



# SHAPING THE FUTURE TOGETHER

Our vision for Kingston

2023–2041



Further Engagement on the Local Plan 2021  
Summary of Feedback

[www.kingston.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/localplan)



## Overview

The Local Plan captures our vision for the future of the borough. It will be used to guide development in Kingston and help decide planning applications. It will set out how we seek to manage the London Plan housing targets as well as central Government policy.

Our plan making journey started in 2019 when we carried out early engagement on the content of a new Local Plan. We received a large amount of feedback through a range of different channels. This valuable feedback is helping to develop the draft plan.

But a lot has changed in the last few years. A new Local Plan should reflect the aspirations and concerns of

residents and communities now, in a post-COVID-19 world, respond to new housing delivery targets set by the Government and the Mayor of London, take into account climate change and be flexible enough to respond to future change. This is why we decided to carry out further engagement to ask people if their views had changed and to hear from others, to ensure the new Local Plan reflects the current hopes and concerns of residents and communities.



## Further engagement

The further engagement took place between 29 June and 30 September 2021. Over 2,300 people visited the engagement portal where all the materials and surveys were available and over 1,100 people gave us their views in a range of different ways.

The level of response and valuable feedback received, including new information as a result of experiences over the past few years, has justified carrying out the exercise. The feedback relevant for the Local Plan is being carefully analysed and considered and will be used to inform the draft Local Plan.

Feedback which is not necessarily relevant for the Local Plan but useful for other council service areas, is already being shared and used by other teams including Climate Change, Highways, Adult Social Care, Culture and Heritage, Regeneration and Economic recovery, Cambridge Road Estate, Placemaking, Community Vision and Transformation teams.

This document summarises the main thoughts and suggestions received.

At this stage the document does not provide responses to the issues raised. A separate

Statement of Consultation will be published later in 2022, which will provide more details on the engagement and responses to the issues raised and where appropriate how draft policies have been developed to address them.

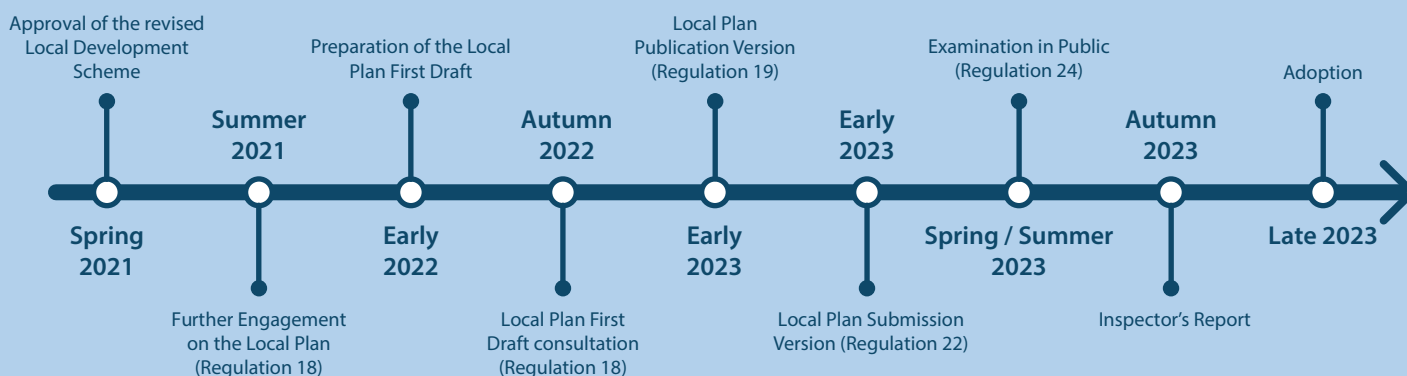
### The new Local Plan Timetable

This image sets out the timetable for preparing our new Local Plan. Following the feedback from the recent further engagement, we are now drafting the new Local Plan. We will consult on this draft Local Plan, so communities can give their views, later in the year.

The final draft version is then due to be published for consideration in early 2023. After this stage the council will submit the plan to the Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State will appoint an independent inspector to consider whether the new Local Plan is 'sound' and the necessary legal tests have been met.

Subject to the inspector's report the new Local Plan is due to be adopted in late 2023.



## Engagement Process

  
**2,300**

people visited the Local Plan further engagement pages on the Kingston Let's Talk portal.

Over   
**1,100**

people gave us their views through a wide variety of channels:



**676**

online surveys were completed by over

**250**

people on our Kingston: Let's Talk engagement portal.

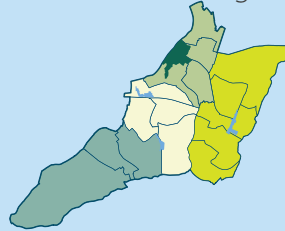


**448**

people spoke to us at a roadshow visiting

**15**

events and locations across the borough.



Over  
**100**

people from Kingston's local groups and diverse communities gave us their views in

**16**

workshops, focus groups & chatabouts.



Interviews took place with

**10**

key organisations in the borough.



**165**

young people gave us their views through workshops, surveys and activity sheets.



Received

**116**

emails

**88** responses to the Further Engagement;

**32** responses to the Site Assessments Update; and

**18** submissions to the Call for Sites.

Two Facebook Live events were held about the Local Plan.



These sessions were also recorded and have been viewed since

**385** and **204**

times respectively.

## What we consulted on

The main document published to support the further engagement consultation was called *Shaping the Future Together - Our vision for Kingston 2023 - 2041*. This document contained background information about the Local Plan process and was divided up into eight topic areas:

- How we plan for good growth.
- Housing.
- Design, heritage and culture.
- Greener transport and how we move around.
- Natural environment.
- Your neighbourhood and local community.
- Community services and facilities.
- Local economy.

Each topic area contained information about the current situation, details about what we heard in the early feedback in 2019 and how the new Local Plan could help. Questions were posed for each topic area to understand if the pandemic has changed people's views and to find out their latest thoughts on the theme. This report sets out the main responses and suggestions given to the questions in each topic.

The engagement document and the questions within it, formed the basis of the material and surveys on the Kingston: Let's Talk engagement portal, the short survey and questions posed at meetings, workshops, chattabouts and roadshow events.

The Council engaged with people in a variety of different ways to try and hear from as many people as possible. The target audiences consisted of the following groups:

- All residents.
- People who work in Kingston.
- Visitors (including shopping, leisure, culture etc).
- Kingston-based businesses.
- Students and young people.
- Charity, voluntary sector and local groups.
- Site owners and investors.
- Relevant governmental organisations.
- Emergency services and utilities.
- Councillors.
- Council staff.
- Statutory consultees.

M.E.L. Research was commissioned to support the consultation given their experience using innovative and engaging ways to reach residents, seldom heard groups, young people, organisations and businesses.

All of the engagement materials were available on the engagement portal, at open libraries and roadshow events.



## What you told us

The feedback we received has been carefully analysed. This document contains a summary of the main thoughts and ideas people gave us on each topic area. This is accompanied by a breakdown of the feedback submitted for each of the questions we posed within the topic.

Some of the questions on the engagement portal were closed questions. This is shown in the graphs. The other questions were asked on the portal, at events, in interviews and focus groups.



## How we plan for good growth

### Main headlines:

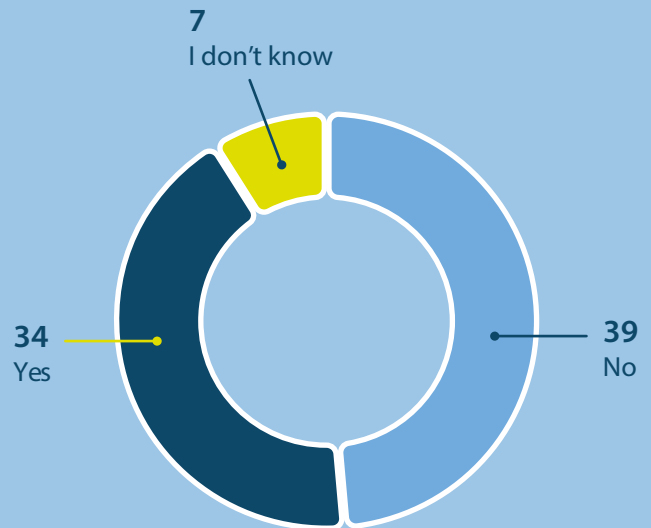
- There is a split between people who want to see growth focussed in town centres versus spread more evenly throughout the borough.
- Clear difference in perceptions of the borough - some view it as a suburb/Surrey town while others recognise it as part of London.
- Concern expressed about what growth means
- Many do not feel growth is inclusive and ask who is growth for? There is a feeling that the new homes are not affordable or accessible.
- Strong feelings towards tall buildings - impact on character and heritage.
- Some support expressed if tall buildings are supported by infrastructure.
- Want to see tall buildings well designed - thick walls for privacy, access to outdoor space, community services and accessibility features built-in.
- Many question the Opportunity Area, if Crossrail 2 is not going ahead.
- Heritage must be respected more than it has been to date by development.
- Large number of people want supporting infrastructure in place first.
- Public transport is currently not adequate to support growth.
- Housing types being built are not seen as those most needed in the borough - flats versus houses.



### Question 1

Have the last year's events (e.g. COVID-19) changed where you think growth should be focused within the borough? (Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 39 people said no, 34 said yes and seven people said don't know.



### Question 2

If yes, please tell us where you now think growth should be focused within the borough

- Views are split between people wanting development focussed in town centres - where it should be strategically planned and pedestrian focused - and those wanting it more evenly distributed across the borough.

### Question 3

What are your thoughts on having an Opportunity Area or Areas in the borough?

- An Opportunity Area would enable a more focused approach and offer clarity
- Infrastructure is needed to support this.
- Some views express concern that it could impact heritage assets.
- Some respondents query whether Kingston is appropriate for an Opportunity Area - it is a suburb and if Crossrail 2 is delayed/not going ahead, can it be justified.

### Question 4

How can we make sure the Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land is open to and benefits everyone?

- There are many comments from people that these areas should continue to be preserved and not built on.
- Access to these areas should be improved.





### Question 5

Do you have any further comments on how we should plan for growth set by the London Plan?

- Protect green space.
- Future proof and anticipate problems caused by climate change.
- Build in flexibility.
- Working with developers to develop brownfield land and not delay.

