New Southwark Plan: New and Amended Policies

Consultation Plan

June 2017
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1. **Introduction**

What is the New Southwark Plan?

1.1. The New Southwark Plan (NSP) is a draft planning document that will provide an overarching strategy for managing growth and development across the borough for 15 years. The plan will set out how we will deliver further regeneration and wider improvements to our borough in the years to come. The plan is currently at the preferred option stage and is comprised of two parts: Part one included strategic policies and development management policies. This was consulted on between October 2015 and February 2016. Part two, the area visions and site allocations which runs from 6 February 2017 until 7 July 2017. We have previously consulted on preferred options for our strategic policies, development management policies, area visions and site allocations. This document sets out the consultation plan for the ‘preferred options’ new and amended policies. These new and revised policies have been prepared in response to the previous consultation and ensures that all residents and visitors have an opportunity to consult on all our emerging and amended policies before the formal ‘proposed submission stage’ towards the end of 2017.

1.2. The final draft (“proposed submission” version) of the plan will be prepared after the conclusion of the Preferred Option – new and amended policies consultation. This will contain the strategic policies, development management policies, area visions for the borough’s neighbourhoods and the final list of site allocations.

1.3. The New Southwark Plan explains our strategy for regeneration from 2018 to 2033. The New Southwark Plan will:
- Set policies to support the provision of new homes including 11,000 new Council homes
- Protect our existing schools and community facilities in the borough and provide more where this is needed
- Protect local businesses and attract more businesses into the borough to increase job opportunities
- Support our high streets and increase the range of shops to increase their vitality
- Direct growth to certain areas of the borough, predominantly in the Old Kent Road, Elephant and Castle, Canada Water, East Walworth, Blackfriars Road, Bankside and along the River Thames where there is greater public transport accessibility
- Introduce policies to improve places by enhancing local distinctiveness and protecting our heritage assets
- Set policies to provide more green infrastructure and to promote opportunities for healthy activities

1.4. The final NSP will replace the saved policies of the Southwark Plan 2007 and the Core Strategy 2011 and will be used to make decisions on planning applications.
1.5. The NSP will be a spatial plan. Not only will it set out planning policies to guide development but it will also explain how development will be delivered and may inform future decisions about investment in infrastructure.

1.6. This consultation plan should be read alongside the New Southwark Plan: New and amended policies.

The purpose and objectives of this consultation plan

1.7. The purpose of this consultation plan is to explain how the new and amended consultation on the New Southwark Plan: new and amended policies will take place. It explains how the consultation will meet the requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Local planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (The Regulations) as well as the guidance set out in Southwark’s Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). The SCI explains how we will consult the community in the preparation of planning documents. Further information is set out in section 3 of this plan.

1.8. Several stages of consultation have already been undertaken for the New Southwark Plan. Between November 2013 and March 2014 the council carried out an informal stage of consultation through a survey focused on the borough’s high streets. Interested parties had the opportunity to respond online, by post or through attending community outreach consultation sessions at neighbourhood groups. We received over 500 questionnaire responses.

1.9. The Issues and Options version of the New Southwark Plan was consulted on from October 2014 to March 2015. This version of the plan set out early draft policies and area visions. The document presented different options on policy approaches and we sought feedback on these. We received over 300 written responses during this stage of consultation as well as feedback through a variety of channels including workshops, meetings and conversations with the interested residents, people who worked and owned businesses in the borough, professional bodies and organisations, landowners and other interested stakeholders.

1.10. Between October 2015 and February 2016 the council consulted on the preferred option draft of the policies of the New Southwark Plan, including high-level strategic policies, set out across the key “fairer future” themes that the council will help to deliver (such as “Quality Affordable Homes” and “Cleaner, Greener, Safer”). The outcome to this stage of consultation is set out in the consultation report that is published concurrently with the NSP: Area Visions and Site Allocations (Preferred Option) document.

1.11. The consultation on the New Southwark Plan Preferred Option Part 2: Area Visions and Site Allocations is taking place between 6 February 2017 to 7 July 2017. The council is proposing some new and amended policies to the New Southwark
Plan Part 1: Development Management Policies which is the subject to this round of consultation. Once this consultation has closed and the council has had the opportunity to review the responses received, the final draft of the plan will be prepared for consultation (the Proposed Submission Version) which will contain strategic policies, detailed development management policies, the area visions for the borough’s neighbourhoods and the final list of development site allocations.
2. **How will the New Southwark Plan be prepared?**

2.1. The NSP will involve several stages of consultation. The stages and the relationships between consultation and preparation of the plan itself are shown in Diagram 1 below.

