



# Alice Shepherd House and Oak House

Residents' Consultation 1: Early Engagement Feedback Summary Report March 2020



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# **Executive Summary**

This report summarises the comments, ideas and concerns raised by residents of Alice Shepherd House and Oak House throughout the initial stages of the Options Appraisal process.

In general, we found that residents shared many of the same concerns and have similar ideas about the future of their homes, estate, streets and open spaces. In addition, residents generally agreed with the objectives that formed the initial draft Residents' Brief across the five categories: housing; environment; accessibility; well-being and economy.

**When asked about their home**, the majority of residents talked about the size and spaces of their homes. Many also stressed the importance of their views, storage space and having comfortable spaces. Others spoke about outdoor private space, which is lacking in some areas of the site.

**When asked about their estate**, residents generally thought that the proximity to local amenities was very important. Safety and security and maintaining a strong sense of community on the current estate was also vital to residents. Others spoke about maintaining the dual aspect views and provision of green and open spaces for the community.

**When asked about their streets**, having walkable routes and good lighting was raised by many residents as an important issue. Residents also talked about having clear routes to and from their homes and active frontages with overlooking windows. Others also mentioned that the streets at the moment are very noisy and dangerous.

When asked about their open spaces, many residents thought that private outdoor space was very important. Other important features included having space to play and the preservation of existing trees and greenery. Many residents were keen for a green and open space for the community, which is not currently provided in the estate. Residents were somewhat split in their opinions about providing a space for exercising pets.

Residents generally agreed with all of the objectives proposed in the draft Residents' Brief. The only objectives that had any notable disagreement were about providing separate space for exercising pets, cycle storage, allotment space and parking.

# Introduction

## **Residents' Consultation 1: Early engagement**

#### **Exhibition Events:**

Held at the Samuda Youth Project Community Centre (50p Club) Thursday 30 January (4pm-8pm) and Saturday 1 February (10am-2pm)

Number of households that attended: 20

#### Follow up 121s:

Carried out in residents' homes, at One Housing's office, or over the phone

Number of households that participated: 31

#### **Drop-in exhibition event:**

Held in lobby of Alice Shepherd House Tuesday 3 March (9am-5pm)

Number of households who attended: 10

Total number of households who engaged in this consultation: 56 (69%) \*

Alice Shepherd House: 48

Oak House: 8

\* There are 84 homes at Alice Shepherd House and Oak House. At the time of consultation three homes were void. Therefore the number of possible households to engage with was 81. Some households engaged in multiple events but were only counted once in the overall total.

This report is a summary of the comments and issues raised by residents of Alice Shepherd House and Oak House both at the beginning of 2019 during One Housing's survey of residents, and during the first round of regeneration consultation throughout February 2020. This first round of consultation included two exhibition events followed by one to one meetings arranged between residents and the One Housing regeneration team. This allowed One Housing to explain and discuss the options appraisal process with as many of you as possible and gather your feedback.

Hopefully many of the questions and responses in this report will seem familiar; and it is fair to say that the findings are very similar to those we presented to you in our survey report in March/April 2019. You may feel this report is not telling you anything new. But it is important to test and record the findings of every stage of consultation, as the comments and views expressed in this document will help decide the future of Alice Shepherd House and Oak House. The fact that this report confirms the findings of our earlier resident surveys is a good sign that the community have strong and views on the future of their homes.

The event welcomed and introduced residents of Alice Shepherd House and Oak House to the options appraisal process, during which we will consider possible options for the future of these three buildings. Residents were shown a timeline of the process and presented with example images for each of the six options. Key comments and findings from the residents' survey, carried out earlier in the year were displayed and it was explained how this feedback has helped inform the draft residents brief (key promises made to residents if regeneration were to happen), that was shown on another of the display boards. One Housing also provided contact details for more information.

