020 3092 0401 (9am to 5pm on weekdays).



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BRICK LANE

24 June - 31 August 2019 Early Engagement

You gave us your feedback through an online survey, interactive map and drop-in sessions.
Almost 400 comments and ideas were received and around 50% of these responses came from residents within the Brick Lane area.

25 January - 5 February 2020 Co-design Workshops

Residents and businesses provided feedback on the concept designs and had discussions with the project team.

We also had a business specific co-design workshop in January 2020 to gain feedback related to access and deliveries.

17 August - 5 November 2020 Streetspace for London (Brick Lane)

Temporary road closures were in place on Brick Lane. An online feedback survey took place and over 450 responses were received from the local community and businesses.

17 March - 14 April 2021 Public Consultation (Current stage)

Presenting the proposals to the community, where feedback can be provided by both online and hard copy survey.

There is also the opportunity to ask questions about the project via "Chat to the Team" sessions, online Q&A, emailing or calling the team. For more information please visit or contact us:

Webpage:

talk.towerhamlets.gov.uk/LSBrickLane Email:

liveablestreets@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Contact number:

0203 092 0401 (weekdays 9am-5pm)

Our response to Coronavirus

The council is working with its partners across Tower Hamlets to tackle the spread of the virus and make sure that residents, particularly those most vulnerable, are given all the support they need.

While our front-line resources are focused on the response to the virus, work on other council programmes is continuing. The majority of our staff are working remotely, including the Liveable Streets team. Social distancing measures will mean we have to change the way we engage with residents but we are working on new ways to do this remotely so that you can continue to shape the positive changes happening in your area.

Coronavirus has given a new urgency to the question of how we share our public spaces and how we can champion walking, cycling and the safe use of public transport. There has never been a more important time to be moving forward with projects that will positively contribute to that effort.

What is being proposed?

Three schemes have been developed to improve walking and cycling, create better public spaces, discourage through-traffic and improve air quality:

- Scheme 1: Enhancing the Neighbourhood
- Scheme 2: Brick Lane
- Scheme 3: School Streets

Our proposals include environmental enhancements and traffic calming measures to improve accessibility and safety for all and to encourage active travel. The map on page 2-3 shows an overview of the project area and proposals.

Why are these proposals important?

Brick Lane is an iconic area of London which attracts over 18,500 pedestrians every day. This space is also shared with over 4,000 vehicles, many of which use Brick Lane to cut through the area. This means they are not visiting local businesses, schools or places of worship but are significant contributors to the already unacceptable levels of air pollution and congestion along Brick Lane.

School streets are central to our Brick Lane proposals to address key safety and air quality issues. Our initiatives will create accessible and safer school travel routes by reducing the number of cars polluting the school environment and improving road safety for children.

These proposals are a key part of Tower Hamlets commitment to support Brick Lane's economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic and aims to attract more visitors to the area and support businesses to trade safely.

SCHEME 1 ENHANCING THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

A big part of this project is to improve the look and feel of the neighbourhood to create a better and safer environment for the community to enjoy. We are proposing both environmental and traffic management improvements.

Planting

Our proposals aim to create a more attractive environment for those walking and cycling:

- Create a planting area at the junction of Hanbury Street and Old Montague Street.
- Install plants and flowers on Brick Lane including outside Brick Lane Mosque.
- Additional planting in the parklets proposed at the junction of Hanbury Street and Brick Lane.
- Additional planting where possible within the scheme.

Parklets

We are proposing two new parklets (a small seating area with green space and planting on the pavement) in the surroundings within the Brick Lane and Hanbury Street junction. The parklets will require the relocation of one parking space which will be moved to surrounding roads. Details of the parking relocation will be found on the online parking map (talk.towerhamlets.gov. uk/LSBrickLane).

