The Gold Standard

Draft Standard and Award Scheme
Proposed Consultation

Questions for the consultation

The following is a draft proposal for questions to be asked during the consultation.

These questions will be put to residents and business owners in the borough but are particularly aimed at:

- private tenants,
- landlords and landlord representative groups,
- tenants’ representative groups,
- Charities and further education establishments, and
- Managing and letting agents.

To try and focus the consultation and make it easier to analyse the results across the different forums we have set some standard questions. These are:

1. The content of the Gold and Silver Standards,
   a. Do you think the standard should be split into two levels i.e. Gold and Silver?
   b. Are there any items on the Gold Standard that you think should not be included, and why? (items in the standard to be listed to chose from)
   c. Are there any items on the Silver Standard that you think should not be included, and why? (items in the standard to be listed to chose from)
   d. Are there any issues that aren’t included in the Gold or Silver Standard that you would like to see added, and why?

2. The award scheme
   a. To landlords - Would you be interested in having a Gold or Silver Standard award on your properties?
b. To tenants – Would you be more likely to move into a property with a Gold or Silver Standard award than one without?
c. Would you be interested in participating in a Renter’s Union in Southwark, including campaigning for landlords to meet the Gold or Silver standards?

3. How awards are publicised
   a. How do you think the Council should publicise Gold Standard award properties?
      i. Website
      ii. Notice in the property
      iii. Local magazines e.g. Southwark Life
      iv. Public places e.g. libraries, council offices etc.
      v. Other, please specify
   b. The benefits given for achieving the award.
      i. Are there any benefits to achieving a Gold Standard award that you think should not be included, and why?
      ii. Are there any benefits to achieving a Gold Standard award that you would like to see added, and why?

4. Negative effects of the scheme
   a. Do you think there are there any negative effects if Southwark introduces a Gold and Silver Standard and award scheme?
      i. Increased rents?
      ii. Increased evictions?
      iii. More pressure on the private rented housing sector availability?
   b. Please explain why you think the negative effect will happen
   c. Can you think of anyway Southwark can introduce the standards without the negative effect you are concerned about?

5. Positive effects of the scheme
   a. What do you think would be a positive effect from the introduction of Gold and Silver Standard and award scheme?
      i. Better quality of accommodation?
      ii. Less evictions and harassment?
      iii. Easier for families to have a happy and healthy family life?
   b. Please explain why you think the positive effect will happen
   c. Can you think of anything Southwark could do to increase the positive effects from introducing a Gold and Silver Standard and award scheme?