



RIVERSIDE RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER

22 OCTOBER 2021

CRITICAL CHANGES TO BOOST CREDIBILITY OF ARORA HOTEL INVESTIGATION

Critical changes to the terms of reference and administrative arrangements for the independent investigation into the provenance of and contract for the Arora hotel/apartment complex in the riverfront Staines Conservation Area were agreed by Spelthorne Borough Council at its meeting last week (as reported in our *Residents Newsletter* of 15 October). The identity of the investigator was also announced last week.

[Click here](#) for full information, including the background and consequences of the agreed changes.

“The terms of reference for the investigation have been greatly strengthened and broadened to cover many aspects of the Arora deal that have been of serious concern to the community and Councillors. Also, removing the Chief Executive from his administrative role in the investigation and putting this in the hands of a borough lawyer who was not involved in the Arora deal, was also important to the credibility of the exercise,” says a spokesperson for the Riverside Residents (Staines) Coalition. “Achieving these critical changes was the result of cross-party collaboration between all nine Staines ward councillors, their persistence in pressing for a motion to be debated by the full Council, and the willingness of the Council’s Leadership and the investigation’s Review Group to listen to reasoned argument”.

Riverside Residents (Staines) Coalition – a Working Group of six residents’ organisations serving the interests of residents on both sides of the river. Supported by other residents’ organisations across Staines and the Staines Town Society.

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