# SOUTH AREA: Champion Hill, Goose Green, Dulwich Hill, Dulwich Village and Dulwich Wood wards

## **New Homes**

- Bassano Street (Garages), Henslowe Road (Garages) Underhill Road are in the tendering process delivering a total of 10 new council homes and due on site in 2021.
- Lordship Lane Estate and Woodland Road Estate schemes are in the design consultation phase.

#### **Asset Management**

Due to further lockdown, the Repairs Service has moved to offering the following service:

- Emergency and urgent repairs
- Void property refurbishments
- Housing adaptions emergency repairs and urgent installations
- Emergency and urgent fire safety works
- External communal inspections
- External communal repairs at a reduced capacity
- External handyperson works
- Customers with repairs, works or claims that are unable to continue are being called and updated.
- Communal / Emergency Intelligent Lighting Installations are progressing as follows:

**DENESMEAD** Complete

APPLESHAW HOUSE Start date 11.02.21

PLAYFIELD CRESCENT Complete

CRAWTHEW GROVE Complete

YORK HOUSE Complete

 Lift refurbishments at Cross Ct, Mayhew Ct and Leconsfield House:

Leconsfield House: Lift works completed and lift returned to service.

Cross Ct: The lift works are due to commence on 7th January 21

Mayhew Ct:The lift works are due to commence on 7th January 21

- Harfield Gardens QHIP Still in initial design phase – further consultation will follow.
- Regarding Kingswood, designs are now complete and costs for external works to the pitched roof blocks have been agreed and Section 20 notices have been issued. Consultation regarding Roof Top Homes (RTH), proposals are ongoing to the 8 flat roof blocks, illustrative drawings have been produced of what the RTH blocks may look like and have issued been in update an newsletter to the RTH blocks. Structural engineers have been appointed to undertake a feasibility on the RTH proposals to determine

whether the blocks can structurally accommodate additional floors, feasibility due by end of March 2021. Surveys are currently underway for the internal works to the agreed 20 pilot properties to finalise initial specifications before commencing works to the internal pilot properties.

Lordship lane Estate & 524
 Lordship Lane QHIP works –
 Currently reviewing feasibilities ahead of main design and costs being produced.

#### Modernise

#### H Connectivity/digital infrastructure

#### All wards

- Approximately, 38,000 homes have been given access to a fibre broadband connection by Community Fibre and Hyperoptic.
- 60 free lifetime broadband connections given to TRAs and libraries.
- To support homeschooling during lockdown, we are working to provided a free broadband connection to the homes of students in need.
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## **Customer Experience Services**

#### MySouthwark Home Owners Service:

- We have finalised internally, our cross departmental homeowners' improvement plan to present to the first Home Owners Forum for feedback and input now scheduled for February 2021.
- 2. Our My Southwark Home Owners office in the Blue in Market Place Bermondsey remains close due to COVID restrictions but all of our services remain open to our customers on line. We are experiencing high volumes of requests from leaseholders for permission to alter their property and new right to buy applications.

#### **Housing Solutions:**

1. We will need the Housing Allocations consultation on these meetings agendas in March.

#### **Specialist Services**

- 1. The service point continues to remain closed in line with government guidelines in relation to Covid-19 however, we have now launched the Service Point Telephone Appointment Service ( Interim Service) The Service Point online booking portal (Choose and Book) has been amended to allow customers to request a telephone appointment rather than a face to face appointment. This is to ensure we support as many vulnerable residents as possible.
- 2. The first Jury inquest since March 2020 started on 7th September 2020, taking place at Tooley Street due to space restrictions in the coroners court. We were one of only two boroughs able to recommence this service. Inquests have continued until February 2021 however, due to the new strain of the virus "Read Only" inquests will be completed only from March 2021.
- 3. Email performance continues well with 95% of customer queries responded to within 24 hours.
- 4. The Freedom pass renewal is currently in place, this phase will end by March 2021. Response to date has been very positive (please encourage those who haven't responded to do so)

5. Upon the Tier 4 restrictions announced on Saturday, 19 December, the team immediately contacted couples with weddings scheduled during January offering them a ceremony for that evening. Staff worked until after midnight with 10 couples getting married that evening.