The One Housing Island regeneration team and PRP architects were available during the events to talk to residents about the displays, explain things where necessary and discuss people's thoughts, questions and concerns. Residents were offered the chance to complete a survey and encouraged to write comments on post-it notes and stick them directly on the displays. In the one to one meetings with residents following the events, One Housing were able to get feedback and have discussions with those who had not already commented or had not been able to attend the events.



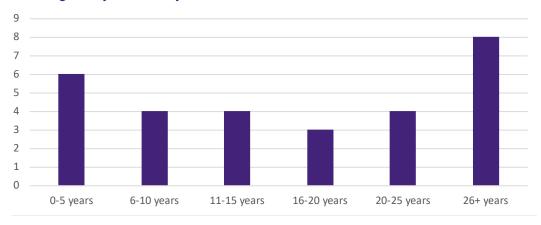
# **Questionnaire: Have your say**

The first part of the feedback form (see example at top of page 19) collected basic information and asked residents about their home and the area in which they live. Responses were recorded by ticking boxes and adding comments to indicate how important each feature was to each resident.

#### **About you**

Of the 32 feedback forms completed, 25 were from Alice Shepherd House and 7 from Oak House. Of the respondents who attended the event, 29 told us how long they have lived in their home and the majority (8) said more than 26 years.

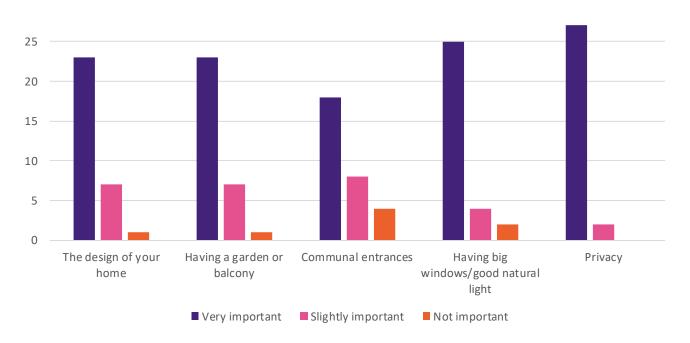
#### "How long have you lived at your home?"



#### Your home

Residents were asked to consider the importance of five features relating to their home. In general, respondents agreed that all features were important. 25 or more people agreed that having big windows/good natural light and having privacy were 'very important'. Less than five people in any category thought the features were 'not important'.

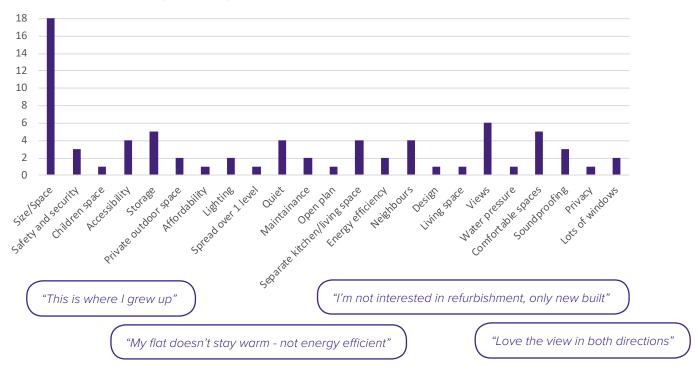
#### "How important do you consider the following about your home?"



#### Your home continued...

Residents were asked to comment on what was important about their home. Most residents told us that size and space was most important, whilst having views, comfortable spaces, their neighbours and storage were also mentioned by several residents. safety and security, soundproofing and quiet were also mentioned by some.

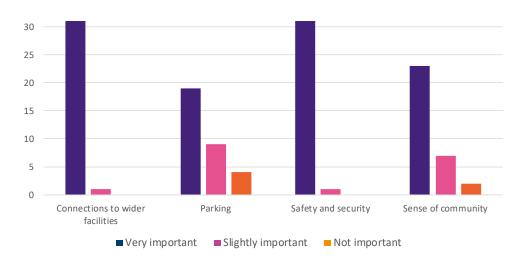
#### "What is most important to you about your home?"



