Consultation Report

Evening and night time strategy consultation

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Contents

Introduction

This report summarises the key priorities and concerns of residents, businesses, night workers, and visitors regarding Hackney's night-time economy (between 6 pm and 6 am). The data is drawn from a public consultation conducted to inform the development of a Night Time Strategy that addresses the needs of all stakeholders and allows the night-time economy to thrive.

Methodology & response rates

The online consultation gathered responses from 1,403 residents, 192 visitors, 78 businesses, and 115 night workers. The majority of respondents were residents (79%), followed by visitors (11%). Businesses and night workers had lower response rates (4% and 6%, respectively). This weighting should be considered when interpreting the results. The survey will be complemented by 3 in person night sessions to further delve into some of the main topics highlighted.

Executive Summary

The summary and responses in this report were taken from the raw survey results. These will be complimented by the night forum sessions and a final conclusive report will be drafted to combine both feedback mechanisms and outline the key components and aims of the night time strategy.

Resident Engagement
The consultation predominantly engaged residents (79%), with lower participation from businesses, visitors, and night workers. This limits the perspective of these groups.

Hackney's Appeal
Residents and visitors value Hackney's diverse evening and night-time offerings, including restaurants, pubs, events, and cultural activities.

Safety Concerns
Safety, particularly for women, is a paramount concern for all groups. Respondents emphasised the need for increased police presence, improved lighting, and addressing anti-social behaviour.

Vibrant Nightlife Desired
While residents enjoy Hackney's current offerings, they desire a more diverse and vibrant nightlife, including later opening hours, night markets, and outdoor activities.

Transportation Challenges
Inadequate late-night transportation options, including limited Overground and bus services, were highlighted as barriers to enjoying the night-time economy.

Business Needs
Businesses face challenges with inconsistent customer numbers, licensing restrictions, and safety concerns. They require support through business-friendly policies, financial incentives, and improved infrastructure.

Noise and Anti-Social Behaviour
Noise from nightlife venues and anti-social behaviour are significant concerns for residents, especially in residential areas. Quicker and better enforcement is needed to restore trust and confidence with residents.

Environmental Responsibility
Businesses demonstrate a commitment to sustainability, actively implementing measures to reduce their environmental impact.

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Inclusivity and Diversity
The need for more inclusive spaces catering to diverse communities, including LGBTQ+ and ethnic minorities, was emphasised

Perception of Safety
Overall, all groups generally felt "fairly safe" in Hackney at night, with a notable decline in the perception of safety in Dalston and Hackney East compared to Hackney North and Shoreditch. Shoreditch felt safest to most people, which is interesting considering it is one of the areas with higher levels of crime at night.

- **Residents:** Expressed the highest safety concerns. Hackney North and Shoreditch were perceived as safer, while Dalston and Hackney East elicited more "fairly unsafe" responses.
- **Visitors:** Reported similar safety perceptions to residents, with a slight preference for Dalston and Shoreditch over Hackney East.
- **Businesses:** Generally felt "fairly safe," with the lowest proportion of "very safe" responses compared to other groups. Concerns were more evenly distributed across all areas.
- **Night workers:** Night workers generally feel "fairly safe" across all areas in Hackney between 6pm and 6am. However, there's a notable concern in Dalston and Hackney East, where the percentage of those feeling "fairly unsafe" is higher compared to Hackney North and Shoreditch.

  While "fairly safe" was the predominant sentiment, addressing safety concerns, particularly in Dalston and Hackney East, is crucial for enhancing the night-time experience for all stakeholders.

Overall, the consultation highlights a strong desire for a vibrant, safe, and inclusive night-time economy in Hackney. Addressing concerns related to safety, transportation, business support, and enforcement is crucial for achieving this vision.

Overview of results

Residents

A total of 1,403 responses were received from residents out of 1,787 (79%).

"How often do you spend time outside the home in the London Borough of Hackney in the evening and night time (6 pm – 6 am)?":

The majority of residents (over 50%) report spending time outside the home on a daily basis, while over a quarter of respondents go out once a week. A smaller percentage go out less frequently, such as once a month or a few times a year.

	Count	%
Daily	680	49.71%
Once a week	471	34.43%
Once a month	72	5.26%
A few times a year	51	3.73%
Once a year	7	0.51%
Other	87	6.36%

141 comments from those who answered "other".

Several Times a Week (3-5 times) (45-50%):
The majority of respondents indicated that they spend time outside in Hackney several times a week. Examples: "3-4 times a week," "4 times a week," "3-5 times a week," "Most days."
A Couple of Times a Week (2-3 times) (30-35%):
A significant portion mentioned going out 2-3 times per week.
Rarely or Never (5-10%):
A smaller group of respondents said they rarely or never go out during the evening or nighttime. Examples: "Never as unsafe to do so," "None," "Very rarely."
More than 5 Times a Week (5-10%):
A few mentioned going out nearly every day or 5-6 times per week. Examples: "5-6 times a week," "Every other day," "As often as possible."

Question 3: "Which part of the London Borough of Hackney do you visit most often in the evening and night time (6 pm – 6 am)?":

	Count	%
Hackney East - Homerton, Hackney Central, London Fields, Hackney Wick	674	48.25%
Dalston	349	24.98%
Hackney North - Stoke Newington, Stamford Hill, Clapton	277	19.83%
Shoreditch	97	6.94%

These results show that **Hackney East** is the most visited area by far, followed by **Dalston** and **Hackney North**, with **Shoreditch** being less frequently visited by residents compared to the other areas.

Question 4: "Outside of work, what type of activities do you participate in (multiple choice question)?

1,401 responses from residents

	Count	%
Restaurants, cafes or dining	1250	89.22%
Pubs and drinking (alcohol)	1104	78.80%
Relaxing (at home)	1030	73.52%
Seeing a live performance	714	50.96%
Attending an event or festival	704	50.25%
Sport and fitness	626	44.68%
Dancing or clubbing	611	43.61%
Shopping	494	35.26%
Attending a community event or meeting	299	21.34%
Education and training	87	6.21%
Caring for a loved one	83	5.92%
Other	79	5.64%

116 Comments from people who responded "other":

Walking and Outdoor Activities (30-35%):

Many respondents mentioned walking, often with dogs, and relaxing in public parks or along canals. Examples: "Walking my dog," "Evening walks," "Walking in the parks," "Relaxing in public parks."

Visiting Friends and Socialising (20-25%):

A large portion of responses indicated spending time with friends, neighbours, or family, either at home or in outdoor spaces. Examples: "Visiting friends," "Meeting friends in the park," "Socialising outdoors."

Cinema and Theatre (15-20%):

Cinema is a popular activity, with multiple mentions of specific venues, along with some attending theatre performances. Examples: "Going to the cinema," "Theatre," "Films / cinema."

Music and Creative Activities (5-10%):

Several responses mentioned participating in musical activities, rehearsals, or attending art events and exhibitions. Examples: "Rehearsing or making music," "Band rehearsal spaces," "Going to exhibitions," "Art openings."

Markets and Community Events (5-10%):

Some respondents highlighted attending night markets, street parties, or LGBT+ events. Examples: "Markets and night markets," "Street party," "LGBT+ events."

Work and Errands (5-10%):

A smaller group mentioned working during the evening or running errands like grocery shopping. Examples: "Work," "Getting home," "Going grocery shopping."

Exercise and Sports (5-10%):

A few respondents mentioned going to the gym, salsa classes, or other physical activities. Examples: "Gym," "Tennis," "Salsa."

Relaxation and Challenges (5-10%):

Some individuals noted relaxing at home or in parks, though a few mentioned challenges like noise pollution. Examples: "Relaxing in parks," "Trying to relax at home."

Question 5: "What do you think about when choosing where to spend your time and money at night?(multiple choice question)":

	Count	%
Supporting local businesses	983	70.92%
Cost and affordability	969	69.91%
Supporting creativity, musicians, artists and performers	841	60.68%
Contributing to and taking part in your local community	716	51.66%
Supporting businesses/workers (disadvantaged backgrounds)	413	29.80%
Supporting fair working conditions for people working at night	394	28.43%
Sustainability commitments	368	26.55%
Supporting start-up businesses	303	21.86%
Other	89	6.42%

128 answers to "If Other, please specify:"

Safety (20-25%):

Safety was a frequent concern, particularly how safe the area feels and how easy it is to travel home. Examples: "Safety is it safe to travel home," "Walk back, safety of the road," "Safe cycling or walking to venue."

Quality and Enjoyment (20-25%):

Many respondents prioritise the quality of the experience, food, music, or atmosphere when choosing a venue. Examples: "Quality of the event," "Good vibes," "Having fun," "High quality, unique places."

Location and Convenience (15-20%):

The proximity to home and ease of transportation, including parking and public transport routes, were significant factors. Examples: "Close to home," "Convenience," "Easiest public route home."

Support for LGBTQIA+ and Queer Venues (10-15%):

Many people mentioned specifically choosing LGBTQ+ friendly spaces and queer venues to support the community. Examples: "Supporting LGBTQ venues," "Queer and music venues," "LGBTQ/queer friendly and safe spaces."

Late Night Opening and Atmosphere (5-10%):

Some respondents noted looking for venues that stay open late, especially if they work late or prefer staying out. Examples: "Late night opening venues," "Venues that stay open later."

Local and Independent Businesses (5-10%):

Several people highlighted the importance of supporting local, independent, and long-standing businesses in Hackney. Examples: "Supporting businesses that have been around," "Independent restaurants and pubs."

Affordability and Value for Money (5-10%):

Price and value for money were noted by some respondents as key factors. Examples: "Reasonably priced," "Good value for money."

Accessibility (5-10%):

Accessibility for disabled people, including access to venues without steps, was mentioned by some respondents. Examples: "Mobility issues," "Access for disabled people," "Accessibility and comfort."

These percentages reflect the most common factors people consider when spending time and money at night in Hackney, with safety, quality, and location being the top considerations.

