



# Your Vision Our Future

A Plan for Kingston Town Centre Area

**DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION**

March - April 2023



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
**KINGSTON**  
UPON THAMES



“**Empowering communities to shape their future is at the heart of Kingston’s vision**”

**By Cllr Andreas Kirsch** - Leader of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

**We have engaged with many people who have a stake in our town centre to shape this vision. We want to ensure Kingston town centre continues to be a thriving location for residents, workers, businesses, students and visitors alike.**

Our vision is for a cohesive town centre that is greener, cleaner and safer, with high quality and accessible developments that reinforce Kingston’s distinctiveness. Fewer cars, more pedestrian areas and the celebration of Kingston’s culture and heritage will enhance the quality of life for our diverse communities. We are eager to attract businesses and organisations to share in the exciting development of somewhere that is ambitious for the future. A place full of buzz and vibrancy which celebrates its past and present as well as its natural environment.

The Kingston of the future will offer far more than it does even today. Alongside a thriving retail location will be major businesses, diverse entertainment and leisure opportunities, more homes and open spaces for everyone’s enjoyment.

With a history of innovation that has proved successful countless times before, Kingston’s latest transformation will offer an exciting, inclusive and accessible future for everyone.

## Have your say.

We are consulting on this draft vision to make sure it reflects your aspirations for the future. Please share your views. See page 43 to find out how you can get involved.

# Contents

Executive summary	4
A Plan for Kingston Town Centre Area	6
Perfectly located	8
An illustrious history	10
An evolving town centre	12
Great public spaces and places	13
Never standing still	14
Kingston Town Centre now	16
Positively managing change	18
A phased approach	19
Our engagement so far	20
Citizens’ Panel	22
Using your feedback	24
The draft key ambitions	25
London’s leading riverside metropolitan centre	26
An outstanding destination celebrating our culture, history and natural beauty	28
A thriving and sustainable place for all our communities	30
A network of active, green and healthy streets and spaces	32
Big ideas	34
Next steps	42
Have your say	43

# Executive summary

## Kingston is on the cusp of a transformational change.

Kingston is a very special place, with a rich history and incredible location to create a unique and vibrant town centre, that benefits enormously from its outstanding heritage and natural environment. Like many other towns, Kingston does not stand still. COVID-19 has accelerated many changes including the shift to online shopping and new uses being attracted to town centre locations. Similar to the period in the early 1990s, which saw the arrival of John Lewis and the opening of the Bentall Centre, Kingston is once again on the cusp of a transformational change. Sites are coming forward for redevelopment, bringing new investment, uses, residents and opportunities. We need to decide what we want the future of Kingston to look like and how new developments can help deliver this.

To proactively coordinate and manage this significant level of change we need to create a Plan for the Kingston Town Centre Area. This will ensure that we enhance and celebrate what we cherish the most, we increase what the town offers to retain its strong position as an attractive regional destination and we make sure it is a healthy and happy place for people of all ages and backgrounds.

This document is the first part of that plan - a vision for the future of the town by those that know and love it the most - its residents, workers, students and young people, community organisations, businesses, landowners, developers and visitors.

Kingston Council has undertaken extensive engagement to inform this vision and set out how we all want the town centre to develop and change.

The first part of this document sets out Kingston's history as a place. We explain why change is happening and why it's happening here, the current planning policy context and why we need a plan for the Kingston town centre and its surrounding area.

The second part sets out the engagement which has taken place so far in 2022, including workshops with a Citizens' Panel and wider engagement with young people, community organisations and local interest groups, members of the public, businesses and landowners.

This engagement has led to the drafting and testing of four overarching ambitions, with specific aims and objectives which set the direction for the future. As part of this vision we have started to illustrate how these could be delivered within the town centre.

While many voices have created this vision, it is a draft document which we welcome your feedback on. We want to understand what everyone values and needs from the town centre. We want to make positive changes, in partnership with others, to secure real benefits from the new developments. This will make sure Kingston remains a place where people choose to live, work, study and visit.



## Six big ideas

### 1 Riversides

Connect our riverfronts and make them more lively, active and easy to access and explore.

### 2 Culture and Heritage

Celebrate, connect, enhance and promote our cherished built and cultural heritage, landmarks and special places.

### 3 Public Realm

Enhance the look and feel of the streets and places we use every day.

### 4 Use and Character

Cluster, consolidate and integrate different uses and activities to create vibrant and distinctive quarters.

### 5 Transport

Improve our major transport corridors and the ring road to be better for pedestrians and cyclists, greener, and healthier. Reduce vehicle movements in the town centre.

### 6 Sustainability

Make Kingston a greener and more accessible town centre with increased biodiversity and natural habitats, low carbon infrastructures and improved flood and extreme temperature resilience.



# A Plan for Kingston Town Centre Area

**Kingston Town Centre is identified as a metropolitan centre in the London Plan, as it serves a wide catchment area, has good accessibility and significant employment, service and leisure functions.**

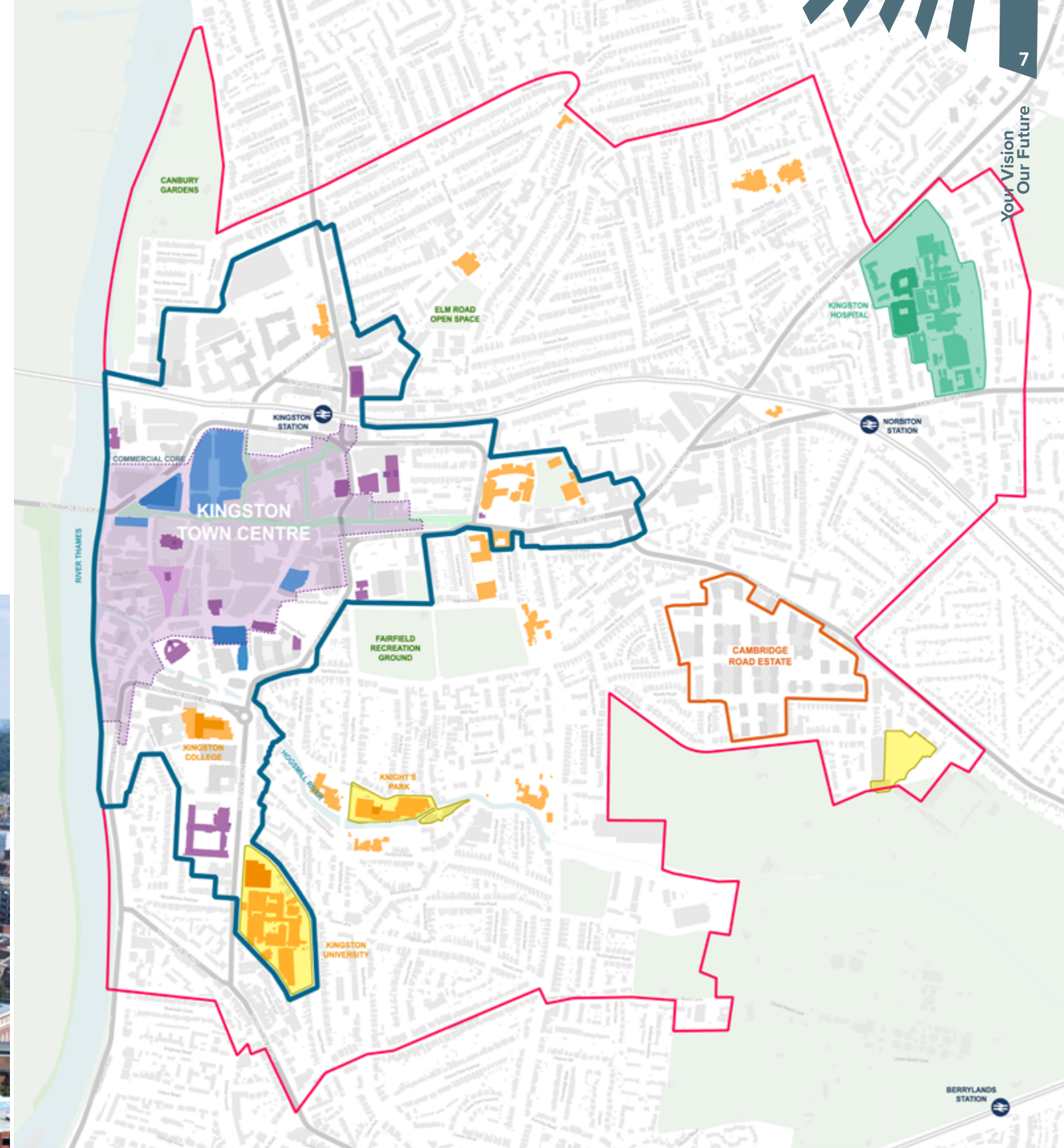
The council has drawn a draft boundary to be covered by the Plan for the Kingston Town Centre area. This includes the metropolitan

centre boundary and an extended area beyond it. This will ensure a wider area benefits from any changes that take place.



