

Item No. 3.3	Classification: Open	Date: 12 October 2011	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Members' Motions on the Theme: State of the Borough	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

During the themed debate, council assembly may debate motions. Members' motions on the theme will use present principles to allow sufficient political balance and for political groups to hold cabinet to account (maximum 30 minutes).¹

Members are limited to moving one motion and seconding one motion in the themed section of the meeting.

All motions shall be relevant to the topic under discussion and shall be conducted under the existing rules for members' motions. Normal deadlines shall apply for the submission of members' motions.

The order in which motions are debated and timings shall be determined by the Mayor.²

1. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL SITU** (Seconded by Councillor Rowenna Davis)

Community response to August's disturbances

1. Council assembly notes the letter to all members from the leader of the council on 7 September outlining tonight's theme.
2. Council assembly notes the disturbances and looting that took place on 8 August 2011 and condemns the criminality and lawlessness which took place across the borough. However, it further notes residents' response in the days that followed, and the action by our community to come together and repair the damage that had been done.
3. Council assembly believes that this community response more accurately reflects the state of the borough than the disturbances themselves, but further believes that the causes of the disturbances require a genuine and thoughtful response.
4. Council assembly notes the authority's ongoing "community conversations", engaging with residents on the causes of the disturbances. It calls on the leader to update members on the council's response to disturbances of the initial findings of the "community conversations".

¹ Council assembly procedure rule 2.7 (3)

² Council assembly procedure rule 2.7 (9) and (10)

5. Council assembly believes that the themed debate ought to feed into that wider “community conversations” and notes the questions contained within the leader’s letter:
 - What caused the outbreak of disturbances and looting in Southwark?
 - What caused the community to respond in the positive way that it did?
 - What can we all do to continue to build our civil society in Southwark?

Note: If the motion is agreed, any proposals will be submitted to the cabinet for consideration.

2. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI** (Seconded by Councillor Paul Noblet)

State of the Borough: Significantly improved but could do better

1. Council is proud of the dramatic changes and successes in Southwark over the last 10 years, including:
 - Improved education results in primary and secondary schools over the last eight years.
 - Improved life expectancy trends for Southwark residents.
 - A growing and diverse population made up of vibrant and cohesive communities.
 - A borough with an improved recycling rate that has invested in enhancing our parks and green spaces.
 - The transformation of Bankside and ambitious regeneration projects in Bermondsey Spa, Elephant and Castle, Peckham, Canada Water, the Aylesbury and the Shard at London Bridge.
2. However, council notes that there is more to be done by all parties, in local and national government, to reduce inequality, improve health and education, support families, create employment, address climate change and tackle crime.
3. Council calls for long-term measures not knee-jerk reactions and requests that cabinet does the following:
 - 1) Develop, with the voluntary sector, a new programme of peer to peer support for every parent in the borough who wants it.
 - 2) Employ an apprentice in both the cabinet office and the opposition office of Southwark Council.
 - 3) Work with the three MPs and all councillors in the borough to lobby the government and the Mayor of London to create green manufacturing jobs in Southwark.
 - 4) Promote mixed communities by enforcing developers’ social housing obligations across the whole borough, and retaining family sized council properties.

- 5) Evict tenants who are breaching their tenancy agreements and making neighbours' lives a misery through persistent anti-social behaviour, despite warnings.
 - 6) Work with the voluntary sector and social enterprises to provide targeted employment and housing support for ex-offenders in order to tackle repeat offenders.
4. And further calls on the cabinet to report back to the council in one year's time on its progress implementing these policies.

Note: If the motion is agreed, any proposals will be submitted to the cabinet for consideration.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Member Motions on the Themed Debate	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Andrew Weir 020 7525 7222

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager
Report Author	Andrew Weir, Constitutional Officer
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