



## **Consultation Plan**

## **New Southwark Plan**

## **Options Version: Draft policies and area visions**

October 2014

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# 1. Introduction

## What is the new Southwark Plan?

- 1.1. The New Southwark Plan (NSP) is a planning document that will provide an overarching strategy for managing growth and development across the borough for 10-15 years. The New Southwark Plan will set out how we will deliver further regeneration and wider improvements to our borough in the years to come.
- 1.2. The New Southwark Plan explains our strategy for regeneration from 2018 to 2033. The New Southwark Plan will look to:
  - Set policies to support the provision of new homes including 11,000 new Council homes
  - Protect our existing schools and community facilities in the borough and provide more where this is needed
  - Protect local businesses and attract more businesses into the borough to increase job opportunities
  - Support our high streets and increase the range of shops to increase their vitality
  - Direct growth to certain areas of the borough, predominantly in Elephant and Castle, Canada Water, East Walworth, Blackfriars Road, Bankside and along the River Thames where there is greater public transport accessibility
  - Introduce policies to improve places by enhancing local distinctiveness and protecting our heritage assets
  - Set policies to provide more green infrastructure and to promote opportunities for healthy activities
  - Provide visions and policies for the many different areas within Southwark
- 1.3. The NSP will replace the saved policies of the Southwark Plan 2007 and the Core Strategy 2011 and will be used to make decisions on planning applications.
- 1.4. The NSP will be a spatial plan. Not only will it set out planning policies to guide development but it will also explain how development will be delivered and may inform future decisions about investment in infrastructure.
- 1.5. This consultation plan should be read alongside the draft New Southwark Plan itself (Options version: draft policies and visions) and the consultation report. These documents can be found at:  
[http:// www.southwark.gov.uk/newsouthwarkplan](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/newsouthwarkplan)

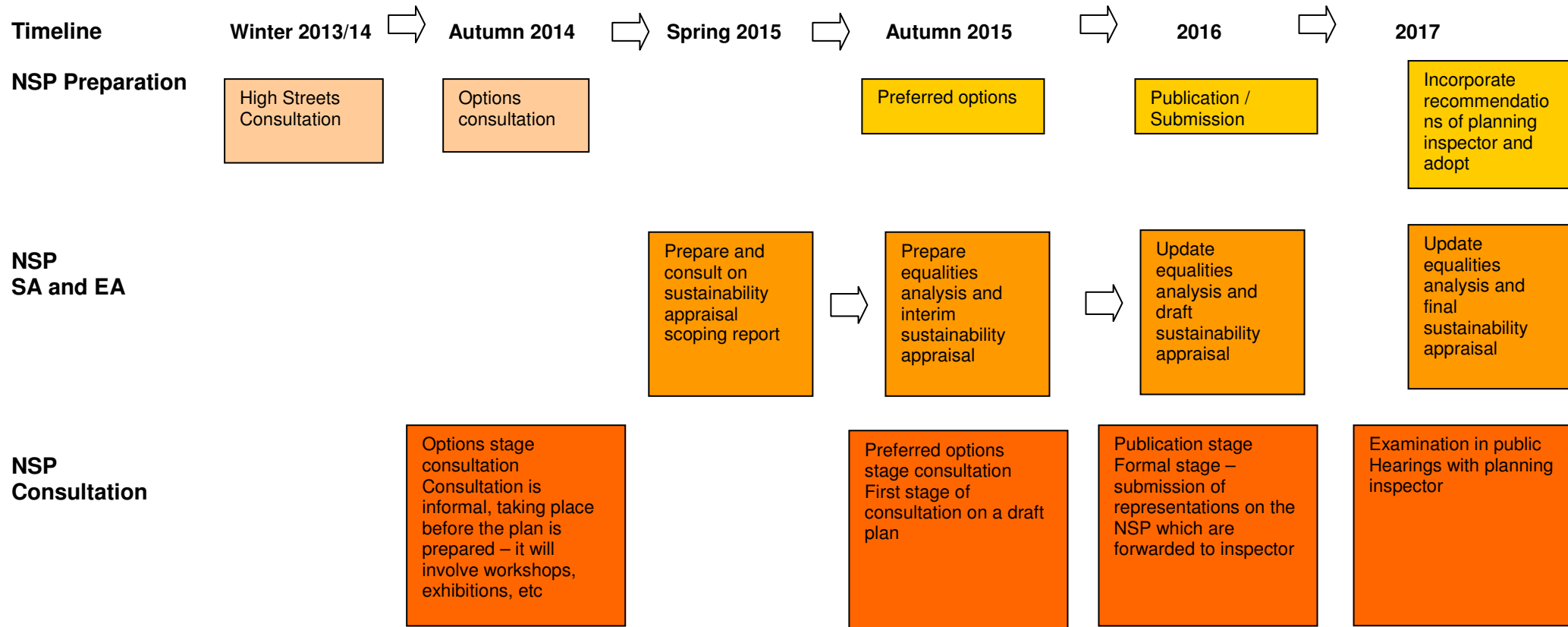
### **The purpose and objectives of this consultation plan**