## **Resident Services**

- Resident Services Officers continue to contact all vulnerable residents on our estates for welfare checks. They carry out welfare checks and signpost residents to supporting agencies.
- They also conduct weekly estate visual audits and monthly estate inspections to ensure the estate remain a clean and safe place for residents.
- We have signs in the lift lobby and communal areas to remind residents to follow government guidelines on social distancing, use of masks, washing of hands etc.
- Due to the lockdown, most of our residents are spending more time at home which is generating increased low level nuisance and anti social behaviour complaints on some of the estates. Most of the complaints involve domestic noise nuisance including loud footsteps, people talking etc, we are asking residents to be more considerate of neighbours and

## **Communities**

The Tenant and Homeowner Involvement Team has begun working with a team of Independent Resident Advisors and the elected residents to launch the council's three new strategic bodies for resident participation - the Tenant Forum, the Homeowner Forum, and the Joint Tenant Homeowner Forum. The and Independent Resident Advisors have also commenced a coaching role with the chairs of the five Local Housing Fora, to help them in their chairing role in an online environment.

The council is planning on making the Getting Involved Grants programme more flexible this year, given the current circumstances, with three shorter rounds spread over 9 months so that there are more opportunities for TRAs to apply. The provisional date for launching the first round is April. These grants are aimed at funding projects that bring communities together and strengthen social cohesion. Details of the grant programme, including who can apply and what can be funded

keep noise however caused to a minimum.

Officers are working with partners including social services, Police, surrounding Schools, Anti-Social Behaviour Unit etc to resolve the issues.

- The Police are carrying out robust patrols in the areas identified. There are regular meetings with residents to reassure and update the community.
- Cleaning With Southwark moving in to Tier 4 there is a restriction the cleaning staff shifts to minimise C-19 risks. This is likely to have an impact on estate cleaning while Tier 4 remains in place.

The Resident Services Officers will continue to monitor and pick up any issue during their weekly visual audits and monthly estate inspections and liaise with the cleaning team to resolve.

This cleaning arrangement will remain under review and revert to normal service as the restriction is relaxed.

 There has been a reduction in the number of Rough sleepers found on our estates. Residents are encouraged to continue to use STREETLINK to connect people sleeping rough with local services that can support them. The outreach team also carry out frequent patrols to provide drug and alcohol support where needed. (and how much) will be publicised nearer the time

The Tenant and Homeowner Involvement Team is about to commence a further round of outreach work with the borough's 130+ tenant and resident associations (TRAs). This work will take the form of an informal telephone survey of TRA officers, with a view to understanding the wellbeing of the group, its current level of activity (if any) and the nature of this activity, and any help that any of the groups may need from officers of the council.

### **Exchequer Services**

- Estimated service charges for 2021/22 are due to be issued in the middle of February, with payment due start on 1st April. Homeowners encouraged to contact their Homeowner Accounts Officer if they need to discuss payments. Any homeowner who is having difficulties due to Covid should fill out our Covid eform if they have not already done so.
- We are in the process of refreshing our service charge loans policy, which is due to go to Cabinet in March. We recently carried out consultation with leaseholders on this via the Residents On-Line panel, and have incorporated the results into the report.
- We are in the process of creating a Contact Us page on the website, which will provide a direct link to all of our e-forms for ease of use
- We have just completed the full refurbishment of Sedgmoor underground garages, and will be opening these shortly
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## Anti social behaviour, grounds maintenance

- In March the ground maintenance teams will have resumed grass cutting operations across all estates
- The ground maintenance service has an on-going programme in place for replacing all its petrol driven equipment e.g. mowers, strimmer's, hedge cutters etc. with electric items which significantly reduce the amount CO2 emissions that the service produces on our estates. It is perhaps worth noting that we will only be replacing the petrol driven equipment when it becomes defective or obsolete so residents will not see these items disappear overnight but more a gradual phasing out.
- Dulwich Wood & Kingswood and Croxted Road Estate
- The Police continue to support the Council with increased attendance and for reassurance the community on the Kingswood. However reports still coming in from the community about ASB related criminality. SASBU have sent out several block letters to residents on the Kingswood and Croxted Road Estate reminding them of the Governments social distancing quidelines encouraging reporting to the Police and our ASB line 207 525 5777
- The ground maintenance service is working with Great Estates

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residents gardening groups on individual maintenance agreements for the adoption of areas/plots for specific gardening projects, the GM service has committed to supporting these gardening groups through a variety of means such as technical advice, altering the frequency of some gm activities, green waste disposal etc.