



## Leyton Square Community Hub Consultation Summary

- **Project:** Leyton Square Community Hub
- **Period:** 8 August 2024 - 19 September 2024
- **Project manager:** Sarah Tahir

### Report summary

This consultation was aimed at the public to help shape the new proposed Leyton Square Community Hub building and what services it will have. This consultation received 60 responses.

The majority of respondents currently use Leyton Square Park and live within a 10 minute walk from the park. 50% of the respondents are parents/carers whilst 40% are local residents.

#### Location, Layout and Design

The majority of respondents agree with the proposed new location for Leyton Square Community Hub with 41.7% voting that they strongly liked the proposed location.

The majority of respondents agree with the proposed internal layout of the new building with 45% voting that they strongly liked the proposed layout.

52.2% of respondents voted for the external look of the building to be colourful or patterned.

#### Activities

There was a near equal response on the type of activities/programs that respondents would like to see offered at the Leyton Square Community Hub with indoor games, music and dance classes taking the lead by an extra 1%.

The majority of respondents highlighted that the main barriers that could prevent them from using the Leyton Square Community Hub are cost and lack of information.

43.3% of respondents are interested in participating in the planning and operation of the Leyton Square Community Hub.

## Do you currently use Leyton Square Park?

60/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - required

Yes 78.3% (47 choices)



No 21.7% (13 choices)



No answer 0% (0 choices)



## How long does it take for you to walk to Leyton Square Park?

60/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - required

less than 5 minutes 40% (24 choices)



between 5 and 10 minutes 25% (15 choices)



between 10 and 20 minutes 18.3% (11 choices)



20 minutes or more 16.7% (10 choices)



No answer 0% (0 choices)



## How best would you describe yourself?

60/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - required

Parent/carers 50% (30 choices)



Local Resident 40% (24 choices)



Local Organisation 6.7% (4 choices)



No answer 0% (0 choices)



Other 3.3% (2 choices)



English

## Comments from respondents:

- Former resident
- Someone who is familiar with the area

## Do you currently use any youth centres or community buildings in Southwark?

50/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - optional

No 56.7% (34 choices)



Yes 26.7% (16 choices)



No answer 16.7% (10 choices)

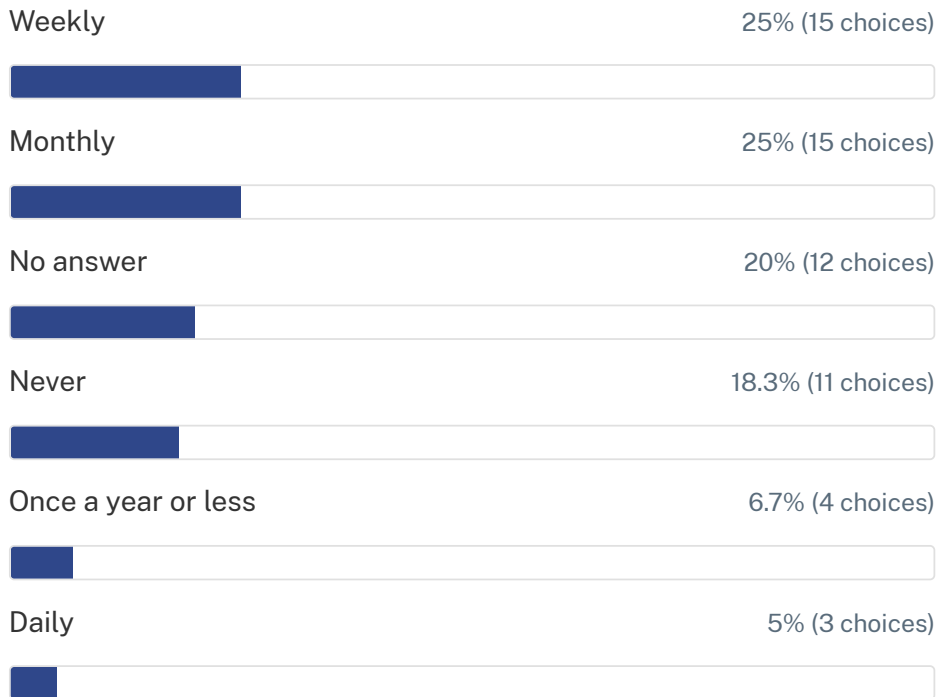


## If you have answered 'yes' - please explain how you use the youth centres or community buildings in Southwark

- Used to use Leyton Square for stay and play before it closed. Use Peckham Pulse and library regularly.
- We occasionally book meetings, trainings and away days at community buildings. We also support other charities and community groups in the borough to get access to suitable spaces to carry out their activities.
- Libraries in Peckham, Canada Water and Walworth Road. Church hall at Christ Church Old Kent Road.
- Library
- Southwark leisure centre
- I take my child to playgroups
- For roller skating activities
- My kids use it
- Children's centres
- Youth

