

CAMDEN EVENING & NIGHT-TIME STRATEGY 2024-2029

DRAFT
FEBRUARY 2024



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FOREWORD

The scale, value and complexity of Camden's evening and night-time economy is significant and puts money into the pockets of residents through employment and business ownership. It also plays a very important cultural role in life, within and beyond Camden's boundaries, and part of what makes Camden a special place to visit or call home. However, the evening and night-time in Camden is not just about the pubs and clubs in Camden Town or Covent Garden, it is also about the porter or nurse on a night shift in our local NHS trusts, the transport workers keeping the tube and buses moving, and those working in our outstanding venues and theatres such as Koko or the Roundhouse. For all that is great about Camden, the evening and night-time is under increasing stress - losing 40% of LGBTQ venues since 2006, while grassroots music venues and hospitality are struggling with the cost of doing business and staffing shortages.

This Evening and Night-Time Strategy sets out our understanding of the challenges and opportunities in Camden that our communities and key stakeholders have raised. These include supporting and growing what makes Camden a great place to visit, but also better managing our places and public realm between 6pm and 6am to ensure they are welcoming, inclusive and safe for everyone on a night out in Camden. In extreme cases, elements of the evening economy cause disruption to neighbours if not managed properly. To tackle these issues and understand the trade-offs, we have carried out online and in-person consultation and set up a Citizens' Assembly which is representative of our communities. This strategy provides a set of actions which respond to the Citizens' Assembly to achieve our vision for what the evening and night-time in Camden should be.

This new five year Strategy will complement a refreshed Statement of Licensing Policy, when agreed, and will be delivered in partnership between businesses and residents and be data-led in developing interventions. The Council's policies on Assets of Community Value and upholding the Agent of Change principle have yielded results – like protecting the Black Cap – but our licensing policies need reviewing to be more flexible in approach and rigorous in setting and holding licensees to high standards. The strategy must address the safety and ease of getting to and from a night out or a night shift while also ensuring those who work at night have the same good work standards as those working during the day. Finally, we cannot lose sight of the creativity that bringing people together to solve problems delivers. We will set up a 'Evening and Night-time panel' and a licensing charter to help govern good outcomes from licensed premises. I look forward to the implementation of this Evening and Night-Time Strategy which helps the ENTE survive, thrive and innovate in the years ahead.

Councillor TBC

OUR VISION

Guided by our residents, businesses, visitors and workers, we will make Camden a welcoming, safe and inclusive place to spend time in the evening and night-time.

We believe that by working together we can do more to support our creative and rebellious culture, nurture and protect community heritage, grow the economy and create good work opportunities which are accessible to all.

By 2029 we aim to make the evening and night-time more representative of all of us. We treat everyone – residents and workers, businesses and visitors – with care and respect and accept that there are social and economic challenges that prevent many of us from thriving at night.



We are committed to making opportunities as inclusive as possible and nurturing our grassroots businesses and culture. We want to create space for all of our communities to lead full and healthy lives, day and night.

From launching the careers of global musicians to community activities like the Friday Night Supper Club – a social club for disabled young people aged 16 to 35, parents, carers and volunteers to come together to share dinner, play games and socialise funded by the We Make Camden Kit - Camden is a home for both international and hyper-local community led movements in night life and night culture. It's time to celebrate and protect our heritage while reimagining the future together, creating space for the next generation of leaders and rebels to emerge.

Five themes contribute to a vision for Camden in the evening and night-time. This strategy will create the conditions where:

Inclusivity and working together

- Residents and workers are able to influence night-time management and its ongoing development.
- Civic and night-time venues are more central to community life at night, supporting inclusion and feelings of safety.

Supporting the economy

- There are greater links between business and night-time activation, with more ways to benefit from a changing economy.
- Night workers and their contributions to society and economy are valued and appreciated.

Liveability and wellbeing

- The night-time can also be a time to support new lifestyle choices and people can look after their health and wellbeing at night.
- Night-time stakeholders play an active role in the response to the climate emergency.

Culture

- Spaces for creative activity at night are affordable and accessible, and creative heritage is safeguarded for future generations.
- More young people can consider creative careers and the next generation of cultural producers is supported to create and grow Camden's evening and night-time culture.

Places at night

- Moving through Camden at night is a safe and positive experience, including the busiest late-night centres.
- It is easier to organise evening and night-time events and community gatherings in the public realm.

OUR ACTIONS

INCLUSIVITY AND WORKING TOGETHER

Create an evening and night panel for Camden*



Establish on the relaunched Love Camden website a detailed listing of inclusive evening & night-time events, opportunities and community facilities across Camden

Work with local business groups to promote family friendly and inclusive, non-alcohol-led experiences in the early evening

SUPPORTING THE ECONOMY

Develop a business rates discount scheme to support grassroots music venues and Camden's cultural legacy*

Implement a Licensing Charter to complement our Statement of Licensing Policy, setting standards of best practice and incentivising good management in the evening and night-time*

Engage with night workers, employers and trade unions to develop a support handbook for Night Working across all sectors

Pilot night markets where they can support evening and night-time vibrancy or be an asset to local communities

LIVEABILITY AND WELLBEING

Promote recreation and wellbeing in the evening & night-time and use meanwhile opportunities to create safe, fun and inclusive recreational resources

Work with TFL to continuously improve the safety and accessibility of night-time public transport as well as promote and facilitate active travel solutions

CULTURE AND CREATIVITY

Run a high-profile campaign to promote Camden's ENT cultural calendar, the best late openings – including museums and galleries – and how residents and businesses can deliver great events at night

Recruit cultural champions to engage our communities with the cultural opportunities in the borough, day and night

Using our levers in development and through licensing, support young producers and broker access for young people to equipment, studios, training and venues

PLACES AT NIGHT

Implement the Mayor of London's Night Test to improve development management, area regeneration and public realm

Build on the experiences and success of delivering our safety hub in Camden Town and open new hubs in other evening and night-time hotspots

Deliver a high-profile campaign on women's safety in venues and on the streets in the evening & night-time

Review how our evening and night-time hotspots are managed and work with local partners and the police to ensure there is active stewardship and on street problem solving



DEVELOPED WITH OUR COMMUNITIES

We Make Camden sets out the ambition that ‘Camden’s local economy should be strong, sustainable, and inclusive – everyone should have a secure livelihood to support them to live a prosperous life’. The Council is committed to working to preserve a dynamic evening and night-time economy, recognising this as one of the things that makes Camden special. We will seek to balance the needs of visitors and businesses with those of local people who may be negatively impacted. In this, we will recognise the needs of the full range of employees and businesses that work at night.

