



COMMUNITY PLAN FOR HOLLOWAY



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Ensuring inclusive and quality low energy construction training and employment on the Holloway prison site – embedding climate action

The context

Islington Council's plan and Section 106 obligations set out the construction training and employment requirements for building in the borough. For the Holloway Prison scheme these requirements also need to honour the historical legacy of the site with respect to women and conform to Islington Council's climate emergency strategy, 'Creating a Net Zero Carbon Islington by 2030'. This strategy involves ambitious targets and measures, including community energy schemes, and a commitment to work together with local groups to address challenges and achieve a net carbon Islington. These groups include Community Plan for Holloway (CP4H) network of community and women's groups actively involved in putting forward proposals for the largest development site in the borough, purchased by Peabody Trust with financial support from the Greater London Authority, and to be constructed by London Square into a sustainable, energy efficient neighbourhood including: 60% affordable social housing, community facilities and a Women's Building.

Islington's Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) sets out the regeneration framework, mirrored in Peabody's Environmental Impact Assessment, whilst the forthcoming planning application will detail the design and Islington Council will set out Section 106 requirements. At each stage CP4H should have an input through a co-production consultation process.

Local plan and Section 106 training and employment requirements relevant to site

- On-site job opportunities for local residents, including work placements at London Living Wage, working with Council's employment service
- Training, including apprenticeships, based on 1 trainee per 20 residential units (i.e. 45-50 trainees)
- Contributions, including financial, to support initiatives tackling worklessness
- Procurement obligations in relation to suitable local subcontractors

What is needed

1. Quality training within recognised framework leading to at least Level 3 qualifications, given skilled nature of construction work and needs for energy literacy and good futures for young people
2. Good employment conditions, especially direct employment, in conformity with Construction Charter
3. Energy literacy training needed for all workers and trainees to meet zero energy requirements
4. Given the legacy of the site and male dominated nature of the industry, a high proportion of women to be employed (at least 30%) and trained (at least 50%)

Actions proposed

- A. Section 106 clauses to build in targets for training (including for women), work placements for local labour, procurement obligations for subcontractors (e.g. diversity track record) and conformity to Construction Charter, above all direct employment
- B. Immediate discussions, perhaps first separately, between Council, GLA, Peabody, London Square, Further Education Colleges, unions (especially Unite), Women's Groups (including Women into Construction and Women & Manual Trades) and Prisoner Education Trust on how to realise training needed, including for women, for low energy construction and to Level 3.
- C. Set aside part of site (e.g. Women's Building?) for training purposes
- D. Promote the site as example of how construction can be transformed into an inclusive eco-industry.

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