Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) High Path Phases 4-7 consultation event 1 13 & 16 October 2021

	Question	Answer
	BACKGROUND	7 (Howel
1	What is the purpose of the consultation?	The consultation gives residents and other interested parties the opportunity to view and comment on our revised plans for High Path Phases 4-7.
2	What does affordable housing mean?	This is housing aimed at those whose needs are not met by the market. This includes shared ownership or a below-market rent homes You can find out more about shared ownership here: (https://www.myclarionhousing.com/find-a-home/buy-a-home/shared-ownership-explained).
3	What is an Outline Planning Application?	An application for outline planning permission allows for a decision on the general principles of how a site can be developed. At High Path this will include consideration of the: • location and size of buildings • height • location and size of streets and open spaces • overall number of homes • quantum of non-residential uses
4	What is a Reserved Matters Planning Application?	Once an outline permission has been granted we will develop the design and submit the details ("reserved matters") for approval before work can start. These will cover five matters: Access, Layout, Scale, Landscaping and Appearance.
	DESIGN PRINCIPLES	
5	What types of homes are being proposed in Phases 4 to 7?	We are proposing a range of housing typologies, including 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments, duplexes and a small number of mews houses.
6	How many homes will you be providing across the estate?	We are currently proposing up to 2,280 homes across Phases 1 to 7.
7	How many affordable homes will you be providing across the estate?	Under the existing planning permission, there is a requirement to provide 357 affordable homes. Under the new plans, we remain committed to providing the 357 affordable homes, plus we propose that 40% of additional homes approved under the new planning application will also be affordable.

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		For example, if we deliver 2,280 homes across Phases 1 to 7, we would provide 587 affordable
		homes (357 + 230).
8	If you are increasing the	The internal layouts of the blocks have not yet
	number of new homes	been designed. However, we aim to meet the
	will they be smaller?	nationally described space standard, which sets
		out detailed guidance on the minimum size of new
		homes.
9	l've seen a video	Clarion's design requirements include an over-
	showing flats with baths	bath shower in all homes.
	(highpathlive.com). Are	
	there apartments with	
	showers as well?	
10	Will the homes be	All homes will be designed to include private
	designed with outdoor	amenity space (e.g. balcony) and most will have
	space?	access to a communal courtyard.
11	It would be good to find	The design will be in accordance with the latest
' '	out more about the wall	building regulations, which covers sound proofing
	construction between	between homes and the external environment.
		between nomes and the external environment.
	apartments. Will there	
12	be soundproofing? Why are you changing	The High Path project has a number of viability
12		, , ,
	the heights of the	challenges, due to changes in planning policy,
	buildings?	energy and sustainability targets, and the
		economics of the Merton Estate Regeneration
		Programme.
		Clarion has therefore worked closely with Merton
		Council to identify opportunities to improve the
		viability position. Increasing the overall number of
		homes on the estate is part of the proposed
		solution. This will require a new planning
		application to be submitted.
		By exploring a different approach to building
		heights, we are able to accommodate additional
		homes. Of the additional homes, 40% are
40	11	proposed to be affordable.
13	How much higher are	Currently we have permission to build up to 10
	the buildings?	storeys.
		It is now and in a summary desires the transfer of the
		It is proposed in our new design that part of the
		scheme is lower than the current planning
		permission, parts of our scheme are the same
		height as the current planning permission and part
		of the scheme is higher.
		We are currently proposing up to 13 storeys in the
		highest parts of the scheme.

