Housing Allocations Scheme: Consultation Feedback







Online Consultation Survey

Quantitative Feedback

- Open consultation between: 1 February 2021 1 June 2021 (<u>www.southwark.gov.uk/housingallocations</u>)
- 1533 responses received via the online survey
- Further comments about the scheme or about housing in general: 513 - these comments will be considered separately in a qualitative feedback
- 340 additional responses received by email

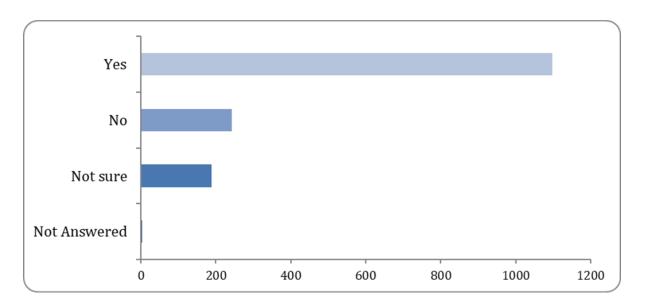






Q1. Local connection

You will only have a connection if you have lived in Southwark for the last five consecutive years. Working local connection criteria will only apply to key workers who, through their work, are completing a community contribution.



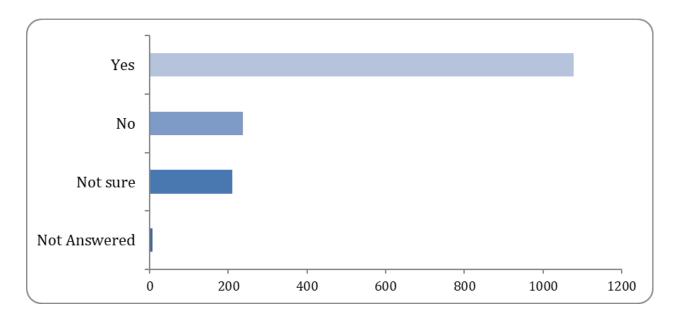






Q2. Domestic Abuse

We will increase the priority banding to band 2, to enable domestic abuse households the ability to achieve a move within a shorter period.



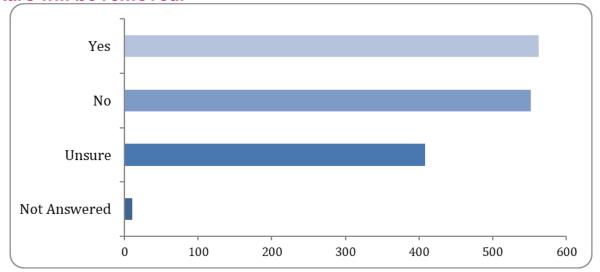






Q3. Good Tenant and Priority Star System

We aim to remove the community contribution 'Good tenant' band 2 award. We also aim to simplify the starring system, applying the voluntary contribution star for residents volunteering for the local tenants and residents association. All other stars will be removed.



37% of respondents agreed with this while 36% of respondents disagreed.

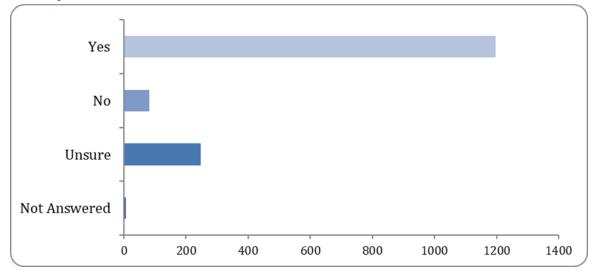






Q4. Local Lettings Scheme

We aim to tailor each local letting scheme to meet the needs of each individual housing development, including partner housing associations. Therefore, we will remove the restriction of 50% maximum for council and other social housing properties, and increase the percentage of local letting offers, where possible up to 100% of new build schemes. This will also include pre allocation 10 weeks after construction starts to enable residents the ability to have an input into their new homes.



78% of respondents agreed with this change

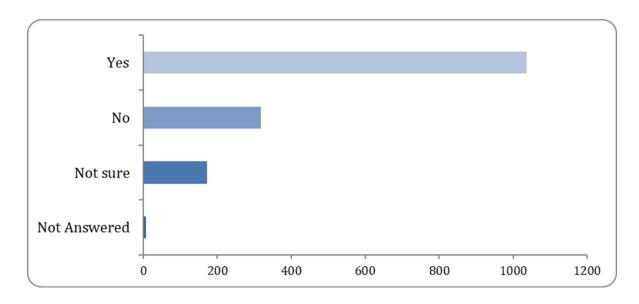






Q5. Unlimited refusals

We aim to remove penalties for residents refusing accommodation with the exception of homeless households residing in temporary accommodation.