#### Your estate

We then asked people to think about the importance of four features relating to their estate. 31 respondents agreed that safety and security was 'very important', 31 respondents also agreed that connections to wider facilities 23 on having a sense of community were also 'very important'. On the other hand, 9 respondents thought parking was only slightly important, while 4 thought it was 'not important'. No respondents said that connections to wider facilities and a safety and security were 'not important'.

#### "How important do you consider the following about your estate?"

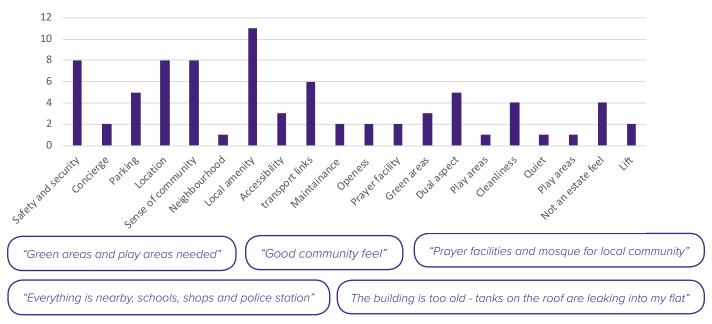




#### Your estate continued...

When asked to comment on what was important about their estate, proximity to local amenities was the most frequently mentioned feature with 11 comments, safety and security, location and the sense of community were also common with 8 mentions each. Also, frequently mentioned was the importance of transport links, parking and the estate being dual aspect.

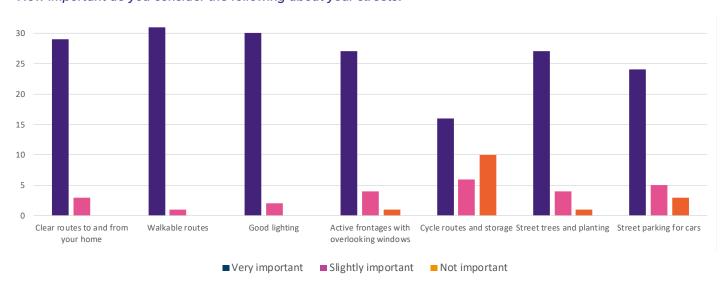
#### "What is important to you about your estate?"



#### Your streets

Respondents were then asked to consider the importance of seven different features relating to their streets. Having walkable routes, good lighting and clear routes to and from your home were considered the most important features. Street trees and planting was also considered 'very important' by many of those who responded. The remaining three features had a more even spread of importance, which indicates that whilst they are very important to some, other residents find them less important, or not important at all.

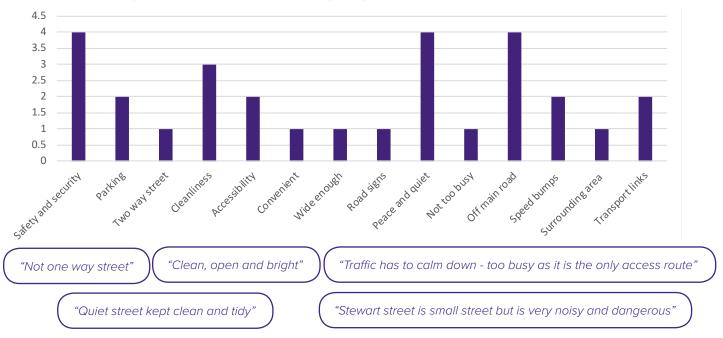
#### "How important do you consider the following about your streets?"



#### Your streets continued...

Residents were asked to think about their streets, and tell us the features they thought were most important. With 15 mentions, safety and security received the most comments, while walkability and access to parking both received eight or more mentions. People also said that maintenance, peace and quiet and overlooking doors and windows were important, among other things.

