



# LONDON IRISH CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

LONDON  
**IRISH**  
CENTRE

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT  
MARCH 2020

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## APPENDICES

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## **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**1.1** This Statement of Community Involvement has been prepared by the London Irish Centre (The Applicant) in support of a full planning application for the redevelopment of the London Irish Centre.

### **Consultation Overview**

**1.2** The consultation was carried out in conjunction with pre-application meetings held with the London Borough of Camden's planning, design and heritage officers, details of which are included within the Planning Statement and Design and Access Statement which accompany this application.

**1.3** Activities undertaken as part of the consultation included:

- Meetings and focus groups with neighbours and local and other stakeholder groups
- Introductory letters posted to neighbours inviting them to the two public consultations
- Poster, online and social media notifications of the Community Conversation event; the two public consultation exhibitions and the LIC Future Survey
- Provision of feedback forms at the Community Consultation and public consultation exhibitions
- Meetings with Camden Councilors, Planners and other Camden Council managers
- Meetings, visits and consultations with a range of experts and other relevant Community and Cultural Centre executives

**1.4** Over 1400 people have contributed to the consultation process through attendances at events, meetings and visits. There is a duplication in this counting as, for example, many of the same neighbours will have been present at the multiple CSNA meetings in 2019. However, the Applicant estimates in the region of 1000 individuals have participated throughout the process.

**1.5** The Applicant will continue to actively engage with the local community throughout the course of the project.

**1.6** The responses to the Community Conversation event; the two public consultation exhibitions and the LIC Future Survey indicate the local residents and stakeholders support the redevelopment of the Centre and broadly welcome proposals to increase the range of services and facilities available.

**1.7** This report has been informed by Central Government guidance within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2019 on community involvement. It forms part of the supporting documentation informing the planning application.

## 2.0 INTRODUCTION

**2.1** The London Irish Centre is located on the corners of Camden Square, Murray Street and Murray Mews within the London Borough of Camden. The Community Centre is spread over a group of buildings that adjoin the existing 19th century villas along Camden Square.



**2.2** The surrounding context consists of a range of historic and contemporary buildings all set within the Camden Square Conservation Area. The scale of the existing buildings range from 3-4 storeys which conforms to the established building heights along the commercial section of Murray Street, as well as the semi-detached double Villa pattern that runs on the east, north & western sides of Camden Square. To the south of the site is the more commercial part of Murray Street, with some shops and a local cafe leading to the corner of Agar Grove. The east & western rhythm of the Square is derived from a row of double Villas with gaps between the buildings which provides permeability between the Square & the Mews streets behind.

**2.3** The Camden Square Conservation Area is primarily a 19th century planned development with a gridded street layout running parallel to and perpendicular from Camden Road, focused around Camden Square St. Paul's Church, a large neo-gothic structure sat on the northern part of the square as the central community building in Camden Square. This was demolished in the 1950's and replaced with a small church building that remains today.

**2.4** The London Irish Centre was founded in 1954, and opened in 1955, to provide care to ill-prepared emigrants arriving in post-World War II London. Since then, the LIC has grown into a renowned community centre underpinned by 3 main focus areas - Care, Culture & Community.

**2.5** The Community will always be at the heart of the charity. The Irish in London are diverse and spread across the city. The existing Centre caters for numerous non-Irish organisations, as well as providing care & support to many in need in Camden and beyond. Over 40% of the Centre's current users are non-Irish, and are drawn to the Centre for its warm and welcoming connection to a vibrant and supportive Irish community. The LIC's charitable objectives work to –

- Relieve and combat poverty, distress, financial hardship and sickness
- Relieve those in need by reason of youth, age, ill health, disability, unemployment or other disadvantage
- Promote Irish art, culture and heritage for the public benefit
- Advance education for the public benefit in Irish culture and language.

**2.6** With greater demand and need, escalating repair costs and more pressures on the LIC, the current building is no longer fit for purpose.

**2.7** To address these issues and more, the LIC is seeking a comprehensive redevelopment of their Centre. The LIC want to reimagine, redevelop and reposition themselves as a world class community and cultural Centre. The LIC is committed to ensuring that any redevelopment will continue to meet the needs of those whom it serves, now and in the coming years. The LIC wish to remain as a destination to foster friendship and support networks, and a place to celebrate Irish heritage, culture and community.

**2.8** As the Irish Heart of London the LIC has the ability to be an exemplar to migrant communities in London and further afield by demonstrating an example of how a community can establish itself as a vibrant part of London's evolving culture, as well as strengthening the cultural bridge between London & Ireland.

**2.9** in 2019 the LIC carried out 4,323 face to face welfare sessions, assisting 2,111 people, predominantly from Camden, in crisis. The LIC welcomed 18,794 customers for Irish culture, arts and education events and more than 1300 events were held with over 82,000 visiting the Centre for Care, Culture and Community events.



### 3.0 CONSULTATION PROCESS SUMMARY

**3.1** An extensive public consultation was first carried out in 2015/16. This consisted of an Online Survey and in-depth Stakeholder Interviews. 487 people participated online and 19 stakeholder interviews were carried out. The Executive Summary of this consultation is included as **Appendix 1**.

**3.2** The current consultation was extensive both in scale and in duration, commencing February 2019 and concluding 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020.



**3.3** The objectives of the consultation process were to engage with local stakeholders as well as with clients and users of the Centre; raise awareness of the proposed redevelopment; and secure feedback and input in order to shape the redevelopment proposals to meet the needs of residents, clients and customers. Please note that there may be crossovers between these groups, for example, a Camden Councillor may be a resident or a Wellbeing Centre client maybe a neighbour.

**3.4** The LIC's Senior Leadership Team, held a series of Stakeholder Meetings and Focus Groups with Neighbours and Residents, as set out in **Section 4**:

- Camden Square Neighbours
- Camden Square Neighbourhood Association
- Wellbeing Centre Clients (including local residents)
- Rochester Square Gardens

**3.5** The Applicant's Senior Leadership Team in conjunction with the project's Architect, Coffey, held a series of Stakeholder Meetings and Focus Groups with the following, as set out in **Section 5**:

- Cultural Service organisers
- LIC Managers
- Venue Operator Managers
- Irish Community entrepreneurs
- Irish Elderly Advice Network
- GLA/Mayor's Office
- LIC Staff

**3.6** The Applicant held three public engagement events as well as an online survey as set out in **Section 6**. The public engagement was launched at a 'Community Conversation' held at 18:30 on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019 hosted at the Centre. See **Appendix 2** for the executive summary. It marked the starting point for the 2019-20 public consultation, and members of the public as well as staff at the LIC were invited to attend the event to offer their views during a facilitated public forum.

**3.7** The Applicant's Futures Survey followed the 'Community Conversation' launched on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019 on both Survey Monkey and as a physical copy available at the Centre, as set out in **Section 7**. It closed on the 16<sup>th</sup> August with 371 responses (with 32 physical copies and 339 digital copies).

**3.8** Two formal public consultations were held on the 18/07/2019 and the 26/02/2020 from 5.15pm to 8.15pm, in the Centre's main Mc Namara Hall. 39 attended the first event and 20 attended the second event, as set out in **Section 8**.

**3.9** The Applicant's Architect and Planning Advisor, with the LIC's Chair and CEO, engaged with Camden Council at two pre-application meetings and one Design Review Panel, as set out in **Section 9**.

