

## **Basements Working Group**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February, 3.00 – 4.45, Kensington Town Hall**

**Present:** Councillor Pascall, Kevin O'Connor, Simon Haslam, Julian Williams, Earl of Lytton, Sophia Lambert, Dr. James Thompson, Marina Murray, Amanda Frame, Penelope Tollitt, Preeti Gulati

**Terms of reference:** were circulated and agreed (attached to this note). All agreed to the caveat regarding confidentiality.

**Policy Direction:** A paper setting out the potential way forward in relation to the main policy issues was tabled, and agreed it would be used as an agenda.

There was an initial opening discussion.

a. "75%": This was the first item. The proposed reduction to 50% was broadly supported by residents, but of concern to developers. The reason behind the reduction – to protect the character of the gardens – was debated. It was found wanting, because it was asserted that developers would be able to reinstate the current gardens over the top of the proposed basements.

### **Actions:**

- To find photographs of gardens where basements have been constructed, to demonstrate either that they do, or do not, adversely impact garden character
- To identify inconsistencies between Baxters and Arup reports