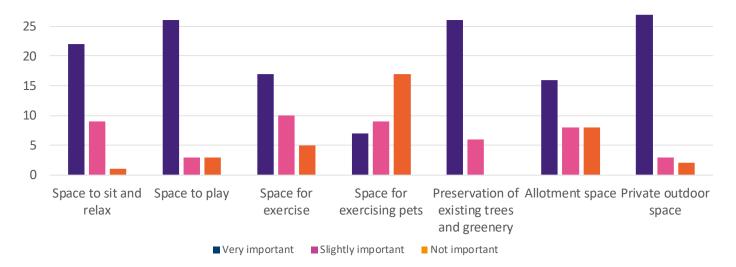
#### "What is important to you about the roads and pathways on your estate?"



#### Your open spaces

Respondents were then asked to think about the importance of seven different features of their open space. Private outdoor space, Spaces to play and the preservation of existing trees and greenery were considered 'very important' by over 26 people, whilst over 17 people agreed that having spaces to sit and relax and space for exercise was 'very important'. Residents had mixed views on space for exercising pets and allotment space, with more people finding having space for exercising pets 'not important' than 'very important'. This suggests a difference of opinion between those who make use of these features and some of those who do not.

#### "How important do you consider the following about your open space?"

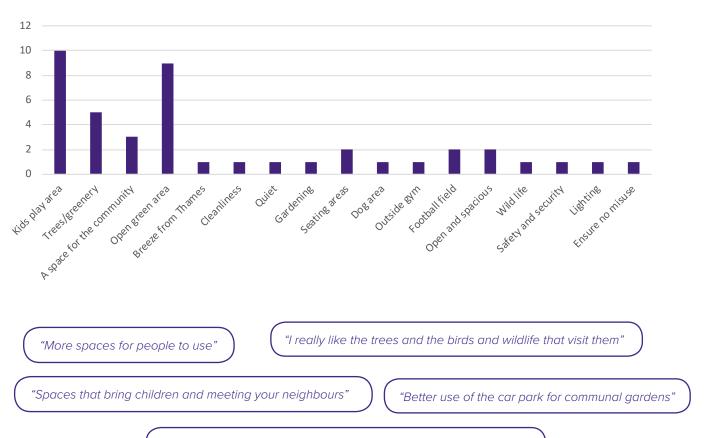




#### Your open spaces continued...

Residents were asked to comment on what they considered important about the open spaces on their estate. With 10 comments, having a play area for children was the most frequently mentioned feature. Having a green open area, a space for the community and trees and greenery were each mentioned 3 or more times. Other features such as seating areas, improving the football field, and having a open and spacious space were also mentioned, among other things.

#### "What is important to you about the open spaces on your estate?"



"Land of the community centre can be used for more efficient use"

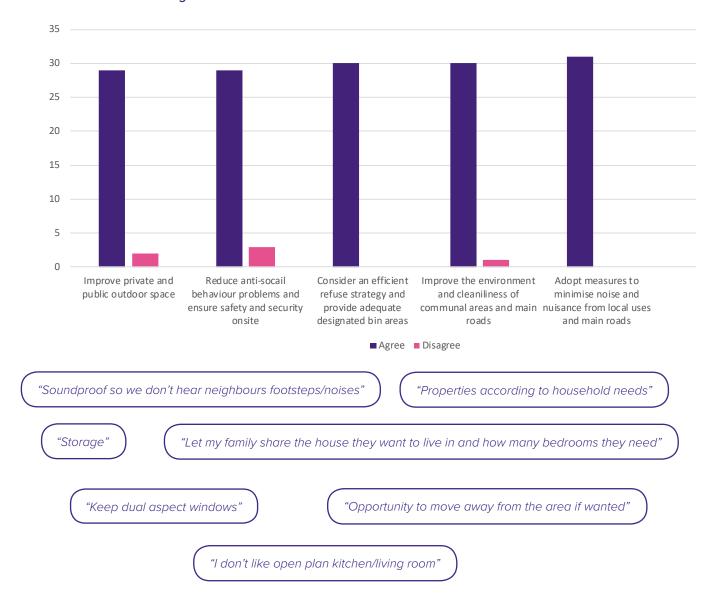
# **Questionnaire: The draft Residents' Brief**

The second part of the feedback form (see example at bottom of page 19) looked at the Draft Residents' Brief. We asked respondents to agree or disagree with a number of 'objectives' that were based on what people told us when they took part in the resident survey in March/April 2019. Residents were also invited to include any further objectives they would like added to the residents' brief. The brief was split into five categories; housing, environment, accessibility, well-being and economy.

