Appendix 1

Summary of responses to the initial consultation on SCI

An initial consultation was carried out for four weeks during July and August 2005. The main purpose was to update the Council's consultation database and to find out how people would like to be involved in the development plan process. In total about 1600 individuals, organisations, community groups and utility companies were consulted. Below is a summary of the responses:

The Purpose of the Consultation

The main purposes were:

- To update the database for future consultation;
- To raise awareness about the LDF process;
- To find out how people would like to be involved and the issues considered to be paramount.
- To build capacity and partnership

Questions Asked and the Main Conclusions Reached

Apart from asking for contact details the questionnaire sent out specifically requested respondent to answer the following questions. The main conclusions reached are:

1 How would you prefer to be contacted?

Majority of people and organisations prefer to be contacted by written correspondence, email and telephone.

2 What particular issues are of most interest to you or your organisation?

No new issues of particular significance were identified. As requested, some organisations and individuals used the opportunity to express their views about matters that were of interest to them. Such matters, included facilities for young people, elderly, open space, entertainment facilities and anti-social behaviour.

3 Are there any particular area(s) of the Borough that you are most interested in?

Different parts of the Borough were mentioned. A few groups mentioned the whole Borough

- 4 What methods do you consider would be most successful in engaging you or your particular group? Most of the methods mentioned by respondents have already been included in the draft SCI. However some organisations indicated that visiting their local group meetings would encourage the young people to become more engaged in the process.
- 5 Are there any particular methods of community involvement that should be used by the Council?

See response to Q4

6 Are there any issues you wish the Council to take into account in preparing the draft SCI?

A whole range of issues were mentioned, although these are not directly relevant the SCI process they will assist engagement on the development of the LDF documents.

A summary of the comments, suggestions and issues raised have been summarised in the tables attached to this report.

Summary of the comments received and main issues raised

The responses were received and some of the respondents raised a number of detailed matters, which are summarised and attached as appendix 1. The table below gives an indication of the nature and levels the of the responses received:

	Number	
Completed questionnaires	208	
Letter	7**	
E-mail	11	
Telephone Call	12*	
Unable to deliver	12	
Deletions	79	
Amended addresses	43	
Addresses added	13	

Table 1 – Responses by type

Notes

- * a phone call requesting to be deleted would be recorded as both a telephone call and a deletion
- ** The number of letters does not include those accompanied by questionnaires

Comments Received

In general terms the comment received proved invaluable and has helped to update the Consultation database which was first set up in 1998 and only partially updated since then. The modified database would inform on the future engagement process.

The results of the questionnaire revealed that different stakeholders preferred to participate in different ways. For example organisations tended to prefer Focus Groups whilst residents preferred Road Shows, a mixture of stakeholders preferred One to One meetings. What the questionnaire revealed was that none of the options could be discounted and this is reflected in the approach set out in this SCI.

The level of response rate was very good in comparison to the experience of other London Boroughs that have carried out similar exercises. As shown above 208 respondents completed the questionnaire. In addition to the 12 recorded telephone calls several other telephone conversations regarding the SCI were not recorded. Of the 4 letters received only one contained some information which does not support the Council's approach. As a result of the information received 79 names and addresses were deleted while 13 were added. Also 40 addresses were amended. 12 were returned as unable to deliver.

Next Step

This initial consultation is a useful starting point and an up to date database provides a useful tool for future action. It is important to follow the success of this exercise with the following concrete actions by:

- A Incorporating matters raised in the consultation in the draft SCI
- B Amending database in accordance to the information received
- C Setting up a new database that would assist the effectiveness of the SCI.

Conclusion

The results of the questionnaire have helped to do two things. First it has enabled the Council to update the database which has not been revised fully since 1998. Second, It has also helped to develop approaches set out in the draft Statement of Community Involvement. Second, it assisted in formulating view on the methods that are likely to be popular with community groups and stakeholders.