



Cabinet

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Cabinet held on Tuesday 22 July 2014 at 4.00 pm at the Council Offices, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Peter John (Chair)
Councillor Ian Wingfield
Councillor Fiona Colley
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE
Councillor Barrie Hargrove
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Darren Merrill
Councillor Victoria Mills
Councillor Michael Situ
Councillor Mark Williams

1. APOLOGIES

All members were present.

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

The chair gave notice that the following late items of business that would be considered for reasons of urgency to be specified in the relevant minute:

Item 7 - Deputation requests

Item 30 - Procurement Strategy Approval – Heating and Water Contracts

Additionally, notice was given that UNISON wished to address cabinet on behalf of the home care workers in Southwark in respect of Item 16, Integrated Community Support – A New Commissioning Charter.

3. NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN A CLOSED MEETING, AND ANY REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED

No representations were received in respect of the items listed as closed business for the meeting.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

The following interests were declared:

- Councillor Victoria Mills declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of item 16, Integrated Community Support – A New Commissioning Strategy, Underpinned by an Ethical Charter as her partner works for UNISON.
- Councillors Victoria Mills and Fiona Colley asked that as parents of school age children in September 2016 their interest be noted in respect of item 17, School Places Strategy Update. This was not a disclosable pecuniary interest.
- Councillor Michael Situ asked that it be noted that he was a former member of the scrutiny sub-committee that had submitted reports in respect of items 9 and 10. This was not a disclosable pecuniary interest.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

The following question was submitted by Miyoko Sasai to Councillor Richard Livingstone, cabinet member for housing. Ms Sasai did not attend the meeting to ask the question. The question was read out in her absence.

Question to Councillor Richard Livingstone from Miyoko Sasai

The Home and Communities Agency (HCA) forecast that non-decent homes will reduce to 11,615 by March 2015. How many of these 11,615 non-decent homes will be in Southwark ?

Response by Councillor Richard Livingstone

Earlier this month, the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) published its corporate plan for 2014-18. In its progress report on the Decent Homes Backlog programme, it stated:

"As at the end of March 2013, local authorities receiving Decent Homes Backlog funding from the Agency in 2011-15 still had a backlog of 66,418 non-decent homes. This is forecast to reduce to 11,615 by March 2015."

It is important to note that these figures specifically relate to the homes funded by the Decent Homes Backlog programme in 21 local authorities. It is not a sum total for all the country, nor is it all the non-decent homes within those 21 authorities.

In Southwark, we are making good progress on addressing the backlog work on the 4,490 homes funded through the HCA's Decent Homes Backlog programme. As a result, none of the 11,615 homes projected by the HCA to be outstanding by March 2015 will be in Southwark.

The following question was submitted by Jerry Hewitt to Councillor Fiona Colley, cabinet member for finance, strategy and performance. Mr Hewitt did not attend the meeting to

ask the question. The question was read out in his absence.

Question to Councillor Fiona Colley from Jerry Hewitt

The council offered to "match" the highest bid offered to Associated Newspapers for Harmsworth Quays. Who advised/recommended that the council only "match" the highest bid ? And why ?

Response by Councillor Fiona Colley

The council has a fiduciary and statutory duty not to over pay for any property assets.

Taking advice from external consultants and the director of regeneration it was agreed that the most appropriate strategy was to submit an offer matching any others which may have been received thus reducing the council's expenditure to a minimum at a time of significant budget cuts and austerity. Unfortunately the vendor decided not to treat with the council which was their prerogative. The council still own the freehold and holds a very valuable asset which also produces substantial revenue in the form of ground rent. The council's position is further protected in that the owner of the leasehold will require a restructuring of ownership to allow for any redevelopment which is in the council's gift.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the chair.

7. DEPUTATION REQUESTS

Notification of these deputation requests had not been circulated five clear days in advance of the meeting. The chair agreed to accept these requests as urgent as both requests related to an item on the agenda for this meeting, item 17 School Places Strategy Update.

Deputation request from Parent-led steering group for the New Secondary School for East Dulwich Campaign

The deputation spokesperson addressed the meeting to endorse the school places strategy update report and outlined the pressing need for a new co-educational secondary school within the area.

The deputation stated that local conditions have already put strain on local families in relation to admissions and would become significantly worse from September 2016, supporting the steering group's campaign for a new secondary school to be in place from this date. The admissions process brings further challenges to parents of children who do not have a sibling at a current school or live within the catchment area to achieve the necessary priority to gain a place.