#### **Housing**

Respondents generally agreed with all five features relating to their homes, with every objective agreed with by over 28 people. No more than one person disagreed with any of the objectives.

#### Statements related to housing

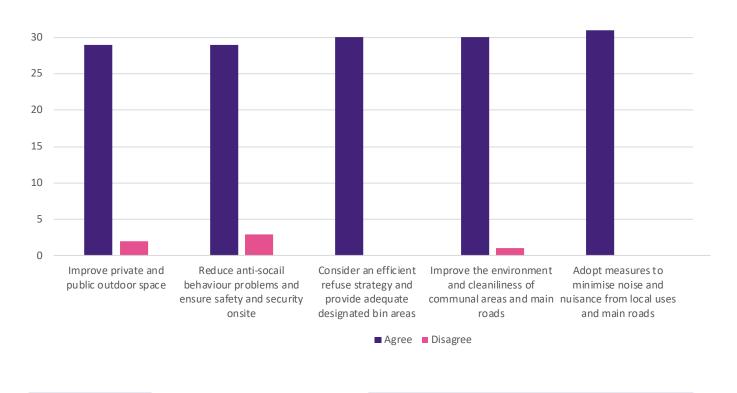




#### **Environment**

Respondents generally also agreed with all five statements related to the environment, with every objective agreed with by 29 or more respondents. Everyone agreed that efficient refuse strategy and provide adequate designated bin areas should be considered, and that measures to minimise noise and nuisance from local uses and main roads should be adopted. No more than three person disagreed with any of the objectives.

#### Statements related to environment



"Would like a garden"

"Lifts in poor condition"

"Having a regular schedule for cleaning communal areas"

"Noise pollution"

"Rubbish is being left in bin areas and smoking and drug misuse by youths is taking place in the staircases"

"nice, tidy and well maintained"

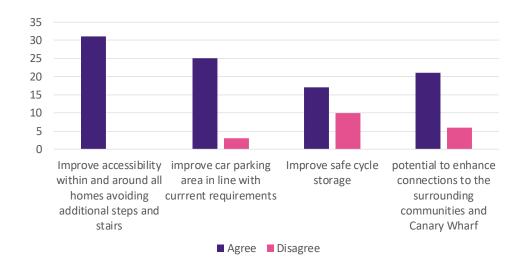
"Bin store code rather than a key because saves money and trouble with bin key"

"Improving the look of the outside of the building"

#### **Accessibility**

Respondents generally agreed that accessibility should be improved within and around all homes and that parking should be provided to meet current requirements, with over 25 people agreeing with each. Improving cycle storage and potential to enhance connections to the surrounding communities and Canary Wharf showed more mixed views, as 10 people disagreed with cycle storage being a priority and 6 people had reservations or disagreed with improving connections to surrounding communities.

#### Statements related to accessibility



"Having lifts in buildings"

"As least stairs as possible"

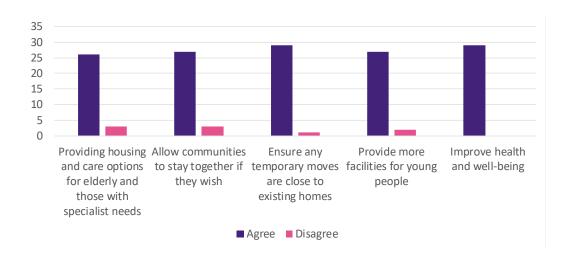
"My mum struggles with the stairs"



#### Well-being

Respondents generally agreed with all priorities related to well-being, with over 27 people agreeing to each statement. No more than three people disagreed with any of the statements.

