

## **Consultation to give people their say in the future of the iconic Hornsey Town Hall Arts Centre**

- **The Arts Operators The Time + Space Co. and developers Far East Consortium are set to launch a public consultation to enable residents to have their say in how the Town Hall and Arts Centre will be used**
- **A consultation and workshops will take place in the autumn and will form part of the plan to keep Londoners at the heart of Hornsey's story as it transitions into an exciting new era**
- **Objective is to understand the local demand, to address the needs of local community, also identifying key talent and skills gaps in Haringey and beyond**
- **People wishing to participate in the online survey and workshops can pre-register their interest now at [www.hthartscentre.com](http://www.hthartscentre.com)**

The developers of Hornsey Town Hall are launching a public consultation to ensure that Londoners have their say in how the Town Hall will be used as an Arts Centre post-redevelopment. Participants can sign up online and answer a series of questions about how they envisage Hornsey Town Hall will operate in the future, before participating in a series of community workshops which will take place over the autumn. The Audience Agency, a charity specialising in cultural insight for cultural organisations, has been commissioned to carry out an initial survey both online and offline into local trends, interests and preferences presenting their initial findings when first part of consultation work is completed.

The Arts Centre, which has been dubbed 'North London's new Barbican', stands to become a leading arts and culture destination after developers Far East Consortium stepped in to save the historic building from Heritage England's 'At Risk Register'. Having partnered with urban regeneration specialists The Time + Space Co, the Town Hall is now set for a £30 million cash injection that will see the iconic Hall restored to its former glory.

Now the developers are calling on Crouch End and Haringey residents – as well as people all across London to have their say on the future of the Arts Centre by launching a series of workshops which will invite residents to give their opinions about the types of entertainment they'd like to see take place at Hornsey Town Hall Arts Centre as well as what facilities they would like to be able to use at the venue.

After the survey has taken place, the data will be collated and local people will be invited to discuss the operational plans and contribute their ideas on how Hornsey Town Hall can best serve the local community at a series of workshops which will take place at the Town Hall whereby the cluster of creative businesses already working onsite can profile their work with visitors and vice versa to drive collaboration between like-minded people in the borough of Haringey.

Piers Read, managing partner of 'The Time + Space Co' said, "When we were appointed as the Arts operator of Hornsey Town Hall, we pledged to engage with the rich and diverse communities of Haringey. The local community have always had an important part to play in Hornsey Town Halls story, and we want to understand what people want to happen at their local Arts Centre.

We feel that by working with The Audience Agency on this consultation, it will inform us on the arts and cultural landscape in the local area. Beyond what we already know, the research undertaken will provide a platform that will ensure we are able to capture what local people want to see at the Arts Centre. Their work will highlight the demands and, most importantly will address the needs of local people so we are encouraging everyone to get involved."

The Audience Agency added: "We are proud to partner with The Time + Space Co to undertake this exciting piece of research. Through this thorough and objective work, the Town Hall and Arts Centre will be able to understand the real needs and interests of local people, thereby ensuring that its future offer is driven by what the community and residents want."

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The body of work carried out by Audience Agency and the resulting workshops will mark the start of a process that will work to ensure community access is guaranteed. Eventually, this process will become administered by a Community Access Steering Group headed up by Read when the building reopens in 2020.

All local residents and those living further afield will be invited to take part in the online survey and workshops onsite. Those wishing to have their say in how their Hornsey Arts Centre is used in the future must pre-register their interest at [www.hthartscentre.com](http://www.hthartscentre.com). When signing up, users will see five subheadings – community, performance, events, work space and hospitality. Users must select the category which aligns with their ideas for Hornsey Town Hall. They will be invited to contribute their ideas and thoughts via an online survey after registering.

Workshop dates have yet to be announced but are expected to run in the autumn.

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