Question 6: How often do you go to a music event (e.g. gig, concert or nightclub):

	Count	%
Once every 3 months	307	21.93%
Once a month	306	21.86%
2-3 times a month	242	17.29%
Once every 6 months	197	14.07%
Rarely or never	131	9.36%
Once a week	95	6.79%
Once a year	91	6.50%
More than once a week	31	2.21%

Question 7: "Which of the following would encourage you to spend time outside the home in Hackney in the evening and night time more often?(multiple choice question)":

	Count	%
Night markets and street food in public spaces	959	70.20%
More concerts, events and live performances	882	64.57%
Outdoor dining	878	64.28%
Special offers with local businesses/restaurants	662	48.46%
Free activities	570	41.73%
Better transport options or connections	431	31.55%
Community spaces/halls open at night	382	27.96%
Activities for young people	206	15.08%
Activities for children and families	199	14.57%
More educational/training opportunities	164	12.01%
Other	131	9.59%

Night markets and street food in public space - *Respondents cited Hackney East, Dalston and Stoke Newington as areas needed more evening activity.*

216 answers to "If Other, please specify:"

Safety (40-45%):

Safety is a major concern, with many people mentioning a need for safer streets, better lighting, and more police presence. Examples: "Safer streets," "Police presence," "Feeling safe as a woman walking home alone."

Later Opening Hours (20-25%):

Many respondents expressed a desire for venues, restaurants, and bars to stay open later. Examples: "Later opening times," "Late night venues," "More options past 11pm."

Cleaner, More Pleasant Environment (10-15%):

Some respondents mentioned the need for cleaner streets, less noise, and fewer aggressive beggars or intoxicated individuals. Examples: "Cleaner streets," "Less aggressive begging," "Less anti-social behaviour."

More LGBTQ+ and Queer Spaces (5-10%):

Several people mentioned the need for more LGBTQ+ friendly venues and events. Examples: "More LGBTQ+ spaces," "Queer venues," "LGBT activities."

Community and Non-Alcohol-Based Spaces (5-10%):

Some respondents wanted more options for socialising that don't revolve around alcohol, such as community events or café culture. Examples: "Café culture," "Non-alcohol-based spaces," "Community events."

More Affordable or Local Events (5-10%):

A few people mentioned affordability and local resident discounts as motivators for spending more time out. Examples: "Local resident discounts," "More affordable events."

Improved Cycling and Transportation (5-10%):

Respondents mentioned better cycling routes, safer cycling, and more accessible public transportation options. Examples: "Safer cycling routes," "Improved public transport."

Question 8: How much do you spend on a typical night out in Hackney?

1,398 residents answered this question.

	Count	%
£50+	451	32.26%
£30 - £39.99	292	20.89%
£20 - £29.99	286	20.46%
£40 - £49.99	241	17.24%
£10 - £19.99	96	6.87%
£0 - £9.99	32	2.29%

Question 9: Please include any comments on what you would like to see more of in the evening/night time.

519 responses from residents

1. Safety and Security (35% of responses)

A significant portion of respondents emphasise the need for better safety measures. They request more visible police patrols, better street lighting, and enhanced safety for women and marginalised groups at night. Issues like phone theft, drug use, and anti-social behaviour were frequently mentioned.

2. Later Licensing and Extended Opening Hours (30% of responses)

Many respondents advocate for longer opening hours for bars, clubs, and restaurants, arguing that early closures stifle Hackney's nightlife. They call for licensing rules to be relaxed, allowing venues to operate later, similar to other European cities.

3. Diverse and Inclusive Spaces (20% of responses)

A considerable number of respondents express a desire for more inclusive spaces for LGBTQ+, people of colour, and older residents. They want venues that offer events beyond drinking and clubbing, as well as non-alcohol-based options like late-night cafes or community hubs.

4. Outdoor and Community Spaces (20% of responses)

Outdoor seating, street dining, and community-driven events (such as night markets, outdoor cinemas, and street parties) are popular suggestions. Respondents want more opportunities to socialise outdoors, especially during the summer months.

5. Transport and Infrastructure (15% of responses)

Respondents cite a lack of reliable late-night transport, calling for better night bus services, extended Overground hours, and improved cycling routes to make it easier and safer to travel around Hackney at night.

6. Noise Control and Resident Concerns (15% of responses)

A significant group of respondents raise concerns about noise from nightlife venues, particularly in residential areas. They ask for stricter noise control measures to ensure residents aren't disturbed, while still allowing the night economy to thrive in commercial areas.

7. Support for Local and Independent Businesses (10% of responses)

Some respondents emphasise the importance of supporting local, independent businesses and artists, calling for more pop-up events, live performances, and protections against commercial gentrification. They want Hackney to retain its unique, independent culture.

Question 10: How safe or unsafe do you feel in the following areas between 6pm – 6am?

Hackney North - Stoke Newington, Stamford Hill, Clapton

	Count	%
Fairly safe	840	62.13%
Very safe	230	17.01%
Fairly unsafe	228	16.86%
Very unsafe	54	3.99%

Dalston

	Count	%
Fairly safe	750	55.03%
Very safe	346	25.39%
Fairly unsafe	140	10.27%
Very unsafe	127	9.32%

Shoreditch

	Count	%
Fairly safe	820	60.56%
Very safe	256	18.91%
Fairly unsafe	213	15.73%
Very unsafe	65	4.80%

Hackney East - Homerton, Hackney Central, London Fields, Hackney Wick

	Count	%
Fairly safe	785	57.22%
Very safe	272	19.83%

Fairly unsafe	213	15.52%
Very unsafe	102	7.43%

Question 11: How could the council improve women's safety in public spaces between 6pm and 6am?

793 responses from residents

1. Increased Police Presence (40% of responses)

A large portion of respondents request more visible policing, particularly at night, around hotspots such as train stations, parks, and areas known for antisocial behaviour and crime. This includes foot patrols and female officers, as well as community safety officers.

"More police presence, particularly on Hackney road. More bus and transport options."

"Have more police presence. Take more action towards the antisocial groups of drug users and drug dealers who congregate around Mare Street."

"Visible police/ security presence. Good street lighting."

2. Better Street Lighting (30% of responses)

Many suggest improving lighting in parks, side streets, residential areas, and near public transport hubs. Dark corners and poorly lit paths were frequently cited as making women feel unsafe.

"Better lighting, more CCTV around Ridley Road market and the adjacent streets."

"Again, having places opened later which attract people would help... If I see a light at the end of the road such as an off-licence or a pub that is open, then I feel safer."

"More lights, especially in parks and along paths like the canal."

3. Community and Support Initiatives (25% of responses)

Respondents recommend creating safe spaces such as cafes or shops open later at night to foster passive surveillance. Additional suggestions include the introduction of community patrols, night-time safety hubs, safe routes, and education campaigns targeting men and boys to address gender-based violence and harassment.

"Allow more late opening spaces for passive surveillance. I feel safer when I pass by places that are busy, with street spill-out."

"More spaces for young people to hang out and engage. Support for homeless people. Spaces for safe substance use to decrease harm reduction."

"Have volunteer neighbourhood watch patrols to create a safe presence."

4. Public Transport Improvements (20% of responses)

Suggestions include extending public transport hours, increasing the frequency of night buses, and adding shuttle services in quieter areas to reduce the need for long, isolated walks home. Some respondents also suggest that taxi services work on better ensuring safe pickup for women travelling alone.

"Better transport connections to reduce walking when coming home late alone."

"More regular night buses, more frequent buses. Safer bus stops with better lighting."

"Late night overground to make it safer to travel back home at night"

5. Addressing Anti-social Behaviour (20% of responses)

This includes tackling issues related to drug use, loitering, and public drinking. Many emphasise the need for more action on reducing public intoxication, drug-related issues, and antisocial groups that make women feel unsafe.

"Dealing with the amount of drunk, drug addicts who hang around Mare Street/St Mungo's. They openly buy and consume drugs."

"The streets feel unsafe due to large groups of men, often drunk or high, hanging around parks and outside shops. These groups need to be dispersed."

"Stop the aggressive begging and antisocial behaviour. I've been followed by men demanding money, and some of my friends have had to withdraw cash at ATMs under pressure."

6. Improved Infrastructure (15% of responses)

Some mention adding more CCTV cameras, making streets cleaner, and enhancing the design of public spaces to eliminate hiding spots. Better-maintained public spaces were also linked to increased perceptions of safety.

"Better lighting and cameras. Night community officers on bikes. Reduce the amount of loitering around the train station and nearby."

"More lights in streets. Security dotted around, free Lime bikes to get home quickly, especially near stations."

7. Educational Campaigns and Cultural Change (15% of responses)

A number of responses highlight the need for education on consent and respect, aiming to shift cultural attitudes toward women. This includes campaigns to promote respectful behavior and workshops or school programs focused on raising awareness about sexual harassment and gender-based violence.

"Educate men and boys on how to be allies. Plus break up groups of men who linger and make comments/follow you in the dark."

"Better education for young men! Addressing toxic masculinity and respect towards women should be part of schooling."

"We need long-term prevention, like education on sexual harassment, consent, and respect for all ages of children/teenagers of all genders."

Question 12: What makes you feel less safe?

1,385 responses from residents

	Count	%
Antisocial behaviour and loitering	1053	76.03%
Lack of lighting	910	65.70%
Street harassment	801	57.83%
Very quiet areas	684	49.39%
Streets and spaces which are not cleaned or need repair	641	46.28%
Lack of a uniformed presence	601	43.39%
Vacant high street units	420	30.32%
Very busy areas	84	6.06%
Other	64	4.62%

174 answers to "If Other, please specify:" -

1. Drug Dealing and Open Drug Use (20%)

A significant number of respondents are concerned about open drug use and drug dealing in specific areas of Hackney. These activities not only make them feel unsafe but contribute to an overall sense of neglect and disorder in public spaces.

"Drugs being sold openly on Ridley Road, Ritson Road, and across Dalston. Gangs of thugs on bikes, crack heads everywhere & homeless people."

"Drug dealing in the shanty town adjacent to St Marks Rise."

2. Groups of People and Loitering (15%)

Groups of people, particularly teens or young men, loitering in public spaces are a common concern. While some recognize that not all loitering

is problematic, many associate these groups with intimidation, harassment, or potential violence. Some respondents feel that the police should address this issue more actively.

