

# Council Assembly

Wednesday 6 July 2011

7.00 pm

Walworth Academy, 34 - 40 Shorncliffe Road, SE1 5UJ

## Supplemental Agenda No.3

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	In line with the Democracy Commission's recommendations, conversations have taken place with people living and working in the borough in advance of the council assembly themed debate on 6 July 2011. The views are circulated to all members for your information.	
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### Contact

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Date: 4 July 2011

# Agenda Item 2.2

<b>Item No.</b> 2.2	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 6 July 2011	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Public Question Time – Final List	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

## 1. QUESTION FROM MICK BARNARD TO THE LEADER

Complaints about officers/members by members of the public are covered by the complaints procedure/standards committee respectively except in the case of the constitution with regards to abuse by officers. Do you have any plans to close this loophole particularly when some councillors refuse to progress such a case?

## 2. QUESTION FROM SHAMUS DARK TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT

Given Anchor Trust's proposal to transfer the ownership of our homes in Hopton's Almshouses in Southwark to a charity in Ealing, will Southwark Council support our request for the trusteeship of our homes to be transferred instead to a local Southwark charity, such as the United St Saviour's Charity?

## 3. QUESTION FROM STANLEY RUSHTON TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT

In respect of the proposal by Anchor Trust to transfer the trusteeship of Hopton's Charity to the Ealing & Brentford Consolidated Charity, will Southwark Council please support our request for the transfer of our homes at Hopton's Gardens to the United St. Saviour's Charity?

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager
<b>Report Author</b>	Sean Usher, Constitutional Officer
<b>Version</b>	Final
<b>Dated</b>	1 July 2011

<b>Item No.</b> 2.3	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 6 July 2011	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Deputation Requests	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That council assembly considers whether or not to hear a deputation from the following groups listed in paragraph 5 of the report.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The council assembly procedure rules state that no more than three deputations shall be considered at any one meeting, and deputations shall be considered in the order of receipt. However the meeting can decide to suspend this rule in order to hear more or vary the order.
3. When considering whether to hear the deputation request, council assembly can decide:
  - to receive the deputation at this meeting or a future meeting; *or*
  - that the deputation not be received; *or*
  - to refer the deputation to the most appropriate committee/sub-committee.
4. A deputation shall consist of no more than six people, including its spokesperson. One member of the deputation shall be allowed to address the meeting for no longer than 5 minutes. The deputation spokesperson or any member of the deputation nominated by him or her shall be invited to ask a question of the leader or relevant cabinet member. After this time councillors may ask questions of the deputation for up to 5 minutes. At the conclusion of the questions, the deputation will be shown to the public seating area where they may listen to the remainder of the open section of the meeting.

### KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. The following deputation requests have been received. The deputations are listed in order of receipt.

#### 1. Burgess Park Cricket Team

The Burgess Park (Colts) Cricket Club would like to make a deputation to council assembly on Wednesday 6 July 2011.

The request says: "The reason [for the deputation request] is that our club was informed that our application has not been recommended to proceed to stage two of the funding process for funding from the Southwark Olympic Legacy Fund.

We as a club strongly feel that our funding bid would sufficiently improve access and increase participation in sport and physical activity for children and sport in Southwark and no doubt have a lasting legacy for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympics Games."

## **2. Southwark Youth Council**

The Southwark Youth Council would like to make a deputation to the themed debate on Sports and Young People at the meeting on the 6 July. Southwark Youth Council would like to know if there is a possibility of providing more outdoor gyms. They feel that this would encourage fitter communities as these facilities are free and can be used together as families or as groups of friends.

## **3. Peckham Pride Basketball Club**

A deputation request on the development of basketball in Southwark which relates to the themed debate has been received. The request states "We are a local sports club for young people in the borough supporting the development of sports in schools and the local community teaching basketball and life skills. We would like to talk about how sport is an important and often undervalued vehicle to help meet many local agendas and goals within society and the council. I would like to raise this at the assembly to ensure that sport doesn't slip off the agenda once the Olympics have passed and that the continued investment in local sport remains high on the agenda."