Accessibility

Brick Lane is an iconic and historic area with a large footfall of local community and attracting visitors worldwide. Our proposals aim to improve the accessibility for all those that travel, walk and cycle to Brick Lane. These include:

- Relocating motorcycle parking on Brick Lane, at the south of Buxton Street, to enable pavement width for a pushchair or wheelchair.
- Adding dropped kerbs to create safer crossings within the area.
- At each timed closure point junction, surface treatment is proposed. This will be a coloured surface in contrast with the road surface so drivers are aware they are crossing/entering the timed section.
- Creating new disabled parking spaces on the Chicksand Street, Fashion Street and Fournier Street.
- Upgrade street lighting on Buxton Street,
 Underwood Road and Code Street to create a safer walking and cycling route.

Details of the proposed locations can be found on the online parking map (talk.towerhamlets.gov. uk/LSBrickLane).

Road safety improvements

Hanbury Street is a key walking and cycling route for the area. It provides an alternative to the main road and is used by the local community and visitors to get to Brick Lane and Commercial road. Currently over 500 cyclists use this every day and it will become an even busier route once the Crossrail station opens at Whitechapel. To improve the road safety along the route we are proposing the:

- Relocation of all the parking on Hanbury Street, from Wilkes Street to Spital Street, to the northern side of the road.
- Relocation of five parking spaces on Hanbury Street, between Greatorex Street and Deal Street.

There will be no overall parking loss through these changes as parking spaces will be relocated to the surrounding roads.

Traffic calming measures

Traffic counts show that many residential roads experience high levels of motor vehicle traffic every day. Residential streets like Deal Street currently have more than 4,100 vehicles using them every day. A high percentage of these are non-residents cutting through your area leading to noise, air pollution and road safety issues. We are proposing:

- Southbound one-way section along Deal Street between Underwood Road and Woodseer Street.
- Traffic calming features in Spital Street to make the road safer.

This would be to:

- Reduce cut through traffic to improve air quality.
- Reduce vehicle movement at the junction of Deal Street and Hanbury to improve road safety.

Safe cycle storage and parking

To help encourage more local residents to cycle we are proposing a number of improvements:

- Safe and secure cycle hangars on Old Montague Street, Chicksand Street, Fashion Street, Hanbury Street and Woodseer Street.
- New cycle stands on Osborn Street, Old Montague Street, Brick Lane, and Buxton Street.

To register your interest in a cycle hangar or receive more information, please tick the box in the survey or email to LiveableStreets@towerhamlets.gov.uk

SCHEME 2 BRICK LANE

Our current traffic management proposals are very different from the Streetspace for London scheme that was trialled in Summer 2020, see below:

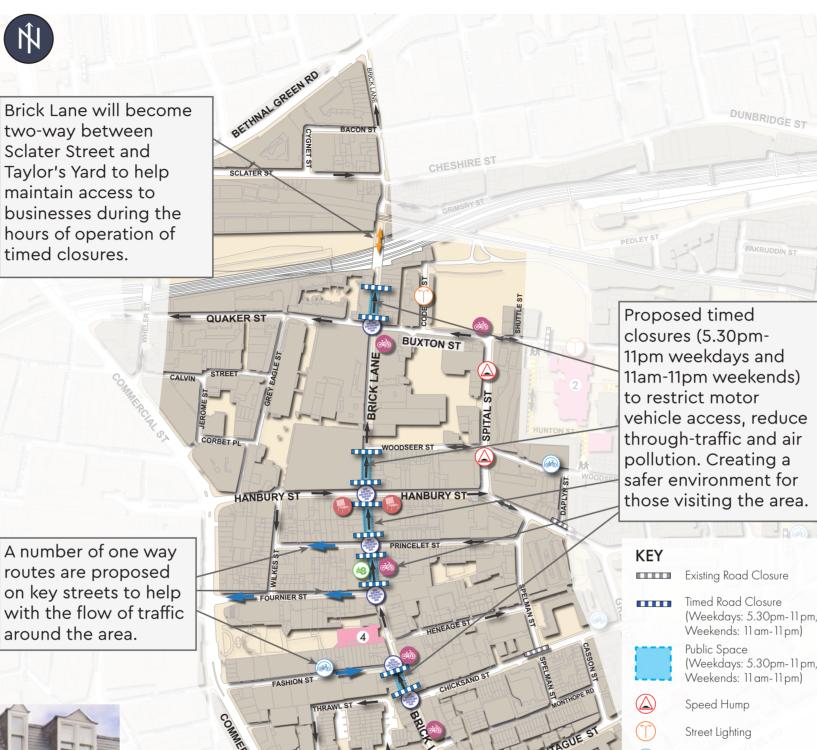
- During the trial there were 24/7 closures we are proposing timed closures (5.30pm-11pm weekdays and 11am-11pm weekends) during peak visiting times.
- During the trial Closures blocked with planters to restrict all vehicle access -we are proposing timed closures will be monitored by Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras and will allow 24/7 access for emergency services.

