

151 Shaftesbury Avenue

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

May 2024

Table of Contents

1.	Executive Summary	4
2.	Public Consultation.	7
3.	Stakeholder Engagement	.11
4.	Public Consultation Feedback	13
5.	Conclusion & Next Steps	16
Αp	pendices	.18
	Appendix I – Flyer	.18
	Appendix II – Dedicated Website	20
	Appendix III – Vision Book	.24
	Appendix IV – Social Media Campaign	.32
	Appendix V – Pop-up Exhibition Board	34

1.	Executive	Summary
----	------------------	---------

Executive Summary

- 1.1. In September 2023, Royal London Mutual Insurance Society (the Applicant) appointed Kanda Consulting, a specialist public consultation company, to undertake pre-submission community consultation for an application at 151 Shaftesbury Avenue, in the London Borough of Camden.
- 1.2. This Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) provides a record of the preapplication engagement carried out on proposals for the redevelopment of the existing building at 151 Shaftesbury Avenue ahead of the submission of the planning application to the London Borough of Camden.
- 1.3. The proposed application for the scheme is as follows:

Refurbishment of existing building; demolition of existing rooftop plant level and replacement with two new setback floors at levels 8-9 (Class E(g)(i)); partial infill extensions to rear of building at levels 5-8; partial change of use at ground and lower ground floor level for use as either bar/drinking establishment (Sui Generis) and/or Commercial, Business & Service uses (Class E); retention of existing Commercial, Business & Service (Class E) floorspace elsewhere in the building; replacement of existing façades and provision of cycle parking and associated end of trip facilities at lower ground floor level. The objective of the consultation was to provide a full pre-application consultation with local residents and key local stakeholders, in line with the requirements set by London Borough of Camden.

- 1.4. One of the early design objectives for the redevelopment was to update the building in line with the latest sustainability standards and limit the extent of demolition.
- 1.5. The brief was to develop and implement a 'hybrid' approach, with both a dedicated project webpage and online consultation, and an in-person public pop-up event on site.
- 1.6. A series of targeted public engagement activities have taken place to present the proposed scheme to local residents and stakeholders from November December 2023. This has taken place in conjunction with pre-application discussions with the London Borough of Camden. A breakdown of stakeholder meetings is provided in Section 3.12.
- 1.7. The pre-application public consultation activity included:
 - Flyers (Appendix I) sent to key local residents and businesses near the site at 640 addresses. The letter included information about the plans, and how to leave feedback online.
 - A Pop-up Session held on the 7th December 2023 with Exhibition boards and CGI drawings of the plans.

- The launch of a dedicated project **consultation webpage** on the 6th December 2023 <u>www.151ShaftesburyAvenue.co.uk</u> (Appendix II). The website introduced the proposals through a webpage explained how to provide feedback and set out how to contact the team.
- 1.8. Overall, the feedback received throughout both stages of the public consultation process has been supportive of the proposals for the site. There has been particular support for purpose of the plans to limit demolition.
- 1.9. Despite extensive consultation and wide distribution of newsletters and flyers, only a few local residents shared any concerns with the proposals, indicating that the majority of local residents who received the consultation information did not publicly or actively object to the proposal.
- 1.10. The Applicant is grateful for the constructive and thoughtful feedback received and has sought to respond to these comments where possible.
- 1.11. The Applicant remains committed to engaging with the residents, businesses and other key local stakeholders through the application process and beyond, subject to obtaining planning permission.
- 1.12. This document has been informed by Central Government Guidance within the Revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) July 2021 on community involvement in planning. It forms part of the supporting documentation informing the planning application.

2.	Consultation	Process
----	--------------	----------------

2. Public Consultation

- 2.1. The objective of the pre-application consultation process was as follows:
 - To deliver a 'hybrid' consultation approach
 - To provide a full pre-application consultation, in line with the London Borough of Camden's requirements
 - To ensure that key information on the proposals was communicated clearly to key stakeholders and local residents
 - To provide feedback on the plans for the future of the site and to identify and address key concerns, ahead of the submission of the planning application to the London Borough of Camden
- 2.2. The pre-application consultation process was carried out in three stages.
 - The consultation began with approaches to political and community stakeholders from November to December 2023.
 - The public consultation consisted of a hybrid engagement strategy to increase the accessibility of the consultation. This included hosting an online public consultation via a dedicated project website (www.151ShaftesburyAvenue.co.uk)
- 2.3. The consultation website and channels of communication remain open and are regularly monitored following the formal closing of the public consultation. This enables local residents to find out more about the proposals, as well as raise any further comments or queries they had with members of the project team.