## **4. Southwark Gymnastics Club**

The Southwark Gymnastics Club would like to make a deputation at the council assembly on 6 July 2011 on the subject of sports and young people.

## **5. The Friends of Southwark Park**

The Friends of Southwark Park would like to make a deputation on the subject of their opposition to UK Power Networks proposals to use the park for a deep tunnelling project.

**Note:** Council assembly procedure rule 2.6(20), states that deputations relating to planning applications will not be considered by council assembly. In this instance pre-application planning advice has been given by the council on this matter. In order for the deputation to be received, a procedural motion to suspend rule 2.6(20) would need to be moved, seconded and agreed. If such a procedural motion is carried, the monitoring officer advises members of the planning committee (and reserves) not to ask questions of the deputation or make statements.

## **6. Pumphouse Educational Museum**

A group of local residents have requested a deputation "regarding the 100% funding cut to the Pumphouse Educational Museum".

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

<b>Background Papers</b>	<b>Held At</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Deputation Request File	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Lesley John 020 7525 7228
Council Assembly Procedure Rule 2.6, Southwark Constitution	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Lesley John 020 7525 7228

**AUDIT TRAIL**

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
<b>Report Author</b>	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	1 July 2011	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Comments sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Strategic Director of Environment	No	No
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>	1 July 2011	

## THEMED DEBATE: SPORTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

JUNE 2011

#### **Resident 1**

I mainly play and coach football throughout Southwark. It is a positive thing for young people to be involved or participate in sports. There are so many positive outcomes that can be arrived at, such as a healthy lifestyle, breaking down barriers and creating new relationships, pursuing an interest or hobby and for the dedicated - turning sports into a career.

Southwark has some excellent sports facilities, though they are limited in number. We could always do with more.

Each community council area should have its own designated central sports facility which all young people can access and does not target any particular group.

I am concerned how local people now have the power to decide the allocation of community council funds and grants. A significant amount of local people have a lack of knowledge and are unaware of the process and development which goes towards youth engagement. I fear that this lack of insight and knowledge could hamper the development of youth programmes.

#### **Resident 2**

It's a good thing as young people relate to sports as enjoyment.

I think sports provision in Southwark is good. My favourite one is the astro turf pitch at Burgess Park. I feel safe at most of the facilities I use.

We could do with more swimming pools, including outdoor pools. And more astro-turf pitches - not only for football but for a host of different activities and multisport use.

We need more facilities & activities to keep young people averted from risks. More funding.

#### **Resident 3**

I play basketball in my local area. It's a great way to connect and come together within your community and it's also a good way to meet new people and make new friends.

I'd like to see more astro-turf pitches and cricket pitches. Young people need a variety of things to do. They need a choice.

Sport helps and brings communities together. It would also be good to have awareness or information sessions on issues such as knife crime and positive leadership roles so young people can have options in order to raise their aspirations.

**Resident 4**

Sport is an opportunity to have something to aim for and it keeps young people off the streets.

Facilities are generally good but some sports halls should consider having padded walls for safety when playing football.

We could do with a greater variety of sports like canoeing, and more activities that don't cost anything. Free things always bring more people in.

Don't cut funding for sports. Give us more free sessions and activities. That will draw more people in.

**Resident 5**

It's something to do and it keeps you occupied. You have benefits like a healthier lifestyle and the possibility of a career or job.

Facilities should also keep attracting girls to take part.

I would introduce new and different sports. I'd also like to see more variety for girls so we have options to choose from.

Less activities mean more anti social behaviour.

**Resident 6**

Sport fits naturally with the 'Every Child Matters' ethos. It's all about keeping fit and staying safe - healthy competition in a supervised environment. There's also the sheer enjoyment and gaining new skills.

I think we need some updating of sports facilities and sports provision generally in Southwark. The amount the council can provide is limited. The voluntary sector has more capacity but not necessarily good provision.

There's been some relaxing of bureaucracy in recent times and that's a good thing. CRB checking isn't as onerous as it used to be, but the process still thorough and there is a trail of accountability.

