



**Whitechapel Vision Masterplan
Supplementary Planning Document**

Equalities Analysis (EqA) Scoping Report

December 2013

Section 1 – General Information (Aims and Objectives of SPD)

Name:	Whitechapel Vision Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
Purpose:	The purpose of the Masterplan SPD is to provide a clear and unique vision for Whitechapel, set out key objectives and development priorities for the area and provide guiding principles to support the future regeneration and development of Whitechapel. It aims to provide a coordinated approach to manage change in Whitechapel over the next 15 years. The Masterplan SPD will be a material planning consideration in the determination of planning applications, within the defined boundary.
Aim / Objective:	<p>The overall aim of the Masterplan SPD is to maximise the opportunities arising in Whitechapel from the new Crossrail station (due to open in 2018) and the world-class health and education facilities offered by the Royal London Hospital and Queen Mary, University of London in order to drive regeneration and improve the area for future and existing residents and visitors.</p> <p>The key objectives of the Masterplan SPD are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a detailed vision for the area• Celebrate and enhance Whitechapel as a diverse and thriving centre for residents• Promote Whitechapel as a place to work and do business• Drive town centre regeneration• Identify opportunities to deliver new homes and infrastructure• Establish a set of design principles to embed high quality place making• Set out a detailed implementation programme
Who is expected to benefit from the proposal?	Key stakeholders in the area including the local community, people in housing need, businesses, developers, landowners, Registered Providers, and service providers such as the RLH and QMUL.

Service area:	Planning and Building Control, Strategic Planning
Team name:	Plan Making
Service manager:	Owen Whalley (Planning & Building Control Service Head); Michael Bell (Strategic Planning Manager)
Name and role of the officer completing the EA:	Amy Myer, Planning Officer

Section 2 – Evidence (Consideration of Data and Information for EqA)

What initial evidence do we have which may help us think about the impacts or likely impacts on service users or staff?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Council’s Core Strategy 2025, which was formally adopted by the Council in September 2010, and sets out a vision for the borough, including the ‘place’ of Whitechapel. - The Council’s Managing Development Document, which sets out development principles for the borough, and was formally adopted in May 2013. - A full Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA), which was undertaken for the Council’s Core Strategy 2025 <p>The Whitechapel Masterplan SPD is required to be consistent with the vision and objectives set out in the Core Strategy and the Managing Development Document.</p>
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Section 3 – Assessing the Impacts on the 10 Equalities Groups

How will what you're proposing impact upon the ten Protected Characteristics?

Target Group	Impact	Reason(s) and mitigation
Race	Positive/ Neutral	<p>There is a relatively high BME population in Whitechapel and this equates to approximately 50% of the resident population within the boundary of the study area.</p> <p>One of the key objectives of the masterplan and incorporated into the vision for the area, is to 'Celebrate and enhance Whitechapel as a diverse and thriving centre for residents'. The SPD thereby seeks to promote the area's unique and diverse cultural identity and it is expected that the cultural and ethnic diversity in the area will be enhanced by the Masterplan, by promoting an enhanced cultural offer through the creation of a new civic hub, community facilities and events, improving the overall environment for the existing ethnically and culturally diverse community, supporting the historic and cultural identity of Whitechapel Market, and promoting Whitechapel as a unique destination with a unique cultural identity.</p> <p>The proposed expanded civic hub contained in the spatial options within the masterplan will allow the whole community better access to Council services, including minority groups.</p> <p>With regard to local job provision and employment, it is expected that the Masterplan SPD will generate economic investment and growth in the area and will have a positive impact on the variety of employment opportunities and sectors which in turn will promote better access to a diverse range of jobs for ethnic groups within the area.</p> <p>The Masterplan SPD promotes the delivery of affordable housing for existing and future residents, both through improvements to existing social housing and the provision of new affordable housing and therefore has a positive impact. It is likely that people with a lower socio-economic status will benefit from the additional provision of affordable housing in particular.</p> <p>A statutory 6 week public consultation was undertaken on the draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan SPD, between 23 October 2013 and 4 November 2013. During this extensive consultation period the involvement and participation of all key stakeholders, including all the key equality groups, was encouraged through a series of drop-in sessions, workshops, publicity and forums.</p>
Religion or Belief	Positive	<p>The Whitechapel area has a large number of places of worship, including the East London Mosque (one of the largest mosques in the UK), The Methodist Church of Tower Hamlets, and Brady Street and East London Central Synagogues. In line with the Core Strategy,</p>