Public Consultation

- 2.4 The objective of the first stage of the public consultation process was to inform local residents and businesses about the early plans for the redevelopment of the site and allow them with a means to provide their feedback.
- 2.5 The first stage of the public consultation period was from **7**th **22**nd **December 2023**.
- 2.6 A dedicated project consultation website (Appendix II) was launched on 7th December 2023, at (www.151ShaftesburyAvenue.co.uk) The website introduced the proposals for the redevelopment of the site, explained how to provide feedback and set out how to contact the team. There were 408 visitors to the site during the consultation period.

- 2.7 A flyer (Appendix I) was distributed on 6th December 2023 to **c.640 addresses** around the site informing them of the proposals, sharing our contact details and pointing them towards the public consultation website for more information.
- 2.8 The flyer contained a summary of key information on the early proposals for the site, how to get involved in the consultation, and provided contact details for the project team. The distribution area for the flyer is shown below:



Newsletter distribution area covering c.640 addresses.

2.9 A pop-up consultation event was also held on site on the 7th December 2023 with the team engaging in discussions with 15 passers-by, including a number of people who worked in the building already.



Pop-up consultation event, photo taken 12:53pm outside 151 Shaftesbury Avenue

- 2.10 The aim of this session was to inform local residents and workers about the plans for the site and to understand their thoughts on the proposals.
- 2.11 Key feedback received from the people spoken to showed support for our design for the proposals and also were keen to see sensitive construction of the development.
- 2.12 In total, **11 feedback forms** were received during the first stage of public consultation through an online feedback form. This included some responses from those spoken to at the pop-up consultation

Feedback

- 2.13 As part of the feedback process, respondents answered several questions based on the plans for the site.
- 2.14 Respondents to the online survey were asked to provide the following information via the feedback form:
 - Name
 - Postcode
 - Email Address
 - Their existing relationship to the site
- 2.15 At the end of the survey, the respondents were provided with the option to share their contact data and register to be a part of the mailing list. The survey stated the data will be stored and handled according to the GDPR guidelines.
- 2.16 Respondents were given the option to accept or decline whether they wished their contact details to be stored.

3.	Stakeholder	Engagement
----	-------------	------------

3. Stakeholder Engagement

- 3.1. After the launch of the wider public consultation, Kanda approached key stakeholders and near neighbours to discuss the proposals for 151 Shaftesbury Avenue.
- 3.2. The objective of this primary stakeholder engagement was to identify potential issues as early as possible so it could be addressed in the proposals, as well as inform the wider communications and engagement approach.

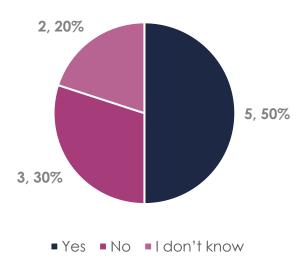
Stakeholder Correspondence

- 3.3. On 6th December 2023, ahead of the public consultation, a letter on behalf of the Applicant (Appendix I) was sent to key stakeholders. The letter introduced the Applicant as the new owners of 151 Shaftesbury Avenue, set out the early plans for the site, and an invitation to a detailed briefing with members of the project team.
- 3.4. This correspondence was sent to the following political stakeholders:
 - Cllr Jullian Fullbrook
 - Cllr Sue Vincent
 - Cllr Awale Olad
- 3.5. The above political stakeholders were contacted due to their relevant roles within Camden Council, either as Cabinet Members or ward councillors.
- 3.6. The correspondence was sent to the following community groups, businesses and resident's associations due to their proximity to the site, their influence in the Old Street area, or their interest in planning and architecture:
 - The Phoenix Gardens Organisation
 - St Giles
 - Bloomsbury Conservation Forum
 - Lindsay House Resident's Association

4.	Public	Consul	tation	Feedb	ack

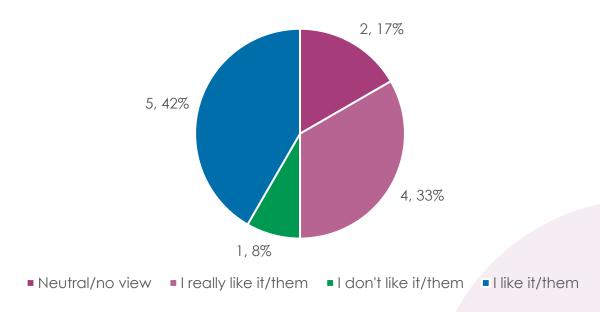
4. Public Consultation Feedback

Do you understand the need to refurbish 151 Shaftesbury Avenue?

