



Ealing and Acton
Constituency Labour Party
Eastern Wards Meeting

11 November 2021

Ealing Matters. About Us

A borough-wide alliance of residents associations and community groups

- We aim to raise awareness of how Ealing is changing in order to help local people shape these changes to enhance their quality of life.
- We provide
 - a channel to publicise new Government, GLA and LBE policies and proposals likely to affect local people
 - a platform on which groups can raise concerns about changes taking place in the borough,
 - an information resource which groups can use to help shape these changes, and
 - a network for groups to support one another in their campaigns and activities
- We are **NOT** party political
- We DON'T have the resources to undertake individual campaigns. These will continue to be organised by the individual groups

The Planning System: What it's for

Labour Government planning reforms

- Spatial planning:
- 'A process of place shaping and delivery'



National Planning Policy Framework:

- 'The purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.'
- 'Achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways.'
 - a) an economic objective to help build a strong economy
 - b) a social objective to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities,
 - c) an environmental objective to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment

The Planning System: How it's supposed to work

The 2004 Planning Act:

- Planning permissions MUST be determined in accordance with national policy and the development plan, unless there are good reasons otherwise.
- The National Planning Policy Framework sets out National policies
- Development plans run from the London Plan through the Local Plan down to plans for small neighbourhoods
- Area Action Plans should be prepared where significant regeneration needs to be managed.

Other requirements

- Authority Monitoring reports (AMRs) required annually on the implementation of the plan
- Councils to publish a 5 year land supply showing5 years of deliverable sites their target



The Planning System: How it operates in Ealing

- The most regularly used plans in Ealing are the London Plan and the Local Plan.
- Local Development Framework was approved in 2012. It is now obsolete
- **NO** regular reporting of development since 2013-14
- NO 5 year housing supply information
- Southall has an Area Action Plan. While change here is faster than Southall but Acton doesn't .
- Planning decisions in Ealing increasingly cherrypick from a narrower range of policy