"Groups of teens loitering around McDonald's, Pret, and Kingsland Road in Dalston are scary. They should be sent home regularly by the police."

"Large groups of men loitering and calling out to women who walk past, pestering them."

3. Aggressive Begging and Homelessness (20%)

Homelessness and begging are frequently mentioned as contributing factors to the feeling of unsafety, particularly when beggars behave aggressively. Respondents feel that more should be done to provide support for these individuals.

"Aggressive beggars, people who wear balaclavas on bikes."

"Homeless people drinking all day and harassing residents on Broadway Market."

4. Violent Crime: Shootings, Stabbings, and Theft (25%)

Several respondents reported concerns about violent crimes, including shootings, stabbings, and thefts. There is a sense of increasing violence in certain areas, with some people feeling anxious or afraid to walk around, especially at night.

"Shootings, stabbings, theft of bicycles/phones with intimidation."

"There have been several shootings very close to where I live. It's not nice to think you could get caught in a crossfire."

5. Public Drunkenness and Late-Night Activity (10%)

People are often disturbed by late-night activity near bars, where drunk individuals spill out onto the streets. Public drunkenness can lead to harassment, noise, and antisocial behaviour, making residents feel unsafe.

"The actions of intoxicated individuals at the time that venues close and the customers spill out onto the street."

"Bus stops located next to bars can result in harassment from drunk people while waiting for the bus."

6. Poorly Lit Streets and Unsafe Environments (15%)

Poor lighting in certain areas, particularly in parks and along the canal, makes people feel unsafe, especially at night. Some respondents have suggested that better lighting could improve their sense of safety.

"The canal needs lights, especially under bridges."

"London Fields is probably one of the most well-lit parks once it's dark, but Hackney Downs, Mabley Green, etc., have the dimmest street lights and surrounding roads/alternative routes are long-winded and eerily quiet."

7. E-Bikes, Scooters, and Dangerous Driving (5%)

The behaviour of cyclists, scooter riders, and dangerous drivers is also a concern, particularly when they travel at high speeds on footpaths or ignore traffic rules. Respondents feel that these activities create unsafe conditions for pedestrians.

"E-bikes and scooters ridden too fast and dangerously, not obeying traffic rules."

"Cyclists and mopeds on footpaths make pedestrians feel unsafe."

8. Lack of Visible Policing or Over-Policing (5%)

Some respondents feel that the absence of police presence contributes to their sense of unsafety, particularly in areas where crime is high. Conversely, others feel that a heavy police presence or certain police actions (such as stop-and-search) can make them feel more unsafe, especially in communities with strained relations with law enforcement.

"A man was stabbed near where I live, and I received a letter saying there was an increase in police in the area, but I didn't see any extra police."

"Police, community police officers always make me feel unsafe, especially for queer people."

9. Anti-social Behaviour in Public Spaces (10%)

In addition to violence and loitering, general antisocial behaviour such as public intoxication, littering, and harassment in public spaces like parks, streets, and around transportation hubs is a recurring concern. These issues detract from the feeling of community and make public spaces feel more threatening.

"Occasional aggy homeless people, loitering near parks or public places, harassing passersby."

"In Hackney Wick at night, there's a lot of heavy drug use and antisocial behaviour."

10. Lack of Maintenance or Stewardship (5%)

Some respondents mentioned that areas that are visibly neglected or poorly maintained make them feel less safe. Litter, broken streetlights, and general disrepair create an environment that seems conducive to crime and antisocial behaviour.

"Visual dirt, litter, and a sense of a lack of stewardship make areas feel unsafe."

"Glyn Road and Roding Road used to be lovely family streets. Now they are littered, eerie, and weird, with strange people loitering."

Question 13: How easy or difficult do you find it to navigate Hackney at night, either by walking, cycling, driving or public transport?

Walking - 1,399 responses

	Count	%
Very easy	646	46.18%
Fairly easy	625	44.67%
Fairly difficult	86	6.15%
Very difficult	29	2.07%
Not sure	13	0.93%

Cycling - 1,348 responses

	Count	%
Fairly easy	461	34.20%
Very easy	438	32.49%
Not sure	311	23.07%
Fairly difficult	101	7.49%
Very difficult	37	2.74%

Driving - 1,388 responses

	Count	%
Not sure	697	52.09%
Fairly easy	197	14.72%
Fairly difficult	172	12.86%
Very difficult	163	12.18%
Very easy	109	8.15%

Public Transport - 1,387

	Count	%
Fairly easy	752	54.22%
Very easy	313	22.57%
Fairly difficult	258	18.60%
Very difficult	52	3.75%
Not sure	12	0.87%

Question 14: What kind of transport improvements would make it easier for you to spend time in Hackney in the evening and night time?.

813 responses from residents

1. More Frequent and Extended Hours of Public Transport (50%)

Overground and Buses: Many respondents feel that extended hours for the Overground, particularly past midnight, would significantly improve access to Hackney. The Overground is often seen as unreliable and shuts down too early. Similarly, respondents mentioned the need for more frequent bus services, especially night buses. Example:

- *"Later overground services. More regular night buses."*
- *"Night Overground between Dalston and Stratford."*

2. Cycling Infrastructure and Safety (25%)

Dedicated Cycle Lanes: Many comments focused on the lack of dedicated cycling lanes, making cycling dangerous at night. There's a desire for more segregated lanes and better lighting to make night time cycling safer.

Additionally, some respondents mentioned the need for better-maintained roads for cyclists, as potholes and uneven surfaces make it risky. Example:

- *"More cycle lanes on major roads, it's unsafe as it is."*
- *"Dedicated cycle lanes along streets like Mare Street, Stoke Newington High Street."*

Bike Parking: Another frequent suggestion was the need for more secure bike parking facilities, particularly near popular venues and transport hubs. Example:

- *"More bike parking, especially well-lit and safe areas."*

3. Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) and Road Access (20%)

Opposition to LTNs: Several respondents expressed frustration with the impact of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs), feeling that they have made driving difficult and increased traffic on main roads, making them unsafe for pedestrians and cyclists. There were also complaints about taxis and Ubers not being able to navigate through the borough efficiently due to the LTNs. Example:

- *"Remove LTNs or make them active only during certain hours."*
- *"LTNs have made residential areas unsafe due to deserted streets at night."*

Parking and Road Access: Some respondents highlighted the need for better parking options, particularly for residents and people with mobility issues. Additionally, calls to reopen certain side streets to traffic for easier access were frequent. Example:

- *"More parking, especially for older residents."*
- *"Allow local residents to drive through LTNs after peak hours."*

4. Safety Concerns and Better Lighting (15%)

Street Lighting: Many respondents feel unsafe walking through poorly lit streets, especially around transport hubs or on quiet side streets. Suggestions included better lighting at bus stops, Overground stations, and along key walking routes. Example:

- *"Better lighting on main roads and walking paths to bus stops."*
- *"Improve safety by installing more lights on canal paths and paks."*

Public Safety: Respondents expressed concerns about anti-social behaviour, particularly around bus stops. Some suggestions include having

more police presence or security at night and better enforcement of speed limits to reduce dangerous driving. Example:

- *"More patrols at key transport hubs and on buses to address antisocial behaviour."*

5. Affordable Travel Options (5%)

Cheaper Night Travel: Some respondents suggested making night travel more affordable, particularly for those who feel unsafe taking public transport at night but cannot afford taxis or Ubers. Example:

- *"Cheaper fares at night to encourage safe travel."*
- *"Free or subsidised transport options for vulnerable groups, especially women."*

Question 15: What types of improvements to the public realm (e.g. public spaces, parks, squares and pavements) would most improve your evening and night time experience in Hackney?

	Count	%
Better lighting	944	70.03%
Better street maintenance and cleaning	859	63.72%
More planting and green spaces	812	60.24%
More public seating	541	40.13%
More bicycle parking	522	38.72%
Other	81	6.01%

236 answers to "If Other, please specify:"

Safety and Police Presence (30%)

Increased Police Presence (20%): A significant portion of respondents called for more visible police or security officers, especially in public spaces, parks, and streets. Many feel unsafe at night due to anti-social behaviour, drug use, and aggressive individuals.

CCTV and Lighting (10%): Several respondents mentioned the need for more lighting, particularly in parks and poorly lit areas, along with CCTV in key areas to deter crime and improve overall safety.

Cleanliness and Waste Management (25%)

Public Toilets (15%): A frequent concern was the lack of public toilets, leading to people urinating in public. Many believe that more public toilets would help keep the streets cleaner and improve the nighttime experience.

Street Cleaning (10%): Respondents also emphasised the need for regular cleaning of streets, especially in busy areas like Dalston and Hackney Central. Overflowing bins, rubbish on the streets, and general filth were noted as key issues.

Public Amenities and Infrastructure (25%)

More Secure Bike Parking (10%): Many respondents noted the need for secure bike parking and improvements in cycle lanes, especially with issues related to Lime bikes cluttering the streets.

Improved Pavements and Public Spaces (10%): Residents expressed the need for better-maintained pavements, free of trip hazards, and the expansion of public spaces like pedestrian streets or areas for street dining. There were also calls for more benches and social spaces.

Traffic and Transport (5%): Several respondents wanted better control over traffic, with some calling for fewer Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) and better parking options for residents and visitors alike.

Social and Cultural Enhancements (15%)

Outdoor Spaces for Events and Dining (10%): Many would like to see more street food markets, night markets, and outdoor dining spaces. Some called for more community events and cultural activities, like street parties or outdoor cinemas.

More Family-Friendly Spaces (5%): A few respondents wanted spaces that cater to families and non-drinkers, with more diverse activities beyond just nightlife, such as safe parks and areas for children and families to gather.

Miscellaneous (5%)

Reduction of Anti-Social Behaviour (5%): A minority of responses suggested stricter controls on anti-social behaviour, particularly from individuals loitering or drinking in parks. Some felt that public seating should be reduced to discourage such activities.

Question 16: Please leave any additional comments on evening and night time public realm improvements.

223 answers to "Please leave any additional comments on evening and night time public realm improvements."

