

Council Assembly

Wednesday 27 January 2010

7.00 pm

Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

Supplemental Agenda No.3

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Date: 26 January 2010

ITEM 7.1 CANADA WATER PUBLICATION/SUBMISSION AREA ACTION PLAN
(see pages 17-33 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT A

Moved: Councillor Chris Page
Seconded: Councillor Richard Livingstone

Amend 1.2.2 of the AAP (see page 9 of Appendix A), in recognition of the concerns of the Hawkstone Estate Tenants & Residents Association, by **removing** the area bound by Rotherhithe Old Road, Rotherhithe New Road and Hawkstone Road from the core area of the AAP.

Amend 4.4.7 (see page 43 of Appendix A); in bullet point 1, **delete** all after "wetside" and **insert** with "and dryside facilities in the centre."

Amend 4.6.11 (see page 63 of Appendix A): **delete** last two sentences and **insert** "We are committed to refurbishing properties on the Hawkstone Estate to bring all its homes up to the decent homes standard."

Delete 4.7.9 to 4.7.11 (see page 70 of Appendix A) and **insert:**

"We will continue to work to identify an appropriate site for a new secondary school in the area, keeping the local community's options open. We recognise that many local people are concerned that the Rotherhithe Primary School site's limited size makes it a problematic site for a 0-19 school."

ITEM 9.1 THE COUNCIL TAX BASE 2010-11 (see pages 46-59 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT B**Moved:** Councillor Richard Livingstone**Seconded:** Councillor Mark GloverParagraph 1: **delete** all after “set at” and **insert**:

	Number of band D equivalent properties
For the parish of St Mary Newington	13,383.29
For the parish of St Saviour's	1,153.91
For the whole of the borough excluding the parishes of St Mary Newington and St Saviour's	82,132.84
For the whole borough	96,670.04

Insert new paragraphs 2 to 6 (and then renumber subsequent paragraphs) as follows:

- 2 That the council notes with concern that in 2008-09 Southwark had the worst in-year collection rate in London and that collection performance in December 2009 had fallen below that for 2008.
- 3 That the council therefore supports the decision to bring council tax collection back in-house, but regrets that the executive took this decision too late, with the consequence of delaying this transfer of responsibilities until April 2011.
- 4 Nevertheless, we recognise that whilst this handover may be too late to impact on the in-year collection rate for 2010-11, it will impact on collections made in respect of that year from April 2011 onwards. Given the anticipated improvement in this service once brought in-house, this council therefore recommends a modest increase in the proposed collection rate of 0.25% to **96.25%**. This rate derives the council tax base as set out in paragraph 1.
- 5 Given the past practice in this authority of three-year expenditure budgets, this council considers that it would be good practice to also introduce collection rate improvement targets to inform a longer term revenue strategy. Furthermore, such targets should be used for shaping the specification for the in-house revenue service that will commence in 2011.
- 6 Council therefore recommends the following collection rate targets for forthcoming years to bring collection up to the national average by 2014-15, to be reviewed annually as part of the council tax base setting process:
 - 2011-12: 96.75%
 - 2012-13: 97.25%
 - 2013-14: 97.75%
 - 2014-15: 98.00%

ITEM 10.1 MOTION 1 – TRANSFORMING SOUTHWARK COUNCIL (see page 67 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT C

Moved: Councillor Lisa Rajan
Seconded: Councillor Caroline Pidgeon

Add at end:

8. Council assembly is delighted at the continued achievements of Southwark school students, with the highest ever pass rates at GCSE in 2009 – with the total gaining five or more A* to C grades including English and maths increasing to 46.0% and the number of those achieving five or more A* to C grades in total improving from 56.3% in 2008 to 67.5% in 2009. Assembly further notes this improvement is mirrored in the borough's primary schools which now boast results better than leafy shires such as Essex and East Sussex.
9. Council assembly notes that educational achievement was so poor under the Labour administration, with woeful pass rates for GCSE and barely half of 11 year olds competent in English and maths, that the education department had to be put in special measures by the government and handed to the private sector.
10. Council assembly welcomes the recognition for Southwark's recent educational improvement from local MPs and others, and particularly notes comments from Harriet Harman that "In the past only a few Southwark young people went on to further and higher education. This is now changing. Previously only 185 Camberwell and Peckham young people started university. This year there are 525 young people entering further and higher education" (Source: Annual Report 2009). And congratulates all students, staff and parents for all their hard work and dedication.

