

Fairer future

Delivering our promises

Delivering a Fairer Future for All

Southwark Council plan 2014/15 to 2017/18

1 Value for money

We will continue to keep Council Tax low by delivering value for money across all our high quality services.

2 Free swimming and gyms

We will make it easier to be healthier with free swimming and gyms for all residents and will double the number of NHS health checks.

3 Quality affordable homes

We will improve housing standards and build more homes of every kind including 11,000 new council homes with 1,500 built by 2018. We will make all council homes warm, dry and safe and start the roll out of our quality kitchen and bathroom guarantee.

4 More and better schools

We will meet the demand for primary and secondary school places and drive up standards across our schools so at least 70 per cent of students at every secondary get at least five good GCSEs.

5 Nurseries and childcare

We will help parents to balance work and family life including investment in our children's centres to deliver more quality affordable childcare and open two new community nurseries.

6 A greener borough

We will protect our environment by diverting more than 95 per cent of waste away from landfill, doubling the estates receiving green energy and invest in our parks and open spaces.

7 Safer communities

We will make Southwark safer with increased CCTV, more estate security doors and a Women's Safety Charter. We will have zero tolerance on noisy neighbours.

8 Education, employment and training

We will guarantee education, employment or training for every school leaver, support 5,000 more local people into jobs and create 2,000 new apprenticeships.

9 Revitalised neighbourhoods

We will revitalise our neighbourhoods to make them places in which we can all be proud to live and work, transforming Elephant and Castle, the Aylesbury and starting regeneration of the Old Kent Road.

10 Age friendly borough

We want you to get the best out of Southwark whatever your age so we will become an age friendly borough including the delivery of an Ethical Care Charter and an older people's centre of excellence.

Quality affordable homes

Good quality affordable homes are essential to maintaining strong communities and making this a borough which all residents are proud to call home. We are determined to lead the way in London. We'll build more homes of every kind across the borough and use every tool at our disposal to increase the supply of all different kinds of homes in the borough.

Homes in Southwark will be of such quality that when you come to see families and friends in Southwark, you will not know whether you are visiting homes in private, housing association or council ownership. We will make sure that vulnerable residents and families are helped to find the right housing and live as independently as possible. We aim for our residents to take pride in and feel responsible for their homes and the local area too.



Best start in life

We believe in giving all our young people the best start in life. We want them to be in a safe, stable and healthy environment where they have the opportunity to develop, make choices and feel in control of their lives and future.

We will offer our young people and families, including those who are more vulnerable or have special educational needs, the right support at the right time, from their early years through adolescence and into successful adult life.

We will work with our looked-after children to find them stable and loving homes. In our schools, the high demand for new primary and secondary places means we'll make sure there are enough places for all. Our children deserve the very best and that's what we'll always aim for.



Strong local economy

When our economy is strong, then all our residents benefit. It brings more opportunities for people in Southwark to find work, get into training and achieve their aspirations.

We want our town centres and high streets to thrive. We want to make Southwark the place to do business in a central London and global economy, where business owners know this is the borough where their enterprises will grow and prosper.

We want our residents to be and stay financially independent. With local business and other partners we'll make sure our residents are equipped with the skills and knowledge to access the many exciting opportunities that being in Southwark brings.



Healthy active lives

For people to lead healthy lives, we need to tackle the root causes of ill health and reduce the inequalities that limit the lives of too many in our society. The council is now responsible for public health and we will work across the council to reduce health inequalities and improve people's lives; for example, by making all council homes warm, dry and safe and by building quality new homes, we are helping people to live healthier lives.

We will work with residents and our partners to build resilient communities, extending opportunities to all to maintain and improve their health and wellbeing. We're also committed to people remaining in their own homes for longer and we want our most vulnerable residents to lead and enjoy independent lives, achieve their goals and have a great future in Southwark.



