

# Scrutiny Spotlight Session Transport Strategy & Parking Services

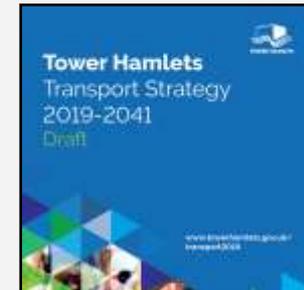
Councillor David Edgar – Cabinet  
Member for Environment

28<sup>th</sup> October 2019

# Transport Strategy – Introduction



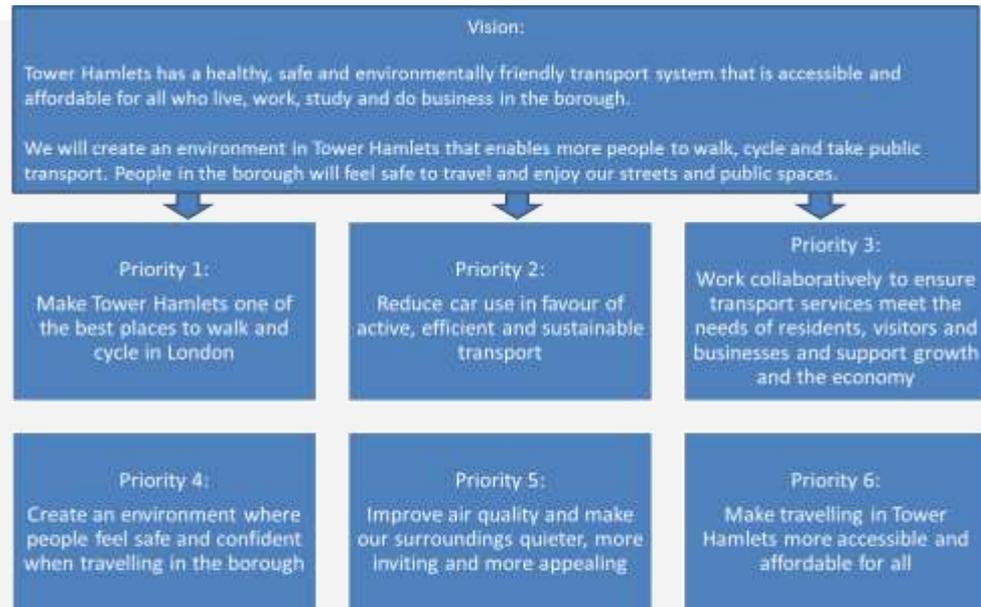
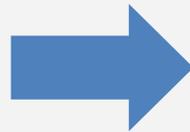
- Sets the future direction for transport over the next 20 years by creating an environment in Tower Hamlets that enables more people to walk, cycle and take public transport
- Tower Hamlets Strategic Plan commits to;
  - develop a new Transport Strategy for the borough, and;
  - make our borough “one of the best in London to walk or cycle in, improving road safety and delivering a new parking policy”
- Mayor of London’s Transport Strategy 2018 & Environment Strategy 2018



# Transport Strategy – Introduction (continued)



6 priorities underpin our vision for a healthy, safe and environmentally friendly transport system in Tower Hamlets



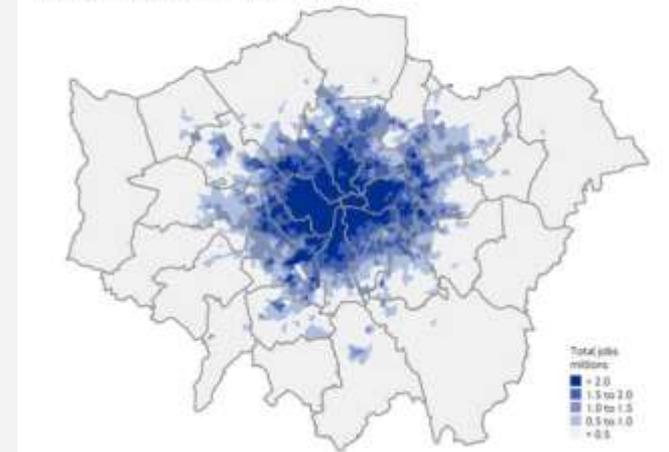
10 action plans and programmes will set out the detail of how our aspirations will be achieved