**3.10** The Applicant's Senior Leadership Team, held a series of meetings with Camden Councillors and other Camden Agencies, as set out in **Section 10**.

**3.11** The Applicant's Senior Leadership Team held a series of meetings with External Consultants and Specialist Venue Operators with, as set out in **Section 11**:

- Specialist venue operators
- Other Community Venues

## 4.0 NEIGHBOUR AND RESIDENT MEETINGS

4.1 The Applicant engaged with Neighbours and Residents, prior to and following the more formal public consultation events, details of which are set out in the table below:



Stakeholder	Date	Summary	Follow Up
Camden Square Neighbourhood Association (CSNA)	18.02.19	The Applicant's LIC CEO and Chair attended the CSNA AGM and briefed circa 50 of the members on the proposed developments	Applicant arranged to update the Association at the next CSNA meeting
Neighbourhood Focus Group	07.06.19	<p>The Applicant met with 6 members from the Camden Square Neighbourhood association to outline the principles of the proposed development. They noted what offerings the LIC could provide so that they would use the Centre much more. Food offerings, roof terrace as well as high quality lettable space for parties were noted as desirable to the community.</p> <p>Neighbouring residents emphasised a preference for a variety of facilities and</p>	Neighbours to be invited to public consultations



		improvements including an improved frontage for the building, a contemporary design, flexible multi-form space and the facilities for a local history club. The importance of a design that would minimise the noise from events and users was also raised.	
Camden Square Neighbourhood Association	02.07.19	The Applicant's CEO and Chair attended the CSNA AGM and briefed 32 of the members on the proposed developments.	LIC arranged to update the Association at the next CSNA meeting
Camden Square Neighbourhood Association	24.09.19	The Applicant's CEO and Chair attended the CSNA AGM and briefed 30 of the members on the proposed developments.	LIC arranged to update the Association at the next CSNA meeting
Camden Square Neighbourhood Association	24.02.20	The Applicant's Chair and CEO updated the CSNA, 44 attendees, on timeline and reiterated the invitation to the Public Consultation on the 26.02.20.	
Rochester Square	13.10.19	The Applicant's CEO visited the open day at the Rochester Square and met the operator Eric Wragge and users/residents. Rochester Sq have aspirations to build out the Rochester Square but it appears this is many years away.	LIC CEO introduced the LIC's Wellbeing Manager to the owners
Wellbeing Centre Clients	16.10.19	The Applicant met with 22 clients from the Centre's Wellbeing Service. These would be predominantly aged over 65 and use the Service up to three times per week for meals and social activities aimed at alleviating loneliness and social isolation and improving mental and physical health. This was a focus group seeking feedback on their use of the current facilities and their perceived future needs.	To present further developed schemes prior to PP submission
Wellbeing Centre Clients	04.03.20	The Applicant met with 35 clients from the Centre's Wellbeing Service. The CEO presented the latest scheme drawings as many would not have been able to make the previous week's Public Consultation. Verbal feedback on the façades and the internal layout was very positive. Eight of the client group provided written feedback.	

		<i>`Love the building design and the symbolism of the 32 counties. Like the `candle` light, I remember it from a child, we always had the candle in the window at Xmas` Ms E Crowley</i>	
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## 5.0 STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

**5.1** The Applicant engaged with a broad range of LIC Stakeholders, the majority of whom use the Centre for various activities, prior to and following the more formal public consultation events, details of which are set out in the table below:



Stakeholder	Date	Summary	Follow Up
Culture Service Users	23.03.19	The Applicant met with six users, James McDonald, William Walsh amongst others to discuss the current provision for Irish cultural services such as Irish language, music, dance, film & photography. They offered views on the requirements for enhanced spaces that would better serve the needs of the community. Cultural and community users also reinforced the importance of diverse and flexible space. Further comments focused on the permanence of the Library and the importance of	They were invited to subsequent public consultation events and their feedback has been considered in the design planning.

		ensuring the Centre's identity is preserved, whilst remaining inclusive.	
LIC Venue Operator	04.04.19	Events and food/beverage managers from Sliced Events, the current operators at the LIC, were consulted on function space type, size and quality. A variety of space sizes is most desirable, to be paired with the larger basement function room and McNamara Hall. 80-120 person spaces are currently in great demand in central London and would be very lettable if provided. Unique spaces were noted as having additional value given the quantity of standard spaces available in London.	Their feedback on the size and scale of rooms was incorporated into the later plans.
LIC Managers Team	06.04.19	Staff managers focused their comments on several areas for improvement including the lack of a clear main entrance to the Centre, the potential for a new black box theatre space, impact of noise on neighbouring residents, distance between the day Centre and welfare services, the lack of storage space, need for green room facilities and the importance of an entrance that is distinct from the bar.	Advice on the entrance sequence and reception space has been adopted into the layouts to ensure that the overlapping building requirements function as desired by the team.
Irish community entrepreneurs	08.04.19	Six Irish social business people were invited to consult on what offerings the Centre could provide to entice exciting start-ups / businesses to rent space or use the LIC as a casual working destination. Key to this was the food offering for lunch and lettable spaces for meetings. WIFI which is paired with an active evening events programme was noted as essential to them using the Centre throughout the day.	They were invited to subsequent public consultation events.
Irish Elderly Advice Network	15.04.19	The Applicant's Senior Management Team met with 20 members of this community group who use the LIC as an office base and for various social and community activities including the Irish Pensioners Choir. They talked about the sense of 'home' they feel at	Their advice has been incorporated into the application design

		the Centre and the importance of the community `spirit` and mixture of Irish and non-Irish events.	
Justine Simmons, Deputy Mayor	15.06.19	Deputy Mayor Simmons visited the LIC and was shown around the Centre. She was given a presentation on the LIC services.	She expressed support and agreed to arrange a visit to the GLA's offices to meet various officers.
Business Users	03.07.20	Chaired by Patron Dermot O` Leary, the Applicant's SLT presented plans and concepts to 50 business users who use the LIC for conferences and events. Feedback was very helpful around operational flow and facility management	Feedback was incorporated into later stage drawings.
Irish Government	30.07.19; 05.02.20; 28.02.20	The Applicant (CEO/Chair) met the Irish Ambassador to brief on planning; plans and funding. The Irish Government is a significant stakeholder as a multi-year funder and a foundation donor to the project.	Briefing will continue through the project development stages;
Foreign and Commonwealth Office	08.08.19	The Applicant's CEO conducted a tour of the LIC to 8 members of the FCO's Irish Directorate. The FCO is interested in the Project Development as the LIC is the largest Irish Centre outside of Ireland.	Minister for Europe is scheduled to visit the LIC in April 2020.
GLA Community Team	04.10.19	The Applicant presented concept drawings and floor layouts to a team of four from the GLA's Community Team. Feedback was received on the overall scheme and further engagement with the Mayor of London and in particular emphasis the concept of the LIC as a role model for other, newer ethnic groups was explored. This led to the design and symbolism of the `Column of Light` which is central to the new LIC	Discussions ongoing on a Mayoral visit to the LIC to examine the scheme, post May election.
Belfast International Homecoming	18.10.19	The Applicant's CEO presented the concept plans to an audience of 80 attending this international event. The organisers are interested in the development as the LIC is a venue for Northern Ireland conferences as well as a source of welfare and housing advice for existing and new clients from Northern Ireland. The event was	The LIC will continue to engage with the event organisers.

		pleased to hear of the concept of the Centre being a Centre for the 32 counties of Ireland.	
LIC Staff	28.11.19; 20.02.20	The Applicant's Architect presented iterations of the plans to the LIC Staff (18 and 16 present respectively). Staff fed back from a personal and operational perspective.	The LIC will continue to engage with the staff team

## 6.0 COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

The Applicant launched their 'Community Conversation' at an event held at 18:30 on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019 hosted at their Centre. It marked the starting point for their consultation, and members of the public and staff at the LIC were invited to attend the event to offer their views during a public forum. The Community Conversation event and Future Survey were organised by Quattro Communications.