**Diagram 1**

**Timeline**


**NSP Preparation**

- High Streets Consultation
- Options consultation
- Preferred Option (Strategic and Development Management Policies)
- Consultation on NSP Visions and Site Allocations. Further Consultation on new and amended NSP policies
- Proposed submission version (policies, visions and sites)

**NSP Integrated Impact Assessment**

- Prepare and consult on IIA scoping report
- Prepare IIA
- Update IIA
- Update IIA

**NSP Consultation**

- Options stage consultation
  - Consultation is informal, taking place before the plan is prepared – it will involve workshops, exhibitions, etc
- Preferred option stage consultation on NSP policies (first stage of formal consultation)
- Preferred option stage consultation on NSP Area Visions and Site Allocations (first stage of formal consultation cont.). Consultation on new and amended policies.
- Proposed submission stage
  - Formal stage – representations on the plan are forwarded to inspector
  - Examination in public
  - Hearings with planning inspector
3. How we are consulting?

3.1. This consultation plan sets out the consultation we are planning to carry out on the New Southwark Plan: New and amended policies. This is in accordance with our adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) (2008), which explains how we will consult the community in the preparation of planning policy documents. The following sections set out how we plan to meet the minimum SCI consultation requirements and how we will exceed these requirements where appropriate. By meeting the minimum SCI requirements we will also meet the minimum consultation requirements in the 2012 Regulations.

3.2. Once we have finished consulting on the New Southwark Plan: New and amended policies, we will collate all the responses we receive and see whether we need to amend them to take into account the responses. We will provide officer comments on all the responses we receive which will set out whether we have changed the plan to reflect the response, and will explain our reasoning for why we have/have not amended the plan. We will then consult on a proposed submission version on the whole New Southwark Plan (including policies, visions and sites) in Autumn/Winter 2017.

3.3. This consultation plan should be read alongside the New Southwark Plan: New and amended policies document. This document sets out the draft visions for the borough’s neighbourhoods and identifies the proposed key development sites which will help the council and its partners deliver on these visions.


The documents will also be available for inspection at all of our libraries across the borough. Addresses and opening times for all of our libraries are available on our website at: [https://www.southwark.gov.uk/libraries/find-a-library](https://www.southwark.gov.uk/libraries/find-a-library)
**Tailoring the SCI to meet the circumstances of the NSP**

3.4. The NSP will be a spatial strategy that covers the whole of the borough. It will influence issues that have a significant effect on people’s lives. These issues include how we will support the provision of new homes including 11,000 new Council homes, maintain a strong local economy and healthy town centres, provide infrastructure to support new development, direct growth to the most appropriate parts of the borough and protect and improve our green infrastructure and heritage assets.

3.5. The plan will affect many groups in the community including:
- Existing residents living in and around the borough, including council tenants; people in need of housing
- Existing businesses and businesses looking to move into the borough.
- People with jobs in businesses in the borough that might be affected; people who might be looking for jobs
- Landowners.
- Congregations in the many faith premises that are located in the borough.
- Shoppers and visitors to the area.
- Students who are studying and/or residing in the borough.
- Cyclists and pedestrians using the routes in the borough.
- Developers.
4. Consultation timetable and methods of consultation

Consultation timeframe

4.1. We are required to consult on planning documents for a minimum of six weeks. However, we have found that six weeks does not always allow the community enough time to provide their comments, and so we set out in our SCI that we will consult on our planning policy documents for 12 weeks.

4.2. The New Southwark Plan: New and amended policies will be available for comment from Wednesday 21st June 2017 to Wednesday 13th September 2017. All responses must be received by 5pm on Wednesday 13 September 2017.

Consultation methods

4.3. The tables below set out the different consultation methods we propose to use. We hope to consult with as many people as possible so that the NSP: New and amended policies reflects the needs and aspirations of our diverse community.

4.4. We set out the minimum SCI requirements that we will carry out, and then the additional consultation we propose to carry out. We set out dates where these are already agreed.

4.5. This table is not exhaustive and throughout the consultation period we look at ways in which to carry out different types of consultation with as many different groups as possible.