## What do you think about the boundary?

This is a draft boundary for the Plan for the Kingston Town Centre Area, which you can comment on, and also forms part of the consultation on the draft Local Plan.



- Kingston Metropolitan town centre boundary
- Proposed boundary for Kingston Town Centre Area
- ... Primary shopping area
- Cambridge Road Estate regeneration

- Major vehicular route
- Railway line
- Green open space
- Education institutions
- Kingston University campus
- Kingston Hospital campus



# Perfectly located

**Kingston is well positioned sitting directly on the bank of the River Thames, 11 miles west of central London and bordering the countryside of the Surrey Hills and beyond.**

Kingston enjoys excellent access to London by train and out to the A3 and M25 and the capital's two main airports, Heathrow and Gatwick.

As far back as Roman times it established itself as an attractive place for trade by being the first fording point on the River Thames west of London. In mediaeval times, with the first bridge west of London Bridge, Kingston was thriving with industries, including tanning, fisheries and brewing.

The Market Place was an important stopping point on the route from London to Portsmouth. Kingston is an important part of the historically significant Arcadian Thames landscape sitting on the river between Richmond and Hampton Court.

Today Kingston town centre continues to attract people from far and wide. It is home to Kingston University, Kingston College and the Rose Theatre and is one of the UK's major retail centres.

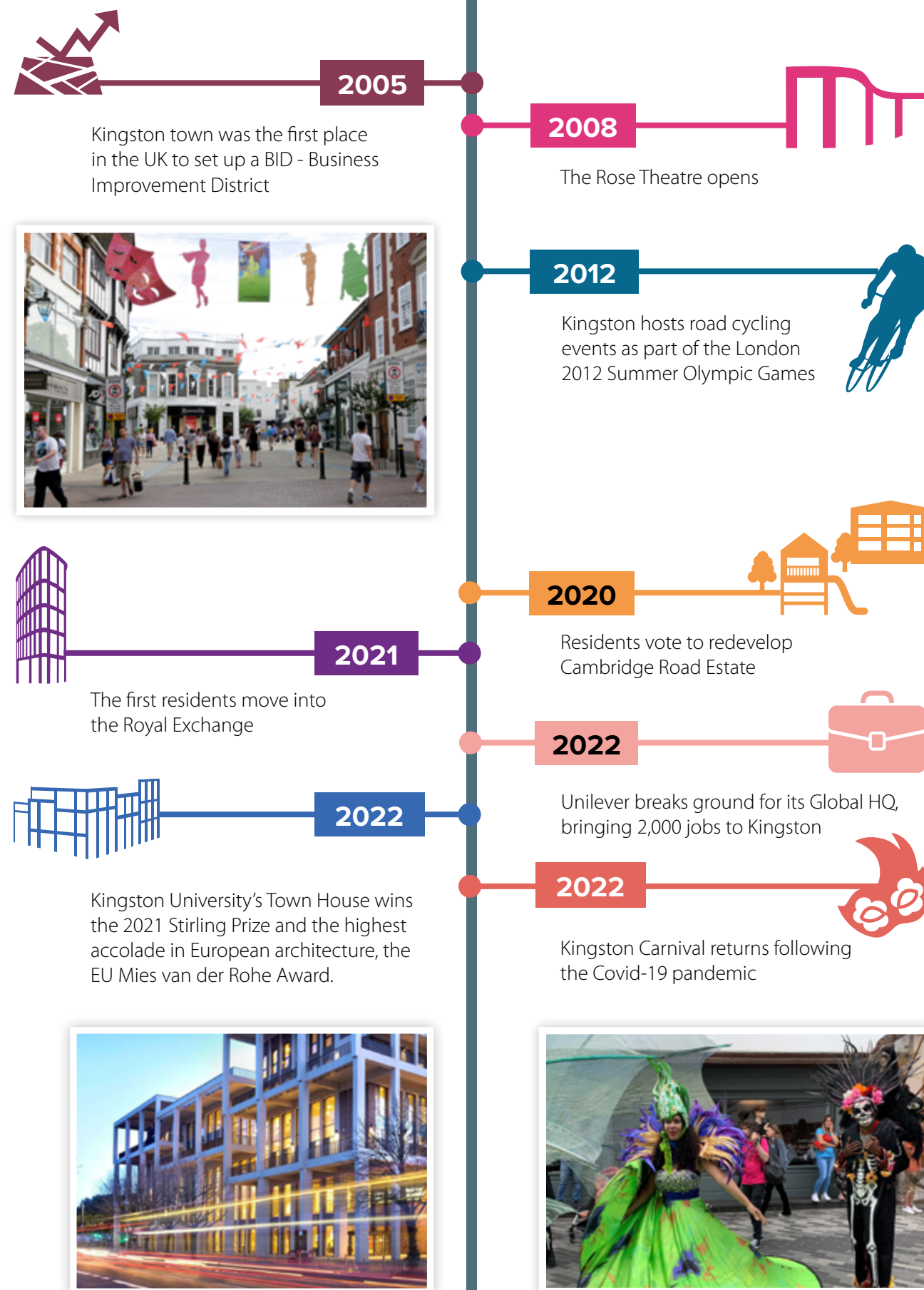
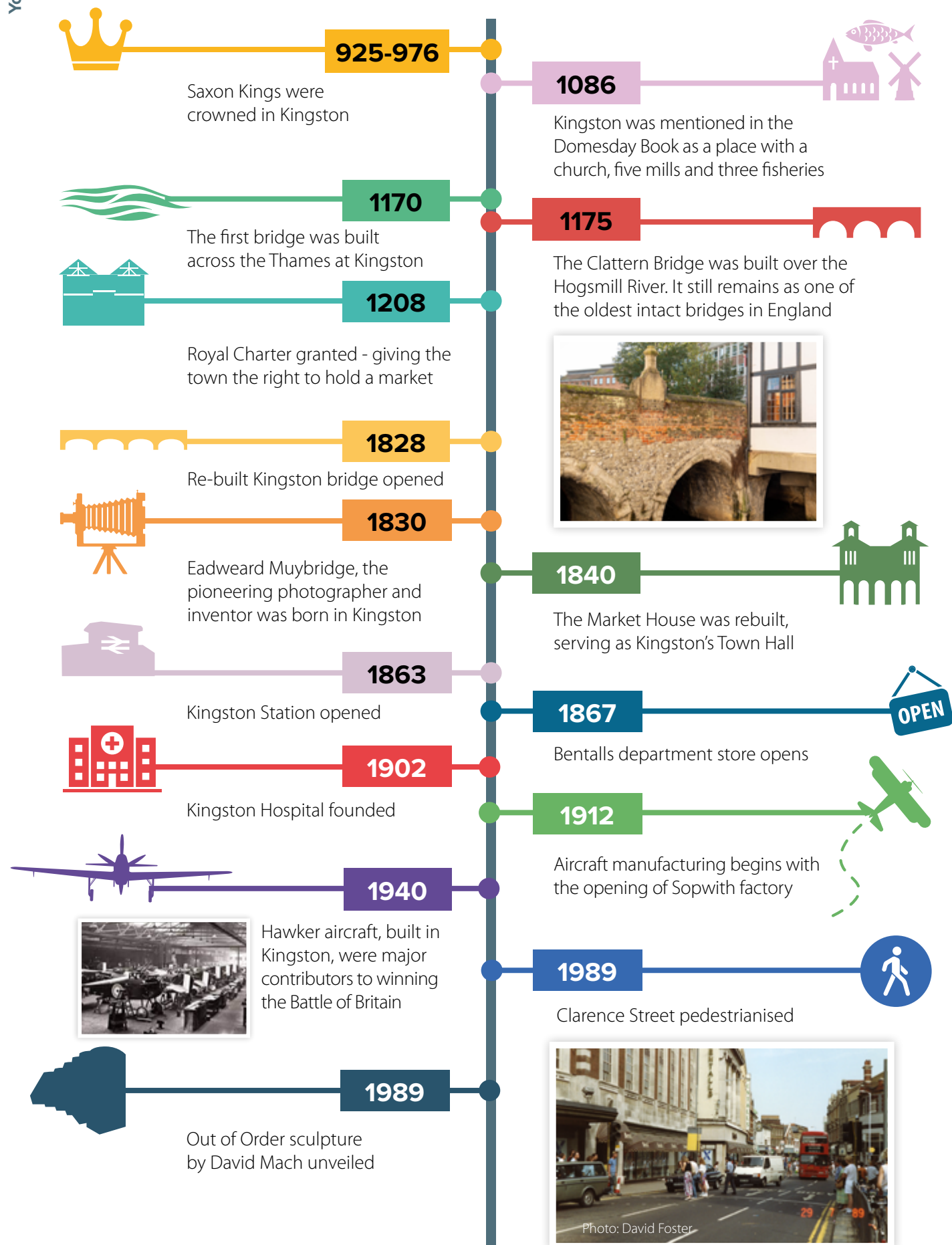
As well as a great place to visit, Kingston's qualities and location also make it a great place to live. A recent national survey, from Rightmove, listed the borough as the third 'happiest place to live' in London.