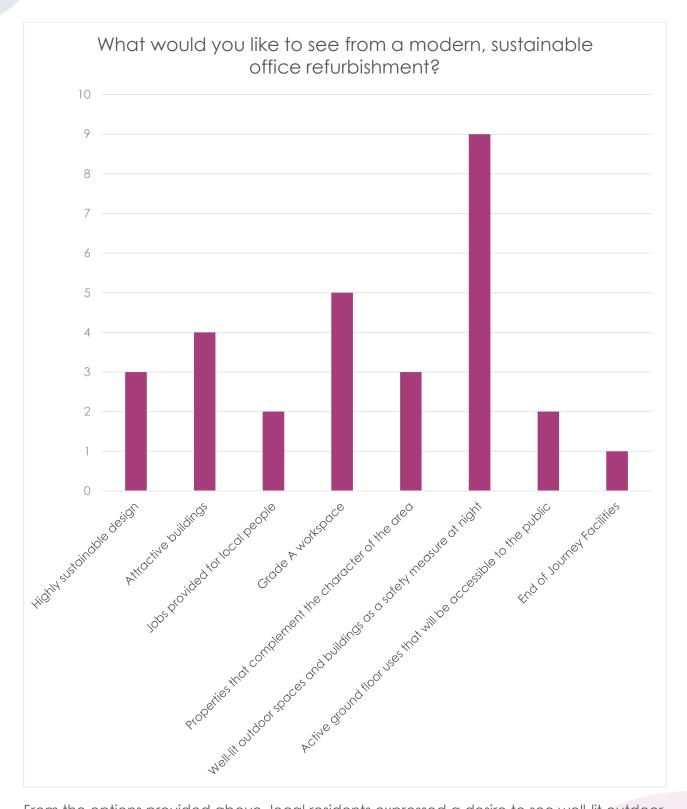


Half of the respondents answered that they think the site is in need of refurbishment with only a couple of responses disagreeing. There were also 3 people who said they didn't know if the site should be refurbished.

What do you think of the new designs for the building?



The majority of people liked the design for the building with only 1 respondent disagreeing. 75% of people liked the design that the team put forward.



From the options provided above, local residents expressed a desire to see well-lit outdoor spaces and a building that promotes night-time safety. High-quality grade A workspace and a more attractive building were also among their preferences. In contrast, amenities like additional end of journey facilities did not rank high on their list of priorities, with only one respondent indicating it as a significant priority.

5. Conclusion & Next Steps

5. Conclusion & Next Steps

- 5.1 Public consultation is a vital element of the planning and development process. Good pre-application engagement offers local communities the opportunity to get involved and help shape proposals so that the subsequent planning application takes into consideration their opinions.
- 5.2 The consultation outlined has sought to engage members of the community, as the Applicant is fully committed to working with local people in producing this scheme. The Applicant believes that the best development will happen with input from local stakeholders and those who understand the local area best.
- 5.3 The programme of stakeholder engagement and public consultation has provided interested stakeholders and local residents with an opportunity for constructive engagement with leading members of the development team a dialogue that the Applicant hopes to continue throughout the planning and build-out process.
- 5.4 Over the course of the public consultation, over **408 people** viewed the project website and **26 people** completed some kind of feedback form whether that be online or inperson. Our consultation was advertised by a flyer that was distributed to c.2,978 addresses and was viewed by **7,019 people** via social media advertising. In addition to the statutory consultee, 4no pre-application meetings and Design Review Panel that have taken place, 2 stakeholder meetings have occurred to date.
- 5.5 This SCI demonstrates that the Applicant has fully involved the community and local stakeholders in the development of the application proposals for the Site, in bringing forward a planning application. The Applicant is keen to continue working with the Local Planning Authority, key stakeholders, and the local community. This consultation process will, therefore, continue throughout the determination period of the planning application and beyond.
- 5.6 The Applicant remains available for anyone who wishes to contact them, to answer their questions and to consider their feedback through the contact details advertised.

