



## **Watermans Relocation – Statement 21 June 2017**

Watermans is a much-loved arts venue, creative community hub and social enterprise which delivers impactful artistic programmes in West London and beyond. Our venue is known for independent cinema, children's theatre, live performance, and a year-round programme of contemporary digital arts, as well as numerous courses and activities for all ages.

We also lead several high profile initiatives beyond our venue: *CPP Hounslow*, a major Arts Council programme aimed at engaging new audiences and communities in the arts across Hounslow; *Circulate*, a London-wide touring network of major outdoor arts events; and *Bell Square*, our outdoor arts venue in Hounslow Town Centre putting on fortnightly free outdoor performances and events.

At the heart of our ethos is our mission to inspire communities through creativity and this approach is reflected in our welcoming, human and inclusive venue in Brentford. This ethos is core to Watermans' approach and will remain wherever we are housed.

As we look to the future, we need a home that can support our ambitious artistic vision, meet audiences' fast-changing expectations of what an arts experience should be and support our work in the community. And we believe that a building of this calibre can be part of the driving force behind the regeneration of Brentford, making it a go-to creative destination.

We are currently engaged in detailed planning with the developer, London Green, and London Borough of Hounslow on the exact size and spec of a proposed new home for Watermans on the site of the old police station in the centre of Brentford.

Providing the resulting plans fully meet our requirements and those of our audiences, and pending planning permission, we expect to agree to the move.

The time frame for actual relocation to a new building will be at least 2-3 years from now, and Watermans will continue full operation until such time as the new building is ready to move into. Please rest assured that Friends memberships and contractual agreements will NOT be affected at this time.

We welcome your feedback on the proposals which should be submitted via London Green through the channels below.

**[regeneratingbrentford@yourshout.org](mailto:regeneratingbrentford@yourshout.org)**

**0800 458 6976**

Or please don't hesitate to email Watermans at [info@watermans.org.uk](mailto:info@watermans.org.uk)