



Mayor John Biggs
London Borough of Tower Hamlets
Town Hall
Mulberry Place
Blackwall
London E14 2BG

18th September 2017

Dear Mayor Biggs,

Project Stone

At last week's meeting of the 4 Estates Forum we once again discussed your commitment that no CPOs will be issued in respect of Project Stone unless there is resident support for such a scheme. The 4 Estates Forum (4EF) very much value the position that you have taken.

You will be aware from previous correspondence that we are at some stage in the not too distant future going to discuss the appointment of a Resident Consultation Specialist. As part of any discussion on consultation we have naturally once again discussed how you gauge resident support of any scheme being promoted by One Housing Group.

Once again the 4EF were adamant that they believe that in the absence of any alternative, a ballot is the only way to gauge resident support. One Housing Group and Argent have both said that they have an alternative, but without hearing what it is, we have no option but to demand that it be a ballot.

There was a recent example in Lambeth where the consultation was undermined by a poorly conducted house to house survey in the place of a secret ballot.

A simple ballot though is not enough to ensure that the consultation is resident led, it should also include:

- Having votes to whittle options down would be welcomed as it was clearly an important part of an inclusive process.
- The final decision has to be with residents as that is a resident led process.
- Residents having the full information available in order to cast a vote essential

The 4EF would appreciate your support on these points when a decision on consultation is made.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Coppin (Secretary)
On behalf of members of the 4EF