Traffic Management

We are proposing timed restrictions for motor vehicles to ensure businesses can continue to receive deliveries and collections during the day on weekdays. The timed closures will provide a safer environment for pedestrians during evenings and weekends.

We are proposing some sections of Brick Lane stay open at all times for access requirements. These are:

- Between Wentworth Street and Chicksand Street to ensure access for Spitalfields Health Centre and residential car park.
- Between Fashion Street and Fournier Street to enable access to Heneage Street and Seven Stars Yard.
- Between Woodseer Street and Buxton Street for deliveries and access to the public car park.





To ensure that large vehicles are able to leave Brick Lane during the hours of operation of the timed closures, three parking spaces at the iunction within Chicksand Street will need to be relocated in the surrounding area.

Details of the parking relocation will be found on talk.towerhamlets.gov.uk/LSBrickLane and advertised locally.

Public spaces

The proposed timed closures will create safer public spaces for the community by limiting vehicle movements during evenings and weekends, when Brick Lane is at its busiest.

These public space changes will help enhance the area for pedestrians, encouraging more visitors to local businesses.

Parking, deliveries and access

During the hours of operation of the timed closures, parking located within the public spaces will not be allowed. This includes 17 pay and display bays and 9 loading bays.

Further parking changes will be required during the hours of operation of the timed closures on:

- Brick Lane between Fashion Street and Fournier Street to allow space for outdoor
- Woodseer Street to allow access for larger vehicles.

There will be no changes to the loading and business bays on the side streets next to Brick Lane. Businesses access to load and receive deliveries on these streets will remain during the timed closures hours of operation.

The timed closures will be monitored by Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras, which will restrict vehicle movements but still allow access for emergency services during hours of operation. We will continue to work closely with the emergency services to make Brick Lane an even safer place to live, work and visit.

If the traffic management proposals for evening closures is supported, further discussion will take place with local residents and businesses whether they are still preferred in winter time, when the benefits of facilitating outdoor dining are much smaller.

Cycle Hangar

Cycle Stands

Planters

Parklet

Existing One-way Street

Existing Two-way Street

Proposed One-way Street

Proposed Two-way Street

Junction Surface Treatment

You said: "Brick Lane should not be a through road. Please filter it, or better yet, make significant stretches of it bike/ pedestrian only."

We propose: Sections of Brick Lane to be pedestrianised in the evenings and weekends.

SCHEME 3 SCHOOL STREETS

As part of our ongoing commitment to reduce emissions around schools, we are proposing to introduce new School Streets and School Street initiatives in the Brick Lane area.

School Streets

School Streets enable streets to be closed to motor vehicles either permanently or during mornings and afternoons on school days to allow children, parents and staff to arrive and leave the schools in a safe and healthy environment whilst encouraging more active travel.

It is proposed that roads outside these schools will be closed to motor vehicles between 8.15am to 9.15am in the morning and 3pm to 4pm in the afternoon.

School Streets are being proposed at the following locations:

- Buxton Street, between Deal Street and Vallance Road
- Deal Street, between Woodseer Street and Buxton Street
- Underwood Road
- Hunton Street

Why do we need School Streets?