This strategy is based on principles and calls to action developed collaboratively through a Citizen’s Assembly. Camden’s Citizens’ Assembly on the Evening and Night-Time brought together 47 randomly selected members of the public who live, work or own or run businesses in the borough to feed into the development of strategy, shape a community-informed vision and set an overall tone and ambition. Members were chosen so that they formed a group representative of the wider population (e.g. in terms of demographics and attitudes toward policy – see Figure 1 below).

Camden Council actively uses Citizen Assemblies to look at important issues – like our local action against the climate crisis. They bring together a representative range of our residents, industry experts and key partners to create recommendations on a way forward.

The Assembly heard from a range of speakers, bringing expertise and experience of issues to inform assembly members during their deliberations. Speakers included; the Greater London Authority, Music Venues Trust, Queens Crescent Community Association, University College London Sociology students, Liminal Space (‘Night Club’), Wandsworth Council and the Mayor of London’s Night Czar.

It was a very productive environment with participants sharing their thoughts and experiences, listening to other perspectives and learning from others. The assembly provided in-depth feedback on a draft vision and agreed eight themes to guide the development of the strategy:

- Working together
- Our inclusive community
- Safe and convenient transport and facilities
- Place and space
- Inclusive economy and business
- Liveability and wellbeing
- Being safe and feeling safe
- Culture, creativity and heritage

The Assembly’s report, which is available to read alongside this strategy, sets some bold ambitions. It acknowledges the range of measures which will need to be in place to achieve this – from well-judged licensing right through to better transport and toilet provision. The Assembly’s recommendations are the bedrock of our evening and night-time strategy and updated licencing policy.



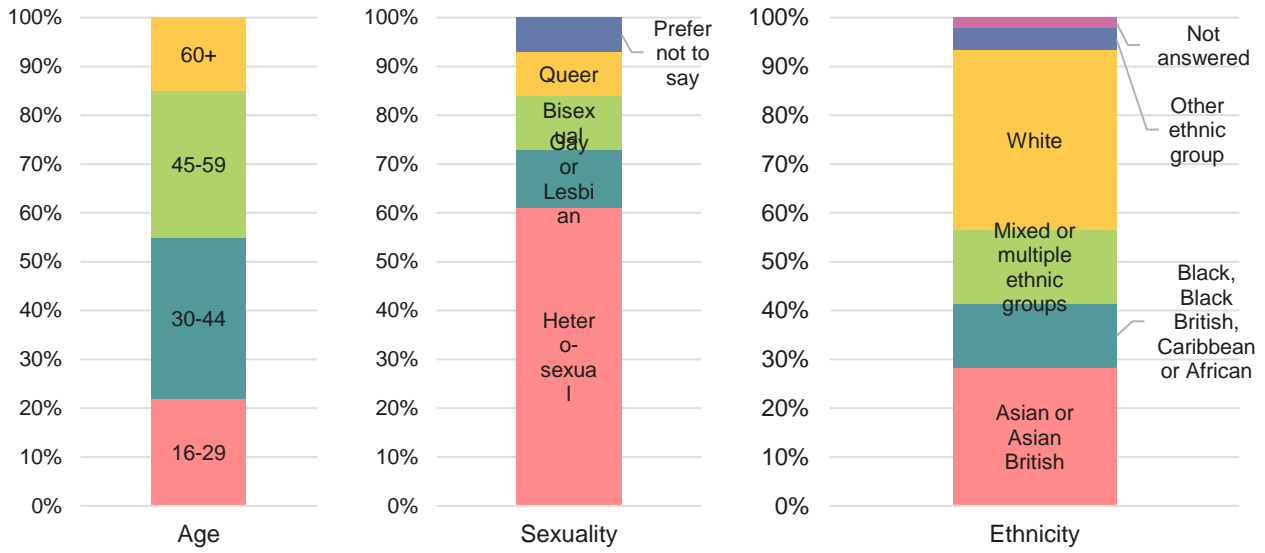


Figure 1: Demographic profile of the Citizens' Assembly



EVIDENCE BASE

Camden has a large community of night workers & businesses operating at night

Night workers were estimated by combining data from the ONS on Camden's total employment by major sector and data from the GLA on the proportion of London-wide workers in those sectors whose normal working pattern involves working from 6pm-6am. Camden's ENT employment fell during the coronavirus pandemic but recovered strongly in 2022. Night workers account for 32% of all workers in Camden (127,000 total).

Over half of Camden's businesses operate in the ENTE, at least to some extent. Despite reduced turnover since the COVID-19 pandemic and difficulties filling vacancies in the last 12 months, over 70% of ENT-operating businesses were positive about Camden as a place to do business. The cost-of-living crisis was reported as an issue for 68% of ENT businesses, compared with 56% of non-ENT businesses. Fewer customers was the worst effect of the crisis, cited by 48% of all ENT-operating businesses and 58% of businesses who operate entirely or mostly at night.