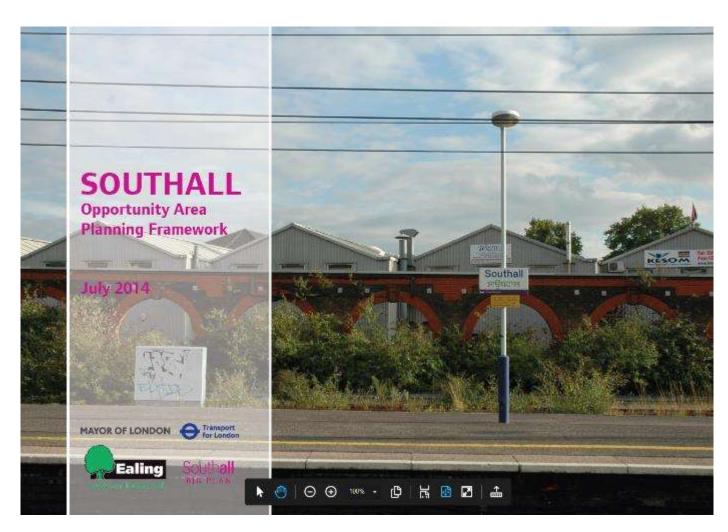


Southall Opportunity Area Planning Framework

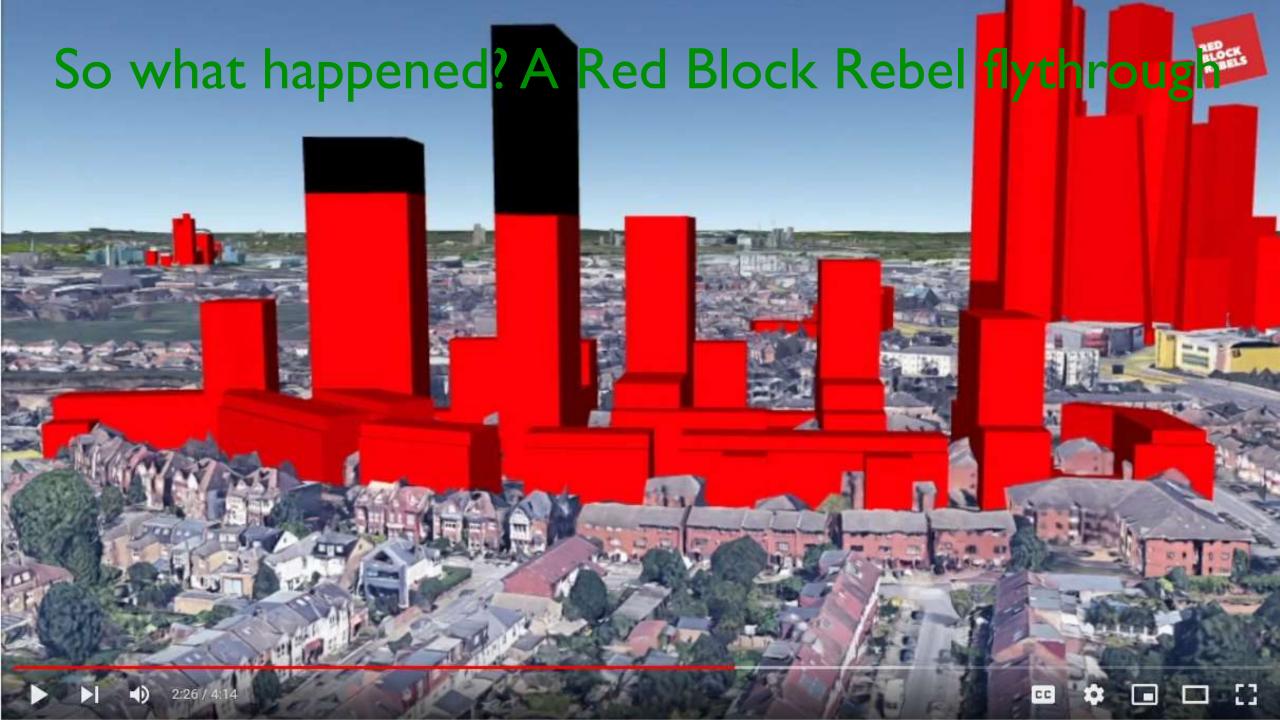
2014 - Strategic Principles

To provide by 2034:

- 6,000 new homes of mixed unit sizes, types, tenure and affordability
- Homes to complement existing context and incorporate heritage assets
- Mainly 4–8 storeys with some taller buildings 'to improve legibility'
- Most new homes to be built on identified development sites

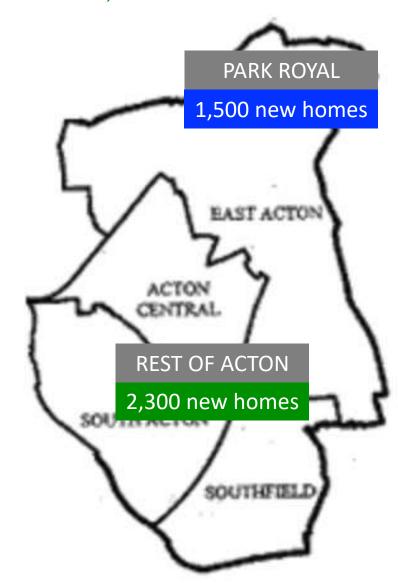


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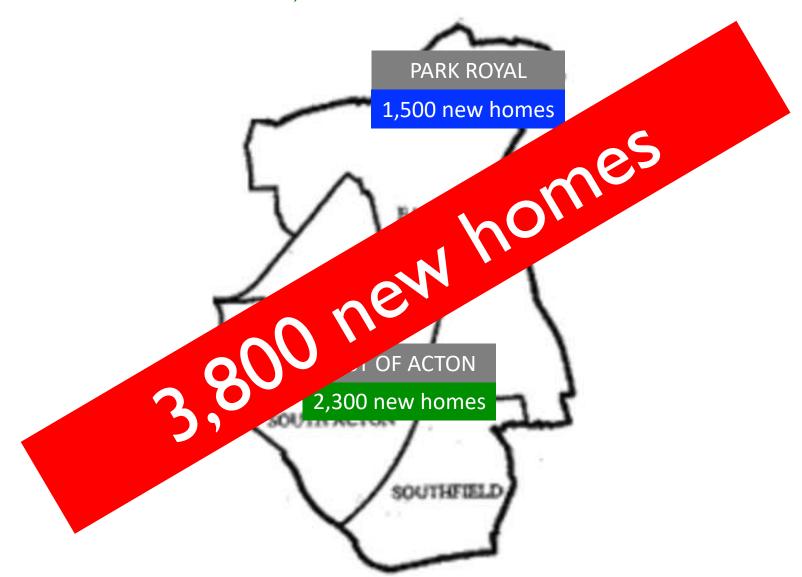
THE PLAN

