



## MEETING NOTES

<b>Subject:</b>	King Edward Memorial Park Foreshore Community Liaison Working Group Session
<b>Date and time:</b>	Monday 21 October, 6pm – 7.15pm
<b>Location:</b>	Room G1, Shadwell Centre

<b>Tideway</b>	<b>Residents</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emily Black, Engagement Manager (EB)</li> <li>Bridget Sawyers, Public Art Consultant (BS)</li> </ul>	9 residents attended referred to by initial
<b>CVB (Main Works Contractor)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jo Kujovic, Project Manager (JK)</li> <li>Martin Griffiths, Senior Community Relations Manager (MG)</li> <li>Lydia Claxton, Environmental Advisor (LC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AO</li> <li>CM</li> <li>DC</li> <li>DF</li> <li>DP</li> <li>HPB</li> <li>JM</li> <li>MC</li> <li>MS</li> </ul>
<b>Tower Hamlets Council</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bob Bennett (BB)</li> </ul>	An additional resident (JB) did not join the meeting but came in to speak with the Tower Hamlets Officer after the session had concluded.

The meeting was advertised as a drop-in session but as most of the attendees arrived at the start and the residents attending preferred a presentation, a presentation was provided.

The slide pack that was shared with residents is available here - <https://www.tideway.london/media/7068/kempf-clwg-october-2024-website.pdf>

### 1) Site update

JK showed the latest aerials, taken in July 2024, and updated on the recent progress of the site team. Upcoming and recent works are as follows:

Cofferdam removal including scour installation

- Cofferdam removal is planned to be complete by the end of November 2024
- Scour installation works will be complete by March 2025

Architecture and Landscaping

- Soft and hard landscaping works are ongoing and are expected to be complete by March 2025. Some minor concrete breaking is to be expected.

- Intertidal terraces are currently being installed with planting expected to be undertaken in April/May 2025
- Wider planting and tree planting will also be taking place
- The bandstand is due to be reinstated
- Benches, seating and street furniture will also be installed

#### Access road

- An access road will be reinstated from Glamis Road into the site. It is built to a highway specification as there will be the occasional need to bring in a crane in the future and provide maintenance access for Thames Water.

#### Completion

- Physical works are currently expected to be completed by March 2025 including demobilisation from the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

#### Opening to the public

- Thames Path (summer 2025)
- King Edward Memorial Park tideway site area (summer 2025)

The current programme was shared on slide 5. It was noted that there will be minor works continuing into Summer 2025. This programme is subject to remaining progress on site.

It was noted by residents that the programme and construction has continued for significantly longer than first outlined at the planning stage.

Indicative illustrations were shown to show the final scheme.

## 2) Public artwork update

BS provided an update on the public artwork *Cargoes* by Hew Locke, see slides 9-11. She noted that the photographs were not the final artwork but rather the patterns that moulds will be taken from.

BS explained that as part of the project, a public art programme was implemented to deliver the Heritage Interpretation Strategy. At King Edward Memorial Park, a series of unique cast bronze boats, including a tug, Chinese junk, flat barge, Carrack, Thames sailing barge and Bangladesh river boat, symbolise the history of the Thames and the shifting population of the East End. In many cultures, ships are symbolic of a person's passage through life and are considered a container of the soul.

Many histories are suggested by the specific ships, their decorative details and cargo. Many references highlighted by the community have been incorporated into the designs.

The sculptures have now all been cast, which involves a number of stages to create 'patterns' from which the moulds are made of sections of the sculptures, then molten bronze is poured in, allowed to cool and then finished.

The finishing is an intricate process of welding sections of the sculptures together and then removing all traces of the welds and reinstating the decoration and ensuring that all of the decorative details are clear. The boats are about 1m in length but they vary in height.

The sculptures will be installed as part of the last element of the landscaping, and the artist would like to give local residents a tour.

Hew Locke has a solo exhibition on at the British Museum until February 2025.

**Action 1** – Artist / Tideway to provide a tour for residents of the artworks once installed.

### **3) Noise and Air Quality**

LC ran through the latest noise and air quality monitoring results

- There have been zero Section 61 noise exceedances since the last meeting.
- There has been three Air Quality Monitoring exceedances since the last meeting (24h PM10) in June 2024. It was noted that this was on a day with hot weather and only a light breeze.

Any exceedances shown by the monitors are investigated thoroughly after the team is alerted. Work is stopped and the team reevaluate how they could carry out the activity.

LC also ran through the permitted working hours of the site. LC noted that there are extended hours in use while we are working on the foreshore and need to work with the tide times. See slide 12 for full details.

Some residents commented that the pile removal and machinery beeping had been noisy recently despite the zero noise alerts and residents are being disturbed. Residents are encouraged to let the Tideway Helpdesk know when they are being disrupted. EB reminded residents that the Independent Compensation Panel is also available for residents to apply to (details below). JK noted that the team are regularly briefed to remind workers of the residents who live in close proximity of the works.

