

Feedback about issues raised at previous community council meetings

Question	Response
<p>Questions raised at the meeting on 22 September 2011</p> <p>Question 1: The council's Hate Crime Strategy I understand has not gone through please could the council explain why? (Dax Ashworth)</p>	<p>The council's forward plan indicates that the Hate Crime Strategy was considered at the Cabinet meeting on 13 December 2011.</p> <p>Cabinet decision:</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the hate crime strategy for Southwark 2011- 2015, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved. 2. That the five overarching strategic aims as outlined within the strategy and the supporting delivery plan be approved. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategic aims are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-energise interest in tackling hate crime • Promote the support services available • Encourage communities to work together to tackle the issue • Encourage people to approach services to seek support and report hate crime, and • To take a robust approach to tackle those who are repeat perpetrators of hate crime. 3. That it be noted "Stop Hate UK", a charity that provides independent and confidential support to victims of hate crime, has been jointly commissioned between the London Borough of Southwark and the Metropolitan Police Services to run a short pilot in 2011/12.
<p>Question 2: Addressed to Camberwell Green ward councillors: The last administration ensured the road sweepers were out in force keeping our streets clean. This has not happened with the present administration. Please could you look in to this? (Nick Mellish)</p>	<p>As a direct consequence of the government's cuts in public spending in early 2011 and in line with every other local authority in the country Southwark was required to review every aspect of the services it delivers to the community as a whole, street cleansing was no exception. As part of this review process in April 2011 the street cleansing budget was reduced by almost one million pounds which resulted in the loss of 48 street cleaners posts and represented a 20% reduction in the total street cleansing workforce, this has invariably led to a reduced presence of street cleansing operatives on the borough's streets however the current street cleaning service still provides the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent daily litter picking/cleaning presence on all major retail areas from the hours of 06:00 to 18:00. • Alternate day litter picking/cleaning of all other roads/streets. • Daily mechanical sweeping of all major retail areas. • Full manual sweeping of all other roads/streets every 4 weeks.

<p>Question 4: Recycling collection: It has been noted that there has been a successful increase with people recycling items based on weekly collections (why)? Does the council propose to make recycling collections on a fortnightly basis? (Ian McGeough)</p>	<p>The blue wheeled bins (or additional stackable blue boxes where appropriate) provide residents with at least double the current capacity for recycling, with little or no change to the footprint of containers required. This increased capacity allows us to run a more efficient fortnightly recycling service. With recycling being even easier now that there is no requirement to separate out materials, we are confident that the changes to the recycling service will have a positive impact on the amount people recycle.</p>
<p>Question 5: Why can't individual requirements be canvassed before bins are allocated? (Ian McGeough)</p> <p>Question raised at meeting on 31 October 2011</p> <p>Is it true that Tesco are planning to open a store on the site of the Dulwich Garden Centre? If so, what research was done prior to planning permission being given on the likely effects on existing shops in Grove Vale? (Yvonne Lewis)</p>	<p>The new configuration of recycling and refuse services is being rolled out to 45,000 street-based properties. Because we delivered containers and information to so many properties, it wasn't feasible to deliver the various possible configurations of receptacles to each property 'to order'. However, over the summer months we surveyed all properties on a street by street basis, in order to determine the most appropriate receptacles for each street. We are also of course happy to work with residents to exchange containers they have received where requested.</p> <p>In July 2011, the Planning Committee resolved to grant planning permission for the redevelopment of 20-22 Grove Vale, to provide a new library, one retail units, and 20 flats. The new retail unit replaces the existing Garden Centre, which is also classified as a 'Class A1' retail use.</p> <p>The new shop unit would have an area of 293 sqm. Whilst the planning permission, through the Use Class Order, can control the general use of the unit, requiring it to be occupied only by a retail use, it cannot control who the occupier would actually be. No information was submitted with the application about the likely end user. We are aware of the local speculation about a Tesco store, but this is not something which formed part of the application, and is in any case not something which the Council, as Planning Authority, would have any ability to control.</p> <p>The Planning Committee's resolution was subject to the applicant entering into a legal agreement with the Council to secure various community benefits. This agreement has not yet been signed, and so the permission has not been issued. Once it is, the developer would have 3 years within which to implement the permission. During this period, they would seek tenants for the unit, but provided that the user fell within the A1 use class (which Tesco would do) the Council would have no involvement in that decision.</p>