### Some example quotes from the feedback:

*"It depends who the growth is focused at and who is moving in - where is the need. We need to have housing for younger people, for people who are looking to move out of London and want to have close access to green spaces."*

*"Kingston does not have the characteristics of the Opportunity Areas that had needed regeneration and transformation."*

*"I think Covid has completely changed the landscape and the need for growth is significantly reduced. People are moving out of the London area as they can now work from anywhere."*

*"The history and heritage of Kingston needs to be preserved and at the heart of plans, not an afterthought."*

*"Above everything else, highly protect our green spaces, wildlife, trees and rare species of plants. Once lost they will be gone forever. The future residents of the area will not thank you for their demise."*



## Housing

### Main headlines:

- Most comments about housing needs and mix - many view Kingston as suburban in character and want to see more houses (for families) built not flats.
- Many comments about housing quality and standards - space for people to work from home, access to outdoor space, privacy; feeling that flats make people feel more isolated.
- Strong feelings that tall buildings affect character of the borough.
- Many query the housing target and why Kingston has to conform with the London Plan.
- Need more affordable housing for key workers and younger people to keep them in the borough.
- Desire to see empty buildings repurposed for emergency accommodation, new homes and cheaper units for local business and artists.
- People want to see brownfield/ previously developed land built on first.
- Some view that there should be no more purpose-built student housing.
- Ensuring good access to green and open spaces is frequently mentioned. The perception is that new developments have poor access to private green space, lack of greening and poor privacy.
- Some want to see more viable rental options.
- Range of ideas provided on housing that could be provided for older people including factoring in good design and location.
- Little appetite for shared communal living areas, especially shared bathroom facilities. Few positive examples of shared living if you're not a young person.
- Older adults do not feel supported in making adaptations in their home or to move on to smaller properties.
- Some comments that we need to move away from assumptions about BME communities and intergenerational living - it's not always the case.
- Want to see more homes developed in partnership with the community. Eg accessibility, tailored to different cultures and experiences.
- Parking availability is a concern for new developments.



## Question 1

We need to build more housing suitable for different needs. **How could the new Local Plan better support the delivery of the increased number of homes set by the London Plan to meet the borough's housing needs?**

### Housing targets

- Numerous queries about the London Plan's housing targets for Kingston - People questioning why Kingston should have to meet these targets set by the London Plan/Mayor of London.

### Housing size / types

- Family housing needs to be provided in a different way if we are building more flats.
- Need more houses, not flats. Houses can only be delivered in the suburbs - not town centres.
- Concern over new-build developments (especially flats) being left empty - some feel that it could be better to have Build to Rent to ensure they are occupied.

### Housing design standards, density and tall buildings

- Better to have lower-rise/lower density development.
- Tall building zones blight the borough - affects its character.
- Need better housing standards and design to avoid anti-social behaviour.

### Housing needs of different groups of people

- Many feel we do need any more student accommodation.

### Affordable Housing

- Need affordable housing for key workers and younger people if we want to keep them in the borough.
- Developers not providing enough affordable housing.

### Development opportunities / sites

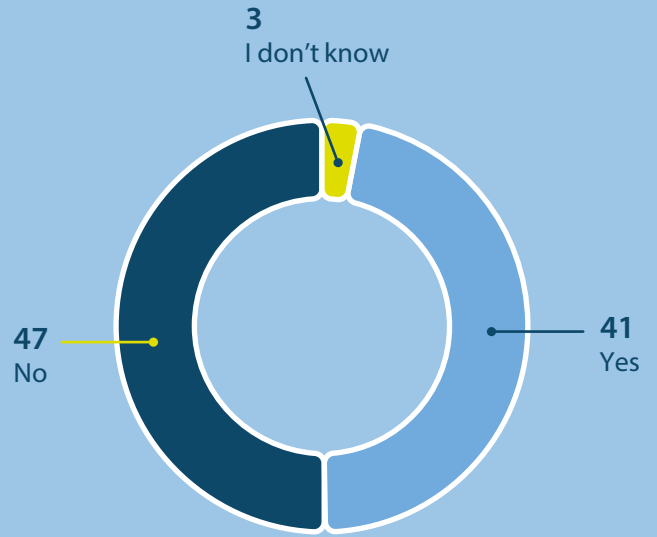
- Many comments from people who want to see existing empty buildings (including offices and shops) converted into housing.
- Build on brownfield / previously developed land.
- Need to protect Green Belt / Metropolitan Open Lane and green spaces. But some say that preserving the Green Belt at all costs is not necessarily the correct policy, given that some of it may not be all that green.



**Question 2**

**Have the last year's events (e.g. COVID-19) changed how you view housing in our borough?** (Data from the Kingston: Let's Talk engagement portal only)

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 47 people said no, 41 said yes and three people said don't know.



**Question 3**

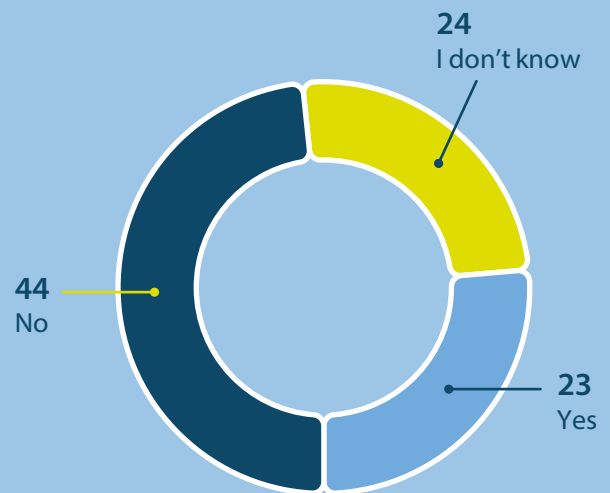
**If yes, can you explain how your views have changed?**

- Demand for affordable housing in suburbs as more people are working from home.
- Better supporting infrastructure for people working from home eg better access to amenities etc.
- Access to green and open spaces.
- New homes have poor access to private space, lack of greening and poor privacy.
- Use unused/empty office space for accommodation.

**Question 4**

Shared living accommodation is housing where residents share communal facilities such as bathrooms and kitchens. This is an alternative way to rent a home for many people who choose not to, or who can't afford to rent homes by themselves. **Do you think shared accommodation is an important type of housing that we should be supporting in Kingston?** (Data from the Kingston: Let's Talk engagement portal only)

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 44 people said no, 23 said yes and 24 people said don't know.



## Question 5

Like most places, our population is ageing. More people are living longer and some people need more support to stay independent, safe from harm and achieve/maintain wellbeing. **In your opinion, what housing options for older people do you think are important to you and your family?**

### Housing design standards

- Flexibility on building and renovations to adapt homes. Need to allow more flexibility in the planning system to allow for extensions to homes for families with older people.
- Need more single level housing / design for mobility needs.
- Need housing that is light and airy, easy to maintain, with good insulation to keep people warm and energy bills low, with good security systems.
- Disabled parking spaces.

### Specialist / Retirement housing needs

- Specialist / retirement housing needed in locations:
  - ↳ close to local amenities / medical facilities.
  - ↳ with good access to public transport.
  - ↳ with access to green spaces / activities to keep people active.
  - ↳ that are quiet / away from busy roads.
  - ↳ that are not cut off from other age groups.
- Need mixed housing in walkable neighbourhoods.
- Specialist housing allows people to downsize from larger homes / frees up housing market.
- Need to cater for downsizing with people remaining in the same area.
- Cannot just focus on luxury homes - need a range of housing for older people.

- There is a need for:
  - ↳ Care homes.
  - ↳ Assisted living homes.
  - ↳ Sheltered housing with qualified carers.
  - ↳ Housing with shared facilities.
  - ↳ Retirement villages/gated communities - Not enough in the borough.
  - ↳ Affordable part-buy/part-rent schemes.
  - ↳ Need warden assisted homes for those that want to be as independent as possible but just need a little support and residential care homes for those who cannot be independent.
  - ↳ Decent, sheltered housing, specifically with price controls so older people who aren't property owners will know that their long term future is secure.

### Development opportunities / sites

- There were some views in favour, others against the repurposing of civic buildings (County Hall complex; Guildhall complex) to create housing for older people. Those in favour cited its proximity to local facilities.

### Other

- Need more support / affordable social care for people who want to remain in their homes.
- Need a cultural change - need more older people cared for at home.
- Specialist housing needs more funding.



### Some example quotes from the feedback:

*"More people are aware of the importance of 'green space', air quality, tranquility, wildlife and generally there is an increased desire to have access to and interactions with the natural world. Most new housing will have limited access to private outdoor space but it should be vigorously defended and there should be more community gardens and allotments."*

*"Think differently. There are plenty of unused commercial spaces that could be converted to affordable housing. Develop your own schemes that provide affordable housing in unusual areas by using appropriately modified shipping container style constructions, but do not allow any vehicle parking unless providing EV chargers for electric bicycles or scooters."*

*"Developing redundant land would be the way forward plus unoccupied office space, and previous industrial sites when possible. Any other development must be in total sympathy with existing housing, density, environment etc and concerns of immediate established neighbours/ interested parties must become a priority which may well over rule established convention."*

*"Recent development in Kingston has largely been flats, often very small. Whilst building flats may help towards the number of 'homes' required, flats are not generally suitable for families."*

*"Identify brownfield sites around the borough where housing can be added rather than identifying a few sites for high rise development. Emphasis also needs to be on the right kind of housing to satisfy demand rather than on simple numbers of dwellings. COVID has caused the demand for small, centrally located homes to fall while there is increasing demand for homes with more space even if they are not as conveniently located."*

*"Housing standards need to be improved, more internal and external space especially for families. Tiny balconies are not enough. Should try and achieve the densities of high rise housing through smaller scale developments in the way that Georgian and Victorian developments did."*

*"Covid has highlighted the need for space to work from home. Planning should take this into account when looking at development proposals and policies."*

*"A spread of lower density properties across the borough, excluding Green Belt and MOL (Metropolitan Open Land). Condensed 'zones' of tall buildings are blighting this borough."*



## Design, Heritage and Culture

### Main headlines:

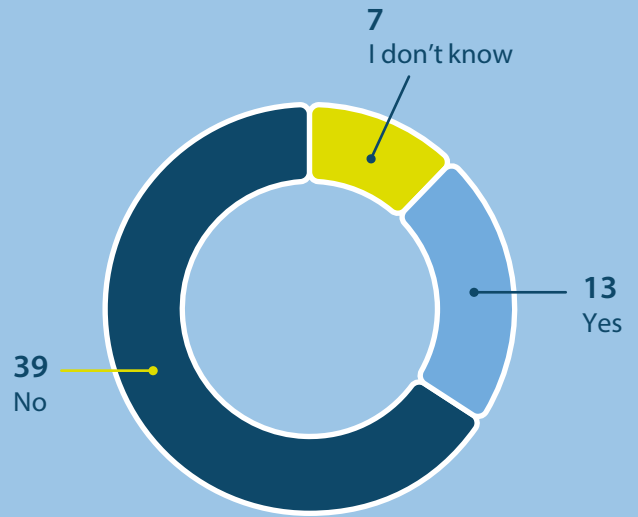
- Locations suggested for tall buildings and higher density developments include around stations and areas of existing tall buildings eg Cambridge Road Estate. Some specific locations were provided including Tolworth, Kingston Road and a few people suggesting Chessington and Chessington South.
- Pandemic has highlighted the importance of space standards and design quality .
- Concerns frequently raised about over development in some locations.
- Some feel tall buildings are incompatible with the character of Kingston - careful consideration needed about impact on heritage assets.
- Concern about pace of development and change in Kingston.
- Many comments mentioned that high density developments need to be sustainable and supported by local amenities and infrastructure.
- Listed buildings, riverside, green spaces and community buildings named as being valued.
- Many want to see existing buildings repurposed where possible.
- Some consider that if design codes were in place they could support density in the town centre.
- Comments pointed out that the character of New Malden High Street and its 'village feel' should be preserved.
- How buildings look is important.
- The borough's heritage has a positive impact on how you 'feel' living in Kingston, part of local identity.
- When building new places architects should talk to people with disabilities to look at accessibility features. Eg Cambridge Road Estate.
- Culture could be celebrated beyond just a display - it can be an economic asset eg Korean community want to help revive New Malden High Street.
- Comments from some about opportunities to create cultural hub in the borough eg Korean, Hindu.