### **4) Legacy and Community Investment**

MG provided an update on highlights from the team, including:

- River Times magazine distributed to circa 16,000 households around the east sites
- King Edward Memorial Park Foreshore site team are currently liaising with the neighbouring Shadwell Basin Centre to reuse equipment
- CVB personal protection equipment (PPE) donation to Constructionarium in Norfolk
- Work experience: 14 students hosted this year by the east team
- London Design & Engineering University Technical College careers day & student mentoring supported
- Boat trip with Harris Academy students to showcase sustainability job opportunities
- Visited Bounceback charity for employing ex-offenders visit at HMP Brixton
- Members of the team supported the Thames 21 wet wipe count at Hammersmith

Highlights from the wider project include:

- Widespread media coverage as we put the lid on the final super sewer shaft at Abbey Mills and started testing the system
- British Construction Industry Awards: Tideway wins included environmental project of the year and project of the year
- Better Society awards – Tideway Highly Commended
- Tideway Sustainability Report published

- Social Value Forum held with Tideway and other major projects
- International Women's Day panel held at our Chambers Wharf site

MG also showed a collation of the latest aerial photographs from the six eastern sites on the Tideway tunnel route.

## 5) Wider Tideway Project Overview

EB provided an overview from the wider project as final major construction work is complete underground, and Tideway is now starting to clean up the river:

- First 4 of 21 sites have been 'switched on', with the new tunnel starting to protect the River Thames from sewage pollution for the first time
- First data records half a million cubic metres of sewage captured by the tunnel network in a single 24-hour period (23 Sept)
- The teams are now working to bring the system into full operation
- The sewer is on track for completion or full operation in 2025

## 6) Contacting Tideway

EB noted residents can continue to contact us by emailing [helpdesk@tideway.london](mailto:helpdesk@tideway.london) or telephoning 08000 30 80 80. Residents can also follow us on social media for updates.

## 7) Mitigation

EB reminded attendees that if a resident believes they will be affected by upcoming activities, they can download the application form for the Independent Compensation Panel from the Tideway website: [here](#) or take a paper copy that was provided at the meeting.

Mitigation from the impacts of Tideway's works could include things such as:

- noise cancelling headphones
- temporary office accommodation, if you work from home
- periods of daily respite, to enable you to leave your property during noisier periods
- reimbursement for daytime activities undertaken during noisy periods
- short term or long-term rehousing, during cofferdam removal works

To be considered for additional mitigation you will need to make an application to the ICP and specify the mitigation you believe will be suitable for your personal circumstances.

For personal assistance contact our Helpdesk: 08000 30 80 80 or [helpdesk@tideway.london](mailto:helpdesk@tideway.london).

The Helpdesk can submit your claim to the Independent Compensation Panel (ICP) on your behalf, or you can submit your claim direct to the ICP: [admin@tidewayicp.london](mailto:admin@tidewayicp.london)

For independent advice contact Independent Advisory Service (IAS) Helpline: 0800 917 8845 or [info@tidewayias.co.uk](mailto:info@tidewayias.co.uk)

## 8) Questions from the session

Questions raised by residents have been grouped into themes:

Theme	Question / Comment	Response
Design	Will the bandstand be returned to the park?	Yes, it will be reinstated by Tideway.
Kiosk	What is the kiosk for?	The kiosk houses the mechanical and electrical equipment used to operate the hydraulic structures of the sewer system, most of our sites have one.
Kiosk	Will the kiosk be staffed?	Not regularly, but there will be staff there on occasion especially when we are testing and commissioning the new system.
Kiosk	Is there anything to stop people climbing on top of the kiosk and into people's properties.	It has been designed with a gap behind the kiosk and the wall of Free Trade Wharf.
Kiosk	Will the kiosk be lit at night.	No.
Access road	Will there be a separate path for pedestrians?	No, but the access road will not be required very frequently for vehicles. The access road is needed for Thames Water's access and maintenance vehicles as well as the occasional crane. Vehicles movements will need to be managed on the day by Thames Water.
Cofferdam	Are you confident that there isn't much work left to do to remove the piles in the cofferdam?	Pile removal will only take a few more weeks. It has been a slow removal process but we are confident in the remaining programme.
Construction works	What is the team excavating currently?	We are excavating the foreshore to be able to install foundations. This is part of the work for the intertidal terraces which will be planted.
Construction works	There is rubbish collecting in the water around the cofferdam piles.	We are aware that some debris is collecting. We will continue to monitor this, but this should be resolved once all the cofferdam piles are removed.
Construction works	What is taking place in the corner by Free Trade Wharf.	We are commissioning hydraulic penstocks.
Odour	A resident complained about recent odours that have been caused by Tideway's work.	<p>The team acknowledge that this was a temporary situation over the summer.</p> <p>Sewage currently discharges from the existing Northeast Storm Relief Sewer, which runs beneath King Edward Memorial Park, into the River Thames. We are currently in the final stages of construction and the early stages of commissioning works. As part of these commissioning works, any flows previously</p>