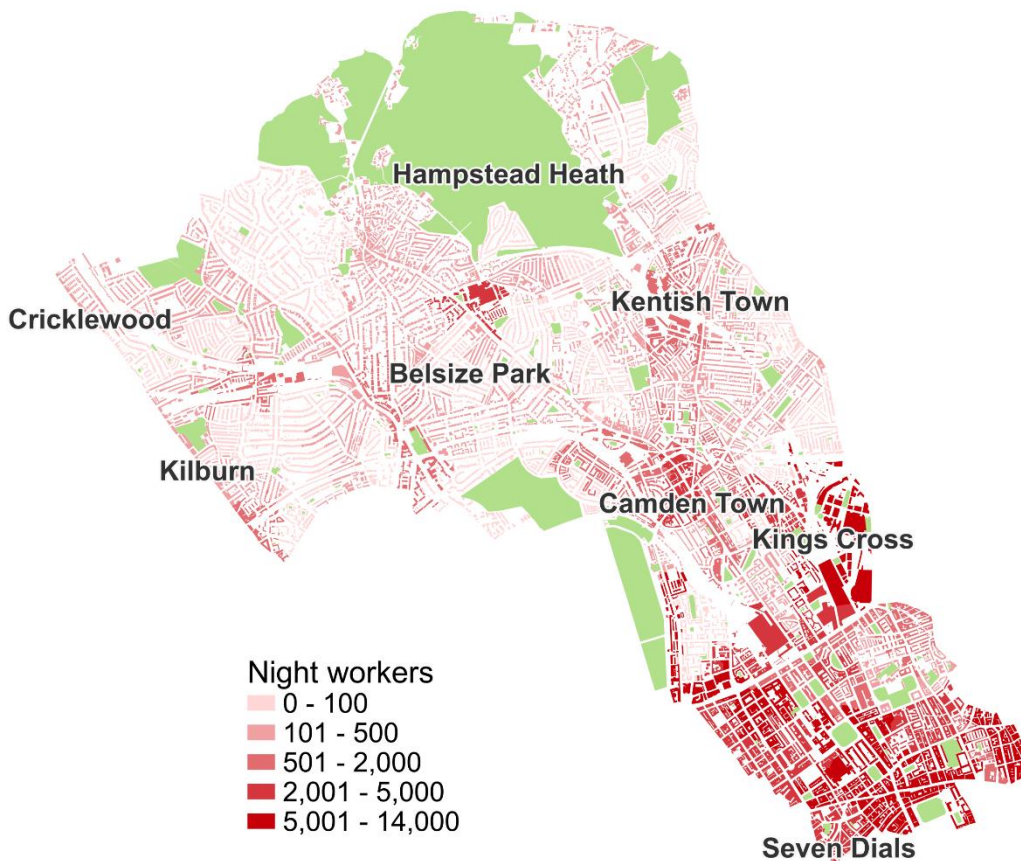


Figure 2: Night workers are concentrated in the south of the borough (2022)



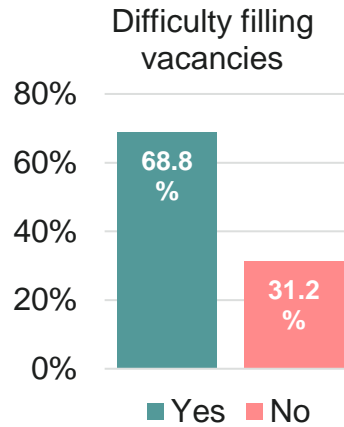
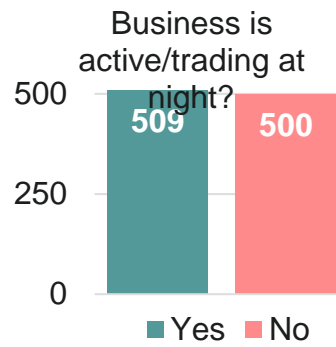
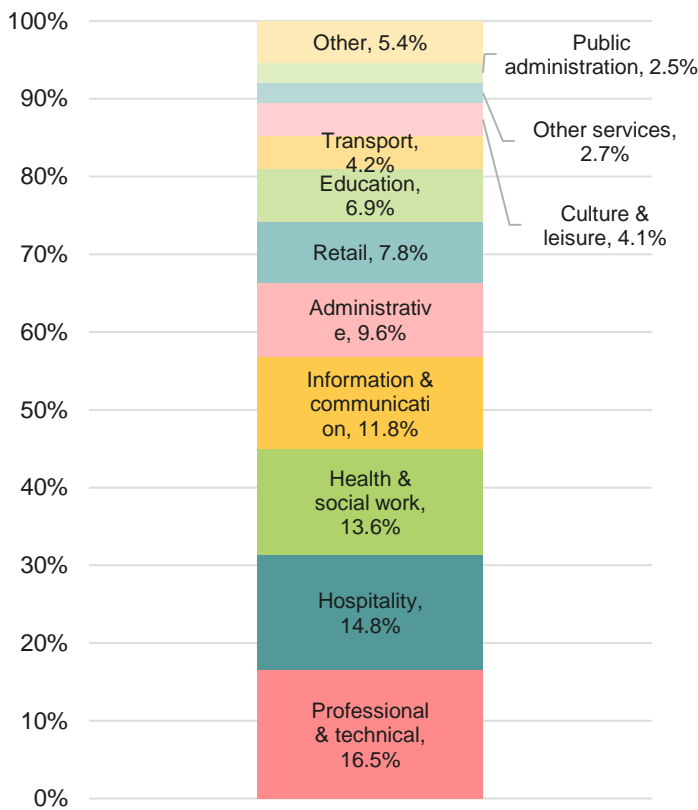


Figure 3: Night worker sectors (2022)

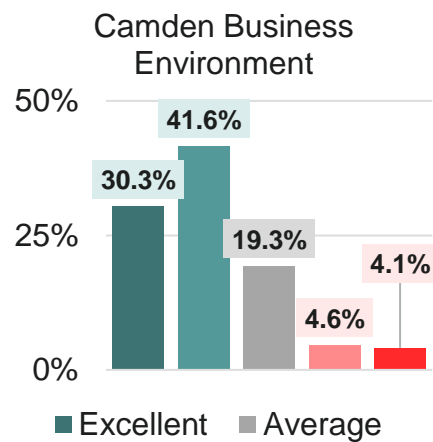
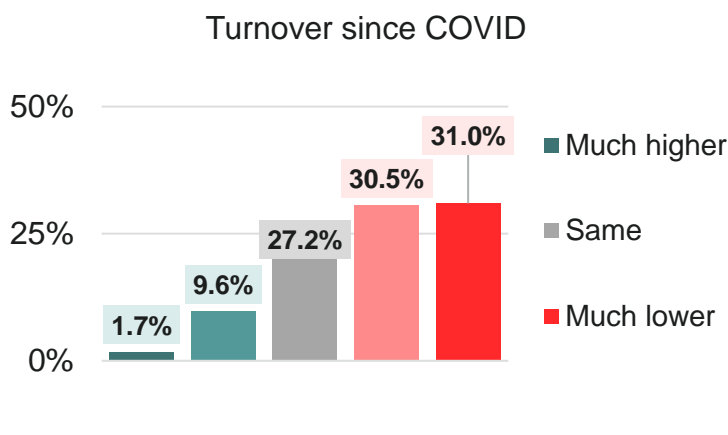


Figure 4: Results from Camden Business Survey (2022)

Community Safety & Wellbeing must be prioritised

The results of Camden’s Women’s Safety Survey (2022) indicate that there are challenges to be addressed relating to the experiences of women travelling/walking throughout the borough, particularly at night. Over three quarters of women do not feel safe walking in Camden at night, while a similar proportion of women have suffered street harassment and abuse. It is imperative to both make women feel safer in Camden and to ensure that when they do suffer harassment or abuse, there are resources available to them to report these incidents.



Camden, despite its high numbers of late-night venues, is below average for Inner London boroughs in terms of per capita noise complaints and of the 1,320 recorded offences in Camden between January 2021 and December 2022, it showed only 9 disparate locations receiving 10 or more complaints in that period. These figures are not recorded in a way to be specific to the evening and night-time.