**6.1** The event was hosted on Eventbrite where people could book free tickets in order to attend. For those who did not have access to the Internet, or those who did not want to use it, attendance could be registered by calling a member of the team or speaking with a member of staff at the LIC. The event was attended by 103 people overall.

**6.2** The Community Conversation Launch was advertised through: an email to the LIC mailing list, on the LIC website (<https://www.londonirishcentre.org/>), invitation to the Camden Square Neighbourhood Association and on all LIC social media channels.

**6.3** The agenda for the launch designated the majority of its time towards an open discussion with attendees, facilitated by the Applicant's CEO, alongside opportunities for members of staff to speak, a special Irish musical performance, and refreshments.

**6.4** Oral feedback was collected by a member of the team taking minutes.

**6.5** During and after the event, attendees were invited to fill out a comment sheet, asking them to share their views on the future of the LIC. 22 feedback forms were handed in via the comment boxes provided.

**6.6** Minutes were taken throughout the open discussion segment of the event and can be found summarised below, **6.7/6.8**.



**6.7** Members of the public wished to highlight the LIC as a venue for Irish culture and suggested that more dedicated provision could be made for arts events as part of the redevelopment, including a permanent stage and exhibition space:

**6.7.1** The concept of heritage was reiterated throughout the event, with many people speaking about the history of the Centre and asking for it to be preserved in any redevelopment.

**6.7.2** Many LIC users singled out the importance of the library for the LIC and asked if it could be placed in a more central position with increased space.

**6.7.3** A number of regular class attendees highlighted improvements that could be made to their current spaces, including a dedicated dance studio, more room, and better audio-visual tools.

**6.7.4** Those who attended the Community Conversation Launch offered a great variety of ideas which can be broadly grouped into cultural events, heritage, the library and improved facilities.

**6.8** Members of the public wished to highlight the LIC as a venue for Irish culture and suggested that more dedicated provision could be made for arts events as part of the redevelopment, including a permanent stage and exhibition space.

**6.8.1** There was a clear preference for more cultural events held at the LIC, alongside flexible arts space which could be used to host a variety of themed evenings. Attendees highlighted the LIC's position and importance as a cultural hub in London and sought for it to become the 'go-to' place for Irish culture in the city. The most popular events listed were Irish theatrical performances, live music nights, and historical & political discussions.

**6.8.2** Many of those who attended the launch had seen the LIC grow from its inception, as well as being 1<sup>st</sup> generation immigrants. They were keen to preserve the legacy of those who built the Centre. Ideas voiced included creating an oral archive, a permanent museum space, and maintaining some of the feel of the original building.

**6.8.3** The library and its importance was raised numerous times, both as a historical resource and as a function space for education. Suggestions included moving the library to a more central and accessible location, publicising it as a local resource, and expanding it so more groups could utilise it as a space.

**6.8.4** Improved facilities for classes held at the LIC were mentioned on a number of occasions, with suggestions as to how these could be developed. For example: a dance floor with mirrors and space set aside for educational use. Improved facilities were also mentioned when discussing the bar, which attendees felt could be made larger.

**6.9** A comprehensive report was collated and circulated to all attendees (who had registered through Eventbrite or left email details) and posted on the Applicant's website.

## 7.0 LIC FUTURE SURVEY

**7.1** The online survey was hosted on Survey Monkey (**Appendix 3**), and the physical copy was printed and handed out at the Centre. 338 responses were collected online, and 33 physical copies were returned to the Centre, with a collective total of 371 respondents.

**7.2** The survey would appear to have attracted a variety of users who utilise the Centre regularly, occasionally, and just for special events. Those who responded that they had attended the Centre within the last week tended to be more elderly and reported multiple visits a week. Conversely, those who had either visited the Centre within the past year, or multiple years ago were usually younger (35-44) and emphasised the importance of cultural events over welfare outreach.



**7.3** Disabled Access was cited as one of the most common reasons people struggled to visit the LIC, and their comments highlighted several issues they faced which hindered mobility and access.

**7.4** Other challenges including 'Unsuitable Space', 'Unusual Opening Times', 'Centre Navigation' and 'Toilet Facilities' all featured in the comments. Many of these issues could be rectified following redevelopment of the LIC, including: *"cramped foyer bar space"*, *"upstairs room too small"*, *"locating entrance to Library"*, and *"Not enough loos"*.

**7.5** Over 87% of those who expressed an opinion (290 replies) thought that the current premises of the LIC are in need of renovation, with only 10% answering 'No'. There was an overwhelming majority of those in favour of renovation, emphasised by reference to data from Question 9, which highlighted the necessity of structural redevelopment.

**7.6** The three services most highly rated in the survey were 'Irish culture and arts events', 'Social activities for the Irish in London', and 'Welfare Advice and Support', demonstrating a mix of the cultural and charitable outreach the LIC provide. This suggests that the LIC is viewed as a cultural, charitable and community hub, with each aspect being valued by its individual user base.

**7.7** The overwhelming preference was 'Irish Culture and arts events', with 70% of those asked rating it a '5', with only 4% giving it a '1'. An emphasis towards providing a platform for Irish culture is a consistent theme throughout the feedback, with the importance of cultural events highlighted in question eight and eleven, where the majority of respondents had last visited the LIC to attend an event, and most valued its arts provision. It also links to 'Professional performance space for theatre and music', another highly rated choice. There would appear to be a large base of support for providing an improved arts platform, with a variety of potential uses.

**7.8** The overwhelming majority of responses (75%) signalled that they would want to attend the LIC more frequently in the future, with just 3% saying 'No'. This would demonstrate a clear potential user base for the LIC to engage with through the later stages of the design process.

**7.9** Multiple comments highlighted specific groups which they felt the LIC could reach out to: *“more events scheduled that cater specifically to the younger generation who have moved to London within the last decade”, “The amount of 1st Generation Irish who are isolated in London is a problem which needs to be tackled further”, “Events for LGBT Irish people.*

**7.10** The second most common theme was 'Physical Redevelopment', mentioned in 18% of responses. These comments can be generally broken down further, as the vast majority featured either on improved accessibility, or the provision of particular spaces in the redevelopment.

**7.11** Improving access to the Centre for young families, the elderly and the disabled featured prominently in calls for the physical redevelopment of the LIC.

## 8.0 LIC PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

8.1 The Applicant held the two separate public consultation exhibitions on the 30.10.19 (#1) and the 26.02.2020 (#2).

These was held at the London Irish Centre`s Mc Namara Hall, NW1 9XB, see **Appendix 4**.

**#1. 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

**5.00 pm to 8.00 pm**

**#2. Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**5.15 pm to 8.15 pm**



8.2 The venue was fully accessible

8.3 The exhibitions were staffed by the Applicant`s CEO and Chair and representatives from the Applicant`s project team; Coffey Architect and Rolfe Judd Planning. A copy of the boards displayed at each Public Consultation Event is available to view in **Appendix 4** and **Appendix 5**.