**“ Kingston is like a mini-London in the countryside**





# An illustrious history





# An evolving town centre

**Kingston is always changing.**

In the 1980's traffic used to travel down the now pedestrianised Clarence Street to reach the bridge. Bentalls was also an iconic independent department store before it became an anchor to the hugely successful Bentall Centre in the early 1990s.

The retail growth that has underpinned much of the town's success in the last 30 years has included the arrival of John Lewis, and many other leading commercial and leisure brands, and the market continues to thrive in the now pedestrianised Market Place.

## Clarence Street



1952

Photographer unknown



1989

Photo: David Foster



2022

## Market Place



c1900s



c1960

Photo: Kingston Photo Supply



2022

# Great public spaces and places

**As well as the Market House and Market Place, Kingston town centre has a legacy of exemplary public spaces and places.**

Pedestrianised areas include the Apple Market, Clarence Street, Castle Street and the now accessible riverside along the Thames.

Important green spaces include Fairfield Recreation Ground, Canbury Gardens, Eagle Brewery Wharf, and Memorial Gardens and culturally we have the Rose Theatre, the Rotunda Centre, Pryzm, and the Grade II listed Carnegie-funded library and museum.

We want to conserve and enhance these special places, and create new community locations, making sure they are inclusive and sustainable so that they can continue to be cherished for many years to come.

## Canbury Gardens



Photo: Canbury and Riverside Association (CARA)

## Queen's Promenade



photo: LandscapelInstitute

## Apple Market



## Eagle Brewery Wharf



photo: Kingston First



# Never standing still

**National guidance and policies in the draft Local Plan sets out how new development will be directed to the most sustainable and accessible locations in the borough.**

With its good public transport connections and available regeneration sites, Kingston town centre is therefore identified as a good place for future development.

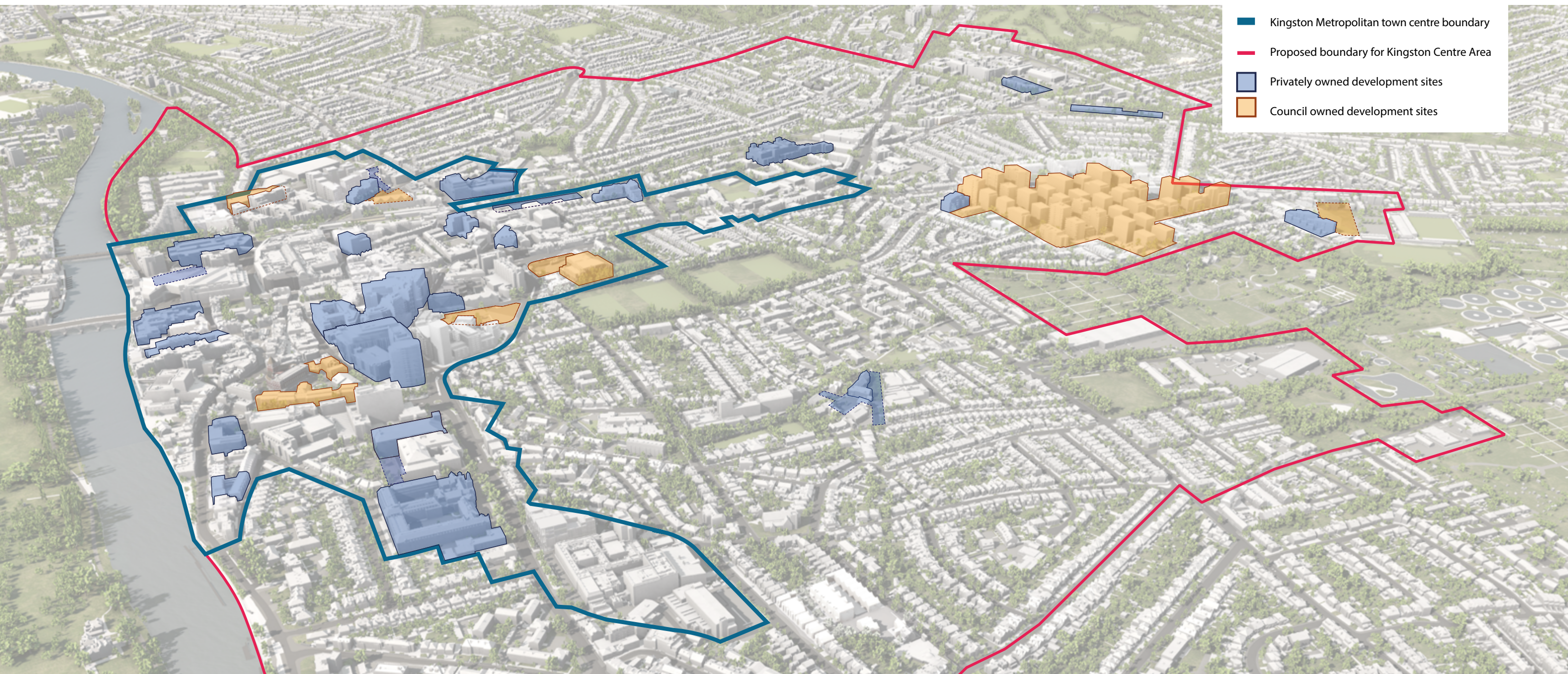
This image shows the numerous sites available in and around the town centre, some of which already have planning permission.

The council is bringing forward a number of sites for redevelopment across the town centre area (shown in orange) including the Cambridge Road Estate, which is the largest regeneration project in the borough and will create more than 2,100 homes.

Private sector landowners and developers own many of the remaining sites and other public sector bodies such as Transport for London, Network Rail and the NHS, are also looking to develop and invest in the future of the town centre (shown in blue).