		<p>Whitechapel district centre provides a suitable location for community facilities for religious activities, including places of worship.</p> <p>The proposed expanded civic hub contained in the spatial options within the masterplan will allow the whole community better access to Council services and community facilities, including all religious groups.</p> <p>A statutory 6 week public consultation was undertaken on the draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan SPD, between 23 October 2013 and 4 November 2013. During this extensive consultation period the involvement and participation of all key stakeholders, including all the key equality groups, was encouraged through a series of drop-in sessions, workshops, publicity and forums.</p>
Disability	Positive	<p>Whitechapel has a high PTAL rating (6a) with excellent levels of public transport access including buses, trains and the underground.</p> <p>The Masterplan SPD has identified several street access issues including physical severance and lack of connectivity between the north and south sides of the Whitechapel Road. These create barriers to pedestrian movement caused by the configuration of the market, and the general lack of permeability within the existing street network, large floor plate buildings and publicly restrictive estate ownership. The Masterplan SPD seeks to address these issues through improved crossing points, reconfiguration of the market and street network by creating new links to better connect public spaces and maximise the opportunities presented by larger development sites to improve permeability through the area.</p> <p>The new high-capacity Crossrail station due to open in Whitechapel in 2018 will greatly improve access to and from Whitechapel for all of the community and for those with mobility related disabilities will allow them to access a wide range of shops, services and employment both within Whitechapel and London-wide using this strategic transport network.</p> <p>Employment opportunities will further be diversified to include a broader and enhanced offer through SMEs and large service providers within the private and public sectors which is promoted by the Masterplan SPD and therefore should lead to increased employment opportunities for people with disabilities.</p> <p>The Masterplan SPD sets out housing and design guidance, which has regard to Lifetime Homes standards and wheelchair accessibility standards.</p> <p>Improvements to the public realm and the detailed design of buildings will take account of the needs of people with disabilities.</p>

		<p>The proposed expanded civic hub contained in the spatial options within the masterplan will allow the whole community better access to Council services, including those with disabilities.</p> <p>The development of a 'Health and Education' campus which will enhance the health facilities at the Royal London Hospital will improve access to high quality healthcare services, including services for those with disabilities.</p> <p>A statutory 6 week public consultation was undertaken on the draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan SPD, between 23 October 2013 and 4 November 2013. During this extensive consultation period the involvement and participation of all key stakeholders, including all the key equality groups, was encouraged through a series of drop-in sessions, workshops, publicity and forums.</p>
Age	Positive	<p>Whitechapel has a young population with over half of the masterplan's area being under the age of 30. Working age people will benefit from the diversification of employment opportunities and the enhanced opportunities for local employment.</p> <p>New housing will be required to meet Lifetime Homes standards, which ensure that the design of homes support the changing needs of people at different stages in their lives, including the young, those with families, and the elderly.</p> <p>The proposed expanded civic hub contained in the spatial options within the masterplan will allow the whole community better access to Council services, including all age groups.</p> <p>The development of a 'Health and Education' campus which will enhance the health facilities at the Royal London Hospital, will improve access to high quality healthcare services, particularly of relevance to very young and the elderly who may be more prone to suffer from illness and therefore have specific healthcare needs.</p> <p>A statutory 6 week public consultation was undertaken on the draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan SPD, between 23 October 2013 and 4 November 2013. During this extensive consultation period the involvement and participation of all key stakeholders, including all the key equality groups, was encouraged through a series of drop-in sessions, workshops, publicity and forums.</p>
Gender	Positive	<p>Employment opportunities will be diversified to include a broader and enhanced offer through SMEs and large service providers within the private and public sectors. This should lead to more balanced employment opportunities for different genders.</p> <p>The proposed expanded civic hub contained in the spatial options within the masterplan will allow the whole community better access to Council services, including different genders.</p>

