

COMMUNITY

NEWSLETTER

EARLS COURT 



SPRING 2025



Rebekah Paczek
Director of Public Affairs,
Social Impact and
Community Relations

Hello neighbour,

2025 marks a pivotal year for The Earls Court Development Company (ECDC). As we await decisions on our planning applications, we are preparing to break ground in 2026, bringing our vision for the site to life. This year, we're looking forward to launching the next round of our £180,000 Community Fund, deepen our engagement with our neighbours through volunteering, and advance the fantastic work of our Public Realm Inclusivity Panel, which has been instrumental in shaping our plans.

Your input has been at the heart of this journey. Over the past four years, the insights and ideas shared by residents, businesses, and local groups have significantly influenced our masterplan and social and economic inclusion programmes. Last year, we also introduced a Community Charter, a commitment to ongoing collaboration with the community throughout the development.

We know this site holds deep significance for everyone connected to the area, and we remain dedicated to transforming it into a vibrant and inclusive destination for all. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to all we'll achieve together in 2025!

Best wishes,
Rebekah Paczek



Wasim Abd-El Aziz
Manager of the
Community Hub

Community Voices

Q&A with Wasim Abd-El Aziz, Manager of the Earls Court Community Hub

How long have you been working at the Community Hub?

I joined in April 2023. My first week was a whirlwind as I stepped into the launch of ECDC's annual Social Impact Report with politicians and charities. It was a great introduction to the hub's dynamic environment.

What is your role, and what does a typical day look like?

As manager, I oversee the hub's activities and ensure the space runs smoothly. No two days are the same, but a big part of my role involves engaging with the community, collaborating with charities, and working with my fantastic team to shape a programme of events and activities the local area can be proud of.

How long have you lived in the Earl's Court area?

I grew up right across from where the exhibition centre once stood and attended local youth clubs as a child. After living abroad in Egypt and Malaysia for ten years, I returned to the UK and was thrilled to find an opportunity back in my childhood neighbourhood.

What's your favourite thing about the area?

The diversity and community spirit. I love seeing people from different backgrounds form connections through the hub's activities.

Can you share a fun or interesting fact about yourself?

While living in Egypt, I started a girls' football academy, breaking cultural barriers and building trust with families to support their daughters in becoming athletes. It's something I'm very proud of.

Upstream London

Hammersmith & Fulham: Driving Innovation and Growth

Hammersmith & Fulham Council's Leader Cllr Stephen Cowan recently launched the next phase of their pioneering industrial strategy, Upstream London, at the White City Innovation District. This initiative aims to establish the borough as a global hub for innovation and inclusive growth.

Since its inception in 2017, Upstream London has helped attract 13,000 jobs and £6 billion of investment to the borough. The strategy builds on an established partnership with world-leading Imperial College London to establish a cluster of science, technology, engineering, maths, medicines and media (STEM³) businesses around Imperial's existing research and development to create a world-leading economic ecosystem in future industries.



ECDC in Alignment

Upstream London sets out an ambition that Earls Court will play a significant role in helping realise. Our plans for the site include building up to 2.9 million sq ft of workplace, clustered around the three main transport hubs. This will establish a new home for clean and climate innovation, a fast growing new sector focused on tackling the climate agenda.

These plans will bring up to 12,000 jobs to the area, and, through engagement with the Pathway Bonds and our onsite Skills Centre, will train and upskill members of the community in these areas.



Accelerating to a Better Future

ECDC's Head of Urban Futures, Peter Runacres, took part in the podcast series 'Accelerating to a Better Future', hosted at Imperial College London's Scale Space by Undaunted, their hub for the UK's climate innovation community.

To find out more about ECDC's ambitions to be a home for clean and climate innovation, and some of the measures we're embedding in our designs to be a leading climate resilient neighbourhood, search for 'Accelerating to a Better Future' where you get your podcasts.



What’s happening on site?

Come Alive! The Greatest Showman Spectacular

Following a phenomenally successful initial run since opening at Earls Court in October, the team behind ‘Come Alive! The Greatest Showman Spectacular’ have confirmed they have extended their run through to September 2025.