- 1.6. The purpose of this consultation plan is to explain how consultation on the New Southwark Plan Options will take place. It explains how the consultation will meet the requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Local planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (The Regulations) as well as the guidance sets out in Southwark's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). The SCI explains how we will consult the community in the preparation of planning documents. Further information is set out in section 3 of this plan.
- 1.7. We have already undertaken some initial informal consultation focused on our High Streets. We carried out a survey focused on the borough's high streets from November 2013 to March 2014. Interested parties had the opportunity to respond online, by post or through attending community outreach consultations at neighbourhood groups. The events were informal sessions in which Council officers attended each venue for three to four hours to discuss the emerging New Southwark Plan and asked residents to share their comments using a brief survey. We held 15 types of consultation events as well as receiving comments by email, post and from local groups representing specific interests such as faith groups, LGBT groups and disability groups. We received a total of 516 questionnaire responses. More information is set out in our consultation report.

## 2. How will the New Southwark Plan be prepared?

2.1. The NSP will involve several stages of consultation. The stages and the relationships between consultation and preparation of the plan itself are shown in Diagram 1 below.

Diagram 1



### 3. How are we consulting?

- 3.1. This consultation plan sets out the consultation we are planning to carry out on the New Southwark Plan Options paper. This is in accordance with our adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) (2008), which explains how we will consult the community in the preparation of planning policy documents. The following sections set out how we plan to meet the minimum SCI consultation requirements and how we will exceed these requirements where appropriate. By meeting the minimum SCI requirements we will also meet the minimum consultation requirements in the 2012 Regulations.
- 3.2. Once we have finished consulting on the New Southwark Plan options paper we will collate all the responses we receive and see whether we need to amend the plan to take into account the responses. We will provide officer comments on all the responses we receive which will set out whether we have changed the plan to reflect the response, and will explain our reasoning for why we have/have not amended the plan. We will then consult on a Preferred Options version on the New Southwark Plan in Autumn/ Winter 2015.
- 3.3. This consultation plan should be read alongside the following documents:
  - New Southwark Plan (Options version): This planning document that will provide an overarching strategy for managing growth and development across the borough for 10-15 years.
  - The interim consultation report.
- 3.4. These documents can be found on our website at:  
[http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/856/planning\\_policy/3315/the\\_new\\_southwark\\_plan](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/856/planning_policy/3315/the_new_southwark_plan)
- 3.5. The documents will also be available for inspection at all of our libraries across the borough. Addresses and opening times for all of our libraries are available on our website at; [http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/437/libraries\\_and\\_locations](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/437/libraries_and_locations)

