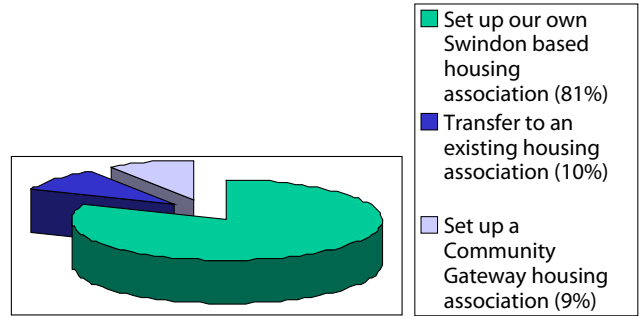
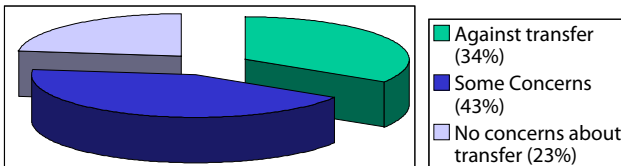


Housing Options Appraisal (HOA)

Between January and April 2009 Housing Services were out on the road finding out what you think about the future of council housing in Swindon. Together with DWA, your independent tenant advisor, we have been asking for your thoughts on the results of our review into the future of council housing. Just in case you missed the headlines about the "Options Appraisal" (as it is called) here they are:

- the appraisal established that to continue to invest at current levels and, at the very least, meet the Government's minimum standards, there will not be sufficient funding available to finance council housing in Swindon
- we have identified substantial difficulties over the next 30 years, but even over the next three years properties will begin to fail the minimum standards required
- independent advice is clear: there is a solution, which is to transfer all Council homes to a "not for profit" registered social landlord (Housing Association)

So this is what over a thousand of you thought:



We will now be reporting all the findings to the Council's cabinet. Their key decision will be whether or not to give tenants the opportunity to vote in a formal ballot. For a ballot to take place a lot more work would need to be done including detailed proposals on what a new landlord could offer and, alternatively, what the council could continue to provide. The meeting is likely to take place on the 10th June 2009 but please check our website for more details at www.swindon.gov.uk For more details contact:

Michael Ash
Deputy Director of Housing
01793 464410
E-mail mash@swindon.gov.uk

Michael Ash

A tenant's view

After a year of hard work involving meetings, consultations and road shows, the process is near its end. Housing Option Appraisal will be on the Cabinet agenda on 10th June.

No decision has yet been made and no vote asked for yet.

We, the tenants, wish to thank DWA Housing Consultants for acting as our independent tenant advisors.

Many of you have read, or seen, two newsletters, met DWA at road shows, or contacted them direct by phone or post. They have produced a report on their

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work with us, and their findings. Tenants will be able to view and/or download the report from Swindon Borough Council's website at www.swindon.gov.uk/housing or Housing will send out copies on request. Please call Michael Ash on 01793 464410 to request a report.

The report may also be obtained by contacting DWA direct:

- on free phone 0800 0855 492
- by post - DWA, Freepost, SWC 51 19, Telford TF8 7ZA
- by e-mail at info@dwa-housingconsultants.co.uk

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