

Item No.	Classification: OPEN	Date: October 2004	Individual Decision Making: Gavin O'Brien
Report title:	Various recommendations received from Neighbourhood Forums on proposed amendments to the new Housing Area Forum and Tenant Council Constitutions		
Ward(s) or groups affected:	All Wards		
From:	Strategic Director of Housing		

RECOMMENDATIONS OF TENANT COUNCIL

1. Tenant Council have made various recommendations on proposed amendments to the new Housing Area Forum Constitution:
 - 1) We at Tenant Council recommend that Bermondsey One-stop Shop should be called the Alfred Salter One-Stop Shop.
 - 2) And that the Bermondsey Area Forum should be named the Alfred Salter Area Forum.
 - 3) Tenant Council supports the views of Rodney Road, Taplow, and West Walworth Area Forums to cover the same areas as the present Neighbourhood Housing Forums
 - 4) Tenant Council agrees that Area Forums have two delegates and two deputies and that all previous constitutions be recalled to be amended to incorporate the new Tenant Council.

Tenant Council agrees that the first item at the new Area Forum be proportional representation.

BACKGROUND

2. At the meeting of Tenant Council 19th July 2004 Tenant council referred a number of recommendations they wished to be considered by the Executive. The recommendations relate to previous decisions made by the Executive in relation to Area Forums and their constitutions in relation to Tenant Council.
3. The Strategic Director of Housing has considered these recommendations and in consultation with Strategic Services makes a recommendation as follows as to whether these are key decisions or not.

Tenant council Recommendations:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1) Bermondsey One-Stop shop | - | Not a key decision |
| 2) Bermondsey West Area Forum | - | Not a key decision |
| 3) Walworth Area Forum boundaries | - | A key decision |
| 4) Area Forum Constitution | - | A key decision |

It is considered that the Key decisions at 3 and 4 are appropriate for Individual decision making by Executive member because these are issues previously discussed by the Executive and decisions have already been made on these issues.

4. The Strategic Director of Housing's recommendation and the reasons are as follows:
5. 1) **Bermondsey One-stop Shop**
Reasons for Recommendation:
6. The Bermondsey One Stop Shop will provide a wider remit than just housing to an area co-terminus with the Bermondsey Community Council area, not just that area previously covered

by the Alfred Salter Neighbourhood Housing Office. As such it needs to be distinctly linked to the Bermondsey Area.

Recommendation of the Strategic Director of Housing:

7. It is NOT recommended that the name of the Bermondsey One-Stop shop be changed, but that it remains Bermondsey One-Stop shop.

8. 2) **Bermondsey West Area Forum**

Reasons for Recommendation:

9. The Bermondsey West Area Forum will cover a different area than that covered by the Alfred Salter Neighbourhood Forum. The Executive was determined that Area Forums should contain the distinct geographic location in their names.

Recommendation of the Strategic Director of Housing:

10. It is NOT recommended that the Bermondsey West Area Forum be renamed.

11. 3) **Walworth Area Forum boundaries**

Reasons for Recommendation:

12. Executive considered a number of representations regarding the division of the Walworth Area into 3 Housing Area Forums before reaching its decision to base the division on the existing 3 ward boundaries covered by the area. It has built in a 12-month review period to assess the workings of Area Forums; therefore any decision to reverse this arrangement should await the outcome of that process

Recommendation of the Strategic Director of Housing:

13. It is NOT recommended to amend the boundaries of the 3 Area Forums in the Walworth Housing Area.

14. 4) **Area Forum Constitution**

Reasons for Recommendation:

15. Officers recognise that doubling the number of delegates and deputies may enhance Tenant Council as a debating chamber.

The proposed recommendation would result in 26 delegates and 26 deputies, plus delegates and deputies from the Tenant Organisation and the Southwark Disability Association and double the size of the existing meeting to 60 people including Councillors and Officers. Finding a suitable venue would be a challenge but should not be insurmountable.

Recommendation of the Strategic Director of Housing:

16. It is recommended to double the number of delegates and deputies from Area Forums to Tenant Council, although consideration could be given to proportional representation along the lines of Leaseholder Council.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Tenant Council Agendas and the decisions of Executive	Larcom Street	Barry Assinder (5) 7773

AUDIT TRAIL

This section must be included in all reports.

Lead Officer	Keith Broxup Strategic Director of Housing	
Report Author	Chris Brown Head of Housing Management	
Version	2	
Dated	23 rd September 2004	
Key Decision?	Yes (recommendations 3 and 4)	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Borough Solicitor & Secretary	No	No
Chief Finance Officer	No	No
List other Officers here		
Executive Member	Yes	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Support Services	12 th October 2004	