



## Statement on the Alton Estate Regeneration

DECEMBER 2022

Alton Action welcomes the recent decisions taken by Wandsworth Council relating to the regeneration of the Alton Estate, in particular:

- The termination of the procurement process for a partner to deliver the Alton Estate Masterplan (2014)
- The commitment to invest in and improve the Alton Estate
- The review of both the objectives and options for improvements to the Estate

We note that the Council 'has no predetermined views about the way forward and nothing, at this stage, is ruled in or ruled out,' and that the Council believes that 'more should be done to ensure (that) the proposed community buildings meet current and future demands of the area.'

However, we are concerned that 'nothing being ruled out' means that a disastrous plan based on mass demolition, huge disruption and intensification of housing is still possible. We are alarmed that the Council's approach will solely be to 'call on the expertise of both external experts and officers to identify options'... 'to improve the estate and the lives of the people that live there.' We are also concerned that the 'first step in (the Council's) commitment'... 'to bring forward an early phase to deliver new community facilities and new Council homes' risks excluding residents and other local stakeholders from determining what is needed first.

Alton Action believes in citizen-led development; through this approach, the lived experience and expertise of residents and other local community stakeholders are used to determine the outcomes and developments that most effectively meet the needs of the local community. Any process to identify options to improve the Alton Estate must be led by the residents of the estate and other local community stakeholders.

We therefore demand that:

1. A citizen participation process, to facilitate and enable residents and other local community stakeholders to lead the development of options for the future of the Alton Estate, including any early phase development, is established without delay
2. This citizen participation process is designed to maximise the active participation of residents and other community stakeholders and is designed with and by them, including regular in-person workshops and a physical space where ideas, proposals and announcements can be viewed throughout
3. The process is supported by Council officers, and other agents that they wish to employ, but led by residents and other community stakeholders
4. The process is maintained until final decisions about the future of the estate are made
5. No future options should be considered by the Council before residents and community stakeholders have fully considered, shaped, and commented on them
6. Residents and community stakeholders are supported to take an active role in the final decisions about the future of the estate

**For further information please contact:**

**Angus Robertson**

[altonaction2020@gmail.com](mailto:altonaction2020@gmail.com)

[www.altonaction.org](http://www.altonaction.org)