Deputation from Charter School Education Trust

The deputation explained the background and establishment of the Charter school which was founded in 2000 as a co-educational, non-faith community school to provide an excellent school for the locality. The deputation outlined some of the outstanding educational outcomes that have been achieved meaning that the school is five times oversubscribed.

The school works actively with the relevant primary feeder schools and are currently working at compiling their bid for consideration by the Department for Education.

8. SOUTHWARK COMMUNITY WARDENS SERVICE (HOUSING, ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE)

Councillor Gavin Edwards, chair of the overview and scrutiny committee, presented this report to cabinet.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations of the review of the Southwark Community Wardens Service be noted and that Councillor Michael Situ, cabinet member for environment, recycling, community safety and volunteering, bring back a report to cabinet within eight weeks, in order to respond to the overview and scrutiny committee.

9. PREVALENCE OF PSYCHOSIS AND ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BME COMMUNITY IN SOUTHWARK (HEALTH, ADULT SOCIAL CARE, COMMUNITIES & CITIZENSHIP SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE)

Councillor Rebecca Lury, chair of the healthy communities scrutiny sub-committee, presented this report to cabinet.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations of the review of the prevalence of psychosis and access to mental health services for the BME community in Southwark be noted and that Councillor Barrie Hargrove, cabinet member for public health, parks and leisure, bring back a report to cabinet within eight weeks, in order to respond to the overview and scrutiny committee.

10. ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES IN SOUTHWARK (HEALTH, ADULT SOCIAL CARE, COMMUNITIES & CITIZENSHIP SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE)

Councillor Rebecca Lury, chair of the healthy communities scrutiny sub-committee, presented this report to cabinet.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations of the review of access to health services in Southwark

be noted and that Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle (cabinet member for adult care, arts and culture) and Councillor Barrie Hargove (cabinet member for public health, parks and leisure) bring back a report to cabinet within eight weeks, in order to respond to the overview and scrutiny committee.

11. COUNCIL PLAN 2014/15 - 2017/18

RESOLVED:

1. That the proposed council plan 2014/15 - 2017/18 be agreed.
2. That the proposed period of consultation on the cabinet's proposals for the council plan 2014/15 - 2017/18 be agreed.
3. In line with above, officers be instructed to work with cabinet members to develop a detailed performance schedule for each council plan theme.
4. That the proposed arrangements for monitoring and reporting on progress against the council plan 2014/15 - 2017/18 be agreed.

12. FAIRER FUTURE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2013/14

RESOLVED:

That delivery against the council plan 2011/12 - 2013/14 be noted.

13. BLUE BERMONDSEY BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PROPOSAL AND BALLOT

RESOLVED:

1. That the outcome of the ballot for a Business Improvement District (BID) in Bermondsey as announced on 4 July 2014 be welcomed and the formation of the Blue Bermondsey BID Company be endorsed.
2. That the confirmation from officers that the Blue Bermondsey BID arrangements do not conflict with council strategies and policies affecting the proposed BID area be noted.
3. That Councillor Leo Pollak be nominated to serve on the Blue Bermondsey BID Company Board.

14. NEXT STEPS ON DEVELOPING LONG TERM PLANS FOR THE DELIVERY OF NEW COUNCIL HOMES

The strategic director of housing and community services informed cabinet that the Future Steering Board (FSB) had confirmed their endorsement of these proposals in writing.

RESOLVED:

1. That the progress underway within the Direct Delivery programme that forms part of the commitment to build 11,000 new council homes over 30 years from 2013 to 2043 be noted.
2. That under the head of major works, the future programme delivery for new council homes with the ongoing asset management of the existing housing stock be brought together.
3. That strategic director of housing and community services be instructed to:
 - put in place the necessary capacity to oversee further programme delivery
 - undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the overall performance of current Housing Revenue Account (HRA) assets and report back the outcome of this analysis to cabinet in December 2014
 - bring a further report to cabinet in December 2014, setting out the proposed pipeline for the delivery of 1500 new council homes by 2018
 - establish a wholly owned and controlled council 'vehicle' to secure future funding capacity for the programme.
4. That the strategic director of housing and community services be instructed to report annually to cabinet on delivery of the programme.
5. That the draft "charter of principles" (Appendix 1 to the report) to govern the approach to engagement on housing investment and renewal be agreed.
6. That the strategic director of housing and community services be instructed to consult with residents on the draft "charter of principles" through the summer, reporting back to cabinet in October 2014.
7. That the continuing role of the Futures Steering Board (FSB) as a valued sounding board, providing important tenant and homeowner perspectives on the delivery of the 11,000 new council homes be noted.
8. That the ongoing engagement on the New Southwark Plan and emerging 30 year housing strategy be noted, and that officers be instructed to ensure the necessary linkages are made with the proposed engagement set out in the report.