Next Steps

- 5.7 The Applicant has addressed the concerns in the feedback presented in this statement during the public consultation process and has incorporated amendments based on suggestions received during the Design Review Panel meetings.
- 5.8 The Applicant is committed to continuing to engage with the community, residents and political stakeholders following the submission of a planning application
- 5.9 The project email and other channels of communication will remain open so that residents and key stakeholders can continue to give their thoughts on the proposals for 151 Shaftesbury Avenue.

Appendices

Appendices

Appendix I - Flyer

151Shaftesbury Avenue

Royal London Mutual Insurance Society and its expert team are bringing forward proposals for the future of 151 Shaftesbury Avenue.

Importantly, the proposals will enable the renewal and reimagining of the building by means of a complete refurbishment and extension. In doing so, this site will deliver the following key benefits:



New high-quality Grade-A office spaces alongside the opportunity for vibrant retail/cafe space to now operate at ground level and activate the street.



Provide enhanced amenity to encourage cycling, end of travel and wellness facilities.

And an improved relationship with St Giles Passage and New Compton Street.



Propose new façade treatments and high-performance glazing to improve energy performance and enhance the appearance of the building whilst being respectful of the surrounding conservation areas.



A sustainable approach with the vast majority of existing structure being reused, reducing the extent of demolition.



and St Giles Passage



How to Get Involved

We are keen to understand your views on the emerging proposals for 151 Shaftesbury Avenue. If you would like to have your say or find out more about more the existing building or our emerging proposals, please visit our dedicated consultation website:

You can also access our website by scanning the following QR code:



www.151ShaftesburyAvenue.co.uk



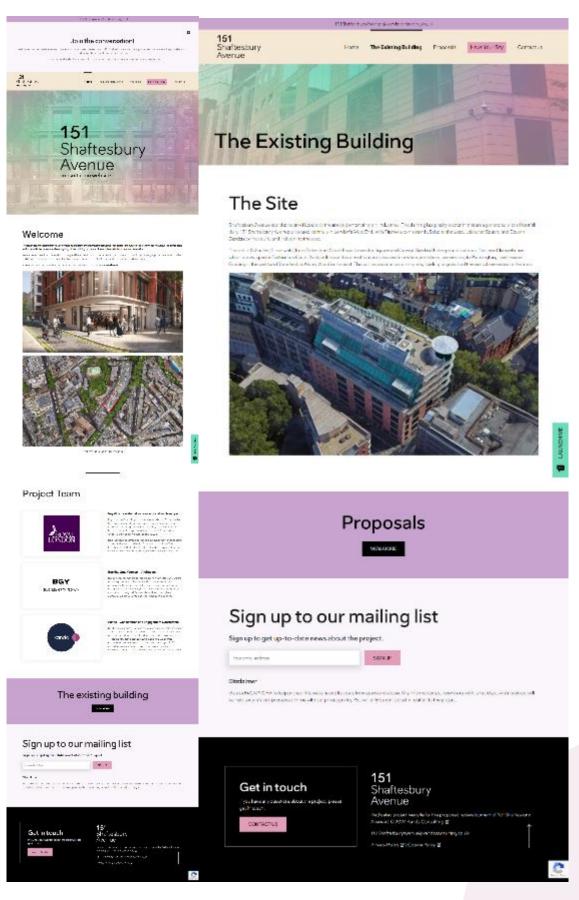
Contact Us

Alternatively, if you have any questions or would like to speak with a member of the team, you can get in touch by using the following contact details.

- 151ShaftesburyAvenue@kandaconsutling.co.uk
- © 020 3900 3676

Recycle when no longer needed

Appendix II - Dedicated Website







By completing and submitting this questions in source film you must been pre-sted out nonlinear our Pikery Note: The millers on of proposal data is supported in a source to even the steam of our Pikery Note or Car Pikery 14d as certibe standarded in **kandarded resulting could privacy**.

Sign up to get up-to-date news about the project. Your area soldness Disclaimer We use that APICI Kinchelp persecution welcohoused brusses from seem and abuse. Any information conspressed with the new letters which new letter

policy 13



Our Vision

Curvering propose that a full will felt state to yet whether the foreign state of the control of a careful will be a careful with the control of the control

Educating the solding process the coppose proceptions after fore good, which many villuppade and need the continues introduction processor. As the continues of the continues of

Post in tertunitie extra nel Common and una regindo a l'est annich, so in out format en giber le oppresen Trobushayo La cognicio promise qual d'in est quincia sancino more e granduse seu produse sancino d'application de mora de La common de l'application de l'application de l'application de la condition de l'application de l'ap

An Establica assistable diagraphic visit and extension Trailing to a terminal such as on the reducing the exercise.