Looking beyond 2012 - what will be the infrastructure? I'm concerned about the sustainability of the programmes we provide, and the seasonality. We provide an important gateway for the social integration of young people and we also contribute to better health by tackling obesity.

**Resident 7**

For many young people, sport is a very effective cathartic release of energy that might otherwise be channelled in the wrong direction. Sport enables young people to work as a team, to get to know other young people, to have a goal and a purpose. It keeps them fit and healthy which in turn helps to keep them mentally stable. Sport ensures that young people are using their physical and mental strength to their full potential and it keeps them busy and focused.

I think there are good sports facilities in Southwark but I also think things could always be better and that if participation was greater (as it should be) there would be nowhere near enough provision to cater for everyone.

Sport for girls is of major importance and they should be targeted as early as possible. Trying to engage teenage girls in sport and is a massively difficult undertaking as sport has not been an integral part of their upbringing and culture. Two hour long PE sessions at school per week for 5 to 11 year olds is, in my opinion, nowhere near enough.

In the USA female participation in a variety of sports is as broad as it is for the men. This is due to a sporting culture that gives opportunities for participation at a much earlier age than in England.

Our councillors need to know that young people's attitudes to sport will only change through education at an early age and through greater support from adults (parents, teachers, youth workers etc). Sport at a young age must be taken seriously for young people to retain their interest into young adulthood.

### **Resident 8**

I think that sport is a good starting point for young people. It's a very useful tool for introducing working with them around other issues.

There are some very good examples in Southwark of youth and sports provision, including Southwark Community Games. They do sessions every week at this club, but we've had some cutbacks and it's starting to affect our work.

We need to maintain the level of sports development in the borough and strengthen the relationship between sports and young people. One way to do that is to keep us better informed about things like funding opportunities.

### **Resident 9**

This is my first time to use this place [Burgess Park outdoor gym]. I was driving by one day and I saw it and thought I'd come and try it out. It's a great community space for all age groups, races, and backgrounds. Everyone's really friendly and we're getting to know each other through working out.

If this outdoor gym didn't exist I wouldn't have come into this park. It feels very safe too and it's a good way for councils to spend money.

The only thing it needs is a drinking fountain. This is thirsty work.

### **Resident 10**

This is a great idea – this outdoor gym. I come here two or three times a week to keep myself fit and it's free. This kind of thing makes the masses very happy.

People talk to people. They laugh, smile. I'm not working at the moment and I can't afford to go to the gym. Sometimes I sit at home and I can feel the stress levels rising in me. But I come down here for an hour and a half and it all goes away. Then I feel happier about myself and this community.



The council makes this provision and we really appreciate it. If we could have more of this kind of thing it would be better for everyone.

**Resident 11**

Whoever came up with this idea [outdoor gyms] in the council deserves a lot of credit. It's one of the best things the council has done for the people. It's great for young people especially because it gives them something to do.

It's good to see things like this [outdoor gym]. Good to see some effort being made to help people, especially promoting sport and fitness. But there needs to be change from the top down.

This kind of thing needs to be expanded. We need to do more for the grassroots people. They need more youth clubs as well as outdoor gyms.

We're living in a divided world and you need to ease up the pressure on the ghetto people. We deserve to be treated more fairly.

**Resident 12**

It's not just for kids. It's for people in general. That's what I like about it. A healthy mind keeps a healthy body and the two make for a healthy society. That means less expense for the government and the council because you'll have less people going to the doctor and more people fit for work.

**Resident 13**

I think the council should provide more places for young people to play, to keep them out of trouble. On the other hand young people are getting more obese and they need to do more exercise.

Burgess Park has this great outdoor gym but we need more space for children to play too.

**Resident 14**

There's not much to do during the school holidays, except for things that you have to pay for.

There are some swimming classes in Southwark but they're very expensive and we couldn't afford them. We're Muslim and women like me would like to take up swimming classes. We have some women only sessions but the lifeguards are often male and that means we can't go to those classes.

**Resident 15**

Sport is all about teaching young people the value of teamwork, motivation, discipline. It's also about having fun and getting good at something.

