

Save Little London Newsletter

A coalition of council tenants, residents and supporters fighting Leeds City Council's plans to sell off and demolish 435 council homes in our estate to make way for private housing through the Private Finance Initiative (PFI)

savelittlelondon@gmail.com
Tel: 217-8608 / 07775886617

www.savelittlelondon.blogspot.com
Issue 2, April 1, 2006

Council spins consultation as 'majority vote for PFI'

The results of February's 'consultation' are now out and once again, Leeds City Council is trying to pull the wool over our eyes and treat us like fools.

'LITTLE LONDON RESIDENTS BACK £85M REGENERATION SCHEME', read the Council's press release, which stated that '2/3rds' of tenants support Comprehensive Regeneration.

The *Yorkshire Evening Post* simply reprinted the Council's lies. Its headline, '**CITY TENANTS VOTE FOR £85M REVAMP OF ESTATE HOMES**', was followed by misleading figures of '66%' opting for the PFI scheme.

The Council now says it will go ahead with the Comprehensive Regeneration scheme **subject to an Executive meeting** on April 19 at 1pm at Leeds Civic Hall.

Consultation results: the truth

Remember, tenants and residents of Little London have NOT voted for anything. We were only 'consulted' on two lousy options to improve our homes and area, and asked to give a 'preference' for one of them, **not a vote**.

Having seen the full consultation results (see our website or ring us

to request a free copy), we can tell you that **2/3rds of Little Londoners do not support Comprehensive Regeneration!**

The key findings:

- **A huge 40% didn't take part in the consultation**
- **Only 37% of residents prefer Comprehensive Regeneration**
- **21% prefer Decent Homes**
- **63% don't support the Council's proposals**
- **Council criticised for creating 'ill-feeling' among Tenants and Residents, failing to follow agreed process and produce 'timely and detailed information'**

(full results overleaf)

The report into the consultation by Banks of the Wear shows just how **confused** tenants were by the Council's questionnaire. Many people who will be kicked out of their homes under Comprehensive Regeneration **strangely opted for demolition** and thus eviction – but also stated that they **wanted to 'stay in Little London'?!?!?**



The Council has been taking us for fools

Council 'ignored agreed process'

Banks of Wear, the 'Independent Tenants Advisor' during the consultation could not hide their criticism of the Council:

"the process was hampered...by the lack of timely information being produced, and departures from the agreed and understood process"

Costing in excess of **£2m of taxpayers' money**, the consultation was supposed to be fair and balanced. Yet the Council and North West Homes had already decided they wanted Comprehensive Regeneration – so how could a survey carried out by them be 'neutral'?

'Con'-sultation

The 'con was on' from the beginning. The totally biased information given to tenants that emphasised all the **negative** aspects of the Decent Homes option and all the **positive**

**Unhappy with how you were consulted? Worried that you made a mistake?
Need some advice & support? GIVE US A RING OR SEND US AN EMAIL**

aspects of the PFI scheme; the failure to mention that a large number of residents would be **forced to leave** Little London under Comprehensive Regeneration, and that the Council **could not guarantee** that those forced to leave who wanted to stay would eventually be rehoused in Little London.



Little London will soon be 'for sale' unless we stop the Council's PFI scheme

The 'Real' Results of February's Consultation

	Comprehensive Regeneration	Decent Homes	No Preference / Response
Lovells	77	99	
Lovell Park Grange	17	39	
Lovell Park Heights	30	32	
Lovell Park Tower	30	28	
Carltons	61	44	
Carlton Carr, Carlton Gate Maisonettes	17	14	
Carlton Towers	44	30	
All other areas (unaffected by demolitions /sell-offs)	456	195	
Little London Total (1431 homes + 189 joint tenancies)	594 (36.79%)	338 (20.86%)	688 (42.46%)

What happens next?

On 19 April, the Council Executive will meet at Leeds Civic Hall to rubber stamp the Comprehensive Regeneration Option. They will then ask the government for permission. A review will take place and by September we should know whether the government agrees with Leeds City Council or not.

WE CAN STILL SAVE LITTLE LONDON!

It may seem hopeless, but in fact we can stop the Council demolishing our homes and private developers making £millions out of our misery. The government is **unlikely to go ahead** if there are any more **delays** in the process. We can take **legal action** to stop them and pursue **alternative regeneration schemes** such as tenant self-management. The Council want us to believe that there is nothing we can do – don't be fooled!

What you can do

- Take **legal action** – contact us for advice
- **Vote** for council candidates who are **opposed to PFI**
- Come to Save Little London **meetings** – every Tuesday at 7pm in The Rifleman pub
- **Join the Save Little London lobby of the Council at 12.30pm, Wednesday 19 April, Leeds Civic Hall**
- Order a **FREE banner, roll of stickers** or **posters** from us to hang off your balcony or stick in your window.



Email or give us a ring to get your's today!

OTHER NEWS

Website launched

The Save Little London website is now up and running. The **address is at the top of the newsletter**. Here you will find all the latest news about the campaign, posters, plus useful information and fact sheets about what is happening and how we can campaign together to stop the Council's barmy plans.

If you want to contribute to the website, email us at savelittlelondon@gmail.com

THANKS FOR READING

PLEASE GET INVOLVED

DON'T FORGET THE LOBBY ON THE 19TH APRIL

WE CAN STILL WIN

SAVE LITTLE LONDON!