



# Southwark Group of Tenants Organisations

Campaigning for Housing Rights and Council Homes

Bells Gardens Community Centre  
19 Buller Close, London  
SE15 6UJ

## Informal Group Meeting - Notes Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**7.00pm – 9.00pm**

**Staff:** Margaret Onwuta, Amanda Carey, Ahmed Kabba, Joe Snazell-Holding, Ygerne Price-Davies

**Attendees:** 8

**Apologies:** Kiri Pieri, Althea Smith, Saidat Oketunde, Danielle Gregory, Allison Gelder, Colin Harrison, Sam Vacciana, Emmanuel Ojomo, Odidere Johnson, Dario Blake, Mani, Carol Vincent

### 1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies

Chris welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the lack of numbers and the possibility of cancelling/postponing the meeting for another date. It was collectively decided to proceed with an informal meeting. Chris stated the purpose of the meeting was to introduce everyone to the new office and to gauge whether in-person meetings were a good idea going forward.

*Action: Report back at the next meeting to discuss if in-person meetings are a good idea going forward.*

### 2. Resident Requests

George – Committee Member – Southampton Way Estate TRA: Requested SGTO to print updated constitution before the 4<sup>th</sup> July.

Cris requested an update on the new printers. Amanda informed attendees that both vandalized printers had been taken away, and a new one has been delivered. The second new printer is in the process of being delivered. However, the mainline internet is still not operational, so printing options are limited at this stage.

*Action: Joe will print off updated constitution for Southampton Way Estate before 4<sup>th</sup> July.*

### 3. Bureau of Investigative Journalism – Hot Homes Project

Paul Eccles from the B.I.J. introduced the organization and their new 'Hot Homes' Project, looking at the issues of overheating homes in Southwark. They are looking for 60 residents to take temp/humidity monitors into their home as part of the research. They also requested residents to come forward and speak to them regarding their personal experiences with living in a hot home. All residents involved will get a £25 high street voucher.

If you want to get involved, visit: <https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com/blog/2023-06-09/hot-homes>; or email: [pauleccles@TBIJ.com](mailto:pauleccles@TBIJ.com);

#### 4. **SGTO's Tenants' Rights Training**

Ygerne informed attendees about SGTO's Tenants' Rights Training on 5<sup>th</sup> July 6-9pm at Bells Gardens Community Centre. She confirmed this event is for tenants of any kind in Southwark.

To join/find out more email: [info@sgto.co.uk](mailto:info@sgto.co.uk); or visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tenants-rights-training-tickets-658413812437>;

#### 5. **Oppose the CPZ - Parking Permits – 'Trafalgar Road' Area**

Caroline (ARARA TRA) brought up the council's introduction of parking permits in the local Peckham area. However, she states that the consultation to residents was non-existent, and that 'Trafalgar Road' does not even exist, so there is a lack of co-ordination from Southwark council with this. Let attendees know of a strategy group to defend against this action: 'Oppose the CPZ'.

**Action:** *SGTO to design poster (or alter existing poster) informing residents of issues and distribute amongst residents. Make sure to not take a stand, just information sharing. Particularly inform TRA's that are having parking issues.*

To find out more, visit: [www.opposethecpz.org](http://www.opposethecpz.org)

#### 6. **SGTO Youth Forum & Summer Festival**

Ahmed gave updates on the Forum. Since COVID, the Forum has not been operational. He has started outreach work to restart the Forum and reconnect with the youth and has gathered thirteen young people. He had a meeting with their parents on 27/06/23 to introduce and explain the forum and gather their contacts. Examples of previous work include visits to parliament, drama/theatre productions, football games, tenant conferences and the SGTO Summer fest.

A resident suggested a young people's sub-committee for TRA's in Southwark.

**Action:** *Ahmed will continue to perform outreach work and brainstorm ideas for the Forum to get more young people involved in the community. Recruit members in preparation for next year's football tournament/summer festival. Chris requested Cris to contact SGTO events sub-committee to get an update on the summer festival. Damien will connect with Ahmed regarding his virtual reality project to see if it can be used with the Youth Forum.*

For more information, contact: [ahmed@sgto.co.uk](mailto:ahmed@sgto.co.uk)

#### 7. **Peckham Festival 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Ahmed informed residents of our stall at Peckham Festival, and asked residents to contact SGTO to have their say on what SGTO's stall should include. Examples could include: live music, performances, art exhibitions, open studios, makers' pop-ups, workshops, talks, clothes & toy swaps, street food, family activities etc.

For more information, contact: [info@sgto.co.uk](mailto:info@sgto.co.uk); [oi@peckhamfestival.org](mailto:oi@peckhamfestival.org); <https://www.peckhamfestival.org/>;

#### 8. **Protest of the Demolition of the Aylesbury Estate 8<sup>th</sup> July (National Housing Day of Action)**

Chris requests SGTO to think about how they will be involved in the protest.

**Action:** *Ygerne will discuss the extent/practicalities of their involvement in the protest.*

9. **Minutes of Group Meeting** held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and Matters Arising  
Not covered in this meeting. It is advised that this is brought up in the next meeting.

10. **New Repairs Improvement Resident Board Terms of Reference.**  
Not covered in this meeting. It is advised that this is brought up in the next meeting.

11. **SGTO Repairs Conference 2023**  
Not covered in this meeting. It is advised that this is brought up in the next meeting.

12. **Feedback from the Resident Participation Structure meeting with Cllr Darren Merrill**  
Not covered in this meeting. It is advised that this is brought up in the next meeting.

### 13. **Aylesbury Estate Exhibition Video**

Attendees were shown a video on the Aylesbury Estate exhibition, which showcases a history of tenants fighting against the demolition of their homes on the estate. The same estate where the demonstration will finish on the 8<sup>th</sup> July.

For more information, please contact: [damiencheetham@sgto.co.uk](mailto:damiencheetham@sgto.co.uk)

14. **Any Other Business** - None.

### **Actions**

- SGTO staff and board members will report back at the next meeting to discuss if in-person meetings are a good idea going forward.
- Joe will print off the updated constitution for Southampton Way Estate before 4<sup>th</sup> July.
- Ahmed will continue to perform outreach work and brainstorm ideas for the Forum to get more young people involved in the community and recruit members in preparation for next year's football tournament/summer festival.
- Chris (M) requested Cris to contact SGTO events sub-committee to get an update on the summer festival.
- Damien will connect with Ahmed regarding his virtual reality project to see if it can be used with the Youth Forum.
- Ygerne will discuss the extent/practicalities of their involvement in the National Housing Day of Action on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting Closed: 9:00pm**

**Date of next meeting: 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023**