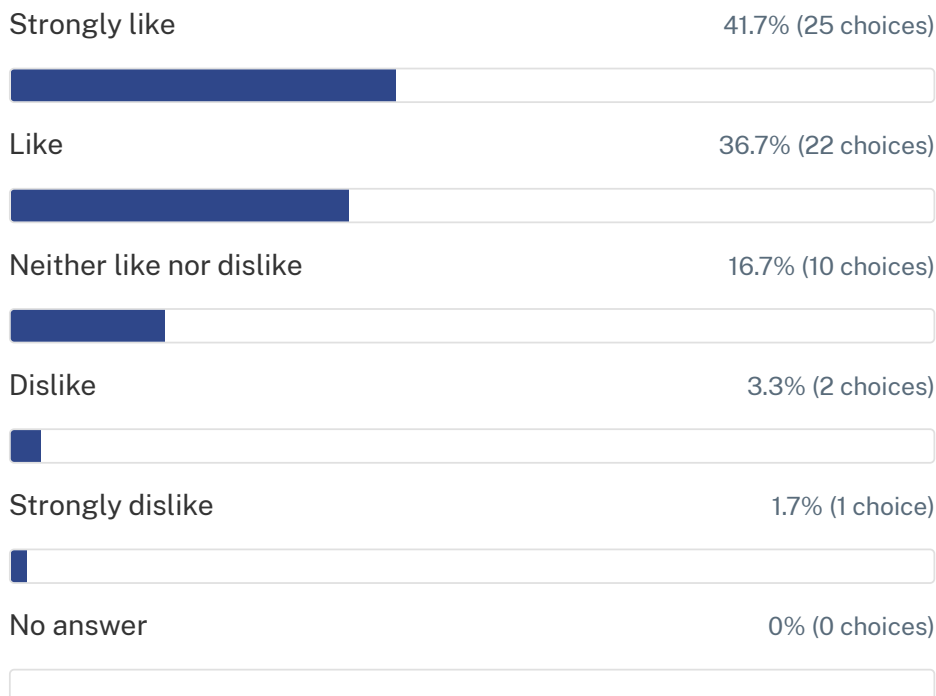
## How often do you participate in activities at youth centres or community buildings?