#### Statements related to well-being



"I would like to be at ground floor because I have health problems I did not have when I moved in"

"Access to local amenities - gym and health facilities"

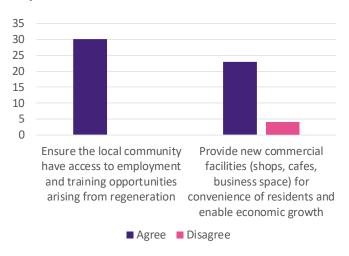
"Having a community centre for different age groups: youths and elderly"

"Youth club or facilities well supervised for youth fitness"

#### **Economy**

30 people agreed with ensuring the local community have access to employment and training opportunities arising from regeneration; while 23 people agreed that new commercial facilities (such as shops, cafés and business spaces which would increase convenience for residents and enable economic growth) should be provided.

#### Statements related to the economy



"Keep private and residential only, such as gym"

"Addition of market stalls and food market"

"It would be good to have work experience opportunities"

"Night life isn't that good"

"Depend what it is, not if it is a gym that occurs additional services"

"it would be good to see some non-residential uses like workspaces"

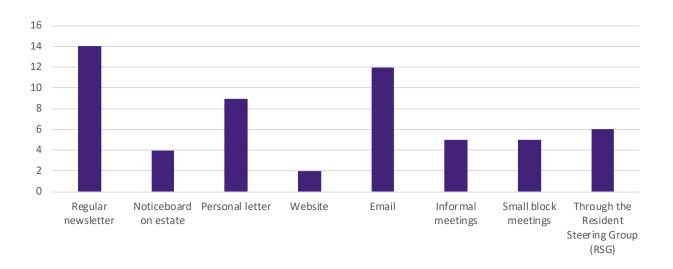


#### Have your say

The final part of the feedback form asked those residents who attended a drop-in event, if they found the event useful. Of the 32 respondents, 23 agreed that the event was informative, while 9 didn't respond. No-one disagreed.

When asked about their preferred method of contact, respondents were relatively split and voted for a number of methods. A regular newsletter was the most popular choice, while a further two methods received 9 or more votes. Setting up a website or noticeboard on the estate were less popular options. Three people suggested mobile contact as an addition to the given options.

