

## **SERPENTINE COURT BALLOT FRAMEWORK**

This document sets out the framework for the resident ballot on regeneration options in Serpentine Court in 2018.

It has been written by the Serpentine Court Steering Group with support from the Council's Regeneration and Elections teams.

### **1. Administration**

- a. The ballot will happen on Friday 16 November 2018 from 4pm to 9pm, and Saturday 17 November 2018 from 10am to 2pm.
- b. Residents will be able to vote for one option only.
- c. The ballot will occur at the Spotlight office on Serpentine Court.

### **2. Advertising**

- a. The ballot date and the polling station venue will be communicated to Serpentine Court residents, leaseholders, homeowners and businesses (the Serpentine Court community) at least one month before and will be promoted in a variety of ways in the lead up to the ballot.
- b. The options that the Serpentine Court community will be voting for will be communicated to the Serpentine Court community two weeks before the voting day.
- c. The Serpentine Court community will be able to view the options for the ballot in several ways:
  - Each home will be sent a copy of the options to their home.
  - The options will be available on the council website.
  - The options will be on display in public places such as the Spotlight office, shop windows and notice boards in flats.
  - At the regeneration team drop ins at Spotlight the week of the ballot.

### **3. Eligibility to vote**

- a. Any resident of Serpentine Court, over the age of 16 is eligible to vote. This includes council tenants, private tenants and leaseholders and applies to every adult over the age of 16 living in a property.
- b. Any non-resident leaseholder of a home on Serpentine Court.
- c. Private businesses operating in Serpentine Court, with one vote per business. This exclusively includes:
  - Lloyds Pharmacy
  - Turneys Bakery

- The Impress Company dry cleaners
- Help our Homeless charity shop
- Best One newsagents
- Fast food takeaway
- Happy Shopper supermarket
- The London Pride public house

d. In line with referendum triggered by central government and those with national guidance e.g. Neighbourhood Plans, there will be no turnout threshold; the majority vote will decide, regardless of turnout.

#### **4. Accessibility**

- Those identified as requiring additional support (such as those with disabilities, or those with language or literacy barriers) will be contacted in the month leading up to the vote, and the options and voting process explained to them. A translation service will be offered where required.
- All eligible members of the Serpentine Court community will be able to register for a postal vote. Completed and sealed ballot papers can be posted to MKC before the agreed deadline, or left at Spotlight Offices for collection on the days of the ballot.

#### **5. Conditions Previously agreed at MKC Cabinet in January 2018**

- The ballot will be administered by Milton Keynes Council's elections team.
- There will be a 'no redevelopment' option.
- All options available will be financially deliverable i.e. they can be delivered through the HRA, Council borrowing or private funding.
- Residents must register to vote in order to be eligible.