



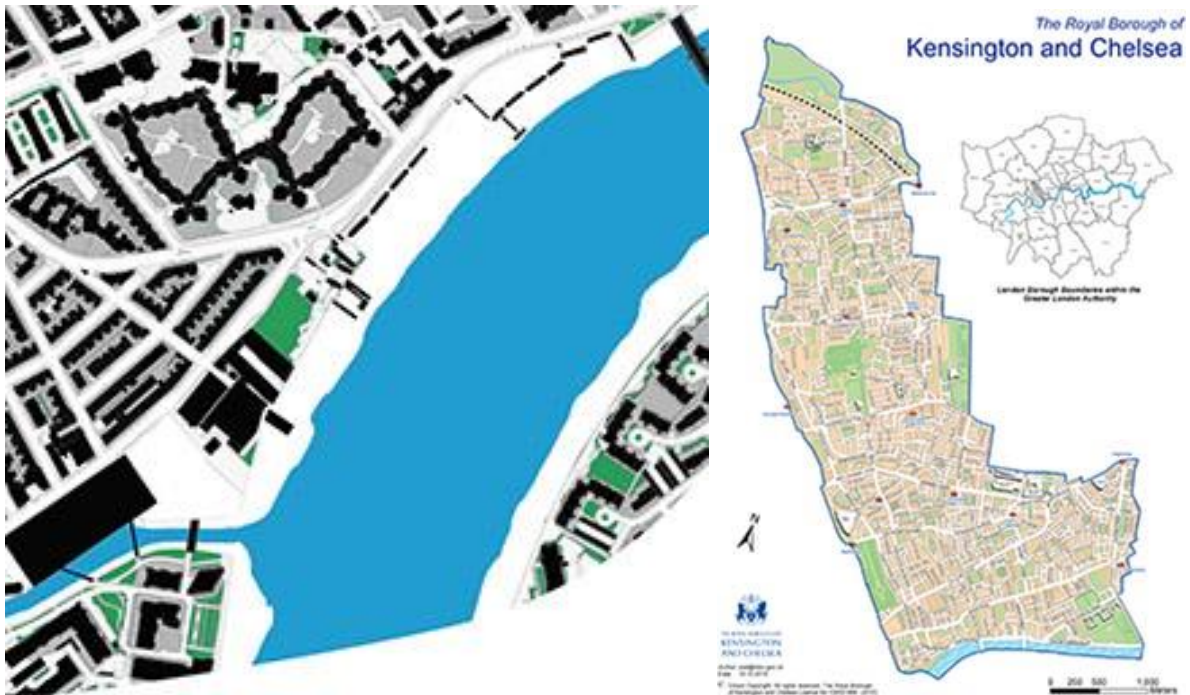
# *Autumn 2021*

## *Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Earl's Court Society Newsletter*

The Society represents the interests of all residents of Earl's Court and works with the Council and other bodies on all issues affecting our community.

### Planning and Licensing

**Consultations:** We submitted a detailed response to the **RBKC Character Study Consultation**, which will be used to inform the new **Consolidated Local Plan**. We also drafted a response to the consultations on **Article 4 Direction on Class E Properties** and the **New Local Plan Review**.



**Old Brompton Road:** Geva, 251 Old Brompton Road, has applied for a very late licence for the sale of alcohol and playing of amplified music. We objected to the very late hours sought.

**The Tournament Site:** Malcolm spoke as an objector on behalf of the Society, as agreed at our Planning & Licensing Group. We objected principally to the excessive height of nine storeys, which the Planning Committee accepted would cause harm, but, unfortunately, they concluded this would be outweighed by the benefit of the 45% affordable housing to be provided for key workers and, consequently, they approved the application. We were disappointed with this decision, which was the first application to come forward from ECDC (Earl's Court Development Company). We will continue to monitor the Earl's Court site carefully with a new Masterplan application anticipated later this year.

**Kenway Road:** Getir, a fulfilment centre in Kenway Road, applied for an off-licence to sell alcohol 24-7 for delivery only. We objected to the extremely late hours they were seeking. Although the licence was granted by the Licensing Committee, in a coordinated effort with our ward councillors and the Earl's Court Village Residents' Association, we were able to limit the sale of alcohol to between 8:00am and midnight, to be reviewed in one year, as well as some important Conditions. They can still deliver groceries around the clock, as this does not require a licence.