Cleaner greener safer

We want people to feel safe in their borough, to walk down clean streets and to know that their borough is leading the way when it comes to things that matter like recycling and reducing landfill waste. With local people our aim is to deliver the very best so the borough is clean, green and a safe place to be.

We'll keep getting the basics right and continue to do all we can to be as efficient as possible in providing the essential services you need. We want to make a positive difference to the quality of life in Southwark and by providing good services well, we know we can deliver.



Revitalised neighbourhoods

We are a borough with a proud heritage and a great future. It's a future filled with potential, with some of the most exciting and ambitious regeneration programmes in the country being delivered right on our doorstep.

We will continue work with our local communities to make our neighbourhoods places that we are proud to live and work in. We will ensure that all our residents can access the benefits of our regeneration programmes and the opportunities created by those programmes – new homes, new jobs, new infrastructure.

Southwark is a borough that is growing for the future and we'll ensure that our residents and neighbourhoods prosper from that growth.



Our Values...

1 Treating residents as if they were a valued member of our own family

2 Being open, honest and accountable

3 Spending money as if it were from our own pocket

4 Working for everyone to realise their own potential

5 Making Southwark a place to be proud of

Fairer future

Delivering our promises

Our progress in 2014/15 ...

Quality affordable homes

- **Build more homes of every kind** - Housing strategy was agreed in January 2015 and building is already underway on new homes
- **Build 11,000 new council homes by 2043, with at least 1,500 by 2018** - Families are getting ready to move into our first new council homes, at Willow Walk; there are currently 193 new council homes in construction across eight sites in Southwark
- **Finish our programme to make every home Warm, Dry and Safe by 2016 and have started a programme to deliver a quality kitchen and bathroom for every council tenant** - Warm Dry Safe on track for completion next year, with £125m spent this year. Work to provide a quality kitchen and bathroom in every council home underway
- **Introduce licensing in the private rented sector and further crack down on rogue landlords** - First stage, consultation exercise completed with over 1,000 responses
- **Set up an independent leaseholder and freeholder management company** - Consulted with homeowner representatives, and draft proposals are now being developed
- **Introduce resident housing inspectors** - Two waves of recruitment already done. On target to recruit 100 resident inspectors by March 2016
- **Further reduce illegal subletting of our council homes** - Southwark's work has been recognised as a national best practice, achieving outstanding results and winning awards
- **Have a lettings policy that means that 50 per cent of all new council homes go to people from that area, with the rest going to other Southwark residents** - Policy now in place offering local homes to local people first
- **Keep council rents low** - We continue to keep rents low, with the fourth lowest rents in central London

Healthy active lives

- **Make swimming and gym use free for all residents** - The pilot stage has launched offering free gym and swim to 18s and under and over 60s; so far 2,386 people have signed up
- **Improve homecare standards, making sure our staff are only ever judged by the quality of care they provide to our older and more vulnerable residents** - 87% of our care providers are now meeting all statutory Care Standards or are rated as good or outstanding
- **Deliver a safer cycling network** - Our innovative new cycling strategy has now been agreed and delivery is underway. Southwark is now a 20mph borough
- **Extend bike hire across the borough** - Continued to lobby Transport for London to extend the cycle hire scheme
- **Implement a Southwark Ethical Care Charter, with better paid carers and an end to zero hours contracts** - Full implementation due by the end of 2015/16
- **Establish a commission to enhance the vital work of the voluntary and community sector** - Joint commission with Lambeth established
- **Double the number of free NHS health checks to catch problems like heart disease and diabetes early** - Over 8,000 health checks completed
- **Become an 'age friendly borough'** - We are making sure all our services are age friendly and have received accreditation from the World Health Organisation as an age friendly borough
- **Bring ten more parks to Green Flag standard** - This year, we have achieved 19 Green Flags, and are on track for four new Green Flag parks in 2015/16
- **Introduce 'play streets', where some streets are closed to traffic during school holidays** - Scheme being rolled out across the borough and it is already getting lots of interest from parents