1. Licensing and Business Support (25%)

Extended opening hours: Around **25%** of respondents support later licences for pubs, bars, and restaurants, arguing that Hackney's nightlife should align with other European cities by extending closing times to midnight or 1 AM. They believe this would reduce binge drinking and allow for a more relaxed evening culture.

Business-friendly policies: About **10%** emphasise the importance of supporting local businesses by making it easier for them to obtain outdoor licences, with a focus on creating more alfresco dining spaces and outdoor venues. These respondents see the nighttime economy as vital to the borough's cultural and economic vibrancy.

2. Safety and Policing (30%)

Increased police presence: Around **20%** of respondents express concerns about safety at night, particularly in areas like Dalston, Ridley Road, and Shoreditch. They call for more visible policing to tackle issues like phone theft, drug dealing, and antisocial behaviour.

Better lighting: Approximately **10%** of comments emphasise the need for improved street lighting in dark alleys, parks, and residential streets. Respondents highlight this as critical for making people, especially women and vulnerable individuals, feel safer when walking at night.

3. Cleanliness and Maintenance (20%)

Street cleanliness: Roughly **15%** of respondents express frustration with the state of Hackney's streets after nighttime activities, pointing to litter from pubs and takeaways, overflowing bins, and unsightly rubbish in public spaces like Ridley Road and Mare Street. They suggest businesses should contribute more to post-night cleaning efforts.

Maintenance of public spaces: About **5%** call for better maintenance of green spaces and parks, with suggestions for more regular cleaning, power washing of streets, and better litter management, especially in popular nightlife areas.

4. Noise and Antisocial Behaviour (15%)

Noise pollution: Around **10%** of respondents cite excessive noise as a significant issue, particularly in residential areas near nightlife hubs. They mention loud music, shouting, and disturbances from late-night parties and house gatherings as common complaints. Many request stronger enforcement of noise limits and soundproofing for venues.

Antisocial behaviour: Approximately **5%** express concerns about antisocial behaviour, particularly public urination, littering, and aggressive behaviour near pubs and clubs. Some suggest more fines and stricter enforcement to address these problems.

5. Public Amenities and Spaces (15%)

More public toilets: About **5%** of respondents call for more accessible public toilets, especially around nightlife areas like London Fields and Broadway Market. The lack of public restrooms is seen as a contributor to public urination and poor hygiene.

Outdoor seating and community spaces: Another **5%** suggest creating more well-maintained public seating areas and outdoor spaces where people can gather safely at night. They also propose turning unused spaces into community hubs with cultural activities like pop-up events or outdoor markets.

Parks and green spaces: Around **5%** ask for improved lighting and security in parks to make them safer at night. They also suggest extending the opening hours of parks or using them for community events in the evenings.

6. Inclusivity and Diversity (10%)

More inclusive spaces: Approximately **5%** of comments mention the lack of venues catering to specific communities, such as LGBTQ+ spaces or venues for ethnic minorities. Some respondents feel that recent nightlife changes have disproportionately affected these groups, leading to fewer culturally relevant or safe spaces.

Diverse nighttime options: Another **5%** highlight the need for a broader range of nighttime activities beyond drinking and clubbing. Suggestions include late-night cafés, live music venues, cultural events, and spaces for older adults or those who prefer quieter socialising options.

Question 17: How does the evening and night-time offer impact your living experience as a resident in Hackney?

Positive Impacts (Approximately 50% of responses)

Vibrant Community (25%): Many residents (around a quarter) emphasised that Hackney's vibrant nightlife, cultural venues, restaurants, and bars are key reasons why they love living in the area. They appreciate the diverse social offerings and the convenience of having entertainment options locally. Several respondents mentioned that the nightlife is essential to Hackney's identity, and they feel it enhances their social life and community connections.

Cultural Importance (10%): A smaller but significant portion (about 10%) highlighted the cultural and LGBTQ+ nightlife as central to Hackney's identity. Some respondents shared that this aspect of nightlife contributes significantly to their personal sense of belonging and community, with venues like Dalston Superstore offering inclusive spaces that many feel should be protected and supported.

Social and Economic Benefits (15%): Roughly 15% of residents appreciate the economic and social benefits that come with the night time economy, such as job creation, community building, and a strong sense of belonging. Some even mentioned that Hackney's nightlife is the primary reason they continue to live in the borough, and they want to see more spaces with late licences to keep the area lively.

Negative Impacts (Approximately 50% of responses)

Noise and Anti-social Behavior (20%): Around 20% of residents raised concerns about noise from late-night patrons, loud music, and anti-social behaviour like shouting, urinating in public, or street fights. Many cited specific examples, such as constant disturbances from nearby venues, parties, and crowds that spill out into residential streets after closing time, especially after 11:00 PM. Some have had to resort to secondary glazing on windows to reduce the noise or wear earplugs at night. Most of these residents were located in the Shoreditch area.

Safety Concerns (15%): About 15% of respondents expressed concerns about safety, particularly at night. These include fears of harassment, drug-related activity, loitering, and feeling unsafe when walking home, especially for women and vulnerable groups. A few mentioned feeling unsafe walking home alone and that they often have to rely on taxis due to limited late-night public transport options.

Litter and Cleanliness (10%): Another 10% of residents mentioned issues with litter, broken glass, and unclean streets as major concerns following busy nights. They pointed out the need for more public toilets and additional street cleaning

after events. Some specifically cited problems with people urinating on the streets, and venues not being held accountable for the litter created by patrons.

Gentrification and Commercialization (5%): A smaller percentage (around 5%) discussed the negative effects of gentrification and commercialization of Hackney's nightlife. They noted that rising rents and living costs are driving away local creatives and small businesses, making the nightlife scene feel less authentic. Some also expressed concerns about the reduction in affordable options for venues, limiting the cultural diversity that makes Hackney unique.

Suggestions for Improvement (Highlighted in 40% of responses, overlapping with both positive and negative aspects)

Better Waste Management and Cleanliness (15%): About 15% of residents suggested improvements such as installing more public toilets and increasing street cleaning to address the issue of litter and public urination after late-night events. Several respondents noted that festivals and nightlife events leave the streets dirty, impacting the overall experience for residents.

Enhanced Safety Measures (10%): Approximately 10% of residents want more street lighting, better public transport options, and more visible policing to improve nighttime safety. Some suggested having more non-alcoholic nighttime options to create safer environments, while others recommended that the council invest in noise control enforcement.

Balanced Licensing (5%): Around 5% expressed the need for balanced licensing, where late-night venues are supported but better regulated to reduce their impact on residential areas. Residents suggested that licensing should consider the local community's concerns, balancing the need for a vibrant nightlife with respect for residential areas. Some highlighted the need for greater regulation of outdoor seating areas and sound levels.

More Diverse Offerings (10%): Roughly 10% of residents are calling for more non-alcoholic, family-friendly, and culturally diverse nighttime activities, such as food markets, late-night cafés, and community events. These residents feel that offering more options beyond bars and clubs could make Hackney's nightlife more inclusive and appealing to a wider demographic.

Diverse Perspectives

Younger residents and those without children (around 30%) are more likely to support an expanded nightlife with fewer restrictions, emphasising the benefits of a vibrant and lively neighbourhood. They enjoy the variety of activities and believe it enhances Hackney's cultural appeal.

Families and older residents (20%) often express concerns about noise and safety, calling for more control over the nighttime economy to mitigate its negative impacts on residential areas. Many in this group suggested that the council should prioritise managing noise and anti-social behaviour from nightlife venues.

Question 18: Do you have any other comments or concerns about Hackney's evening and night time that you want to share?

483 residents responded

Concerns About Safety and Anti-Social Behavior (Approximately 35% of responses)

Safety Concerns and Lack of Police Presence (15%): A significant portion of respondents expressed concerns about safety, particularly with the increase in crime, drug-related activities, and harassment, especially for women and vulnerable groups. Several residents called for more visible policing, CCTV cameras, and better street lighting to deter anti-social behaviour.

Aggressive Begging and Homelessness (10%): Many respondents mentioned issues with aggressive beggars and a noticeable presence of homeless individuals in popular areas, which they believe contributes to an unsafe environment.

Drug Use and Anti-Social Behavior (10%): The presence of drug users and dealers, especially in areas like Mare Street and Dalston, was frequently mentioned as creating an unsettling and dangerous atmosphere at night.

Noise and Disruption (Approximately 25% of responses)

Noise Pollution from Venues and Patrons (15%): Residents living near nightlife venues expressed frustrations about noise late at night, including loud music, shouting, and street disturbances. Some believe venues are not adequately managing their patrons, especially when they leave at closing time.

Late Night Licences in Residential Areas (10%): A smaller percentage of residents are concerned about late licences for pubs and clubs in residential areas, noting that these create additional noise and disrupt sleep for families and working individuals.

Support for Hackney's Nightlife (Approximately 20% of responses)

Preservation of Nightlife Venues (10%): Some residents feel strongly about preserving Hackney's nightlife and cultural venues, which they believe contribute to the borough's vibrancy. They emphasised the importance of not over-regulating or restricting venues with noise complaints and licensing issues.

More Diverse Nighttime Activities (10%): Several respondents would like to see more diverse nighttime offerings that do not revolve around alcohol, such as late-night cafés, arts spaces, and youth-oriented activities.

Issues with Licensing and Regulation (Approximately 10% of responses)

Restrictive Licensing and Early Closures (5%): A number of respondents complained about restrictive licensing laws and early closure times for pubs and bars, which they feel stifle Hackney's night time economy. Some believe that extending opening hours would enhance the community's vibrancy.

Impact of New Developments on Venues (5%): Residents expressed concerns about the impact of new residential developments on long-standing venues. They feel that venues are increasingly being shut down or forced to comply with stricter noise regulations, which threatens Hackney's cultural identity.

Suggestions for Improvements (Approximately 10% of responses)

Better Street Lighting and Infrastructure (5%): Several residents suggested improvements in street lighting and infrastructure to make the streets safer and more welcoming at night. This includes better lighting in parks and public spaces, and more accessible public transport options.

More Support for Local Businesses and Youth (5%): Some respondents called for better support for local businesses and more youth centres or activities to engage young people in the area, which they believe would reduce anti-social behaviour.

