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| Item No. 3.1 | Classification: Open | Date: 28 January 2020 | Meeting Name: Council Assembly |
| Report title: | | Community Evidence on the Themed Debate | |
| Ward(s) or groups affected: | | All | |
| From: | | Proper Constitutional Officer | |

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Introduction

1. On 6 June 2019, the council assembly business panel met to agree the theme for the 23 January 2020 meeting of council assembly. The panel agreed that the theme for council assembly should be 'Homelessness and housing needs'.

Community evidence on the theme

2. The deadline for community evidence was 12 midnight, 22 January 2020.
3. The following requests have been received by the deadline for consideration by this meeting and they are listed in the order received below.
4. Which community evidence shall be considered and the length of each submission will be established by way of a programme motion at the start of council assembly. Community evidence shall be conducted under the existing rules for public participation.

Submissions

1. Marc Mora, Robes Project

My name is Marc Mora, I am an advice worker for the Robes Project, a Homelessness Shelter based in Southwark that provides shelter during the winter months, for people facing homelessness.

Homelessness is currently one of the topics on many agendas, unfortunately it has been neglected for too long and currently still under budget.

The outreach teams that are the ones entitled to approach the rough sleepers, are just a few for a borough of the size of Southwark, and their criteria imprecise, as they would not consider homeless, people sleeping in buses, 24 hour restaurants or trains, as they just consider people sleeping on the floor during night time as rough sleepers. These realities leave small charities as ours in charge of the impossible task of supporting and guiding all the people that found themselves in wintertime without a place to call home.

The reason for me to be willing to address the council assembly is to expose this briefly, with the demographics of the people that we have been supporting and still supporting this winter season, sharing from first hand the reality to the council.

2. Rhiannon Hughes, Southwark Group of Tenant Organisations

Southwark Group of Tenant Organisations (SGTO) is a housing federation in Southwark. Daily we see tenants who live in properties that are no longer suitable, due to overcrowding, relationship breakdown, risk of serious violence or medical condition. This often renders people homeless with limited options. Housing need is not only access to housing, it is also suitability of housing. This is affecting many of our neighbours and disproportionately impacting on our vulnerable neighbours. We would like to provide community evidence on the limitations unsuitable housing is placing people under. Our evidence includes unsuitable medical assessments and fire safety risks as people are unable to vacate properties alone.

3. Shelter UK

We would like to give a brief presentation outlining Shelter's service provision in Southwark including the co-located service within Housing Solutions and the outreach services we offer as well as providing a brief summary of the emerging patterns and trends we notice in this area of work in Southwark.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

| Background Papers | Held At | Contact |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Constitution | 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH | Constitutional Team constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk 020 7525 7228 |

APPENDICES

| No. | Title |
|------|-------|
| None | |

AUDIT TRAIL

| | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| Lead Officer | Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional Services | |
| Report Author | Virginia Wynn-Jones, Principal Constitutional Officer | |
| Version | Final | |
| Dated | 23 January 2020 | |
| Key decision? | No | |
| CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER | | |
| Officer title | Comments sought | Comments included |
| Director of Law and Democracy | No | No |
| Strategic Director of Finance and Governance | No | No |
| Cabinet Member | No | No |
| Date final report sent to Constitutional Team | 23 January 2020 | |