8.4 Those likely to be most affected by the proposed redevelopment were deemed to be residents of Camden Square, Murray Mews, Murray Street and Stratford Villas. However, to ensure all residents within the local area were given the opportunity to view and comment on the emerging plans, a total of 1,372 local residents were invited to each of the public consultation events (see **Appendix 6** for properties invited to the events). A copy of the letter inviting local resident to the October 2019 and February 2020 public consultation events can be found in **Appendix 7**. The events were also advertised on posters within the LIC, on the footers of emails of LIC staff and all (c. 12,000) on the LIC`s mailing list were notified (see **Appendix 8**).



**8.5** In total the two public consultation events were attended by 59 people. Of these 39 people attended #1 and 20 people attended #2.

**8.6** A Feedback Form, see **Appendix 9**, was made available for attendees to fill out at the end of the public consultation exhibition, Over the course of the two exhibitions 23 feedback forms were completed.

**8.7** An option to submit the feedback form at a late date, using a postal address, email or by hand to the LIC was provide for attendees.

<b>8.8 Qualitative Feedback response = Exhibition #1</b>	
The below feedback is drawn both from verbal and written comments received at the #1 public consultation drop-in	
<b>ISSUE: AMENITY</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>
Concern around location of smoking areas	The intention is to promote a smoke free environment, signs will be displayed advising clients and visitors that the LIC is a no-smoking premises. Staff will instruct visitors that no smoking is allowed within the LIC or external amenity areas.
Management of external areas and services of the London Irish Centre	<p>The management of the Centre and its external areas will be appropriately addressed through submission of a Draft Events Management Plan.</p> <p>As part of the application an Events Management Plan has been submitted to the Council. This includes details on management of the LIC, the opening hours and maximum occupancy. This will ensure that the LIC and its impacts on the surrounding areas (including external areas) will be suitably assessed by the Council and address by way of imposing a suitable and appropriate planning condition.</p>
<b>ISSUE: AMENITY</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>
Re-location of entrance to Murray Street	<p>The relocation of the entrance from Camden Square to Murray Street raised a small number of concerns largely relating to; an increase of pedestrians on Murray Street; associated impact on neighbors on Murray Street; and waiting outside after events.</p> <p>The proposals have been designed with the surrounding context in mind and have considered that the original entrance to the LIC was on Murray St. The existing entrance on Camden Square leads on to a predominately residential area. The current internal layout creates a bottleneck with the only option for</p>



	<p>people to spill onto Camden Square after an event.</p> <p>The design of the entrance has evolved in view of comments received from Camden Council and the Design Review Panel who supported its relocation. The entrance on Murray Street has been designed to improve accessibility into the LIC from street level and is deemed to be located on a street which is historically more commercial street in nature. A central community hub at ground floor level lies adjacent to the new entrance; this will help slow the flow of people leaving after an event and will provide a space to wait inside for taxis etc. This will minimize the potential for noise and disturbance for adjoining residential properties.</p>
<b>8.9 Qualitative Feedback response = Exhibition #2</b>	
The below feedback is drawn both from verbal and written comments received at the #1 public consultation drop-in	
<b>ISSUE: DESIGN</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>
Design of link building on Camden Square	<p>The design of the link building was queried in comments received during consultations.</p> <p>The link building has been designed to enhance and retain the presence of the villas at No 50-52 Camden Square. The removal of the existing modern glazed link building has been supported by the Council and the Design Review Panel. The design of the replacement link building has evolved through comments received by the local authority, its height and relationship with the historic villas is supported.</p> <p>The proposed glazed link building will provide grade level access from pavement level improving accessibility for all users, and with height reduced by one storey.</p> <p>The design, including materials used, will be reviewed by Camden Council and controlled by way of a suitably worded condition.</p>
New entrance on Murray Street	<p>A query was raised as to the design of the new entrance on Murray Street and its impact on encouraging rough sleeping and loitering, owing to its set-back nature at ground floor level.</p>

	<p>During pre-application discussions the project team consulted with a Metropolitan Police Designing Out Crime Officer on the security of the development and its potential impacts. Subsequently, the officer's comments and Secured by Design 2019 specification have been incorporated into the design of the scheme. The proposed design is well-lit and will not actively encourage loitering or rough sleeping.</p> <p>Upon submission of the application the Metropolitan Police Designing Out Crime Officer will be formally consulted on the proposals to ensure the building complies with Secure by Design guidance. A suitably worded condition will be imposed which will require the development to demonstrate how the principles and practices of the Secured By Design Scheme have been included.</p>
History of the London Irish Centre	<p>The loss of Irish heritage in the design of the scheme was raised at the public consultations events. Owing to the historic nature of the LIC and its importance to the community its existing character was raised as a concern.</p> <p>The proposals have been designed by Coffey Architects to provide a modern facility which retains the history of the LIC in Camden. The history of the LIC will be retained through the building at the corner of Murray Street and Murray Mews which reflects its geographical link with Euston Station, the first point of arrival for the majority of Irish immigrants to London. The corner element has been designed to represent a candle to reflect the Tilley Lamp, a symbolic beacon which shines from the upstairs window of the President of Ireland's official residence, welcoming Irish emigrants and their descendants to their homeland.</p> <p>The community hub at ground floor level will continue the Irish Story in London and will include 32 interlinked circles within the floor; this represents each of the 32 counties on the island of Ireland and the 32 boroughs of London. Smaller and more intimate spaces have been incorporated into the design to replicate the nooks and crannies and home from home</p>

	<p>feel of the existing building. The proposals will ensure the history of the LIC and its relationship with Camden is actively reflected in its design; it has been designed to encourage social interaction between users of all ages Irish and Non-Irish.</p>
<b>ISSUE: AMENITY</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>
Maintenance and servicing of the building	<p>A query was raised on the maintenance and servicing of the building and its potential impact on amenity. As part of the application a Servicing and Delivery Plan will be submitted to the Council for review. It is expected that the delivery and servicing of the building will be as existing, with primary servicing via Murray Street and events in the McNamara Hall serviced via Murray Mews. The servicing and maintenance strategy for the LIC will be controlled and secured by way of a suitably worded planning condition.</p>

## 9.0 LIC ENGAGEMENT WITH CAMDEN PLANNING

**9.1** The Applicant have engaged with Camden Council since an initial meeting at the LIC with Camden's Alex Bushell in 18.09.18.

**9.2** The Applicant have held two formal pre-application meetings with Camden Council as well as a Design Review Panel (DRP).

**9.3** The first meeting took place on the 12.09.19 at the Council's offices in Kings Cross. The project team was represented by Coffey Architects/Rolfe Judd Planning/Acumen (Project Managers) and the Applicant's Chair who met with Camden's Planning and Heritage officers. Early stage design work was presented and feedback was received. Discussions included the use of No. 50 Camden Square and whether this be used for residential accommodation ancillary to the LIC (such as accommodation for artists in residence) or sold-off to raise funds for the development. The Council recognised the use of No. 50 as residential accommodation and its role in the funding of the centre. The re-location of the main entrance from Camden Square to Murray Street was presented and was supported by officers. The building's relationship with the Camden Square Conservation Area and retaining its positive relationship was discussed and Council Officers were welcoming of changes to the link building between No 50 and 51 Camden Square. The Council's Conservation Officer also stated the existing external staircase to the front of No. 51 be retained. The Council sought further refinement of the massing of the development. Overall, the Council were supportive of the LIC's development of the site.