**Question 1**

**In addition to the main town centres, are there any other locations in the borough that you think could support higher density developments and taller buildings?** *(Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)*

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 39 people said no, 13 said yes and seven people said don't know.



**Question 2**

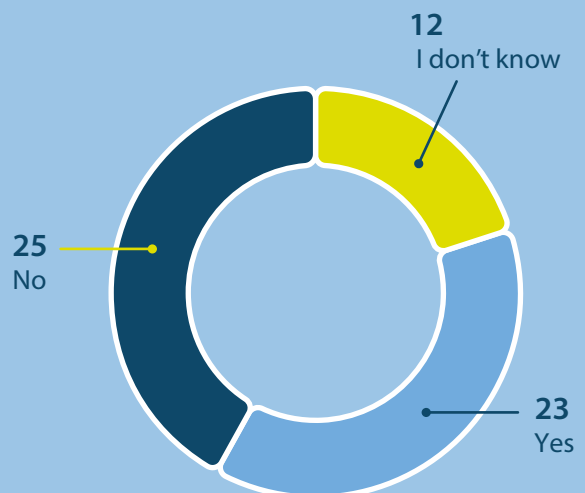
**If yes, which locations do you think could support higher density developments and taller buildings?**

- Locations suggested include: areas around stations, Cambridge Road estate, Tolworth, Chessington and Chessington South, Cocks Crescent (New Malden), along Kingston Bypass, empty retail outlets on Kingston Road, existing areas where high density developments are already prominent, i.e. Cambridge Road estate.
- Comments that consideration should include commercial, retail and industrial premises.
- Many comments mentioned that high density developments need to be supported by local amenities and infrastructure, and have good transportation links.
- Comments that higher density developments could be an opportunity for regeneration.
- There are comments against high density developments and tall buildings; which are seen as incompatible with the character of the borough, including Kingston Town Centre with a number of high rise developments in recent years.
- There were comments that suggested The Market Place needs additional protection from high rise developers.

**Question 3**

**Are there any particular places of cultural or heritage value that you feel could be enhanced through new developments?** *(Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)*

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 25 people said no, 23 said yes and 12 people said don't know.





#### Question 4

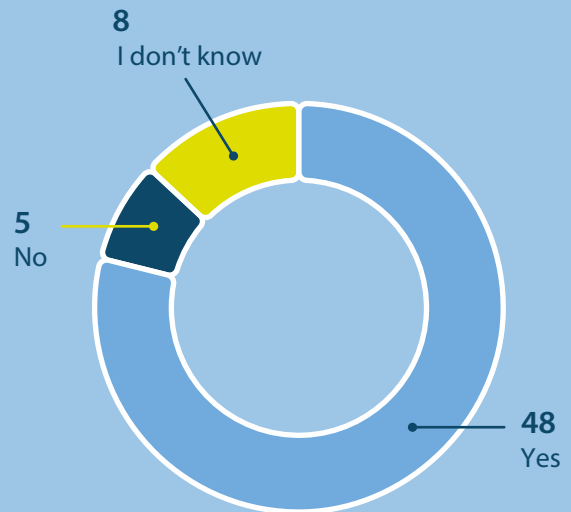
**If yes, please tell us the places of cultural or heritage value you are thinking about?**

- Most of the comments relates to listed buildings and sites in Kingston Town Centre e.g. Guildhall, the market place and surrounding buildings, Memorial Gardens, Rose Theatre, ABC cinema, Surrey County Hall, Cocks Crescent, Old London Road (potential to become more of a cultural quarter), Seething Wells, Aircraft Factories, Corinthians football ground, the riversides, parks and community facilities, including libraries and museums were also mentioned;
- Comments pointed out that the character of New Malden High Street and its 'village feel' should be preserved;
- Some comments that the Old Post Office will be more noticed and celebrated when the St George Royal Exchange development is completed.

#### Question 5

**Are there any particular cultural venues or heritage sites that you would like to see protected in the borough?** (Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 48 people said yes, 5 said no and eight people said don't know.



#### Question 6

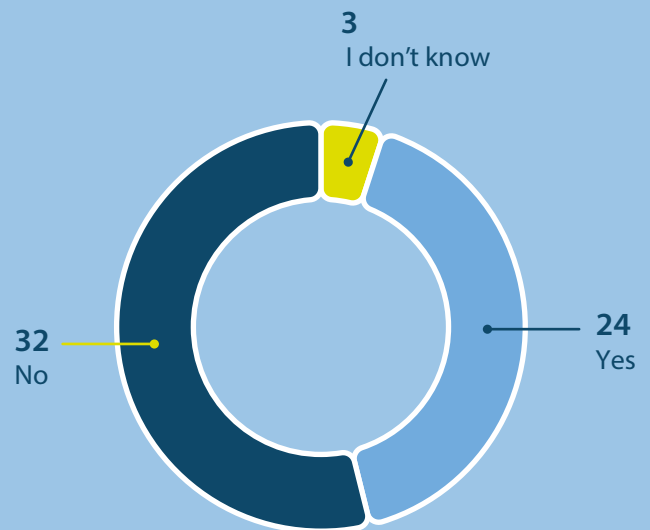
**If yes, please tell us the venues or heritage sites you would like to see protected?**

- Most of the comments relate to listed buildings and sites in Kingston Town Centre: e.g. Guildhall, market place and surrounding buildings, memorial gardens, Rose Theatre, ABC cinema, Surbiton Clocktower, Surrey County Hall, Cocks Crescent; Seething Wells, Corinthians football ground, the riversides, parks and community facilities, including scout huts, community halls, libraries and museums were also mentioned; Other suggested assets include the Phone box sculpture by David Mach and The Three Salmon Fish Mosaic in Clarence Street, Turks building by the river; Surrey County Council building; art deco water building next to the Thames yacht club in Surbiton, fire station and library; historic frontages on shops and interiors if historic; Beaconsfield House, 44 Ewell Road as Alfred Bestall lived there, Surbiton station.
- The natural greener area of Coombe including its natural underground springs needs to be protected from infill development especially those areas occupied by golf courses.
- The 'last view of the countryside' to the South of Chessington from the Gilders area needs to be protected.

**Question 7**

**Have the last year's events (e.g. COVID-19) changed how you view design, heritage and culture in our borough?** *(Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)*

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 32 people said no, 24 said yes and three people said don't know.

**Question 8**

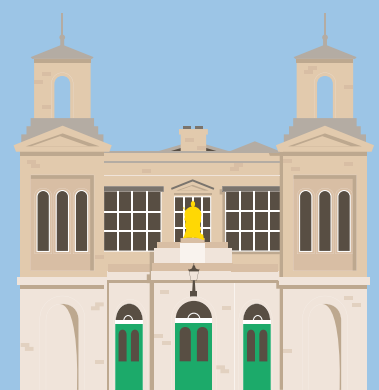
**If yes, can you explain how your views have changed?**

- Many comments from people who say they now appreciate their local area, and the heritage buildings and places, more, now that they don't travel as far.
- Some people say they feel more strongly about the need to protect the local environment from over development and to maintain open spaces and outdoor areas for public use.

**Question 9**

Good design can mean different things to different people. **What does good design mean to you? For instance, what do you like/dislike about your area?**

- Most participants emphasised that good design should be sympathetic to its surroundings and contribute to the character of the existing area.
- Many people commented that any developments should be high quality and built to high environmental standards to address the climate change threat, create attractive streets and green spaces that enhance nature and biodiversity, and promote efficient movements and sustainable travel.
- Many comments pointed out that good design should include repurposing of old buildings, which can contribute to the diverse character and heritage of an area; developments should respect different architecture/historic influences on the area's identity; including building materials.
- Comments that taller buildings/too many high rise developments can damage local characters in some areas; especially in the vicinity of historical buildings, Kingston is seen by some as a low-rise town, with comments that good design should consider the scale of developments appropriate to an area, i.e. lower density in suburbs, and higher density in centres where there are already high rise developments.



**Question 10**

**If you have any further comments on design, heritage and culture in the borough, please provide them.**

- Comments include that it is important that we protect our valuable heritage assets in Kingston; too many new flats that are cramped with no outside space;
- New developments should be designed to 'fit-in' with the existing neighbourhood; many modern designs have little character.
- Comments that Kingston shouldn't follow approaches in Croydon or Central London.
- Numerous comments that high density developments need to be sustainable, and that they need to be supported by relevant services and infrastructure.
- Some comments that recent planning decisions have already allowed for high-rise and excessively dense developments in some locations.
- Comments that developments have to be sustainable, resilient to the impact of climate change, e.g., increased flooding.