(EALING LOCAL PLAN CORE STRATEGY 2012)



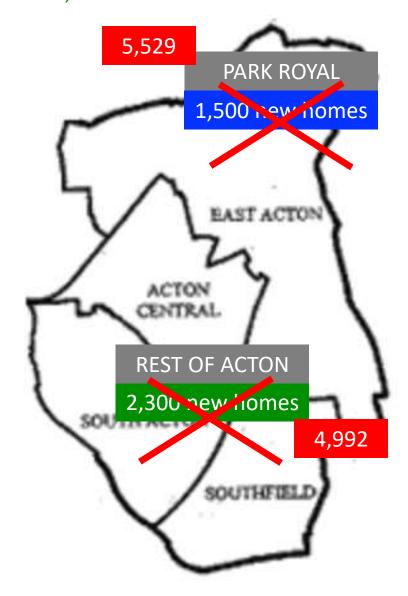
THE PLAN

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THE REALITY

(PLANNING CONSENTS NOVEMBER 2021)

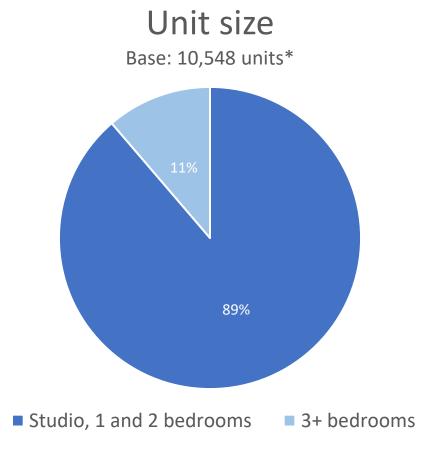


THE REALITY

(PLANNING CONSENTS NOVEMBER 2021) 5,529 nomer des NOMENTALE PLANS 37 CON Conservationes SOUTHFIELD

Housing mix by size

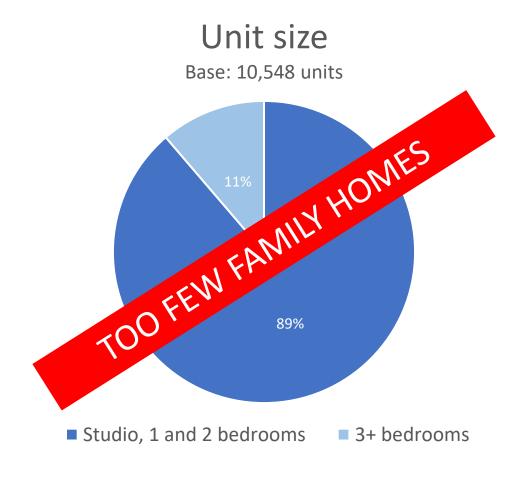
- New homes of mixed unit sizes, types, tenure and affordability.
- Lower density development is generally most appropriate for family housing. However, an average household size of 3.5 in Southall can be supported in larger units even within flatted schemes.
- Within predominantly residential neighbourhoods proposals will be expected to provide for a minimum of 20% of units as family accommodation with 3 bedrooms or more.



^{*} Does not take account of unit losses to demolition or student accommodation

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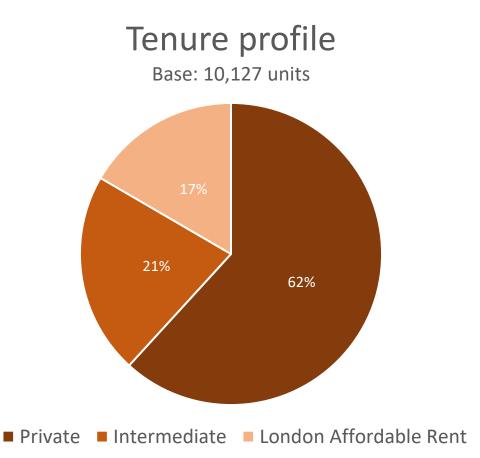