**Earl's Court Road:** The Society's Planning & Licensing Group and our Ward Councillors met with **Earl's Court Food & Wine** to discuss their application for the renewal of their experimental 1.00am off-licence. As a result, they withdrew several objectionable elements of the application. Malcolm represented the Society at the Licensing hearing, arguing that a proper period had not elapsed for a true picture to be formed; however, the Committee decided to extend the licence for another 12 months.

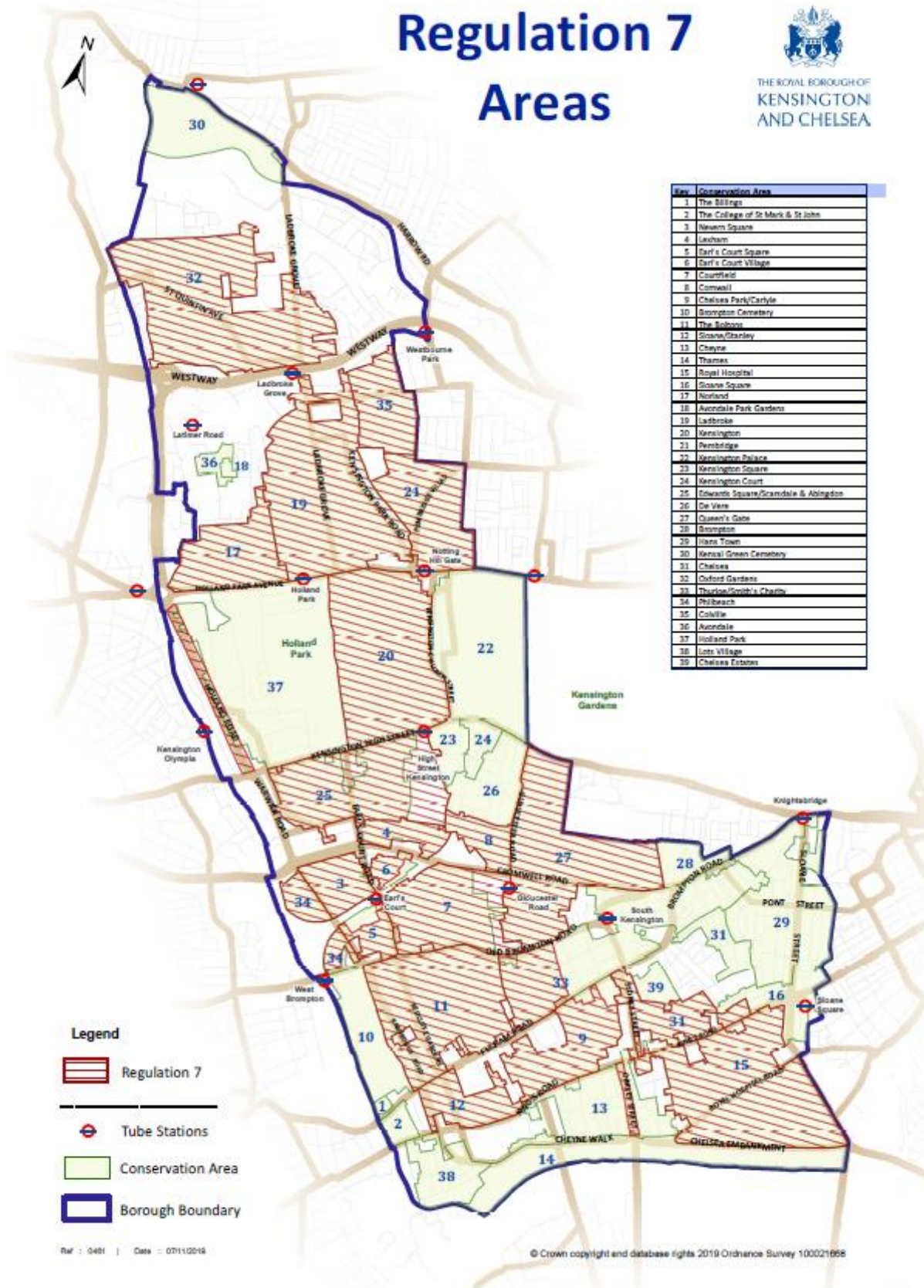
**Cluny Mews:** The Cluny Mews Construction Traffic Management Plan proposes 16 complex lorry movements daily making the difficult turn into Cluny Mews from Warwick Road at the junction of Cromwell Road and exiting the site via the service road beside the church. We have objected, and Linda, Malcolm and Norman all spoke as objectors at the meeting, but, unfortunately, all to no avail. Work has now started on demolishing the existing office building.