Miscellaneous Concerns (Approximately 5% of responses)

Gentrification and Rising Costs (5%): A smaller portion of residents voiced concerns about gentrification and the rising costs of living and socialising in Hackney, which they feel are pushing out the creative and local communities that give the area its unique character.

Visitors

A total of 192 responses were received from visitors out of 1,787 (11%).

How often do you visit the London Borough of Hackney in the evening and night time (6 pm – 6 am)?

	Count	%
Once a week	72	38.30%
Once a month	511	27.13%
A few times a year	31	16.49%
Daily	16	8.51%
Other	16	8.51%
Once a year	2	1.06%

23 answers to "If Other, please specify:"

The majority of respondents visit Hackney regularly, with about half indicating they come several times a week, and others noting visits between once a week to a few times a month. A smaller group mentioned they visit less frequently, primarily for specific events or every two weeks. Overall, the responses show a strong connection to the borough, with frequent visits for various purposes.

Which part of the London Borough of Hackney do you visit most often in the evening and night time (6 pm – 6 am)?

	Count	%
Dalston	77	40.10%
Hackney East - Homerton, Hackney Central, London Fields, Hackney Wick	70	36.46%
Shoreditch	35	18.23%
Hackney North - Stoke Newington, Stamford Hill, Clapton	10	5.21%

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How far do you travel to visit the London Borough of Hackney in the evening and the night time?

	Count	%
15-30 minutes	51	26.56%
30-45 minutes	43	22.40%
45 minutes to an hour	42	21.88%
Less than 15 minutes	34	17.71%
More than an hour	22	11.46%

What type of activity brings you to London Borough of Hackney in the evening and the night-time (multiple choice)?

	Count	%
Restaurants, cafes or dining	161	89.22%
Pubs and drinking (alcohol)	154	78.80%
Attending an event or festival	126	73.52%
Dancing or clubbing	114	50.96%
Seeing a live performance	103	50.25%
Attending a community event or meeting	47	44.68%
Shopping	36	43.61%
Sport and fitness	22	35.26%
Other	9	21.34%
Relaxing (at home)	5	
Education and training	4	6.21%
Caring for a loved one	3	5.92%

How often do you go to a music event in the London Borough of Hackney (e.g. gig, concert or nightclub):

	Count	%
Once every 3 months	43	22.40%
Once a month	37	19.27%
2-3 times a month	28	14.58%
Once a year	26	13.54%
Once every 6 months	26	13.54%
Rarely or never	23	11.98%
Once a week	5	2.60%

Which of the following would encourage you to spend more time in Hackney in the evening and night time? (Tick all that apply)

	Count	%
Night markets and street food in public spaces	139	72.77%
More concerts, events and live performances	121	63.35%
Better transport options or connections	105	54.97%
Outdoor dining	99	51.83%
Free activities	66	34.55%
Special offers with local businesses/restaurants	64	33.51%
Community spaces/halls open at night	46	24.08%
Activities for young people	28	14.66%
Other	22	11.52%
Activities for children and families	16	8.38%
More educational/training opportunities	10	5.24%

26 answers to "If Other, please specify:"

Licensing (42%)
A significant amount of comments called for less restrictions on licences and allowing businesses to stay open later.

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Transport (19%)
Respondents called for better late night travel options including a later overground.

Safety (12%)
A few respondents said they would go out more if the borough felt safer. "Safety and security. I travel a lot in London and the UK/Europe generally, and it is on my trips to Hackney that I feel least safe."

Inclusivity (12%)
Many comments mentioned supporting LGBTQIA+ environments as well as a need for more inclusive night time spaces. "Places were black people are welcome and considered" "More queer spaces"

Additional things mentioned were more night markets, non-alcoholic evening activities and better affordability.

Please include any comments on what you would like to see more of in the evening/night time.

68 respondents provided their comments to this question.

The responses suggest a strong interest in enhancing Hackney's night-time offerings, with many respondents advocating for extended opening hours for bars, pubs, and LGBTQ+ venues to foster a diverse and inclusive environment.

Several expressed the need for better public transport, including late-night overground service and improved links to other parts of London.

Others highlighted the importance of community-focused events, affordable dining options, and public safety measures such as increased lighting and police presence to improve the sense of security.

Additionally, there was a notable desire for creative and cultural events, such as night markets, community workshops, and spaces supporting the arts, to cultivate a unique and vibrant night-time economy in Hackney.

How safe or unsafe do you feel in the following areas between 6pm – 6am?

178 responses received from visitors

Hackney North - Stoke Newington, Stamford Hill, Clapton

	Count	%
Fairly safe	113	63.48%
Very safe	33	18.54%
Fairly unsafe	28	15.73%
Very unsafe	4	2.25%

Dalston

	Count	%
Fairly safe	97	51.87%
Fairly unsafe	53	28.34%
Very safe	28	14.97%
Very unsafe	9	4.81%

Shoreditch

	Count	%
Fairly safe	114	60.96%
Fairly unsafe	37	19.79%
Very safe	32	17.11%
Very unsafe	4	2.14%

Hackney East - Homerton, Hackney Central, London Fields, Hackney Wick

	Count	%
Fairly safe	101	55.19%
Fairly unsafe	45	24.59%
Very safe	30	16.39%
Very unsafe	7	3.83%

What more can the council do to improve women's safety in public spaces between 6pm and 6am?

108 respondents provided their comments

Increased Lighting (23%) - Many responses emphasised the need for more and better street lighting in public spaces, especially in less frequented areas, parks, and near bus stops, to improve visibility and reduce feelings of insecurity.

Increased Police and Community Patrols (21%) - A large group suggested a stronger police presence and the use of community officers or night wardens to regularly patrol higher-risk areas, especially in areas with frequent loitering or anti-social behaviour.

Public Transport Improvements (15%) - Respondents mentioned a need for more night-time public transport options, including night buses and overground service, to reduce the need for walking long distances and improve overall safety when returning home late.

Education and Awareness Campaigns (10%) - Some advocated for educational initiatives focused on changing men's behaviour towards women and implementing training within the police force to address biases, with suggestions also including public awareness efforts around women's safety.

CCTV and Surveillance (9%) - Enhanced CCTV coverage in high-traffic areas and at public transport stops, as well as signage indicating surveillance, was suggested as a deterrent for crime and reassurance for safety.

Reduce Loitering and Anti-Social Behaviour (8%) - Comments included a need for measures to prevent loitering and address issues related to homelessness and substance abuse in public spaces, which some felt contribute to an unsafe environment.

Late-Night Venues and Public Presence (7%) - Keeping venues open later and hosting community events was suggested to increase positive foot traffic, making streets feel more active and less isolated.

Safety-Specific Infrastructure (4%) - Ideas included emergency call stations, safe waiting areas near bus stops, visible signage for safe areas, and even providing lids for drinks in bars to prevent spiking.

Which of the following factors make you feel less safe? (Tick all that apply)

184 responses from visitors

	Count	%
Antisocial behaviour and loitering	124	67.39%
Lack of lighting	116	63.04%
Street harassment	105	57.07%
Very quiet areas	85	46.20%
Streets and spaces which are not cleaned or need repair	71	38.59%
Lack of a uniformed presence	66	35.87%
Vacant high street units	37	20.11%
Very busy areas	17	9.24%
Other	6	3.26%

184 comments to "What makes you feel less safe":

Respondents highlighted several factors that contribute to feeling less safe in public spaces. Key concerns included the presence of gangs, drug dealing, and harassment, particularly in specific areas or during incidents that redirect foot traffic through unfamiliar routes.

Many expressed discomfort with young people riding bikes on pavements and men exhibiting aggressive or inappropriate behaviour, including instances of stalking and harassment on public transport.

Police presence elicited mixed responses: some felt reassured, while others, especially those wary of aggressive or racially biased policing practices, felt more unsafe around uniformed officers.

Additionally, insufficient mental health services and the visibility of individuals with untreated mental health issues were noted as contributors to an environment of unease.

Long waits for transport at night also heightened a sense of vulnerability.

How easy or difficult do you find it to navigate Hackney at night, either by walking, cycling, driving or public transport?

Walking

	Count	%
Fairly easy	107	56.91%
Very easy	55	29.26%
Fairly difficult	18	9.57%
Not sure	5	2.66%
Very difficult	3	1.60%

Cycling

	Count	%
Not sure	73	40.56%
Fairly easy	56	31.11%
Very easy	33	18.33%
Fairly difficult	13	7.22%
Very difficult	5	2.78%

Driving

	Count	%
Not sure	112	62.92%
Fairly easy	30	16.85%
Very difficult	15	8.43%
Fairly difficult	14	7.87%
Very easy	7	3.93%

Public Transport

	Count	%
Fairly easy	94	49.47%
Fairly difficult	50	26.32%

Very easy	33	17.37%
Very difficult	10	5.26%
Not sure	3	1.58%

What kind of transport improvements would make it easier for you to spend time in Hackney in the evening and night time?

114 respondents provided comments:

Extended Overground Services (Night Tube/All Night Overground): 35%
A large portion of respondents expressed a desire for the London Overground to operate throughout the night or with extended hours, especially on weekends.

More Frequent and Safer Night Buses: 25%
Increased frequency of night buses, better connectivity within Hackney, and additional routes to nearby boroughs were major requests. Several people emphasised the importance of safe, well-lit bus stops and CCTV at stops.

Improved Cycling Infrastructure: 15%
Respondents highlighted the need for safer, well-lit cycle lanes, secure bike parking near venues, and expanded bike-sharing options, with many requesting designated bike paths.

Better Parking and Car Access: 10%
A smaller group requested more parking options, affordable parking for visitors, and reduced LTN restrictions for easier car access in certain areas.

General Transit Accessibility and Wayfinding: 10%
Some respondents suggested improved signage around transport hubs and well-lit walking paths for easier navigation and enhanced safety when commuting on foot or cycling.

Connection to Tube Lines (New Tube Station or Link): 5%
A few respondents felt that a tube station or more direct tube connections would significantly improve Hackney's accessibility.

What types of improvements to the public realm (e.g. public spaces, parks, squares and pavements) would most improve your evening and night time experience in Hackney?

