

Report for: Corporate Committee, 16th November 2021

Item number: 11

Title: Building, Place and Street Name Review

Report authorised by : Charlotte Pomery, Assistant Director Commissioning,
charlotte.pomery@haringey.gov.uk

Lead Officer: Christina Andrew, Strategic Lead Inequalities
Christina.andrew@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: All

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** Information

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 This report responds to the Corporate Committee's request for further consultation on the proposals for renaming Black Boy Lane before moving forward. In this context, the report details the Council's proposed approach to working with residents and communities on improving the diversity and representation in Haringey's public realm. This report covers the range of issues where there are plans to engage with residents in relation to the public realm, the approach to co-production to be adopted and a summary of work to date.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Corporate Committee is asked to note this report.

3. Reasons for decision

- 3.1 Not applicable.

4. Alternative options considered

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5. Background information

- 5.1 In June 2020 the Mayor of London announced the Commission on Diversity in the Public Realm, seeking to diversify the stories that are shared and commemorated across the city, making them more representative of its current population, and more reflective of its history.

- 5.2 The Council announced, in June 2020, a Review of Building, Place and Street Names. Some early projects were initiated under this umbrella of work, including the renaming of Albert Road Recreation Ground to O.R Tambo Recreation Ground and the consideration of renaming Black Boy Lane. Reports were brought to Corporate Committee in July and December 2020 and March 2021 on the question of renaming Black Boy Lane. It was resolved by the Committee in March 2021 that more consultation was necessary. In light of the process set out in this report, this consultation will take place as part of the development of a Strategic Framework covering a range of issues with the full engagement and support of residents across the borough.
- 5.3 In response to comments made at Corporate Committee and more widely, we have been very mindful of the need to ensure our work on reviewing diversity in our public realm facilitates an important ongoing and community led conversation about accurate representation, shared histories, reflection, and inspiration for all Haringey residents, and by extension those who visit the borough. This should also initiate and support wider work to address inequalities, specifically those faced by black residents and communities.
- 5.4 To improve diversity in the representation across Haringey's public realm, this report therefore brings to the Corporate Committee's attention the council's development of a strategic framework for a community-led and inclusive approach to this issue. This will build engagement across the borough, on a range of issues in relation to the public realm. This will report in to the regular joint meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Community Safety Partnership and will align with the Partnership Programme Plan Addressing Racism and Racial Discrimination. This will ensure what we consider and deliver in the public realm is informed by the issues of structural racism and inequalities we're working to tackle.
- 5.5 The Partnership Programme Plan is split into eight themes, including an Arts, Culture, Heritage and Place theme which considers our approach to the public realm, looking at how we understand and celebrate Haringey's diverse communities and heritage in this. What we design, build, curate and showcase locally speaks to what we collectively value and identify with in Haringey – making the process of taking these decisions and the substantial work of increasing awareness and understanding around them particularly important.
- 5.6 The proposed Strategic Framework will cover the following areas:
- a) Building a shared understanding of the identity and culture of Haringey through engagement with partners, communities including children and young people and the voluntary and community sector.
 - b) Celebrating our existing diversity through creating a better understanding of our cultural history and assets using mapping and improving relationships and engagement, and from this developing a library of individuals, themes and issues we would like to showcase through our public realm, public celebration and other means.
 - c) Improving the involvement in the design of services and buildings, public spaces and decision making across all communities, particularly marginalised and underserved groups through co-production and better engagement.

- d) Building on the partnership work described at para 5.4 above, raising awareness of, and addressing systemic inequalities, for example by working with Public Health on health promotion campaigns in public spaces targeted at specific areas / ethnic groups requiring more proactive engagement. It will also align with relevant campaigns and awareness raising activity such as the #WipeOutDiscrimination campaign launched on 1 November.