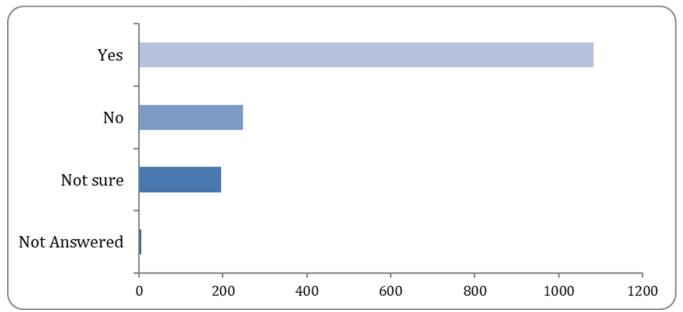






Q6. Ex-Armed forces personnel

These people will now go into band 1. Members of the armed forces with a serious illness or injury already go into band 1.





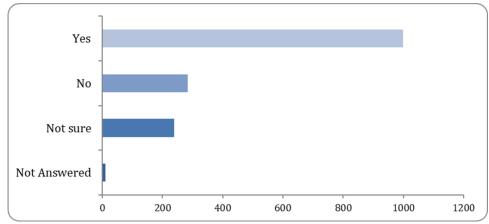




Q7. Private rented sector offers for households in

temporary accommodation

We will offer homeless people the chance to rent privately with support and assistance, rather than live in temporary accommodation. In return we will put them in band 2, rather than band 3, which should mean they are housed through the register more quickly.



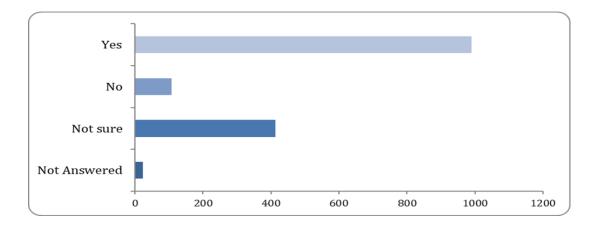






Q8. Annual Lettings Plan

We aim to produce an Annual Lettings Plan; this will set annual targets for property types across all priority needs bands, and ensure applicants in the highest priority needs groups are re-housed as soon as possible through active support from the council. This lettings plan will also highlight the reason for the households being accommodated, the percentage of lettings to each property type and the number of properties used as temporary accommodation.



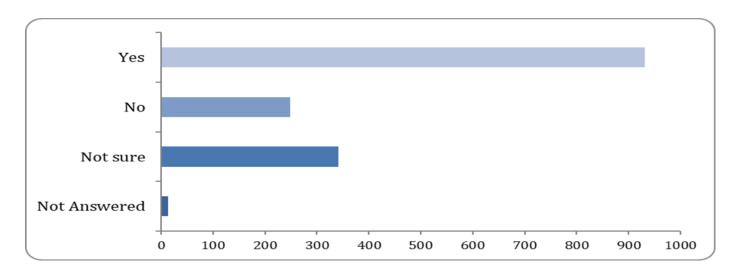






Q9. Social Services nominations

We are proposing to maintain the priority banding position, awarding band 2 to households whom have been nominated by social services. However we will remove the restriction for care leavers to bid for bedsit properties only.



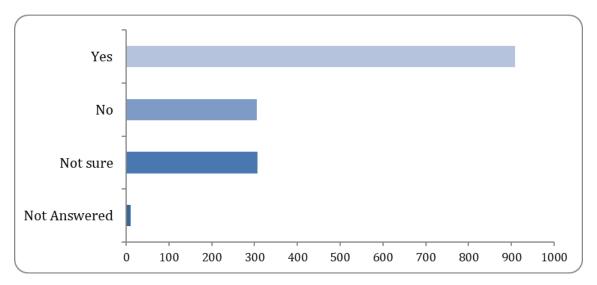






Q10. Overcrowding criteria

We propose to maintain 2 levels of overcrowding, band 1 to households who are statutory overcrowded and short by 2 rooms. Or band 3 to households who are not statutory overcrowded but are short by one bedroom.



59% of respondents agreed with this proposal.

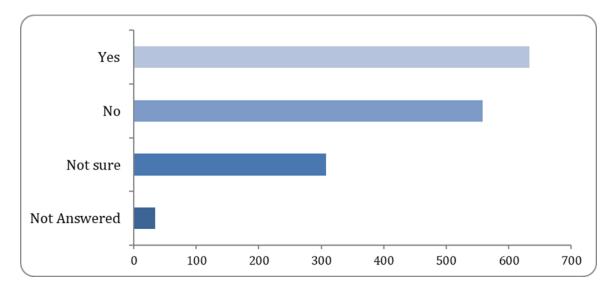






Additional Overcrowded questions

A) Do you think we should only award households emergency housing band 1 priority for households who lack 3 or more rooms in their accommodation?