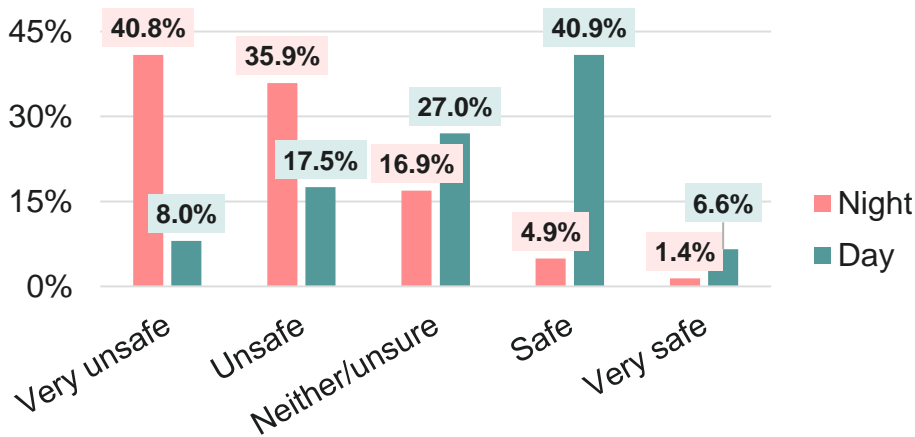


Figure 5: 'How safe do you feel walking/travelling in Camden?', from Camden Women's Safety Survey results (2022)

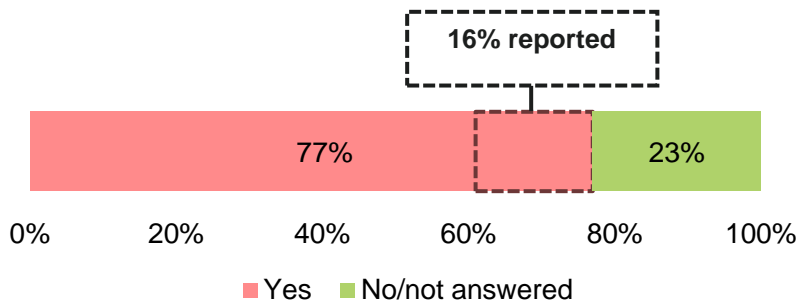


Figure 6: 'Have you experienced street harassment or abuse in Camden?', from Camden Women's Safety Survey results (2022)



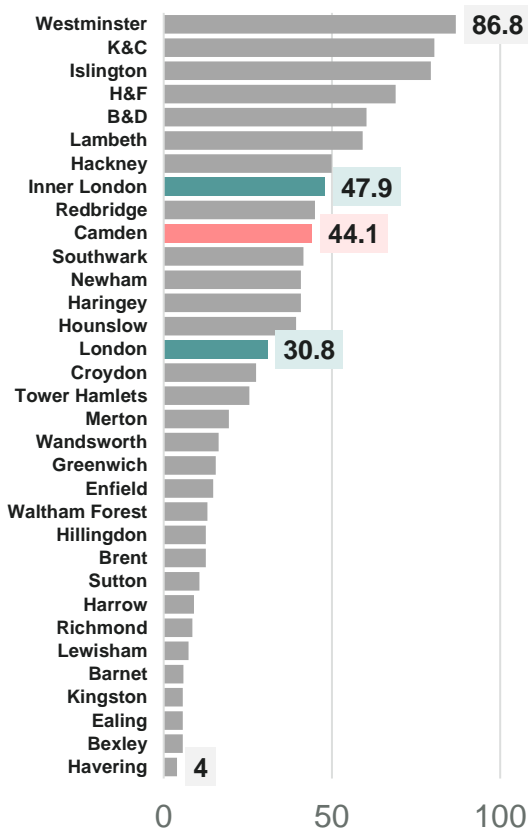


Figure 7: Noise complaints per 1,000 residents (2021)

Anonymised crime data for Camden shows there has been a reduction of drug offences and drug related Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) of 34.8% when comparing 12 months of 2019/2020 to 2022/2023. Over the same period the borough has seen a reduction of other evening and night-time related ASB of 26.2%. Every area of the borough, except one, has experienced a reduction, including both Camden Town (-24.6%) and Seven Dials, Covent Garden (- 22.0%).

Police recorded evening and night-time crime in the borough in 2022/23 increased by 1.2% compared to 2019/20. The increase is largely driven by theft, which saw a 9.1% increase. Excluding theft offences, the borough saw a 3.3% reduction in all other crime types between the two periods. There is no evidence to demonstrate that the increase in such offences has been caused by the customers of licensed premises in the borough.



Evening & Night-time Activity is strongest in the south

Camden Town and the southern section of the borough highlighted below have the highest average evening footfall in the borough (6-9pm). These locations are also home to the majority of Camden's licensed venues, as well as 5 of its 6 busiest London Underground stations.

King's Cross St. Pancras, as London's busiest underground station, is Camden's busiest London Underground station by some distance. The busiest ENT London Underground stations by proportion of total station entries/exits that take place during the evening/night are Chalk Farm, Kentish Town and Mornington Crescent. This may be an indication that these locations are ENT hotspots (relative to their size), although these 3 stations are all on the northern line, which runs a night service and as such will naturally have a higher proportion of ENT station entries/exits.

