



## **CROSS RIVER PARTNERSHIP RELEASES NEW REPORT ON LONDON'S TOWN CENTRE FUTURES, PROVIDING PRACTICAL STEPS TO RECOVER FROM COVID IN GREENER, CLEANER AND FAIRER WAYS**

[Cross River Partnership \(CRP\)](#), a non-profit and impartial partnership organisation, is excited to announce the launch of its latest report, 'Town Centre Futures', an innovative cross-sector study providing practical recommendations for London's Local Authorities, Business Improvement Districts, landowners and other strategic agencies, on how we can recover from the Covid-pandemic in greener and cleaner way, and enhance the roles of all of London's Town Centres going forward.

The research, delivered by [Centre for London](#) as part of the CRP managed [Central London Sub-Regional Transport Partnership](#), inter-links transport, economic, environmental, cultural and health aspects of London's future. 10 typologies across London have been focussed on which transect London's major centres, district centres and neighbourhood centres.

Short, medium and long-term practical recommendations cover the topics of 'Public realm', 'Transport', 'Economic activity' and 'Community', complementing and building on recent studies, such as the City of London's [London Recharged](#) report, and Centre for London's [Community Town Centres](#) and [Recovery Plan for the West End](#) reports.

Public realm recommendations have centred on boosting outdoor eating and drinking options for businesses to ensure a healthy financial recovery for local restaurants, cafes, bars, and street food sellers. Complimenting this, further suggestions reinforce the importance of building a sense of place, supporting London's creatives to one more occupy spaces for performances and art, and alongside this improving essential amenities for visitors to ensure a clean and safe environment.

Recommendations regarding Transport cover key actions that must be delivered on in response to the rapidly changing habits of the capital's residents and visitors in getting from A to B. Priorities have focussed on re-designing roads and streets for pedestrians to make them more accessible and facilitate people to visit their favourite areas via modes which benefit air quality, such as walking or cycling. This also filters down to optimising freight and delivery vehicle movements on the high street, in turn supporting the public realm suggestions mentioned earlier.

Economic activity recommendations range from; creating new workspaces to suit the requirements of remote workers; repurposing the use of empty commercial spaces to attract footfall back to key cultural hotspots; and future proofing community assets by transferring ownership to community groups to support bottom-up positive change.

Finally, Community recommendations centre on the need for greater local resident and business representation in the decisions about the future of their high streets. From expanding opportunities of town centre forums, to developing community outreach across Business Improvement Districts.

The research has shown that London has enormous value based on collaboration and innovation, and partnerships will be key to delivering a successful recovery over the next few years.

Rachael Aldridge, CRP Project Officer, said - "CRP is very excited to be launching this new research into Town Centre Futures with Centre for London. We are proud to present practical recommendations for London's key players as we emerge from the pandemic to ensure a strong, resilient and sustainable recovery. Cities of the world have been disproportionately impacted, and this report will help to deliver a London-wide recovery for all over the next few years and beyond."

Read the full 'Town Centre Futures' report [here](#). For more information, please contact CRP Project Officer, Rachael Aldridge [rachaelaldridge@crossriverpartnership.org](mailto:rachaelaldridge@crossriverpartnership.org)

**March 2021  
ENDS**

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **Town Centre Futures - 10 typologies**

Deptford High Street –	London Borough of Lewisham
Tooley Street –	London Borough of Southwark
Nine Elms –	London Borough of Lambeth
Shepherd's Bush –	London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham
Knightsbridge –	Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
Harrow Road –	City of Westminster
Camden High Street –	London Borough of Camden
Burnt Oak –	London Borough of Barnet
Upper Street -	London Borough of Islington
Bishopsgate -	City of London

### **Central London Sub-Regional Transport Partnership**

A collective of senior transport officers from ten London boroughs:

City of London

City of Westminster

London Borough of Camden  
London Borough of Hackney  
London Borough of Islington  
London Borough of Lambeth  
London Borough of Lewisham  
London borough of Southwark  
London Borough of Wandsworth  
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

### **Cross River Partnership**

[Cross River Partnership](#) (CRP) is a sub-regional, public-private partnership that is engaging with People, delivering innovative Projects, and shaping great Places: Delivering London's Future Together. CRP was originally formed to implement cross river infrastructure projects such as the Millennium Bridge and has since diversified to deliver a wide range of environmental, economic and community regeneration projects.

CRP's programmes transect themes such as Place Making; Health and Wellbeing; Air Quality; Diversity and Inclusion; Freight, Transport and Active Travel; Energy; Environment; Culture; and Lighting. Visit their projects' page for more information on initiatives being delivered with their partners and collaborators.