

20<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Dear Barnsbury Estate resident,

### **Barnsbury Estate Transformation – BEST Consultation update**

We wrote to you first in September this year to let you know that Newlon Housing Trust, the organisation that owns and manages the Barnsbury Estate, is exploring options for investment and improvement.

Since that letter, we have been meeting with residents and business owners to find out how you would like to be consulted on this potential change, as well as what you currently like, and what you do not like, about your homes and the public space around the Estate. This has included four workshops at the Barnsbury Community Centre, visits to 19 homes, two Estate walkabouts, and online polling for residents at [Givemyview.com/BEST](http://Givemyview.com/BEST).

We hope you have managed to join us at one of our events but, if you have not, there will be plenty of opportunities to meet us and give your views in the New Year. In the meantime, we wanted to write to you again following our most recent workshop to update all residents on our progress and the options we are starting to consider for the future.

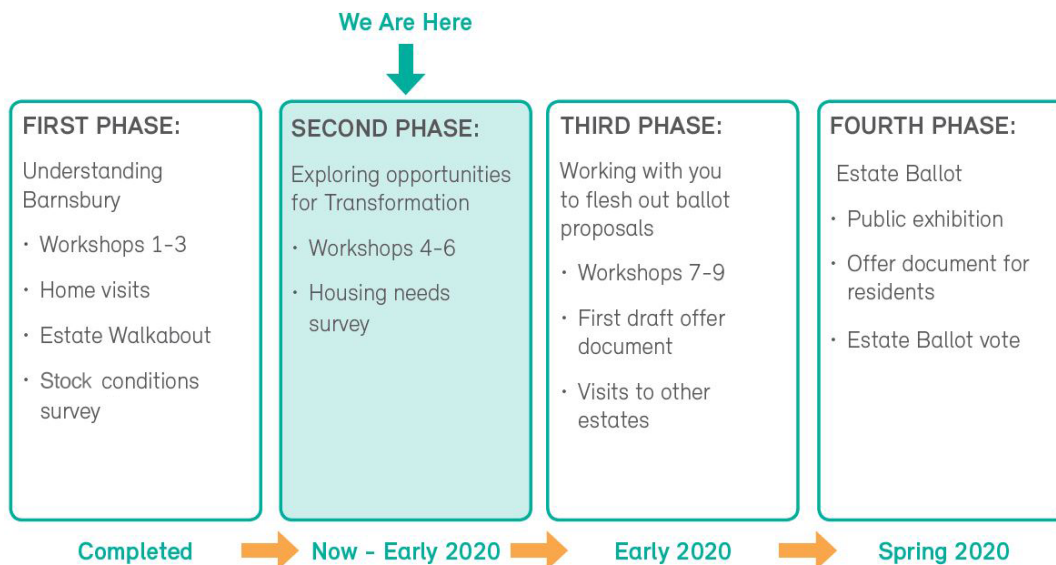
### **Options for the future**

At our recent fourth workshop in December, the project team presented a summary of all the feedback received to date and explained the results of a 'conditions survey' undertaken on the buildings of the Estate. We also looked at our consultation programme for 2020 and provided some more detail on the residents' ballot and how it will work. In addition, we explained that we are now starting to consider three possible options for the Estate's future, which are:

<b>MAINTENANCE</b> Rolling programme of essential maintenance	<b>INFILL AND REFURBISHMENT</b> Creating new homes in the gaps between buildings to pay for more extensive works to your homes, and improvements to open space	<b>REDEVELOPMENT AND REFURBISHMENT</b> A mixture of new build homes and extensive refurbishment to retained buildings. Transformation of the landscape and open space
--	---	--

These options represent 'Phase Two' of our public consultation and over the coming weeks the project team will be working these options up in further detail for discussion with you at our next workshop. I have set out overleaf the timings for this next workshop along with a chart to explain the different phases involved in our consultation with residents of the Estate.

**Workshop 5 will take place on: Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 7pm-9pm and Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February 11am-1pm at The Barnsbury Community Centre**



We are still at an early stage and you will ultimately have the final say on the Estate's future. Beyond Workshop 5, there will be plenty of opportunities to get involved and we will be writing to you again in 2020 to advertise these. If you cannot attend our events, or have missed any of our update newsletters, you can find links to all of the materials we have published online at our website – [betterbarnsbury.org.uk](http://betterbarnsbury.org.uk).

The BEST team also now has an office on the Estate, directly opposite the Community Centre in Adrian House. You can drop in for a chat with myself or one of the team during normal office hours, or alternatively contact us via:

Email: [BEST@Newlon.org.uk](mailto:BEST@Newlon.org.uk)

Phone: 0800 307 7659

I hope this letter has provided a helpful update and we look forward to seeing many more of you next year. Merry Christmas and best wishes to you and your families for the New Year from all of us at the BEST team.

Yours Faithfully,



**Symon Sentain**

Assistant Director of Property Services, Newlon Housing Trust.

**If you would like this letter in large print, audio, Braille or any other format, please contact us or ask a member of staff.**