

June 2019

Dear Residents of Carpenters Estate,

Re: Carpenters Estate Progress

After a year in office, I wanted to provide an update on the progress we've made with you and other residents on the estate.

One of my first actions as Mayor was to stop the Joint Venture planned for the estate, as we wanted to approach its future with residents fully involved in all aspects in the spirit of collaboration.

This reflects the fundamental change we've made in how the council works: by listening to our residents, local businesses and the wider community; and working together to make sure regeneration works for everyone, brings greater benefits to our people, shapes beautiful neighbourhoods and boosts an inclusive local economy.

Our new approach to regeneration also means that we'll be delivering more genuinely affordable homes to tackle the housing crisis in the borough. This will be an important aspect of our work on the estate, as we'll be looking at achieving the maximum number of genuinely affordable homes, including 50% at social rent levels.

We've held seven meetings with residents since November, covering a range of topics including immediate improvements across the estate, dealing with anti-social behaviour, establishing a Community Hub with the permanent presence of a team of Council officers on the estate to assist residents with repairs and housing management enquiries.

We've also commissioned a new independent advice service for residents, and are making progress with establishing a new Steering Group in line with the existing Residents Charter. The new Steering Group will be an important platform in ensuring that residents living on the estate, as well as those who have moved away but have the right to return, are fully involved and kept updated.

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The meetings have been energetic and insightful, allowing residents to express their views, and it's clear that residents were let down and previously ignored by the Council. I promised to change that, which is why I'm pleased to announce some exciting plans over the coming six months to demonstrate our on-going commitment to you.

From the 15th June, we'll be hosting a number of workshops and community events at the Community Hub, where you'll be able to meet the team of officers and architects involved in the Carpenters project, plus the independent advisors to find out more about the ideas emerging. These are important opportunities to involve you in developing options and plans, share your views and learn about all aspects of the project. I really do hope you get involved because this is an important moment in the future of the Carpenters Estate, and your views matter!

Let's get cracking with creating the best vision for the estate so once again it becomes a vibrant place to live and a beautiful neighbourhood for the local community.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rokhsana Fiaz', with a stylized flourish underneath.

Rokhsana Fiaz OBE
Mayor of Newham
People at the heart of everything we do