

CHURCH STREET

NEWS

BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF CHURCH STREET



Expected this year: sketch of how the new shopping spaces could look at the Church Street Triangle

A LOOK AT THE YEAR AHEAD AT CHURCH STREET

Firstly, a Happy New Year from the Church Street Regeneration team. We hope you had a restful Christmas, and that you and your families are safe and well.

We ended 2021 with many exciting developments taking place, and 2022 looks set to be just as busy. As we look forward to the year ahead, we are proposing to bring more projects to completion than ever before.

Our plans include new mixed-tenure housing developments built at Ashbridge and Ashmill Street, the completion of Luton and Fisherton Street which includes a public sports hall and community space, and 59 high-quality community supportive homes for older adults at Lisson Arches. This year will also see two landmark public space projects bringing greenery, areas for

play and socialising, and enterprise spaces for start-up businesses. You can read more about the Green Spine Phase 1 and Church Street Triangle within this edition.

As ever, we will also be bringing you plenty of ways to get involved with events and activities. Starting with a Chinese New Year event in February, there will be a range of opportunities to take part in and look forward to.

Please remember we remain on hand to keep you informed and supported along the way during the regeneration programme. Our Regeneration Base at **99 Church Street is open 9.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday**, so pop in to visit us.

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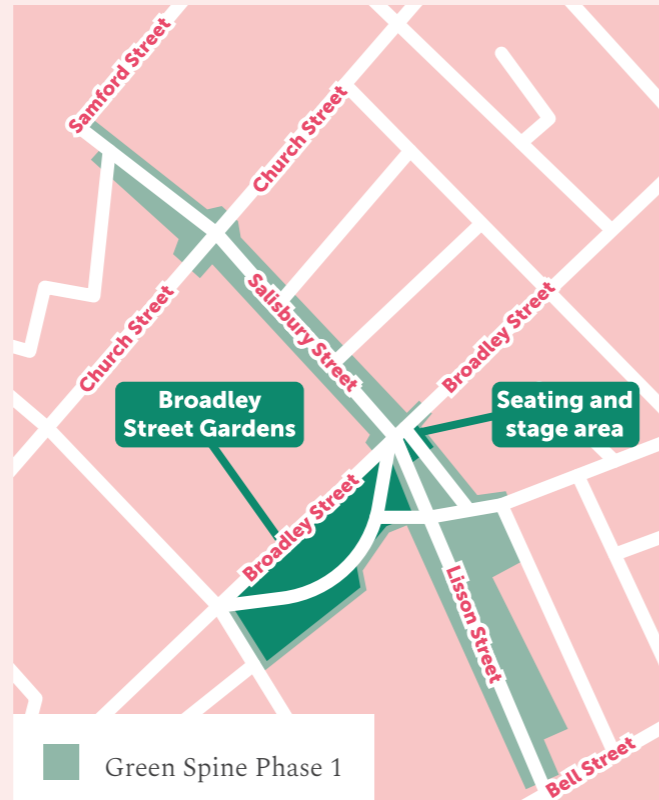
GREEN MAKEOVER FOR CHURCH STREET

Works on the first phase of the Green Spine between Lisson Street Gardens and Salisbury Street continue to progress as we enter the last stages of this phase of the project.

We are already incredibly proud to see the transformation of Lisson Street and a section of Salisbury Street ready for residents to enjoy. Lisson Street is now a completely green pedestrianised space, with pathways, planting and play equipment. The street is free of traffic and creates a welcoming entrance for the students of King Solomon Academy.

As you move along Lisson Street a seating area including a stage for plays and events has been created. While on Salisbury Street pavements have been widened, featuring improved street lighting, play equipment, planting and rain gardens which help soak up surface water. Work continues into Broadley Street Gardens through to May 2022, when we expect the Green Spine between Bell Street and Samford Street to be complete. Improved features within Broadley Street Gardens will include picnic tables and raised planting beds for community use.

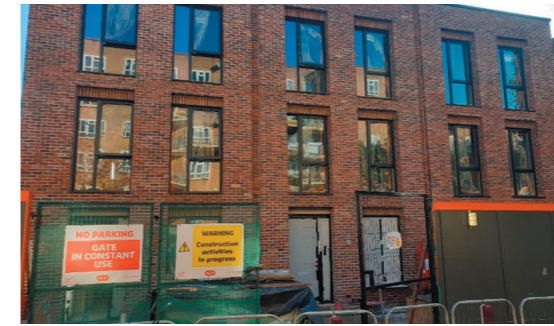
Look out for updates for Phase 2 of the Green Spine which will stretch from Fisherton Street to Regent's Canal in the coming months.