# Transport Strategy – Opportunities

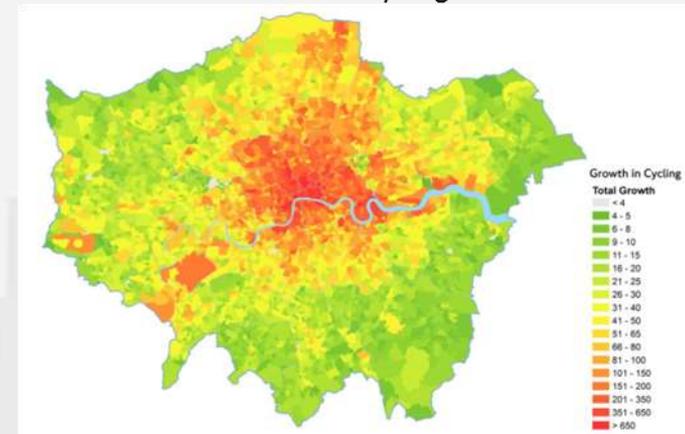


- Good public transport links and close access, often within walking distance, to a wide range of amenities and jobs
- High potential for mode shift;
  - Only 8% of the borough’s cycling potential has been fulfilled with an additional 200,000 cycling trips that could be made by residents switching from alternative modes
  - 27,000 trips per day are made in Tower Hamlets by other forms of travel that could be made by walking

Jobs Available in 45 Minutes



Potential Growth Areas for Cycling



# Transport Strategy – Opportunities (continued)



- Liveable Streets – The Council has embraced an approach that successfully increased take up of active travel and reduction in car use in Waltham Forest, Ghent and others
- Access to investment from government funding
- Partnership working - other boroughs, developers, businesses including SMEs, on-demand transport service providers
- Walking, cycling and public realm improvements are proven to boost local retail sales by up to 30%
- Walking, cycling and public realm improvements are associated with wider economic benefits