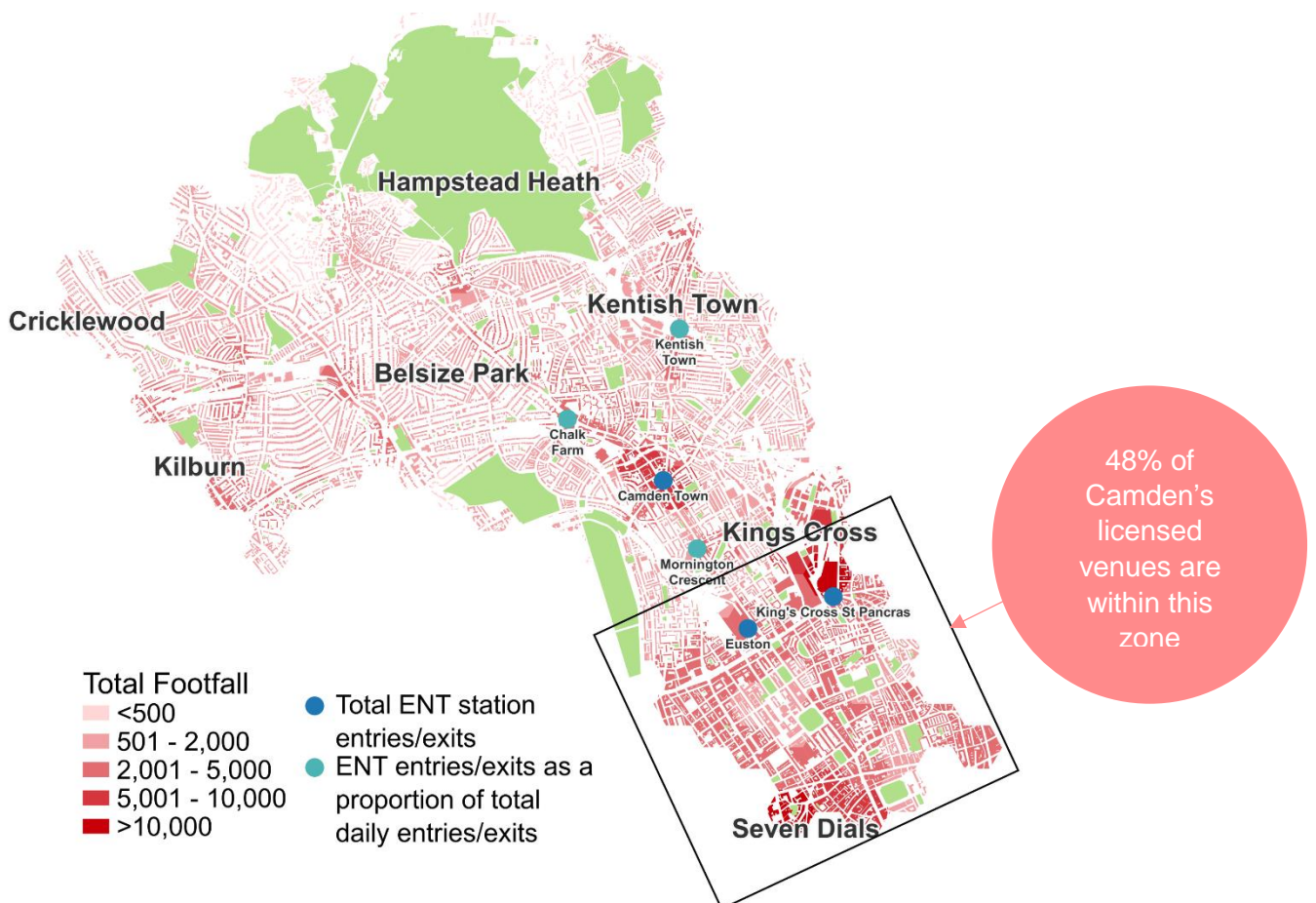


Figure 8: Footfall density, 6-9pm, with active ENT London Underground stations



Rank	Station	Evening	Late	Total
1	King's Cross St. Pancras	214,237	114,240	328,476
2	Euston	86,040	36,515	122,555
3	Camden Town	53,251	37,676	90,927
...				
15	Belsize Park	11,634	5,897	17,530
16	Mornington Crescent	8,183	7,235	15,417
17	Hampstead	8,711	4,683	13,394

Figure 9: Evening (7-10pm) & late (10pm-5am) London Underground station entries and exits across an average week (top 3 & bottom 3) (2022)

Rank	Station	Evening %	Late %	Total %
1	Chalk Farm	15.0%	9.7%	24.7%
2	Kentish Town	14.5%	10.1%	24.7%
3	Mornington Crescent	13.7%	8.6%	22.3%
...				
15	Euston Square	12.3%	4.9%	17.2%
16	Hampstead	11.2%	5.4%	16.7%
17	Chancery Lane	10.2%	4.3%	14.5%

Figure 10: Evening & late entries & exits as a proportion of all entries and exits

Camden is rich in cultural infrastructure

Camden hosts a rich array of cultural infrastructure which is strongly concentrated in the south of the borough. A significant cluster of design-based businesses, particularly jewellery design, is located around Hatton Garden in the south-east corner of the borough.

While the borough is home to a range of cultural infrastructure, some categories have been more resilient to the challenges of recent years than others. Pubs have suffered the worst losses in this period, with the total number of venues in the borough falling by 40% between 2019 and 2023. Positively, museums and public galleries, music recording studios, theatres and theatre rehearsal studios have all seen modest gains.



Category	2019	2023	Category	2019	2023
Archives	117	90	Making and manufacturing	2	4
Artists' workspaces	6	7	Museums and public galleries	26	36
Arts centres	1	1	Music (office-based businesses)	11	7
Cinemas	12	14	Music recording studios	6	10
Commercial galleries	33	28	Music rehearsal studios	10	8
Community centres	110	110	Music venues (all)	61	36
Creative co-working desk space	1	4	Music venues (grassroots)	14	25
Creative workspaces	1	9	Prop and costume making	1	1
Dance performance venues	27	25	Pubs	270	163
Dance rehearsal studios	28	26	Set and exhibition building	1	2
Jewellery design	66	58	Skate Parks	1	1
Legal street art walls	1	1	Textile design	12	2
LGBT+ nighttime venues	9	6	Theatre rehearsal studio	22	29
Libraries	12	12	Theatres	24	27