**9.4** The DRP took place the 08.11.19 at the Council's offices in Kings Cross. The project team was represented by Coffey Architects and Rolfe Judd Planning and the Applicant's CEO who met with Camden's Planning and Heritage officers. Early stage design work was presented and feedback was received. The Panel welcomed the proposals to provide enhanced facilities for the London Irish Centre and recognised the complexity of delivering the volume of space required on the site. The Panel welcomed the retention of Nos 50-52 Camden Square and the removal of the modern link building between the two villas; it also welcomed the desire to consolidate the functions of the centre. Several recommendations were made by the Panel which have been taken into consideration in the design of the final scheme. These recommendations included:

- Further reflection of the character, appearance and attributes of the surrounding Conservation Area within the design approach;
- Review of a single entrance to the Centre via Murray Street and its impact functionally;

- The interaction between Nos. 50-52 Camden Square and their individual presence and legibility along Murray Street and Murray Mews;
- A review of the landscaping and its interaction with the surrounding area including the opportunity to increase the external roof terrace

**9.5** The second pre-application meeting took place on the 28.01.20 at Coffey Architects, in Great Sutton Street, EC1. The project team was represented by Coffey Architects/Rolfe Judd Planning/Acumen (Project Managers) and the Applicant's CEO, who met with Camden's Planning and Heritage officers. Detailed façade designs and renderings were presented and feedback was received. Officers were highly supportive of the amendments to the scheme following pre-application No. 1 and the Design Review Panel and considered the internal layout now functioned well. Officers considered the building now looked softer and more welcoming with the corner 'candle' element considered to be a



strong design feature. Discussions centred on further minor amendments to the exterior of the scheme in particular the middle element which was considered to be a weaker element of the scheme. Officers also wanted to see the ground floor of the villa appear more grounded and the new openings leading to the Therapy Garden should be reduced in width. Recommendations were also made such as incorporating features such as Aran cable knit in the perforated brickwork on the new link building and gates along Camden Square. The officers noted they were satisfied for the scheme to be submitted as planning application in March 2020.



## 10.0 LIC ENGAGEMENT WITH CAMDEN COUNCIL/COUNCILLORS

**10.1** The Applicant has met with a number of councillors during the period of the engagement.

- Councillor Danny Beales, Cantelowes Ward
- Councillor Angela Mason, Cantelowes Ward
- Councillor Ranjit Singh, Cantelowes Ward
- Councillor Pat Callaghan, Camden Town Ward
- Councillor Jonathan Simpson, Kings Cross Ward
- Councillor Georgia Gould, Kentish Town Ward

**10.2** These meetings were productive as it enabled the Applicant to update these Camden Councillors on the evolution of the project from early stage concepts to the more finalised drawings and to receive feedback.

**10.3** The Applicant also met with representatives from Camden's Library Services and Adult Social Care.



**10.3.1** Sam Eastop of Camden's Library Service, 11.06.2019: Mr Eastop was invited to the Centre to discuss the evolving needs and purpose for Libraries in Camden and offered advice on the scale suitable for the LIC. Allowing the library space to be used for external events such as book launches, poetry readings as well as external events would enrich the offering and make the library more sustainable in the redeveloped site.

**10.3.2** Jodie Pilling, Acting Head of Camden's Adult Social Care Services, 15/05/2019: Ms Pilling was invited to the Centre to discuss the future provision requirements for the Applicant's Community Services (Advice and Outreach and Wellbeing Services). Ms Pilling offered advice on the changing needs of Camden residents; assessment space requirements and offered observations on the structure and amenities of the thrice weekly Day Centre/Lunch club offer. **Note:** The Applicant has recently been successful in being awarded a multi-year Advice Grant from the Supporting Communities Directorate as a Strategic Advice Partner.

**10.4** Invitations were extended by the Applicant to these councillors to attend the Community Conversation and the two public consultation exhibitions.

**10.5** An invitation was extended to the Applicants Member of Parliament Keir Starmer to attend the same events.

## **11.0 CONSULTANTS AND VISITS TO COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTRES - STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS**

**11.1** The Applicant engaged with a range of Consultants in order to shape the future internal layout of the Centre as well as visiting a large number of Community and Cultural venues.



**11.2** The purpose of the visits to the Community and Cultural venues was to meet other Community Leaders, look at operating models and to develop a framework of what 'best in class' would look like at the LIC.

<b>Consultant/Venue Operator</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Follow Up/Learnings</b>
Finbarr Whooley, Director of the Museum of London (MOL)	12.08.19; 19.10.19	Finbarr Whooley, as advisor to the LIC on exhibition space and curating 'The Irish Story', met the team to discuss what narrative may be appropriate for the redeveloped site. He advised on a ground floor exhibition space where video/audio installations could be exhibited has been adopted into the Stage 2 layouts, with further options to house a 'white cube' type temporary exhibition space on 1 <sup>st</sup> floor to enrich the cultural offer. This space could also be used as lettable	Further meetings have been scheduled and Mr Whooley as agreed to act as a pro-bono advisor and assist with the LIC's NHLF grant application

		function spaces as per the MOL's business model.	
John Nugent, Kings Place Venue	18.04.19 and 26.08.19	Mr Nugent is a Camden resident and a local businessman, venue operator at Kings Place. A building tour of Kings Place was organised to discuss the servicing strategy and the various issues that arise from a complex brief such as that of the LIC. Mr Nugent reviewed the developing plans and offered advice that was incorporated into the Stage 2 design.	Advice incorporated into Stage 2 designs
Aidan Mc Gee, Head Chef Corrigan's of Mayfair	15.06.19	Richard Corrigan, as advisor to the LIC on kitchen and catering facilities organised for his head chef, Aidan McGee and sales manager, Tara Cronin to review the proposed catering provision within the developing layouts. Advice on kitchen 'flow' as well as servicing strategy/kitchen design was given. The current space allowed was confirmed as acceptable for a 5* catering offer, further consultation will be given during Stage 4 as the kitchen layouts are developed.	Further meetings to be arranged at Stage 4
Ellen Ryan, Community Services Consultant	12.09.19; 16.01.20	Coffey met with LIC director Brian Hanley and Ellen Ryan to review the provision for welfare services. Provision for multiply 1-2-1 meeting rooms, as well as a community kitchen are desirable in the layouts. Further consultation on welfare provision will be carried out at the beginning of Stage 3 to adopt into the layouts.	Ms Ryan's advice has been incorporated into the application design
Deborah Kelleher, Royal Academy of Irish Music (RIAM)	26.03.19	The Applicant's CEO met Ms. Kelleher to understand the RIAM's redevelopment which is similar to the LIC's. The RIAM is retaining three Georgian era houses and redeveloping the remainder of the site at a cost of €18m.	
<b>SIGNIFICANT VISITS TO OTHER COMMUNITY and CULTURAL CENTRES</b>			
St Lukes Community Centre/CEO Michael Ryan	03.04.19; 11.07.19 and 11.11.19	The Applicant's SLT have visited St Lukes on three occasions. This Islington Community Centre has similarities in service provision to the LIC and has expanded its offer following a major redevelopment. IT is	LIC's CEO is in regular contact with St Lukes