The development of these sites will help respond to demands and trends to widen the range of activities and services in the town centre, delivering new homes, commercial, leisure and entertainment uses.

So once again in the town's rich and diverse history, Kingston is experiencing significant levels of change. We need to embrace this and make sure new developments come forward in a coordinated way. This is so that we both respect and celebrate our heritage and deliver new cultural opportunities for our communities, building in a green and sustainable way and secure wider community benefits, for a new era in the town centre's life. That's why a plan is needed to map out now what we want for the future of the Kingston town centre area.



- Kingston Metropolitan town centre boundary
- Proposed boundary for Kingston Centre Area
- Privately owned development sites
- Council owned development sites



# Kingston Town Centre now

**11**  
miles

from the centre  
of London, the  
only Metropolitan  
Town Centre on  
the River Thames.



**A historic place with a proud  
and significant heritage, with:**



Scheduled Monument:  
**Clattern Bridge**



Listed Buildings  
including **All Saints' Church**  
and the **Market House**



Locally Listed Buildings



Conservation Areas



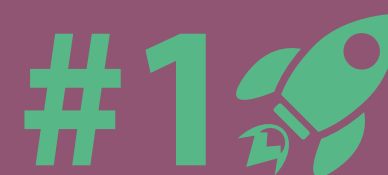
Local Areas of  
Special Character



**18 million**  
visitors every year



students attend  
Kingston University,  
ranked top 10 in the  
UK in several courses  
in the Guardian's  
University Guide 2023



Kingston University  
tops UK for graduate  
start-ups in 2022



outer boroughs to share in the  
Mayor of London's Mini Holland  
cycling programme funding



**13km**

of two way cycle routes  
within the borough-wide  
cycle network

**48%**

increase in cycling along Portsmouth  
Road, between 2018 and 2020



Kingston is the third largest shopping  
centre in Greater London



**1.4 million**  
sq. ft of retail space



Ranked

**4th**

for retail  
vitality in  
2022



**>£1 billion**

of development investment  
over the last 6-7 years on  
major sites alone

# Positively managing change

**The plan will sit within a suite of planning documents that will guide how developments are delivered.**

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the government's planning policies for England. This was revised in July 2021 and focuses on design quality, not only for individual sites but also for places as a whole. It is also firmer on protecting and enhancing the environment, conserving and enhancing the historic environment and promoting sustainable developments. The framework stresses the importance of reflecting the character of a place and responding to local needs.

At a regional level, the London Plan, published by the Mayor of London in March 2021, requires local authorities to deliver good growth, make the best use of land and build strong and inclusive communities.

Kingston Council published its first draft of the Local Plan for Kingston for consultation on 28 November 2022. This sets out a vision for how we want the borough to develop and change in the future. It will make sure we have the right homes, jobs and services as well as vibrant town centres, open spaces and transport. It will also address important issues such as climate change and the need to improve biodiversity.

The Plan for Kingston Town Centre Area will be a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to the Local Plan, providing area based design-led planning guidance, to manage the delivery of new development and infrastructure in and around the town centre.



# A phased approach

**This draft document, Your Vision Our Future, is the first of three documents that will make up the plan for the town centre.**

This vision is the outcome of a collective process that has successfully brought together individuals, organisations, decision makers, business leaders, councillors and council officers. Further feedback on this draft will create a shared vision and strategy for the town centre.

The second document will be a planning framework which will demonstrate how planning policies will apply in the town centre and surrounding area and guide investment over the next 10 years. It will also provide design guidance for all major developments coming forward in and around Kingston town centre, defining the key social, economic, environmental and transport infrastructure which we think will be required to support any new development coming forward.

The third part is the delivery plan, which will identify and prioritise new public realm, enhanced cultural offer, open space, walking and cycling, highways, infrastructure and environmental projects which have been identified in the planning framework, how they will be funded and which organisations will lead them.

Kingston Council will be working collaboratively with strategic partners such as the GLA, TfL, Network Rail, Historic England and the Environment Agency on this emerging plan for the town centre. By working together we can give greater certainty to investors and developers during the planning process.

## A Plan for Kingston Town Centre Area

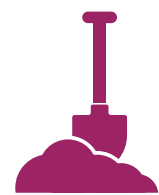
### PART 1 VISION



### PART 2 PLANNING FRAMEWORK



### PART 3 DELIVERY PLAN





# Our engagement so far

**Your Vision Our Future has been shaped through wide engagement with Kingston's communities, in a series of workshops, meetings and drop-in sessions designed to reach as broad an audience as possible.**

To create this vision and make sure it is owned by all, the council has followed a new national best practice design process, which focuses on working with local people, to create a community-led vision for their neighbourhood.

Our engagement began by setting up a Citizens' Panel - bringing together a group of residents, demographically representative of the borough, to take part in three workshops. Their feedback supplemented many of the views we heard during the development of Kingston's draft Local Plan.

Additional engagement took place in partnership with Kingston First. This focused on getting wider local input to understand the aspects of local character that people value and what change should look like. This included other local residents and visitors to the town centre, young people, community and amenity groups, businesses, landowners and developers, councillors and internal council teams.

An important part of the plan is to ensure that it balances the different needs of the town centre, to make sure it is a vibrant place for businesses, retailers, leisure, recreation and culture. It will also need to enable a sustainable mix of new housing to be brought forward, providing much needed new homes for local people, supported by the right infrastructure. New development will need to help address and adapt to climate change, improve biodiversity and respect our heritage.

## 7 main engagement streams

-  Feedback from Local Plan Further Engagement (2021)
-  Citizens' panel
-  Operational businesses
-  Landowners, developers, and investors
-  Wider community and local interest groups
-  Councillors
-  Council internal teams

## 3 Citizens' Panel workshops

## 7 business and landowner meetings and workshops

## 6 community and interest group workshops and wider public drop-in events

## 2 school visits



## Amenity groups and the wider community

The council has discussed the plan and engaged with a diverse range of amenity groups and local organisations in a series of meetings and also held public drop-in sessions in the Market House, between October and December 2022.

**“We should be aiming to be the greenest borough in London.”**

## Businesses and landowners

The council has worked closely with Kingston First and the Chamber of Commerce to engage with a number of businesses, landowners and developers. There have been a variety of events including business briefings, exhibition events, drop-in sessions and interactive workshops.

**“We need to create experiences and activities that span the generations.”**



## Young people

We have engaged with a range of young people carrying out workshops in a number of schools and working closely with students from Kingston University's School of Architecture and Landscape, who as part of a project had conversations with other students and local people about their aspirations for Kingston.

**“There should be more playgrounds in the town centre.”**







“ The Citizens’ Panel has been great. It’s nice to feel part of the changes that are coming.

## Citizens’ Panel

The Citizens’ Panel was selected from 280 applicants, to demographically represent the borough. The panel of 40 people met for three half-day workshops in March, June and October 2022.

The sessions were facilitated by officers from teams across the council and independently chaired by Design South East, who produced detailed reports to capture the discussions and outputs from each one.

This approach to community engagement, hearing from local communities first, follows national best practice guidance set out in the National Model Design Code published in July 2021.



### Workshop 1

#### Aims and ambition

Assessing the town centre area’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats

The first Citizens’ Panel workshop focussed on the changes taking place, what people value about Kingston and what changes they want to see in the future.

“ People can’t afford to stay here... all the graduates just leave.



### Workshop 2

#### Change and value

Assessing character through town centre walkabouts

At the second workshop the panel was divided into groups to go on a walkabout of one of seven different parts of the town centre area, to look at its key features, what to keep and what could be improved. Photographs, thoughts and ideas were then captured on maps.

“ Heritage is about more than history; it’s about protecting our culture. Culture comes from different activities and communities.



### Workshop 3

#### Defining objectives

Future visioning and mapping

The final workshop brought the group together in a community visioning exercise. This included imagining what Kingston could be like in the future, reviewing the draft themes, aims and objectives and annotating a large map of Kingston to capture what improvements they want to see in different parts of the town centre area.

