

**LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON**  
**EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY FORUM**

**TUESDAY, 22 MAY 2012**



**7.00 pm at the**  
**Civic Offices, St Nicholas Way, Sutton SM1 1EA**  
**To all members of the Equality and Diversity Forum:-**

*Councillors Simon Wales (Chair), Jennifer Campbell-Klomps, Adrian Davey, Lester Holloway and Pamela Pickett (Substitutes: Councillors Moira Butt, Ruth Dombey and Roger Thistle)*

*Brother Shafi Chowdhury (Vice-Chair)*  
*Nicola Davies*  
*Joan Parker (Substitute: Clare Shearer)*  
*Pam Davies (Substitute: Juliana Amaral) (vacancy)*

*Jeanette Locke-Thomson*  
*Sharon Jordan-Passmore*  
*Peter Rollins*  
*Marion Harper*

**Advisers:**

*Aaron Watson*  
*Kate Evans*  
*Thikra Ali*  
*Chief Inspector Alan Chambers*  
*Nicole Richardson*  
*Janet Sherborne (Substitute: Sonia Freeman)*  
*Wasia Shahain*  
*Susanna Bennett*  
*Sallyanne Yeats*  
*Debbie O'Neill*  
*Seren Razak*  
*Aisha Arif*

*London Borough of Sutton*  
*Sutton Faith and Belief Forum*  
*Sutton Centre for Independent Living & Learning*  
*Sutton Carers' Forum*  
*Sutton Seniors' Forum*  
*Sutton Corporate Parents' Forum*  
*Sutton Women's Forum*  
*Sutton Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Group*  
*Minority Ethnic Employees Association*  
*Sutton Age UK*

*Borough Fire Commander*  
*School Inspector : Inclusion*  
*Sutton Racial Equality Council*  
*Safer Sutton Partnership*  
*HM Prison Highdown*

*Carshalton College*  
*NHS Sutton and Merton Team*  
*Sutton Centre for the Voluntary Sector*  
*Sutton Housing Partnership*  
*Sutton Citizens Advice Bureau*  
*Sutton LINK*  
*Ahamadiyya Muslim Community Group*

*Niall Bolger*  
*Chief Executive*  
*Civic Offices*  
*St Nicholas Way*  
*Sutton SM1 1EA*  
*11 May 2012*

**THE CHAIR WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM 6.30 PM TO CHAT INFORMALLY WITH MEMBERS OF THE FORUM**

*Enquiries to: Jo Bryant, Community Development Officer*  
*Tel: 020 8770 5091 Fax: 020 8770 5404 E-mail: jo.bryant@sutton.gov.uk*

