



Community Activities

Thameside West plans to support the local community through partnering with the following organisations. These partnerships are based on the exploration and identification of the key needs within the local community found in SeerBridge's Community Audit.

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS AND CHARITIES

The People's Kitchen – The Thames Barrier Café Project

We are providing in-kind support for a charitable organisation that will operate a community cooking project and café out of the Thames Barrier Café.

The People's Kitchen is a Community Interest Company that has been running since 2010 and brings people together to make a meal once or twice a week. This is a space for people to share skills and feel part of a community, with a special focus on engaging with refugee communities.

With our professional expertise and experience, we are well placed to advise on how to create and sustain a successful business venture through advising on business plans, budgeting, governance and other aspects of business development.

Smart Works

Smart Works is a charity that offers interview appropriate workwear and employment support to disadvantaged women who are looking to move into work. Thameside West has provided Smart Works the use of storage space in one of the buildings on site free of charge.

Smart Works was offered a large amount of stock from a retailer for its projects. However, due to limitations in available storage capacity at their current location, they would not have been able to hold the stock without being offered this space at Thameside West. Within the next year, Smart Works' goal is to support nearly 4,000 unemployed women. They have a 64% success rate of their clients entering employment within one month of their engagement, suggesting that by increasing their capacity significant social value will be produced.



Community Engagement Activities: Engaging the Existing Community

Thameside West is looking to engage the local community to participate in and feel a part of the regeneration of the site. These activities have been proposed with youth engagement and improving mental and physical health in mind.

Heritage Photography Competition

We want to ensure that the long and industrious history of the area is incorporated into the new development. As part of this, local schools are being invited to participate in a photography competition.

Art departments of local schools will be asked to encourage their students to take photos of their local area through examining the theme 'Water: The River and The Dock Edge'. The winning photographers will receive photography vouchers as will the school of the winning student, with other runner-up prizes available.

Bikeworks Cycling Programme

Thameside West is working with well-established bike charity Bikeworks to put on a cycling workshop and event for the local community.

Bikeworks currently operates out of the Velodrome in Queen Elizabeth Park and engages with groups who do not normally cycle in programmes to help boost their confidence in cycling. They focus on all groups and abilities including those with lower than average participation numbers such as women, the BAME community and those with disabilities.

A ride out event is being hosted by Thameside West and Bikeworks, where the site will be used as a base for workshops and mini-maintenance courses, culminating in an instructor led bike ride around Newham.

This event is in partnership with Fight for Peace, a local charity which helps divert young people away from gang violence and crime initially through combat sports before engaging in education and employability programmes. Fifteen from this organisation will take part, learning skills and experiencing their area in a new way. We are also engaging with senior citizens to make up a further 10 participants. Engaging with a charity which focuses on older people will enable intergenerational communication and empower participants to live a more active lifestyle.

Homelessness Charity Fundraising

Newham has the highest number of people registered as homeless of any London borough.

We will help tackle this issue through fundraising for local homelessness charities. This will take the form of a quiz night with our supply chain and an endurance sports activity such as a Tough Mudder.

We would have a fundraising target of £8,000 across these initiatives.