	Count	%
Better lighting	146	80.22%
Better street maintenance and cleaning	113	62.09%
More planting and green spaces	98	53.85%
More public seating	63	34.62%
More bicycle parking	50	27.47%
Other	6	3.30%

Please leave any additional comments on evening and night time public realm improvements.

Several respondents emphasised the need for a thriving night time economy with more venues, event spaces, and later operating hours.

Some voiced concerns over the enforcement of cumulative impact policies, urging for targeted enforcement instead of blanket measures, which they felt could stifle vibrancy. Others suggested more support for cultural venues, highlighting the importance of protecting these spaces from noise complaints driven by new developments.

Issues around safety, particularly in areas like Gillett Square, were raised, with calls for increased police presence and better handling of anti-social behaviour.

Improved infrastructure for cyclists, accessible planning, and green spaces were also requested, along with more night transport options.

Do you have any other comments or concerns about Hackney's evening and night time that you want to share?

43 respondents provided comments:

Support for Nightlife and Cultural Venues (30%)
Respondents expressed concerns about venue closures, especially due to financial issues or noise complaints, and emphasised the importance of preserving Hackney's unique cultural and nightlife scene.

Safety and Crime (25%)
Safety concerns included issues with crime, drug abuse, harassment, and antisocial behaviour, especially affecting LGBTQ+ individuals and women. Some suggested increased police presence, better mental health support, and measures to deter loitering.

Extended Venue Hours (15%)
Many comments recommended allowing venues to stay open later to support a lively evening atmosphere, manage crowd dispersal, and reduce noise-related issues.

Improved Lighting and Public Infrastructure (10%)
Suggestions included increasing lighting in poorly lit areas, especially around transport and bike parking spots, and ensuring safe pathways to improve overall nighttime safety.

Youth and Teen Space (10%)
Respondents mentioned a need for dedicated spaces where teens and young adults can gather safely in the evenings, as well as non-commercialized areas for relaxation and socialisation.

Inclusivity for All Residents (5%)
A small portion of respondents urged the council to consider the needs of older residents, disabled individuals, and vulnerable adults in public planning, ensuring that all feel safe and included in Hackney's nighttime environment.

Public Transport and Connectivity (5%)
A few comments noted issues with limited mobile signal around Victoria Park, as well as calls for improved transport links and better nighttime access.
These categories reflect the main themes from respondents, focusing on fostering a safer, more inclusive, and vibrant night environment for Hackney.

Businesses

A total of 78 responses were received from businesses out of 1,787 (4%).

What type of business do you own/manage?

	Count	%
Pub/bar	39	50.00%
Music venue / nightclub	16	20.51%
Restaurant/café/dining	5	6.41%
Food takeaways	4	5.13%
Performing arts venue	4	5.13%
Museum/gallery	3	3.85%
Other	3	3.85%
Business services	1	1.28%
Community centre	1	1.28%
Other leisure	1	1.28%
Retail shop (non-food)	1	1.28%

Is your business......

	Count	%
Independent business (single outlet)	42	53.85%
Independent business with multiple local outlets	33	42.31%
Part of a regional or national chain	3	3.85%

Which area of Hackney is your business located in?

	Count	%
Shoreditch	29	37.66%

Hackney North - Stoke Newington, Stamford Hill, Clapton	20	25.97%
Hackney East - Homerton, Hackney Central, London Fields	16	20.78%
Dalston	12	15.58%

Is your business open between 6pm and 6am?

	Count	%
Yes	73	92.41%
No	6	7.59%

Which days of the week is your business open? (Tick all that apply)

	Count	%
Friday	73	100.00%
Saturday	73	100.00%
Thursday	71	97.26%
Wednesday	70	95.89%
Tuesday	63	86.30%
Sunday	60	82.19%
Monday	52	71.23%

What are your opening hours?

72 comments provided:

Late-Night Venues (Close after 1:00 am) - 30%
Common closing times include 2:00 am, 3:00 am, and 4:00 am, primarily on weekends. Many venues open between 4:00 pm and 5:00 pm and stay open until early morning.

Standard Evening Venues (Close by Midnight) - 25%

These typically open around midday or early afternoon and close by midnight. They may have slightly later hours on weekends.

Early Evening Venues (Close by 11:00 pm) - 20%
These establishments often open around noon or early afternoon and close by 10:00 or 11:00 pm, with some weekday-only hours.

Variable Hours (15%)
Some respondents mentioned variable or flexible hours depending on demand, usually within standard or late-night ranges.

Daytime-Only or Early Closing (Close by 6:00 pm) - 10%
A few venues operate during the day and close by early evening, typically around 6:00 pm.

What are your biggest challenges operating between 6pm – 6am? (Tick all that apply)

	Count	%
Lack of customers / inconsistent customers	49	68.06%
Licensing requirements	31	43.06%
Securing staff and filling shifts	29	40.28%
Crime and safety	27	37.50%
Energy costs	26	36.11%
Other	16	22.22%
Competition with other businesses	14	19.44%

How can London Borough of Hackney support you and make it easier for you to conduct business between 6pm – 6am?

64 comments provided:

Improved Public Transport (25%)
Many comments highlighted the need for better late-night transport, such as extended Overground hours, additional night buses, and convenient taxi access. Business owners feel improved transit would benefit both staff and customers, boosting attendance and safety.

Enhanced Safety and Policing (20%)
Business owners call for more visible police and community patrols to deter antisocial behaviour, theft, and drug issues. Increased foot patrols, especially during peak hours, were frequently requested to create a safer atmosphere.

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Business-Friendly Licensing and Noise Policy (18%)

There's a strong request to simplify and support licensing processes, allowing extended hours and less restrictive noise regulations. Owners desire a more balanced approach to noise complaints, particularly from newer residents unfamiliar with Hackney's nightlife culture.

Promotional and Financial Support (15%)
Many suggested that Hackney should actively promote nightlife and provide financial support for costs like business rates, soundproofing, and improvements to attract more customers and revitalise areas like Shoreditch and Stoke Newington.

Public Realm and Infrastructure Enhancements (12%)
Suggested improvements include more public toilets, better street lighting, increased foot traffic, and support for dedicated nightlife zones. Some owners requested designated nightlife areas with a focus on safety and a vibrant environment.

Support for Independent Venues and Local Culture (10%)
Business owners stressed the importance of protecting Hackney's unique character, supporting independent venues, and fostering a community atmosphere. Concerns were raised about the effect of gentrification on local culture and small businesses.

Are you aiming to reduce your carbon footprint/environmental impact as a business?

	Count	%
Yes	68	89.47%
No	8	10.53%

76 comments provided to "If Yes, what measures have you put in place?"

Energy Efficiency (20%)
Many businesses have implemented energy-saving practices such as LED lighting, power-saving units, heat pumps, timers for lights/heating, and transitioning to renewable energy sources to minimise their electricity consumption.

Recycling and Waste Reduction (28%)

Recycling efforts, particularly of glass, cardboard, and plastic, are widely adopted. Other strategies include composting, reusing bottles and packaging, and eliminating single-use plastics.

Sustainable Sourcing and Local Procurement (18%)
Several businesses source locally to reduce transportation emissions and favor eco-friendly or recyclable materials. Some businesses have switched to suppliers offering bulk products and environmentally responsible packaging.

Product-Specific Measures (15%)
Measures such as refillable containers for spirits, switching to bulk packaging (e.g., boxed spirits), tap wine, and using biodegradable cups or utensils are frequently mentioned to reduce waste and resource usage.

Innovation and Infrastructure (10%)
Some businesses are investing in green infrastructure, like solar panels, electric vehicle support, and green roofs to improve environmental sustainability.

Staff and Customer Education (5%)
Training on sustainable practices, including end-of-day power checks, and encouraging sustainable travel methods for customers are highlighted.

General Environmental Practices (4%)
This includes broader initiatives like waste audits, eco-friendly products, and establishing eco-focused roles or positions within the business to monitor and implement environmental improvements.

11 comments provided to: "If No, what would help you think about carbon reduction?"

Improved Recycling Infrastructure (30%) – Businesses express a need for more effective and accessible recycling systems, specifically for bottles, food waste, and general materials.

Financial Support and Economic Stability (25%) – For some, prioritising carbon reduction is challenging due to current economic constraints. Support from the council to boost local foot traffic and revitalise the economy could enable them to consider additional sustainability efforts.

Building and Infrastructure Improvements (15%) – Addressing structural issues, such as energy leaks from poorly insulated spaces or roof leaks, could help businesses reduce their heating costs and environmental impact.

Traffic and Emissions Management (10%) – Suggestions like closing specific streets to traffic could contribute to lower local emissions and create more sustainable, pedestrian-friendly areas.

Perception and Awareness (10%) – A general awareness and acknowledgment of the importance of carbon reduction could inspire some to take further action.

Cost Concerns (10%) – The financial burden associated with certain carbon reduction strategies remains a barrier for some businesses, suggesting that cost-effective or subsidised solutions would be beneficial.

How safe or unsafe do you feel in the following areas between 6pm – 6am?

Hackney North - Stoke Newington, Stamford Hill, Clapton

	Count	%
Fairly safe	40	58.82%
Fairly unsafe	17	25.00%
Very safe	9	13.24%
Very unsafe	2	2.94%

Dalston

	Count	%
Fairly safe	38	55.88%
Fairly unsafe	23	33.82%
Very safe	4	5.88%
Very unsafe	3	4.41%

Shoreditch

	Count	%
Fairly safe	39	54.93%
Fairly unsafe	21	29.58%
Very safe	9	12.68%
Very unsafe	2	2.82%

Hackney East - Homerton, Hackney Central, London Fields, Hackney Wick

	Count	%
Fairly safe	34	48.57%
Fairly unsafe	24	34.29%
Very safe	8	11.43%
Very unsafe	4	5.71%

What more can the council do to improve women's safety in public spaces between 6pm and 6am?

59 answers to "What more can the council do to improve women's safety in public spaces between 6pm and 6am?"

Increased Police Presence and Patrols (33%): Many responses emphasise the need for visible police officers, particularly foot patrols, to deter anti-social behaviour and provide a sense of security in high-traffic areas and problem zones.