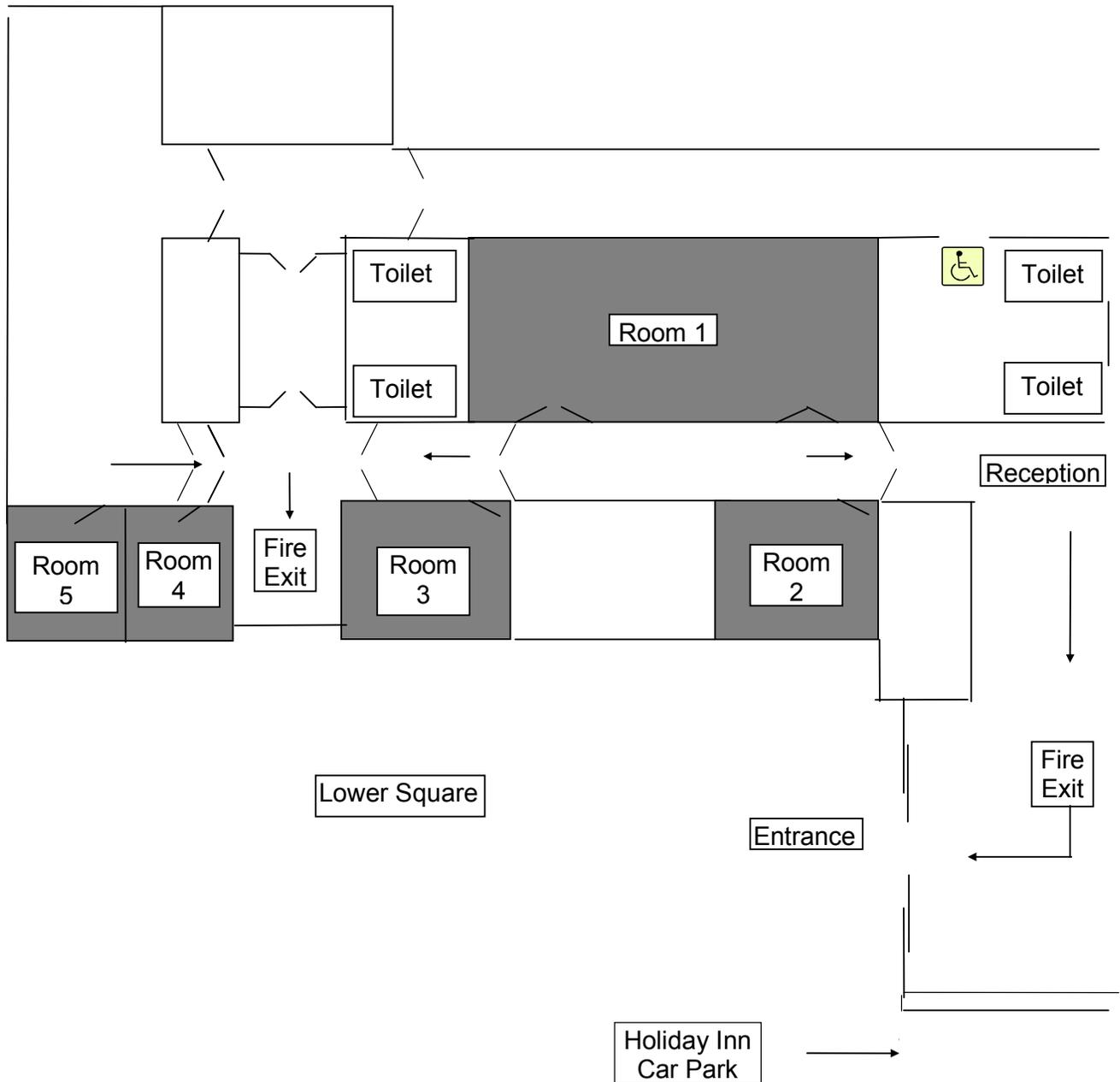
Copies of these documents can be found on the Council website:  
[www.sutton.gov.uk](http://www.sutton.gov.uk) and are available in large print on request

**CIVIC OFFICES, SUTTON  
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## **Reminder – Declaration of Interests**

Members should consider the following interests and whether they have any they should declare.

### **Personal interests:**

Where it might reasonably be regarded that a matter will affect the well-being or financial position of you, a member of your family, any person with whom you have a close association, or any person or body with which you or they are involved or in which they have a relevant beneficial interest, to a greater extent than the majority of people affected by the decision.

In this case you should declare the interest and state the nature of it.

### **Personal and Prejudicial Interests:**

Where a personal interest is thought to be so significant that a member of the public, with knowledge of the facts, would consider it likely to prejudice the member's judgment of the public interest.

In this case you should declare the interest, state the nature of it, and leave the meeting room.

Further information can be found in the Council's Code of Conduct and Protocol. If you are in any doubt as to whether you have an interest you should seek advice before the Committee meeting from either Richard Shortman or Sanjay Prashar.

If, during the course of the Committee meeting, you consider you may have an interest you should always declare it.



# **A G E N D A**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTES**

**2. MINUTES** (Pages 1 - 6)

To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2012.