14	Are the heights of buildings being tested for wind effect?	Yes. Positive preliminary assessments have been undertaken for the proposed masterplan.
15	The heights seem to have increased, will there be overshadowing?	The increase in number of homes has been continually tested against a number of key principles: prevent overshadowing of communal amenity spaces, prevent loss of daylight to windows for habitable rooms, provision of dual aspect homes and sensitive response to existing properties.
16	Originally, it was stated that buildings on Merton High Street would match the heights of the existing buildings on the opposite side of the road. Will the new heights make the buildings taller than the properties on the other side of the road?	We propose that the buildings along Merton High Street will be higher than the existing buildings on the opposite side of the road. However, we have tested the daylight-sunlight on the existing buildings, and any impact is within BRE guidance. Also, since the development is significantly set back from the road, and there are existing mature trees along the High Street within significant spread, the proposed increase in height would not impact the streetscape.
17	The setbacks on Morden Road - will the buildings be the same total height as in the previous outline plan or higher?	Some of the building along Morden Road will be one or two storeys higher, but their visibility from the ground level by pedestrians will be reduced by a significant setback of the top storey.
18	How is the increase in number of homes being achieved - how many by increase in heights, etc.?	The increase in number of homes has been continually tested against a number of key principles: prevent overshadowing of communal amenity spaces, prevent loss of daylight to windows for habitable rooms, provision of dual aspect homes and sensitive response to existing properties.
		Currently we have permission to build up to 10 storeys. It is proposed in our new design that part of the scheme is lower than the current planning permission, parts of our scheme are the same height as the current planning permission and part of the scheme is higher. We are currently proposing up to 13 storeys in the highest parts of the scheme.
19	How many homes were not dual aspect in the previous outline plan compared with the new outline plan?	A fair comparison cannot be made as 'dual aspect' homes were not a requirement of Local Plan/ policies of London Borough of Merton or the GLA London Plan when the previous masterplan and Outline Planning Application was approved in 2018. Dual aspect has recently become a requirement from the GLA London Plan 2021. The

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		revised masterplan is proposing approximately two-thirds of all new homes to be dual aspect.
20	With the importance of working from home and home study, will the communal space in the properties have a separate kitchen and living room?	The apartments have been designed as open plan. However, there is design flexibility to provide an alternative layout, which could provide a separate kitchen/living room. This will be explored during the reserved matters stage of design.
21	Materials will be extremely important. St John's Mews was previously portrayed in black/grey palettes. Can you confirm that this is not the case anymore? The weather is grey enough.	All materials and detailing will be chosen for being long lasting, minimal maintenance and responsive to their context. The colour palette will be influenced from the local heritage and surrounding neighbourhood. The details of specific materials will be developed during the reserved matters stage.
22	What is meant by 'uniting High Path with the surroundings' and how will this be achieved?	Firstly, Reconnecting the existing neighbourhoods within High Path that have been separated by the poor street layout. Secondly, linking to the local and wider neighbourhood. Creating traditional streets and increasing the permeability linking through pedestrian friendly routes North to South and East to West.
23	How will you improve the street character of the area?	The different character areas are based on the aspiration to create a distinct place with various character zones.
24	How will you celebrate the unique character of the area?	The design aims to build upon the inherit characteristics of the site and its surroundings. References can be made to the local architecture and historic routes to help create a strong sense of identity. It is proposed to reinstate the East to West route through the site (Nelson Grove Road), while still responding to the North to South links created by the original Victorian street grid (North to Merton
		High Street). The design proposes to enhance existing vistas to historic existing buildings like St. John The Divine Church. We will look at how we commemorate the
25	What is a sustainable	historical significance of the place, such as where Lord Nelson built his house. A Sustainable Community can be described as
	community?	one where:

26	How will these plans take account of other significant planning applications in the area such as the Station Road and Eddie Katz sites?	 The needs of the community are met and people feel safe, healthy and happy. The environment is appreciated by the community, protected and any damage is minimised. The economy is vibrant, and local employment opportunities are improved. The proposed development at High Path takes account of the cumulative impacts of other significant planning applications in the area within the assessment reports that will be submitted with the planning application. These include, but are not necessarily limited to, the Transport Assessment, the Health Impact Assessment, Primary Care Needs Assessment, Daylight and Sunlight Assessment, and Energy Strategy. In this way Clarion and its design team will seek to ensure that the impacts of the High Path development offer suitable mitigation where necessary with reference to neighbouring
27	How will you create a healthier environment?	 Pedestrian and cycle routes should be promoted in the proposal to encourage healthy and active lifestyles and sustainable modes of transport. The provision of safe, stimulating play facilities for children's welfare, health and future development within walking distance from their homes. Embodying principles that include use of energy efficient building materials, appropriate design and construction methods and use of low-carbon technologies and renewable energy generation. Air Quality, Noise and Vibration and lighting pollution assessments have been undertaken to ensure and protect the quality the external environment.
28	How far back will the blocks be set back from Merton High Street? And what will happen to the existing mature trees along Merton High Street?	The buildings along Merton High Street are set back from the road edge by circa 14-16m. The original planning permission included a condition to retain and protect the existing Sycamore and London Plane trees located in the open landscaped areas adjacent to Merton High Street. It is reasonable to expect that a similar planning condition, to protect these trees on Merton High Street, will be applied to a new permission.

