Item No. 6.	Classification: Open	Date: 26 March 2018	Meeting Name: Health and Wellbeing Board
Report title:		Feedback from Southwark Conversation	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Kevin Fenton, Director of Health and Wellbeing	

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the board:

1.   Note the initial findings from the Southwark Conversation, as set out in the report at Appendix 1;

2.   Note that the outcomes from analysis will help to further shape the social regeneration policy framework.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.   In September 2017 Cabinet received a draft social regeneration policy framework and agreed a definition: "social regeneration is about ensuring that the places where people live, now and in the future, create new opportunities, promote wellbeing and reduce inequalities so people have better lives, in stronger communities and achieve their potential".   This outlines an approach to regeneration that works for all; an approach that harnesses change to reduce inequalities in a borough where people are healthy and resilient, feel connected, and there are opportunities for all.

4.   Cabinet also agreed that the draft social regeneration policy framework be further shaped and used as part of the evidence for a wider conversation with residents. This was known as the 'Southwark Conversation'.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Social regeneration and the Southwark Conversation

5.   Southwark is developing a policy framework for social regeneration. This emerging framework has proposed a number of starting objectives:

  •   A borough-wide approach to improving the wellbeing of current and future generations;
  •   A one-Council and partnership approach with the CCG, NHS and VCS to ensure all our assets are used and aligned effectively to bring about improved wellbeing for people and places across Southwark;
  •   Wellbeing as a primary outcome of all our work, whether in regeneration or across the broader work that we do together as a Southwark community.

6.   The emerging framework puts people at the heart of everything the Council does, engaging with them in an ongoing process to identify priorities and co-design

solutions. In developing the framework, the Council wanted to gain a deeper understanding of what people think about social regeneration and wellbeing in the borough.

7. The Southwark Conversation aimed to engage as many people as possible to understand what they think has worked well, what we as a council and community need to keep doing and do more of, as well as what may need to change in light of the borough and world in which we live, both now and in future years.

Southwark Conversation – headline findings

8. In summary, people generally liked the approach of the Southwark Conversation and welcomed it as a way to actively engage with a wide range of individuals, communities and groups across the borough. The headline finding was that 70% of respondents were positive, either in full or part, about change in the borough.

9. Feedback highlighted that 'getting out and about', 'services and amenities' and 'being connected' were the top three things that most people ranked as important to their health and wellbeing. When asked to specifically talk about what makes a place a 'good neighbourhood', almost 60% of people cited a sense of community as the biggest single determining factor for them.

10. Appendix 1 goes into detail across a number of common themes emerging from the Southwark Conversation. Themes included housing, cleanliness and safety of streets, employment and training for young people and more generally the things that people like to do and want to see more of locally.

11. To categorise and present the key findings of the data as set out in Appendix 1, a process commonly known as 'data reduction' was deployed. This involves a common qualitative method of coding topics that belong to similar categories. Taking this approach for the Southwark Conversation allowed the researchers to note the most commonly-mentioned issues or views held by respondents.

Southwark Conversation – what, when, who?

12. The Southwark Conversation was launched on 19th October 2017 and ran until 24th December 2017. It involved 109 separate events including community conversations, group discussions, public meetings and other community-led activities. The Conversation generated 2,923 individual responses, representing the largest borough-wide response of its type.

13. Alongside tried and tested methods of engaging with our residents the Conversation included more innovative ways of reaching under-represented groups, for example working with Reprezent Youth radio.

14. Community groups across the borough were encouraged to lead conversations and officers commissioned a series of 'talkaoke' events at different locations. The talking version of karaoke, is a pop-up talk show consisting of an illuminated round table with a host sitting in the middle who facilitates the conversation with participants around the table.

15. Appendix 1 summarises the initial findings from the Conversation exercise alongside the demographic profile of respondents to the Southwark

Conversation, comparing this with the general population of the borough to highlight the level of reach and representation of response. It also sets out the methodology of the engagement and analysis of responses, as well as what people told us and what they think, grouping the responses under a series of common themes. It also highlights how people say they could be more involved in the future of the borough.

Next steps

16. This report sets out the initial findings from feedback arising from the Southwark Conversation. Given the richness and complexity of views, the analysis at this stage has focused on initial findings. Further, more detailed work is required to ensure that the analysis gives a fuller understanding of what people told us, what they think and what they would like to see more (and less) of both now and in the future.

17. This next stage of analysis will be important in the further development of the outcome measures that make up the social regeneration policy framework. This will mean that the feedback from the Southwark Conversation will help directly shape priorities for the Council's plans, actions and resources over the medium term.

Policy implications

18. This report sets out initial findings from the Southwark Conversation, as set out in Appendix 1. The feedback report explores local issues and potential solutions as suggested by local people, and gives a sense of what people think of change in the borough. It is important that these findings be triangulated with what we already know from other engagement, research, data analysis and understanding of the borough. As such, in order to ensure the findings are set out within the most appropriate context, they will need to be verified using other sources of information such as previous consultations and local data before identifying local implications or next steps.

19. The Southwark Conversation is the beginning of a co-production approach to social regeneration. The feedback will be used to shape the policy framework for social regeneration and, with that, influence council policies, projects and activities over the short and medium term.

Community impact statement

20. The engagement plan for the Southwark Conversation was designed to be inclusive of all the borough's communities and provide a range of mechanisms to provide all residents with the opportunity to engage.

21. To ensure that the community conversations were accessible to all, survey respondents were asked to provide demographic information which could be compared with the demographic make-up of the population as a whole. This exercise demonstrates that the conversation is broadly representative of the population as whole, giving high levels of confidence that it represents what most people would be likely to say. The demographic profile of those participating in the Conversation is set out within the report in Appendix 1.

Resource implications

22.   There is no specific resource implication attached to reporting on the initial findings from the Southwark Conversation.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Draft social regeneration policy framework	Public Health, Tooley Street	Jin.Lim@southwark.gov.uk

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Southwark Conversation feedback

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Professor Kevin Fenton, Director of Health and Wellbeing
Report Author	Sophie Baird, Public Health Policy Officer Jin Lim, Consultant in Public Health
Version	Final
Dated	13 March 2018
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		13 March 2018