**3. GFEST**

Niranjan Kamatkar [Indicative time 15 mins]

**4. HEALTH DIVERSITY INITIATIVE** (Pages 7 - 8)

Presentation from Annie Ford [Indicative time 20 mins]

**5. BLUE BADGE CONSULTATION** (Pages 9 - 12)

Steve Winser [Indicative time 20 mins]

**6. HOUSING CENTRE**

Sean Blackhurst [Indicative time 15 mins]

**7. WORK OF VICTIM SUPPORT**

Presentation from Safet Vukalic [Indicative time 15 mins]

**8. POLICE UPDATE**

Andy Stally [Indicative time 10 mins]

**9. HATE CRIME UPDATE**

Ian Kershaw [Indicative time 10 mins]

**10. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

Business brought forward at the direction of the Chair, who has approved the reason for urgency.

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**EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY FORUM****1 March 2012 at 7.00 pm**

**MEMBERS:** Councillor Simon Wales (Chair), and Andy Wilson, Yeats, O'Neill, Davies, Travers, Morris, Locke-Thomson, Bartlett, Rollins, Joan Parker, Kate Evans, Adrian Davey, Lester Holloway and Watson

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTES**

- Julie Duffy
- Pam Pickett
- Pam Davies
- Andy Stally

**2. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2012 were approved as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

Cllr Wales informed the Forum that the item on Sutton Housing Centre had been deferred to the May meeting of the Forum.

**3. RESIDENTS SURVEY**

Cllr Wales welcomed Julie Young, from the Policy and Customer Services Division, to the Forum who provided a presentation on the Residents Survey.

JY took the Forum through a comprehensive presentation covering:

- The economic context
- Perceptions of the local area and priorities for improvement
- Views of the Council
- Contact with the Council
- Community engagement and volunteering
- Crime and anti-social behaviours
- Health and exercise
- Looking ahead

The Forum welcomed the presentation and the demographic information drawn out of the survey. There were a number of questions on the detail of the presentation covering: the impact of the recession for BME groups and the view that this was more limited in Sutton, contact with the Council, Internet access, and motivations for volunteering.

JY committed to providing the Forum with further information on:

- Parking and the additional exploration of parking issues with the online Residents Panel (approx, 400 people).
- Contact with the Council, which the Forum wished to be broken down further
- How to become a member of the online Residents Panel.  
**(Action: Julie Young).**

#### **4. SUTTON HOUSING CENTRE**

Deferred to the May meeting of the Forum.

#### **5. BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Cllr Wales invited William Essel and Sylvia Lambe to update the Forum on the plans for the 2012 Black History Month in October.

WE noted the positive events in 2011, with an increase in attendance and shared the annual report with the Forum.

SL described the plans for BHM for 2012, which included how to gain further participation from schools. The Group were keen to continue to make links with other events and had welcomed the opportunity to get involved with the Holocaust Memorial Day. The Group were keen to ensure a cross fertilisation of issues.

SL confirmed the BHMG had secured funding from the Imagine Festival and would be having a steel band in the High Street to promote the Group and the BHM.

The theme for 2012 was yet to be determined, but SL and WE agreed to keep the Forum updated with progress.

It was agreed that Victoria Lawson would distribute the BHM plan for 2011 to the Forum with the minutes (**Action: BHM Group to provide electronic copy for distribution.**)

The Chair thanked William Essel and Sylvia Lambe for attending the item.

#### **6. EQUALITIES IN SCHOOLS**

Cllr Wales invited Kate Evans to provide a short presentation on equalities in schools, following a request from the previous Forum in December.

The presentation highlighted:

- The equality duties placed on schools;
- Racial incidents within schools;
- Attitudes and behaviours within schools;
- Areas for further development;
- Schools approaches to other equality issues.

The Forum discussed the areas for development which were:

- To add ethnicity boxes to surveys to allow improved analysis of feedback;
- Consistently well-planned admission of new arrivals;
- Lesson observations to have an equality focus;
- To monitor participation rates in option subjects, alternative provision and wider school life;
- Reporting annually on the impact of equality policies.

There was a discussion on academies and KE informed the Forum that they continue to report incidents to her and that it would be important to understand the types of incidents. KE told the Forum it was primarily name calling, but further information can be provided to the Forum if required.

The Chair thanked Kate Evans for attending the item.

