

Item 1: Interview with the Deputy Leader

The following questions will be asked of the Deputy Leader at her interview with the Regeneration & Resources Scrutiny Sub-Committee on 19 May 2005:

1. How does the Executive Member see the Council exercising the leverage over the prospective commercial partner in order to secure the full range of objectives underlying the Elephant and Castle regeneration?
2. Can the Executive Member please advise at what point will the legal agreement between the Council and the commercial partner be finalised?
3. What role does the Executive Member envisage for the Board which is going to replace the Single Regeneration Budget Board for the masterplan area?
4. Does the Executive Member envisage it being possible to make arrangements for all or most of the traders (i.e. those who wish to keep trading in the Elephant and Castle area) at the Elephant and Castle to shift premises at approximately the same time?
5. The April/May edition of Southwark Life [see appendix 1] contains a report on replacement housing for residential displacees which includes the Oakmayne Properties development at Crampton St as a replacement site. This was not in the original list of replacement housing sites. Please would the Executive Member update the schedule of replacement sites with an indication for each site of timescales and rehousing capacity (tenanted and owner-occupied) for displacees?
6. The two developments mentioned in the Southwark Life report were both given planning consent although both are in excess of the upper limit for density (1100hr per hectare) in the emerging new Southwark Plan. Would the Executive Member please set out what steps are being taken to ensure the replacement housing drive of Regeneration Department is not distorting the proper consideration of planning applications?
7. Would the Executive Member please forecast the population of the masterplan area for each year from now until expected completion of the Elephant and Castle regeneration with comments on the adequacy of educational, health, leisure and other relevant facilities throughout the regeneration process, and on how any forecast inadequacies will be made good?
8. It has been reported to the Sub-Committee Chair that organised gangs of squatters are moving into properties vacated on the Heygate estate. Would the Executive Member please comment?
9. A 1200 signature petition was reportedly presented to the Executive Member in 2003 from the Elephant & Castle businesses and customers as part of the consultation process. Would the Executive Member please advise on any relevant progress and considerations given to the petition?