Calver a new extension for some common weight past on a fail actual way Asserts.

Calvertiging valvy Grade - A vertapease, providing from earth-common transpose, these

Propose new logick installent high performance gloding is tracted a recycle formation and derite route accessment of the boding of your temperature of the accessment of the boding of your temperature of the accessment of the boding of the b

Adapting up-to-data the engineering principles has become a few at the relative few review

 $. \\ \textbf{Travide mode well electric energy} \land m synelf electricaliting sent payand sociolers, in olectrical security and according to the property of the prope$

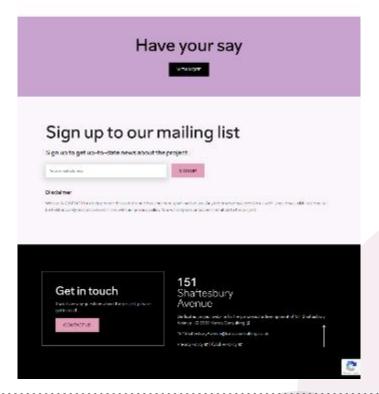
some the deviation of the form of each and a configuration of the product of the each of the each of the configuration of the product of the configuration o

- Managing to the action throughout, the uniquely to published a particular described as a challenge of the control of the con

Book with the action through the spirit using with a public volet, and spirit and the spirit of the dependence of the formation of the spirit o



Concept Distance to USA Shahara.ey (Among

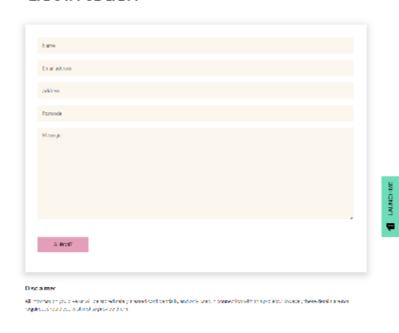


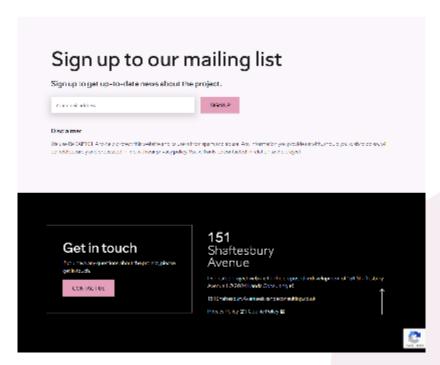


Contact us

Their good to sing the tractive of the words down complies for find and off 31 offices, yield an according to a control of the basis forms of redupones. By a tractile observed, guess, of Mean, selected agreement of the basis forms of redupones. By a tractile observed agreement of the power of the power of the basis forms yields a supplemental observed and according to the power of the basis o

Get in touch





Vision Book

December 2023

151Shaftesbury Avenue

The 151 Shaftesbury Avenue Team

Royal London Mutual Insurance Society and its expert team are bringing forward proposals for the future of 151 Shaftesbury Avenue. The proposals look to enable the renewal and reimagining of the building by means of a complete refurbishment and extension.

Key Project Team:

Royal London Mutual Insurance Society (Royal London)



Royal London Group (Royal London) was founded in 1861, and is the UK's largest mutual life, pensions and insurance company. Royal London Asset Management forms part of Royal London Group and holds £7.9bn in UK property assets across over 230 properties, of which 76 are in London (figures as at Q3 2023).

Royal London has a strong track record in development and has a large active development pipeline. In LB Camden this includes The Earnshaw, a 160,000sqft best in class office building currently under construction on New Oxford Street, which has been pre-let to GSK.

Buckley Gray Yeoman - Architect



Buckley Gray Yeoman are agents of opportunity. We take what we find – on the ground and in the brief – and uncover unanticipated possibilities. The changes we deliver are executed with a strong sense of responsibility to our clients, but we never forget that design must also make you feel good. Our work is sensitive, thorough and authentic, but it is also unapologetically joyful and surprising.