## **7. TRAVELLERS FORUM**

Cllr Wales welcomed Cllr Butt and Kate Evans to the Forum to provide an update on the Travellers Forum within Sutton.

The presentation covered:

- A short history;
- Key achievements, which included:
  - A raised profile across the council, with a full range of services recognising their responsibilities towards the Traveller community
  - Visits to the site from lead councillors and senior officers;
  - Dedicated meetings with the Leader of the Council, and presentations from children;
  - A footpath joining the private and LA site;
  - A name and postcode for the LA site: 'The Pastures';
  - Wheelie bins and recycling collection for all plots;
  - Re-modelled bin-store to make a community room;
  - Re-furbished utility blocks and fencing;
  - Bus stop;
  - Dedicated time from a management company;
  - Dedicated police liaison officer;
- Plans for the future;
- Ongoing concerns, which were highlighted as:
  - Health inequalities;
  - Fuel poverty – particularly lack of mains gas;
  - Lack of access to public transport;
  - Lack of safe play space;
  - The number of pupils out of school;
  - Lack of co-ordination for managing encampments of highly mobile Travellers;
  - Awareness raising for lead members and officers of the council.

The Forum thanked Kate for her comprehensive presentation. There was a short discussion on the issues raised in particular the health inequalities and the challenges with the transport into Sutton.

KE noted that there was ongoing work to address the myths of the Travellers Community, not helped by recent TV and press coverage. SREC were working with the Travellers Forum to promote Travellers History Month and the importance of the Forum attending other events to promote this community.

The Chair thanked Cllr Butt and Kate Evans for attending the item.

## **8. EVENTS 2012**

### **Events in 2012**

Victoria Lawson highlighted three areas for the Forum:

**Equality and Diversity Forum  
1 March 2012**

- Request to support the Happy Soul Festival;
- Feedback from the Holocaust Memorial Day;
- Upcoming events in May and June.

VL noted an email request from those organising the Happy Soul Festival and whether the Council would be willing to meet and discuss how to get involved. The festival celebrates BME film and art, whilst creatively exploring wellbeing and addressing the stigma of mental health. The Forum agreed that it would be important to support the event. **Action: VL, IK, SREC and Cllr Davey to meet with the organisation to discuss further.**

VL provided feedback on the HMD and thanked the Forum members for their support and contributions to making the event successful. There had been positive feedback on the event but recognition that there were improvements that could be made for 2013 including a change in venue and greater involvement of schools.

VL highlighted to the Forum a range of events coming up in May and June that the Forum could support these included:

- International Day against Homophobia (17<sup>th</sup> May);
- Learning Disability Week (18-24 June);
- Carers Week (18-24 June);
- Travellers History Month (June).

The Forum agreed to support these events and to explore what was being planned across our networks. VL to arrange meetings with individuals as follows:

- International Day against Homophobia (VL, IK, SAY and SJ-P);
- Learning Disability Week (VL and IK);
- Carers Week (VL, SAY, and IK);
- Travellers History Month (SREC).

TA updated the Forum on the plans for Travellers History Month, which included:

- Established a steering group;
- Development of a programme of events, which includes: launch event, exhibitions, storytelling sessions, traveller art, dance, craft workshops and a closing event;
- The role of the month was to raise awareness whilst also building links between the travellers and wider community.

Cllr Davey suggested sharing the events information at Local Committees once developed and via Notice Boards throughout the Borough (**Action: Victoria Lawson**).

## **9. EQUALITY ACT 2010 COMPLIANCE**

### **Equality 2010 compliance**

VL provided a short update on the Council's compliance with the Equality Act 2010, which included the publication of Equality Data on the main Council Internet site and the publication of equality objectives. VL directed the Forum to the

Internet site and asked for their views and comments (**Action: Forum to provide comments to Victoria Lawson**).

**10. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

**Any Other Business**

**South London Interfaith Walks**

VL handed out details on the Interfaith Walks being set up across London for July and the request for Sutton to be involved.