# Challenges to achieving our transport aims



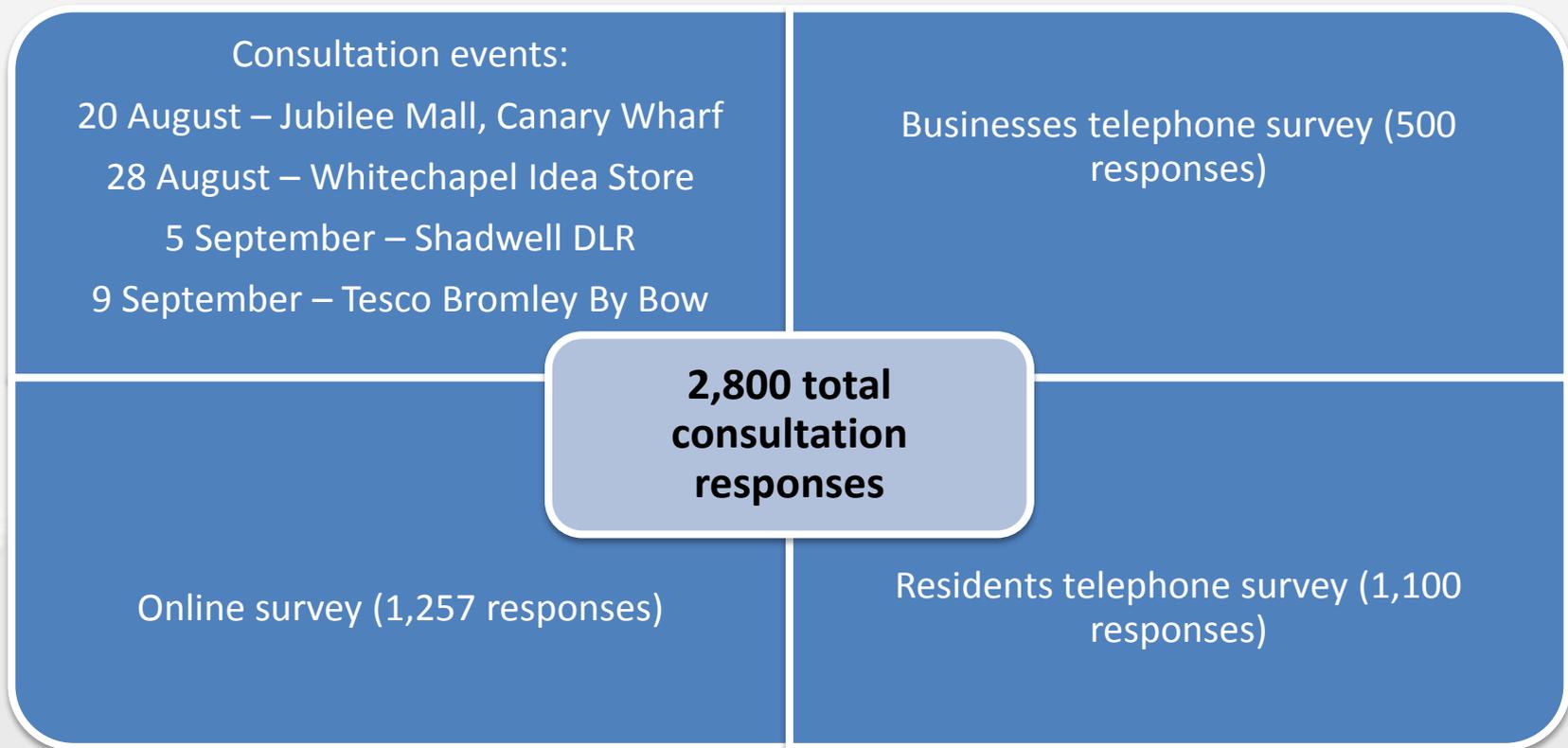
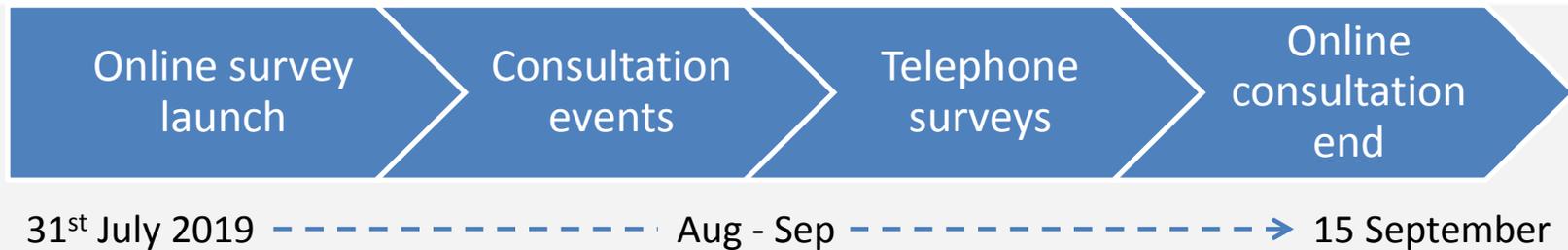
- Lack of segregated cycling infrastructure
- Barriers that may hamper mode shift;
  - Heavy traffic & congestion = safety concerns i.e. risk of road accidents & bus service delays
  - Poor air quality from transport sources = health concerns
  - Overcrowding on public transport = unpleasant journeys
  - High cost of public transport
  - Poor road quality and street environment
- Fear of crime & ASB is a barrier to walking, particularly at night

# Risks to not achieving our transport aims



- Continued growth in the borough and London is expected to exacerbate transport issues despite planned investment in network
- We will fail to achieve our aim to become a carbon neutral Council by 2025 and a carbon neutral borough by 2050
- Car ownership is 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in London but there has been a steady increase in recent years
- Cycling rates have stalled in recent years and walking has dropped

# Consultation timeline & response rate



# Equality considerations



- Priority 6 of the Strategy considers mobility and accessibility issues raised by older and disabled residents at targeted engagement events that were carried out as part of the strategy development process;

Date	Activity
March 2019	Focus group discussions with residents, including older residents and those with mobility issues to test myths on transport
April	Networking Event held by charity, REAL, for older and disabled service users
May	Tower Hamlets facilitated workshop to seek views on transport issues for older and disabled residents
May	Workshop at Toynbee Hall for older and disabled residents

