CABINET - PUBLIC QUESTION

17 September 2019

1. Public Question from Jerry Flynn

The council agreed with the Local Government Ombudsman in 2016 that there be an annual audit into compliance with conditions for provision of social housing through S106 agreements.

As the Ombudsman decision was delivered three years ago, can the leader say when the results of these audits will be published?

Response by Councillor Johnson Situ, Cabinet Member for Growth, Development and Planning

Southwark Council is committed to responding to the housing crisis and we are working to deliver as much genuinely affordable housing as possible.

An audit was carried out in 2016 where the council wrote to all the Registered Providers (RPs) requesting details of units held. There are 11,999 units managed by RPs in Southwark and there have been 4,320 affordable units secured by S106 legal agreements since 2001. The audit can be found at:

https://www.southwark.gov.uk/assets/attach/10526/Southwark-S106-AH-Audit.xlsx

The audit contains planning permissions since 2001 and shows the Registered Provider/Registered Social Landlord for each social rent and intermediate unit identified. In some cases the Registered Provider/Registered Social Landlord is yet to be confirmed. It must be noted that this is not a complete list and should be used as guidance only.

We are the leading borough on the work of recording accurately where our affordable units are located both social and intermediate. We recognise this is an area that needs to be worked on and so we are the first borough to create a dedicated digital tool to accurately monitor delivery of affordable housing. More information on the affordable housing monitoring project can be found at:

https://www.southwark.gov.uk/innovate/collabrative-project/affordable-housing-monitoring