48/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - optional



## Do you like the proposed new location for the new Leyton Square Community Hub building?

60/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - required

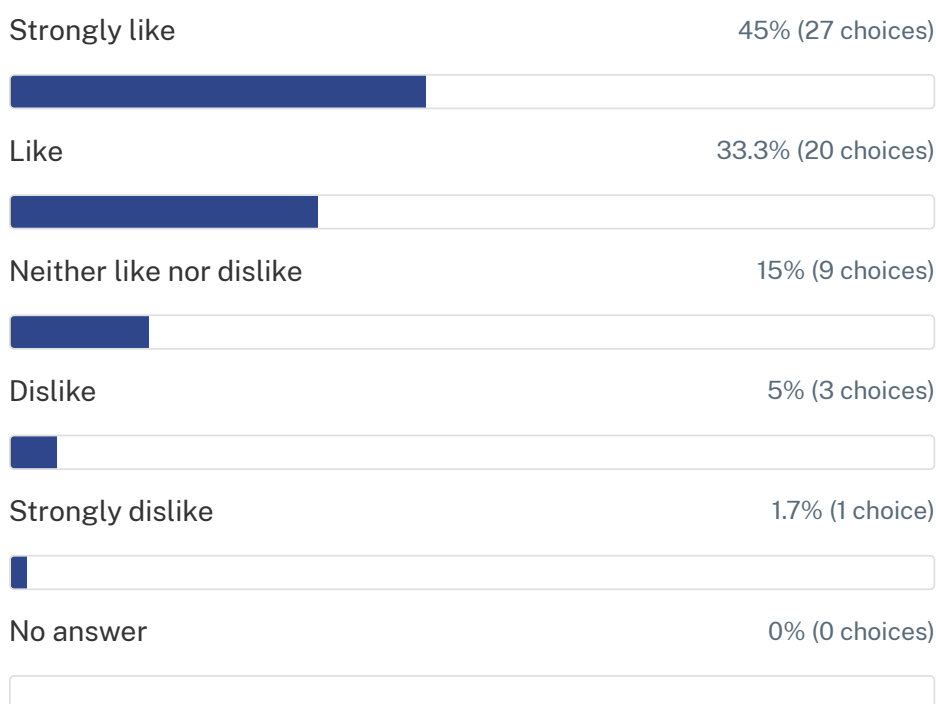


## Please use the space below for any further comments you wish to make

- Building should move left so it is not against the perimeter as the back of the space is a hidden spot and misused
- A public toilet will be nice
- Think having an entrance external to the park is a good thing
- Seems pretty sensible but as I haven't used the park I couldn't really comment
- Will there be additional investment to improve the outdoor facilities that the new hub will give onto? It's currently in not a great state
- I hope it will allow roller skating
- It's at an awkward angle for when you see it from the street
- Proposed location creates an awkward entrance sequence and a potentially nor overseen corner. It does not resolve well the corner geometry. Orientation needs to make sure the space reaches enough sunlight: the proposed site plan is not aligned with the North and it does not provide a North symbol, so consultees cannot take an informed view on this
- A bit of a boring approach

## Do you like the proposed internal layout of the new building?

60/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - required



## Please use the space below for any further comments you wish to make

- Toilet access from the outside? Similar to the toilets at Southwark Park Café
- Would be good to design the main space and storage in a way that allows for multi-use, e.g. stay and play, sports room, meeting hall, etc
- A media room and place to help kids get jobs
- Seems more accessible. Are we losing useable square footage though?
- I think it's a great design based on the feedback we have previously received from members. Easy access to the kitchen space is great, as is the accessibility and openness
- It looks like a simple space that can be used by different groups for different reasons
- What is the capacity of the room and outdoor space and are the kitchen facilities enough to cater for large gatherings of people? Same goes for the size and usability of the storage space. Really like the multiple double doors giving onto the outdoor space, as well as folding/wide opening doors to kitchen and store room
- Further expansion of space of possible
- A space that could potentially be used as a therapy room
- Clearly the designer doesn't use children centres
- How big is the main space area, and will it be big enough for skating, especially in the winter months
- The toilet doors are too open and visible. The entrance lacks generosity and don't think it's very nice
- The footprint proposed is considerably smaller than the existing one. This represents a significant loss of amenity that needs to be explained more professionally. Plans should show areas both existing and proposed so that consultees can really understand the impact of the proposal. Also, the Council has a duty to explain where this layout has come from: the documentation needs evidence of the design process and which stakeholders you have consulted on (schools, nurseries, childminders, residents associations...)
- Dull, an exciting design would bring value and interest to the site, and make kids feel more valued

## **We are thinking of including a new under 5's playground and new planted areas. Is there anything else you would like to see included in this space?**

- Water springs
- A water feature, similar to Southwark Park
- A water play area or splashpad, similar to what they have in Burgess Park outside the under-5s area or Rye park
- A games room
- YES!
- Storage for community groups has been a major request - somewhere groups can keep a few boxes and supplies to avoid them taking over their homes would be amazing.
- More shaded areas as the current playground doesn't have enough shade
- Will the under 5s area replace the existing playhut? It doesn't seem best placed inside the community hub spill out space if you are keeping the same boundary fence, it should be open to the public and an under 5s area inside the community hub outdoor space footprint wouldn't make much sense due to narrow use. Yes please to new planted areas, there should be a balance between quality hard landscaping to service big gatherings and expansive outdoor play, with low maintenance soft landscaping to break up the hard standing and offer year long interest in terms of foliage and flowering plants.
- Yes it's needed
- I like this idea
- Features that involve climbing to suit under 5's
- Mini tennis/Padle court would be a nice idea, with an emphasis on health & fitness.
- Revamped Multi use game area
- Safe areas, the issue with this park is the amount of groups gathering around the play areas drinking alcohol and using drugs
- Roller skating activities
- A section for roller skating for kids to use. Something that is smooth enough to be used and safe for kids
- Coffee shop, planted flowers area such as roses, more grass, natural peaceful colour scheme and materials
- Seating area with nice planting for adults
- Planting is never maintained as is shown by the neglected borders around the new adventure playground. Integrate play and garden with natural play, changes of level and simpler planting