To improve road safety - Unfortunately, children are some of the most vulnerable road users. As part of the School Street we look at the design of the roads and pavements to make it as safe as possible for children on the way to and from school.

To protect children from pollution - Harmful air pollution affects the health and well-being of children. Children's lung capacity can be reduced by breathing toxic air which can affect all organs in their body and their long term health. Find out more at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/breatheclean

To encourage active travel - Busy roads can make it feel unsafe to walk and cycle. We can widen pavements, introduce crossings and calm traffic to allow more children to safely walk, scoot and cycle. Where possible, schools can provide space for storing bikes and scooters safely. Find out more at www.towerhamlets. gov.uk/cycling

How will the school street work?

- The School Street will be enforced by Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras and vehicles entering not exempt, will automatically be issued a penalty charge notice.
- Access for residents & businesses of those streets, school staff, blue badge users and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) children will be allowed if the vehicle is registered for an exemption. This can be requested free of charge by complementing the online form online, please visit:

www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schoolstreets

- All other vehicles not registered for exemption will not be permitted to enter the School Street during operational hours between 8.15am-9.15am and 3pm-4pm on school days.
- All vehicles parked within the School Streets will be permitted to leave the area at all times.

You said: "Please close Buxton Street and Underwood Road to traffic at the start and end of the school day."

We propose: New School
Streets during pick-up and
drop-off times to create a safer
environment for school children.

School Streets initiatives

School initiatives create a more attractive environment for children on their way to and from school. We are proposing:



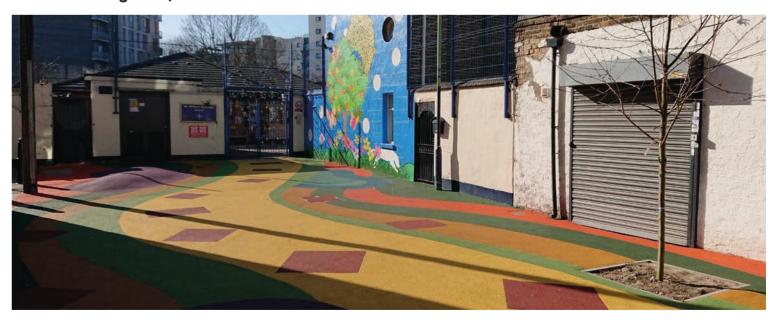
Planters outside Osmani Primary School on Vallance Road.



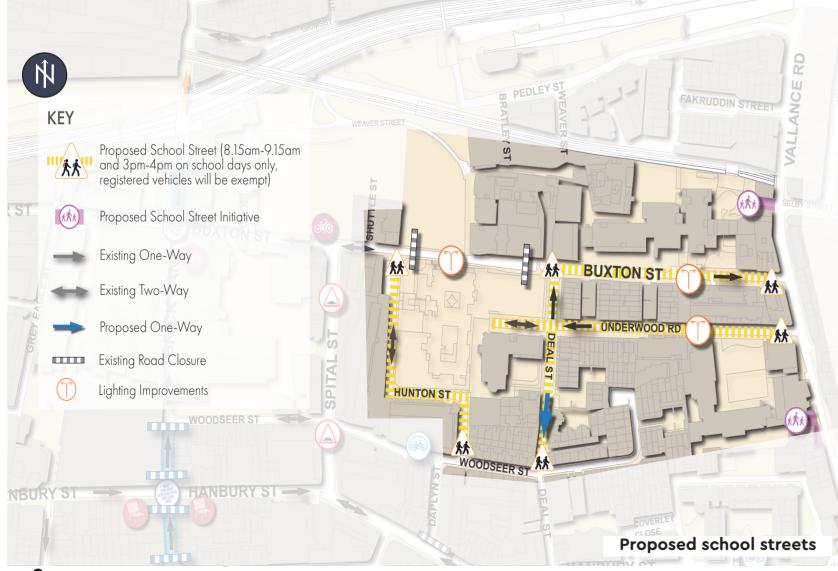
Planters and community area outside Thomas Buxton Primary School on Selby Street. This will require the loss of an existing loading bay and solo motorcycles bay.