Out with cars and in with new paving and play equipment along Lisson Street



A renewed seating area that can now host events



Finishing touches are being made to three new social rent townhouses on Fisherton Street

NEW FAMILY HOMES ON FISHERTON STREET

Originally a car park site, three of our social rent family townhouses at Fisherton Street are well on the way to receiving their first residents. The four bed, three storey homes have been designed to be modern and spacious for future generations.

Included in the project is a green terrace with front and rear gardens for each home. Large windows also mean plenty of light reaches into the rooms. As well as providing much needed homes for local people, the scheme has a code for Sustainable Homes Level 4, helping to reduce carbon emissions and encourage greener living. One way this is done is from air source heat pumps which are a renewable way to reduce the amount of energy used and can make savings for families on heating bills. They work by taking air from outside and raising its temperature to make it useable for heating.

This small scheme is just part of 168 new homes which we are building as part of the Luton and Fisherton Street project.

LEARN A NEW SKILL AT WEPT

We like to feature the people or organisations that make a difference to Church Street. One of them is WEPT (Women Empowerment Project and Training).

WEPT deliver projects that train and support women from diverse cultural backgrounds with a safe and welcoming place in which to make new friends and learn new skills. Run as a community interest company, it means they can provide services to benefit local people across a range of subjects including fashion and textiles, business, and employability skills. The council has worked with WEPT to ensure they can use an affordable space at a local premises called Church Street Studios.

Danny Sekibo, Managing Director of WEPT said "We really wanted to create an intentional space where the community, our team members, and our products and service offers are really at the centre of what we do."

DELIVERING FESTIVE CHEER TO RESIDENTS

With the support of local partners and charities, Westminster Connects and Housing Team, volunteers delivered more than 1,000 festive hampers to Westminster residents including at Church Street.

As Christmas can be a difficult time for many and with COVID-19 disruptions to the festive season, this may leave more vulnerable residents at risk of isolation. The hampers included coffee mugs, chocolates, soap, Christmas cards, puzzle books and some groceries to replace a traditional Christmas meal.

The Sir Simon Milton Foundation, a Westminster-based charity committed to tackling elderly isolation and loneliness, alongside the South Westminster Business Improvement District, donated 700 hampers, while Age UK Westminster donated a further 400. Volunteers included Cllr Heather Acton who helped deliver the hampers to our residents leading up to Christmas. If you'd like to volunteer for opportunities like hamper deliveries that help your local community, sign up to join Westminster Connects. Find out more by visiting westminster.gov.uk/volunteering-opportunities



Cllr Heather Acton delivering a hamper to a Westminster resident



WEPT offers training courses and workshops

TRIANGLE WORKS UNDERWAY

Walking along Church Street, you will notice plenty of work happening at the Triangle. That's because construction has now started to revive a public space at the heart of Church Street, which will include new paving, seating, planting, public conveniences, a community cafe and spaces to shop.

The work, at the crossroads of Church Street and Salisbury Street, will take approximately six months to complete and will be done in phases to keep disruption to a minimum. During this time there will be access to all properties and the area will be kept well secured.

The team will also be monitoring and mitigating noise and dust levels so they are kept to a minimum. The working hours are **Monday to Friday, 8am – 4.30pm, and Saturday, 8am – 1pm.**

We will continue to provide updates on the project as it develops, including on a future cafe operator and the shops which are yet to be appointed. Please do not hesitate to contact us for more information or visit the Regeneration Base.



The Church Street Triangle project

CONTACT US

Please get in touch at
Regeneration Base,
99 Church Street,
London NW8 8EY

Hours

Office open
Mon - Fri,
9.30am - 4.30pm

Phone

020 7641 2968
Mon - Fri, 9am - 4.30pm

Email

churchstreet@
westminster.gov.uk

Facebook

facebook.com/
mychurchstreet

You can also keep track of the latest news on the Church Street website at:

churchstreet.org

Westminster
City Council

westminster.gov.uk

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LOCAL RESIDENT TO EMPLOYEE

If you have visited us at our office on Church Street, you may recognise several familiar faces.

And if you thought they looked overly familiar, that is because we have a practice to support local Church Street residents into employment.



Suja Alsaman is just one of our local residents who has joined the council's communities team working across Westminster. Starting her journey as a part-time 'community connector' by supporting with events and translations, Suja is now a full-time officer for the council, and supports individuals to set up community based events and activities within North Westminster.

She said "Being a community connector gave me so much confidence and being part of a team as a local resident helped me understand the issues which matter to local people"

If you would like to register your interest in the council's apprenticeship programme why not fill in a form at **westminster.gov.uk/register-for-apprenticeships**



CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

On Thursday 3 February, we will be celebrating Chinese New Year for 2022.

The event is free for all, so come along and join the festivities on the Church Street Market, for the Lion dance performance, traditional Chinese cuisine and craft activities.