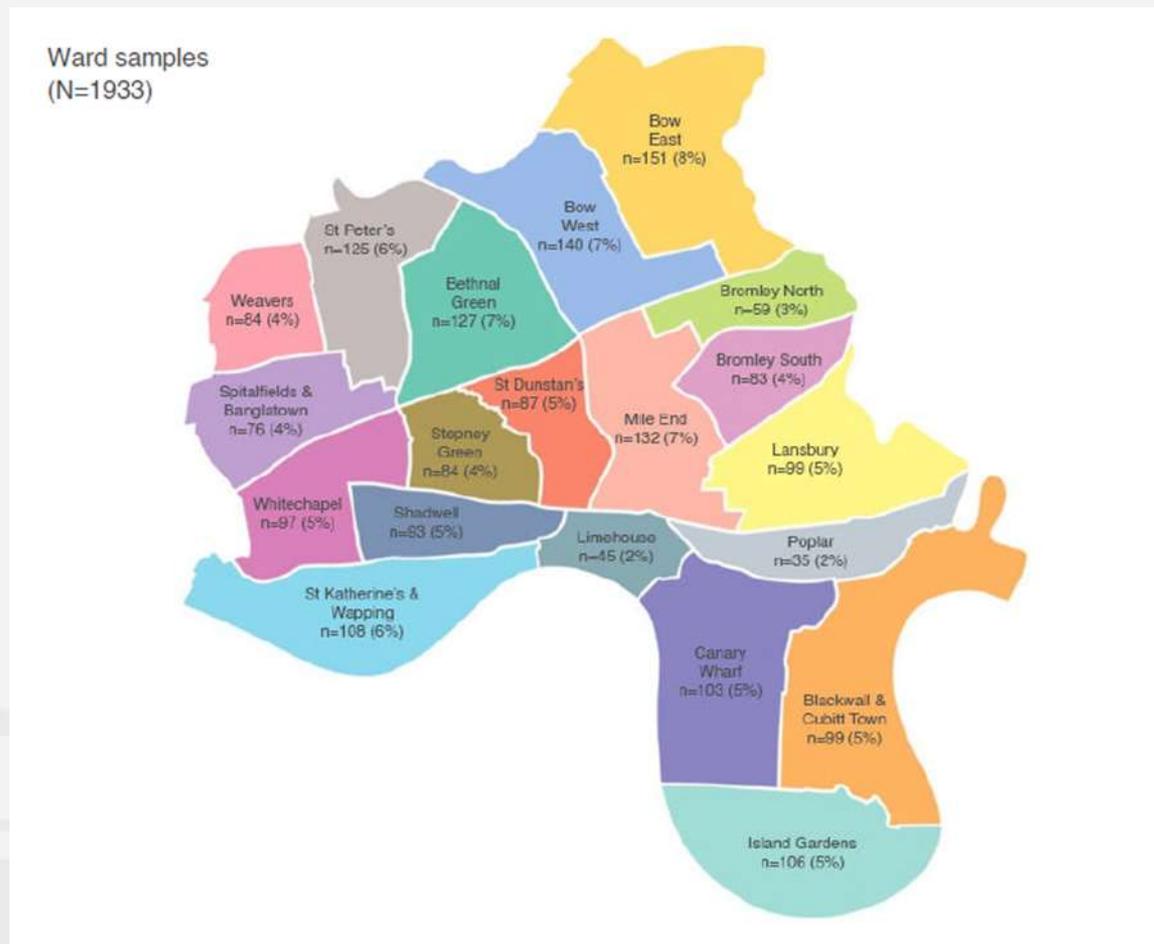
# Next Steps



Date	Activity
Sep - Oct 2019	Analysis of feedback & Strategy amendment
Oct - Nov	Post-consultation Strategy sign-off process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Directorate Leadership Team</li><li>- Corporate Leadership Team</li></ul>
Dec	Final Strategy submitted to Cabinet for adoption
January 2020	Publication of final Strategy
2020 onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Development / refresh Action Plans</li><li>- Creation of Consultative Group (sounding board for transport issues)</li><li>- KPIs:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Monitoring</li><li>- Reporting – Councillors / senior management</li><li>- Publish progress report</li></ul></li></ul>