		<p>A statutory 6 week public consultation was undertaken on the draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan SPD, between 23 October 2013 and 4 November 2013. During this extensive consultation period the involvement and participation of all key stakeholders, including all the key equality groups, was encouraged through a series of drop-in sessions, workshops, publicity and forums.</p>
Gender Reassignment	Neutral	<p>The proposed expanded civic hub contained in the spatial options within the masterplan will allow the whole community better access to Council services, including all gender groups.</p> <p>The development of a 'Health and Education' campus which will enhance the health facilities at the Royal London Hospital will improve access to high quality healthcare services, including counselling and surgical services.</p> <p>A statutory 6 week public consultation was undertaken on the draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan SPD, between 23 October 2013 and 4 November 2013. During this extensive consultation period the involvement and participation of all key stakeholders, including all the key equality groups, was encouraged through a series of drop-in sessions, workshops, publicity and forums.</p>
Sexual Orientation	Positive	<p>Residents from all backgrounds, including those with different sexual orientations, will benefit from better designed public spaces and lighting and the promotion of more ground floor activity, making neighbourhoods and streets safer by providing natural surveillance and activity. It is anticipated that this will result in a reduction in hate crime and harassment.</p> <p>The proposed expanded civic hub contained in the spatial options within the masterplan will allow the whole community better access to Council services regardless of sexual orientation.</p> <p>A statutory 6 week public consultation was undertaken on the draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan SPD, between 23 October 2013 and 4 November 2013. During this extensive consultation period the involvement and participation of all key stakeholders, including all the key equality groups, was encouraged through a series of drop-in sessions, workshops, publicity and forums.</p>
Marriage or Civil Partnership	Neutral	<p>The proposed expanded civic hub contained in the spatial options within the masterplan will allow the whole community better access to Council services.</p> <p>A statutory 6 week public consultation was undertaken on the draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan SPD, between 23 October 2013 and 4 November 2013. During this extensive consultation period the involvement and participation of all key stakeholders, including all the key equality groups, was encouraged through a series of drop-in sessions, workshops, publicity and forums.</p>
Pregnancy and	Positive	<p>Whitechapel has a high PTAL rating (6a) with excellent levels of public transport access including buses, trains and the underground.</p>

<p>Maternity</p>		<p>The masterplan SPD has identified several street access issues including physical severance and lack of connectivity between the north and south sides of the Whitechapel. These create barriers to pedestrian movement caused by the configuration of the market, and the general lack of permeability within the existing street network, large floor plate buildings and publicly restrictive estates ownerships. The masterplan SPD seeks to address these issues through improved crossing points, reconfiguration of the market and street network by creating new links to better connect public spaces and maximise the opportunities presented by larger development sites to improve permeability through the area.</p> <p>The new high-capacity Crossrail station due to open in Whitechapel in 2018 will greatly improve access to and from Whitechapel for all of the community and will make the area more accessible to those that may have mobility issues (e.g. pregnant women) and provide better access to shops and services without the need to travel far.</p> <p>The development of a 'Health and Education' campus which will enhance the health facilities at the Royal London Hospital will improve access to high quality healthcare services, including maternity services.</p> <p>The proposed expanded civic hub contained in the spatial options within the masterplan will allow the whole community better access to Council services.</p> <p>A statutory 6 week public consultation was undertaken on the draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan SPD, between 23 October 2013 and 4 November 2013. During this extensive consultation period the involvement and participation of all key stakeholders, including all the key equality groups, was encouraged through a series of drop-in sessions, workshops, publicity and forums.</p>
<p>Socio-economic</p>	<p>Positive</p>	<p>The key objective of the masterplan is to bring about and support wide-scale regeneration in Whitechapel and reduce overall levels of social deprivation.</p> <p>A number of measures proposed in the SPD, such as improving existing housing estate environments, improving the layout and design of streets and public spaces, and the creation of a civic hub and health and education campus, will enhance the quality of life for the area's residents, workers and visitors through improving connectivity and public realm, designing out crime, delivering new high quality affordable homes, and creating greater educational and job opportunities. These proposed interventions will help in reducing overall deprivation in the study area and make Whitechapel a more attractive and liveable place.</p>

		<p>The proposed expanded civic hub contained in the spatial options within the masterplan will allow the whole community better access to Council services. The expanded health and education campus will also create better employment opportunities as well as an enhanced Whitechapel Road and street market.</p> <p>The masterplan's managed approach to development in the area over the next 15 years will help focus and capture the benefits of regeneration and investment towards targeting the socio-economic groups most in need.</p> <p>A statutory 6 week public consultation was undertaken on the draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan SPD, between 23 October 2013 and 4 November 2013. During this extensive consultation period the involvement and participation of all key stakeholders, including all the key equality groups, was encouraged through a series of drop-in sessions, workshops, publicity and forums.</p>
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Section 4 – Mitigating Impacts and Alternative Options

From the analysis and interpretation of evidence in section 2 and 3 - Is there any evidence of or view that suggests that different equality or other protected groups (inc' staff) could have a disproportionately high/low take up of the new proposal?

