

Broadcast



Southwark Council opens social housing doors to C4

By Alex Farber | 30 July 2020

The Garden secures six-part order for Council House Britain

[Channel 4](#) has secured access to Southwark Council for a six-part series about social housing.

ITV Studios-owned indie The Garden is responsible for **Council House Britain**, which will meet some of the individuals who keep the 55,000-strong property network running.

Almost 40% of Southwark's population live in council-managed properties, while its waiting list for the five homes that become available each week numbers 10,000.

The show will feature an array of housing officers, each responsible for up to 650 tenants who must deal with issues including hoarders, invading pests and leaks.

The show was ordered by C4 commissioning editors Madonna Benjamin and Fozia Khan.

In a joint statement, the duo said Council House Britain offers a "timely and eye-opening insight" into one of the country's biggest public landlords. They added: "With access to both council workers and their tenants, the series is bursting with characters and their stories. It provides a warm, uplifting and at times jaw-dropping glimpse into what it takes to find and keep a place to call home."

The series will be exec produced by The Garden's Clare Paterson, who chief creative officer John Hay said has unearthed a "huge variety" of stories.

"We were moved, impressed, surprised, fascinated, made to laugh and brought to tears," he added.

Southwark Council leader Peter John said the show took two years to "scope and film".

"Council officers are often the unsung heroes of the public sector, but just as Covid-19 has revealed the important work our rubbish collectors and social care workers do, Council House Britain will show the country how passionate and committed our housing teams are," he added.

In August, C4 is scheduled to air Yorkshire: On The Job, a Minnow Films' six-part doc series with access to Leeds Jobcentre.