## How would you like the outside of the Leyton Square Community Hub to look?

60/60 - Image choice - choose many - required



Colourful or Patterned

52.2% (36 choices)



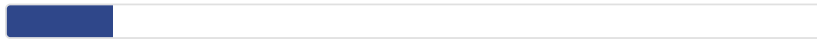
Timber

29% (20 choices)



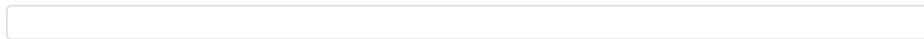
Simple or Plain

13% (9 choices)



No answer

0% (0 choices)



Other

5.8% (4 choices)



### Comments from respondents:

- Do not increase overall height of the building. Sloped roof is blocking the square
- Green roof with plants on it. And solar panels.
- Could be colourful and patterned if executed well! Nice to add colour and reflect local cultures/diaspora that live on the estate and use the park. Drawing on beautiful patterned garments from West Africa Dutch Wax /Ankara prints
- Green roof, larch lap or more funky timber finishes



## What types of activities or programs would you like to see offered at the new Leyton Square Community Hub?

60/60 - Multiple choice - choose many - required

Music and dance classes 12.3% (53 choices)



Indoor games/sports 12% (52 choices)



Social events (e.g. game nights, family gatherings, parties) 11.3% (49 choices)



Life skills (e.g business skills, personal finance, computer, sewing and cooking classes) 11.3% (49 choices)



Arts and crafts 11.1% (48 choices)



Health and wellness programmes (e.g. mental health support, fitness classes) 11.1% (48 choices)



Homework club 10.2% (44 choices)



Parent Toddler sessions (e.g 1 o'clock club) 10.2% (44 choices)



Organised trips 9.3% (40 choices)



No answer 0% (0 choices)



Other 1.2% (5 choices)