### **Tailoring the SCI to meet the circumstances of the NSP**

- 3.6. The NSP will be a spatial strategy that covers the whole of the borough. It will influence issues that have a significant effect in people's lives and businesses. These issues include how we will support the provision of new homes including 11,000 new Council homes, maintain a strong local economy and healthy town centres, provide infrastructure to support new development, direct growth to the most appropriate parts of the borough and protect and improve our green infrastructure and heritage assets.
- 3.7. The plan will affect many groups in the community including;
- Existing residents living in and around the borough, including council tenants; people in need of housing
  - Existing businesses and businesses looking to move into the borough.
  - People with jobs in businesses in the borough that might be affected; people who might be looking for jobs
  - Landowners.
  - Congregations in the many faith premises that are located in the borough.
  - Shoppers and visitors to the area.
  - Students who are studying and/or residing in the borough.
  - Cyclists and pedestrians using the routes in the borough.
  - Developers.
- 3.8. The Council is also preparing a new Housing Strategy that will look at priorities for investment and regeneration in the borough's housing stock over the coming years. As far as possible, we will seek to coordinate consultation on the Housing Strategy and the New Southwark Plan. It will be important to clearly identify how the different plans fit together to avoid confusion.

## 4. Consultation timetable and methods of consultation

### Consultation timeframe

- 4.1. Our statutory requirement is to consult on planning documents for a minimum of six weeks. However, we have found that six weeks does not always allow the community enough time to provide their comments, and so we set out in our SCI that we will consult on our planning policy documents for a minimum of 12 weeks. We have extended the usual 12 week consultation for the new Southwark Plan to take into account the Christmas holidays and ensure everyone has enough time to comment on this stage of the plan.
- 4.2. The New Southwark Plan options document to the public from Friday 31 October 2014 to Monday 2 March 2015.
- 4.3. **All responses must be received by 5pm on Monday 2 March 2015.**

### Consultation methods

- 4.4. The tables below set out the different consultation methods we propose to use. We hope to consult with as many people as possible so that the New Southwark Plan reflects the needs and aspirations of our diverse community.
- 4.5. We set out the minimum SCI requirements that we will carry out, and then the additional consultation we propose to carry out. We set out dates where these are already agreed.
- 4.6. This table is not exhaustive and throughout the consultation period we look at ways in which to carry out different types of consultation with as many different groups as possible.
- 4.7. Please check our website for an up-to-date list of dates of meetings and events at:  
[http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/856/planning\\_policy/3315/the\\_new\\_southwark\\_plan](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/856/planning_policy/3315/the_new_southwark_plan)
- 4.8. If you would like us to attend your community meeting to discuss the New Southwark Plan please let us know.



**TABLE 1: MINIMUM CONSULTATION AS REQUIRED BY OUR STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

<b>Method of Consultation</b>	<b>Consultee</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Display the New Southwark Plan and accompanying documents on the council's website.	All	31 October 2014	Our website will continually be updated. The new Southwark Plan options document will be available on our website from 31 October 2014.
Mail out to all the prescribed bodies on the planning policy mailing database.	All on consultees defined as statutory consultees in the SCI and all the prescribed bodies and neighbouring boroughs referred to in the Duty to co-operate. (see list in Appendix A)	W/c 3 Nov 2014	This includes the bodies identified as statutory consultees in the SCI), all the prescribed bodies as set out in the Localism Act and that we are required to consult with as part of the Duty to co-operate, and all our neighbouring boroughs.
Display the New Southwark Plan and its supporting documents at relevant libraries and one stop shops.	All	W/c 3 Nov 2014	The New Southwark Plan will be available for view at all our libraries and one stop shops.
Place a press notice in the local newspaper to advertise the start of the consultation period	All	W/c 3 Nov 2014	This will be in the Southwark News

**TABLE 2: ADDITIONAL CONSULTATION**

Method of Consultation	Consultee	Date	Comments
Mail-out to all non-statutory consultees on planning policy database. This will set out the timescale for consultation and how people can comment on the New Southwark Plan. The letter will also invite local groups to contact us if they would like us to attend their community meeting to discuss the New Southwark Plan.	All on planning policy consultee database	W/c 3 Nov 2014	
Announcement at all Community Councils to let the community know that the New Southwark Plan is out for consultation.	All who attend the community council.	<p>We are looking to attend the following dates but these are yet to be confirmed so please check the website or with the planning policy team for the final agendas.</p> <p>Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Saturday 29 November 2014 1pm</p> <p>Borough, Bankside and Walworth Saturday 29 November 2014 1pm</p> <p>Camberwell</p>	<p>The meeting agendas can be found at:  <a href="http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/mgListCommittees.aspx?bcr=1">http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/mgListCommittees.aspx?bcr=1</a></p>