#### "How would you prefer to be kept informed and involved in the future?"



# **Event Photos**









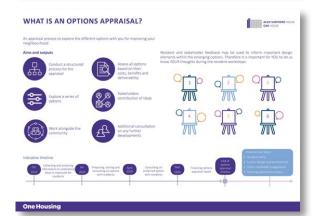




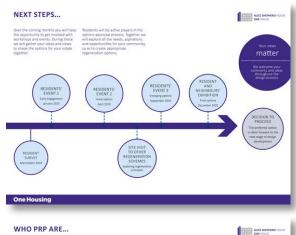
# **Event material: A1 boards**

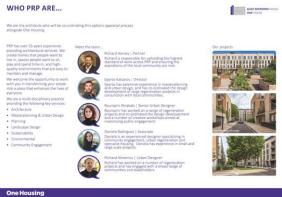


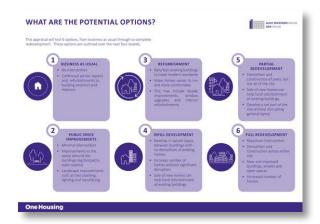






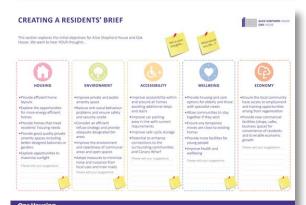






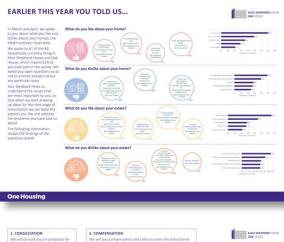










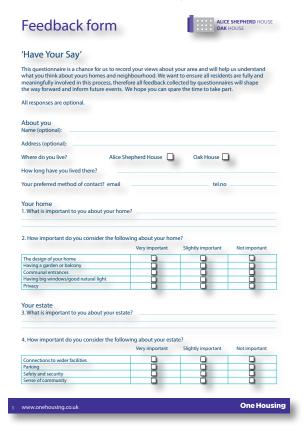


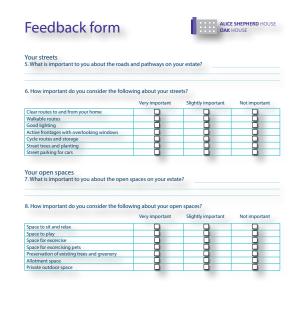


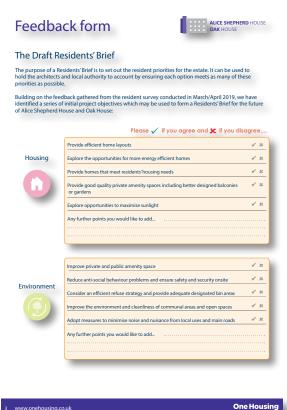


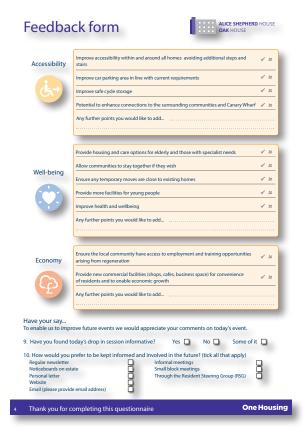


# **Event material: Questionnaires**









# **Detailed Event Feedback Recording**

In addition to the feedback forms, residents were asked and encouraged to leave feedback and comments on the boards at the consultation events. This section collates all comments made on sticky notes by residents throughout the two days of events and workshops. These include all the specific comments to each of the boards.

#### Sticky notes / Thursday 31st January

All the comments by residents have been recorded and presented below:

#### One Housing Introductory board: Board 3

Don't like glass balconies, don't like cladding

#### What is an Option Appraisal: Board 5

- Potential for community garden/play opportunity to socialise
- Need outdoor space, greenery for both adults and children

#### What are the Options, Board 7

#### 'Business as Usual'

- Leave us be! refurb
- Minor refurb
- Fire in number 6 proves the building does what its supposed to do! Could a new block do that?
- New kitchen new bathroom that's all
- New kitchens and bathrooms and nails plastered
- Everyone in Alice Shepherd House gets on
- Little bit of internal and external refurb not a whole new building

#### 'Public Space Improvements'

- I like the idea of the environmental improvements
- · Nice idea just leave the car park
- Best option for all residents
- Improve outdoor space for adults and kids to relax and enjoy
- Play area is a good idea
- Better lighting and visibility to keep safe and avoid anti-social activities
- **Best option**







#### What are the Options, Board 8

#### 'Refurbishment'

- · Cost implication for leaseholders for refurb
- Need costings for everything
- · I wouldn't mind a kitchen like this
- AS windows could be improved hard to clean and get stuck
- Storage is very important good at the moment and kitchen is a good size
- I've got too many cupboards

#### 'Infill Development'

- · Nothing blocking light or too close to each other
- · I like the infill option and provide current residents
- · No tower blocks blocking light
- · I don't like the infill option prefer full redevelopment or refurbishment

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#### What are the Options, Board 9

#### 'Partial Redevelopment'

- · Like this walkway, outdoor space, would be nice off balcony
- Storage is needed like to store things in our flat
- Kitchen done in 2007 need improvements blockage, sink etc.
- · If you do knock it down I want to stay on island

#### 'Full Redevelopment'

- Like it!
- We are looking to have a more improved condition
- · It's important for new homes to have their own balconies