29	Bike storage takes up space, is this embedded in the current plans? In our current climate, open-space is a very outdated approach to cycle storage.	Bicycle storage spaces are embedded in the current plan. Dedicated, secure enclosed communal cycle storage spaces (standard, 'Sheffield stands', adaptable and cargo types) are provided within each apartment building for residents.
30	Will the change of office space to residential be in the same building?	The block previously identified to be an office block is now proposed to be residential with some non-residential floor space on the lower levels.
31	What other amenities/facilities are proposed?	As well as new homes, the proposals include new mixed use commercial and community uses. The specific uses are not yet defined, but could include a new convenience store, food and beverage outlets, co-working spaces.
		We also propose to deliver a new neighbourhood park that will be open to the whole community, and re-provide the existing community centre, church hall and ball court/s.
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32	ACCESS / ROADS / CON What parking provision	It is proposed to provide car and cycle parking in
32	will be provided?	accordance with current Greater London Authority (GLA) London Plan planning policy requirements.
		We propose to provide car parking, with a mixture of on-street and secure podium parking bays.
		We propose to provide secure bicycle parking for residents within each block, and some parking hoops on-street for visitors.
33	Can you confirm how many car parking spaces will be provided?	We are currently unable to confirm the exact number of parking spaces that will be provided in the new development, as we are currently at early stages of design development, and will need to seek feedback on any proposals with Merton Council, the Greater London Authority (GLA) and Transport for London (TfL). However, we propose to maintain the same number of parking spaces approved under the existing outline planning application, and provide additional parking bays for the additional wheelchair homes.
		We will update these FAQs once further details are confirmed.
34	Why don't you provide more car parking spaces?	Planning policy sets maximum standards for car parking, which take into account local transport links. The High Path estate has 'very good' levels of public transport accessibility across the site,

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		with parts of the site defined by TfL as having an 'excellent' level of public transport accessibility (given its proximity to South Wimbledon Underground Station and various bus routes).
		It would therefore be very difficult and potentially contrary to planning policy, to seek to justify more non-wheelchair parking spaces than originally permitted.
		We are proposing additional parking spaces for the additional wheelchair homes, subject to agreement with Merton Council and TfL.
		Our aim is to encourage sustainable travel, and in particular active travel, as part of a sustainable development. We are proposing to make it easier for people to walk, cycle or use public transport, rather than using a car. We will also be providing car club bays.
35	Who will the car parking spaces be allocated to?	It is not proposed to allocate parking to specific dwellings, unless provided within the curtilage of the dwelling.
36	Will all the car parking spaces outside the curtilage (the area directly in front of homes) of a dwelling be for use by existing residents only?	It is currently proposed that existing residents would have exclusive access to the on-street standard parking bays (i.e. excluding car club, loading bay, designated disabled parking bays). However, this is subject to implementation of a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ), which requires agreement with Merton Council.
37	What is a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ)?	A CPZ is an area where on-street parking on the highway is restricted during specified times unless you have a permit. Implementation of a CPZ would be subject to consultation with local residents and businesses, and agreement with Merton Council.
		A CPZ would only apply to adopted highway (i.e. managed and maintained by the highway authority). Any parking spaces on land owned by Clarion Housing Association, would not be covered by the CPZ. Instead they would be controlled by Parking Control Management (PCM).
38	In total, how many car parking spaces will be available to existing residents?	At this time, we are unable to confirm the exact number of parking spaces that will be available to existing residents, as we are currently in design development, and we need to discuss and agree the proposals further with Merton Council, the GLA and TfL.