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Housing mix by tenure

Ealing 'Policy'

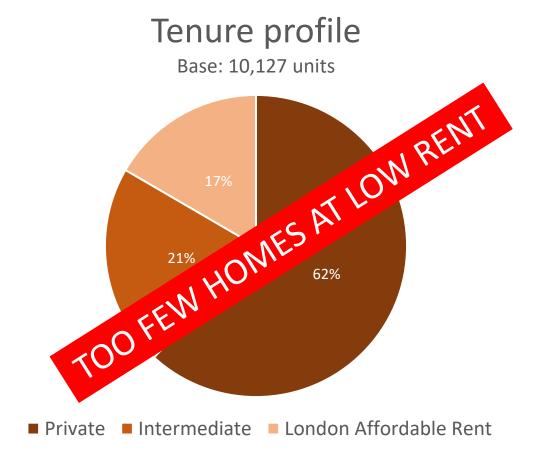
- 64% Market housing
- 4% Intermediate
- 32% Low cost rent



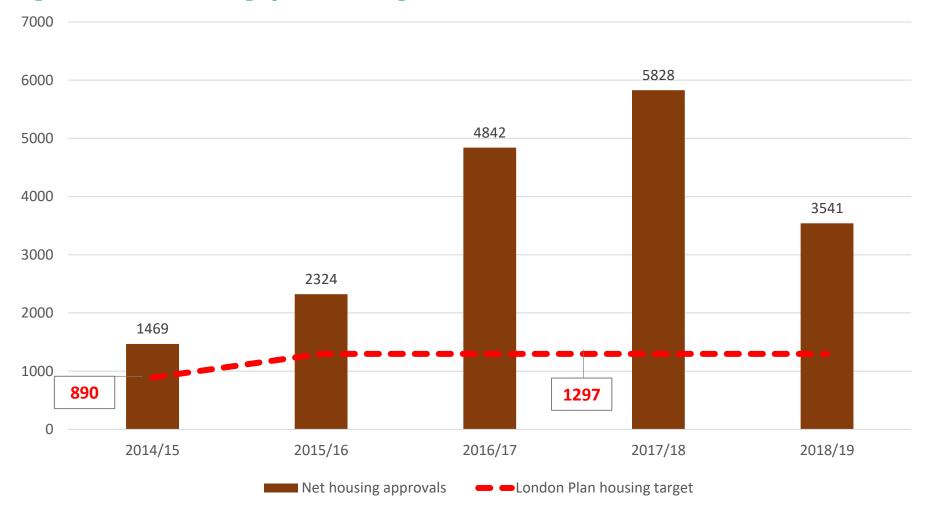
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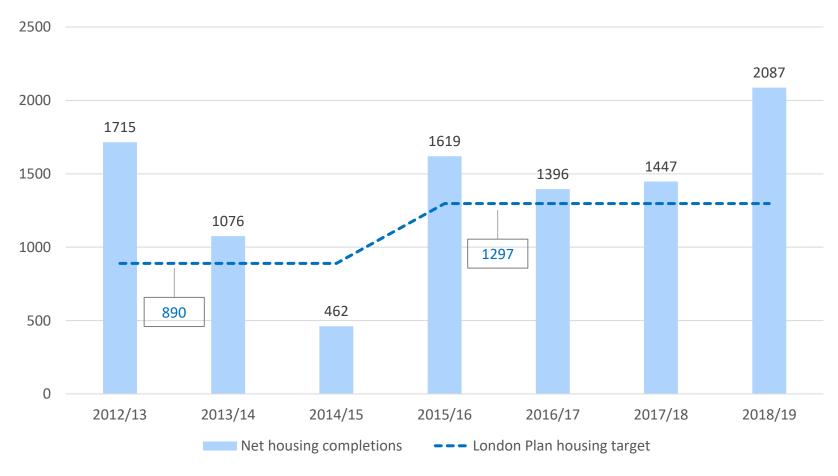


It's the same across the Borough Ealing net housing planning consents 2014-2019



^{*} Net housing planning consents include non-self contained accommodation and long-term empty homes returned to use as well as conventional housing

