Somerton estate - engagement summary - July 2021



Thank you to everyone who has been in touch with us to tell us how you feel and what you think about our possible future work in Somerton. We would also like to thank all residents who completed the survey. There will be plenty more opportunities for you to share your views. This is a summary of the responses to the survey of residents carried out online and through the information pack in June 2021

Feedback from the survey on each of the options saw 111 responses from the 322 surveys sent out, a response rate of 34%. The results show a mix of views:

- The greatest collective view is against the "do nothing" option, with 58% of responses being negative towards this approach
- Following this, there is greatest support for the regeneration option, although this is only slightly greater than refurbishment
- There is also marginally less negative feedback about regeneration than refurbishment

We have been able to identify some key themes within the feedback which will need to be addressed with the community. These include:

- Feedback that homes need work or replacement
- Feeling that refurbishment has not worked before, so further refurbishment is an expensive risk
- A number feel their home is sufficiently well maintained
- Some significant attachment to longstanding homes
- Significant desire to remain in the area for many and concerns about moving
- There is support for new homes amongst a noticeable number of respondents
- Some specific design requests, such as support for bungalows, concerns about building flats, concerns around overcrowding the estate
- Strong, but not universal, homeowner opposition to demolition
- Concerns around buy backs with a number saying they are unwilling to sell
- Some support for changes as long as they do not affect the respondent
- Whilst there is some support for Option 4 (a combination of new build and refurbishment), feedback suggests that it will be the worst of both worlds
- Definite community spirit from many
- Situation is causing uncertainty

