MARCH 2026

Brentford Town Centre: responses to some frequently asked questions

Core information about this topic is provided on a series of information boards which were shown at the Brentford Regeneration Update event on 24 February 2026. These boards can be viewed here on Let's Talk. The information below seeks to add further detail by responding to some of the questions we know local people are asking.

Introduction

Over the last decade, Hounslow Council and many other organisations – including businesses and community groups – have been working to make improvements to Brentford town centre. Brentford has attracted significant investment to provide new homes, new retail and new amenity space in the town centre.

In 2022, the Council published its vision for Brentford. In 2024 it published the Brentford Town Centre Masterplan, built on several key themes in the vision. The masterplan is based on six 'big ideas' for Brentford, informed by an engagement process that involved over 1000 people.

The Council will progress Brentford Town Centre priorities, which will evolve according to the availability of funding and capacity. This will provide a framework to prioritise and progress the improvements identified in the Masterplan.

High Street vitality

How will the Council fill empty shop units and support a better mix of independent businesses on the High Street?

Securing a strong and diverse mix of commercial tenants is a significant challenge for high streets across the country. One of the advantages of town centre residential development (new housing) is that it increases footfall, helping to make high streets more vibrant and attractive to businesses. In Brentford the positive effects of development such as the Brentford Project can be seen with footfall up 8% and spend up 16% from 2024-2025.

In Brentford, commercial properties are owned by a range of different landlords. Among the Council's ownership are 12 retail units located on the south side of the High Street (ground floors of Tintern House, Sonnet House and Hamlet House).

Improving the tenant mix on our high streets relies on collaboration between the Council, landlords, developers, and prospective businesses. What this partnership looks like in Brentford may differ from approaches taken elsewhere, and the Council is actively developing this work so it is fit for the future. Landlords or businesses interested in discussing opportunities are encouraged to contact the Inward Investment and Local Economy Team (investhounslow@hounslow.gov.uk).

Transport

Are there any plans to improve Brentford's transport provision?

We know that as new homes and jobs are created locally – and with big changes coming to the Golden Mile – it is crucial that transport provision keeps pace. The Council has been working with strategic partners including TfL and developers to secure improvements to public transport and walking, wheeling and cycling infrastructure in and around Brentford and the Golden Mile. This will hopefully deliver improved access to local and wider destinations. The borough's Transport Strategy (2025) was created through extensive engagement with local people and we saw several themes highlighted:

- Severance caused by the A4/M4 corridor as well as road safety implications
- Improved walking and cycling facilities, particularly on the TfL road network
- The need for improved bus connectivity, for example to Ealing and along the A4
- More cycle parking, both on-street and in residential areas
- Requests for more trains per hour on the SWR Hounslow Loop service
- New rail infrastructure such as Brentford to Southall and West London Orbital

In order to support the Transport Strategy we published Parking and Kerbside Strategies and Walking & Wheeling and Cycling Action Plans setting out how we will deliver transport improvements. We have also produced a draft Public Transport Plan which people are invited to comment on before 15th March. The aim is for this to be published in summer 2026.

What progress is being made on regenerating Brentford Station and improving connections, including Overground access?

The Council carried out a feasibility study on improvements to the forecourt at Brentford station a few years ago but hasn't been able to move forward yet due to funding constraints. The emerging development will bring opportunities for contributions which can hopefully take this work forward. More broadly, the Public Transport Plan advocates for increased service frequency on the Hounslow Loop,

which is operated by National Rail. We want to see four trains per hour every day so passengers can rely on frequent connections to Waterloo and Clapham Junction.

Other questions about the town centre

Regarding the Charlton House and Albany House scheme: will these all be Council properties? And why were changes made to the scheme?

Yes, these will all be Council properties – 182 homes in total. Changes were made to the scheme to improve deliverability in terms of cost and time. The most notable change is the reduction in height which improves the delivery timetable as it results in less complex design requirements. The Council is intending to appoint a contractor for the main building works in 2026.

Can the Council's approach to allocating S106 and CIL monies be improved to benefit our area?

A Hounslow Infrastructure Funding Statement is published every year around December time – so the most recent one is for 2024-25. This provides a summary of financial and non-financial developer contributions relating to Section 106 Legal Agreements (S106) and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) within Hounslow borough for that financial year. It shows the contributions agreed, received, allocated, spent and unspent and it show that data by area.