**Some example quotes from the feedback:**

*"Pre Covid I was a regular at the South Bank or in the West End. Now I want to stay closer to home. I'm sure many people feel the same. A great opportunity to increase the arts offering in the borough."*

*"I'm personally strongly against high-density developments. Tall buildings are against the character of this borough which is part of its beauty. They are not going to make this place better. You should rather develop other areas with more houses, like Chessington or even further away."*

*"We believe that exemplary design/ design codes should be made a prerequisite of future planning applications. At present, only some major applications are subject to an independent Design Review Panel. But this must be a requirement of all major applications going forward. Furthermore, the LPA should consider inviting local professionals &/ or voluntary groups/ societies to be part of the Design Review Panel process, as they have the local knowledge & understanding of the relevant neighbourhoods. In addition, all such developments must be comprehensively presented to the public in VuCity & model form, not just on-line but physically too, in order to ensure residents are properly engaged."*

*On suggested locations for taller buildings: "Some areas like Cambridge estate where people are used to having tower blocks. On the Kingston road where Shed retail outlets are now empty. High density buildings require support from local amenities, transportation and utilities so areas where these links are good or could be improved as part of regeneration."*

*"What changes, if any, should be made to the town's designated heritage assets (eg listed buildings, conservation areas, historic views etc)? The (council) must establish & maintain a formal, robust conservation policy that protects all its heritage assets & their settings from harmful development proposals."*

*"Protect Kingston town centre - heritage buildings and river front. Any new developments need to be sympathetic to them in terms of views and potentially create a new public realm around/near them that means we notice/ appreciate them differently. For example the Old Post Office will be more noticed and celebrated when the St George development is completed. Similar things could happen elsewhere."*

*"There are a number of theatres and performance venues throughout the borough. These are valued facilities which contribute towards social and cultural well-being and provide access to the arts to local people. They also form part of London's world-renowned and diverse cultural offer. They should therefore be protected by future policy in line with the NPPF and London Plan."*

*"What lessons can we draw from the pandemic in the new Local Plan? Covid-19 has highlighted the importance of space standards and design quality in our homes. The new Local Plan should build on these essential principles."*

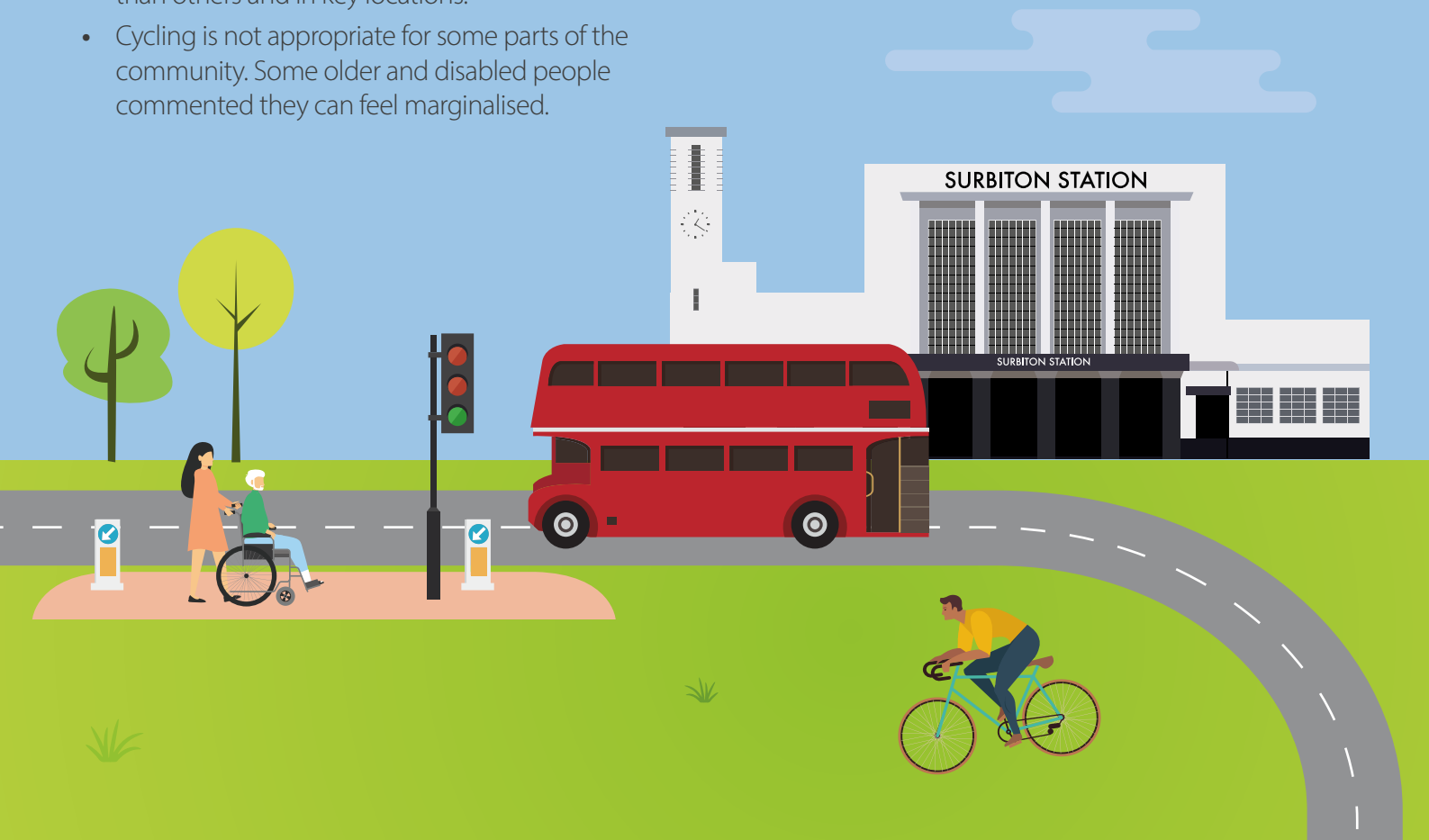
*"Kingston town centre should be protected and preserved. Also the culture of the different nationalities in the borough should be encouraged, such as the korean culture."*



## Greener transport and how we move around

### Main headlines:

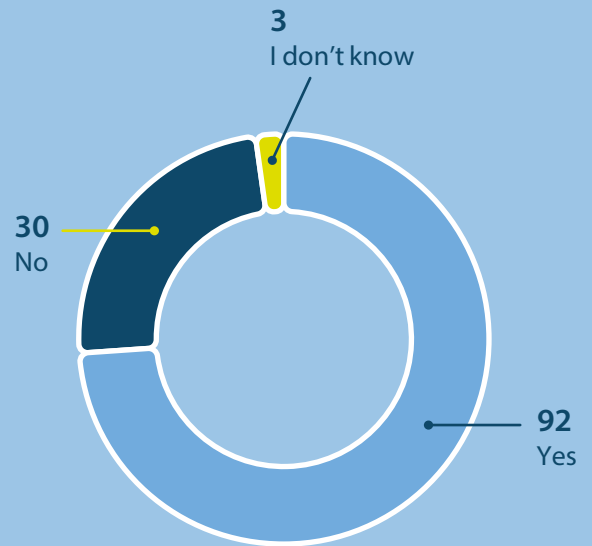
- There is a polarity in views about sustainable transport.
- Many view the new 'Go cycle' infrastructure as successful with further improvements wanted including awareness of cycle routes.
- Many people say they cycle and walk more as a result of the pandemic.
- Some have been put off cycling as they perceive parts of the cycle network to be unsafe.
- Safety curtails freedom of movement around Kingston for certain groups, eg people with learning disabilities, older people.
- Cycling lanes are perceived as dangerous and underused by some.
- Some believe cycling priority has gone too far and impacts pedestrians and car use.
- Some depend on car use and would like to see it supported more eg parking.
- Parking is needed by some groups more than others and in key locations.
- Cycling is not appropriate for some parts of the community. Some older and disabled people commented they can feel marginalised.
- Numerous comments from people who want to see further expansion of infrastructure for electric vehicles.
- Many positive comments about the bus network.
- Affordability of public transport referenced numerous times - especially trains.
- Public Transport - getting out is perceived as vital to improving wellbeing, independence, enjoying the environment.
  - ↳ Refugees – familiarising with new environment.
  - ↳ Older people – appointments.
  - ↳ People with learning disabilities – navigating independently.
- There are responses both in favour and against 20mph speed restrictions, Low Traffic Neighbourhoods etc.
- Acknowledgement by some that it takes time to change behaviours.



**Question 1**

**Has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your experience of travelling around the borough?** (Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 92 people said yes, 30 said no and three people said don't know.



**Question 2**

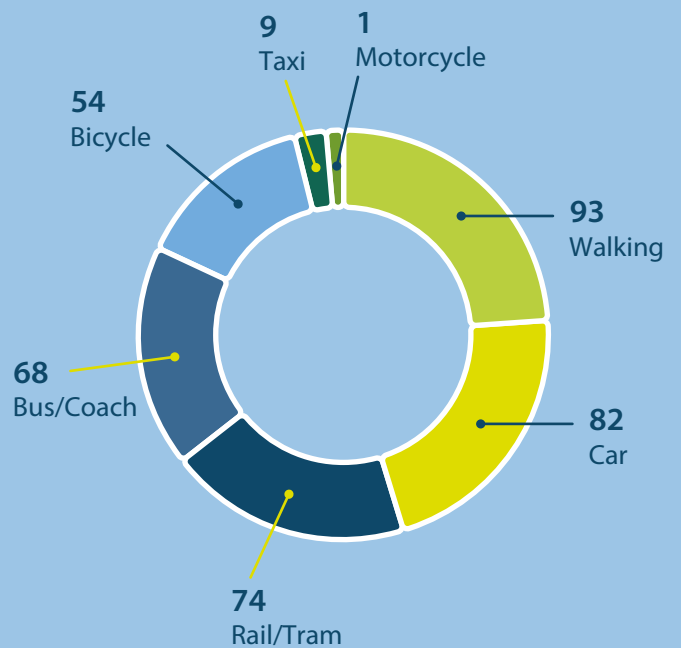
**If yes, please can you say how your views have changed.**

- Appreciated seeing the borough with much less congestion during lockdowns, and made cycling and walking more appealing.

**Question 3**

**What were your main mode/s of transport before COVID-19? Tick all that apply.** (Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)

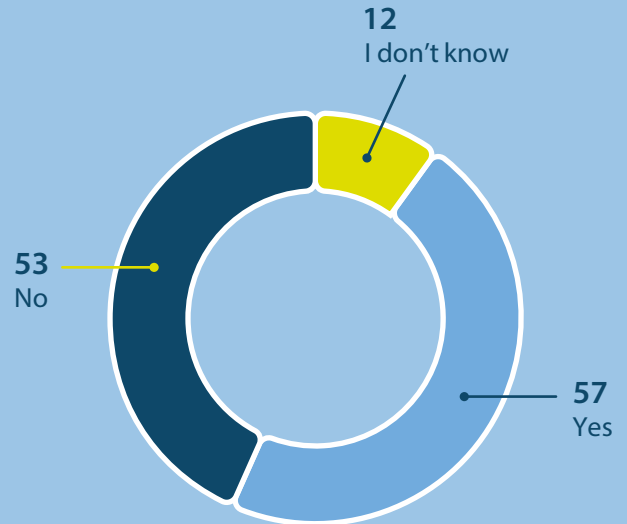
- 127 people completed the Greener transport survey on the portal. From those who responded to this question walking was selected 93 times, car was selected 82 times, rail/tram was selected 74 times, bus/coach was selected 68 times, bicycle was selected 54 times, taxi was selected nine times and motorcycle was selected once.



