

## Appendix 3

### **Future of Westminster Commission, North Paddington Programme**

The emerging North Paddington Programme has been informed by the work of the Future of Westminster Commission's Economy and Employment Review Group. The Review Group began its work by looking at policies to strengthen local high streets, starting with Harrow Road. Given the high level of deprivation in the vicinity of the high street, after conversations with Cabinet Members, the group moved on to look at a holistic area-based approach. This approach builds on the City Plan's policy in relation to the North Westminster Economic Development Area, which calls for 'coordinated intervention to tackle persistent levels of inequality'.

The Council is now responding to the Commission's recommendations on North Paddington with a corraling of effort to develop and implement a comprehensive programme for the area.

The Economy & Employment Review group as part of its work looking at social value, recommended the establishment of a Westminster Anchor Institutions group, with partners from the private, public and voluntary sectors. Supported by pro bono consultancy, Bloomberg Associates, the group will have a particular focus on supporting the ambitions for North Paddington.

Furthermore, the Commission recognised that the focus on place provided a powerful way to integrate the work of its other workstreams. The Housing, Fairness & Equality, and Energy & Green Transition groups are looking at how they can contribute to the North Paddington Programme.

The review group considered that the following factors will be important to the North Paddington programme's success:

1. The Council and its partners will need to increase the scale of ambition for the area. This is already represented in the #2035 objective of halving the life expectancy gap of residents.
2. This needs to be supported by committing and, crucially, mobilising more resources and investment in the area, accelerating the delivery of key improvements, and increasing the council presence there.
3. There is enormous potential in further development of the partnership approach envisaged by the #2035 initiative. The council and its partners need to commit to a community led approach with strong, imaginative, continuous community engagement at its core.
4. One of North Paddington's assets is the local community and voluntary sector which provides a variety of support and services despite limited resources. It has deep links into the diverse communities and a strong track record in mobilising and supporting volunteers. These organisations should be supported to enhance their capacity to deliver vital services.