

# Chelsea Chat

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## Planning application — what next?

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As you all know after many years of planning our application to redevelop the Sutton Estate, Chelsea was refused by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's (RBKC) Planning Committee at their meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

We were deeply disappointed by this decision as we had worked long and hard with you all and the RBKC Planning Officers on our proposals. In particular we were disappointed that all bar one of the members of the Planning Committee failed to recognise the impact this refusal has on all your lives and the continued uncertainty over your homes.

Having reviewed our application and following detailed

legal and planning advice our Board has agreed that we should appeal the decision made by RBKC's Planning Committee. So we are now lodging our appeal to the Planning Inspectorate – this is an executive agency of the Department for Communities and Local Government.

There's more information on the planning appeal process on page two.

The important thing to note is that the appeal is based on the original application that we submitted back in July 2015. If you would like a little refresher on the plans we will be hosting a coffee morning next **Thursday (22nd June) in the sheltered lounge between 10.30am and 12 noon** - do please pop in.



## The Planning Appeal

The planning system gives the right to appeal a planning decision made by a local authority – in this case RBKC. The appeal is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and must include information on why there is a case for appeal. If agreed the Planning Inspectorate will write to the appellant (Affinity Sutton) and to the local planning authority (RBKC) to start the formal appeal process.

Once the process begins RBKC will have to send the Planning Inspectorate information on why they refused our application and will inform 'interested people' (those that wrote in to RBKC about the original application) that an appeal has been made. Any letters sent either in support or against the application will be sent to the Planning Inspector for information. Plus there will be an opportunity to comment again – we will keep you informed about this.

If comments (evidence) are accepted by the Inspector it will become part of the inquiry evidence. The inquiry is the most formal part of this process where the evidence is presented and witnesses are cross examined. It may last for several days or even weeks and although not a court of law it will seem the same as one. Following this the Inspector will make their decision.

We will keep you informed on progress and timings of the appeal.

## Contact us if you have questions

If you have any questions about the redevelopment, please do drop in and see Natalie or Alecia at the Estate Office on a **Thursday between 10am and 12 noon** or give them a call on **0300 100 0303**.

***Pictured:** Far right Natalie Down;  
Left Alecia Miller.*



### What does the application include:

- **237 new homes for social rent all with private outside space**
- **106 new homes for private sale to fund the redevelopment**
- **A new community centre**
- **Five times more secure communal garden space**

**The application does not include Leverstock and Mayland House, which will be retained and benefit from improvement works.**

**All existing Affinity Sutton tenants will remain on the Estate, retain their security of tenure and continue to pay social rents.**