#### Question 4

**Are you likely to continue travelling this way in the future?** (Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)

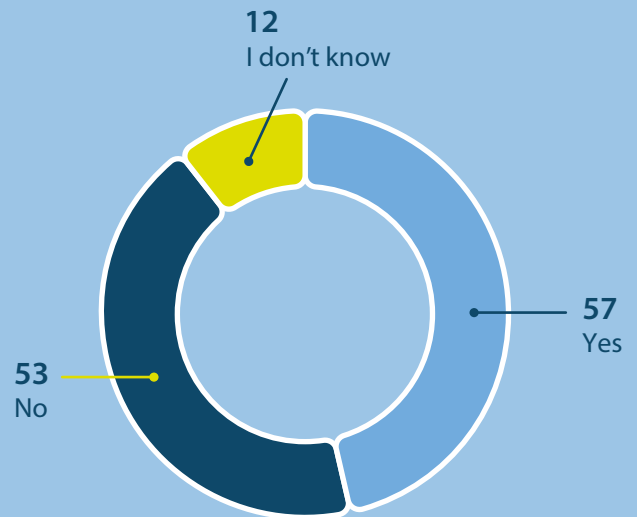
- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 57 people said yes, 53 said no and 12 people said don't know.



#### Question 5

**Have the last year's events (e.g. COVID-19) positively changed how you view sustainable transport (green travel)?** (Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 57 people said yes, 53 said no and 12 people said don't know.



#### Question 6

**If yes, please tell us how your experience of travelling has changed.**

- Cycling is continuing to grow in popularity.
- Cycling and walking have increased during COVID.

#### Question 7

**What would encourage you to walk, cycle or take public transport more and use your car less?**

- Reduced traffic congestion would make walking and cycling more appealing.
- Public transport connections require improvement.



**Question 8**

**Can you describe any opportunities you think there are to improve walking, cycling, public transport and other sustainable travel options in your local area?**

- Introduction of more Low Traffic Neighbourhoods.
- Further improvements to cycle routes and infrastructure.
- Cross-river connections would improve movements.

**Question 9**

**Do you have any further comments on sustainable transport and how we can move around?**

- Improvements to the new cycle lanes needed.
- Education on use of cycle lanes is needed.

**Some example quotes from the feedback:**

*"I don't think you can make people cycle, no matter how hard you try. I'm actually hugely put off cycling now courtesy of the complete mess Kingston Hill has become thanks to the recent 'improvements', which have actually made it more dangerous for everyone. I prefer walking, especially with a toddler, and feel pedestrians are at the bottom of the pecking order. Public transport would have to massively improve in terms of service for me to use it more as an alternative to a car."*

*"I already agree with active travel options, I agree more so now. I really wish for car and vehicle dominance to end, it is insane."*

*"It is clear that cycling and walking could be more popular if motor traffic volumes reduced as they did during the initial lockdown as it made a nicer / less stressful/ less polluted environment for walking and cycling."*

*"More secure bicycle locking facilities and a greater clampdown on bicycle theft in the borough. Bike theft deters many of us from cycling to visit Kingston's shops."*

*"There are already too many under use bicycle lanes & road blockages. Businesses need free moving traffic. Leisure and commuting cycling is all well and good but not at the present price of unnecessary traffic jams and the resultant local pollution."*

*"A pedestrian bridge from Laithwaites in Surbiton to the opposite river bank to encourage less driving due to a shorter walk or easier access to and from Hampton Court Palace. It will also bring day visitors to Surbiton from Hampton Court Palace to help tourist revenues but doing it in a green way."*

*"It has been great to see many more people cycling and walking, I hope this continues."*





## Natural Environment

### Main headlines:

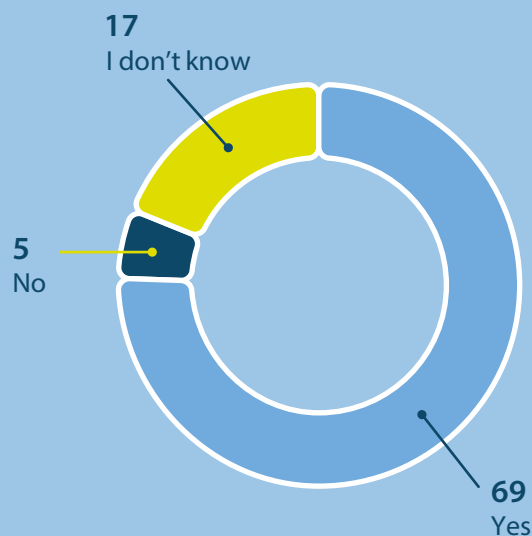
- The borough's natural environment is widely perceived as one of its key strengths.
- Green and open spaces are important for people's well being and climate change - many comments from people who want to see green spaces protected, enhanced and more accessible.
- Many people feel the quality and access of existing nature sites/parks can be improved - Hogsmill, Canbury Gardens, Dinton Field, Tolworth Court Farm and Seething Wells are all mentioned.
- Some want to see the borough's smaller green spaces, outside of main parks, improved.
- A lack of toilets is a concern and inconvenience when wanting to enjoy parks for longer periods.
- Many want to see biodiversity protected and enhanced.
- A number of comments made about protecting existing trees when developing a site and for there to be proper landscaping plans in place (not as an afterthought), including planting native species.
- Some cynicism about small green initiatives eg tree planting.
- The river is perceived as underutilized and an exclusive space in the town centre for those that can afford the restaurants and bars.
- Strong support for urban greening, green corridors and biodiversity net-gain.
- Some respondents want to see Kingston as a truly green borough; carbon neutral.



### Question 1

New developments offer great opportunities to improve accessibility to nearby open spaces, increase playground space, enhance landscaping and areas for wildlife to thrive — and the new Local Plan will positively work with this resource. This is about enhancing biodiversity and helping everyone access parks, green and open spaces. **Are there any opportunities to improve the quality of nature sites and public access to nature in your local area?** (Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 69 people said yes, 5 said no and 17 people said they don't know.



### Question 2

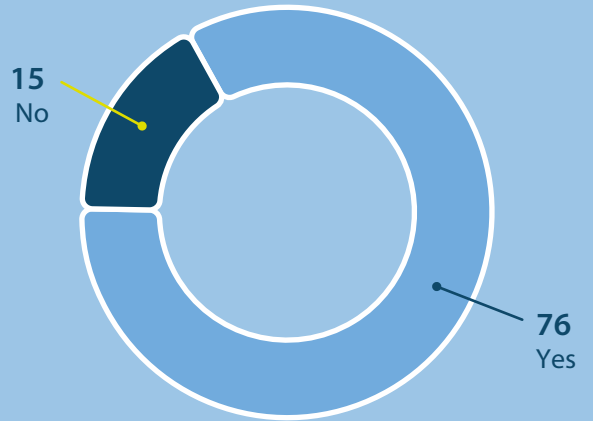
If yes, please tell us how and where you think improvements can be made.

- Comments strongly supported that nature sites need to be preserved and enhanced.
- Comments strongly in favour of protecting and reducing the cut down of existing trees (high emphasis on the mature trees in new developments) and planting of appropriate species of trees.
- Polarised support for increased public accessibility along the Hogsmill.
- Strong support for enhanced biodiversity net-gain with the provision of new habitats for protected species and protection of existing habitats in new developments.
- Strong support for urban greening.
- Increase the number of outdoor sports areas and enhance existing ones.
- Create a route for people in a wheelchair inside Bushy Park.
- Create more tours to identify wild birds and trees around Kingston.
- Some views that the filter beds at Seething Wells appear to be tailor made as a potential nature sanctuary, that could also be a leisure/viewing area for people.
- Improve accessibility to the countryside from Chessington.
- Cambridge Road Estate and Cambridge/Kingston Road are very short of native trees which could help with the poor air quality.

**Question 3**

**Have the events of the last year (e.g. COVID-19) increased your use of open spaces where you live?** *(Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)*

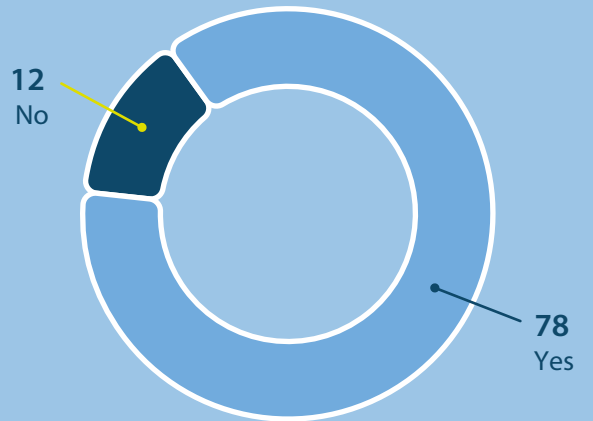
- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 76 people said yes and 15 people said no.



**Question 4**

**Have the events of the last year (e.g. COVID-19) made you appreciate the natural environment more?** *(Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)*

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 78 people said yes and 12 people said no.



### Question 5

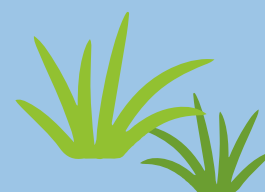
**Can you suggest any opportunities to improve the quality of, and access to, public open spaces in your local area (including walking and cycling connections, and the locations where new pocket or linear parks could be created)?**

- Improve access to the Royal Parks and the riversides (Thames, Hogsmill).
- Open up access from Berrylands Station to the Rose Walk Nature Reserve via Camelia Lane.
- New cultural hub in Fairfield.
- Reduce traffic around Kingston Market.
- Create a wheelchair wooden pathway in Bushy Park.
- Strong support for urban greening, protecting and enhancing biodiversity.
- Increase awareness of existing public open spaces through guided tours and visible signs.
- Protect and enhance green spaces.
- Much better access to the countryside.
- Greening is most needed in the hard central areas of Chessington i.e. Bridge Road, Hook Road, the two shopping parades and a number of very 'hard' streets e.g. the residential streets near the Industrial Estate and A3.
- Re-purpose the corner land plot behind Tolworth Tower which was the Gina Van Dyke Stage School. Making it a small green seating area.
- Make a small pond in The Wood which would benefit the wildlife, perhaps fenced off so that young children cannot access it.
- Improve access to public toilets.
- Linear and pocket parks should be considered as part of all new developments.