		now more of a social enterprise offering innovative services like a Community kitchen	
Maggie Centre in Hammersmith	13.06.20	The Applicant's Architect and SLT visited the Maggie Centre in Hammersmith to understand their operating model. The team were impressed by the openness and welcome of the Entrance Lobby	Features of the Entrance Lobby incorporated into Stage 2+ designs
Battersea Arts Centre (BAC)	18.02.19	Met BAC CEO and discussed mixed model for community/Culture	Advice on residential/cultural residency incorporated into Stage 2+ designs
Friends Meeting House	21.06.19	Viewed meeting and event spaces and saw demonstration of Smart Building technology	To incorporated into Stage 3 designs
JW3	15.02.19	Met CEO and viewed the Centre and discussed JW3's operating model	Note: Raymond Simonson has been a helpful advisor to the Applicant, sharing lessons from JW3's redevelopment journey
The Passage	18.01.19	Met CEO and viewed rooms for clients as well as the education suite	Business model for ancillary residential usage being incorporated into LIC business model
South London Gallery	23.03.19	Taken on a tour by architect	Gallery and exhibition space
The Brickworks (N8)	15.01.19	Taken on a tour by architect and heard about challenges for mixed community/cultural spaces	Community engagement
Black Cultural Archives	05.04.19	Taken on a tour of the building and heard about the fund raising campaign	Irish Library and archives
Museum of London	14.10.19	As per earlier	
The James Connolly Memorial Centre (Belfast)	16.10.19	Met CEO and viewed James Connolly museum/exhibition section	Use for Irish Story exhibition
EPIC Museum (Dublin)	15.11.19	Met CEO, heard about digital experiences for the EPIC story telling	Use for Irish Story exhibition
Little Museum of Dublin	15.11.19	Met CEO, heard about digital experiences for the EPIC story telling	Irish Story and archives/library
Irish Museum of Literature	15.11.19	Met CEO, heard about digital experiences for the EPIC story telling	Irish Story and archives/library

## 12.0 CONCLUSION

**12.1** The Applicant began consulting with the public in 2015 and the current consultation has been ongoing for over a year.

**12.2** This process has been extremely helpful in shaping the design and future operating model for the LIC.

**12.3** The Applicant estimate in the region of 1000 individuals have contributed to the process. The diverse and very broad range of ideas and opinions has helped the LIC and its project/design team to understand the community's needs and ambitions of its many stakeholders, as well as some of their concerns.

**12.4** The very broad engagement by the community indicates the level of interest in this project and the value the community place on this Centre.

**12.5** In general the response to the proposed redevelopment has been extremely positive. The Centre is a much used and loved part of Camden's community however there is a widespread acknowledgement that the Centre as it currently exists is not fit for the future and that a redevelopment is necessary, without which the LIC would be unlikely to continue as a viable charity or Community Centre in the medium term.

**12.6** The Applicant's board of trustees, who oversee the charity, are very aware of the responsibility entrusted in them for the delivery of this exciting project and are committed to continuing to engage with the various constituent groups which made up this Community Involvement exercise, post planning submission. The Applicant is determined to create a Centre that is relevant to the local, Irish and London communities as well as being an important community and culture asset for Camden, London and Ireland.





## 13.0 APPENDICES

### Appendix 1: 2015-16 Community Consultation – Executive Summary

#### London Irish Centre Community Survey 2105-16 Report

##### *Why did we carry out the survey?*

It is a responsibility of The London Irish Centre (LIC) to make sure that what it offers to everyone who comes here meets their needs and expectations. This includes people who come to the welfare services, to a gig or a comedy night, to a class, a special event, or to meet friends in the bar. The LIC also has to plan for the future, to develop and improve what it offers, and attract people who haven't been before. To help us do this we wanted to find out what a range of people who come here thought about the LIC.

##### *What did we want to find out?*

We wanted to learn:

- what contact people have with the Centre, whether they come here, phone up for information, or use the LIC website and Facebook page;
- what they think an Irish Centre in London should offer;
- why they come to the Centre;
- what kinds of cultural events they come to;
- what they like about the Centre;
- what they don't like about the Centre;
- improvements they would like to see;
- which other Irish services and clubs they go to;
- the best way for them to get information about the Centre;
- and we wanted to know a bit about them: how old they are, which borough they live in.

##### *How did we get the information and who took part?*

Almost 500 people filled in a questionnaire which was analysed. Then 19 people were interviewed to get in-depth views on what had been said.

People who took part came from all over London and outside the city, and there was an even spread of ages. Two-thirds of those who answered were born in Ireland, and two-thirds were women.

##### *What were the main findings?*

People who come to the Centre value what it does and what it stands for, and outsiders hold it in regard. In general people thought the Centre was fulfilling its charitable mission to help the needy and vulnerable in the Irish community in London, and to promote Irish art and culture, such as music and dance. They particularly value the Centre as a place that brings Irish people together. Most people said they were satisfied with what is on offer.

There were suggestions of ways to improve what is offered, such as making sure that all events come up to a high standard, having more of a variety of events, and more for the under-40s. There were also suggestions to improve the facilities, such as wheelchair access and

making sure the building and public areas are kept attractive. Some find the Centre difficult to get to and complain that it is hard to park nearby.

Some of the findings show a need to plan carefully for the future of the Centre. First is where the Centre is situated. People under 40 in particular come less to the Centre and consider it difficult to get to, as do smaller proportions of the other age-groups. Since the under-40s are the future long-term users, the Centre needs to find ways to draw more of this group to the Centre and consider where it should be located.

Secondly, the Centre needs to look carefully at what it offers in its arts and cultural programme, and how this can be developed. Again, the under-40s in particular want a programme which caters better for their interests. Thirdly, the Centre needs to consider how over the coming years it can best meet the changing needs of the vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the Irish in London who are now spread across the city.

If you would like to see the full report, please go to [www.londonirishcentre.org/aboutus](http://www.londonirishcentre.org/aboutus)

Mary Hickman and Dermot Murphy



## 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The Community Conversation Launch, the LIC Futures Survey and the Architect Workshop, has given a good initial understanding of user priorities for the future redevelopment LIC. 371 of members of the public, stakeholders and Centre users contributed to the online survey, the project website received 1,602 visits and 103 people attended the community conversation launch.
- 1.2. The majority of those who contributed to the consultation were between 45-64, and were occasional visitors to the Centre, attending a couple of times a year, mostly for events or to go to classes. 65+ respondents were more likely to be frequent visitors to the LIC, going multiple times in a week, most commonly for wellbeing or social activities.
- 1.3. Cultural events were considered the most important service of the LIC, across all aspects of the consultation. This was the most frequent reason people cited for having visited the Centre last, and by far the most commonly requested feature when asked how the LIC could be improved.
- 1.4. Quantitative data from question 15 highlighted a significant amount of people could be encouraged to use the LIC more frequently, and qualitative responses to question 16 suggest that a wider calendar of cultural events may prompt higher visitation. The range of cultural events requested were broad, but the most commonly requested were live music, theatre, comedy and political & historical talks.
- 1.5. There was also a clear consensus for the need to physically redevelop the Centre, with 87% of respondents believing the current premises are in need of physical redevelopment.
- 1.6. 18% of respondents answered that they had struggled with attending the LIC in the past, and a significant number of those cited a lack of suitable disabled access as a reason. This was highlighted in the suggested improvements the LIC could make through redevelopment, with respondents requesting better disabled access including lifts and level access from the street.
- 1.7. Other commentators suggested that physical redevelopment could bring about new facilities or upgrade existing ones, by providing a larger and more central library, flexible performance space, and improved toilet facilities. Several attendees of the Launch highlighted the need for 'cosy' spaces to maintain some of the heritage of the site.