Best start in life

- **Invest in the borough's children's centres** - Investment and development continues
- **Work with local parents to open two new community nurseries** - On track; two community led groups have confirmed their intention to open community nurseries
- **Find new ways to guarantee care and early education to help parents** - Developing an offer to parents with three to four year olds on pupil premium
- **Ensure that 70 per cent of students at every secondary get at least five good GCSEs** - Southwark has risen to the 20th best local authority for GCSE educational attainment in the country
- **Deliver more quality affordable childcare places** - Awaiting publication of national figures, but expected to be above the London average in uptake
- **Guarantee a local primary place for every child** - Every child has been offered a local primary place
- **Open new secondary schools to meet demand including on the Dulwich Hospital site in East Dulwich** - A site and sponsor for a new secondary school has been agreed, now working to deliver it
- **Ensure a top quality children's playground in every local area** - Reviewing all our existing playgrounds to decide which areas need investment
- **Provide free fruit for all primary school children as a healthy morning snack** - 62 schools have already started the programme with more asking to sign up
- **Invest more in 'early support' for families** - Strategy agreed and an organisational board established to begin delivery next year
- **Help more people to foster and adopt by paying their council tax for them** - Scheme now in place, with first council tax payments being made shortly
- **Establish a new Childcare Commission, bringing together experts, parents, providers and employers to find new ways to guarantee care and early education** - Childcare Commission has reported to Cabinet in March. Cabinet now reviewing their findings
- **Increase library access with a free library card to every secondary school child** - 1,244 cards have been issued since September 2014 and we will be visiting schools to increase this

Cleaner greener safer

- **Maintain clean streets** - Continued to maintain a consistently high level of cleanliness for litter
- **Better education and enforcement to people who litter** - An education campaign will be rolled out this summer and have increased fines for littering
- **Better education and enforcement to people who don't clean up after their dogs** - Increased the fine for dog fouling to £80 with an education campaign due to commence
- **Increase recycling rates** - Waste recycled has increased but levels of general waste have increased faster, resulting in an overall slow in growth in rates
- **Divert more than 95 per cent of waste away from landfill** - 99% of non-recyclable waste has been diverted from landfill in the last year
- **Have zero tolerance on noisy neighbours** - Noise service provision reviewed and recommendations being implemented
- **Increase CCTV coverage** - Arrests from CCTV up by 10%, with a month on month increase over the last six months
- **Increase estate security doors** - Door entry investment programme delivered; 426 systems being refurbished and 1,573 new installations
- **Deliver a new Women's Safety Charter** - Delivered, with so far, over 40 licensed venues signed up now developing a charter for construction sites
- **Deliver a domestic abuse strategy** - Domestic abuse strategy adopted focusing on prevention and early intervention through better support in community settings
- **Introduce estate deep cleans** - The deep clean programme has now started, covering all estate action days, with a further programme on a third of all estates during summer
- **Campaign for the 300 Southwark police officers and police community support officers cut since 2010** - After a community-led campaign, over 2,000 signatures were delivered to the Mayor of London
- **Double the number of estates receiving green energy from the South East London Combined Heat and Power** - Started scoping expansion of the scheme and are assessing suitable estates that could connect to the plan
- **Double capital investment into roads** - Provided the investment and agreed plan for maintaining our roads for the next three years, winning an award for our work
- **Invest in our libraries and keep them open, including Dulwich and Kingswood House** - Investment continues in libraries, with work at Peckham and the Canada Water public art project building works due to start
- **Campaign for Seeley Drive police base in the south of the borough** - We continue to make the case to the police for the need of a police base in the south of Southwark
- **Campaign against the super-sewer in Chambers Wharf** - Despite our campaign, the government is going ahead with the sewer. We are now working to reduce the impact that the sewer will have on residents