5.7 The Strategic Framework needs to help to facilitate an ongoing conversation promoting reflection, understanding and awareness raising of our shared histories – any renaming and commemoration stemming from the Strategic Framework will be the start of the conversation on this, not the end. A broad, inclusive and widely connective engagement group will be formed to co-produce this work with us and will be a critical part of making this work happen. We will proactively seek to encourage participation from all sectors of the community. We also recognise the importance of this work being intersectional in its approach and outcomes. Overarchingly, the aim of the engagement is to celebrate the contribution that Haringey's Black, minority ethnic, and diverse communities have made to politics, education, business, arts, and culture in our borough and beyond and to address racial discrimination and injustice, much of it a legacy of history. It should ensure our values are reflected in our public realm and are visible within our communities.

6. Contribution to strategic outcomes

6.1 This work contributes to and underpins the Council's approach to inequalities, as set out in the Borough Plan, ensuring all local residents feel supported and enabled by their local environment.

7. Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)

7.1 Finance

There are no financial implications from this report. Plans to engage with residents in relation to the public realm and the approach to co-production will be met within existing resources.

7.2 Procurement

7.2.1 Strategic Procurement note the contents of this report; however, there are no procurement implications that need to be considered.

7.3 Head of Legal & Governance

7.3.1 The Council has the power to rename streets and roads in the borough. Under Part II Section 6 of the London Building Acts (Amendment) 1939 ("The Act"), the Council may by Order substitute the name of any street, way, place, row of houses or block of buildings with any name they think fit. The Act is a Local Act and a local choice function. Under the Council's constitution, the function is a non-executive function allocated to the Corporate Committee.

7.3.2 The Council is required to consult with Black Boy Lane residents / organisations on the proposed Order to change the street name. Under Section 6(2) and (3)

of the Act, before making an Order, the Council shall (at their option) either: post notice of their intention in some conspicuous position in the street way or place or adjacent to the row of houses or block of buildings; or give notice of their intention by circular delivered at every building situated in the street way or place or forming part of the row of houses or block of buildings. Every notice must state how and when (allowing at least 1 month) objections to the intended Order may be sent to the Council.

- 7.3.3 The consultation must be adequate and fair having regard to all the circumstances. The consultation must take place at a time when the proposed change is still at its formative stages. The Council must provide the consultees with sufficient information to enable them properly to understand the proposed change being consulted upon and to express a view in relation to it. The information must be clear, concise, accurate and must not be misleading. The consultees must be given adequate time to consider the proposed change and to respond.
- 7.3.4 Section 6(3) of the Act further provides that the Council must consider any objections before making the Order. The Council may amend any name they propose to assign having regard to any objection. In the event of any further consultation, the above requirements must be complied with before a final decision is made.

7.4 Equality

The council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not

The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

This report responds to the Corporate Committee's request for further consultation on the proposals for renaming Black Boy Lane before moving forward and details the Council's proposed approach to working with residents and communities on improving the diversity and representation in Haringey's public realm.

The Council will meet the Public Sector Equality Duty by:

- Anchoring this work in proactive engagement, dialogue and co-production with marginalised groups, including those with protected characteristics
- Working towards accurate representation of all our communities in the public realm
- Creating space to question and challenge commemoration / celebration of discriminatory figures and approaches, and encouraging dialogue and increased understanding of Haringey's rich and diverse heritage between groups – taking an intersectional approach

As per section 5.7. this work will bring together a broad, inclusive engagement group and the Council will proactively seek to encourage participation from all sectors of the community. In such a way we expect this work to have positive equalities implications by eliminating discrimination and fostering good relations between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not.

Additional equalities analysis will be undertaken for individual decisions flowing from the application of this policy framework.

8. Use of Appendices

8.1 N/A

9. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

9.1 <https://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/documents/s122656/21-03-09-Renaming%20of%20BBL%20to%20La%20Rose%20Lane%20Corporate%20Committee%20Report%20v12.pdf>

<https://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/documents/s125462/Minutes%20-%20Corporate%20Committee%2017th%20March%20V6.pdf>