**LONDON  
IRISH  
CENTRE**

## The London Irish Centre – Future Survey

**The London Irish Centre (LIC) requires re-development to continue providing outstanding care, culture and community to the people it supports.**

From this need, we want to reimagine, redevelop and reposition the LIC as a world-class community and cultural Centre.

The LIC is committed to ensuring that any redevelopment will continue to meet the needs of those whom it serves, now and in the coming years. We want to continue to be a destination to foster friendship and support networks, and a place to celebrate Irish heritage, culture and community.

So, before any plans for the Centre are finalised, the LIC is embarking on a wide-ranging conversation that involves our service users, members of the local community in Camden, and all other stakeholders invested in the LIC.

To ensure the future LIC is the best Community & Cultural Centre it can be, we want to encourage as many members of the community to join the conversation and share their ideas.

*We would appreciate you taking the time to fill it out and leaving it in the feedback box provided in reception, or with a member of our team before August 17th.*



Government of Ireland  
Emigrant Support Programme



An Roinn Gnóthai Eachtracha agus Trádála  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



**Culture Ireland**  
Cultúr Éireann

1

## 1. Personal Details

Postcode:

Contact Number:

## 2. Please indicate your age group:

*Please put an 'X' in the box*

- ☐ Under 18  
 ☐ 18-24  
 ☐ 25-34  
 ☐ 35-44  
 ☐ 45-54  
 ☐ 55-64  
 ☐ 65-7  
☐ 75+

## 3. Would you consider yourself to have Irish heritage?

*Please put an 'X' in the box*

- ☐ Yes  
 ☐ No

## 4. If yes, please choose from the following:

*Please put an 'X' in the box*

- ☐ Irish Born  
 ☐ Beyond 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation (Irish grandparent)  
☐ 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation- Irish Born parent  
 ☐ Irish Family links

## 5. Have you visited the London Irish Centre (LIC)?

*Please put an 'X' in the box, If the answer was no, please skip to Q9, otherwise please continue.*

- ☐ Yes  
 ☐ No

## 6. When was the last time you visited the LIC?

*Please put an 'X' in the box*

- ☐ Within the past week  
 ☐ Within the past 6 months  
☐ Within the past month  
 ☐ Within the past year  
☐ Other, please describe below (optional)

**7. How many times have you visited the LIC in the past 12 months?**

*Please put an 'X' in the box*

- ☐ 1-2     
 ☐ 3-5     
 ☐ 6-10     
 ☐ More than 10

**8. What was/were the reason(s) for your last visit? (You can cross several options if needed):**

*Please put an 'X' in the box*

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get advice/support      | <input type="checkbox"/> Attend a meeting  | <input type="checkbox"/> Meet friends                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend an event         | <input type="checkbox"/> Attend a class    | <input type="checkbox"/> Attend a wellbeing activity/ lunch club |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To be with Irish people | <input type="checkbox"/> See an exhibition |  |

☐ Other, please describe below (optional)

**9. Have you encountered any challenges in attending the LIC in the past?**

*Please put an 'X' in the box*

- ☐ Yes     
 ☐ No

If yes, please describe them below

**10. Please rate the LIC in relation to the following:**



Please put an 'X' in the circles

	1 (Poor)	2	3	4	5 (Excellent)	Don't know/ never used
The external appearance of the Centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The internal appearance of the Centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Toilet facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Warmth and hospitality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ease of moving around the Centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The range of social activities on offer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The opening hours of the advice service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Lunch Club	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Event space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community services reception	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The bar	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Internet connection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmental impact	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. From the list below of the services currently offered by the LIC, please select the 3 which are most important to you:

Please put an 'X' in the boxes

<input type="checkbox"/> Welfare advice & support	<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering Programme	<input type="checkbox"/> Befriending
<input type="checkbox"/> Irish culture & arts events	<input type="checkbox"/> Libra ry	<input type="checkbox"/> Spaces for hire
<input type="checkbox"/> Local community activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Education Programme	<input type="checkbox"/> Family play groups
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Outreach	<input type="checkbox"/> Irish bar	<input type="checkbox"/> The Lunch Club
<input type="checkbox"/> Social activities for the Irish in London		

12. Do you think the current premises of the LIC are in need of renovation?

Please put an 'X' in the box

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know
------------------------------	-----------------------------	-------------------------------------

13. Thinking of what the LIC could do in the future, please rate the following options in terms of importance with 1 being low and 5 being high:

Please put an 'X' in the circles

	1	2	3	4	5
Wellbeing Centre with a range of wellbeing activities including lunch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Café with a quality food and drink offer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Professional performance spaces for theatre and music	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clothes store for those in need	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Irish bar	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Irish culture and arts events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
IT suite with training facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Welfare advice and support	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Office space for the charity sector	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Workspace for business and creative communities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A range of rooms to hire	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Kitchen which can be hired out or used for education	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Irish language classes (lessons)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A lending and research library	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A space which tells the story of the Irish in London	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Garden and outside space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cinema space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Family playgroups and activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**14. Which of the following options would be your preferred venue for meeting up with friends?**

*Please put an 'X' in the box*

☐ Open plan  
foyer/atrium  
Cafes

☐ Bars/restaurants

☐
☐

Activity spaces for  
sports/music/culture

☐

None of the above. Please describe your preferred  
venue

15. Do you think you might attend the LIC more frequently in the future?

*Please put an 'X' in the box*

☐

Yes

☐

No

☐

Maybe

16. Please describe anything that might encourage you to attend the LIC more frequently (for example changes in the physical environment, in the events scheduled, or the activities provided)?

17. How can the LIC better serve the following communities?

The Irish Community

The Local Community

The London Community

18. If you have further comments in relation to ways in which the LIC might be improved, please note them below:

19. How do you keep up to date with news about the LIC?

*Please put an 'X' in the box*

- |   |                                    |   |
|---|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Website                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Twitter   | <input type="checkbox"/> Instagram              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Mail      | <input type="checkbox"/> Printed<br>newsletters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Word of mouth          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please describe below<br>(optional) |                                    |   |
-

## Appendix 4: Invitation to the Public Consultation



### INVITATION TO VIEW THE LONDON IRISH CENTRE'S EARLY PLANS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

Dear Neighbour

As you may be aware we are currently exploring plans for the redevelopment of the Centre to provide an opportunity for improved and upgraded facilities which will ensure the LIC continues its work supporting the Irish and local communities and beyond.

Due to greater demand and need, escalating repair costs and more pressures on the LIC, our current building is no longer fit for purpose. Whilst we are incredibly proud of the work we do now, we believe that a reimagined Centre will enable us to provide truly outstanding services with the warmest Irish welcome, and in a more sustainable, accessible and diverse way.

The Charity is committed to ensuring that any redevelopment will continue to meet the needs of those whom it serves, now and in the coming years. We want to continue to be a destination to foster friendship and support networks, and a place to celebrate Irish heritage, culture and community. We also want to ensure that any future redevelopment minimises the impact on our neighbours both during the construction process and once completed.