39	Will there be a charge for car parking permits for existing residents?	Control of the parking spaces on the highway would be subject to implementation of a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ), which requires agreement with Merton Council. We will update these FAQs once further details are known. Merton Council does charge for resident parking permits within a CPZ. The amount depends upon a number of factors, including location within the borough, type of vehicle and number of permits. Clarion Housing Association currently does not
40	Will new residents be allocated any car parking bays?	charge for permit controlled by PCM. Under planning policy (London Plan Policy T6.1 Residential parking), this type of development must provide a minimum of 10% disabled parking bays. We are therefore proposing to provide disabled parking bays within each phase, regardless of tenure.
41	What about parking for residents of Hubert Close which is managed by Wandle Housing Association?	In line with the approved outline planning permission, Hubert Close remains outside of the planning application boundary. Clarion is therefore not proposing any change to the public highway on-street parking spaces opposite Hubert Close.
42	What are you proposing to do to support electric vehicles?	In accordance with current policy, 20% of parking spaces will have electric vehicle charging points installed from the outset. The remaining spaces will be designed as 'passive' electric vehicle charging bays, which means they have potential to be converted into points in the future as a greater proportion of cars on the road become electric.
		Electric vehicle charging point's provision is a requirement of the GLA London Plan 2021. The London Plan 2021 also includes requirements around cycling parking. As such, we are proposing dedicated, secure enclosed communal cycle storage spaces are provided within each apartment building for residents.
43	Is the only access to the estate going to be from Abbey road and High path road? Currently there is access from Pincott road also. Abbey road is already	In line with existing arrangements and the approved outline planning permission, vehicle access into the estate will be from Merton High Street via Pincott Road (entry only), Abbey Road via Nelson Grove Road (two-way), and High Path (two-way).

	almost at a standstill at Rush hour. With a significant increase in residents it is likely to become much worse	
44	What will be done to address concerns about traffic flow; to improve this?	In line with the approved outline planning permission, the roads within the estate are being redesigned to align with current highway design standards to give greater priority to pedestrians and cyclists and reduce vehicle speeds, to improve road safety. As requested by Merton Council, it is also proposed to keep existing width restrictions (such as on Pincott Road) to prevent larger vehicles from driving through the estate.
45	Are there considerations to make Abbey Road one way or are other solutions being considered, to improve air quality and treat it like the residential road that it is, rather than a rat run?	In line with the approved outline planning permission, Abbey Road remains outside of the planning application boundary and will therefore not be redesigned in the way that estate roads will be redesigned. It will remain a two-way road and the existing width restriction, just north of High Path and Station Road, will also be kept to prevent larger vehicles from travelling between Merton High Street and High Path, Station Road and Merantun Way.
		We are proposing to maintain the same number of parking spaces approved under the existing outline planning application, and only provide additional parking bays for the additional wheelchair homes. It is therefore predicted that there will be an overall reduction in the amount of traffic compared with the existing situation. This conclusion was previously accepted by both Merton Council and TfL in connection with the original planning permission.
46	How will you manage construction impacts, such as the traffic, noise and dust which will affect residents and the wider community whilst the regeneration is ongoing?	The Transport Assessment (TA) that will be submitted as part of the new outline planning application will contain outline details on construction vehicle routing and will also set out high-level principles to be followed as part of the management of construction traffic on and off-site. It is expected that there will be a planning condition requiring the completion and submission, for approval, of a Construction Logistics Plan / Construction Traffic Management Plan prior to commencement of works on-site.

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		This will be prepared in accordance with prevailing policy requirements and best practice guidance, and with the input of construction and traffic management experts.
		Measures that are typically put in place and will be explored to manage impacts during construction include: limiting construction vehicles to certain routes; restricting when deliveries may occur on-site (for example, outside of peak hours); restricting on-site working hours; and using traffic marshals to control the movement of vehicles in and out of the site.
		Measures such as, for example, wheel washing and water suppression can also be used to prevent dirt being taken onto the roads and to damp down any dust from the site.
4.	PUBLIC REALM	
47	Where can my children play?	 We propose to deliver a new neighbourhood park that will be open to the whole community to use. For residents, formal play space for under 5 years will be provided within the high quality landscaped communal courtyards (e.g. logs, stepping stones etc.). Formal play space for older children (5 years+) will be provided within the new park. Existing ball courts to be re-provided.
48	Will the central park be the same area?	Yes. The Neighbourhood Park remains in the same location.
49	Why is the park area designed North to South, implying a narrow stretch of day light, instead of across from Morden Road to Abbey Road that maximises daylight coming from the South?	The Neighbourhood Park is arranged North to South as this provides the greatest opportunity for sunlight. Overshadowing assessment of the neighbourhood Park and other communal courtyards approves the proposed masterplan arrangement of buildings, heights and the location of amenity spaces.
50	Will the park be secure or open?	The new neighbourhood park will be open to the residents and local community. The design of the park will follow principles of secure by design, including in relation to lighting, to ensure that the space feels safe. Although open, the park has been carefully and strategically designed so that areas of play are crafted in amongst planting with a soft boundary around them.