		<p>Saturday 15 November 2014</p> <p>Dulwich Wednesday 3 December 2014</p> <p>Peckham and Nunhead Monday 10 November 2014</p>	
Attend Planning Committee	All who attend planning committee	Date TBC	The meeting agendas can be found at: <a href="http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=119">http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=119</a>
Workshops with stakeholders	All	Venues and dates to be confirmed	We are looking at running a number of workshops which may focus on specific topics in the New southwark Plan. Please see our website for confirmation of the venues and dates.
Local stakeholder group meetings	Members of individual groups and organisations	Throughout the consultation period	Where invited we will attend community meetings to discuss the New Southwark Plan.
Public exhibitions and community conversations	All	Venues and dates to be confirmed	We are looking at setting up a number of public exhibitions and community conversations. Please see our website for confirmation of the venues and dates.

Discussions with our neighbouring boroughs and where appropriate the prescribed bodies.	All prescribed bodies and neighbouring boroughs. (see list in Appendix A)	Throughout the consultation period	The National Planning Policy Framework has introduced the Duty to Co-operate. We will send our neighbouring boroughs and prescribed bodies a copy of the New Southwark Plan for comment and meet with them to discuss the document further if required.

## 5. How to comment on the New Southwark Plan

- 5.1 We welcome your comments on the New Southwark Plan and the supporting documents.
- 5.2 Please contact us if you would like to know more about the New Southwark Plan or to find out more about our consultation.
- 5.3 All comments must be received by **5pm on Monday 2 March 2015**
- 5.4 Representations can be emailed or sent to:

Juliet Seymour  
Planning Policy Manager  
Planning Policy  
Regeneration  
FREEPOST SE1919/14  
London SE1P 5LX

[planningpolicy@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@southwark.gov.uk)

Tel: 0207 525 5471

## 6. Monitoring and reporting

- 6.1 Each stage of consultation will be monitored where practical to ensure that a diverse range of groups and people are involved, including groups with protected characteristics. Demographic monitoring forms will be attached to questionnaire at each stage. A consultation report will be prepared following each stage and where under representation of particular groups is identified, efforts would be made at the following stage to rectify it.
- 6.2 The outcomes of consultation that takes place in Autumn 2014/winter 2015 will be set out in preferred options New Southwark Plan and accompanying consultation report in Autumn/winter 2015.
- 6.3 At preferred options stage and publication stage, all comments received will be input into a database and the council will respond individually to each comment. All respondents will be notified of the submission of the plan to the secretary of state for examination and will be notified of the examination hearings. A consultation report will be submitted to the secretary of state showing how the Regulations and the aims of the Statement of Community Involvement have been met and describing how the plan has been influenced by consultation.

## Appendix: Prescribed bodies and our neighbouring boroughs

Section 110 of the Localism Act requires ongoing co-operation between local authorities and a range of prescribed bodies. It requires the body required to carry out the duty to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis.

This requirement is known as “The Duty to Co-operate”.

The prescribed bodies are defined in section 4 of the *Town and Country Planning (Local Planning)(England) Regulations 2012* and are:

- Environment Agency
- English Heritage
- Natural England
- Mayor of London
- Transport for London
- Highway Authority
- Civil Aviation Authority
- The Office of Rail Regulation
- Homes and Communities Agency
- Primary Care Trusts
- Maritime Management Organisation
- Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs)

The Localism Act and subsequent requirements of the duty to co-operate also require boroughs to engage and work with their neighbouring boroughs.

Our neighbouring boroughs are:

- Lewisham
- Lambeth
- Croydon
- Tower Hamlets
- Westminster
- The City
- Bromley