“ Kingston in 2032 is: car free, full of shared public green spaces and trees, mixed use buildings, safe for everyone - especially at night.



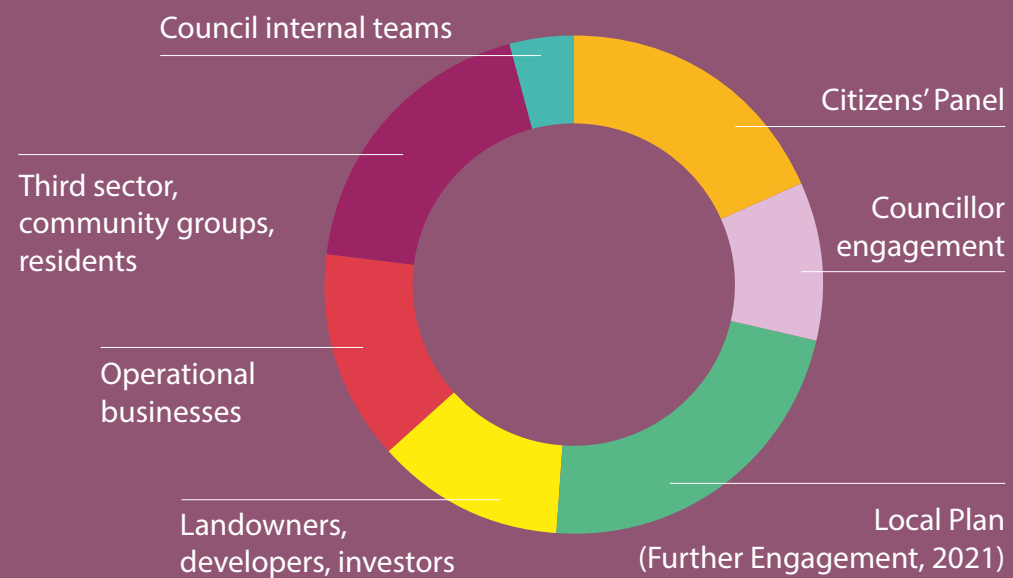
# Using your feedback

**Everyone's feedback in 2022 has been carefully analysed and used to inform this vision document.**

In total more than 600 comments have been reviewed and collected into different themes. These themes have led to the creation of four ambitions, 12 supporting aims and a series

of objectives which explain how they will be achieved. This is set out in more detail on the next few pages.

**600+**  **comments on our ambitions and aspirations**



●●● ongoing engagement and consultation



**4** key ambitions



**6** big ideas



**1**  emerging vision

**12** aims

**33** objectives

# The draft key ambitions

**Four key ambitions have been developed from the feedback that aim to capture the vision people have for the future of the town centre area.**



**London's leading riverside metropolitan centre**

**An outstanding destination celebrating our culture, history and natural beauty**



**A thriving and sustainable place for all our communities**

**A network of active, green and healthy streets and spaces**



We welcome your comments on these ambitions, aims and objectives to ensure opportunities and future challenges are managed and Kingston town centre continues to adapt, grow and thrive.

Please see page 43 to see how you can feed back to us.



## Ambition 1



## London's leading riverside metropolitan centre

## Key aims

- i. Broaden Kingston's unique Thameside appeal with a diverse mix of uses, public spaces, venues and events to complement the town's retail and commercial heart.
- ii. Expand the leisure, entertainment and cultural offer in the town centre, with diverse programming of events, creating a bustling day time and evening economy for all.
- iii. Retain and attract talent, entrepreneurs and skilled people with creative spaces and affordable workplaces.

Kingston town centre is one of the UK's most successful shopping centres and is home to a broad range of businesses and a top ranking university. Its unique Thameside location and beautiful, historic streets and Market Place draw in millions of residents and visitors every year to enjoy a bustling and vibrant retail, leisure and historic cultural hotspot.

We will build on our existing strengths with exceptional public spaces and thriving shopping areas and streets. The town centre will continue to diversify to host an exciting range of leisure, culture, food and drink uses, new offices and homes. We will promote events and support a growing daytime and evening economy.

## Ambition 1

We will achieve this ambition through these vision objectives.

- 1 **Enhance the town's public spaces and streets** - like Clarence Street, Eden Street and the riverside walk.
- 2 **Support local and independent retailers and market traders** as well as a vibrant cultural offer, to make it a special place to visit.
- 3 Build on Unilever's decision to locate their global headquarters in the heart of Kingston, **providing the right environment to draw even more businesses to base or expand themselves here.**
- 4 Through partnership with Kingston University and Kingston College, **secure spaces and support for creative industries, start-up businesses and hybrid working**, so talented graduates and other young people decide to stay or move into the area.
- 5 **Increase and improve the quality and versatility of our cultural venues and entertainment infrastructure.**  
This includes protecting and developing existing assets to meet the needs of our diverse communities, including our student population.
- 6 **Transform the evening and nighttime character** and improve feelings of safety after dark, with different opportunities and activities for every age group, style and budget, to enjoy a night out in Kingston.
- 7 **Promote mixed use developments that will provide clear public benefits** and attract new uses into our town centre.

**Have we missed anything?**

**This is your vision!**  
Please see page 43 for how you can feed back to us.





## Ambition 2



## An outstanding destination celebrating our culture, history and natural beauty

### Key aims

- iv. Showcase and celebrate Kingston's unique history and heritage as well as its rich and diverse culture through an engaging range of art forms, events and experiences.
- v. Conserve and enhance the historic heart of Kingston town centre with sensitive conservation, new world class architecture and a lively public realm.
- vi. Cherish Kingston's relationship to the Thames and uncover the hidden Hogsmill River, for everyone to enjoy and benefit from these incredible natural assets.

Kingston is a vibrant place and compelling destination with its historic buildings, streets, urban spaces and riverside location.

We will enhance this experience for everyone who wants to spend time in the town centre so that Kingston will become the leading riverside destination for culture, leisure and entertainment outside of central London.

Improvements and investment will ensure a year-round destination full of activity and celebration, with the Market Place and Thames and Hogsmill riversides as star attractions in a wider network of public spaces and places.

## Ambition 2

We will achieve this ambition through these vision objectives.

- 8 Complement the retail and cultural offerings already provided** - including the Christmas Market and Kingston Carnival - with a town centre enlivened by events, festivals, pop-up experiences and new uses.
- 9 Support additional and diverse food and drink options** within the town centre and along the riverside both in the day and evening.
- 10 Build on the legacy of cultural organisations** like the Rose Theatre and the Kingston Museum and new initiatives like the International Film Festival, by enhancing existing spaces and creating new ones.
- 11 Encourage engaging public art** in collaboration with local artists, communities and students to further contribute to the rich culture and history and create new landmarks in key spaces.
- 12 Enhance the natural characteristics of the Thames and Hogsmill riversides** and design new public spaces to nurture biodiversity and create a seamless riverside experience from Surbiton through to Canbury Gardens.
- 13 Improve opportunities for watersports and other recreational activities** along the Thames bringing the river more directly into the town's visitor offer.
- 14 Celebrate our riverside landscapes and green spaces** within the 'Arcadian Thames' by promoting ties with Home Park, Hampton Court Palace, Bushy Park and Richmond Park.
- 15 Conserve the historic character of the town centre** including the Market Place and our other historic buildings, streets and environments by invigorating them with sensitive new public uses.
- 16 All new developments will enhance the character, atmosphere and enjoyment** of the town centre through its uses, scale and appearance.

**Do you have anything to add?**

**This is your vision!**  
Please see page 43 for how you can feed back to us.





## Ambition 3



## A thriving and sustainable place for all our communities

Many people from different backgrounds live, work, visit and study in Kingston. The town centre is well connected by public transport and future developments will attract new residents and visitors.

As our population grows, our town centre needs to be a place where everyone feels welcome.