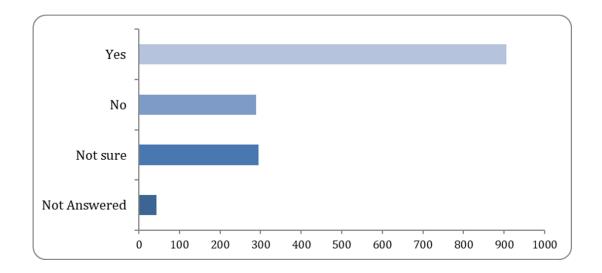






Overcrowding criteria 3 (con't)

B) Do you think we should award Band 2 to households who lack 2 rooms in their accommodation?



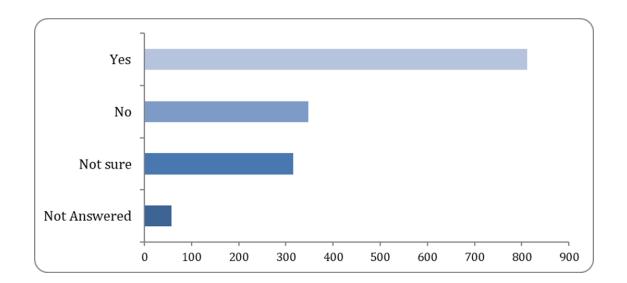






Overcrowding criteria 4 (con't)

C) Do you think we should add band 3 to households who lack 1 bedroom in their current accommodation?



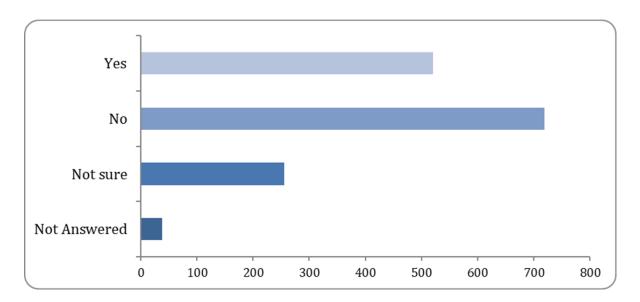






Non-dependant children

D) Do you think adult children (over 21) should not be included in the overcrowded calculation for higher levels of priority where there is no medical requirement (receiving or providing caring), to reside as part of the household?









Equalities questions

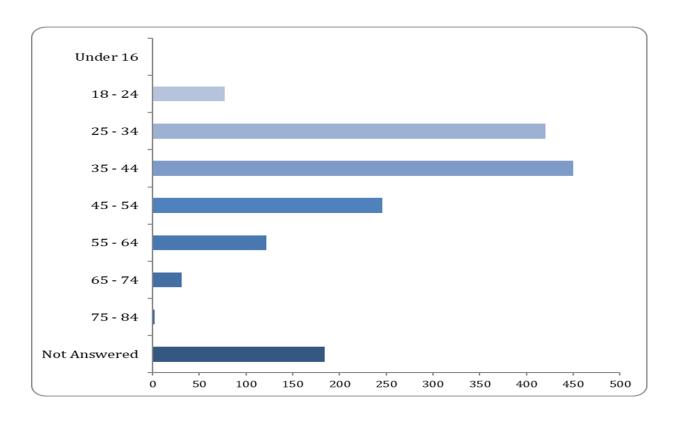
Who completed the survey?







Who completed the survey: Age









Who completed the survey: Main ethnic groups

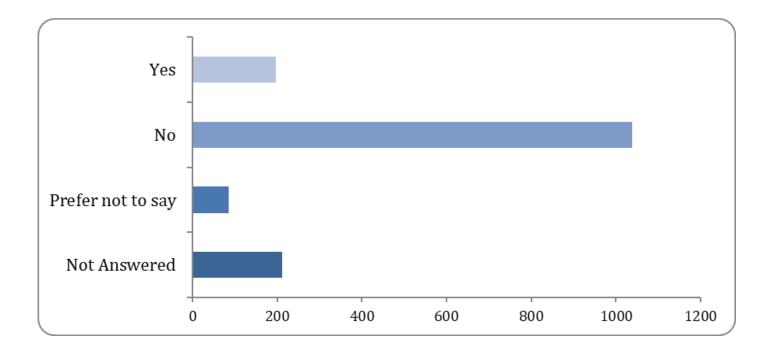
- 22.83% Black British
- 17.09% White British
- 5.74% Nigerian
- 3.59% Other European
- 5.35% Black Caribbean
- 3.33% Latin American