If the proposals are approved, school workshops will be arranged. The design will be developed through workshops to create a design that understands children's journeys to and from school, air quality impact, health and well-being improvements.

If you would like further information on Tower Hamlets School Streets initiatives, please visit: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/schoolstreets



This is an example of a school initiative within Tower Hamlets. Local school children were involved in designing the changes to this cul-de-sac which is now more friendly and a safer environment. We are proposing to work with Thomas Buxton School to create a similar public space for the community.



COMPLEMENTARY MEASURES

Activities and events

As part of the Liveable Streets programme the council is developing a number of complementary measures and monitoring.

These will include the following:

- Cycle training and maintenance classes
- Cargo bike use for businesses
- School and workplace travel initiatives
- Play Streets
- Air quality monitoring
- Residential cycle hangars
- Electric vehicle charge points

If you are interested in play streets, cycle training or cycle hangars, please email us at liveablestreets@towerhamlets.gov.uk

INVESTMENT IN THE AREA

The Council is developing other exciting proposals for further investment in Brick Lane. We have already consulted on a range of improvements and we hope to implement these projects alongside the Liveable Streets proposals, this will be an historic level of investment in Brick Lane.

Buxton Street

The project aims to make the street feel more connected to Allen Gardens and Spitalfields City Farm. The street width would be reduced to create more opportunity for planting and art features, to encourage more pedestrians and cyclists to visit. Improvements would also be made near Thomas Buxton Primary School, located on the eastern end of Buxton Street.



Visualisation of Buxton Street

Allen Gardens

As part of a regeneration programme, the Parks and High Streets and Town Centres teams are making improvements to Allen Gardens, one of the borough's most important inner-city open spaces. Allen Gardens is facing issues of crime, anti-social behaviour, littering and fly tipping.

The 2018 consultation identified key areas for improvement, including:

- Play area for young children
- Clear sight lines
- Keep grassed areas
- Informal community space for activities like exercise and performance
- Integration of Spitalfields City Farm into the park

For more information on the proposed improvements please contact:

Allen.Gardens@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Brick Lane public realm

The High Streets and Town Centres team has developed a series of proposals after speaking to residents, businesses, visitors, councillors and landowners. Working with urban designers, architects, artists and lighting designers to develop a range of street improvements along Brick Lane, the proposals will help:

- Improve signage and wayfinding, including renaming Osborn Street, to help promote footfall in the southern section of Brick Lane and links to Whitechapel
- Create a welcoming and visually appealing streetscape, particularly in the 'central area' between Wentworth Street and Fashion Street
- Improve air quality by adding urban greening (parklets) and places to rest for visitors
- Improve the Allen Gardens and Pedley Street link
- Improvements to pavements to make walking and cycling safer
- Highlight Brick Lane's historic buildings and artwork using architectural lighting
- Improve the Banglatown Arch by refurbishing the existing structure







Visualisation of architectural lighting

10

HAVE YOUR SAY LIVEABLE STREETS

Your views are important to us. We want everyone who lives, works, studies and visits in the Brick Lane area to have their say on the proposals.

Have your say by filling out the survey:

Online via: talk.towerhamlets.gov.uk/LSBrickLane Hard copy and send via post in the freepost envelope provided Please provide your feedback by 11:59pm on Wednesday 14 April 2021.



There is an opportunity to chat with the Liveable Streets Team by booking a one to one meeting. All details can be found on the above webpage in the section "Chat to the Team".

If you require information in another format or have any further questions, email, phone or write to us at:



LiveableStreets@towerhamlets.gov.uk



0203 092 0401 (weekdays, 9am-5pm)



Liveable Streets 6th Floor Mulberry Place PO Box 55739 5 Clove Crescent London E14 2BG







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