

Meeting Name:	Council Assembly
Date:	17 July 2024
Report title:	Community Evidence on the Themed Debate
Ward(s) or groups affected:	All
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	N/A
From:	Proper Constitutional Officer

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Introduction

1. The council assembly business panel agreed that the theme for council assembly in July 2024 should be “Renewing our borough: a strategy for building the homes and infrastructure we need.”

Community evidence on the theme

2. The deadline for community evidence was 11.59pm, 11 March 2024.
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.
5. If the community evidence is not dealt with by council assembly, the matter shall be referred without debate to the relevant cabinet member who shall, after consideration, respond with an open reply to the sender.

Submissions

1. Southwark & Peckham Citizens

The community evidence requests states:

“Southwark & Peckham Citizens is an alliance of 21 civil society organisations in the borough, including faith organisations, schools, parents' groups, local charities and a university. We work together for the common good in our borough and beyond, with a particular focus on housing, migrants' rights, ESOL, and health justice.

We will give evidence on the living conditions of our members, many of whom live in abhorrent conditions, facing chronic disrepair, severe overcrowding and precarity, including frequent moves between different council-provided temporary accommodation properties. We believe that one solution to these problems lies in elected officials putting their full political weight behind demanding that private developers deliver more for local people. We propose that new developments must go beyond existing planning policy in terms of delivering family-sized social homes and that Southwark policy should reject shared ownership as a valid form of 'affordable' or intermediate housing, replacing it with Community Land Trust homes, a model of housing where prices are linked to local income in perpetuity and therefore remain permanently affordable."

2. Cathy Deplessis, Southwark Pensioners' Centre

The community evidence requests states:

"The Journey to 201

- The historic background to Southwark Pensioners' Centre
- Change and rising demand
- The search for a new Centre
- Co-production
- Strategic CIL."

3. Lizzie Lynch, Appleby Blue

The community evidence requests states:

"Appleby Blue is a social housing development of 57 almshouses in Bermondsey, south London, for 63 residents. The building is managed by United St Saviour's Charity (UStSC) and provides independent living with a resident support model for over 65-year-olds in Southwark.

Appleby Blue occupies a site previously occupied by a care home, which had fallen into disrepair and was no longer fit for purpose. It is the off-site social housing provision funded by a private residential development 'Triptych', developed by JTRE London in neighbouring Bankside. The development has been made possible through a partnership between the London Borough of Southwark, who owned the land, and UStSC, who will manage it in perpetuity.

UStSC has worked to support the people and communities of Southwark for almost 500 years. Uniting the people and charitable organisations in the borough, we tackle social need through our grant making programme and offer sheltered housing for older people in our almshouses, St Saviours Court, Hopton's and Appleby Blue, helping to build strong, supportive and well-served communities."

4. Kelvin Miles and colleagues

The community evidence requests states:

“I will be speaking on the theme "Renewing our borough: a strategy for building the new homes and infrastructure we need". A strategy for building new homes and infrastructure must include a generation that is young, striving but often forgotten, who are yearning for Security in a volatile, unaffordable and hopeless housing crisis. The time is now to ignite a hope for young people with a new plan that empowers and gives them a chance to not just survive but thrive.”

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional Services	
Report Author	Virginia Wynn-Jones, Principal Constitutional Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	12 July 2024	
Key decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer title	Comments sought	Comments included
Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	12 July 2024	