Increase
 Decrease
 No change

Figure 7: Change in cultural infrastructure by category, 2019 to 2023



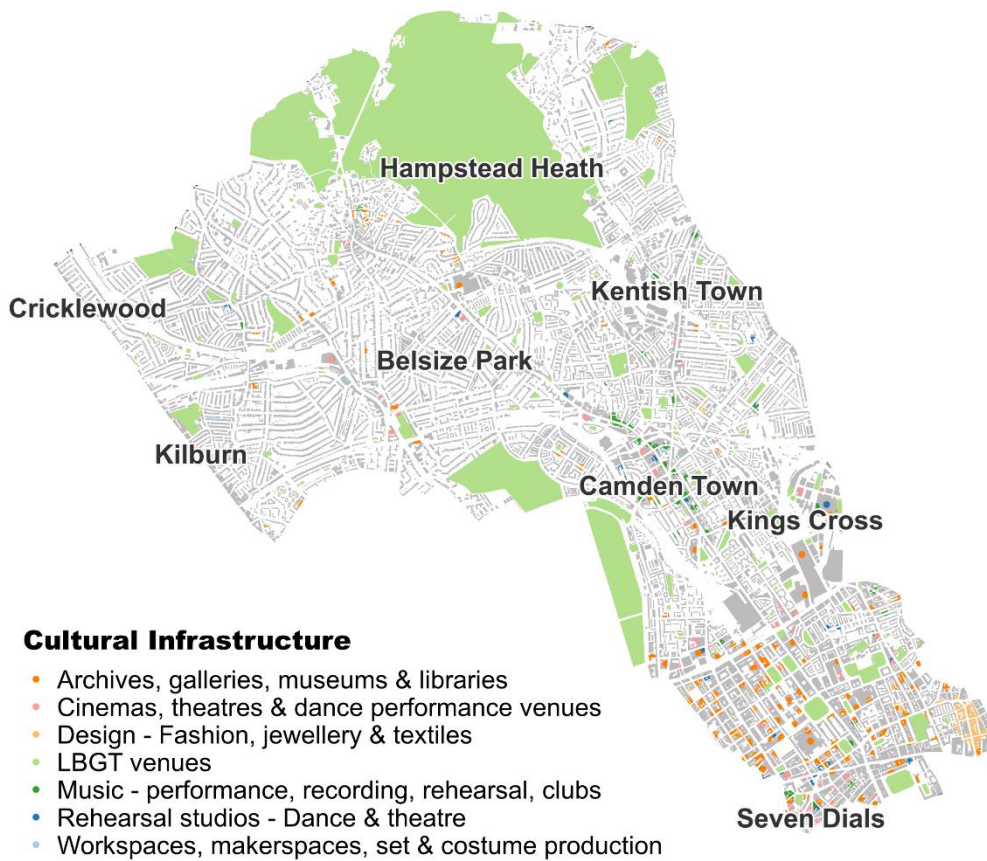


Figure 8: Cultural infrastructure is concentrated in the south of the borough



INCLUSIVITY AND WORKING TOGETHER

Continually co-creating the night

Why this is important

This strategy aims to create the conditions for mutual benefit between night-time stakeholders: including communities, organisations, businesses and the council. It empowers communities in governance structures while also supporting grassroots practices to develop and become more sustainable. Through structures which empower and create ownership, the values of local people are more clearly expressed as evening and night-time initiatives develop.

What the Citizen's Assembly said:

There are issues around equity of access, due to safety, finances and availability of services.

Youth centres are being closed. Young people feel left out and need more opportunities, safe and affordable spaces to go.

We need more night-time spaces not focused on alcohol.

What we will do:

ACTION	DELIVERY	WHEN
Create an evening and night panel for Camden	Camden believes in addressing the needs of people who are faced with disadvantage and inequalities. An Evening and Night-time panel will bring in a diversity of voices to address concerns and guide the future implementation of this strategy.	
Establish on the relaunched Love Camden website a detailed listing of inclusive evening & night-time events, opportunities and community facilities across Camden	We have relaunched an improved Love Camden website which can spotlight night-time activities, particularly those which are inclusive and affordable. We will further share a map of community centres and other community accessible spaces open after 6pm and the activities on offer.	
Work with local business groups to promote family friendly and inclusive non-alcohol led experiences in the early evening	We will engage with a range of community and faith groups to better understand their needs and feed this back to businesses, while continuing to create opportunities in council assets such as libraries.	

Case Study: The Black Cap and protection through planning policy

The Black Cap public house on Camden High Street dates back to at least the mid 1700s. By 1965, the pub had established itself as a prominent drag and cabaret venue and of significant importance to Camden and London's LGBTQ+ communities. The Black Cap has been closed since 2015 and subject to redevelopment plans by the owner that have not been accepted by the Council. Throughout this process, a number of



different planning policies have protected the previous use of the Black Cap. Assets of Community Value (ACV) designation has given emphasis to the role and importance of the pub as an LGBTQ+ venue, which has then been given material consideration by the Council when making planning decisions. The council have also maintained that the Black Cap's lawful use is 'sui generis', protecting it against a change of use. The ACV designation has galvanised community action, activists have kept alive the spirit and culture of the Black Cap, hosting drag and cabaret in local community centres. It is hoped that the pub will re-open in 2024.

SUPPORTING THE ECONOMY

Sharing benefits for businesses and night workers

Why this is important

We want Camden to be the place where night-time innovators, entrepreneurs and creatives can find a platform to reach new markets, customers and audiences. Through promoting and prioritising opportunities for local people and businesses, we make Camden a place which reflects local needs and builds up an economy which is affordable, high quality and sustainable.

In 2024 Camden's Licensing Committee will consider a refreshed five-year Statement of Licensing policy that will respond to the latest evidence in meeting the four licensing priorities, set out in legislation. Subject to the Licensing Committee's decision and a public consultation on the Licencing Policy, the council intends to put in place a policy that recognises different needs of different types of licensed premises and promote good practice in licensed activity with a management framework that can support growth of good businesses and good work. The actions below include a Licensing Charter as a mechanism to support that ambition.

What the Citizen's Assembly said:

Support local and independent businesses – keep our high streets unique.

Wealth disparity means that locals can't enjoy their own neighbourhood. An expensive night economy excludes people.

Protect and look after night workers by giving advice and increasing their rights as the 'forgotten shift'.

What we will do:

ACTION	DELIVERY	WHEN
Develop a business rates discount scheme to support grassroots music venues and Camden's cultural legacy	This is a challenging time for music and cultural venues, particularly at the grassroots level. We will support these venues through rates relief, reducing operating costs and contributing to their sustainability.	
Implement a Licensing Charter to complement our Statement of Licensing Policy, setting standards of best practice and incentivising good management in the evening and night-time	The Licensing Charter will acknowledge best practice measures that are likely to reduce crime and disorder and improve public safety associated with supply of alcohol, entertainment and late night food and provide a benchmark for license holders to demonstrate compliance.	



Engage with night workers, employers and trade unions to develop a support handbook for Night Working across all sectors

Approximately a third of Camden's workforce work in the evening and night-time. Data shows that night workers are often lower paid, have higher risks of poor health and wellbeing outcomes and suffer from social isolation. Night Workers are often not able to access the same levels of in-work support or mitigation from day-time noise disturbance compared to those working during daylight hours. Camden will build on existing good practice in employment support to provide resources and improve employment practices.

Pilot night markets where they can support evening and night-time vibrancy or be an asset to local communities

Night markets are an accessible and family-friendly night-time activity which can activate public realm and pedestrianised spaces in the borough, building local community and feelings of safety after 6pm.

Case Study: The Music Venues Trust and the Agent of Change Principle

The Agent of Change principle entered the National Planning Policy Framework in 2018, to manage noise complaints arising from urban development near established cultural and licensed venues. The principle states that it is the responsibility of the developer to mitigate the impact of sound disturbance for new residents and neighbours. The Music Venues Trust (MVT) are a national body that advocates for Grassroots Music Venues (GMVs) and provide support to venues affected by urban development, with 28 member venues in Camden as part of the Music Venues Alliance. In 2022 the MVT emergency response service saw a 187% increase in casework, a third of which were related to noise complaints which better consideration in development planning could have prevented. A reduction in licensable hours inhibits the venue's ability to trade viably, cuts off the talent pipeline for music and often results in a closure. The Music Venues Trust believe by working to truly understand and implement the agent of change principle from planning through to building control, we can support grassroots venues to continue to be cultural and economic drivers on our high streets. Camden's Local Plan already includes the Agent of Change principle and Camden's Future High Streets prospectus sees increasing culture and diversifying the uses in our high streets as a key part of their renewal.

