

# EC1, you've got to love it!



Love EC1



Don Kehoe wants positive change to continue in EC1

EC1 is so vibrant with lots going on

Don Kehoe is one of the residents in the group. He's lived on Sebastian Street for nearly eight years and his family has connections to the area that stretch back decades: "My father-in-law was born on Percival Street in 1913 so I have a real affinity with EC1. It's so vibrant with lots going on. I've seen great improvements in the time that I've lived here. I know that's due to EC1 New Deal for Communities. I've seen what they've achieved and I want the momentum for change to continue and that's why I joined the group."

**With the EC1 New Deal for Communities (NDC) programme coming to an end in early 2011, plans are already in place to make sure that the EC1 area will continue to get the care and attention it deserves for years to come.**

EC1 NDC has been instrumental in setting up an influential group of people, (known as a neighbourhood steering group) that will champion the needs of the area and the people who live here so that local services are delivered effectively. That group of people is led by Neighbourhood Director, Sarah Kingston, who is based at the St Luke's Centre on Central Street. She recently ran a campaign to encourage local residents to join the group. "People who live here know what the issues are. Their

children go to the local schools, they use the housing service, youth clubs and shops, so they can give first-hand feedback" she said. "Residents also play an important part in looking after the area. The whole philosophy of the neighbourhood steering group is that if everyone works together including residents and various service providers like Homes for Islington, the council and the police, we can achieve a whole lot more than working in isolation."

The campaign to attract residents onto the group, called 'EC1, you've got to love it!' captured the imagination of dozens of residents. "We had over 50 enquiries," said Sarah Kingston. "Twenty-one people were interviewed and it was a very tough job selecting the nine to join the group. It's clear that many people do love living in EC1."

It's early days for the EC1 Neighbourhood Steering Group which had its first meeting at the end of October and there's a bit of time yet before it takes on some of the work of EC1 NDC.

Look out for the orange 'Love EC1' heart – it's the symbol for a group of people who genuinely care about the area and the people who live here.

To find out more about the EC1 Neighbourhood Steering Group visit [www.loveec1.org.uk](http://www.loveec1.org.uk) or call Sarah Kingston on 020 7549 8176.