### Question 6

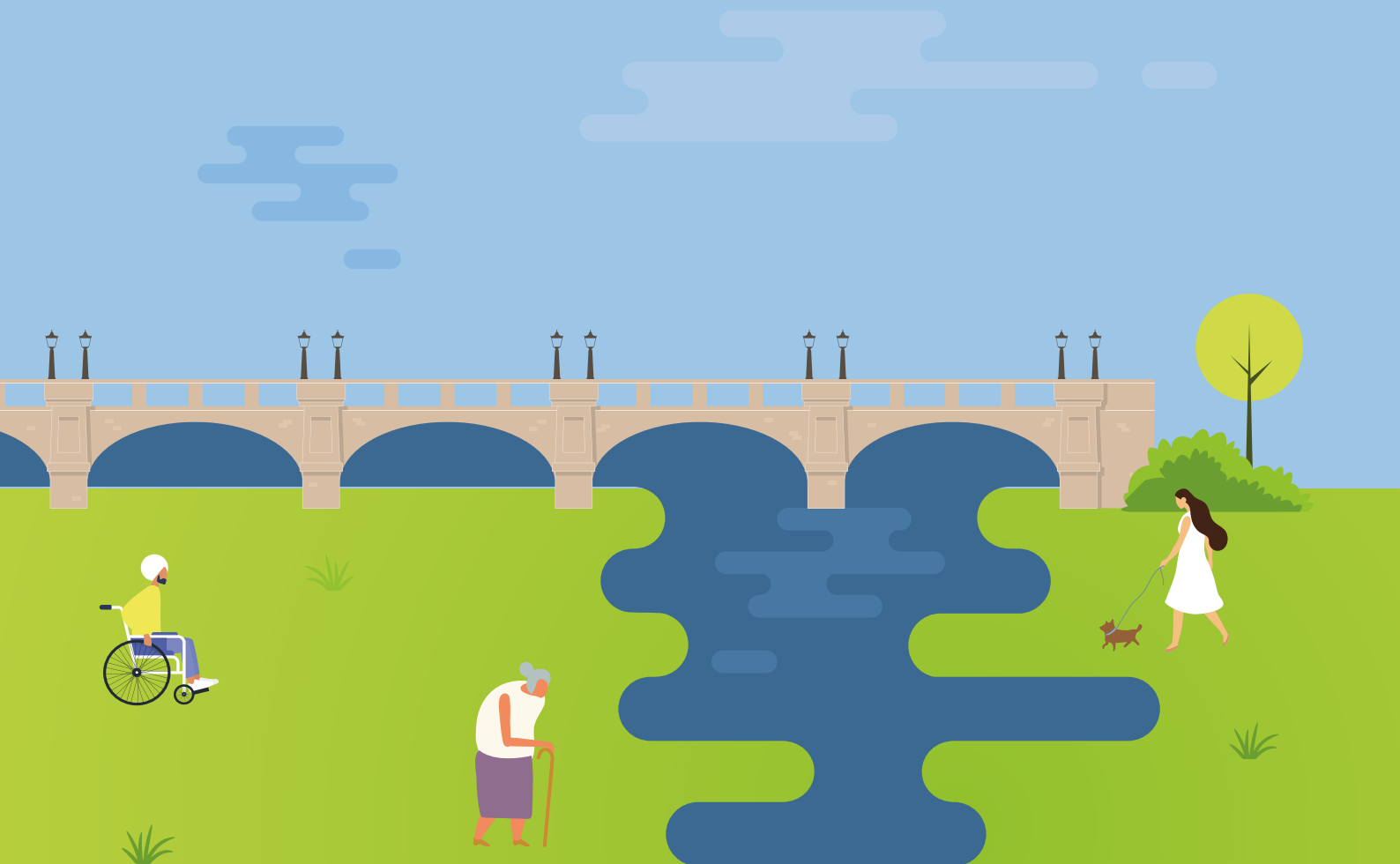
**Can you suggest any examples of how planning policy could help protect, promote and support green infrastructure in the borough?**

- Plan positively for Seething Wells.
- Attention and understanding needs to be made regarding the many existing underground springs in the Coombe area.
- Reduction of traffic in the borough.
- Increase the number of gardens.
- Existing green spaces should not be negatively impacted by any development and if anything all agreements should specify that funding should improve existing spaces, e.g. more planting, child play facilities, better footways to enable access to these spaces.



**Question 7****Do you have any further comments on the natural environment within Kingston?**

- Encourage environmental energy saving schemes as co operative schemes that enable people to afford opting for green choices for energy provision.
- Educate young people in school personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) days about recycling and public responsibility on litter and pollution, involve charities that work in this area.
- Create a buffer zone between the Hogsmill and new developments.
- Some comments that during lockdown Canbury Park has suffered due to overuse - an indication of what could happen as the town centre population increases due to development. Views expressed that the town centre therefore needs more and larger green spaces between any developments.
- Comments that the environment and wildlife is given proper attention. One respondent highlighted features essential to wildlife such as nesting and roosting sites and that travelling routes are not included in green infrastructure nor in the DEFRA biodiversity net gain metric, so must be included separately in the Local Plan.
- Protect and promote the natural environment.
- A few people commented that they want to see targets around the number of houses with 'greening' features, eg number of new habitats or new trees planted, to help ensure implementation.



**Some example quotes from the feedback:**

*"Green spaces are essential for our mental health, for exercise, for nature, and to protect us from climate change and the collapse of our ecosystems. We don't have very much, in many places in the borough, and they should be protected. Creating more instead of more over-development would be even better."*

*"We need to encourage creation of local habitats for insects, wildlife wherever possible in the borough. This is needed in community green spaces but will also help and needed in people's gardens and wherever we have space. We know this has been proven to help mental well-being (even if just walking past beautiful flowers or seeing a squirrel)."*

*"Increased pavement planters, green infrastructure between paths/ cycle paths and the road to absorb pollution, convert parking spaces to green spaces, green roofs and walls."*

*"Signpost green spaces better so that people visit the wood in Surbiton, the Berrylands nature reserve etc and sit by the river in Canbury Gardens."*

*"Many of the children's play areas have been upgraded. This is great to see, and needs to be borough-wide, to really benefit families - as these spaces are so important when you have little children. Make sure the equipment is maintained and regularly checked."*

*"Better and higher conservation of our natural green spaces including those utilised by golf clubs. These green spaces are vital to combat pollution and for the wildlife that use these areas."*

*"Improve footpaths, which can be uneven, eg Canbury Gardens, to make it easier for people to access."*



## Your neighbourhood and local community

### Main headlines:

- To improve their experience and use of town centres people cite free parking and more independent and wider variety of shops and other uses.
- Many respondents want to see a more welcoming, well maintained and accessible public realm environment. Accessibility is also important.
- Many people want to see more community spaces and support for groups, events and festivals which bring different demographics together.
- Some want to see destinations created in the town centres - not just for shopping - mix of uses, events, food markets, outdoor performance space.
- More cultural events; community and creative spaces.
- Some want to see more accessible and affordable leisure and sport facilities.
- Community safety is raised including anti-social behaviour and women's safety. People are not always confident in reporting to authorities.
- People commented that they can feel disconnected from immediate neighbours but Kingston is better compared to other boroughs.
- Community groups have lost spaces - protect and improve community facilities.
- Community events would enable increased cohesion between different demographics.
- Polarised views expressed about what people want from their high street. Some people are unhappy about the increasing number of charity, vaping and cheap clothing shops etc while others are happy about a mix, rather than having empty shops.

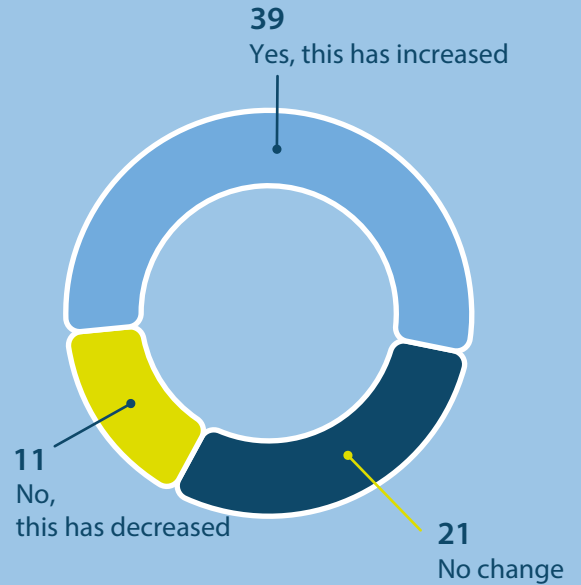


**Question 1**

**Have the last year's events (e.g COVID-19) changed..any of these things?** (Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)

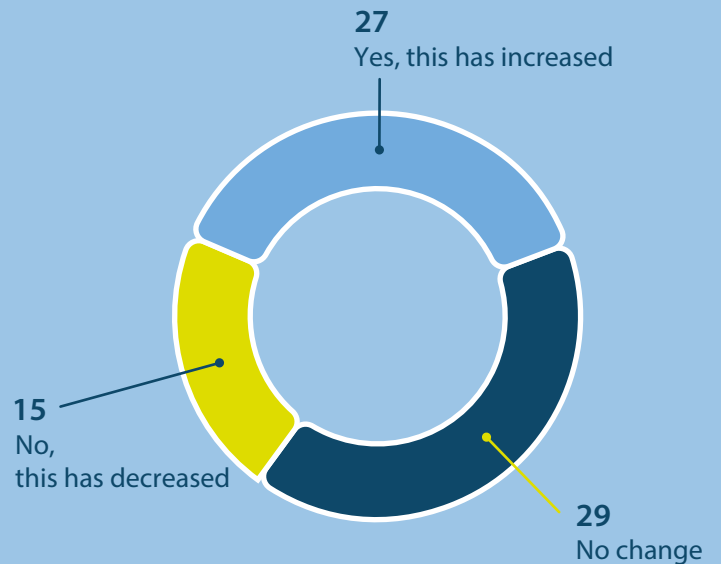
**How connected you feel to your local community neighbourhood.**

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 39 people said yes, this has increased, 21 people said there was no change and 11 people said no, this has decreased.