As you may recall we held a community conversation event on the 18<sup>th</sup> July and 104 people attended. We also ran an online survey from 19<sup>th</sup> July to 15<sup>th</sup> August and 371 responses were received, the results of which can be viewed at <https://licfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/LIC-Community-Conversation-Report.pdf>

Since then we have been considering the ideas shared and information received and have been further developing our designs for the redevelopment. We are now planning to hold another community conversation event to obtain your views on our early plans. This will take place on:

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October from 5.00pm to 8.00pm**  
**McNamara Hall, London Irish Centre, 50-52 Camden Square, NW1 9XB**

We would be very pleased if you could join us, we look forward to hearing your views.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Kennedy".

Sean Kennedy



**Appendix 5: Public Consultation #1 – Exhibition Boards (See Separate Document Uploaded)**

**Appendix 6: Public Consultation #2 – Exhibition Boards (See Separate Document Uploaded)**

## Appendix 7: Properties invited to Public Consultation Events

### London Irish Centre- Public Consultation Letters

- 1.1.1 The area outlined in red identifies the properties that were sent letters inviting them to the public consultation. The radius was chosen as the properties would be directly affected by development.
- 1.1.2 Those who we felt would be most affected by the development were the residents of the adjacent roads; Murray Street, Murray Mews, Camden Square and Stratford Villas who were all sent letters inviting them to the public consultations. To give all residents within the local area the opportunity to comment on the proposals letters were sent to 1,372 properties in total.
- 1.1.3 Letters were sent to properties in the following roads:
- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| -Camden Square        | - St Pancras Way   |
| - Murray Mews         | - Rochester Square |
| - St Augustine's Road | - Abingdon Close   |
| -Camden Mews          | - North Villas     |
| -Cantelowes Road      | - South Villas     |
| - Agar Road           | - Camden Park Road |
| - St Paul's Crescent  | - Murray Street    |
| - Stratford Villas    | - Camden Road      |

#### Area outlined in Red: Properties who received Letters



#### **Architecture Planning Interiors**

Old Church Court, Claylands Road, The Oval, London SW8 1NZ  
T 020 7556 1500

[www.rolfe-judd.co.uk](http://www.rolfe-judd.co.uk)

## Appendix 8: Public Consultation Invite Letters



### INVITATION TO VIEW THE LONDON IRISH CENTRE'S EARLY PLANS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

Dear Neighbour

As you may be aware we are currently exploring plans for the redevelopment of the Centre to provide an opportunity for improved and upgraded facilities which will ensure the LIC continues its work supporting the Irish and local communities and beyond.

Due to greater demand and need, escalating repair costs and more pressures on the LIC, our current building is no longer fit for purpose. Whilst we are incredibly proud of the work we do now, we believe that a reimagined Centre will enable us to provide truly outstanding services with the warmest Irish welcome, and in a more sustainable, accessible and diverse way.

The Charity is committed to ensuring that any redevelopment will continue to meet the needs of those whom it serves, now and in the coming years. We want to continue to be a destination to foster friendship and support networks, and a place to celebrate Irish heritage, culture and community. We also want to ensure that any future redevelopment minimises the impact on our neighbours both during the construction process and once completed.

As you may recall we held a community conversation event on the 18<sup>th</sup> July and 104 people attended. We also ran an online survey from 19<sup>th</sup> July to 15<sup>th</sup> August and 371 responses were received, the results of which can be viewed at [website](https://licfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/LIC-Community-Conversation-Report.pdf):

<https://licfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/LIC-Community-Conversation-Report.pdf>

Since then we have been considering the ideas shared and information received and have been further developing our designs for the redevelopment. We are now planning to hold another community conversation event to obtain your views on our early plans. This will take place on:

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October from 5.00pm to 8.00pm**  
**McNamara Hall, London Irish Centre, 50-52 Camden Square, NW1 9XB**

We would be very pleased if you could join us, we look forward to hearing your views.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Kennedy".

Sean Kennedy  
CEO, London Irish Centre



## **INVITATION TO VIEW THE LONDON IRISH CENTRE'S PLANS FOR REDEVELOPMENT**

Dear Neighbour

As you may be aware we are currently developing plans for the redevelopment of the London Irish Centre (LIC) to improve and upgrade facilities which will ensure the LIC continues its work supporting the Irish, local and London communities.

Due to greater demand and need, escalating repair costs and more pressures on the LIC, our current building is no longer fit for purpose. Whilst we are incredibly proud of the work we do now, we believe that a reimagined Centre will enable us to provide truly outstanding services with the warmest Irish welcome, and in a more sustainable, accessible and diverse way.

The Charity is committed to ensuring that any redevelopment will continue to meet the needs of those whom it serves, now and in the coming years. We want to continue to be a destination to foster friendship and support networks, and a place to celebrate Irish heritage, culture and community. We also want to ensure that any future redevelopment minimises the impact on our neighbours both during the construction process and once completed.

As you may recall we previously invited you to a public consultation event which was held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019. We also ran an online survey from 19<sup>th</sup> July to 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019 and 371 responses were received, the results of which can be viewed at [website](https://licfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/LIC-Community-Conversation-Report.pdf):  
<https://licfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/LIC-Community-Conversation-Report.pdf>

Since then we have been considering the ideas shared and information received and have been further developing our designs for the redevelopment. We are planning to hold another drop in public consultation event to obtain your views on our latest plans before we submit a planning application to the Council. This will take place on:

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February anytime between 5.15pm and 8.15pm  
McNamara Hall, London Irish Centre, 50-52 Camden Square, NW1 9XB**

We would be very pleased if you could join us, we look forward to hearing your views.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Kennedy".

Sean Kennedy  
CEO, London Irish Centre

## THE IRISH HEART OF LONDON

JOIN US TO VIEW THE LONDON IRISH  
CENTRE'S EARLY PLANS FOR REDEVELOPMENT.

DATE: 30TH OCTOBER TIME: 5PM - 8PM  
VENUE: MCNAMARA HALL

[www.licfuture.org](http://www.licfuture.org)



### Community Consultation on redevelopment plans

Date: 30th October  
Time: 5-8pm

Join us on 30th October for our next **Community Conversation** event on our early redevelopment plans.

We were delighted so many people took part in our Community Conversation event on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July and the subsequent survey on the future of the London Irish Centre. To see the results of these, visit: <https://licfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/LIC-Community-Conversation-Report.pdf>

As our redevelopment plans are starting to take shape, we would love if you could join us so we can hear your views.

**Community Conversation Report**





# FEEDBACK AND COMMENTS FORM

Thank you for taking part in our Community Conversation event. As a more formal way of recording your comments on the initial proposals for the redevelopment of the London Irish Centre, we would welcome your views.

If you would like to comment, please leave your completed form with us or send/email it to the relevant addresses below.

Comments by email should be sent to:  
**consultation@londonirishcentre.org**

Comments by post should be sent to:  
LIC Redevelopment Proposals,  
London Irish Centre,  
50-52 Camden Square,  
London, NW1 9XB

NAME*	ADDRESS*	EMAIL*

NAME OF ORGANISATION REPRESENTED* (IF APPLICABLE)	POSITION*

YOUR COMMENTS (PLEASE CONTINUE ON THE REVERSE SIDE IF YOU NEED TO)

\*Providing this information is optional