		<p>discharged into the river from the existing sewer overflow are temporarily diverted through our new hydraulic structures, before then being discharged into the river. We anticipate this stage will be completed by the end of the year.</p> <p>During this period, occasional odour issues may arise, particularly in hot and dry weather or after heavy rainfall. However, these discharges are short-term and pose no harm to health.</p> <p>The site team will continue to minimise these odours through regular cleaning of the new, below-ground chambers. Once operational, these flows will be diverted directly into the tunnel, for treatment at Beckton Sewage Treatment Works.</p> <p>When complete and fully operational, with carbon filters and an enclosed asset, the site is not expected to be odourous.</p>
Warning CSO lights	Why are there warning lights in place for shipping?	<p>There will be warning lights at all our riverside sites to alert river users if there are discharges into the river.</p> <p>This is likely to be a rare occurrence. During the majority of rainfall events, sewage will be captured by the new sewer. The lights are in place for very extreme events or if the tunnel is closed for maintenance / inspections. We are in the process of testing the lighting system.</p>
Warning CSO lights	Will residents be warned if a discharge to river is taking place?	No, residents will not be notified automatically, however residents can check on Thames Water's live map - <a href="https://www.thameswater.co.uk/edm-map">https://www.thameswater.co.uk/edm-map</a>
Floodable terrace	How often will the river flood over the lower path?	Once a month at the astronomical high tide, the river will overlap the lower path. We have this feature at a few of our sites as a design feature to reconnect Londoners with the river.
Climate Change	What are you doing about global warming?	The site and sewer have been designed with a 120 year lifespan that takes into consideration climate change.
Artwork	Where are the artworks being made?	The patterns were made in Deptford and the foundry is in Ramsgate.
Artwork	Will children be able to interact with the artwork?	Yes, the artworks are designed to be tactile and they won't be fenced off.
Artwork	Was Hew Locke the original artist for this site for Tideway?	Yes.

Ventilation columns	Is Hew Locke working on the ventilation columns.	No, the two ventilation columns are not designed by Hew Locke. They are being fabricated currently and will have poems incorporated into them by Dorothea Smartt. There are currently two temporary ventilation columns in place.
Site offices area	What happens to the site offices?	The site offices will be removed. This is expected to be in around March 2025. Tower Hamlets Council will take over that area.  BB noted that the Masterplan for the area was approved two years ago.  BB noted that the plan is for tennis courts as part of a multi sport area.
Masterplan	What is Tower Hamlets schedule for completion of their works.	BB noted that the current programme is for completion of the masterplan in 2026 but this does depend on Tideway's progress.  BB noted that detailed drawings / plans are being drawn up at the moment.
Masterplan	Will Tower Hamlets Council close the park once Tideway's works are finished.	BB noted that it is not currently the intention to close the park. The phasing hasn't been worked out yet. The council's works need to be integrated with Tideway's works.
Masterplan	Will the park close at night?	BB noted that Tower Hamlet's current position is to leave the park open at night.
Masterplan	Will the pathway be lit at night?	No, it is not planned to light the path.
Shadwell Basin	What is the update on the Tower Hamlets Council work at Shadwell Basin	BB noted there had been a delay due to the Mayor investigating whether the funding could be spent elsewhere. He was advised it had to be spent on Shadwell Basin.

### 9) Actions from 21 October 2025

Action	Status
<b>Action 1</b> – Artist / Tideway to provide a tour for residents of the artworks once installed.	Open

### Open and ongoing actions from previous meetings

Action	Comments	Status
CVB team to keep residents updated with changes to the overall programme.	Action is open and ongoing. The current programme is included on slide 5.	Open and ongoing

CVB team to continue to keep residents informed about the progress of the cofferdam removal.	Action is ongoing while the cofferdam removal is taking place. The team is sending out email updates detailing progress to residents signed up to our mailing list.	Open and ongoing
CVB team to continue to inform residents of noisy activities and any changes to working hours.	Action is ongoing while construction activities are taking place. The team sends out information to our mailing list with relevant updates.	Open and ongoing
Tideway to arrange an update on the artwork at a CLWG and provide a progress update.	January 2022 - Planning submission granted, and details of the artwork have been shared at CLWG sessions. Webpage available here. <a href="https://www.tideway.london/impact/art-on-the-tideway/permanent-commissions/hew-locke-cargoes/">https://www.tideway.london/impact/art-on-the-tideway/permanent-commissions/hew-locke-cargoes/</a>	Closed - Tideway team provided update on the artwork and the artist's progress at this meeting – 21/10/2025.