

Tonbridge House Retirement Housing Scheme

Tenant Questionnaire

October 2013

Tonbridge House Retirement Housing Scheme

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Before completing this questionnaire, please read the attached information sheet which explains why the Council is considering changing the classification of your block from retirement housing to general needs accommodation, so that Tonbridge House retirement housing scheme (Tonbridge House) could, in future, be used for general needs temporary accommodation.

If agreed, this would change the type of households who live there to include homeless families with children, who the Council have a statutory duty to house.

Purpose of the questionnaire

The purpose of the questionnaire is to seek your views on the options that the Council will be considering to deal with the increasing demand for housing services to homeless people detailed in the information sheet – including the proposal for Tonbridge House. The responses to the questionnaire will be considered and inform the recommendations that will be made as part of the Council making the final decision.

Have your say

In relation to the proposals detailed in the attached information sheet, the Council are seeking your views on the three options presented and would like you to complete this questionnaire.

Before completing this form, please read the information sheet that has been provided with this questionnaire as it contains more detailed information about the proposal.

Do you need help to complete the questionnaire?

If you require assistance to complete the questionnaire, officers from the Council's consultation team will be happy to help you. They will be visiting your block soon and will put posters up let you know when they are there. If they miss you, they will put a letter through your letter box.

Ways to return your completed questionnaire

The consultation officers will be happy to return your completed questionnaire on your behalf. If you prefer, you can send it back to us yourself using the pre-paid envelope that has been provided but please allow plenty of time for your completed questionnaire to reach us by the closing date.

Closing date for comments

Whatever method you use to express your views, please ensure that any correspondence relating to the proposal is received by the council no later than **5pm on Friday 8 November 2013.**

Confidentiality

The information you provide will be treated confidentially and used solely by Croydon Council for considering the proposal presented.

The proposal

The proposal would be to change the use of Tonbridge House retirement block to provide general needs temporary accommodation. If agreed, this would change the type of households who live there to include homeless families with children.

In relation to the proposal detailed in the attached information sheet, the options are set out in the following pages and we are seeking your views on those options.

The Options

We are seeking your views on the options presented below:

Option 1: Keep Tonbridge House as retirement accommodation and other retirement housing block as retirement housing (in other words do nothing)

Under this option, there would be no change for tenants at Tonbridge House or tenants of any other retirement housing block.

However, the Council need to increase the supply of general needs housing and reduce the cost of providing bed and breakfast accommodation for families with children. If all of the retirement housing blocks are kept as they are at the moment there will be less supply of general needs accommodation and pressure will continue to be placed on the general fund

Option 2 (preferred option): Change the use of Tonbridge House retirement housing scheme to general needs housing classification

Under this option, the Council would change the use of Tonbridge House from retirement housing to general needs temporary accommodation for homeless families with children.

If this option were chosen, from around 1 March 2014, families with children would be housed in the block. Each family would live in the block usually lasting around six months while their case was investigated by the Council

Option 3: Change the use of another retirement housing block to general needs housing classification

Under this option there would be no change for Tonbridge House but the use of another retirement housing block would need to change from retirement housing to general needs temporary accommodation for homeless families with children.

If this option were chosen, from around 1 March 2014, families with children would be housed in the block. Each family would live in the block usually lasting around six months while their case was investigated by the Council

Consultation

We want to hear your views and about the proposal and options presented as these will form part of the decision-making process.

Q1. With reference to Option 1, can you think of any reasons that make Tonbridge House or any other retirement housing block, NOT suitable for general needs temporary accommodation?

Please consider the following questions relating to Option 2 (the preferred option).

Q2. Please indicate to what extent you agree that Tonbridge House should be changed from retirement housing to general needs temporary accommodation?

Fully agree

Partially agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Partially disagree

Fully disagree

Please tell us why you feel this way

Q3. What impact do you think it may have on you if families with children moved into the block while you were still living there?

Positive impact

No impact

Negative impact

Please tell us why you feel this way

Q4. Based on the information you have, if option 2 (preferred option) were selected, would you prefer to remain in your current property at Tonbridge House or move to alternative accommodation?

Remain at Tonbridge House

Move to alternative accommodation

Q5. What impact do you think moving to alternative accommodation would have on you?

Positive impact

No impact

Negative impact

Please tell us why you feel this way

Q6. With respect to Option 3, which other retirement housing block do you consider should have its classification changed from retirement housing to general needs temporary accommodation for homeless families with children, and if so, why?

Q7. Do you have any other comments on the preferred option (Option 2)?

Equalities monitoring (optional)

By you filling in this equality monitoring form it will help us to better understand who lives in our council homes, and will help us make sure our services are provided fairly.

We will treat the information you provide in a sensitive and confidential way as required under the Data Protection Act.

Gender:

Male

Female

Age: which age group are you in?

Under 55

56 – 64

65 – 74

75 – 84

85 and over

Disability

Are your day-to-day activities limited because of health problems or disability that has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months? Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

No

Yes

Do not wish to say

If yes, please indicate in what ways?

Visually impaired

Hearing impaired

Mobility impaired

Learning disability

Communication difficulty

Mental health problems

Other (please specify) _____

Ethnicity (which of these describes your ethnic group?):

Asian or Asian British

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bangladeshi | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Indian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pakistani | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Any other Asian background | (please specify) _____ |

Black/African/Caribbean/Black British

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| African | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Caribbean | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Any other Black background | (please specify) _____ |

Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| White and Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| White and Black African | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| White and Black Caribbean | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Any other Mixed/Multiple Ethnic background | (please specify) _____ |

Other Ethnic Group

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Arab | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Any other ethnic background (please specify) | (please specify) _____ |

White

- | | |
|---|---|
| English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Irish | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Any other White background | <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify) _____ |
| Do not wish to declare ethnic group | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Religious/faith groups: What is your religion or belief?

No religion/faith	<input type="checkbox"/>	Christian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buddhist	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jewish	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hindu	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sikh	<input type="checkbox"/>
Muslim	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baha'i	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jain	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Any other religion	(please specify)		

Do not wish to say

Sexual orientation

Heterosexual	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lesbian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bisexual	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do not wish to say	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Marital status: which of these describes your marital status?

Single	<input type="checkbox"/>	Married	<input type="checkbox"/>
Windowed	<input type="checkbox"/>	Divorced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Do not wish to say			

If you are happy to do so, please provide your contact details below:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire