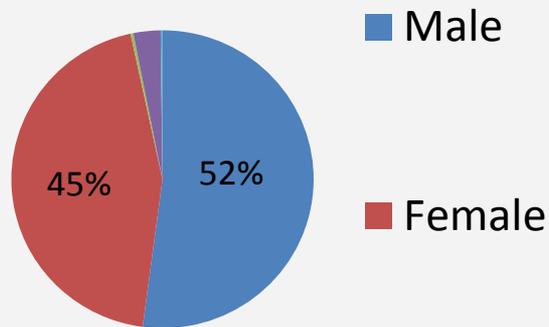
# Geographic location of consultation respondents

- Geographic spread of respondents is equal across the borough

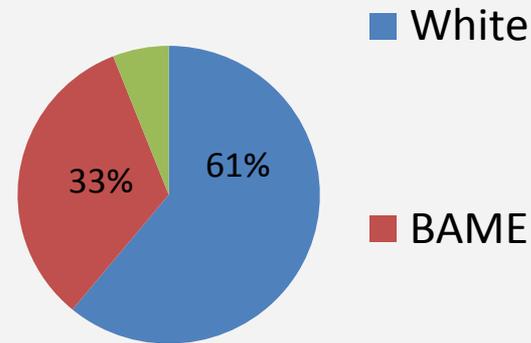


# Demographic characteristics of respondents

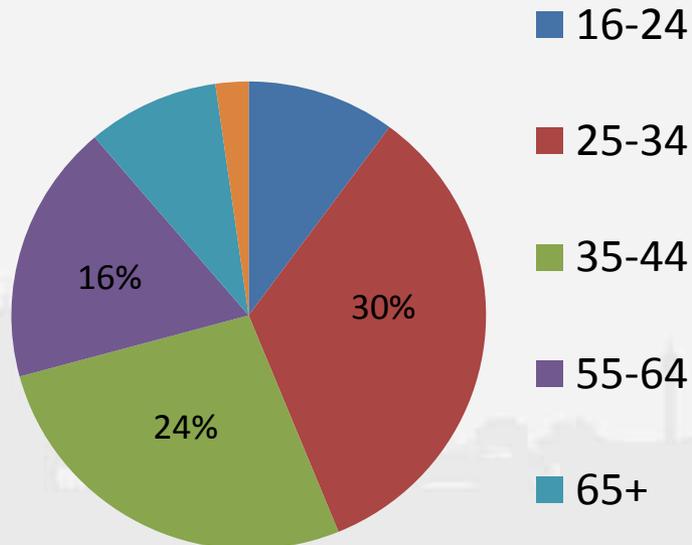
## Gender



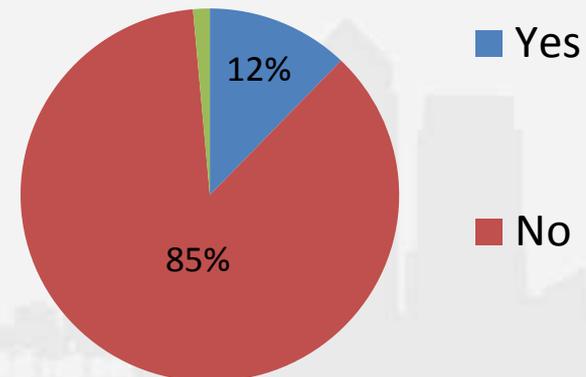
## Ethnicity



## Age



## Disability



# Issues arising from consultation



- Respondents were largely supportive of our vision and priorities with priority 2: *“Reduce dependency on cars in favour of walking, cycling and public transport”* receiving greater support from the online survey than the residents and business telephone survey
- Feedback largely relate to operational issues rather than strategic issues, such as increasing CCTV in key travel locations, increasing cycle & car parking
- We will continue analysing consultation feedback to inform the final Strategy and action plans
- Feedback also includes suggestions to the Council on what more can be done to achieve our aims for transport

# Link to Transport Strategy



Draft Transport Strategy and evidence base used to help shape the Strategy can be found here;

[https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/council\\_and\\_democracy/consultations/past\\_consultations/Transport Strategy 2019 2041.aspx](https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/council_and_democracy/consultations/past_consultations/Transport_Strategy_2019_2041.aspx)