But that won't happen without financial input. Sport will never disappear but we'll never get as much out of it as we can without investment in resources.

Sport builds confidence in young people. It also makes them more aware of their bodies. You've got to live in it for the rest of your life and you may as well like it. One

way to find out that you like it is to play sport. You test and discover your limits. If you don't know what the limits of your body are, you don't know yourself.

Everyone is good at something. Some young people make the mistake of thinking that because they're not good at football, they're not good at sport. But in fact they might be brilliant at something else.

Playing football can be a really intense experience that you go through with five or ten other people. You might know someone for ten years and not have that intensity with them. But you play a game of football for ten minutes and you really connect with them on a completely different level to everyday life. Sport is invaluable in that sense. It really tests you and it does that in a safe environment.

When it comes to making cuts or savings it's too easy to target sport because people don't think of it in the same light as health care or education. You can live without sport but if you cut something like that long term people don't get to be the people that they can be. They don't achieve their full potential and that can have serious knock on effects. So please don't cut Southwark Community Games!

The important relationships I've had have been nurtured through sport. If I didn't have sport in my life growing up I don't believe I would have gone to university or achieved a lot of the things I have. It affects your confidence. It affects the way that you meet people or see the world.

### **Resident 16**

I want to champion young volunteering in sport or any other arena. It's good for education purposes and getting UCAS points. It also prepares young people for the world of work by developing their skills and experience as well as teaching them teamwork.

They learn responsibility and how to be relied upon. They contribute to their local communities and get the opportunity to put something back. That in turns gives young people a huge feeling of self worth.

Councillors need to ensure that young people have lots of opportunities for getting involved in their communities. That teaches them responsibility. They learn how to run and develop things.

Whether it's sport or some other arena, young people need formal opportunities to achieve things together as part of a team, or to coach other young people in a local club. They need to get out and about and a chance to learn about structure. Young people often lack that knowledge of how to build positive things like volunteering into their week.

### **ISSUES RAISED AT PECKHAM AND NUNHEAD & PECKHAM RYE COMMUNITY COUNCILS THAT RELATE TO THE THEME**

- Request for information on the Olympic legacy fund
- Need to upgrade the quality of football pitches in the borough
- What is the Council doing to promote sports other than football?
- Given that Camberwell Leisure Centre used to house an Olympic size swimming pool, what are the possibilities for extending the current length and installing diving facilities?

- The need to refurbish Peckham Pulse
- What is the council doing to involve young people with disabilities in sport?
- Has the council thought about transportation costs for young people accessing facilities around the borough?
- Are safety issues considered when developing new facilities for example when young people are leaving training sessions late at night?
- Question on the building of a BMX track in Burgess Park

<b>Item No.</b> 3.2	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 6 July 2011	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Questions from the Public on the Themed Debate: Sports and Young People	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

**1. QUESTION FROM RICHARD WHITE TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN’S SERVICES**

Why do councillors feel that local people are more knowledgeable about the needs of youngsters rather than those who are trained in the service? Can the public make strategic decisions on this subject?

**2. QUESTION FROM VERNON NEVE-DUNN TO THE LEADER**

What is the future vision for sport in Burgess Park and can the management of the sports centre in Burgess Park be passed out to community clubs?

**3. QUESTION FROM TOM ULICSAK TO THE LEADER**

Are the council still committed to a national standard BMX track?

**4. QUESTION FROM A MEMBER OF SOUTHWARK YOUTH COUNCIL TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS**

Bearing in mind the problems Southwark has with youth obesity, what is Southwark doing to encourage young people to get involved in sports other than football? Southwark Youth Council feel that although football is popular, there is a too much focus on it.

**5. QUESTION FROM A MEMBER OF DULWICH TABLE TENNIS CLUB TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS**

I’m 12 years old and live in Southwark. I play table tennis at my local club in Dulwich. Many of my friends also play. Many of them joined but we don’t have enough money for equipment etc or for taking part in competitions. Is there any help available?

**AUDIT TRAIL**

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager
<b>Report Author</b>	Sean Usher, Constitutional Officer
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<b>Dated</b>	1 July 2011

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