Improved Lighting (20%): Better street lighting, especially in poorly lit areas, is a significant recommendation for enhancing visibility and reducing potential risks.

Enhanced Public Transport and Accessibility (15%): Reliable, 24-hour public transport options, including regular late-night services and safer waiting areas, were highlighted as essential for reducing time spent alone at bus stops or waiting for cabs.

Safe Spaces and Community Support (12%): Respondents suggested designated "safe spaces" and refuge points, either in collaboration with local businesses or through established police and welfare hubs, especially during peak evening hours.

Awareness Campaigns and Training (10%): Training programs such as "Ask Angela," staff training on intervention, and public awareness initiatives to educate and discourage harassment and violence against women were recommended.

Addressing Anti-Social Behavior and Crime (10%): Tackling phone snatching, balloon sellers, and other disruptive behaviour around venues were cited as necessary to create a safer environment.

Which of the following factors make you feel less safe? (Tick all that apply)

75 responses from businesses

	Count	%
Antisocial behaviour and loitering	55	73.33%
Lack of a uniformed presence	50	66.67%
Street harassment	45	60.00%
Lack of lighting	34	45.33%
Streets and spaces which are not cleaned or need repair	32	42.67%
Very quiet areas	32	42.67%
Vacant high street units	29	38.67%
Very busy areas	3	4.00%
Other	3	4.00%

5 answers to "If Other, please specify:"

"Lack of public transport post 11pm."
"Police is obviously the most important factor - but beyond that, it's derelict / damaged / dirty spaces that seem to drive problems"
"People on bikes - phone snatching"
"The homeless / drug / alcohol problem on the streets is getting worse. It also drives up other crimes such as shoplifting and theft."
"Streets that are quiet and obstructed at the end (i.e. Ridley Road and the food van that operates in a place that obscures sight lines to the station)."
"Overcrowded trains. Dalston Kingsland would benefit from more frequent services on weekend nights as the platforms and the trains sometimes feel dangerously overcrowded."

How easy or difficult do you find it to navigate Hackney at night, either by walking, cycling, driving or public transport?

Walking

	Count	%
Fairly easy	36	47.37%

Very easy	32	42.11%
Fairly difficult	5	6.58%
Very difficult	2	2.63%
Not sure	1	1.32%

Cycling

	Count	%
Fairly easy	30	41.10%
Very easy	28	38.36%
Not sure	11	15.07%
Fairly difficult	4	5.48%
Very difficult	0	0.00%

Driving

	Count	%
Not sure	19	26.39%
Fairly easy	17	23.61%
Fairly difficult	13	18.06%
Very difficult	13	18.06%
Very easy	10	13.98%

Public Transport

	Count	%
Fairly easy	32	42.67%
Very easy	19	25.33%
Fairly difficult	14	18.67%
Very difficult	10	13.33%
Not sure	0	0.00%

What kind of transport improvements would make it easier for you to spend time in Hackney in the evening and night time?

54 answers to "What kind of transport improvements would make it easier for you to spend time in Hackney in the evening and night time?"

Extended Overground and Tube Services (30%): Many respondents suggest running the overground and tube networks later, ideally 24 hours, to improve accessibility and allow people to travel safely and conveniently in and out of Hackney at night.

Enhanced Bus Services (20%): Suggestions include adding more frequent and direct bus routes, particularly routes that cover East-West connections, and extending late-night bus services in residential and central areas.

Parking and Traffic Management (15%): Requests focus on reducing parking restrictions and road closures at night, alongside increasing the availability of parking spaces to encourage safe and accessible parking options for both residents and visitors.

Improved Bike Infrastructure (10%): Respondents recommend adding more bike racks, Lime bike stations, and designated cycling lanes to make biking a safer and more convenient mode of transport in the area.

Safer Transport Amenities (10%): Enhancements such as well-lit bus stops, secure cycle lock spots, and tram or smaller bus options were suggested to improve safety and accessibility at transport points.

General Road and Pathway Safety (10%): Ensuring safe pathways, crossings, and consistent upkeep of transport routes were also mentioned to make Hackney more navigable and safe for night-time activities.

What types of improvements to the public realm (e.g. public spaces, parks, squares and pavements) would most improve your evening and night time experience in Hackney?

	Count	%
Better lighting	46	66.67%
Better street maintenance and cleaning	45	65.22%
More planting and green spaces	39	56.52%
More bicycle parking	29	42.03%
More public seating	15	21.74%
Other	4	5.80%

11 answers to "If Other, please specify:"

Street Maintenance and Cleaning (30%): Respondents emphasize the need for better street cleaning, especially in central areas, as well as regular maintenance for potholes, road markings, and increased bin availability with frequent collections.

Public Toilets (15%): Many expressed the need for accessible and well-maintained public toilets, particularly open at night, to accommodate evening and nighttime visitors.

Parking and Bicycle Management (15%): Improvements suggested include better management of Lime bikes to prevent overcrowding and hazards, increased parking options, and less bicycle parking near specific venues where bikes are often knocked over.

Safety and Policing (20%): Suggestions include more policing in parks and spaces during the evening to deter antisocial activities, like balloon misuse, and increasing CCTV, particularly around parks.

Environmental Enhancements (20%): Recommendations include more greenery and planting along Ridley Road and high streets, which would beautify public spaces and improve the overall ambiance.

Please leave any additional comments on evening and night time public realm improvements.

19 answers to "Please leave any additional comments on evening and night time public realm improvements."

Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour (30%): Many respondents feel that Hackney Central is unsafe at night, with high levels of anti-social behaviour and inadequate police responsiveness. They suggest stronger police-council partnerships and improved CCTV.

Support for Night-Time Venues (20%): There's a strong call for more support of night-time venues, particularly for LGBTQ+ spaces and venues with late licences. Respondents believe this would enhance community safety and diversity in Hackney.

Public Events and Markets (15%): Ideas for an active night economy include introducing night markets, especially on Ridley Road, Christmas markets, and pedestrianised zones to make areas more inviting.

Lighting and Transport (20%): Improved street lighting and late-night public transport options are seen as essential for a vibrant and safe night economy, with requests for extended hours for services like Stoke Newington's British Rail.

Public Space Cleanliness (15%): Concerns about litter and cleanliness affect the perception of safety and attractiveness, with calls to address frequent dumping and enhance overall street maintenance.

Do you have any other comments or concerns about Hackney's evening and night time that you want to share?

34 answers to "Do you have any other comments or concerns about Hackney's evening and night time that you want to share?"

Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour (25%): Many noted increased crime, disorder, and anti-social behaviour deterring visitors and residents alike. Improved policing and transport options are seen as vital to creating a safe and thriving NTE.

Support for Night-Time Venues and Independent Businesses (30%): Respondents highlighted a need for Council support to retain Hackney's unique culture, voicing concerns over restrictive licensing and the loss of independent venues, particularly those supporting arts and LGBTQIA+ communities. Some feel that noise complaints and gentrification pressures are squeezing out smaller, culturally significant businesses.

Transport and Accessibility (15%): Accessible and reliable late-night public transport, along with more taxi options, were cited as essential for the safety of customers and staff. Limited transport options post-11 pm and road closures have created challenges for both customers and operators.

Economic Viability and Cost Pressures (10%): The economic impact of rising costs post-pandemic and higher business rates were mentioned as barriers to sustaining night-time businesses. Concerns about the affordability and sustainability of operating in Hackney reflect a call for more financial relief and support for local SMEs.

Promotion and Revitalization of NTE (20%): Many expressed excitement for potential evening markets and events, particularly in spaces like Dalston's Gillett Square. There's enthusiasm for developing Hackney's NTE through enhanced marketing and structured night-time community events that retain the area's arts and cultural essence.

Night workers

A total of 115 responses were received from businesses out of 1,787 (6%).

What type of work do you do between 6pm and 6am?

	Count	%
Hospitality	55	48.25%
Emergency services	20	17.54%
Arts & recreation	17	14.91%
Other	9	7.89%
Transport & storage	6	5.26%
Public admin & defence	3	2.63%
Security	2	1.75%
Freelance or self-employed	1	0.88%
Health	1	0.88%

What type of role/contract do you do?

	Count	%
Full time	47	40.87%
Shift work	28	24.35%
Part-time	19	16.52%
Self-employed	12	10.43%
Permanent contract	9	7.83%

How often do you work between the hours of 6pm - 6am in Hackney?

	Count	%
Daily	68	59.13%

Once a week	25	21.74%
Once a month	16	13.91%
A few times a year	6	5.22%

Why have you chosen to work at night – what led you to working these hours?

106 answers to "Why have you chosen to work at night – what led you to working these hours?"

Job Requirements and Industry Standards (45%): Many work night shifts because it is typical for their roles in hospitality, security, or emergency services. Some work in sectors that inherently operate during late hours, such as nightlife, entertainment, and public services.

Financial Motivation (15%): Some respondents chose night shifts due to higher pay rates or the need for extra income, which night-time roles in hospitality, transportation, and security can often provide.

Personal Lifestyle Preferences (20%): A significant portion enjoys the nighttime atmosphere and finds their lifestyle aligns better with late hours. Some are naturally more productive at night, while others appreciate the excitement and community of Hackney's nightlife.

Scheduling Flexibility (10%): Night shifts allow some respondents to balance multiple jobs, studies, or other daytime responsibilities, offering a practical solution for those needing flexibility.

Community and Passion (10%): A few respondents feel passionate about nightlife culture, live entertainment, and working in LGBTQIA+ venues, expressing commitment to supporting and enhancing the night-time economy.

Are you paid the London Living Wage of £13.15 per hour or above?

	Count	%
More	58	50.88%
Less	23	20.18%
Prefer not to answer	22	19.30%
Exactly	11	9.65%

What modes of transport do you use to get to work in the evening or night time?

	Count	%
Public transport	64	55.65%
Car	22	19.13%
Bike	16	13.91%
Taxi	6	5.22%
Walk	5	4.35%
Motorbike	1	0.87%
Other	1	0.87%

6 answers to "If Other, please specify:"

3 night workers answered medical vehicles and others cited they use more than one type of transport with a mix of public transport and cycling.