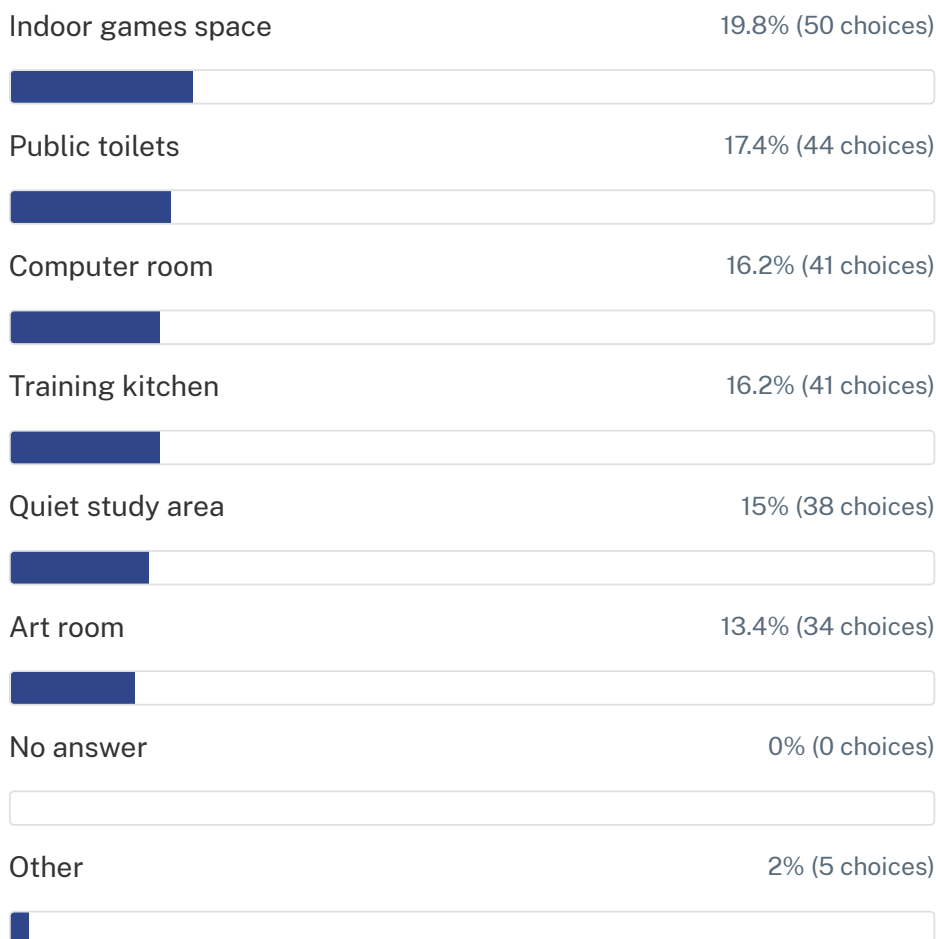


## Comments from respondents:

- Holiday Activity Camps
- We have received requests from our members for spaces to carry out all of these activities, and many more besides. We would be more than happy to talk about this in more detail, or you can see our summary report here: <https://communitysouthwark.org/premises-matching-project-interim-summary-report/>
- Gardening classes
- Language clubs for bilingual children
- Gardening. Get kids involved in maintaining and caring for the space.

## What rooms do you think are most important to include at the new Leyton Square Community Hub?

60/60 - Multiple choice - choose many - required

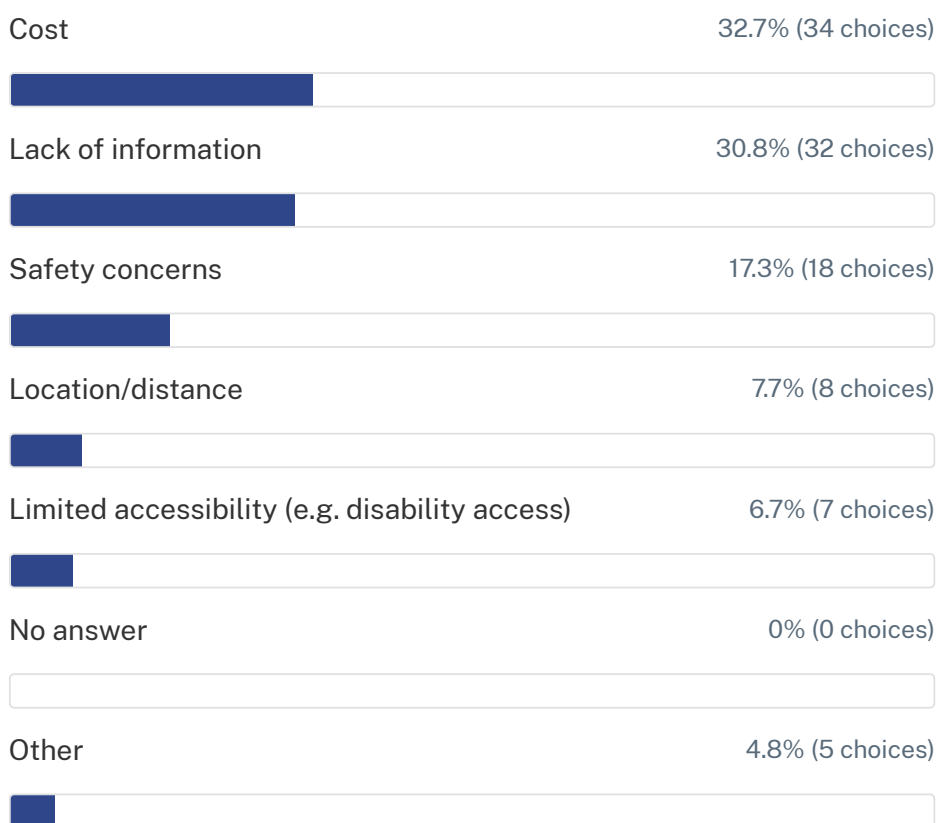


### Comments from respondents:

- Dance classes, sewing, cooking classes,
- Spaces for community/ business/ entrepreneurship
- We have had a lot of requests for free desk space, for emerging charities and community groups to do their work away from home, without having to pay high 'co-working' space costs. Some form of bookable or accessible desk space during the days would be very helpful.
- Classroom to invite speakers
- Make space as multifunctional as possible with sliding doors so it can be adapted for different needs and opened up for activities that need more room

### In the future, what barriers, if any, would prevent you from using the new Leyton Square Community Hub?

60/60 - Multiple choice - choose many - required



### Comments from respondents:

- Limited opening hours
- It looks to be a good location and good space - cost would be crucial for our members, as funding for hiring spaces can be very hard to find
- Lack of a range of programs that appeal to a wide range of people. Should regularly reach out to local people to ask what is most needed locally. Are there any activities that could involve a range of ages taking part, like beginners carpentry for instance? Could there be workshops to make bird boxes, insect hotels and other biodiverse elements that could be put within the park and the wider estate?