#### Earlier this year you told us..: Board 10

- I have never seen anyone using the bike shelter its too exposed
- The security
- · Current patios are not usable -it's a waste of space
- · No one is using the new bike store would like a key
- Soundproofing is really important
- · Lifts area always breaking down!
- I like peace and quiet no loud music



#### Residents' Brief, Board 11

- We want more play areas
- More enhanced streets and better connectivity
- Issues with access to the flats getting in and out for disabled people
- All the ground floor flats suffer of litter being dropped to their patios especially cigarette buds

#### **Your Community, Board 13**

- I like the transport links
- I like the area good for walks
- Local shops and uses are very convenient I use then a lot
- Angela court have crèche at ground level it's a good idea an intergenerational opportunity
- Nice area calmed down a lot
- Improve access to the buildings especially towards the main street
- We like St.Johns park
- Like the neighbours vicinity to transport links
- Improved access to the enhanced streets
- I like being back from the road pollution/noise out
- Do not touch the car park
- We need more lights on the streets there are some dark areas
- Location is really good proximity to school and local shops

#### Your Home, Board 14

- Really like the views (from the 6th floor)
- Don't want to be moved from mates
- I like the neighbours
- Football pitch in ASH is not properly used parking constraints make this area friendlier for families
- Why try to fix something that isn't broken
- My aunt has been decanted so not concerned if that was to happen but my preference is to refurb (my dad may think differently)
- On the whole I like the block some light refurb perhaps (ASH)
- Experiment on the community centre as no one lives here the residents have a chance to see what properties will be like then have a vote after







- I want people to cut down the noise to make a new building
- Want the building to stay it's a landmark (ASH)
- · Needs better CCTV, lighting and car park
- Needs anti-slip coating on communal staircase (ASH) lighting and communal areas are bad
- · No one knows how to access the bike sheds
- Sound proofing is really good (ASH) ventilation could be improved
- · Storage is really good in ASH
- · Slippery staircase, bad windows, faulty windows, traffic
- · The view to the river is very important to me
- Use local open area to test and see if the locals like / appreciate what they see – externally and internally
- · Don't have a problem with the community centre going
- Build on the community centre first then ask the local residents if they like what they see
- Like the neighbours don't want to move from mates
- · I like not looking into someone else's front room/bedroom/kitchen
- You could explore more uses and community spaces
- A lot of fly tipping areas
- Drainage needs to be improved lots of flooding
- · Safety CCTV for hallways for residents
- Would like more play space, car park isn't used for cars so could be play space
- · Make child play areas unique don't like that all modern parks are the same
- For the back houses to be separated and balcony
- Not here (AS and Oak house) take here (community centre)
- · Would love a balcony to sit out on!



### Sticky notes / Saturday 2nd February

All the comments by residents have been recorded and presented below:

#### What are the Options, Board 7

#### 'Business as Usual'

- The building is too old it has to be demolished I'm on the second floor and I have water leaking into my flat
- Tank on the roof are leaking into my flat
- Demolish the roof of AS
- Nice room sizes

#### What are the Options, Board 7

#### 'Refurbishment'

- · Refurb, refurb, refurb
- Kitchen and bathroom weren't done properly
- Needs to be light and airy for my own sanity mind

#### What are the Options, Board 7

#### 'Full Redevelopment

- Do not want to go higher than I am (2nd floor)
- · It would be good to see some non-residential uses like workspaces

#### Residents' Brief, Board 11

Better layouts are important – rooms are close to the street – you can hear everything

#### **Key Pledges, Board 12**

· Right to buy? Coming in April

#### **Your Community, Board 13**

- Don't like ASH like the idea of moving once!
- Transport links need to be improved access to bus routes
- Community centre can create noise issues /night parties







- I like the river I have a view of the river from my flat
- · Friendly neighbours Lots of windows so nice and light
- More shops in the area

#### Your Home, Board 14

- · Land could be used for more efficient use
- Can look back and front dual aspect
- Traffic has to calm down on Stewart street too busy as it is the only access route