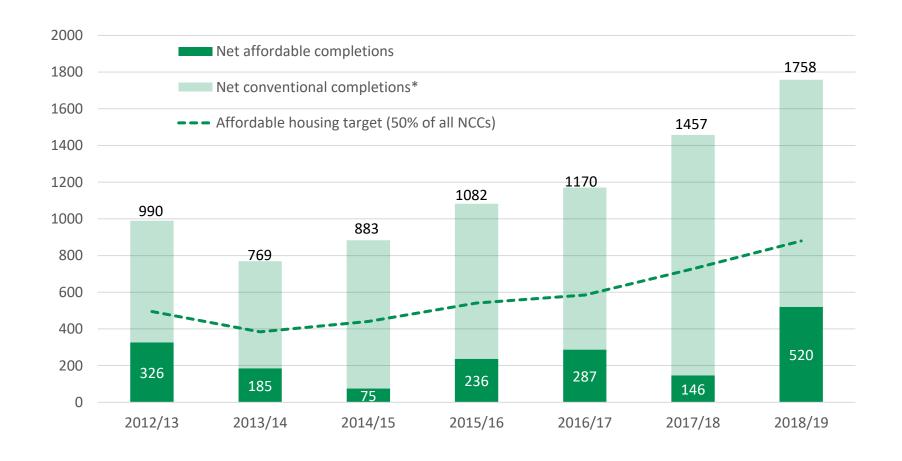
Ealing net housing completions 2012-2019



^{*} Net housing completions include non-self contained accommodation and long-term empty homes returned to use as well as conventional housing

Source: London Plan AMRs 10-16

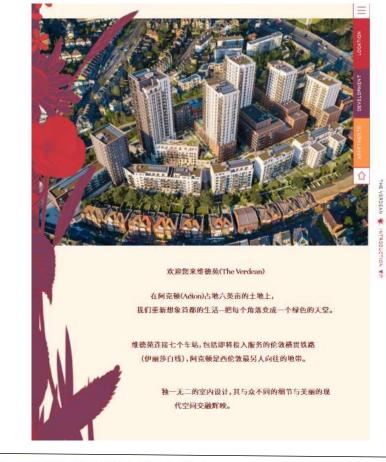
Ealing affordable housing completions 2012-2019

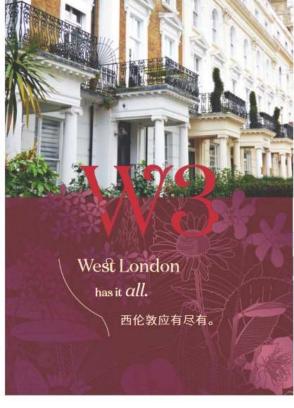


Source: London Plan AMRs 10-16

^{*} Net conventional completions (NCCs) exclude non-self contained accommodation and long-term empty homes returned to use

Homes for local people?





The Verdean, a green haven in London

Mon, Jun 22, 2020

The first project in a stunning new development in West London has been unveiled to the Middle Eastern investors. Mount Anvil, in its first ...

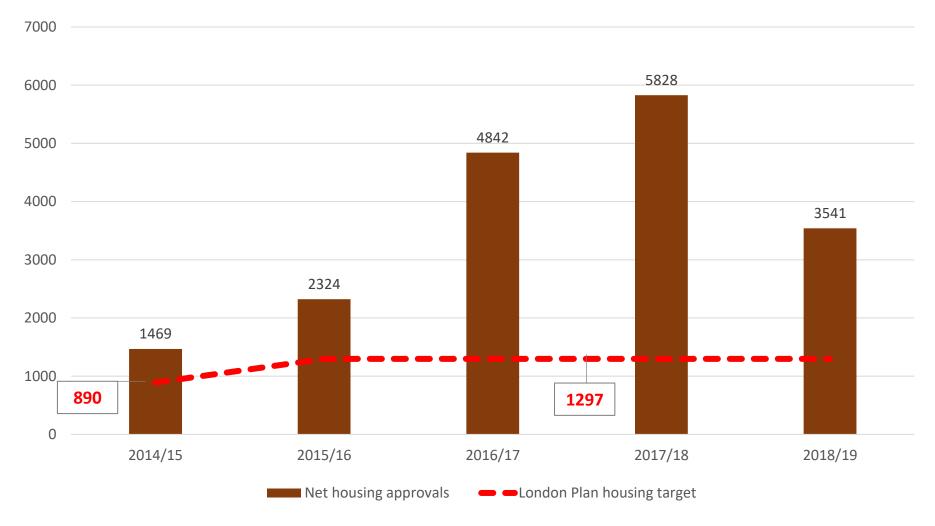






Read More

Ealing net housing planning consents 2014-2019



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The Planning Game

- Property development makes a few people very rich
- The winners are players expert in extracting the maximum value from a site.
- Their interest is NOT in providing homes for local people, unless it is in pursuit of that goal.