## How can the new building be made more accessible and inclusive for everyone?

- More shaded areas
- Free space booking for local groups, clear point of contact for queries
- No fees or charges
- Partnering other organisation working close with other boroughs
- Make sure to cater for those who have learning difficulties like dyslexia and provide coloured paper or the right stimuli for those kinds of children and qualified special needs teachers that are able to examine children with these issues.
- A reliable contact point - ideally by phone and email. Other community spaces exist but it can be very hard to know who to speak to, and charities and community groups can't risk putting sessions on without a reliable contact person
- "Could there be a noticeboard and sign that are prominent on Peckham Park Road and immediately outside the centre entrance to point to the centre, publicise the events/drop ins and advertise it's a space for low rent for family/friend events?"
- Make sure activities are free or low cost and rental is a low price point to encourage people to use it
- Regularly ask back to the users and local community if the offer is reflective of what people want to do and how the space is severing those hard to reach, with low support from other spaces/services and isolated in the community."
- By ensuring there are wonderful mentors and energetic personalities accessible to the children there.
- The new building is going to be good how it is
- Pram area
- Having qualified staff on site.
- It's hard to find anywhere the schedules for the playgroups
- Security personnel
- Free activities, security
- Make it a multifunctional community hub, where it can team up with the pantry to do cooking classes, host pop up cafe, run a food coop, support kids activities, host dominoes or bingo etc

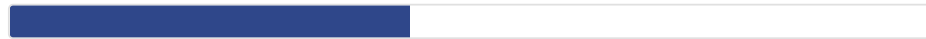
## Would you be interested in participating in the planning and operation of the new Leyton Square Community Hub?

60/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - required

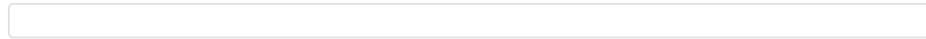
No 56.7% (34 choices)



Yes (if yes, please leave you contact details below) 43.3% (26 choices)



No answer 0% (0 choices)