4.6. Comments can be received via post or via our consultation hub at: https://consultations.southwark.gov.uk/
or email planningpolicy@southwark.gov.uk
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method of Consultation</th>
<th>Consultee</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Display the New Southwark Plan and accompanying documents on the council’s website.</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>From 20 June 2017</td>
<td>Our website will continually be updated. The new Southwark Plan new and amended policies document will be available on our website from 20 June 2017.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mail out to all the statutory prescribed bodies and consultees.</td>
<td>All consultees defined as statutory consultees in the SCI and all the prescribed bodies and neighbouring boroughs referred to in the Duty to co-operate.</td>
<td>W/c 21 June 2017</td>
<td>This includes the bodies identified as statutory consultees in the SCI, all the prescribed bodies as set out in the Localism Act and that we are required to consult with as part of the Duty to co-operate, and all our neighbouring boroughs. This will be through our planning policy mailing database including those listed within the 2008 SCI (or any superseded bodies to any defunct organisations specified within the SCI).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Consultee</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Comments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Display the New Southwark Plan and its supporting documents at relevant libraries and Service Points.</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>W/c 21 June 2017</td>
<td>The NSP new and amended policies document will be available for view at all our libraries and our two Service Points in Walworth and Peckham.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place a press notice in the local newspaper to advertise the start of the formal consultation period</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>29 June 2017</td>
<td>This will be in the Southwark News</td>
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**Note:** The SCI refers to consultation documents being available in Area Housing Offices and One Stop Shops. Both of these premises have been replaced by Service Points.
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Email and physical mail-out to all non-statutory consultees on planning policy database. This will set out the timescale for consultation and how people can comment on the NSP new and amended policies document.</td>
<td>All on My Southwark planning policy consultee database</td>
<td>Week commencing 20 June 2017</td>
<td>An email will be sent to the 5,500+ contacts signed up for planning policy email notifications and updates via MySouthwark, as well as the groups identified in our SCI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Announcement at all Community Councils to let the community know that the New Southwark Plan: new and amended policies is out for consultation.</td>
<td>All who attend the community council.</td>
<td>Throughout consultation period.</td>
<td>The meeting agendas can be found at: <a href="http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/mgListCommittees.aspx?bcr=1">http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/mgListCommittees.aspx?bcr=1</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Announcement at Planning Committee</td>
<td>All who attend planning committee</td>
<td>July/August 2017</td>
<td>The meeting agendas can be found at: <a href="http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=119">http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=119</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter and/or emails to tenants and residents associations</td>
<td>T&amp;RA members</td>
<td>Week commencing 20 June 2017</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Updates on the council’s facebook and twitter pages</td>
<td>Facebook and twitter followers</td>
<td>From 21 June 2017</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussions with our neighbouring boroughs and where appropriate the prescribed bodies.</td>
<td>All prescribed bodies and neighbouring boroughs.</td>
<td>Throughout the consultation period</td>
<td>The National Planning Policy Framework has introduced the Duty to Co-operate. We will send our neighbouring boroughs and prescribed bodies links to electronic copies of the New Southwark Plan: new and amended policies document for comment and meet with them to discuss the document further if required.</td>
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<td>Site notices on or near sites for each site allocation</td>
<td>People living, working and travelling within the vicinity of each site</td>
<td>Six week period falling within the 12 week consultation period June 2017</td>
<td>Site notices will be placed on or near each site allocation to raise awareness of the consultation for people living and working and travelling within, on and near the site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contacting land owners with interests in any land which is part of a proposed site allocation</td>
<td>Landowners of each site allocation</td>
<td>At least six weeks prior to the close of the consultation period 2017</td>
<td>The council will seek to identify and contact each landowner related to a site allocation proposed in the NSP new and amended policies where possible.</td>
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5. How to comment on the New Southwark Plan

5.1 We welcome your comments on the New Southwark Plan: new and amended policies and the supporting documents.

5.2 Please contact us if you would like to know more about the plan or to find out more about our consultation.

5.3 All comments must be received by Wednesday 13 September 2017

5.4 Representations can be made by:

- Visiting our consultation hub and submitting our online questionnaire: [https://consultations.southwark.gov.uk](https://consultations.southwark.gov.uk)

- Sending an email to planningpolicy@southwark.gov.uk

- Alternatively you can send your response to:

  NSP Consultation 2017
  Planning Policy Team
  5th Floor Hub 2
  Regeneration
  FREEPOST SE1919/14
  London SE1P 5LX

  Tel: 0207 525 5471
List of locations where the AAP new and amended policies and supporting documents can be viewed

Libraries

All Southwark libraries
(Monday to Friday 9am-8pm, Saturday 9-5pm, Sunday 12-4pm)

My Southwark service points

Peckham My Southwark customer service point
122 Peckham Hill Street,
London SE15 5JR

Walworth My Southwark customer service point
376 Walworth Road,
London SE17 2NG

Council offices
Council offices
160 Tooley Street, SE1 2QH
Open Monday-Friday 10am-4pm
6. Monitoring and reporting

6.1 Each stage of consultation will be monitored where practical to ensure that a diverse range of groups and people are involved, including groups with protected characteristics. Demographic monitoring forms will be attached to questionnaire at each stage. A consultation report will be prepared following each stage and where under representation of particular groups is identified, efforts would be made at the following stage to rectify it.

6.2 The outcomes of the New Southwark Plan new and amended policies consultation will be set out in the proposed submission version of the New Southwark Plan and accompanying consultation report, anticipated to be published for Autumn/Winter 2017.

6.3 During this new and amended policy consultation stage, all written comments received will be summarised with responses published alongside the proposed submission version of the plan. All respondents will be notified of the submission of the plan to the secretary of state for examination and will be notified of the examination hearings. A consultation report will be submitted to the secretary of state showing how the Regulations and the aims of the Statement of Community Involvement have been met and describing how the plan has been influenced by consultation.