LIVEABILITY AND WELLBEING

Living well in Camden at night

Why this is important

Taking part in leisure activities enriches our sense of well-being and for many this happens in the evening and night-time after work or school. Whether this is socialising, evening sports and fitness activities, visiting a local community centre or walking through green spaces. Camden's six leisure centres, operated by Better Leisure, are open until 10pm, both St Pancras and Swiss Cottage Libraries are open to 8pm Monday to Thursday and there are over 22 Community Centres in Camden who advertising core hours, private hire or regular activities past 6pm. Camden's parks are closed in the evenings with closing times changing seasonally between 4pm in the winter and 9:30pm in the Summer, with Russell Square open until 10pm all year round.

Wellbeing is enhanced by the local environment in which we live, and this needs to be managed well at night to reduce potentially negative health impacts. At the same time healthy lifestyles should be supported by access to key services at night, such as healthy food, fitness facilities and community spaces. Our new Camden Licensing Charter will also support this by encouraging good management, healthy food choices



and reducing air quality as well as reinforcing the process to reduce environmental health enforcement issues such as noise disturbances.

What the Citizen’s Assembly said:

Green spaces and sport are an important part of the evening and night-time: connecting people, helping wellbeing.

The night-time economy impacts on residents’ health: noise, lack of sleep, clean environments.

Encourage more welcoming venues aiming at people with underlying health conditions or disabilities.

What we will do:

ACTION	DELIVERY	WHEN
Promote recreation and wellbeing in the evening & night-time and use meanwhile opportunities to create safe, fun and inclusive recreational resources	We will use council assets and work with leisure centre operators to identify opportunities to extend health and fitness activities into the evening, with an emphasis on activities which are welcoming to excluded groups or are inclusive of all ages, genders, diverse backgrounds and lifestyles.	

Case Study: the Friday Night Project at Talacre Community Sports Centre

The Friday Night Project is an opportunity for 12 to 17 year olds to get active, socialise with their friends and have fun in a safe, supportive and neutral environment. Led by a team of friendly, trained staff and volunteers who have extensive experience in working with young people, it runs on the first Friday of every month at Talacre Community Sports Centre from 7:45pm to 10pm. The team offer a variety of activities at each event and work with our young people to create spaces be in active in their own ways. Talacre Community Sports Centre offers the perfect setting for young people to interact and get active in a safe environment, with coaches and volunteers on hand to support and offer advice.

CULTURE

Protecting our cultural heritage and nurturing the next generation

Why this is important

Inclusion is fundamental to growing creativity in Camden. Providing access to space, resources and funding to make this happen is central to developing Camden’s creative life at night which is reflective of our communities. Our cultural and artistic heritage needs to be celebrated and protected, but also championed and promoted to build up locally-owned cultural wealth. Strong networks make this happen, where cultural organisers have links to venues and workspaces as well as skills and expertise to develop their ideas.

To grow accessible and inclusive night-time activities, we are working with Cultural Camden to explore options for extending evening and night-time hours for cultural organisations and venues.



What the Citizen’s Assembly said:

Support real grassroots, local, and subculture venues. Small venues need to be valued for their support of local artists and musicians.

There is a lack of activities in community centres at night.

Put the onus on developers as the Agent of Change to protect venues.

What we will do:

ACTION	DELIVERY	WHEN
Run a high-profile campaign to promote Camden's ENT cultural calendar, the best late openings – including museums and galleries – and how residents and businesses can deliver great events at night	We will use the Love Camden website to coordinate our campaign, running spotlight features on the evening and night-time offer. We will engage with external providers to cross-promote and communicate consistent messages about the diversity of Camden’s cultural events and activities.	
Recruit cultural champions to engage our communities with the cultural opportunities in the borough, day and night	We will recruit cultural champions and will continue to work with them to reach communities which have historically been excluded from participation in night culture and night life in Camden.	
Using our levers in development and through licensing, support young producers and broker access for young people to equipment, studios, training and venues	Building on successes with the Roundhouse and Koko in creative programmes for young people, we will continue to support the development of spaces which develop creative and producing careers for the next generation.	

Case Study: Support for young people at the Roundhouse

The Roundhouse is a renowned venue in Camden, but it also supports around 8,000 young people a year across two dedicated sites for youth work; Roundhouse Studios – 20 state of the art studios and youth club for 11-25 year olds – and the second space is Roundhouse Works – a new workspace for creative freelancers and entrepreneurs to access sustainable careers in the creative industries. Both facilities are part of the Roundhouse’s offer to enable young people to perform on the main stages in the venue and develop their own audiences. These new artists are drawing diverse and younger audiences from the local community. The Roundhouse are committed to the local community and they prioritise Camden residents in their outreach work in schools, community centres and professional development programmes. The Roundhouse see these new audiences behaving differently, coming to support the artists for their work rather than simply as consumers on a night out. The Roundhouse’s independence means they can create employment and meaningful progression opportunities for local young people and freelance opportunities within the venue.



PLACES AT NIGHT

A safe and welcoming borough throughout the evening and night

Why this is important

Everyone deserves to be safe and feel safe in the evenings and night-time. Provision of safe spaces and signposting to trusted people and support makes our borough more welcoming and inclusive. Transport plays a major part in this, providing routes through Camden at night which should be user-friendly, affordable, comfortable and safe.

Planning policy tools such as the Agent of Change can help to create a more vibrant evening and night-time, building up communities around under-used places.

We also recognise that there is a good network of 24 hour public transport and would like to see this grow. We are continuing to lobby for protection and expansion of the Night Tube for better connectivity for residents, visitors and workers.

What the Citizen's Assembly said:

*Think about improving public realm so it's open at night: safe, warm, and engaging.
We'd like to see street markets open later, more summer events in our streets, and free hang out spots outside of home and work.
People are concerned about their safety, especially for the LGBTQ+ community and women as users of the night-time economy and workers.*

What we will do:

ACTION	DELIVERY	WHEN
Implement the Night Test to improve development management, area regeneration and public realm	The Night Test is a new approach being developed by the Mayor of London which will help guide development sites within the borough to be more supportive of night-time activity, relative to the local needs and context. This could positively impact better lighting, development of services and uses within the borough, and safer transport at night.	
Build on the experiences and success of delivering our safety hub in Camden Town and open new hubs in other ENT hotspots	We will expand safety hubs into more neighbourhood locations, while working with external providers such as faith groups to increase access to other types of safety hubs across the borough.	
Deliver a high-profile campaign on women's safety in venues and on the streets in the evening & night-time	We will ensure a joined-up approach in our communications which increase knowledge and awareness of council initiatives which promote women's safety at night, such as the Safety Bus, Camden Women's Forum, and support for those who have been victims of domestic abuse or sexual violence.	
Review how our evening and night-time hotspots are managed and work with local partners and the police to ensure there is active stewardship and on street problem solving	We will work across Council teams to address safety, policing, and environmental and waste management in night-time hot spots, bringing together initiatives such as a new toilet strategy for late night visitors and an integrated waste enforcement team.	