We will create a town centre that is liveable, healthy and sustainable for all our communities. It will be safe, attractive, affordable and accessible for everyone.

### Key aims

- vii. Kingston town centre will emerge as a leading sustainable place where the things that our communities need and want are all located close by.
- viii. Improve public areas and create more green spaces for communities living, working and visiting the town centre.
- ix. Make Kingston a town centre where residents, workers, students and visitors of all ages and from different backgrounds can play, learn and thrive.



## Ambition 3

We will achieve this ambition through these vision objectives.

- 17 Deliver new flexible spaces to meet a range of community needs** - including our new community leisure complex, delivering inclusive and sustainable facilities in the heart of the town centre.
- 18 Focus public realm improvements around community facilities and public amenity spaces** and ensure they are easy to find and well connected to each other.
- 19 Enable community groups and organisations to run events within public spaces.**
- 20 Make the town centre and Thames and Hogsmill riversides great places to play** by improving indoor and outdoor recreation and leisure activities.
- 21 Ensure the town centre is easy to travel to and enjoyable to spend long periods of time in** with convenient blue badge parking and accessible public toilets.
- 22 Ensure the necessary community infrastructure is in place** to support all needs - from schools and doctors surgeries, to social care and child care.
- 23 Provide high quality digital connectivity** with fibre optic internet, essential for a strong local economy and communities.
- 24 Ensure a wide mix of homes to cater for different needs**
- 25 Encourage developments that have high quality landscaping and communal green spaces** as well as active ground floors that animate the streets.

## Let us know what you think!

**This is your vision!** Please see page 43 for how you can feed back to us.





## Ambition 4



## A network of active, green and healthy streets and spaces

### Key aims

- x. Reduce carbon emissions and invest in low carbon futures to achieve the council's ambitious net-zero sustainability goals.
- xi. Make our streets greener with less traffic and improved air quality so that walking and sustainable travel options are the natural first choice.
- xii. Create green and active pathways along the Thames and Hogsmill riversides, soften the hard landscapes of the town centre and elevate our green spaces to be rich, biodiverse natural habitats.

The council has set ambitious sustainability targets in response to the climate emergency. We must reduce our carbon emissions and improve biodiversity.

Many people would like our streets to be more pedestrian and cycle friendly and see a reduction in car use to improve our air quality.

We will modernise our streets and spaces to encourage low carbon travel and to be a greener, healthier and happier town centre.

## Ambition 4

We will achieve this ambition through these vision objectives.

- 26 Invest in low carbon and net-zero initiatives**, including England's first-ever district heat network powered by a local sewage plant.
- 27 Reduce the presence of cars in the town centre** to improve air quality.
- 28 Prioritise pedestrians and cyclists and improve street crossings and connections** to the town centre and rivers, so the area is more accessible, social and safer.
- 29 Improve Kingston's cycle network, provide more cycle storage** across the town centre and support an affordable cycle hire scheme.
- 30 Upgrade the areas around the train and bus stations** and work with partners to improve services to encourage more people to use public transport.
- 31 Encourage more electric vehicle use** by rolling-out charging points in more locations and supporting electric car clubs.
- 32 Create greener streets and more habitats with more trees and plants.**
- 33 Return the edges of the Thames and Hogsmill rivers to nature** to improve habitats and resilience to flooding.

**Give us your thoughts!**

**This is your vision!**

Please see page 43 for how you can feed back to us.





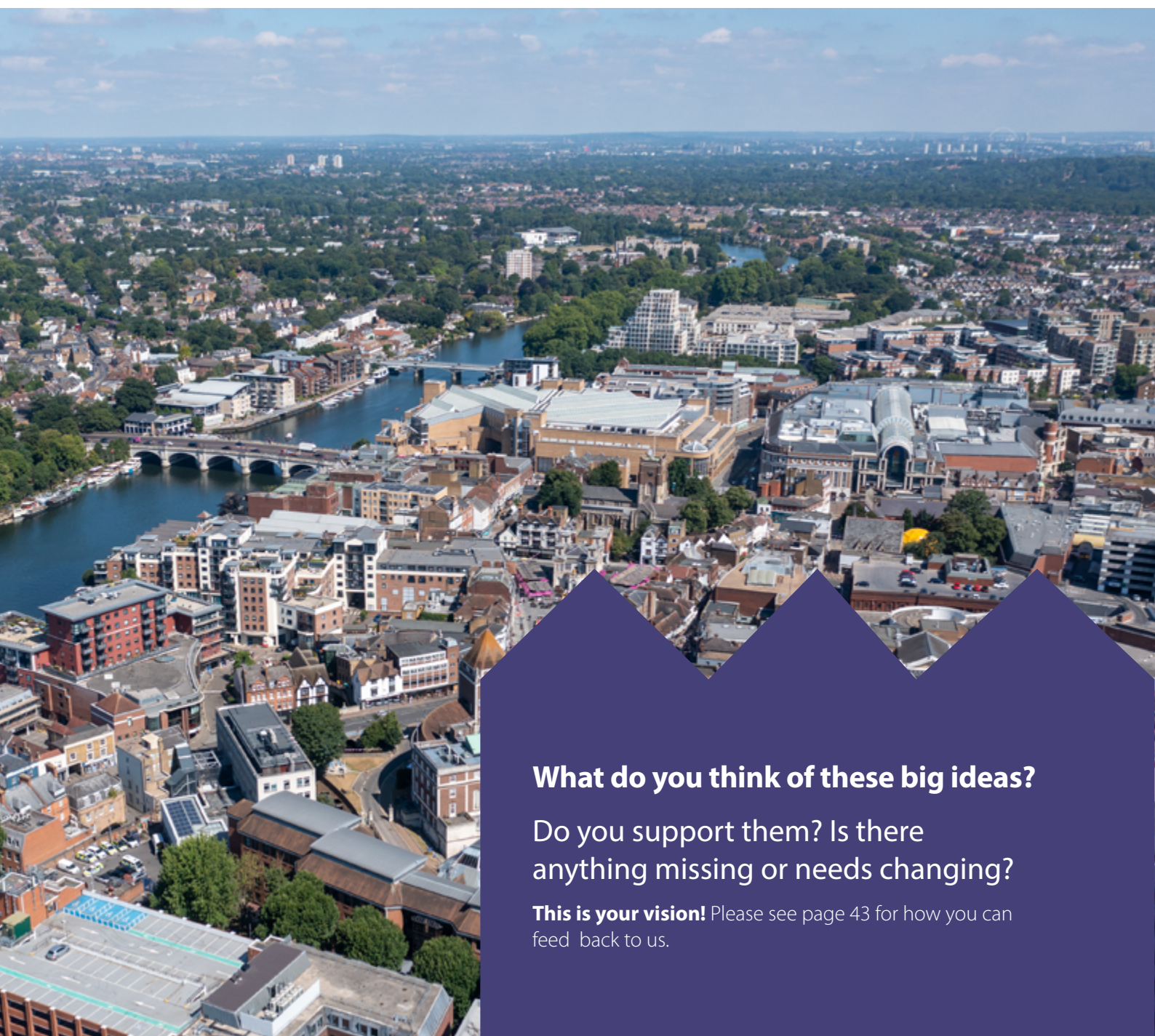
# Big ideas

**Bringing together the ambitions, aims and objectives we are proposing six big ideas that capture how we intend to achieve the vision set out in this document.**

As we consult you further on this vision we will start to develop and engage with you on a list of projects which could support each big idea.

The projects will vary in scale, level of investment needed and funding with some requiring more minor changes and others needing more transformational changes.