Do you experience any challenges with getting to and from work with your chosen method of transport?

	Count	%
Yes	76	68.47%
No	35	31.53%

Do you struggle to access any of the following as a night worker? (Tick all that apply)

	Count	%
Food and restaurants	35	49.30%
Cultural or community activities	31	43.66%
Sport and fitness	26	36.62%
Medical/health services	25	35.21%
Shopping and high street services	25	35.21%

have your say

Hackney

Banking	18	25.35%
Education/ training	17	23.94%
Education/ training	11	15.49%
Other	2	2.82%

3 answers to "If Other, please specify:"

"Mental Health, general life things such as estate agents, maintaining healthy relationships with friends/family and partners"

"Home life balance"

How safe or unsafe do you feel in the following areas between 6pm – 6am?

Hackney North - Stoke Newington, Stamford Hill, Clapton

	Count	%
Fairly safe	58	52.25%
Fairly unsafe	34	30.63%
Very safe	14	12.61%
Very unsafe	5	4.50%

Dalston

	Count	%
Fairly unsafe	45	39.82%
Fairly safe	44	38.94%
Very unsafe	13	11.50%
Very safe	11	9.73%

Shoreditch

	Count	%
Fairly safe	52	46.02%

Fairly unsafe	38	33.63%
Very unsafe	12	10.62%
Very safe	11	9.73%

Hackney East - Homerton, Hackney Central, London Fields, Hackney Wick

	Count	%
Fairly safe	49	44.55%
Fairly unsafe	40	36.36%
Very unsafe	13	11.82%
Very safe	8	7.27%

What more can the council do to improve women's safety in public spaces between 6pm and 6am?

95 answers to "What more can the council do to improve women's safety in public spaces between 6pm and 6am?"

Increased Police Presence (20%): A significant number of responses requested more visible police patrols on foot, with an emphasis on officers being physically present rather than patrolling by car.

Improved Street Lighting (18%): Many respondents suggested better and more widespread lighting, particularly in poorly lit alleys, side streets, and near public transportation hubs.

Enhanced Public Transport Options (15%): Respondents called for 24-hour transport options, especially on overground trains, more frequent buses at night, and allowing taxis easier access through Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) to drop off close to destinations.

CCTV and Safety Monitoring (10%): An increase in active CCTV monitoring, especially in areas with high foot traffic at night, was suggested to improve response times to incidents.

Designated Safe Spaces and Help Points (8%): Some respondents proposed creating refuge areas, safe spaces, or emergency call points where women could seek help if they feel unsafe.

Control of Anti-Social Behavior and Alcohol Licences (8%): There were calls to restrict late alcohol sales, limit club hours, and monitor intoxicated behaviour to reduce incidents of harassment and disorder.

Collaboration with Night-time Economy (7%): Respondents encouraged better relationships between venues and council authorities, including initiatives like Taxi Marshalls and venue staff training to support women's safety.

Community Education and Awareness (5%): A few responses highlighted the need for intervention training for men and awareness campaigns about women's safety, targeting both locals and visitors.

Allowing Greater Taxi Access (5%): Requests to let taxis pass through LTNs and reach more residential and secluded areas to provide direct, safe rides home for women at night.

Other Measures (4%): Various other suggestions included traffic calming measures, removing or improving homeless shelters, and fostering community trust and support networks.

Which of the following factors make you feel less safe? (Tick all that apply)

	Count	%
Antisocial behaviour and loitering	78	69.03%
Lack of lighting	66	58.41%
Street harassment	63	55.75%
Very quiet areas	56	49.56%
Lack of a uniformed presence	49	43.36%
Streets and spaces which are not cleaned or need repair	49	43.36%
Vacant high street units	29	25.66%
Very busy areas	29	25.66%
Other	7	6.19%

17 answers to "If Other, please specify:"

Anti-Social Behaviour (35%): Many respondents feel less safe due to intoxicated individuals, loitering groups, and aggressive behaviour from people leaving bars, especially in night-time economy (NTE) areas.

Crime and Threats (25%): Phone snatching, drug dealing, and gang activity were highlighted as major safety concerns. Some respondents noted that criminals are drawn to the area because of the NTE.

Traffic and Dangerous Driving (15%): Issues like reckless driving, improper parking, and private hire vehicles waiting inappropriately were noted as safety risks.

Limited Safe Spaces (10%): Some mentioned a lack of safe places to retreat to if they feel threatened while walking at night.

Visibility of Men on Streets (10%): One respondent highlighted the perceived imbalance of men loitering or hanging around at night, which can feel intimidating, especially for women.

Suggestions for Improved Safety (5%): Suggestions included allowing more licensed London Taxis with CCTV to operate freely through LTNs, as they could offer safer transportation options.

How easy or difficult do you find it to navigate Hackney at night, either by walking, cycling, driving or public transport?

Walking

	Count	%
Fairly easy	61	55.45%
Very easy	24	21.82%
Very difficult	13	11.82%
Fairly difficult	9	8.18%
Not sure	3	2.73%

Cycling

	Count	%
Fairly easy	34	32.08%
Not sure	29	27.36%

Very easy	21	19.81%
Fairly difficult	13	12.26%
Very difficult	9	8.49%

Driving

	Count	%
Not sure	41	37.27%
Fairly easy	26	23.64%
Very difficult	16	14.55%
Very easy	14	12.73%
Fairly difficult	13	11.82%

Public transport

	Count	%
Fairly easy	48	43.64%
Fairly difficult	24	21.82%
Very easy	16	14.55%
Very difficult	14	12.73%
Not sure	8	7.27%

What kind of transport improvements would make it easier for you to spend time in Hackney in the evening and night time?

87 answers to "What kind of transport improvements would make it easier for you to spend time in Hackney in the evening and night time?"

Extended Public Transport Hours (40%): Many respondents emphasise the need for later trains, particularly 24-hour Overground service and extended tube operations. Consistent late-night transport would ease their return home, especially from Hackney Central and Shoreditch.

More Frequent Bus Service (25%): Increased frequency of night buses and dedicated routes were suggested, particularly to reduce long waiting times and improve access to Hackney's popular nightlife areas.

Improved Bus and Train Reliability (10%): Respondents want more reliable bus schedules, digital bus stop time displays, and better coordination of services.

Bicycle and Scooter Infrastructure (10%): Requests for more Santander bike hubs, better bike parking, and secured storage for bikes and scooters to reduce theft were common. Some respondents also suggested banning bicycles to combat two-wheel-enabled robberies.

Road and Traffic Adjustments (10%): Suggestions include improved parking enforcement, reducing congestion from Uber vehicles, removing bollards in LTNs for emergency access, and allowing taxis access through LTNs for safer transportation.

Safe Spaces and Lighting (5%): Safer, well-lit bus stops and night routes with clear signage near high-traffic areas would improve safety and ease navigation.

Please leave any additional comments on evening and night time public realm improvements.

33 answers to "Please leave any additional comments on evening and night time public realm improvements."

Safety and Police Presence (30%): Many respondents emphasise the need for increased police and security patrols, particularly to address loitering, theft, and drug activity around popular nightlife areas. Several suggested more police patrols and a stronger stance on balloon sellers and public safety around venues.

Improved Licensing and Nightlife Support (25%): A portion of responses advocate for either reducing nightlife hours to curb anti-social behaviour or, conversely, enhancing support for venues through protected late licences and incentives for overnight businesses to operate safely.

Lighting and Infrastructure (15%): Better lighting, especially in parks, canal areas, and commonly used pathways, was frequently mentioned as a priority to increase public safety. Some also highlighted the importance of clear signage for independent venues and transport access points.

Public Amenities and Toilets (10%): Respondents called for more accessible public restrooms and even "safe spaces" where people could seek refuge if feeling threatened.

Addressing Anti-Social Behavior (10%): There are mentions of reducing open loitering by certain groups, addressing cycling issues, and enforcing stricter policies for late-night venues in areas prone to anti-social behaviour.

Accessibility and Public Transport (10%): Some responses underscored the need for more accessible transport for disabled people, with a specific call for black cab access through LTNs, and better nighttime transport options on weekends.

Do you have any other comments or concerns about Hackney's evening and night time that you want to share?

40 answers to "Do you have any other comments or concerns about Hackney's evening and night time that you want to share?"

Support for Nightlife Economy (30%): Many respondents feel Hackney's nightlife, including music venues and late-night bars, is essential for its economy and cultural identity. Concerns include the impact of gentrification, restrictive licensing hours, and noise complaints, which are perceived as stifling this sector. There is a call for policies that both support and protect these venues.

Public Safety Concerns (25%): Issues with anti-social behaviour, particularly in Shoreditch, are highlighted. Respondents mention problems like phone snatching, harassment, and loitering by groups who may not patronise venues but contribute to an unsafe atmosphere. Suggestions include increased police presence, better crowd control, and enforcement of parking and traffic rules.

Transport and Accessibility (15%): Some respondents feel Hackney needs improved transport connections, particularly later train services, to make it feel more accessible from other parts of London at night. They also suggest increased lighting and measures to help people get home safely.

Gender-Specific Safety Issues (10%): Several comments address harassment of women, especially in popular nightlife areas. A stronger uniformed presence and more staff at TFL stations were suggested as measures to help mitigate these issues.

Homelessness and Social Services (10%): There are calls for better support systems for homeless individuals and those with mental health challenges. Some suggest creating warm spaces or coffee shelters to help them stay off the streets at night.

Miscellaneous (10%): Other suggestions include stricter enforcement of traffic and parking rules, better maintenance of areas like the canal, and improved public realm management to reduce intimidation from large groups.

Hackney Residents' Survey - July-August 2024

Residents of Hackney were also surveyed about what would encourage them to go out more in the evenings ("What would encourage you to go out more in Hackney on an evening?"). The top response was free activities, which 37% identified as a key incentive, followed closely by live events and performances (35%). Additionally, 27% mentioned markets and street food, and 23% supported outdoor dining as appealing options. Younger residents showed greater interest in specific activities, while older residents were more likely to express disinterest in evening outings. Tailoring initiatives to meet the interests of different age groups will help to foster a vibrant evening economy and strengthen community ties in Hackney.