

Rachel Askew Project Manager New Homes Development Team Housing and Modernisation

Rachel.Askew@southwark.gov.uk

Tel: 0207 525 1801

Date: 27 February 2020

## Dear Resident

## Fenwick Road - New Homes Update

Our residents across Southwark have told us that they are concerned about the amount of secure high quality, genuinely affordable housing. That's why we're building 11,000 new council homes in the borough by 2043 - 2,500 of these by 2022. It's a big goal, but it's crucial if we're going to tackle the housing crisis and make sure our residents have quality homes they can be proud of, now and in the future.

You will recall that we wrote to you on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019 asking for your help in deciding where and how we build new council homes while making improvements to your estate that all residents can benefit from.

Residents in your block did not provide us with any comments regarding these proposals, however, we did speak to your Resident Services Officer to get a better understanding of any issues within your block, for example, a lack of space within the bin store and the need for more cycle storage.

Although we did not receive feedback from residents in response to our initial letter, there will be plenty of opportunity for you to provide comments throughout the process. We will work closely with you to explore any issues to understand how they can be addressed through the design of the new homes or estate improvements.

The Cabinet Member for Social Regeneration, Great Estates and New Council Homes has agreed for further development work to be carried out in order to provide for new council homes and wider improvements to your estate. We can now move to the next stage, which is about:

- further consultation with you
- advice from building consultants on the deliverability of new homes adjacent to 55-77 Fenwick Road and how these could be developed.

A community brief will be developed with you to ensure any issues, opportunities and what matters most to you about where you live, are at the forefront of what the project achieves.

Over the next coming months we will be progressing with the appointment of the consultants made up of an Architect and Employers Agents, who will be providing the expertise for the design stages of the development process.

We will proactively seek to look at ways to engage the local community in as many aspects of the scheme throughout the design and development of new council homes, we'll make sure you're involved in the most important decisions, and that there are plenty of opportunities for you to have your say. This could be through TRAs (where they exist), individually through, workshops, walkabouts, drop-in meetings and events. We'll also keep you updated through newsletters, on our website, and we'll aim to hold meetings at times that work for everyone.

A part of Southwark Council's consultation process we also have the option of setting up a Project Group formed of tenants, leaseholders and key stakeholders. The Project Group can play an important role in overseeing the project through to its completion.

If you are interested in becoming a member of a Project Group you will have the opportunity to put your name forward at the drop-in event to be held. If you cannot make the drop-in event you can contact us directly.

We will write to you again to invite you to a drop-in to meet the Architects and Employers Agents where you will be able to provide feedback, ask any questions, let us know about any concerns and suggest estate improvements.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Askew

**Project Manager** 

R. Azhun