**Estate-Agents' Boards:** We were pleased with the Planning Inspector's decision to renew the ban on Estate Agent's Boards (Regulation 7, see map below). We had written to the Inspector in support of RBKC's application.







## Transport and Highways

**Eardley Crescent and Kempsford Gardens:** In July, representatives of the Eardley Crescent and Kempsford Gardens Residents' Associations attended a walkabout with Council Highways Officers to look at their ideas to reverse the one-way flow in Eardley Crescent and to block off the Warwick Road entrance to Kempsford Gardens. The Society is supporting these proposals.

**ULEZ Expansion:** From Monday 25 October, ULEZ (the Ultra-Low Emission Zone) expanded up to, but not including, the South and North Circular roads. There is no residents' discount for anyone living within any part of the newly expanded ULEZ. Most vehicles need to meet the ULEZ emissions standards or you will need to pay a £12.50 daily charge to drive inside the zone. Full details may be found at [Ultra Low Emission Zone - Transport for London \(tfl.gov.uk\)](https://tfl.gov.uk/ulaz).



### **Environment**

**Penywern Road:** A site meeting was held with local residents at **38-40 Penywern Road** to ask the developers to re-instate the greening, trees and bio-diversity lost by their building work.

A site meeting was also held with RBKC Greening and Crime Officers to redesign the **Penywern Road** mini-parklet, which is attracting antisocial behaviour from nearby hostels. Similar areas in **Hogarth Road** (sponsored by the Business Forum) and **Earl's Court Gardens** at the rear of the Health Centre (sponsored by the Earl's Court Gardens Residents' Association) were also discussed. A further meeting was held to finalise plans for new designs.



**Warwick Road:** The Mayor formally opened ECDC's art installation and Garden on the Warwick Road apron (opposite the Tube station) for Kensington & Chelsea Arts Week and Festival.



**New Committee Members:** The Society's Environment Group are looking for new members to join the committee, so please contact Ed Latham ([EJoLatham@GMail.Com](mailto:EJoLatham@GMail.Com)) if you would like to join or for further information.



### **Police, Crime and Anti-Social the Behaviour**

**Anti-Social Behaviour:** Malcolm, Linda, Spencer, Margareta and John attended the RBKC Safer Neighbourhoods Board meeting. Inspector Tom Sincock and Chief Inspector Clare McCarthy noted our concerns, and suggested that the Safer Neighbourhood Ward panel would communicate more with residents and the residents' associations to share data and statistics.



### **Health, Housing & Welfare**

**Health:** Figures indicate that the Earl's Court ward has one of the lowest vaccine uptakes in the borough. One of the reasons given is that there is vaccine hesitancy in some groups, particularly among men aged between 18 and 24. It is possible, however, that the figures may be misleading, as the ward has seen a drop in population since Brexit and many families moved out during COVID, so the true population level may not be as high as thought.

There is still a problem with residents getting face-to-face consultation with their GPs which is causing concern for some residents.

**Housing:** Several properties suffered from flooding with sewerage getting into their homes, which led to residents being moved into hotels while their homes were being cleared out.



**Asylum Seekers:** Six hotels in the Earl's Court ward and one in Courtfield ward have been commissioned by Clearsprings on behalf of the Home Office to house asylum seekers. There were approximately 428 new arrivals plus the intake to the newly commissioned hotel in Queen's Gate. This is despite the Council robustly stating that they did not want any more migrants or any more hotels being taken over. This has led to issues with young men congregating outside the Aquarius Hotel in Hogarth Road, which is now being addressed by their local team. One of the concerns is the number of children that are being placed in these hotels and how they can be placed in our local schools.

**New Committee Members:** The Society's Health, Housing & Welfare Group are looking for new members to join the committee, so please contact Linda Wade ([Cllr.Linda.Wade@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Linda.Wade@rbkc.gov.uk)) if you would like to join or for further information.