Work with TFL to continuously improve the safety and accessibility of night-time public transport as well as promote and facilitate active travel solutions

Through monitoring of night-time activity we will evidence the need for late night and 24-hour transport provision and safe travel hubs, as well as cycle routes and active travel sharing schemes.

Case Study: Camden Safety Hubs

Camden launched its first Safety Hub towards the end of 2022, helping nearly 1,000 people in Camden Town between 9pm and 2:30am to find their way safely home, get water, access phone chargers and – where appropriate – gain safe and confidential support and referrals to other support providers. Staff are also trained to signpost anyone who might be in need of help or assistance from the police or medical professionals. Promoting women’s safety in the evening and night-time economy is a priority for the Council and for the local Community Safety Partnership Board. Camden’s Women’s Safety Working group designs and implements a series of measures to tackle violence against women and girls in licensed venues. An active communications strategy focusses campaigns on safety and creates opportunities to work with licensed venues to understand insight from women, young people and other lived experience. This work is done in partnership with the local licensing team of the Metropolitan Police. Initiatives include; Pubwatch partnerships, data gathering, advice and guidance sessions with the Police and working towards full adoption of the ‘Ask for Angela’ scheme by writing to licensed premises.

STEWARDSHIP

We’ve got to keep working together to get this right.

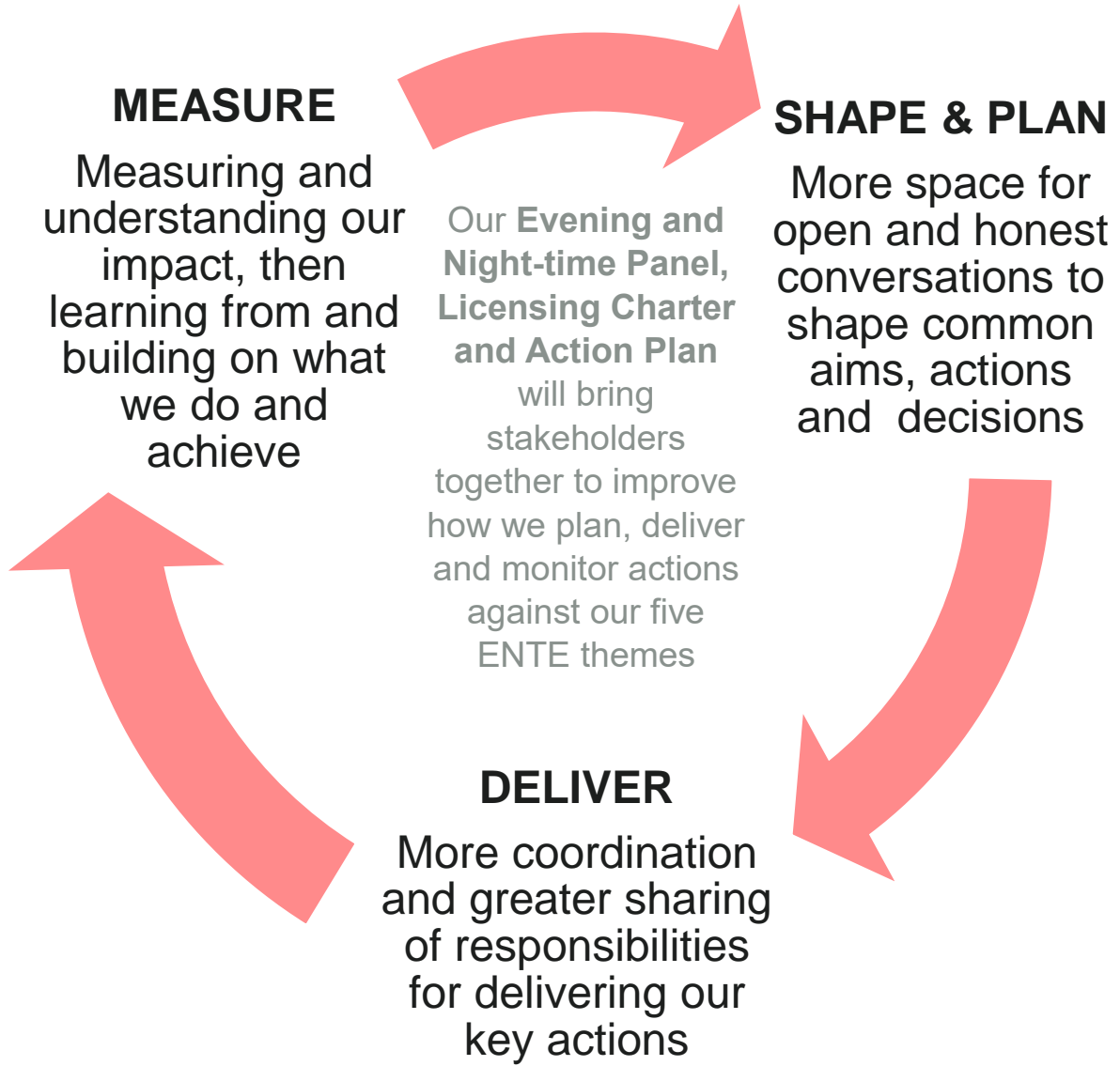
Through convening a Citizens Assembly to explore diverse views about Camden’s evening and night-time and shape this strategy, we have been able to embrace less heard voices and create space for a more positive dialogue about a range of important issues where viewpoints can often diverge tremendously.

To successfully deliver our ENTE strategy we must build on and take forward these firm foundations by:

- Creating space for an open, honest and ongoing dialogue about what we are doing, what works well and where we could do better;
- Recognising conflicting views and divergent needs, whilst seeking to deliver a balanced approach that works better for all Camden communities;
- Embracing new ways of working to deliver on our aims, which will include new tools and approaches to enable collaboration across Council teams and wider stakeholders and to empower local organisations as partners in delivery.

To this end, we will create an Evening and Night-time Panel made up of primarily of residents but including other stakeholders, who will act as stewards of the night-time strategy and establish a Licensing Charter to bring together businesses and venues around standards of practice. We will crystallise our shared aims and commitments within a detailed Action Plan to shape and guide the key actions delivered under each of our five themes, including clear provisions for overall governance and stewardship.





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