

Southwark Brexit Panel

Tuesday 17 July 2018

4.00 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G02C - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Membership

Councillor James Coldwell
Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall
Councillor Victoria Mills (Chair)
Councillor Margy Newens
Councillor David Noakes
Councillor Kieron Williams

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

Contact

Everton Roberts on 020 7525 7221 or email: everton.roberts@southwark.gov.uk

Webpage: www.southwark.gov.uk

Members of the panel are summoned to attend this meeting

Eleanor Kelly

Chief Executive

Date: 13 July 2018



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4.00 pm

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Order of Business

Item No.	Title	Page No.
1.	APOLOGIES	
	To receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS	
	Members to declare any interests and dispensations in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meeting.	
3.	MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE	1 - 2
	To note the membership of the Southwark Brexit Panel as set out on the agenda summons and terms of reference (page 1 of the agenda).	
4.	SOUTHWARK COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO BREXIT (EVIDENCE GATHERING)	3 - 5
	To note the process by which the panel will gather evidence to inform the council's response to Brexit and to identify issues and topics to be covered.	

5.	EVIDENCE SESSION - THEME: BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT	
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6 - 7

The council has invited 5 expert witnesses to discuss and give evidence on how they envisage Brexit will affect business and employment in Southwark:

Expert witnesses:

Lorna Gavin – Chair, Southwark Business Forum

Nadia Broccardo – Team London Bridge

Laura Griffiths – BIDS London

Richard Kalmar – Chamber of Commerce

Richard Brown – Centre for London

(Detail on the organisations they represent are contained on page 6 - 7 of the agenda).

Date: 13 July 2018

SOUTHWARK BREXIT PANEL

Membership and Terms of Reference

The panel shall be known as the “Southwark Brexit Panel.” It is a time limited, task focussed group, established to carry out a review of the impacts of the UK exiting the EU by looking at a number of areas and variables. The Group is not a formal committee and is not a decision making body. The Group will report back to the Cabinet and make recommendations for decisions where relevant and appropriate.

Membership

1. The Group shall be a cross party panel with two Cabinet members (one of which will be the Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Brexit), two nominations from the Labour group and two nominations from the Liberal Democrats group.
2. The Group may as it sees fit invite other Members, representatives from other partner organisations, other public and private and third sector bodies to part take in the work of the group where necessary and relevant.
3. The Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Brexit will Chair the Panel

Note: No substitute members will be appointed to the group.

Terms of Reference

- To lead and co-ordinate research on the likely impact on council services and residents as a result of the United Kingdom (U.K.) leaving the European Union (EU).
- To gather evidence from local stakeholders to build a picture of the impact of Brexit in Southwark and use this evidence to inform the council’s response to Brexit.
- To make recommendations to Cabinet about actions the Council should consider taking to mitigate any possible impacts on its services and residents and share evidence gathered with relevant stakeholders.

The panel will identify and agree specific issues to consider in their first meeting.

Meetings of the Brexit Panel

1. Meetings shall take place on such dates as agreed by the Chair.

2. The ordinary place of meetings of the panel shall be Council Offices, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH unless otherwise specified.
3. In the absence of the Chair the Group will elect a person to Chair the meeting.
4. Any member of the Council who is not a Member of the Brexit Panel may attend the meetings of the Panel, but he/she shall not take part in the consideration or discussion of any business, save by leave of the Chair.
5. Meetings of the Panel will be held in public.
6. Relevant officers will provide all the necessary support to enable the work of the Panel including Constitutional Services who will prepare and despatch agendas, clerk the meetings and draft a record of the proceedings.

Item No. 4.	Classification: Open	Date: 17 July 2018	Meeting Name: Southwark Brexit Panel
Report title:		Southwark Council's Response to Brexit (Evidence Gathering)	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Director of Communities	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the panel note the process by which evidence will be gathered to inform the council's response to Brexit (see paragraphs 7 – 10).
2. That the panel note the key areas the Communities and Local Government Committee is recommending local authorities consider (see paragraph 11).
3. That the panel identify any additional issues and topics to be covered.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

4. On 23rd June 2016 the U.K. voted in the EU referendum on whether the U.K should 'remain' in the EU or 'leave'. 52% of those that took part in the referendum voted to leave the E.U. The Government triggered Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty on 29 March 2017 thus initiating the start of EU and U.K. negotiations. The timeline for negotiations is two years as stated in the Treaty and the deadline to leave the EU is 29 March 2019.
5. In Southwark over 72% of the residents who took part in the referendum voted to remain in the EU. Southwark is home to 41,000 non-Irish EU citizens, whose status in the UK following the departure from the EU is unclear. Providing certainty to those citizens and ensuring their rights are protected is a priority for the council.
6. On 9 July 2018 the cabinet member for finance, performance and Brexit established a cross party Member-led 'Brexit Panel'. The panel was established with the following terms of reference:
 - To lead and co-ordinate research on the likely impact on council services and residents as a result of the United Kingdom (U.K.) leaving the European Union (EU).
 - To gather evidence from local stakeholders to build a picture of the impact of Brexit in Southwark and use this evidence to inform the council's response to Brexit.