51	Will any existing trees be removed?	Our objective is to retain as many as trees as possible, however some trees may need to be removed to accommodate the future development. We are currently developing plans for Phases 4-7, so we are unable to confirm the exact number of
		trees, however we are targeting an overall net increase in the number of trees across the site.
52	Will any trees along Merton High Street be removed?	The original planning permission included a condition to retain and protect the existing Sycamore and London Plane trees located in the open landscaped areas adjacent to Merton High Street. It is reasonable to expect that a similar planning condition, to protect these trees on Merton High Street will be applied to a new permission.
53	What trees will be planted? Small 4-6m tall trees, or large, native trees such as oak, etc.?	In addition to the trees being retained, it is intended that there are a significant number of new trees to be planted. Feature trees: trees in key locations will be selected to have distinctive form, leaf colour so that they are clearly identifiable and create a landmark. Street Trees: Large trees with narrow canopy, long life expectancy selected to provide structure and scale. Public Spaces - Parks: Long lived, medium to large scale trees selected for form and colour. Species selection to contrast with street trees and have key park typologies. Communal Gardens and Courtyards: Small to medium scale ornamental. The trees specification will look at increasing the Biodiversity net gain and therefore native trees
54	What is meant by improvements in public space	and their species will be specified. There is an opportunity to provide new play facilities for the residents of High Path and the surrounding area, in an easily accessible and better overlooked space, to ensure that these spaces are safe and secure.
		Consistent with the existing planning permission, we are also proposing a new neighbourhood park.
	INFRASTRUCTURE	
55	Who will maintain the buildings and public spaces?	An estate management strategy for the estate will be developed. It is likely that a managing agent will manage the public spaces. Management of the buildings may depend upon the tenure.

		However, this will be confirmed in the estate
		management strategy.
56	What will happen with waste and recycling?	We are proposing an Underground Refuse System across the High Path estate for general waste, recycling and paper/card. There will also be separate bins for food waste, and bulky waste stores within the buildings.
57	How are you going to prevent mice and rats coming up / gnawing their way into the underground rubbish storage	The metal containers used in an underground refuse system sit in a pre-cast concrete bunker so we would not expect there to be any issue with vermin making their way into the containers. In addition, it is proposed that food waste is contained in an above ground bin.
58	New residents will place additional demands on local services, for example, health, education, open/green spaces. How do you address this?	We are creating new and additional public green spaces for the community to benefit from. We will also make financial contributions to the local authority following planning approval via Section 106 and community infrastructure levy payments. The council uses this money to plan for community infrastructure needs arising from communities.
59	SUSTAINABILITY What is a sustainable	A Sustainable Community can be described as
	community?	one where: • The needs of the community are met and people feel safe, healthy and happy. • The environment is appreciated by the community, protected and any damage is minimised. The economy is vibrant, and local employment opportunities are improved.
60	What will be the energy rating of the new homes?	Clarion's Sustainable Development Roadmap target is to maintain a minimum Energy Performance (EPC) of Band B.
61	Will the underfloor heating be economical?	Underfloor heating should be more efficient than standard radiators, as it evenly distributes the heat around the room, and works at a lower temperature. While the internal heating system for each home is not yet confirmed, it is expected that residents will notice a significant reduction in heating bills due to the energy efficiency of their new homes.
62	What are rain water collection facilities?	Surface Water will be attenuated through the use of various Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDS) methods such as swales, green/brown roof, and permeable block paving. The drainage principles will be produced in liaison with the Lead Local Flood Authority and Thames Water.