Inspired by the film ‘The Greatest Showman’, featuring Hugh Jackman, ticket holders are invited

inside a 700- capacity Big Top for an immersive circus extravaganza featuring the best of London’s West End talent and awe-inspiring international circus acts.

If you haven’t seen it yet, we highly recommend booking some tickets. It’s the perfect antidote to those winter blues!



Sign up to our newsletter for the chance to win tickets to ‘Come Alive! The Greatest Showman Spectacular’

We’re keen to bring you the latest news of what ECDC are up to, and also have a digital newsletter than lands in people’s inboxes. If you would like to receive email newsletters and be in with the chance of winning four tickets to ‘Come Alive!’ then sign up to our mailing list by scanning the below QR code.



The following terms and conditions apply: availability is on a Wednesday, Thursday evening or for a Friday matinee performance of an off-peak show and these tickets are not available during school holidays. The minimum age to attend is six. Full T&CS can be found on the Come Alive page of the Earls Court website.

What’s happening on site?

Escape to 1950s Havana

Have you heard... The Lost Estate are releasing a new show in the spring called ‘Paradise under the Stars’. Described as ‘an immersive Cuban spectacular set in 1950s Havana, where Cuban Gods and Mortals dance beneath a tropic moon.’

Head to **paradiseunderthestars.com** for ticket details. Don’t miss out, these will go quickly!



Padel Social Club signs Stormzy

Padel Social Club (PSC) have recently announced, Brit Award-winning, multi-platinum artist, Stormzy, as their new investor. Stormzy has said he was drawn to PSC as ‘they’re doing more than just building courts – they’re creating a community and bringing people together through the sport.’

Those who live and work around Earls Court have experienced first-hand the friendly, welcoming nature of the club, and the opportunities it provides for making connections and friends in the local area.

Go to **padsocial.club** to find out how you can try out the world’s fastest growing sport.



What’s happening on site?



Showcasing Creative Talent

Did you see the latest Artist in Residence, Liah Edwardes, at The Gallery on Lillie Road, or do you regularly stop by The Pop-Up to discover local businesses?

We’re always on the lookout for creatives and businesses to use these spaces to showcase their work. If you’re interested in a Pop-Up opportunity, email us at marketing@earlscourtdevco.com to learn more.

See the back cover page for a timetable showing events and classes happening at the hub.

Question Corner

Got questions? We’ve got answers! Every newsletter, we’ll tackle some of the issues you’ve been raising. Got something on your mind? Drop us a line at info@earlscourtdevco.com or get in touch via social media:

 [@earlscourtdevco](https://www.earlscourtdevco.com)
www.earlscourtdevco.com

Q: Will there be parks and open spaces in the development?

A: Nearly half of the 44-acre masterplan (a whopping 20 acres) will be public realm, streets and open green space. This includes a 4.5-acre park (larger than Trafalgar Square), plus a network of parks, exhibition gardens, play areas, and pedestrian-first streets.

Q: Will there be affordable housing, and what does ‘affordable’ mean?

A: We are targeting around a third of the homes being affordable. Defined by the Mayor of London, there will be a mix of provision: social rent, shared ownership, affordable student housing, and intermediate rent options. Want more details? Check out the “Housing Statements” within the planning documents on the Earls Court website.

Q: Will there be community facilities?

A: Yes - there will be a best-in-class community centre and cafe, a separate hall for events and classes, a children’s nursery, and spaces which could accommodate GP services and other health and wellness facilities.

Q: How will construction impact the community?

A: Building something this big in central London will come with challenges. We’re exploring innovative ways to minimise disruptions and impact on our local communities. We’re committed to the highest levels of vehicle safety and are working with the two boroughs, TfL, councillors, community groups, and local businesses to make the build of the site as smooth as possible. Stay tuned for updates - we’re here to keep you in the loop and listen to your views.

Update on the Masterplan

ECDC’s plans to transform the site by building new homes, workspace, culture venues, leisure, community uses, retail and open-space continue to progress through the planning process.

Since submitting the Hybrid Planning Applications for the proposed masterplan last summer, the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea have been conducting their statutory planning consultations. ECDC has been actively engaging with local residents,

businesses, and community groups through a series of briefings and meetings about the submitted plans.