Kanda - Consultation and Engagement Consultants



Kanda is a multi-disciplinary communications agency that is passionate about regeneration and place-making. We use our breadth and depth of experience with communities, developers and decision makers to create the very best places to live, work and visit. We operate exclusively in the regeneration, property and planning world. With consultants working across England, we deliver exceptional consultation programmes, combined with the very best policy advice.





The Existing Building & Surrounding Area

Shaftesbury Avenue is at the heart of London's theatre and entertainment industries. The thriving hospitality sector in this area generates a lot of footfall daily.

151 Shaftesbury Avenue is located centrally in London's West End, with Fitzrovia to the north, Soho to the west, Leicester Square and Covent Garden to the south, and Holborn to the east.

The site is 0.2 miles (5 min walk) from Tottenham Court Road, Leicester Square and Covent Garden Underground stations. The new Elizabeth line, which is now open at Tottenham Court Road, will make this one of London's busiest interchange stations, connecting to Paddington, Heathrow or Reading in the west and Shenfield or Abbey Wood in the east. This will be popular to commuters, leading to growth of the workplace sector in the area.





Proposals

Our emerging proposals for the future of 151 Shaftesbury Avenue seek to renew the building by means of a complete refurbishment and extension whilst retaining a majority of the structural frame. The revitalised building will provide high-quality office space alongside the opportunity for other businesses to operate at ground level to activate the street.





Extending 151 Shaftesbury Avenue provides the opportunity to optimise office floor space, which in turn will upgrade and meet the scheme's ambition for providing excellent sustainability credentials. This is required to meet the standards of today but also future proof towards a Net Zero Carbon goal. Due to challenges associated with the existing façade panels, it is proposed to reclad the building. This will provide a fully compliant, thermally improved facade in line with Royal London's sustainability ambitions. A re-clad also presents the apportunity to improve the appearance of the building and how it sits within its context.

Royal London's ambitions align with Camden Council's planning policy and sustainability has been at the forefront of the design process. The building will be designed to maximise reuse of the existing structure and minimise energy and water use, providing a healthy and comfortable environment for tenants and visitors.



Key Benefits

Importantly, our proposals deliver the following key benefits:



A re-branded sustainable building achieved via retrofit and extension. The vast majority of existing structure will be reused, reducing the extent of demolition and retaining the existing embodied carbon within the frame.



Propose new facade treatments and high performance glazing to improve energy performance and enhance the appearance of the building whilst being respectful of conservation areas and surrounding listed buildings.



Reactivating the Ground and Lower Ground floors, interfacing with the public realm, creating an active entrance to the site and enlivening the street scene onto Shaftesbury Avenue.



Deliver a new extension that serves to reactivate this portion of Shaftesbury Avenue.



Deliver high quality Grade-A workspaces, providing modern flexible and adaptable offices.



Adopting up-to-date fire engineering principles in design and construction as part of the works.



Provide enhanced amenity to encourage active travel including cycling and end of travel and wellness facilities.



Increase the external office communal and private **roof-garden spaces** alongside providing 'green-roofs' to raise urban greening, occupants' well-being and **increased biodiversity**.



Provide a modern all electric building with new energy efficient services and roof plant, including solar panels.

Thank you

The project team would like to thank you for taking the time to engage with our proposals for the refurbishment and extension of 151 Shaftesbury Avenue. We welcome your views on our proposals.

Please take a moment to fill out our feedback form, which can be accessed through the QR code. Alternatively, you can visit our website at:

www.151ShaftesburyAvenue.co.uk

Make sure you submit your comments before the consultation window closes on 21st December 2023. These forms will be treated as confidential and read only by the project team. Where possible, we will try to incorporate your comments within our proposals.



SCAN THE QR CODE

Once the planning application is submitted, Camden Council will conduct its own period of public consultation on the application, where you will have a further opportunity to provide feedback. The intention is to submit a planning application in early 2024. Should you have any questions regarding our proposals you can contact the team through the contact details below.



