

# Collaborating to challenge the system



**One Southwark was launched in January 2022, with the ambition of transforming lives and opportunities for young people in the borough.**

One Southwark believes place based giving should challenge existing practice and systems. It is driven by a coalition of 10 community stakeholders, representing businesses, housing associations, funders, statutory agencies, and charities. As Will Cole, Director of One Southwark says, “the Coalition believes the status quo can be challenged to make Southwark a fairer place. They play a pivotal role - a central cog to the system we are trying to build as they are using their resources, connections and influence to instigate change.” As well as bringing their contacts and networks, Coalition members help bring other parts of the community on board and advocate for the wider changes needed so that young people in the borough get a better deal.

Ashley Richardson, who works at Peabody Housing Association, has chaired the Coalition through its first year. She says the vast experience and range of perspectives among the group has been key to developing a shared vision about what can be achieved. “There is plenty of passion and drive surrounding issues that we are facing, but that passion and drive needs to be transformed into tangible action to make an impact. To build a future that recognizes the issues that we’re facing, everybody has to be involved - corporates, stakeholders, and organisations all play a part in understanding the potential to change in an efficient, resourceful, and respectful way.”

CASE STUDY 3

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