AMENDMENT D

Moved: Councillor Paul Kyriacou
Seconded: Councillor James Barber

Add at end:

11. Council assembly notes the six fold increase in recycling in the last eight years, from just 3.6% in 2002 under the previous Labour administration to 21% in 2009 and strongly regrets the lack of priority given to recycling and environmental issues by the previous Labour administration.
12. Council assembly notes the various initiatives taken by the current administration to boost recycling including the current introduction of a simple single co-mingled recycling bin to replace the various containers and the introduction of the clear bag collection service now available to over 41,000 properties including residents living in flats above shops and other hard to reach dwellings. Further notes there are now also 553

publicly accessible bring sites in the borough, 410 recycling sites within Southwark's private estates, commuter bins in and around transport hubs, a recycling enforcement programme and a complementary incentivisation scheme to boost recycling participation.

13. Council assembly notes the additional materials that residents are now able to recycle in Southwark with battery points installed in all libraries in the borough, the Town Hall and Manor Place offices (in addition to the household waste reuse and recycling centre) and two additional tetra pak sites have been put in place, with another two to follow in the near future. Notes there are now a total of 25 locations in the borough where textiles can now be recycling.
14. Council welcomes the decision to extend further the range of materials recycled with the introduction of food waste collections, which will be in place by 2015 at the latest, and a programme of improvements on council, housing association and private estates right across the borough, expanding the clear bag scheme and installing or improving recycling centre facilities and believes that all these initiatives will mean Southwark will further massively boost recycling rates to 40% and beyond.

AMENDMENT E

Moved: Councillor Peter John
Seconded: Councillor Martin Seaton

Delete all and insert:

1. Council assembly notes that in the Oneplace area assessment for 2009 conducted by the Audit Commission, Southwark Council was given the worst rating in inner London and third worst in the capital.
2. Council assembly notes that since 2002, Southwark Council has benefited from a 37% increase in funding from the Labour government. Council assembly further notes that despite this, the executive has hiked fees and charges for many services, including meals on wheels and social care, council childcare, burials and parking at up to twenty times the rate of inflation, whilst other services have been cut or closed down completely.
3. Council assembly notes that Southwark Council has the lowest level of council tax collection in London, and the third lowest in the country, meaning that the council fails to collect around £7 million every year. It notes that 96% was the target collection for last year, not the actual performance as stated by the leader and deputy leader, and that the council did not meet that target or even its in-year target.
4. Council assembly further notes that Liberal Democrat and Conservative members voted against Labour proposals to bring the council tax collection contract in-house at the break point in the contract with Liberata in 2008. It notes that the in-year collection rate last year was lower than the in-year collection rate when Labour left office in 2002.
5. Council assembly notes that satisfaction with street lighting amongst Southwark residents fell between 2006 and 2008. Council assembly also notes that contrary to pledges by the Liberal Democrats to bring household

waste recycling in Southwark up to 30% by 2010, it currently stands at just 20.89%, the sixth lowest in England.

6. Council assembly welcomes progress on the regeneration schemes at Bermondsey Spa and Aylesbury. However, it expresses its continued concern over the limited scope and ambition of the heads of terms signed with Lend Lease Europe for the Elephant and Castle regeneration. It notes the absence of any plan for new leisure facilities in the terms and the indefinite postponement of the demolition of the shopping centre. Council assembly also notes with concern that the new library at Canada Water has already gone more than 50% over budget and that the plans for a new leisure centre have been completely dropped. Council assembly regrets that Camberwell and Peckham have seen no significant attempts at regeneration from the current administration.
7. Council assembly notes that by 2012 it is predicted that Southwark will have around 19,000 non-decent homes, representing half of the total in London. It notes that 18,000 households currently live in homes which are not warm, not weatherproof or do not have reasonably modern facilities. Council assembly further notes that the red flag Southwark received from the Audit Commission for its housing service in the 2009 Oneplace report; the only borough in London to be red flagged on this issue. It believes that the Liberal Democrat and Tories failure to plug a funding black hole of at least £700 million seriously calls into question their ability to house its tenants in decent conditions. Council assembly notes that tenant satisfaction with housing services fell between 2006 and 2008.