### Events

**The Earl's Court International Film Festival:** In 2020, thousands of people viewed our series of free, live digital short film screenings – each of which had a truly amazing mix of International and Local Short Film Submissions. Audiences enjoyed brilliant Home Lockdown Short Film productions, Charity and Community films, and a melodic selection of videos from some of the area's most talented musicians – ideal for lifting the spirits in these challenging times!

And now, we greatly look forward to the 2021 Film Festival from Friday 12 to Friday 19 November, a hybrid on- and off-line event. We hope you will join us to watch another stunning selection of local and international short films. For further information and tickets, visit <https://filmearlscourt.com/>.



**Christmas Lights:** Help us welcome in the festive season and bring Christmas to Earl's Court! Join us in Barkston Gardens at 5:00 on **Thursday 2 December** for the festivities, including carols from local schools, mulled wine, mince pies and the grand Christmas lights switch-on. The carols and refreshments will be until 6:00, at which time everyone will be guided to the road to see the lights switch-on.



This year there will be a school's competition between St Barnabas OLOV and Bousfield.

If you cannot attend in person, visit [www.tlclondon.com](http://www.tlclondon.com) or [www.thecourt.london](http://www.thecourt.london) to watch the lights come on from home.

Thanks to The Earls Court Development Company, the Earls Court Community Trust and TLC Estate Agents, our neighbourhood's main shopping streets will be beautifully illuminated once again with thousands of twinkling lights and 25 seven-foot Christmas trees.

**Advent Wreath Making:** To celebrate Advent and Christmas, St Cuthbert's church in Philbeach Gardens is hosting a wreath-making afternoon for local families and children on **Saturday 4 December** from 2:00 to 4:00. Any donations of green foliage to make the wreaths would be greatly appreciated. Do you or a friend have any in your garden you could offer? Holly, boxwood, magnolia, pine, cedar and English ivy would all be excellent, but evergreens and ferns generally would also be great. To donate or participate, please speak to Fr James or email [Curate@SaintCuthbert.Org](mailto:Curate@SaintCuthbert.Org).

**St Cuthbert's Community Christmas Event:** Join us on **Saturday 11 December** for the St Cuthbert's Community Christmas Event. The event will start at the southern end of Philbeach Gardens at 4:00 with a street procession with carols and readings led by Father Paul with the St Cuthbert's choir. We will then go into St Cuthbert's to continue the event inside, which will be followed by a reception in the church and garden, including stalls providing mulled wine and other festive fayre.





### Membership

Thanks to all who have already renewed their membership of The Earl's Court Society; however, many of our friends and neighbours have not yet paid up. At just £5 per year, it is one of the best deals around. Your support enables our committed team of local citizens to continue to make Earl's Court work better for everyone as well as making it more attractive, enjoyable and distinctive. In reading this newsletter, you will have discovered some of the things that our various working groups are currently doing to improve life for all of us in Earl's Court.

As our bank now makes charges for processing cheques, it would be much appreciated if you would arrange payment by standing order – a form is attached to this note and you should fill it in, sign it and give to your bank. Alternatively, for those people who do their banking online, you can set up your own standing order. This would be a great help to the Society's officers who process the payments. If for any reason you cannot set up a standing order, then you can also pay by bank transfer – our account details are:

The Earl's Court Society,  
Metro Bank,  
**Account No:** 10213867  
**Sort Code No:** 23-05-80

And as a Reference please state the name of the person to whom the membership relates.

If you really have to pay by cheque, then please send or give this to:

Chris David  
Flat 8  
25-27 Courtfield Road  
London SW7 4DA

Please make it clear for whom the payment is being made if you are paying for more than one person.

Thank you for continuing to support the Society.



## Earl's Court Society Membership Standing-Order Form

Send this form to the Manager of your bank

YOUR BANK INFORMATION	
Your bank name and address	
Your name	
Your address and postcode	
Name of your account	
Number of your account	
PAYEE INFORMATION	
Name	The Earl's Court Society
Bank	Metro Bank, 247-249 Cromwell Road London, SW5 9GA
Sort Code	23-05-80
Account Number	10213867
STANDING ORDER INSTRUCTION	
Please pay the amount of £5 or £10 (delete as appropriate) immediately in 2021 and then on the 5th January 2022 and continuing until further notice.	
Quoting reference (write in name of member)	ECS..... (Member name)
Signature (1st signatory)	
Signature (2 <sup>nd</sup> signatory – if applicable)	
Date	