Both boroughs continue to accept comments on the plans, which can be viewed on the boroughs’ planning portals or at www.earlscourt.com. If you would like to give your views on the application to the two councils, you can do so through each borough’s planning sites, or you can scan this QR code. You can also visit www.bit.ly/LBHF_RBKC to generate an email for you to complete and send.



Drop into the Earls Court Community Hub this winter — a welcoming space to meet new friends, join activities, or simply enjoy a hot drink and good company. When the temperature drops, the Hub is here to keep you warm. Stay as long as you like; the team will make you feel right at home.

The Hub runs a packed programme of free or subsidised classes and events. If you’d like to find out more email the team on hub@earlscourtdevco.com, or you can find the Hub at: 1A Aisgill Avenue, West Kensington, W14 9NF.

Discover “Another Way”

If you’re aged 14-21, join Another Way, a safe and engaging space offering fun activities, personal growth opportunities, and a chance to try new things. Get involved in music production, personal training, VR gaming, and more, or take part in our unique Motor Project or Glow and Grow Beauty Project to gain valuable skills and qualifications. Sessions run weekly, we always have food and there is no need to pre-register—just drop in or sign up on our website. Another Way takes place at the Earls Court Community Hub on Tuesdays from 20:00 - 22:00. Check out www.harrowclub.org for more details.

Opening times are:

– Mondays & Wednesdays: 09:00 - 15:00

– Tuesdays: 10:00 - 20:00

– Thursday: 10:00 - 19:30

– Friday: 10:00 - 18:00



Timetable January - March 2025

Timings subject to change during half-term.

Monday*

Paint 2 Create
9.00 – 10:45
Free (Hurdles2Hoops)

Zumba - intermediate intensity
11.00 – 12.00
£1

Zumba, High intensity
12.00 – 13.00
£1

Chair Exercise
13.15 – 14.15
Free

Therapies

Sport Massage
Book in Advance
10:00 – 12:00
£15 for 2 sessions

* The Hub will be closed
from 15:00

Tuesday

Yoga for Adults
10.00 – 11.00
Free (Lumi Foundation)

Chair Yoga with Paola
12.30 – 13.30
£1

Dance Exercise
14:00 – 15:00
£1 (Open Age)

Artist in Residence Art Workshop
17.30 – 19.30
Free

Another Way
(14 – 19 yrs)
20:00 – 22:00
Free (Harrow Club)

Therapies

Reiki
12.00 – 15.00
£3

Wednesday*

Pilates with Paola
10.00 – 11.00
£1

African Dance with Paola
11.00 – 12.00
£1

Chair Exercise
12.15 – 13.15
Free

Yoga for Adults
13.30 – 14.30
£2 *Donation*
(Lumi Foundation)

10th Fulham Scout
16:30 – 17:30 Beavers
(6 – 8 yrs)
17:30 – 19:00 Cubs
(8 – 10.5 yrs)
19:00 – 20:45 Scouts
(10.5 – 14 yrs)
Registration Required
10thfulham.org

* The Hub will be closed
from 15:00

Thursday

Digital Champions
10:00 – 12:00
Free (Unity in the Community)

50+ Tai Chi
13:00 – 14:00
£1 (Open Age)

Steady & Stable Class
14:15 – 15:15pm
Register via NHS (Open Age)

Boxing
16:30 – 17:30 (4 – 7 yrs)
17:30 – 18:30 (8 – 11 yrs)
18:30 – 19:30 (12 – 18 yrs)
Registration Required
£12 Per term

Therapies

Acupuncture
Book in advance
10.00 – 13.00
£5 (Ki People)

Friday

Stay and Play
10.00 – 12.30
Free (18 months – 5 years)

Kids Club
16:00 – 17:30
Registration Required
Free (Community Led)

Therapies

Chair Massage
13.00 – 15.00
£3

If you have any questions about the project, you can get in touch by:



Community Hub
1a Aisgill Avenue
W14 9NF

Email
hub@earlscourtdevco.com



@earlscourtdevco
earlscourt.com



Subject to change during half-term and school holidays