

Frequently asked questions:

What is a Neighbourhood Assembly?

A Neighbourhood Assembly brings together a randomly selected group of people who broadly represent their community. The people who attend learn about issues, discuss them with one another, and then make recommendations about what should happen and how things could change.

A Neighbourhood Assembly is similar to a Citizen's Assembly, which is an innovative democratic tool used by governments all over the world. Camden Council has used Assemblies to learn about solutions to climate change and ambitions and priorities for the borough. The Neighbourhood Assembly will work in the same way, but we are using the word Neighbourhood because we are focusing on the Gospel Oak and Haverstock neighbourhood.

What would my participation involve?

- Reading papers, looking at plans, and learning about the proposals that are being developed for the area.
- Joining our online meetings and taking part in discussions.
- Thinking about how the proposals will affect the people you know – and sharing your ideas, concerns or issues.
- Between sessions, you may be given some reading or short activities to complete to help you prepare by thinking about the issues to be discussed. You may also be asked to discuss the topics with your friends and family

If you are selected as an Assembly member, you will hear from expert speakers and discuss the issues in small groups to make sure everyone has their voice heard.

You do not need any prior knowledge of the topics – all the information will be provided to you. It is a good opportunity to meet new people, try something new and learn more about your neighbourhood.

Will there be any reimbursement for residents who take part?

If you attend all sessions, then a voucher of £250 will be provided at the end of the last meeting. This will be a 'Love2Shop' voucher and can be used in many different high street stores including Argos and M&S. Further details can be found at:

www.love2shop.co.uk

If I can't join all the meetings, will I still be able to volunteer?

To volunteer and receive a voucher, you have to attend all of the meetings of the Assembly. This is to ensure that the membership of the assembly is consistent from beginning to end.

I have to care for my children or a loved one. Can you help?

If you have children or other people to care for, we will work with you to ensure you have support to join the Assembly. If you are selected as an Assembly member, we will discuss what that will look like for you.

Who can apply?

Anyone living in a household that has received this invitation can apply, unless they are elected representatives from any level of government, paid employees of any political party, or Camden Council staff working on regeneration or planning. Only one person from a single household will be selected to participate.

Who decides who gets to become a member of the Assembly?

After registration closes, around 30 people will be randomly selected to take part in the Assembly. This selection will be weighted to make sure that there are people from all across the community in the group. This weighting will ensure that the Assembly is reflective of the area in terms of demographics of age, gender, ethnicity and housing tenure. An independent, not-for-profit organisation, called The Sortition Foundation will manage this process.

After I volunteer, what happens next?

If you are selected, we will contact you by phone and email on or around **Tuesday 18 August**. We will then arrange a call with you to explain transport arrangements, discuss any requirements you may have to make it possible for you to attend, and explain what happens next.

How will you ensure that the event is accessible?

The meetings will be held online to protect your safety, and we can help you with any technology and skills needed to take part. If you require BSL interpretation, language translation, or any form of additional support, then every attempt will be made to provide this. If you are selected, please let us know your requirements when we contact you.

Where can I get more information?

If you would like to talk to us before registering, please call us at **0800 009 6486**

Or you can find out more online at:

www.camden.gov.uk/GOHCommunityVision

**To register your interest visit:
www.sortitionfoundation.org/rsvp
or call Freephone 0800 009 6486
(9:00am-5.30pm, Monday-Saturday)
before Monday 17 August**