

Item No. 5.2	Classification: Open	Date: 27 November 2013	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Motions	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The councillor introducing or “moving” the motion may make a speech directed to the matter under discussion. This may not exceed five minutes¹.

A second councillor will then be asked by the Mayor to “second” the motion. This may not exceed three minutes without the consent of the Mayor.

The meeting will then debate the issue and any amendments on the motion will be dealt with.

At the end of the debate the mover of the motion may make a concluding speech, known as a “right of reply”. If an amendment is carried, the mover of the amendment shall hold the right of reply to any subsequent amendments and, if no further amendments are carried, at the conclusion of the debate on the substantive motion.

The Mayor will then ask councillors to vote on the motion (and any amendments).

IMPLICATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution allocates responsibility for particular functions to council assembly, including approving the budget and policy framework, and allocates to the cabinet responsibility for developing and implementing the budget and policy framework and overseeing the running of council services on a day-to-day basis. Therefore any matters that are reserved to the cabinet (i.e. housing, social services, regeneration, environment, education etc) cannot be decided upon by council assembly without prior reference to the cabinet. While it would be in order for council assembly to discuss an issue, consideration of any of the following should be referred to the cabinet:

- to change or develop a new or existing policy
- to instruct officers to implement new procedures
- to allocate resources.

Note: In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10 (7) & (8) (prioritisation and rotation by the political groups) the order in which motions appear in the agenda may not necessarily be the order in which they are considered at the meeting.

¹ Council assembly procedure rule 1.14 (9)

1. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR THE RIGHT REVEREND EMMANUEL OYEWOLE (Seconded by Councillor Claire Hickson)

Bermondsey business improvement district

Council assembly:

1. Congratulates the Bermondsey Business Association on the work they have done on supporting local businesses in Bermondsey and improving the local economy.
2. Supports the Bermondsey Business Association in their bid to create a business improvement district (BID) in Bermondsey.
3. Welcomes the council's £30,000 investment in Bermondsey through the community restoration fund which allowed the Bermondsey Business Association to start a full BID proposal and the council's continuing support to help make sure the BID becomes a reality.
4. Recognises the economic benefits that the creation of a BID will bring to the area, including marketing The Blue as a new and alternative shopping destination, partnering with existing and successful business districts such as Bankside and Borough Market, promoting the interests of The Blue and exploring opportunities for managing retail units as well as other initiatives to increase footfall, attract new businesses and further revitalise the town centre.
5. Calls on the cabinet member for communities and economic development to continue to work with the Bermondsey Business Association to ensure that Bermondsey businesses have the support they need to thrive.

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

2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR PODDY CLARK (Seconded by Councillor Tim McNally)

Whitworth House

Council assembly notes the failure of the major works at Whitworth House, Falmouth Road on the Rockingham Estate and calls on the cabinet to:

- ensure all residents are visited to individually assess the outstanding issues relating to damp, repairs and door and window replacement
- agree with each resident a plan and timetable for resolving each issue
- arrange for close supervision of the replacement contractor to ensure completion of the outstanding issues
- provide compensation to the residents for the missed appointments and disruption
- review the management and oversight of major works given the repeated failures of delivery across the borough since 2010.

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

3. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL SITU (Seconded by Councillor Nick Dolezal)

Pop up shops on Canada Water Plaza

Council assembly:

1. Notes that several of the units for let on Canada Water Plaza, which are part of the new development, are currently empty.
2. Notes the success of temporary 'pop up shops' in vacant retail units in East Street and Nunhead and considers this a good use of otherwise empty units to promote local business, develop the local economy and improve our high streets.
3. Calls on cabinet to:
 - Explore the possibility of the council taking a one year lease for the empty units on Canada Water Plaza
 - Work with the owners of the shops on Canada Water Plaza to use these empty units as 'pop up shops', similar to those in East Street and Nunhead.

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

4. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES (Seconded by Councillor Poddy Clark)

Ending council investment in tobacco and arms

Council assembly

- Believes it is incompatible with Southwark Council's vision, responsibilities and policies for it to be investing in tobacco firms and arms manufacturers.
- Welcomes the recent announcement by the current administration that these investments will be reviewed following a successful campaign by Liberal Democrat councillors, and that staff in the pension fund will be balloted on whether such investments should continue.
- Calls on the leader of the council and the cabinet member for finance, resources and community safety to ensure this ballot is fair and meaningful, and undertaken as soon as possible so that the council's policy on ethical investment can be put in place by the end of the current financial year.

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

5. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ANDY SIMMONS (Seconded by Councillor Helen Hayes)

Fairtrade

1. Southwark Council achieved Fairtrade borough status in July 2007 with cross-party support. Council assembly recognises the work of the whole community in achieving this.
2. Given the council's proactive role in supporting Fairtrade, council assembly reconfirms its commitment to Fairtrade and expresses its support for the use, expansion and promotion of the range of Fairtrade products in the council's office and other establishments.
3. Council assembly calls on cabinet to continue to work with its catering contractors, staff, residents, visitors, businesses, the public and the voluntary sector to increase the availability and take up of 'Fairtrade' marked food, drink and clothing options.

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

6. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK (Seconded by Councillor Eliza Mann)

Stop the delay on Southwark Park athletics track

Council assembly

1. Notes with sadness the state of disrepair into which Southwark Park athletics track has fallen, and welcomes the allocation of £1.09 million from various funding streams to redevelop the facility.
2. Further notes with concern that the £1.09 million will only be sufficient to fund work on the track and field, but that a total of £2.8 million is required to realise plans for a full redevelopment of the site, including remodelling of the building and changing facilities.
3. Calls on the cabinet to end its delay and allocate the shortfall from its capital funds as soon as possible, so the facility can be reopened for local people to enjoy.

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

7. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR IAN WINGFIELD (Seconded by Councillor Dan Garfield)

Support for the British Nuclear Test Veterans' Association (BNTVA)

Council assembly:

1. Notes that its commitment to the Armed Forces Community Covenant ensures the need of those residents of Southwark who serve, of have served, the country are recognised and supported at a local level.

2. Further notes that many other residents have, through a range of professions, served the country in equally significant measure, such as in national security and defence – including those who participated in the testing of Britain’s nuclear weapons in the 1950s and 1960s.
3. Welcomes that, following a Ministry of Defence commissioned Health Needs Analysis in 2011 of British nuclear test veterans, the NHS have introduced a number of practical measures to support them.
4. Believes that other parts of the public and voluntary sector should seek to introduce similar measures to support nuclear test veterans – and that the council should lead this at a local level by extending the provisions of the Armed Forces Community Covenant to those veterans who live in Southwark.
5. Urges the government to support the campaign of the British Nuclear Test Veterans Association by:
 - officially recognising the unique service of these veterans and acknowledge the nation’s continuing debt to them; and
 - supporting the intention to establish a benevolent fund of £25 million to provide assistance for those veterans and their descendants in need.
6. Calls on Southwark’s Members of Parliament to back this campaign and join the council in urging the government to support the requests outlined in this motion.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer
Version	Final
Dated	12 November 2013