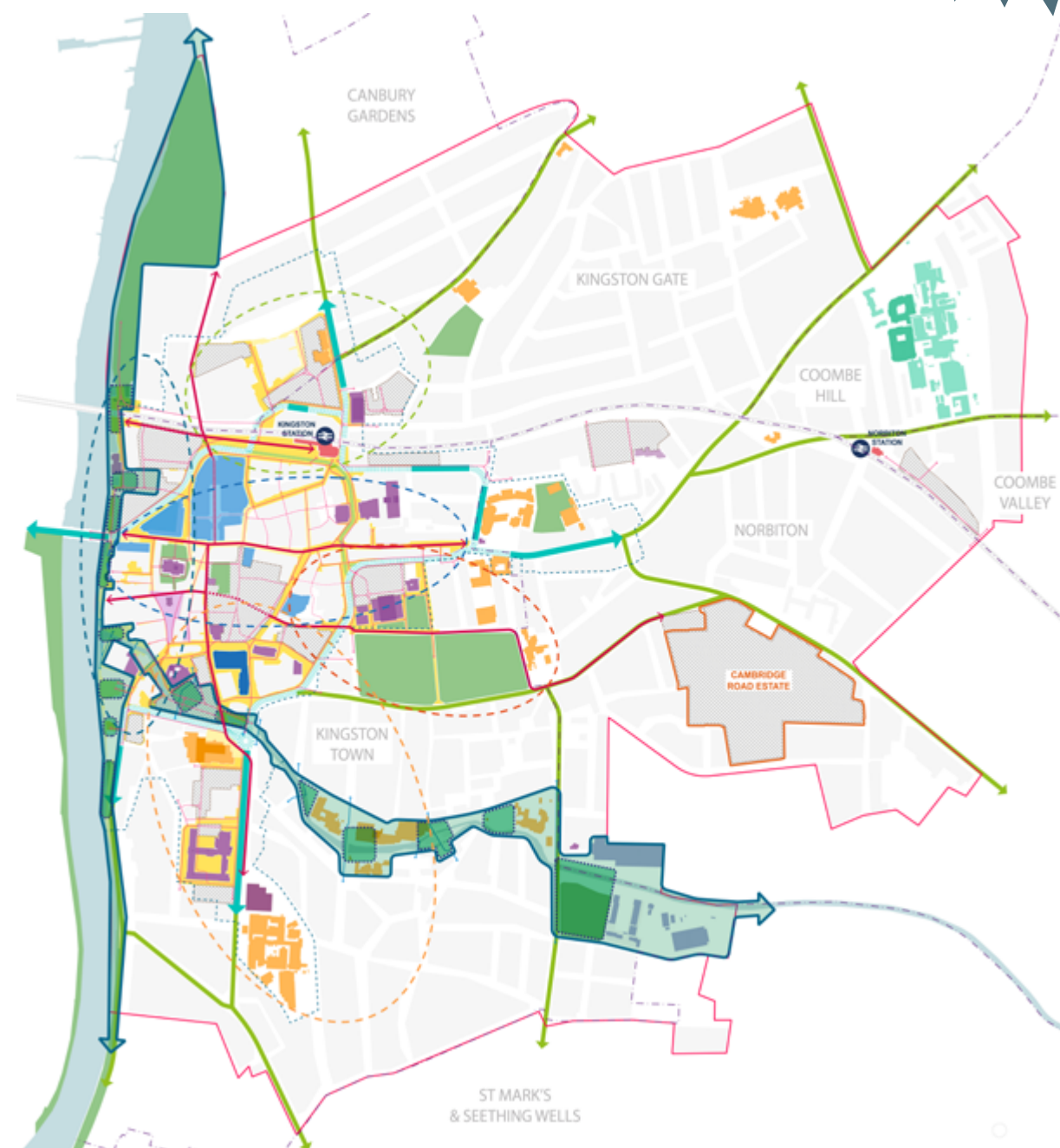
The planning framework, which is the second part of this plan, will set out these projects in more detail. Their delivery will be the responsibility of a variety of public and private sector organisations. These will be governed and co-ordinated by a council-led steering group during the third phase of the plan, known as the delivery phase.



## What do you think of these big ideas?

Do you support them? Is there anything missing or needs changing?

**This is your vision!** Please see page 43 for how you can feed back to us.



## Six big ideas

### 1 Riversides

Connect our riverfronts and make them more lively, active and easy to access and explore.

### 3 Public Realm

Enhance the look and feel of the streets and places we use every day.

### 5 Transport

Improve our major transport corridors and the ring road to be better for pedestrians and cyclists, greener, and healthier. Reduce vehicle movements in the town centre.

### 2 Culture and Heritage

Celebrate, connect, enhance and promote our cherished built and cultural heritage, landmarks and special places.

### 4 Use and Character

Cluster, consolidate and integrate different uses and activities to create vibrant and distinctive quarters.

### 6 Sustainability

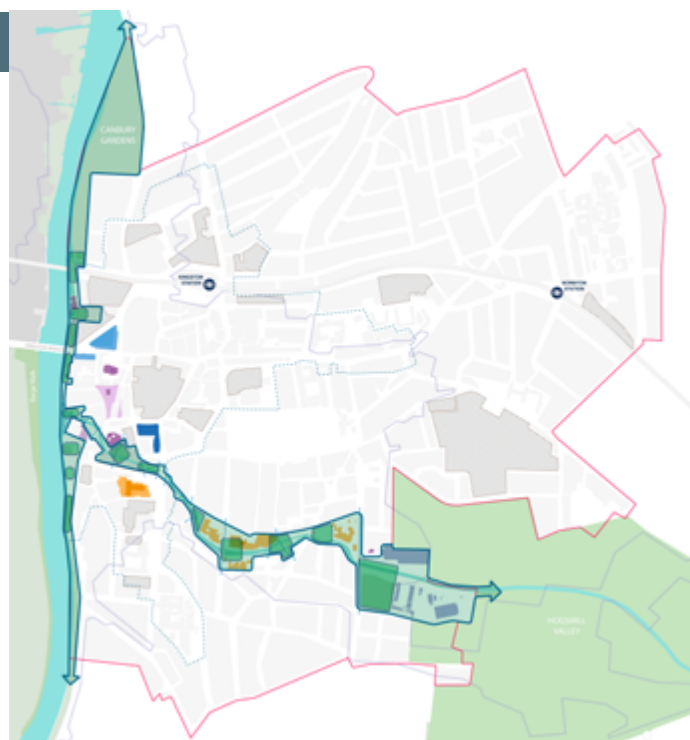
Make Kingston a greener and more accessible town centre with increased biodiversity and natural habitats, low carbon infrastructures and improved flood and extreme temperature resilience.



## Big idea 1

### Riversides

Connect our riverfronts and make them more lively, active and easy to access and explore.



- Riverside Area
- Key Landmarks
- Riverside "Moments"
- Industrial Estate
- Hogsmill Crossing Points
- Area of Flooding Indicatively
- Areas of Change

## Big idea 2

### Culture and Heritage

Celebrate, connect, enhance and promote our cherished built and cultural heritage, landmarks and special places.



- Cherished Open Spaces
- Key Landmarks
- Key Links
- Cambridge Road Estate
- Important Local Links
- Areas of Change

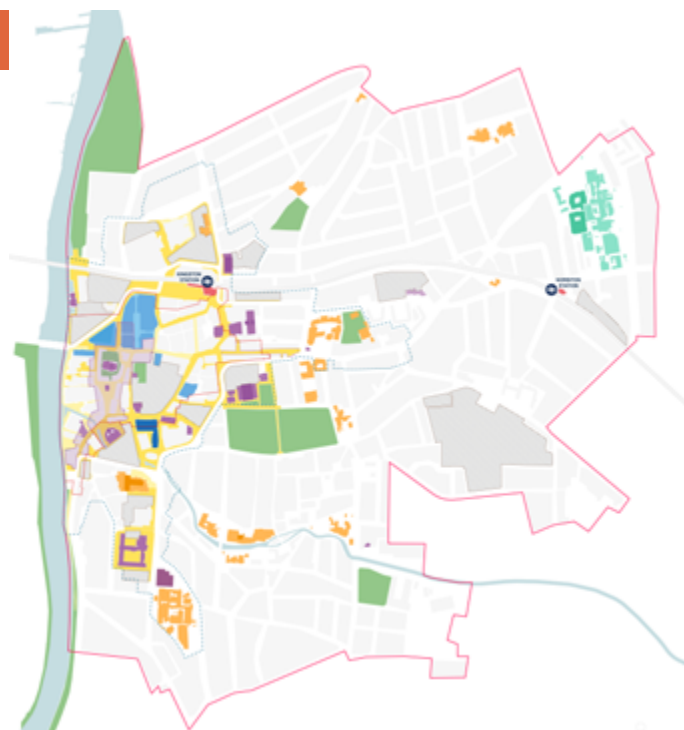




## Big idea 3

## Public Realm

Enhance the look and feel of the streets and places we use every day.