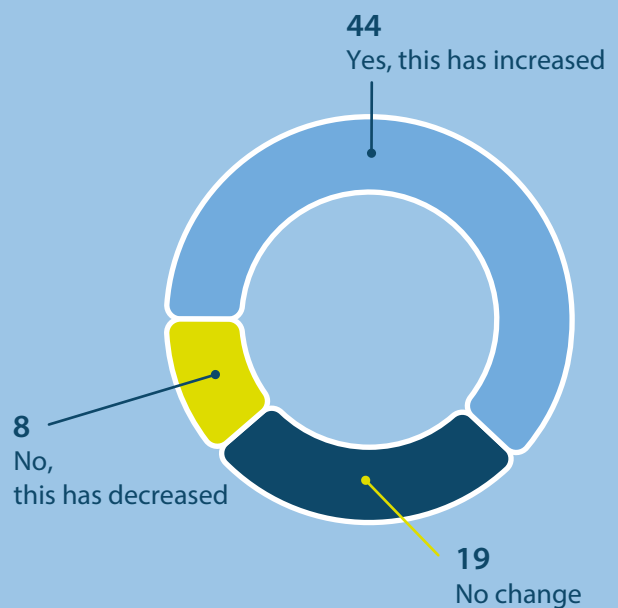
**Your involvement in activities that make a difference to your local community/where you live.**

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 27 people said yes, this has increased, 29 people said there was no change and 15 people said no, this has decreased.



**Your interest in plans/ideas for your local community/neighbourhood.**

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 44 people said yes, this has increased, 19 people said there was no change and eight people said no, this has decreased.





### Question 2

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the decline of shopping on the high street and the increase in online shopping. If these trends continue and there are going to be fewer traditional retail shops on the high street, we need to think about what uses we should support to ensure our town centres are places people still want to visit. Local parades of shops are playing an increasing role in our communities. **What do you think would improve your experience and encourage you to use your local shops more often?**

- Strong preference towards more independent shops and a greater variety of shops of a higher quality.
- Increased pedestrianisation / space to walk.
- Some complaints over the quantity of charity, coffee shops, takeaway and vape shops on our high streets.
- Many comments stated free parking and/or greater parking provision would encourage them to use local shops more.
- Improved / better maintained public realm.

### Question 3

**There are four main town centres in the borough (Kingston, New Malden, Surbiton and Tolworth). What would improve your experience of our main town centres and encourage you to use them more often?**

- Strong preference towards more independent shops and a greater variety of shops of a higher quality.
- Improved accessibility via walking, cycling and public transport.
- Improved leisure facilities.
- Improved / better maintained public realm.
- Some complaints over the quantity of charity, coffee shops and takeaways.

### Question 4

Creating strong community networks and helping to develop respect for local diversity can nurture a sense of belonging and confidence. **Do you have any suggestions on how planning could support strong communities in the borough?**

- More community spaces and facilities with the council providing sufficient support for events and groups.
- Community events that bring different demographics together.
- Sufficient social infrastructure to support the community's needs, particularly those living in flats.
- More green space.



### Question 5

#### Do you have any further comments on your neighbourhood and local community?

- More accessible leisure and sport facilities.
- Increased policing.
- Protect existing community facilities.
- Polarized comments over cycling and car usage.

#### Some example quotes from the feedback:

*"Convenience, choice and variety with flexibility over uses but resisting residential as you are doing through the current Article 4 Direction. Ensuring that local parades are convenient to use by car is essential and will ensure their survival and serve local needs. The Triangle, Kenley Rd/ Clarence Ave, New Malden is a great example of this where a dying parade was completely revived by making car parking convenient and the parade has now been thriving since and is well used by people on foot, bicycle, mobile scooters and car, people of different ages and physical mobility."*

*"Cycle parking, cafes with outside seating, continue street markets, have a variety of shops, support small shops like florists, shoe shops, charity shops, book shops, gift shops, refill shops, greengrocers and butchers. It is great that there is still a clothes shop in Surbiton and a shoe shop. We support it. Keep libraries in the High street."*

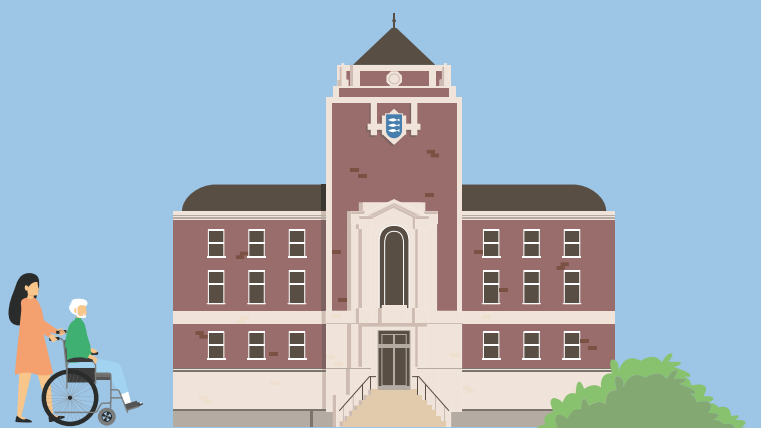
*"Different community spaces would improve the high street (New Malden); Places to meet, a square? - St Georges square is very windy."*

*"More welcoming places to sit and enjoy shopping parades - green spaces, seating, planting, parking more hidden by hedges and trees. Places to meet friends, opportunities to 'play on the way'. Lots more trees on (shopping) parades, particularly those in centres like Chessington and Hook. Narrow roads, calmed traffic."*

*"High Streets are becoming less and less attractive too - measures need to be taken to attract independent retailers as are found in areas away from London."*

*"Incentivise and support volunteer groups who are already working in the community. Provide material support to their work."*

*"Create local events 'spaces' and have an annual schedule of different community events. Encourage sharing between communities - eg at Elm Road allotments we are planning different ethnic food events hosted by Polish, Iranians, Koreans, English etc. We are also sharing plants, seeds etc to foster community spirit."*



## Community services and facilities

### Main headlines:

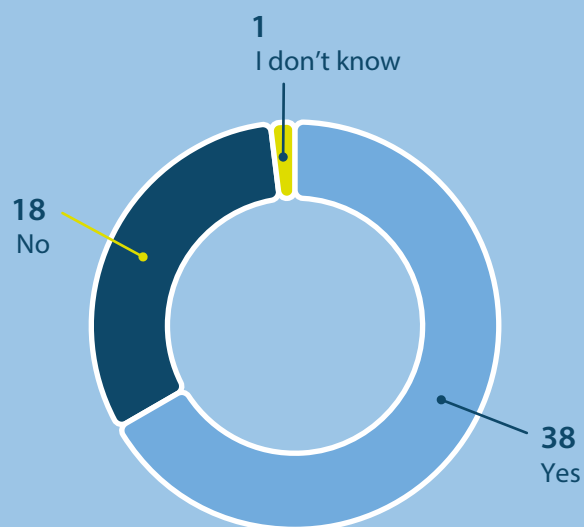
- Many feel community services and social infrastructure are now even more important with more people working from home and more homes planned.
- Need mental health facilities and services, sports facilities and facilities to occupy young people and prevent anti-social behaviour.
- Many people have expressed that they want to see more facilities over the next 20 years - more schools (not places in existing schools), GPs, preventative healthcare services and dentists, green spaces, community and leisure facilities - including a new pool in the south of the borough - leisure areas - to support current and future communities.
- Different and inclusive spaces which are appropriate for young or old or those with special educational needs have also been mentioned.
- The loss of community spaces where different groups meet came through strongly in our conversations with older people and disabled people - need to protect and improve community facilities.
- Some expressed that they understand the importance of integration and don't want to offend, but queried whether facilities could be tailored for some cultural needs eg care home for older Korean residents.



### Question 1

Have the last year's events (e.g. COVID-19) changed how you view housing and community services and facilities in our borough? (Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 38 people said yes, 18 said no and one person said don't know.



### Question 2

If yes, please explain what housing and community services and facilities you think will now be needed following the pandemic?

- Comments have highlighted the need for suitable green / amenity spaces for people living in flats.
- An eclectic mix of services and facilities were put forward in comments, especially needed following the pandemic. Green spaces, GP's and mental health facilities were most suggested as being needed following the pandemic.

### Question 3

Over the next 10 years, we expect to have a greater population of older people (over 65) and children and young adults. To meet these population increases we will need additional community facilities, such as schools and healthcare facilities. **What new or improved facilities do you think your neighbourhood will need over the next 20 years?**

- A wide range of services and facilities are put forward in comments as being needed.
- More schools / school places are needed. Particularly secondary schools.
- More GP's, healthcare facilities and organised activities needed for the growing population of older people.
- More open space and leisure facilities needed by all.
- Some criticism of the lack of existing provision.

### Question 4

Do you have any further comments on Housing and Community Infrastructure?

- Complaints about density and the amount of development and the subsequent impact of development on local facilities. A few comments about linking development to new provision.



### Some example quotes from the feedback:

*"The healthcare facilities including dentists and schools are already not adequate for demand in the area."*

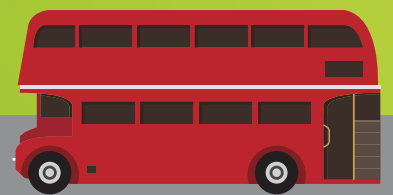
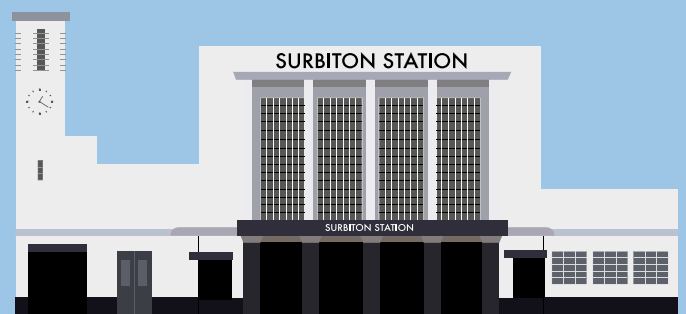
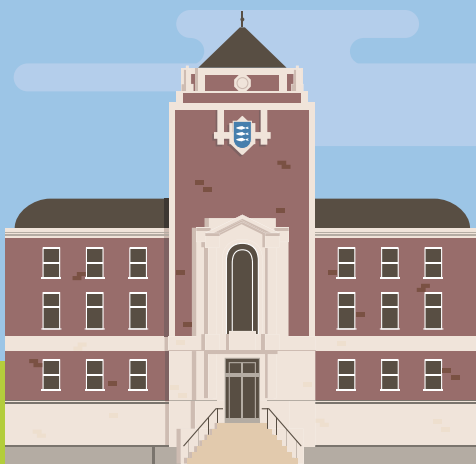
*"That community services would benefit from being more closely connected with the individual localities and neighbourhoods. The council and other statutory organisations need to invest in building community capacity of residents and do what it can to support thriving arts, cultural and leisure which are inclusive that particularly enable people who may be lonely, experiencing mental health difficulties, and/or have care and support needs to keep connected and contributing."*