**Mencap – Stand By Me**

IK handed out information on the 3 year campaign against disability hate crime, called “Stand By Me”. The purpose of the campaign is to challenge the police, criminal justice system and the courts to end hate crime against people with a learning disability.

**Hate Incidents Update**

IK circulated a report detailing the current position with regard to hate incidents within the Borough.

**Police Update**

IK provided a short update for the minutes from Andy Stalley. The update for the Forum was:

Sutton Police has rolled out Total Victim Care (TVC) and Quality Call Back (QCB) in February. TVC gives better information to victims of crime in a better way and will improve the quality of service we give to the public. QCB is a system of phone interviews with those victims of crime, which will over time will produce meaningful data on the performance of officers when they report and investigate crime.

More significantly we have launched our ASB policy. This involves completion of a risk assessment at the majority of ASB calls. So far the results are excellent, more useful information coming on vulnerable victims than previously, meaning we are taking more action, more quickly and involving partners more. We are highlighting vulnerability and repeat victims which we has not known of before.

The next step is to develop the use of the Risk Assessment form internally for other incidents that are not strictly ASB and to give it to partners for them to assess the vulnerability of people coming to their notice in the same way as we do.

We have just completed the major mapping exercise of the Borough aiming to cover all diversity groups are include. The aim is to build that into or engagement strategy. The next step is to verify data with the Safer Neighbourhood Teams and present it as a meaningful tool. This looks to be a very productive project.

Insp.Stalley is reviewing the Independent Advisory Group (IAG) structure and role, along with internal diversity group structure and role. Insp Stalley has met a few partners and will be presenting a way forward next week for approval. The aim is to make the IAG representative and to give it a meaningful role, by engaging them more often and in a more structured way.

Overall, Insp Stalley reports he is loving my job, because of the role, but because of the encouragement and participation of all partners, LBS Staff and the officers. Everyone wants to be involved, wants to help and that makes my job easy and fun. There is lots of scope for the near future and he hopes to be able to present some positive results to the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.15 pm

Chair: .....

Date: .....

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Merton Clinical Commissioning Group



Sutton Clinical Commissioning Group



South West London

## Merton and Sutton Health Diversity Initiative 2009-2013

The Health Diversity work streams in Merton were funded by Government Office London from September 2009 to March 2012. In March 2012 NHS South West London Public Health funded and expanded the Initiative for hard to reach and migrant communities across Merton and Sutton for a period of twelve months; evaluation of the work is ongoing and success to date will further inform ongoing service developments.

The motivation to progress the Health Diversity Initiative in 2009 was based on outcomes of an A&E project in 2008/2009; it highlighted the need to improve communication and education needs for migrant patients whose first language is not English. GP practices identified some patient groups who used emergency services during weekday in-hours. Since 2009 focused supportive health promotional work has been delivered.

Work is supported by a wide range of stakeholders across Merton and Sutton including NHS South West London and London Ambulance Services, Merton and Sutton GP Clinical Commissioning Groups, Sutton and Merton Local Authorities and a diverse group of local charities and patient groups.

Managed by Merton CCG on behalf of NHS SW London; the team comprises of an experienced health project manager with a team of three Bi-lingual Health Advocates (Tamil, Polish and Urdu/Gujarati/Hindi) working with patients, communities and organisations to enhance wellbeing and NHS signposting. The team are based at James O Riordan GP Practice in Sutton. They provide and facilitate innovative NHS signposting programs, Bi-Lingual Advocacy, smoking, weight management clinics and resources for education and health promotion within the heart of communities.

### The team aim to:

1. Strengthen and champion the health of hard to reach and migrant communities within their community.
2. Tackle major killers smoking, obesity and heart disease using dynamic health interventions in collaboration with Merton and Sutton GP Practices, NHS SW London Public Health Teams, Merton and Sutton Local Authorities, charities and patient groups.
3. Support younger migrants who are less likely to register with a GP and to develop initiatives to address this.