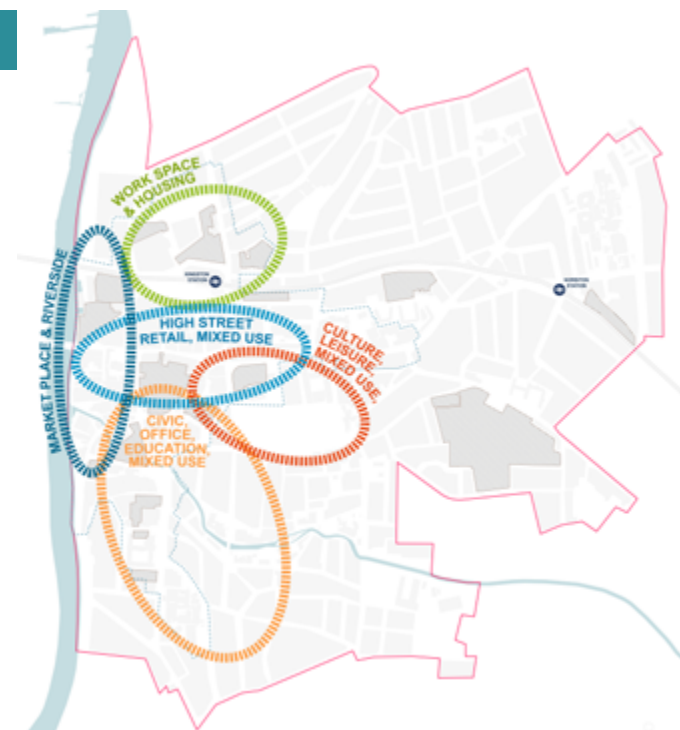


- Public Realm Minor Improvements
- Public Realm Major Improvements
- Historic Core
- Old London Road
- Primary Shopping Area
- Metropolitan Centre Boundary
- Cherished Open Spaces
- Key Landmarks
- Areas of Change

## Big idea 4

## Use and Character

Cluster, consolidate and integrate different uses and activities to create vibrant and distinctive quarters.



- Market Place & Riverside Area / Quarter
- High Street, Retail & Mixed Use Area / Quarter
- Culture, Leisure & Mixed Use Area / Quarter
- Civic, Office, Education & Mixed Use Area / Quarter
- Work Space & Housing Area / Quarter

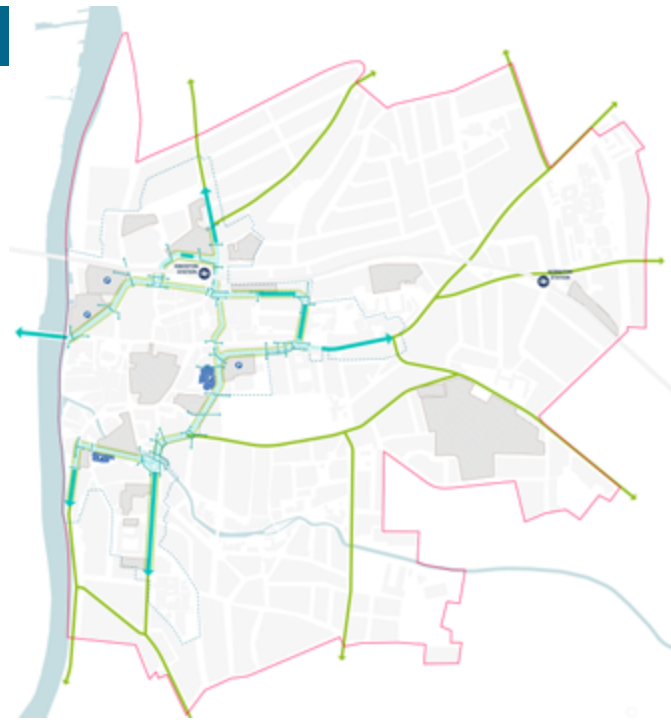




## Big idea 5

### Transport

Improve our major transport corridors and the ring road to be better for pedestrians and cyclists, greener, and healthier. Reduce vehicle movements in the town centre.



- |||| Traffic Management Improvements
- |||| Approach Improvements
- |||| Reduction of Traffic
- P Public Parking
- ↔ Links & Crossings Improvements
- ▨ Areas of Change
- |||| Environmental Improvements

## Big idea 6

### Sustainability

Make Kingston a greener and more accessible town centre with increased biodiversity and natural habitats, low carbon infrastructures and improved flood and extreme temperature resilience.

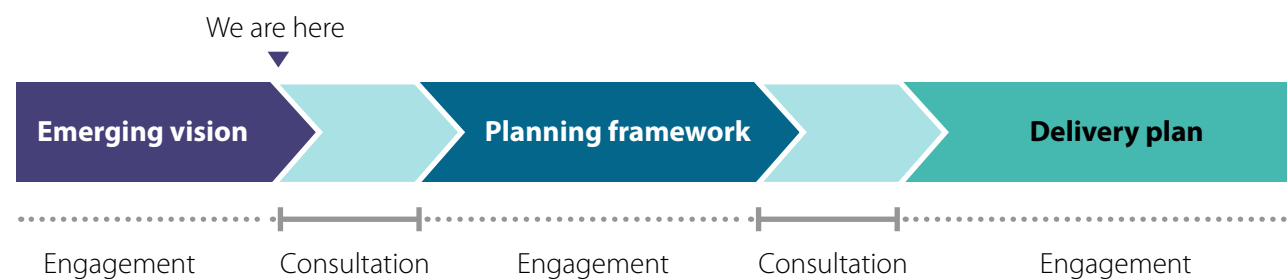


- Cherished Open Spaces
- |||| Biodiversity Corridor
- 800m Pedshed from Station
- 800m Radius from station
- Area of Flood Risk
- District Heat Network (DHN) Core (Phase 1)
- DHN Connection (Phase 1)
- DHN Core Future Expansion
- DHN Connection Expansion (Phase 2)
- DHN Connection Expansion (Phase 3)





# Next steps



# Thank you!

A special thank you to all residents, Citizens' Panel members, community groups, institutions, businesses, landowners and investors who have contributed to the vision.

# Have your say

**This draft document, Your Vision Our Future, has been informed by a broad range of people with an interest and passion for Kingston town centre and the surrounding area.**

We welcome your feedback so that we can make sure this document is supported and owned by everyone.

**Do you support the ambitions, aims, objectives and six big ideas?  
Is there anything missing or needs changing?**

Your feedback will help us to refine the document so that Kingston town centre develops in the way we want it to.

The consultation on the draft vision will run until 30 April 2023.

For more information and to find out about events and workshops please visit our website [www.kingston.gov.uk/a-plan-for-kingston](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/a-plan-for-kingston)

You can give us your comments in a number of ways.

- By completing the online form on our engagement portal which you can reach via our website
- By speaking to us at one of our online or face-to-face events
- By email at [placemaking@kingston.gov.uk](mailto:placemaking@kingston.gov.uk)
- By post by writing to **The Place Making Team, The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, Guildhall 2, High Street, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1EU**
- By calling our contact centre on **020 8547 5000** and asking for a member of the Place Making team to call you back.



