

KENNINGTON  
OVAL &  
VAUXHALL  
**FORUM**

*Welcome*

# Thank You

Thank you so much for your support to ensure the Neighbourhood Plan is now made and in force.

Your help and encouragement are greatly appreciated.

**Thank you again.**

# The Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Plan

The Lambeth Council website states:

“On 23 January 2026 the Council made the decision to make (formally adopt) the Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Plan.

The referendum took place on Thursday 11 December 2025. Turnout: 10%. 1,972 (83%) voted in favour of the KOV Neighbourhood Plan being used by the Council. 398 voters (17%) voted against.”

The KOV Neighbourhood Plan forms part of Lambeth's Development Plan and carries full weight in planning decisions within the KOV Neighbourhood Area.

**Formally  
Approved**

**January 2026**

**83%**

voted YES

Turnout: 10% |  
1,972 in favour | 398 against

# The Neighbourhood Plan: Our Community's Work

The Neighbourhood Plan is the result of substantial work by many committed individuals, with the encouragement and participation of our community

The Kennington, Oval and Vauxhall Neighbourhood Forum was established many years ago. It gained a reputation for consulting on local issues and giving the community opportunities for democratic engagement in the work of the local authority and other agencies which influence the local environment and the wellbeing of local people.

When the possibility of creating a Neighbourhood Plan was introduced the Neighbourhood Forum held detailed discussions over a considerable time to explore and understand the process and the potential benefits.

# The Neighbourhood Plan: Our Community's Work

Pre-2015

The KOV Neighbourhood Forum established, gaining a reputation for consulting on local issues and community engagement.

2015

Following enthusiastic agreement to embark on preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan, the Neighbourhood Forum applied for designation and was approved by Lambeth Council as a Neighbourhood Planning Forum

2018

First draft KOV Plan published with ambitious detailed policies covering many community aspirations, followed by public consultation and revision in light of comments received.

# The Journey Continued

2020–22

The Covid pandemic brought a temporary pause to the project, as did the requirement for the Forum to seek redesignation by Lambeth, plus adoption of the new London Plan and the Lambeth Local Plan.

2023

Work was continued with a full review of the draft KOV Plan given the time since its first publication. The wide ranging consultation and comments for the previous version remained relevant. New planning consultants joined the project, offering essential highly valued advice and support. The Forum remains extremely grateful for their contribution.

Now

The Plan still covers the areas within Oval and Prince's Wards as identified before local government boundary changes. The newly constituted Vauxhall Ward is within the area of the Plan.

# Basic Conditions & Achievements

## Basic Conditions Met

Neighbourhood Plans must meet certain basic conditions. As such, the KOV Plan must

- Have regard to national planning policy
- Be in general conformity with relevant London and Lambeth planning policies
- Promote sustainable development
- Meet various legal obligations

In addition, on examination the independent examiner was satisfied confirming that the Forum successfully engaged with the local community in preparing the KOV Plan.

### **A Historic Achievement**

One of only TWO Neighbourhood Plans formally approved in Lambeth.

# Basic Conditions & Achievements

Subsequently the Neighbourhood Plan was approved at the referendum

Many challenges and setbacks were faced and overcome. For example, in the latter stages, the Steering Group of five volunteers guided the Plan through several years of challenging negotiations with Lambeth Planning with expert advice from our consultants.

Ours is one of the only two Neighbourhood Plans formally approved in Lambeth.

Thank you again to all who supported the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan and all who voted YES in the referendum.

# Implementation & Benefits of the KOV Neighbourhood Plan

Lambeth will use a combination of the Lambeth Local Plan policies and this Neighbourhood Plan policies to inform and determine its planning application decisions

The KOV Forum is now a statutory consultee on planning applications made in this area and the Forum will be made aware of any future planning applications or alterations to those applications

The Forum will seek to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan policies have been identified and applied correctly by applicants and by officers in decision reports.

A "made" (adopted) Neighbourhood Plan gives local communities statutory power to influence development, ensuring that policies reflect local needs rather than just top-down directives.

Once adopted, it becomes part of the local planning framework, influencing decisions on planning applications for the next 10 years.

# Implementation & Benefits of the KOV Neighbourhood Plan

Benefits of the Neighbourhood Plan include:

▶ Influence over Development

▶ Protection of Green Spaces

▶ Increased Local Funds:

Areas with a made plan can retain a higher percentage of funds (such as the Community Infrastructure Levy) to spend on local projects.

▶ Greater say for residents:

It provides a legal, and community-led voice in tackling local issues and guiding development to align with community aspirations as identified in the Neighbourhood Plan policies.

However, Neighbourhood Plans cannot propose less development than the local authority's strategic plan, but can propose more & guide its design and location.

# Questions & Discussion

The increased influence as a statutory consultee on planning applications (afforded by a made Neighbourhood Plan) means that local community priorities can be more effectively represented to Lambeth Planning.



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# Community Priorities – For Discussion

This year Lambeth starts the process of review of the Lambeth Local Plan. At this early stage, residents have the opportunity to make clear to Lambeth priorities for their area. For example,

- Genuine partnership and co-production with residents/the community
  - Creation of lifetime neighbourhoods
  - Good social infrastructure (post offices, health services, community facilities, retail, financial services, social care, public/community spaces)
  - Services promoting social networks, wellbeing, intergenerational dialogue, volunteering and community involvement
- Increased care provision
  - Controls on density and height
  - Controls on office speculation
  - Designated sites for social rent housing
  - Potential office sites to be designated for mixed use
  - Market sale housing to be a very low priority
  - Vacant buildings to be designated for meanwhile uses such as low cost workspaces

For discussion with a view to submission of community priorities to Lambeth Planning

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