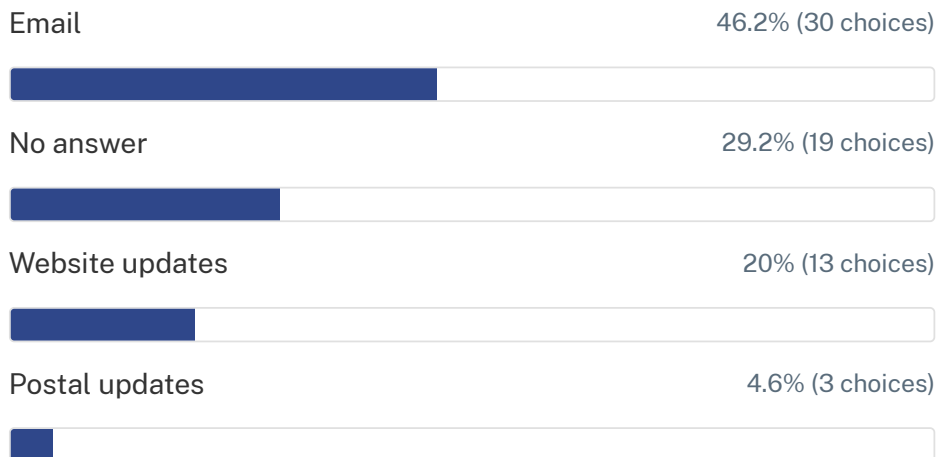


## Do you have any other suggestions or ideas for the new Leyton Square Community Hub?

- Rather than 'dedicated' spaces to activities, flexible space that could be used by multiple groups for different activities, at different times would be beneficial.
- Include public toilets for playground users.
- Be great to bring small bits of funding to support improvements to the park and estate to support a wider range of uses to benefit residents and biodiversity such as more community gardening events, contributions to increased maintenance of the park for a wider range of planting, more trees planted including fruiting trees, new flower meadows and allotments and classes to support people collaborating in the design, install and upkeep these renewed spaces.
- "We just need Leyton Square brought back to its former glory. I have fond memories of spending every second I was allowed down at L.S. We had access to a lot of sports, whether it was football, mini tennis, table tennis, athletics etc, Arts & Craft, cooking and away days. In 2024 the children in the area & their families deserve a service like we had in the 90's, early noughties.
- Leyton Square should have some element around healthy living & improving education around mental health etc."
- Public serving cafe like Bell's in the Ellen Brown Centre on Bermondsey Spa Gardens
- Yes please accommodate for roller skating
- Make it beautiful and something local people can be proud of. don't let it become a place for loitering, make it an aspirational place where people would like to spend time
- Counselling services
- More information is required generally for residents and neighbours to be able to take a better informed decision. Aside from adding more basic details to the proposal (orientation, areas, etc.) more consultation background is needed, explaining the design process and the decisions taken so far, as well as a basic timeline explaining the project's journey - how long will it be until the new centre is operative? How long will the demolition and building works last? What is the foreseen impact to the adjacent playground? etc.

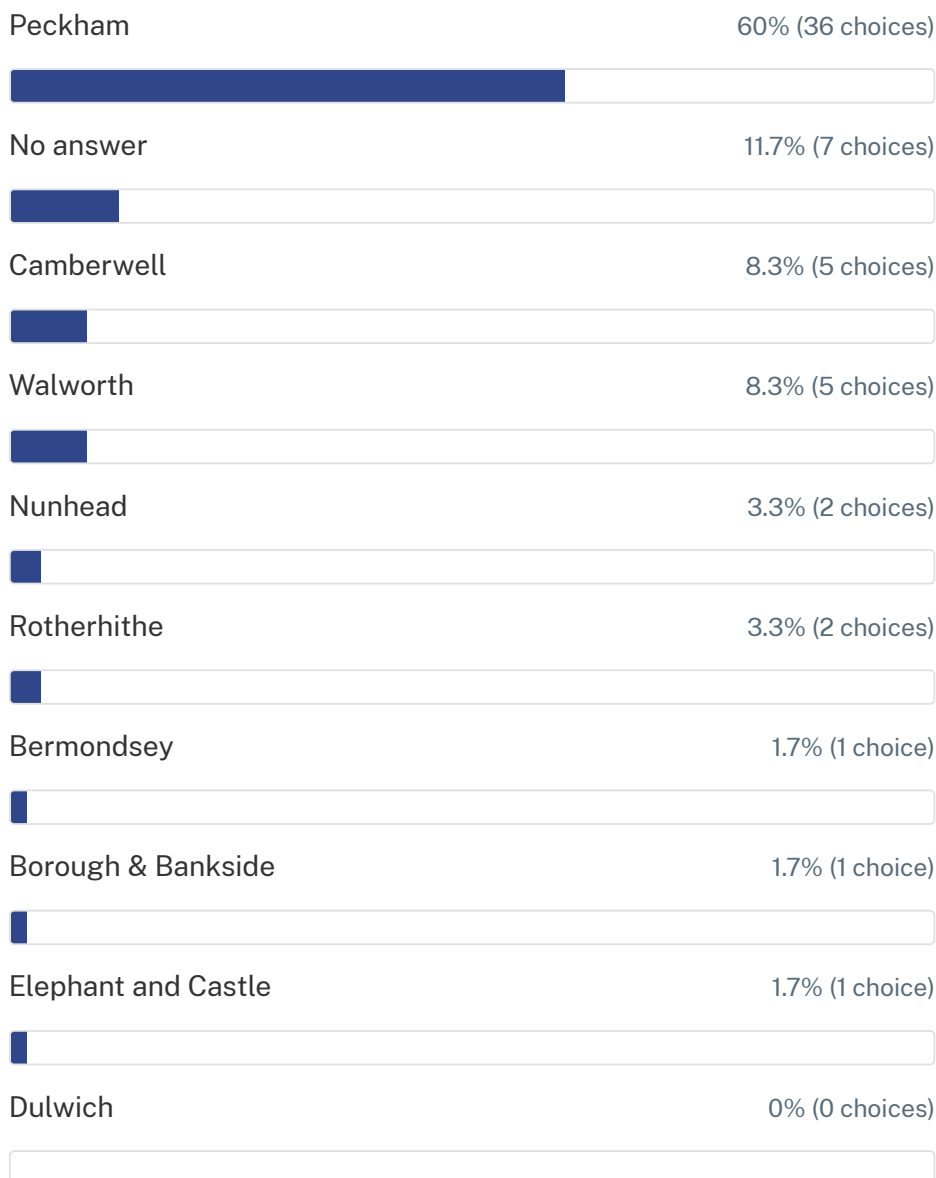
## How would you like to get updates about progress and developments of the new Leyton Square Community Hub?