- To make recommendations to Cabinet about actions the Council should consider taking to mitigate any possible impacts on its services and residents and share evidence gathered with relevant stakeholders.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

7. The Southwark Brexit Panel will assess the impacts of the UK leaving the EU on Southwark. A key part of assessing the impacts will be to identify risks and challenges as well as any opportunities emerging from Brexit that Southwark can mitigate and maximise respectively.
8. The Panel will hold evidence sessions and scope out the scale of the task ahead for the Council. The panel will take evidence from local businesses and employers, cultural, education and arts bodies as well as community and voluntary sector groups to consider how the council can meet its Council Plan commitment to protect all local residents from the effects of Brexit and promote Southwark's diversity and cultural richness in the heart of London.
9. The Brexit Panel will feed into the work of the Southwark Brexit Officer's remit and the findings of the panel will be reported to the Cabinet for consideration.
10. It is anticipated that the panel will hold evidence sessions between July 2018 and March 2019 when the UK is due to exit the EU. It has become apparent that after March 2019 there will be a transition period, therefore the work of the Panel may continue to develop once Brexit negotiations are over.

Issues identified by the Communities and Local Government Committee

11. Four key areas of concern have been identified by the Communities and Local Government Committee that local authorities should consider:
 1. Replacement of EU funding streams
 2. Changes in the EU workforce and a post-Brexit skills gap
 3. Retaining, amending and repealing EU legislation
 4. Representation of local government in the Brexit negotiations and beyond

Policy implications

12. There are no specific policy implications arising from the establishment of the Brexit Panel. The findings of the panel may impact on future policy and will be identified when the findings are reported to cabinet for consideration.

Community impact statement

13. Brexit as an issue is of national importance and the impact locally will be significant. As a result, it is important that Southwark Council effectively scopes the potential impact of Brexit for Southwark's residents, businesses and on our diversity. By assessing the potential consequences of Brexit the Council can then anticipate and prepare its case in advance to Government.

Resource implications

14. There are no specific resource implications.

Legal implications

15. There are no specific legal implications.

Financial implications

16. There are no specific financial implications.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Establishment of Southwark Brexit Panel report 9 July 2018	Southwark Website	
Link: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6547		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
None	

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Stephen Douglass, Director of Communities		
Report Author	Harjeet Sahota, Public Policy Affairs Officer		
Version	Final		
Dated	13 July 2018		
Key Decision?	No		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER			
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included	
Director of Law and Democracy	No	No	
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	No	
Cabinet Member	Yes	Yes	
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		13 July 2018	

SOUTHWARK BREXIT PANEL EVIDENCE SESSION 1

THEME: BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT

The following individuals have been invited to give evidence on their views and experience of Brexit preparations.

Lorna Gavin: Chair Southwark Business Forum

The Southwark Business Forum brings together large business based in the borough with the aim of improving economic wellbeing across Southwark. The Forum meets four times a year to:

- *act as an advisory board, to assist the council to identify and address the economic needs of Southwark's business and its residents*
- *help the council and its partners to communicate effectively with the Southwark business community*
- *initiate, support and promote stronger and more coordinated relationships between major businesses and the council, educational institutions and community organisations, for mutual benefit*

Nadia Broccardo: Team London Bridge

Team London Bridge's mission is to ensure London Bridge excels as a leading place for global commerce and continues to develop as a pioneering local centre for enterprise, culture and entertainment. Team London Bridge was set up to manage the area and look after the funds generated through the Business Improvement District, which is made up of businesses and employees located in the London Bridge area.

Laura Griffiths: South Bank Employers' Group

South Bank Employers' Group is a unique partnership of eighteen of the major organisations in South Bank, Waterloo and Blackfriars with a long-term commitment to improving the everyday experience of the area for employees, visitors and residents alike. They are dedicated to delivering public realm, marketing and employment projects which will continue to have real impact on the area and ensure its future at the heart of London. South Bank runs from Lambeth Bridge to Blackfriars Bridge and south to St George's Circus. It is a vital part of central London and one of its most important neighbourhoods, boasting two universities, the country's largest railway station and one of its great teaching hospitals. SBEG also works collaboratively with South Bank BID and South Bank London.

Richard Brown: Centre for London

Centre for London is the capital's dedicated think tank. Their mission is to develop new solutions to London's critical challenges and advocate for a fair and prosperous global city. Founded in 2011, Centre for London helps national and London policymakers think beyond the next election and plan for the future. Centre for London is an independent charity and their recommendations have been adopted by businesses, mayors of London and by national government. Centre for London have produced a report in collaboration with the Institute of Policy Research at the University of Bath into the impact on skills and workforce capacity of London post-Brexit.

Richard Kalmar: Chamber of Commerce

Southwark Chamber of Commerce represents businesses across the borough. The Chamber of Commerce represents its members on the larger political and economic stage and provide a channel for public sector and private organisations to talk to its members. Through consultation and discussion with members, they are able to form an overview of the areas of most importance to businesses in Southwark. With the support of its members, the Chamber of Commerce aims to influence change and drive innovation. It runs monthly networking events for members, provides opportunities for members to promote their products and services.

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SOUTHWARK BREXIT PANEL DISTRIBUTION LIST

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018/19

NOTE: Original held by Constitutional Team; all amendments/queries to
Everton Roberts Tel: 020 7525 7221

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Councillor David Noakes		1		
Electronic Versions (No hard copy)				
Councillor James Coldwell				
Councillor Victoria Mills				
Councillor Margy Newens				
Councillor Kieron Williams				
Officers		(7)		
Stephen Douglass		1		
Aine Gallagher		1		
Harjeet Sahota		1		
Everton Roberts, Constitutional team, Hub 2, 2 nd Floor, Tooley Street		4		
			Last Updated: July 2018	
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