

Francis Road, Leyton

Factfile

Spend: £580,000

Dates: Works started October 2013

Works finished April 2014

Highlighting the potential for keeping and improving the retail environment, a study carried out by the Council and architects looked at the future scope of this road which connects Leyton High Road to Grove Green Road. Pupils from nearby Newport Primary School helped shape plans for Francis Road by providing their ideas on what the local neighbourhood should look like, and staff from Downsell Secondary School were also engaged in the plans.

Consultation with businesses and residents was carried out before the designs were finalised in mid-2013.

The works included:

- **32 businesses** benefited from works to their shopfront facades.
- The upper levels of 32 properties were restored, and significant building work including new signage, roofing, tiling and guttering, was also carried out.
- Public areas were improved by resurfacing the pavement, installing new lighting columns and removing and replacing diseased trees.

In 2013, before works started, over a fifth of the area's business properties were vacant, with 10 out of 45 empty. As a result of the scheme, more businesses have moved to the area and new retail outlets have opened.