Who completed the survey: Disability



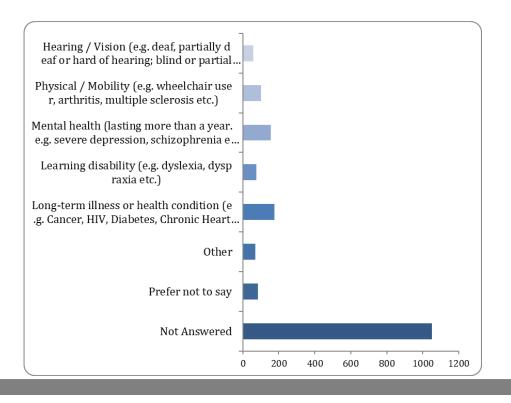






Who completed the survey: Disability

further information

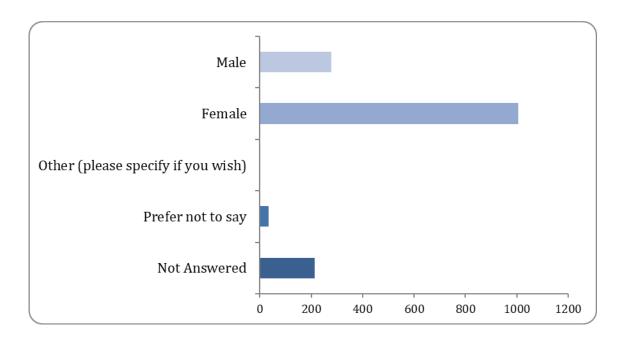








Who completed the survey: What is your sex as recorded at birth?



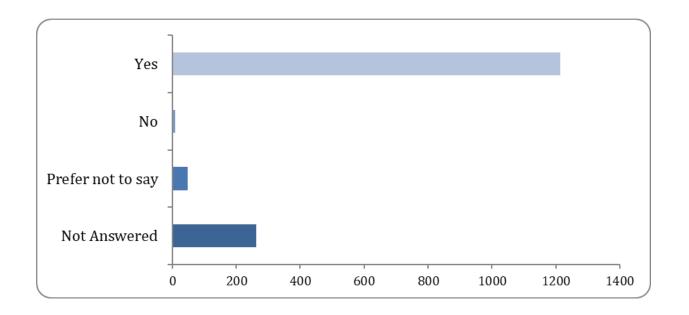






Who completed the survey: Is your Gender Identity the

same as the sex you were recorded at birth?

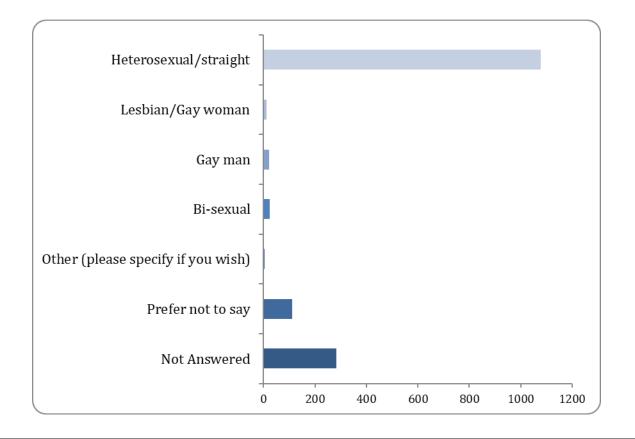








Who completed the survey: sexual orientation

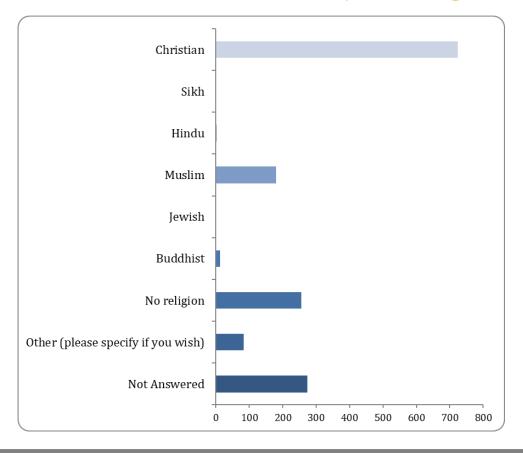








Who completed the survey: religion or belief









What next?

The council will now fully analyse the results in order to confirm a finalised Housing Allocations Scheme to be agreed in Summer 2021 and implemented later in the year.





