

What is CamdenTalks?

CamdenTalks is a consultative panel of nearly 2000 residents which aims to give local people a chance to have their say about life in the borough and about local public services. Together, the Camden NHS Primary Care Trust (PCT), the Metropolitan Police and Camden Council set up the panel. The council coordinates it.

MORI, the independent research company, recruited the panel and will carry out some further consultation exercises with CamdenTalks.

Who is on the panel?

Members of CamdenTalks are from a range of backgrounds from all over the borough. The panel is broadly representative of Camden's population in terms of age, ethnicity and area.

What does the panel do?

CamdenTalks was launched in September 2004. Since then, participants have had a chance to make their views known by taking part in a postal survey on various local issues, an online discussion on how different communities can live together in Camden and a telephone poll and focus groups on parking in the borough.

Other examples of panel consultation include discussions about community safety and on the re-development plans for King's Cross and St Pancras. We have also invited some CamdenTalks members to test our customer services by making "mystery shopping" visits to our reception points and assessing how they were treated by staff.

What does joining CamdenTalks involve?

As a panel member you will not be expected to participate in everything.

There is a great range and choice of activities and topics to suit different members of the panel.

- Surveys: panel members are asked to respond to questionnaires, telephone or internet surveys a few times a year.
- Workshops: panel members are invited to participate in community workshops. During these, panel members examine local issues in detail by listening to information and then discussing their views with other panel members in light of what they have heard.
- Focus groups: smaller groups of panel members get together to explore a topic in depth.
- Online discussions: through the CamdenTalks website panel members can take part in dialogue and debate online.

Why would I want to join?

As a member of CamdenTalks you will have the opportunity to tell us about your experiences of living in Camden and what you expect from local public services. You will be able to inform decisions made by the council, health partners and the police. We will give you regular feedback on what we have found out and on action taken as a result through newsletters, email messages and a CamdenTalks website.

What about confidentiality?

The information you give us about yourself will only be used for research and consultation purposes, or to invite you to community events run by the council, police, Camden PCT or research organisations working for us.

How do I join?

We want as many residents as possible to have the opportunity to take part in CamdenTalks.

If you are interested in joining CamdenTalks, we will send you a recruitment questionnaire to complete and return to us. We will keep your details on file for when we open up the panel to new members. We will do this every six months.



Further information

If you would like further information about the panel please contact:

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If you would like this flyer in large print or braille, audiotape or in another language, please contact 020 7974 2704.

Produced by Camden Design tel 020 7974 1985 CED204/05 5888 November 2004



All you need to know about the Camden Citizens Panel