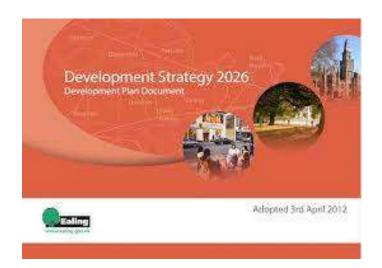
Pre-app discussions: the game starts here

- Developers pay for informal advice from the Council
- Crucially this phase sets the parameters for what is acceptable
- Away from the public gaze.
- Confidential at least until an application goes live
- If the Council makes errors or if the proposals prove unpopular they are awkward to amend

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Games Developers Play

S.73 Minor Material Amendment.

- 1. Obtain planning consent for the maximum development
- 2. Apply for a 'Minor Material Amendment', to increase the development without additional costs to the developer.
 - eg Western Circus (Argos Homebase) 10% more flats. 3 storeys

S96a Non-Material Amendment

Finney Judgment. S73 Permissions, must not entail altering elements of a development that affects the description of that development.

But S96a allows a planning authority to make non-material changes to a permission. So

- 1. apply under s96a to remove the detail of the development from its description. Make it a condition
- 2. Then you can apply for a s73 MMA to vary the condition

Strategies in the development game

Site Flipping – eg Ealing Filmworks site

- 1. Secure maximum consent to develop a site. The consent alone enhances its value
- 2. Sell the site for a price reflecting its new value
- 3. New owner uses the higher value to secure concessions on quantum or tenure to make development viable.
- 4. Overall inflationary affect on land prices.

Strategies in the development game

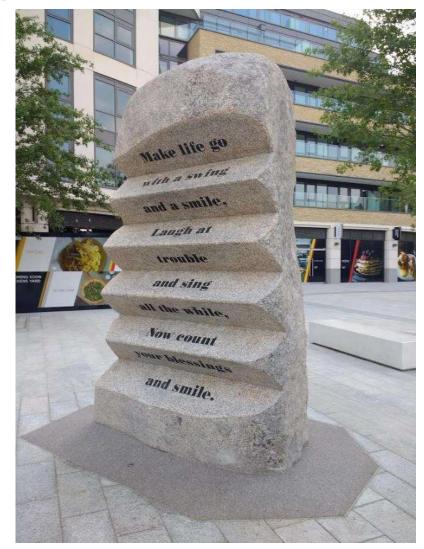
Keep quiet on conditions - they might go away.

Planning permissions come full of conditions, including s106 agreements often for large sums.

Developers know planners are too busy to enforce these

No public reporting on how they are working.

Eg Dickens Yard where condition compliance and £6.986m payments remain completely unaccounted for.



Ealing Local Development Plan, now being updated

- The Local Plan will shape the borough in the next 20 years
- Existing plan (2012) out of date; new plan in development
- New Plan underway to be developed in consultation with the borough's residents
- Follow it through the Council's Local Development Plan Advisory Committee





Adopted 3rd April 2012

What is to be done?

Engage with the new Development Plan

Respond to the survey <u>'Shaping Ealing'</u>

Be Aware of new developments coming your way

- Use our data to monitor changes to these developments and add in new proposals
- Respond to consultations on new developments and check them against the Plan
- Keep the pressure up on the way developments are done. It is not reasonable for them to destroy your quality of life

Organise and Network

- Work together as a community. Don't let yourselves be divided and ruled
- Ensure your Councillors understand how the planning system works, what is happening and that they speak up for you
- Network with other groups across the Borough and draw from their experience



https://ealingmatters.org.uk/

https://www.facebook.com/groups/EalingMatters/