Strong local economy

- **Keep council tax at or below inflation** - Council tax has been frozen for the seventh year running
- **Deliver value for money in council services** - Our 2015/16 budget was agreed after extensive public consultation to make sure the council is making the best use of funds and reflecting residents priorities
- **Make sure young people are ready for work** - 300 business mentors are working with young people in schools while over 1,200 young people came to our careers fair
- **Guarantee education, employment or training for every school leaver** - Our Youth Guarantee scheme is due to launch later this year
- **Deliver an hour's free parking in our shopping parades** - Currently reviewing the results from the consultation completed in January
- **Open a credit union account with a £10 opening deposit for every 11 year old** - This programme is now fully operational with the first accounts being opened now
- **Deliver good money advice for secondary school students** - Financed literacy programmes in a number of schools across Southwark, delivered through a combination of schools and locally based business partners
- **Establish a Southwark Business Forum** - Partnered with PriceWaterHouseCooper to create a joint business forum, which is due to meet this summer
- **Stop the spread of pawnbrokers, betting shops, gambling machines and pay day lenders** - Using Article 4 Direction legal powers to make it harder for these companies to open on our high streets
- **Invest in more affordable business space, street markets and encourage pop-up shops to help start up businesses** - High Street Challenge launched, providing grants to support new street markets and find different ways to use pop-up spaces on high streets
- **Support 5,000 local people into jobs** - So far, over 1,000 people are starting a new job as a result of our support programme and we've launched our Employment Commissioning Framework
- **Create 2,000 new apprenticeships** - To date, over 200 new apprentices have secured an apprenticeship, and we've launched our new Southwark Apprenticeship Standard
- **Make sure local residents benefit from new jobs and apprenticeships** - Over 1000 people supported into work
- **Award scholarships to local young people from low income backgrounds to study art foundation courses** - Planning underway
- **Support business improvement districts including around the Blue in Bermondsey** - The Blue Bermondsey BID has been launched successfully, other areas now being considered
- **Enhance and expand affordable studio and performance space** - Started commercial negotiations to grant leases to turn garages into units for new arts businesses

Revitalised neighbourhoods

- **Revitalise our neighbourhoods to make them places where we can all be proud to live and work** - Planning consent granted for the Aylesbury regeneration
- **Transform the Elephant and Castle with a new leisure centre, affordable homes and a shopping centre** - New leisure centre due to open at the end of summer; residents about to move into new homes in first phase of Elephant Park; consultation is due to start on the future of the shopping centre
- **Introduce a new diversity standard to make sure that people from every community get their voices included when decisions are made** - Due to be adopted later this year.
- **Open a new civic centre in Walworth** - Programme of work is on target with work to stabilise the building complete and design team appointed
- **Campaign for the Bakerloo Line to be extended south of the Elephant and Castle to Camberwell and Old Kent Road** - After winning commitment from the Mayor, we've continued to campaign and won government backing for the scheme
- **Invest in Camberwell including a new library** - The new library is almost complete and due to open soon; working with TfL to agree street design and public realm work in the area
- **Bring superfast broadband to Rotherhithe** - Negotiations with BT are ongoing and trials are underway
- **Secure the long term future of Greendale in East Dulwich** - This project is on track and being developed
- **Start work on the regeneration of the Old Kent Road** - Work is on target and a successful bid for a £525,000 grant was approved
- **Invest in Peckham Town Centre to support arts and business** - Programme of work is on target with a permanent project manager being appointed for the Townscape Heritage Initiative
- **Deliver a free cash point in Nunhead** - The cashpoint is scheduled to be installed this summer. Shop front improvements and refurbishment of Nunhead Green completed
- **Improved playground in Peckham Rye Park** - This project is on track and being developed with the next stage of consultation due this summer
- **Open new pedestrian crossings outside Borough Station and between Trinity Street and Great Suffolk Street** - After a consultation the scheme will be added to the TfLwork programme, with implementation to be confirmed