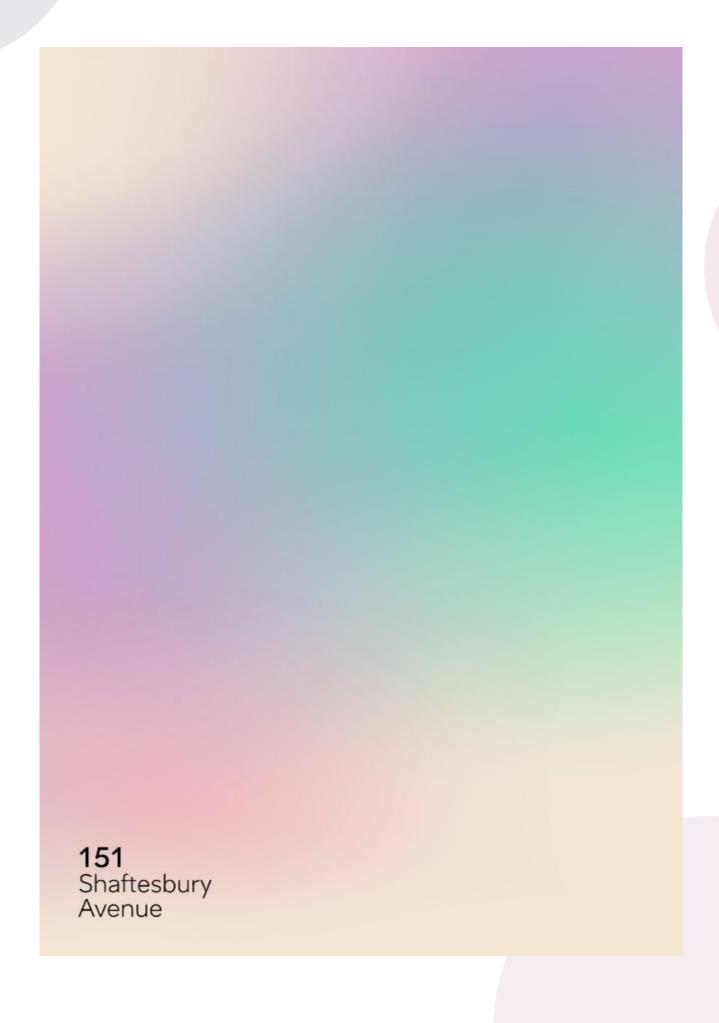
151 Shaftesbury Avenue@kandaconsulting.co.uk



07824 543201

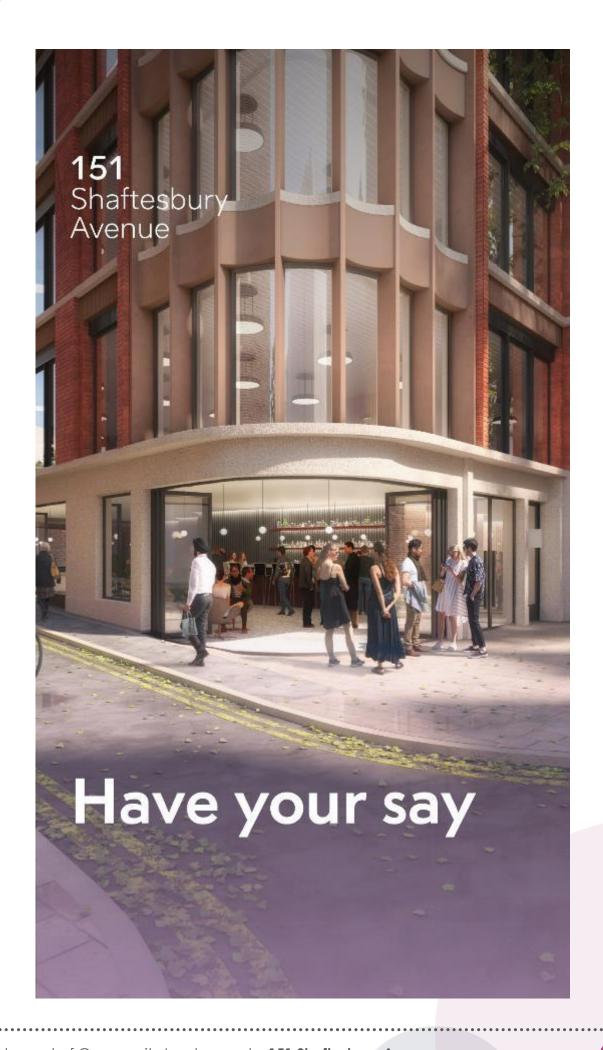


Recycle when no longer needed



Appendix IV – Social Media Campaign





Appendix V – Pop-up Exhibition Board

