



St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum

Newsletter March 2019

Consultation on the future of Linford Christie Stadium Option of a 45,000 seat 'performance venue and stadium on Wormwood Scrubs

Hammersmith and Fulham Council has now launched its 12 week consultation on the future of Linford Christie Stadium. We are not getting leaflets through our doors and you need to go online to respond at the LBHF 'consultation hub' at <https://lbhf.citizenspace.com/growth-and-place/linford-christie/>

The three options posed in the Council's online questionnaire are as follows:

1. **Do nothing** - under this option there is a high risk that the stadium and related facilities will have to close.
2. **Improve the current facilities** - This might be possible through partnership with a sponsor, directly by the council or by a community-led redevelopment, with the potential to raise additional revenue for essential works and ongoing management and maintenance.
3. **Major redevelopment** - to bring new facilities that can be managed and maintained sustainably in the long term. This could involve a performance venue or stadium of up to 45,000 seats, accommodating sports and entertainment as well as retaining an athletics track and facilities for other users. Such a facility might be developed by the council and let to its main users.

The Friends of Wormwood Scrubs (FOWWS) have brought together key local organisations and users of the stadium, to discuss the Council's reasoning for these three options. Little has been made public about the financial context. Only recently has LBHF begun to talk about acting as developer/owner under Option 3.



FOWWS and others are now trying to dig deeper into the background. In recent months LBHF has made very clear that QPR are not going to be handed the land for a commercial stadium.

Last month QPR were saying *the Linford Christie Stadium is, as far as we can see, our last chance to stay in the borough.* Their fans will no doubt be responding in numbers to the consultation.

The potential downside for our neighbourhood is significant, as any Londoner with experience of living next to a major stadium will tell you. Weekday use for rock concerts and daytime events adds to the impact of match days or one-off sporting fixtures.

Problems for Hammersmith Hospital, for Old Oak Estate, Wood Lane, and Eynham Road residents are already being collated by FOWWS. East Acton is a very small station and could end up closed when a 45,000 seat stadium is in use.

We have until 12 June to respond to LBHF and it may be worth delaying a response until more is known about the prospects for a viable Option 2. An open meeting of StQW/SHRA will be held before the deadline.

Soil Contamination around Grenfell Tower

Much media coverage this week on the paper by Professor Anna Stec. Westway Trust moved swiftly to give out information on its own work in checking soil samples from Trust land. See at www.westway.org.

Krishna Sharda from North West London Clinical Commissioning Group came to a Westway Trust networking session on the 28th and gave a useful briefing. Krishna has been working on the health impacts of Grenfell for many months, and was at a Q&A session at our AGM last November in St Helens Church Hall. A NHS update can be found at www.grenfell.nhs.uk. If you want to read the full paper from Professor Stec a copy is available at <https://www.uclan.ac.uk/news/assets/stec-grenfell-paper-chemosphere.pdf>

Her report says that toxins were found within 140m of the Tower at levels significantly higher than the UK urban reference soil levels. We need more information on the long-term implications, and it is surprising that this is not yet available from Government nearly 2 years on from the fire. More will no doubt be available in the coming weeks.