63	What flash flood prevention measures are planned?	In accordance with NPPF the proposed development will manage surface water runoff for all storm events up to and including the 1% (1 in100) Annual Probably including an appropriate climate change allowance (extreme rainfall event). In addition, an exceedance flow route plan will be produced to detail to the LLFA how surface water runoff will be directed away from buildings for the large storm events. In addition, as part of the proposed development lies within Flood Zone 2 the project team will work with the wider design team to adopt flood resilient measures (e.g. raising FFLs) to mitigate against the flood risk impacts.
		LLFA = Lead Local Flood Authority FFLs – Finished Floor Levels
64	Have you calculated how many years will be needed of the "reduced" CO2 emissions per better insulation compared to the embedded CO2 in the current buildings, as well as what will be created in the new buildings? Please will you share this data publicly	As part of the outline planning application, a whole life carbon assessment will be undertaken. This will be available on the Council's planning portal in due course.
65	What energy will be used to ensure net zero carbon by 2050?	The energy strategy is currently being developed, however it is proposed that air source heat pumps powered by electricity, will be used to provide heat and hot water to the homes.
66	Please will you share the sustainability report with residents?	An Energy & Sustainability Statement will be prepared as part of the new High Path outline planning application, and will be available on the Council's planning portal in due course.
	Rehousing	
67	Can existing residents be rehoused at a quicker pace, and in what phase will this be completed?	The increased number of homes will inevitably extend the construction timeframe. However, under the new proposals, we are proposing to rehouse all remaining existing residents, not being rehoused in Phases 1 or 2, in Phase 4. In effect, we will therefore complete the rehousing of existing residents sooner than originally envisaged.
68	Can I view a new property now in Phase 1	Please contact your Regeneration Manager to request a viewing of a new home in Phase 1.

	so I know what to expect when it is time for me to move?	
	Employment & training or	
69	Will there be any job opportunities created?	In Phase 1, the construction works have provided 15 new jobs, 11 apprenticeships, and training and qualification opportunities. We expect future phases to continue to deliver social value to residents and the local community.
	TIMESCALES	
70	I am an existing resident. When will my new home be built?	 It is proposed that existing residents will be offered a new home in Phases 1, 2 or 4. Phase 1 is currently expected to complete early 2022. Phase 2 is currently expected to complete in 2025/2026. However, we are looking at opportunities to complete at least part of the phase sooner. Phase 4 is currently expected to complete in 2027/2028.
71	When will the construction works start?	 Construction of the site will be undertaken on a phased basis. Phase 1 is currently on site, and targeted to complete early 2022. Phases 2 and 3 are targeted to start construction in 2022/23. Phase 4 is targeted to start construction in 2025.
72	Will the revised proposals mean that it will take longer to complete the regeneration?	The increased number of homes will inevitably extend the construction timeframe. However, under the new proposals, we are proposing to rehouse all remaining existing residents, not being rehoused in Phases 1 or 2, in Phase 4. In effect, we will therefore complete the rehousing of existing residents sooner than originally envisaged.
	PHASES 1, 2 & 3	•
73	Are you consulting on	Phase 1 has full planning consent, and is
	Phases 1, 2 or 3?	 currently under construction, and expected to complete early 2022. Phase 2 has planning approval under the existing outline planning permission and reserved matters approval. Phase 3 also falls under the existing outline planning permission, and we will be consulting on the reserved matters application once the

74	Why does Phase 3 not	design has been developed. Design development on Phase 3 has started, and it is anticipated that the reserved matters application will be submitted Summer/Autumn 2022. Since we believe that the proposals for Phase 3
	require a new outline planning application?	largely comply with the existing outline planning permission, we have instead made an application to Merton Council for a minor material amendment to the existing planning application to accommodate the proposed changes.
75	Are you providing any additional affordable homes within Phase 3?	Clarion is an affordable housing provider and our priority is always to deliver affordable housing for the benefit of people failed by the housing market. The 247 homes consented in Phases 1 and 2 have been designed for existing residents, and it is proposed that Phase 4 will provide affordable homes. Phase 3 is intended to deliver homes for open market sale, to help subsidise the delivery of the affordable homes.
	Next steps	
76	Are there plans for any Covid compliant inperson consultation meetings?	The next in-person consultation event is planned in January 2022. The details will be provided by Clarion to all residents.