

## FIRST VIEW OF MASTERPLAN FOR NEW ELEPHANT &amp; CASTLE

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19

News

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THE first detailed images of the plans for the transformation of the notorious Elephant and Castle shopping centre have been unveiled.

The vision includes a new campus for the London College of Communication and 1,000 flats at and around the site of the concrete mall, once given a bright pink makeover.

Of the new homes, the majority will be available to let on a long-term basis through Get Living London, which manages the flats at the former 2012 athletes' village in east London.

The Evening Standard has been given the first look at the full proposals, which also include space for start-up businesses and a 1,000-seat cinema.

In addition a "grass-roots" music venue for a 500-strong audience is on the agenda, boosting the south London area's credential as a magnet for music lovers. Nearby already boasts the Ministry of Sound nightclub where David Guetta and Pete Tong have performed, and the popular Corsica Studios.

Initial proposals were first shown to the public in July last year and the new masterplan includes feedback from residents and businesses.

The plans, on show at the shopping centre from tomorrow until Saturday, come about three years after the shopping centre building was snapped up for £80 million.

The area is undergoing a wider £3 billion regeneration. Subject to planning permission from Southwark council, construction on the latest proposals could start in early 2018 and be finished by the end of 2021. Jamie Ritblat, chief

## First view of masterplan for new Elephant & Castle



Major rebuild: the plans include 1,000 flats, music venue, cinema and space for new businesses

executive of developer Delancey, which is behind the scheme alongside pension fund asset manager APG, said: "Our ambition is to create a new and improved town centre for Elephant and Castle, one which complements, celebrates and builds upon the existing

diversity and vibrancy that this key Zone 1 location is already so renowned for."

The Elephant and Castle shopping centre was built on a bomb site and opened in 1965. There were hopes it would be one of the first US-style enclosed malls in Europe but it always

suffered from a poor image. Architect Allies and Morrison, which has drawn up the vision, helped transform former red-light district King's Cross into an office hot-spot for brands such as Louis Vuitton and Google.

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## Events company boss cleared of Victoria's Secret ticket scam

Tristan Kirk Courts Reporter

AN events company boss has been cleared of a £100,000 VIP ticket scam for the Victoria's Secret fashion show.

Mini Vohra, 36, was said to have sold luxury tickets which failed to materialise for the December 2014 event, using his company Cornucopia Events.

The show featured performances from Ed Sheeran and Taylor Swift, and attracted guests such as Daisy Lowe.

Vohra appeared at Hammersmith magistrates' court in March, accused of taking £100,764 for six VIP tickets which included seats for the show and access to the afterparty.

However, when the case reached Isleworth crown court, prosecutors offered no evidence and not guilty verdicts were entered.

Vohra, from Kingston upon Thames, denied fraud throughout.

**Performance:** Taylor Swift at the Victoria's Secret show