*"Right now the existing community facilities - eg sports facilities - aren't even working. So plans to develop existing ones need to take these evolving needs into account, and new high-density developments - such as the Cambridge Road Estate - need to factor in the need for new community and healthcare facilities into their design. It shouldn't be a section 106 / CIL-related afterthought."*

*"The new Local Plan could help by identifying and safeguarding sites that are needed for infrastructure and community services and facilities, so that with the pressure for residential, these do not become lost opportunities. If we do not maintain and grow our social infrastructure we will not build balanced and sustainable communities, and we will not deliver good growth."*

*"More schools, more GPs, more leisure facilities to entertain the youngsters and appropriate care services for the elderly."*

*"Sadly, vital community infrastructure (scout huts, fields) is under pressure for housing. These facilities need to be protected."*



## Local Economy

### Main headlines:

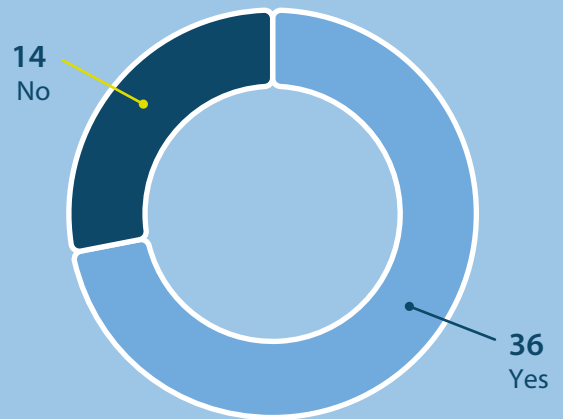
- Respondents now use local shops and services more as a result of the pandemic and want to see local businesses supported more in the future.
- Want to see small businesses valued and supported - affordable workshops as well as offices available. Maple Works in Surbiton highlighted as a good model.
- Maintain the mix - businesses and services, high street and industrial premises.
- There is recognition from some that more shared workspace hubs may be needed but that affordability will be key. People not keen to commit financially.
- Looking at business rates and cheaper car parking is mentioned by a number of people to support businesses in the town centre.
- Kingston should be innovative and celebrate creativity - look at other national examples of best practice. Kingston University's 'Not my Beautiful House' in Fife Road, given as a good example of creativity.
- Refugees want to work or be getting ready to work.
- People with learning disabilities want to learn and live independently and have local opportunities.
- Settled migrant communities want to have their contributions acknowledged and work in partnership with the council.
- Night time economy on Kingston High Streets – focus on eating over clubbing; clubbing also recognised as an important part of Kingston's night time offering, to be maintained.
- Young people want to be able to use libraries and other locations to work.



**Question 1**

**Have the last year's events (e.g. COVID-19) changed how you view the local economy in our borough?** *(Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)*

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 36 people said yes and 14 people said no.



**Question 2**

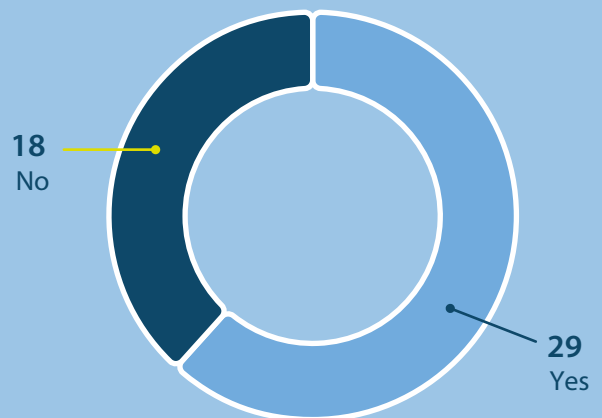
**If yes, how have your views changed?**

- Strong feelings towards the importance of shopping locally and using local services.
- Would like more local and diverse shops.
- Some people feel there is too much focus on Kingston town centre.
- Should be greater support for local businesses by the council.
- Recognise the increase of working from home so less need for office workspaces.
- Both the council and local residents should support independent traders.

**Question 3**

We expect flexible workspace to play an increasing role as the nature of work changes in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.  
**Do you work in a role that allows you to work flexibly ie. from different locations (your home, the office etc)**

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 29 people said yes and 18 people said no.



#### Question 4

Thinking about spaces provided by employers or possible local shared spaces or facilities, are there any specific requirements such as co-working and serviced offices that you think flexible spaces should provide?

- Affordability.
- Local shared workspace hubs.
- Parking (free and electric charging points).
- Pay as you go desks.
- Reuse empty properties.
- Open wifi access points.

#### Question 5

What would encourage you to use a nearby workspace?

- Affordable daily rates.
- Make connections to people in related fields.
- Good transport connections.
- Ventilation and nice atmosphere.
- Flexibility with working arrangements.

#### Question 6

Supporting small and medium-sized businesses will be key to the economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. **How do you think Kingston Council can best provide support for small businesses?**

- Engage with businesses and give them support to promote themselves.
- Provide subsidies.
- Pedestrianise more streets.
- Reducing business rates.
- Provide affordable spaces.
- Safeguard employment floorspace.
- Encourage them to be sustainable.
- Develop an improved rental system.

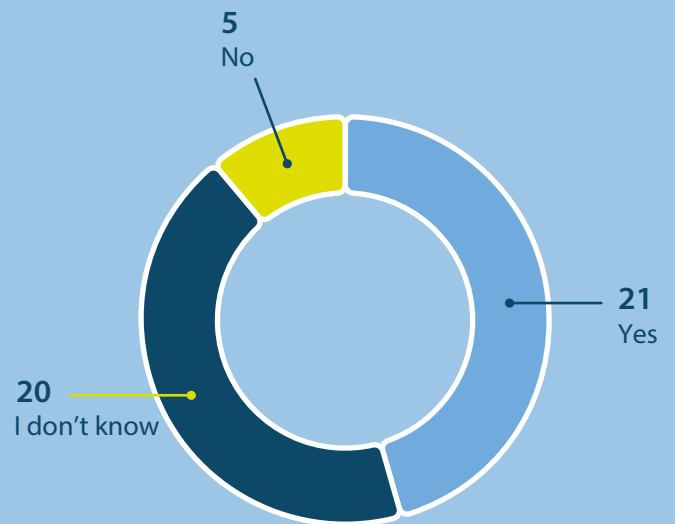




**Question 7**

**Are there any commercial locations where there could be a more effective use of the land?** (Data from the Kingston:Let's Talk engagement portal only)

- From those who responded to this question on the Let's Talk engagement portal 21 people said yes, 20 people said don't know and 5 people said no.

**Question 8**

**If so, please let us know where and what types of development may be suitable in these locations.**

- Chessington Industrial Site.
- Guildhall.
- Red Lion Road.
- Tolworth Tower.

**Question 9**

**Do you have any further comments on the Local Economy?**

- Landlords need to be persuaded to rent units to progressive businesses.
- Don't drive retail out of industrial estates.
- Still a disconnect between genuine business support and what the council can offer.
- New planning policies must be flexible enough to allow units and businesses to respond to market demand.
- Concerns about future employment in the borough, with many commercial sites and their jobs lost to residential sites I feel that we're getting the wrong balance.
- Having a more flexible approach to how building spaces in the Bentall Centre and Kingston town centre as a whole are used would allow quicker responses to consumer behaviour.
- Opportunity to use permitted development rights to change between uses and convert to residential where appropriate.

### Some example quotes from the feedback:

*"There is a problem of lack of confidentiality in co-working spaces which rules them out for some roles. There is a need for a mix of activities, such as places for working or collaborating, and spaces where people can be in online meetings."*

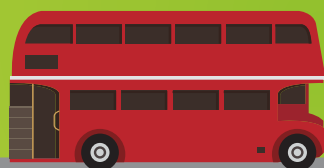
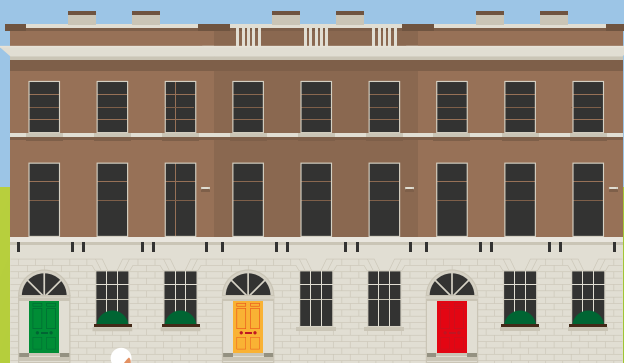
*"I regard local shops and businesses as more important. Without them we have no local community."*

*"It has stronger potential as more people will spend more days in the borough as we work from home for at least some days of the week. I also worry that you're restricting this growth by making it impossible/undesirable to get anywhere near Kingston by car so the economy relies only on us that already live in the town centre."*

*"I think the local economy needs more help than before. We need to welcome more good businesses to the borough who will grow, take on staff and provide skills training. We need space for new businesses and that means protecting existing employment sites and adding more sites in line with local population growth."*

*"I also have concerns about future employment in the borough, with many commercial sites and their jobs lost to residential sites. I feel that we're getting the wrong balance."*

*"I now shop local and try to use small firms."*



# Call for sites and Site Assessments Update

## Call for sites

To ensure the Local Plan process considers all potential sites for development, the council ran another 'Call for Sites' exercise, for a wide range of land uses, that may be available for redevelopment over the plan period up to 2041.

Individuals, developers, landowners, agents and other interested parties were invited to submit details of sites within the borough as part of the further engagement.

## Site Assessments update

The council also welcomed further thoughts and ideas on the sites that have been identified so far, for development in the borough.

The council updated its Site Assessments document to include all the sites that have been identified through the Local Plan process so far, including sites submitted to the council in the 2019 early engagement exercise.

This was an opportunity for local communities, landowners and other relevant partners to let us know what types of uses could be delivered on the sites that have been identified. The types of uses could include new housing, retail and employment developments, sports and recreational facilities, community facilities, and green infrastructure.

Responses to the Call for Sites and Site Assessments update are currently being reviewed by the Planning Policy team.



## Next Steps

The Planning Policy team is now using the feedback from the 2019 early engagement and 2021 further engagement to inform the creation of a first draft of the new Local Plan. This draft will be published later in 2022 so communities can give their views. A detailed Statement of Consultation will be published at the same time showing how the council has responded to the main issues and views communities gave us.

Feedback from the further engagement is also continuing to be shared with other council teams to inform their planning and decision-making.

Relevant feedback is also being used to inform an Infrastructure Delivery Plan which the council is preparing.

### For more information

If you have any questions please email the team at [localplan@kingston.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@kingston.gov.uk) or call the council's contact centre on 020 8547 5000 and ask to speak to someone from the Planning Policy team.