No

The impact of the Masterplan SPD has been assessed as overall rating is neutral/positive. It is therefore not relevant to complete a full Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) for the Masterplan SPD at this stage. In addition, a full EqIA was undertaken for the Council's Core Strategy 2025, and the Masterplan SPD is required to be consistent with this. As such, in accordance with the Corporate Guidance on EqA assessments, the Masterplan SPD will be subject only to a Scoping Equalities Analysis.

A number of changes are being proposed to the final Masterplan, in light of representations received during the statutory consultation period. The Council is satisfied that these proposed amendments do not have any negative equalities implications and do not affect the analysis undertaken above.

Detailed assessments of the social impacts of new developments will be submitted for major planning applications and included within supporting Environmental Impact Assessments for the largest development sites. It is also important to note that the likely impact of the Whitechapel Masterplan is positive, as the aims and objectives of the Masterplan SPD are in place to address local issues and needs.

If yes, please detail below how evidence influenced and formed the proposal? For example, why parts of the proposal were added/removed?

(Please note – a key part of the EA process is to show that we have made reasonable and informed attempts to mitigate any negative impacts. AN EA is a service improvement tool and as such you may wish to consider a number of alternative options or mitigation in terms of the proposal.)

N/A

Have monitoring systems been put in place to check the implementation of the proposal and recommendations?

Yes

How will the monitoring systems further assess the impact on the equality target groups?

The Council's annual Monitoring Report has the potential to review the SPD and this EqA scoping report on an annual basis. This will be considered as part of the action plan stated in section 6.

Does the policy/function comply with equalities legislation?

(Please consider the OTH objectives and Public Sector Equality Duty criteria)

Yes

If there are gaps in information or areas for further improvement, please list them below:

None

How will the results of this Equality Analysis feed into the performance planning process?

- The outputs of this scoping exercise will be reviewed and acknowledged within the Plan Making section of the Planning and Building Control Service Plan (updated annually).
- The SPD and this scoping report has been subject to a 6-week consultation period in accordance with the Council's 'Statement of Community Involvement'.

Section 6 - Action Plan

As a result of these conclusions and recommendations what actions (if any) **will** be included in your business planning and wider review processes (team plan)? Please consider any gaps or areas needing further attention in the table below the example.

Recommendation	Key activity	Progress milestones including target dates for either completion or progress	Officer responsible	Progress
Ensure that all key stakeholders including the community especially hard to reach groups are effectively consulted on the draft Whitechapel Masterplan as required by the Statement of Community Involvement., e.g. inclusive of all ages, gender, ethnicity, faith, disabled and LGBT	<p>Undertake consultation with key stakeholders including the local community (during statutory consultation 23 October – 4 November 2013) to ensure that, where appropriate, their views are taken in to account in the finalisation of the SPD.</p> <p>Ensure appropriate forms of consultation to reflect the diversity of the borough and the 10 target equalities groups identified in the Screening Report.</p>	<p>Update draft SPD to reflect representations received (during statutory consultation 23 October – 4 November 2013)</p> <p>Cabinet approval of final SPD in December 2013</p>	Duncan Brown (Project Manager)	Statutory consultation undertaken (between 23 October and 4 November) now complete
Ensure the SPD and EqA scoping report are reviewed annually	The Council's annual Monitoring Report has the potential to review the SPD and this EqA scoping report on an annual basis, through a range of measures monitoring the impacts and performance of the SPD.	Review on an annual basis in line with Council's MR (March 2014-April 2015)	Duncan Brown (Project Manager)	Current SPD and EqA scoping provides baseline position for review

Section 7 – Sign Off and Publication

Name:	Michael Bell
Position:	Strategic Planning Manager
Date signed off:	21.11.2013