### Contact

The Health Diversity and Bi-Lingual Advocacy team are based at James O Riordan GP Practice IN Sutton . Contact the Project Manager Annie Ford on 0208 254 8390 or email [annie.ford@smcs.nhs.uk](mailto:annie.ford@smcs.nhs.uk)

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## Consultation Document

### Blue Badges consultation – give your views on proposal for change

#### Background

The Blue Badge scheme is a national parking concession scheme, enabling people with severe mobility problems to park close to where they need to go. A Blue Badge is issued for 3 years, to people who meet the eligibility criteria, and can be used across the UK.

This is a national scheme, with the government setting the operational arrangements, and Sutton Council responsible for administering the scheme to its residents.

Over the last year, the Government has introduced a number of changes to the national Blue Badge scheme including

- Online application process making it easier for people to access a Blue Badge
- A new mobility assessment requirement, making the application of eligibility criteria fairer and more consistent, and
- A new badge format to prevent and reduce fraudulent application, use and abuse of the system, so that the scarce resource is available to those who need it most.

Fraud prevention measures include three key elements

- Automated checks that can be made at the application stage to prevent fraudulent applications
- Use of sophisticated anti fraud technologies and more security in the supply, storage and distribution of the badge
- Quick and easy enforcement checks by officers anywhere in the country on badges issued by any local authority

#### The Blue Badge fee

The government also reviewed the fee that a Council can charge for a Blue Badge – it had been set 30 years ago and not changed since - to help Councils with new and rising costs of administering the scheme. In Sutton, the scheme costs £64,500 each year to run.

The government has raised the maximum fee that can be charged for a badge to £10. Over the three years that a badge is valid for, this is equivalent to a cost of 0.9p per day.

A survey by Transport for London has indicated that in London, over a three year period, a person with a Blue Badge on average saves about £300 on parking costs. A survey of 15 London Authorities showed that all but 2 charge a £10 fee.

#### Consultation Proposal

We propose, in light of government changes, that from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012, a fee of £10 is introduced for a Blue Badge, payable when the badge is issued, and for renewals or if the badge is lost or damaged and requires replacement. This will be a one off charge for the period for which the badge is valid, usually three years.

We are now holding a public consultation so that Blue Badge holders, disability organisations and members of the public can have a say about the proposed fee increase.

This consultation will run from 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012 until 8<sup>th</sup> June 2012. The Council will then consider the findings of this consultation and make a decision on the way forward.

Further information about the reform of the Blue Badge scheme can be found on the [Department for Transport website](#) or on the Northgate website at [www.northgate-ispublicservices.com](http://www.northgate-ispublicservices.com).

**If you have a query about Blue Badges please contact Concessionary Fares Team,  
Tel: 020 8770 5070; or by email: [liberty@sutton.gov.uk](mailto:liberty@sutton.gov.uk)**

**Thank you for your interest, your views are important.**

**Julia Penfound  
Executive Head of Service Promoting Independence and Prevention Services**

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**Blue Badge Consultation:  
Have your say - please answer all questions, we want to know what you think  
Thank you**

**1. Do you currently have a Blue Badge?**

Yes

No

I am a carer for someone who does

I am responding from an organisation on behalf of people who may be eligible for a badge

**2. Enough is currently being done to prevent and detect the misuse of Blue Badges**

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

If you disagree, what do you think could be done to stop misuse?

**3. There enough disabled parking bays in Sutton for you to use when you need to get to the Shops/other places you want to go?**

Yes/No

Are there places you regularly have difficulty parking? Yes/No If so, say where

**4. Do you think that sometimes people use disabled parking bays who should not do so?**

Yes/No

**5. The new measures will help to reduce fraud**

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

What else do you think could be done to stop misuse?

**6. The Blue Badge parking concession is a valuable benefit and help to people with disabilities**

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

**7. £10 is a reasonable fee for a Blue Badge that lasts for up to three years**

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

**8. We are proposing to introduce a charge for each £10 Blue Badge issued. How will this proposal affect you, or someone you care for, or Blue Badge users generally?**

(Free text)

**9. Do you have any other comments about these proposed changes and how they will affect you?**

Thank you for your contribution