ITEM 10.1 MOTION 2 – SOCIAL CARE IN SOUTHWARK (see pages 67-68 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT F

Moved: Councillor David Noakes

Seconded: Councillor Nick Stanton

Delete all after 'borough' (line 3 paragraph 1) and **insert:**

2. Council assembly regrets the publication of the recent draft report from the Care Quality Commission (CGC) without any input from the council because of the Commission's refusal to discuss their findings with the council and notes the significant flaws, inaccuracies and factual errors including:
 - a) criticism of the the council's customer service centre based on a small sample survey which ignored evidence from the council's own customer service surveys showing increasing satisfaction. Council assembly also notes the inspector failed to visit the dedicated and specialist call centre dealing with the most vulnerable residents.
 - b) contradictory assumptions about the councils spending on adult social care including the claim that "the proportion of council spend directed to adult social care was in the lowest quartile nationally", when the Audit Commission confirms that the council spends in the highest quartile nationally and the social care component of the council's formula grant as calculated by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) is in fact £22 million less than actual spending.
 - c) failure to recognise the council's beacon status for promoting cohesion, equality and driving out discrimination.
3. Council assembly welcomes the statement by Labour Minister of State for Care Services Phil Hope who in his letter to the council on 2 December acknowledges that the council is not a poor performer
4. Council assembly believes that if the CQC report was a true reflection of a deterioration in service that this would have been picked up through complaints, MPs casework and council questions and motions. Council assembly notes that Harriet Harman states in her most recent annual report that social care issues were just 1.5% of the total, for Simon Hughes these were just 2% of the total caseload and that opposition members asked not a single question on the quality of social care in the last two years.
5. Council assembly supports the call for the findings to be subject to independent scrutiny to establish the facts, to allow the council to agree where improvement is actually needed and take action to improve services.

ITEM 10.3 MOTION 3 – LOCAL RAIL SERVICES (see page 69 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT G

Moved: Councillor Fiona Colley

Seconded: Councillor Mark Glover

After paragraph one **add** new second and third paragraph

2. Council assembly welcomes the recent extension of SouthEastern services from Nunhead, Peckham Rye, Denmark Hill and Elephant & Castle stations through the Thameslink tunnel from Blackfriars to Kentish Town, providing through trains for residents in Nunhead, East Dulwich, Peckham Rye and Camberwell to City Thameslink, Farringdon, Kings Cross St Pancras and Kentish Town. Council supports the proposal that these services should be retained on completion of the Thameslink programme in 2015 and calls on the executive to lobby to protect these services and indeed for additional services and destinations to be added for these stations when the increased capacity through the Thameslink tunnel is available.
3. Council assembly also notes the abysmal service currently being provided by First Capital Connect (FCC) and calls on the executive to support local MPs and London Assembly members in lobbying to ensure that a full service is restored, including removing the franchise from FCC if services do not improve rapidly, and to ensure that commuters are properly compensated for the disruption.

ITEM 10.4 MOTION 4 – IMPROVING PUBLIC TRANSPORT ON THE RIVER THAMES (see page 69-70 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT H

Moved: Councillor Barrie Hargrove

Seconded: Councillor Althea Smith

In paragraph 6, **delete all** and **insert** new paragraph 6 and 7, as below:

6. That the potential for the expansion of river services exists, although it would wish to be assured that increased public subsidy for river services (as recommended by “At a Rate of Knots”) could be achieved without a knock-on effect on subsidy levels for those transport modes on which a wider range of Southwark residents rely, including buses, underground and mainline rail.
7. That improving cross-river links is of equal importance to the borough. Council assembly therefore regrets the indications from the Mayor of London that Transport for London (TfL) is unlikely to contribute towards the development of a foot and cycle bridge over the Thames at Rotherhithe.

Renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

Insert new paragraph 11, as below:

11. To request that the executive re-iterates its support for a new foot and cycle river crossing in the east of the borough and writes to the Mayor of London asking him to reconsider his position on such a project.

ITEM 10.5 MOTION 5 - SOUTHWARK'S RECYCLING SHAME (see page 70 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT I

Moved: Councillor Richard Thomas

Seconded: Councillor Paul Kyriacou

Delete all after 'notes' and **insert:**

'that after 40 years of Labour administration by 2002 Southwark's recycling rate was just 3.6%.'

Note: In the event that Amendment D is carried, then motion 5 and amendment I will fall.

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