41/60 - Multiple choice - choose many - optional



## If you live in Southwark, which community area do you live in?

53/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - optional



## Age

53/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - optional

35 – 44 40% (24 choices)



25 – 34 28.3% (17 choices)



No answer 11.7% (7 choices)



18-24 6.7% (4 choices)



45 – 54 6.7% (4 choices)



55 – 64 6.7% (4 choices)



Under 16 0% (0 choices)



16-17 0% (0 choices)



65 – 74 0% (0 choices)



75 – 84 0% (0 choices)



85 – 94 0% (0 choices)



95+ 0% (0 choices)



## What is your ethnic background?

50/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - optional

No answer 16.7% (10 choices)



Mixed White/Black Caribbean 15% (9 choices)



(White) British 13.3% (8 choices)



(Black) British 11.7% (7 choices)



(White) English 6.7% (4 choices)



(White) Other European 5% (3 choices)



(Black) Caribbean 5% (3 choices)



(Black) Ghanaian 5% (3 choices)



(Black) Nigerian 5% (3 choices)



(White) Other (please specify if you wish below) 3.3% (2 choices)



Latin American 3.3% (2 choices)



(Asian) Bengali 1.7% (1 choice)



(Black) Other African 1.7% (1 choice)



(Black) Sierra Leonean 1.7% (1 choice)



(Asian) Other (please specify if you wish below) 1.7% (1 choice)



(Asian) Vietnamese 1.7% (1 choice)



English



|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Other ethnic background (please specify if you wish below) | 1.7% (1 choice) |
| <div><div></div></div>                                     |                 |
| (White) Northern Irish                                     | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| (White) Irish  | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| (White) Scottish   | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| (White) Welsh  | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| Mixed Other background (please specify if you wish below)  | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| Mixed White Black African                                  | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| Mixed White/Asian  | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| Gypsy, Roma or Irish Traveller                             | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| (Black) Other (please specify if you wish below)           | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| (Black) Somali   | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| (Asian) Pakistani  | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| (Asian) Indian   | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| (Asian) Filipino   | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| (Asian) Chinese  | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| (Asian) British  | 0% (0 choices)  |
| <div></div>  |                 |
| Arab   | 0% (0 choices)  |

## Are you disabled?

49/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - optional

No 70% (42 choices)



No answer 18.3% (11 choices)



Yes 8.3% (5 choices)



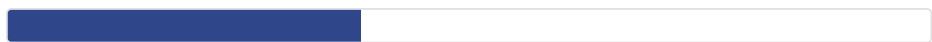
Prefer not to say 3.3% (2 choices)



## What is your sex as recorded at birth?

48/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - optional

Female 38.3% (23 choices)



Male 36.7% (22 choices)



No answer 20% (12 choices)



Prefer not to say 5% (3 choices)



Other (please specify if you wish) 0% (0 choices)

## Is the Gender you identify with the same as the sex you were recorded at birth?

45/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - optional

Yes 68.3% (41 choices)



No answer 25% (15 choices)



Prefer not to say 6.7% (4 choices)



No 0% (0 choices)



## Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?

47/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - optional

Heterosexual/straight 68.3% (41 choices)



No answer 21.7% (13 choices)



Prefer not to say 8.3% (5 choices)



Bisexual 1.7% (1 choice)



Lesbian/Gay woman 0% (0 choices)



Gay man 0% (0 choices)



Other 0% (0 choices)



## What is your religion or belief?

44/60 - Multiple choice - choose one - optional

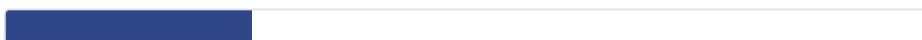
Christian 33.3% (20 choices)



No religion 28.3% (17 choices)



No answer 26.7% (16 choices)



Muslim 5% (3 choices)



Other 5% (3 choices)



Jewish 1.7% (1 choice)



Sikh 0% (0 choices)



Hindu 0% (0 choices)



Buddhist 0% (0 choices)



### Next Steps

We will take the feedback received from the consultation and work with the architect and landscape architect to produce a final design in December 2024.

We will then be able to submit our design for planning permission in February 2025 and once approved we can move on to building the Leyton Square Community Hub.