15. MAJOR WORKS STATUS REPORT INCORPORATING WARM, DRY AND SAFE

RESOLVED:

1. That the status of the housing investment programme with particular reference to the warm, dry and safe (WDS) programme be noted.
2. That it be noted that the current warm, dry and safe programme is on course to be fully committed by the end of 2015/16.

3. That the progress of the strategic safety works programme be noted. All substantial risk high rise blocks have now been completed and nearly all the high moderate risk blocks originally identified have now been completed. Additional schemes have been added to the fire risk assessment (FRA) programme and an additional allowance has been made outside of warm, dry and safe to tackle substantial risk medium rise properties. Further FRA work will be prioritised in discussion with the London Fire Brigade alongside the council's longer term asset management planning.
4. That the ongoing work that has been delivered through British Gas to deliver environmental improvements including roofs, windows and cavity work at a notional cost to Southwark be noted.
5. That the current programme resources be noted.
6. That it be noted that the resources for the programme will be assessed in line with the commitment to deliver a quality kitchen and bathroom for every council tenant and the completion of the warm, dry and safe programme.
7. That it be noted that this report will be sent to Home Owners Council and Tenant Council following cabinet approval.

16. INTEGRATED COMMUNITY SUPPORT - A NEW COMMISSIONING STRATEGY, UNDERPINNED BY AN ETHICAL CARE CHARTER

Councillor Victoria Mills, having declared a disclosable pecuniary interest, left the meeting room while this item was discussed and representations were made by UNISON.

UNISON and a homecare worker addressed cabinet on behalf of the home care workers in Southwark to raise a number of issues including the 16 hour threshold and eligibility to claim working tax credit and a request for consideration to bring the home care service back 'in house'.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Southwark ethical care charter as set out in paragraph 20 of the report be agreed.
2. That the commissioning strategy for integrated community support (including homecare), as set out in paragraphs 34 - 36 of the report, which is underpinned by the Southwark ethical care charter, be agreed.
3. That the proposed variation and extension of the council's universal homecare contracts to ensure that, by the end of October 2014, (a) care workers are paid for their travel time, (b) care workers are offered a guaranteed level of working hours each week as an alternative to zero hours contracts and (c) that the council continues to meet its statutory responsibilities and that there is continuity of care for existing service users be noted. These changes are being considered alongside this report in an individual decision-making (IDM) report by the cabinet member of adult care, arts and culture.

4. That provision will be made through the forthcoming policy and resourcing strategy of up to £5.2 million for the implementation of the charter to be represented by a combination of procurement and commissioning, existing budgets and the potential for the use of any Better Care Fund monies and earmarked reserves be noted.
5. That the interim strategic director of children's and adults' services in consideration of other decisions, bring forward a gateway 1 procurement report for integrated community support by October 2014.

17. SCHOOL PLACES STRATEGY UPDATE

Cabinet considered two deputations in respect of this report as summarised in item 7.

RESOLVED:

1. That the updated forecast of primary school reception places be noted and, in particular, the demand for additional primary school places in the north of the borough.
2. That the inclusion of Phoenix Primary School in the programme for permanent expansion of primary school places to provide two additional forms of entry on a temporary basis from September 2015 and a permanent basis from September 2016, as referred to in paragraphs 25 and 26 of the report be approved.
3. That the further expansion of Keyworth Primary School by an additional form of entry (FE) to become 3FE, subject to the agreement of the governing body, as referred to in paragraph 27 of the report be approved.
4. That it be noted that discussions are taking place with Southwark's diocesan boards on potential for expansion of diocesan schools in the north of the borough, as referred to in paragraph 29 of the report.
5. That the update on new primary free schools in the south of the borough and officers' engagement with the Education Funding Agency and the Harris Federation on finding a suitable site for the proposed new Harris Nunhead free school, referred to in paragraphs 30 to 33 of the report be noted.
6. That the Wilkinson House site be approved as the permanent new location for an expanded Bellenden School subject to public consultation and business case approval by the director of regeneration, as referred to in paragraphs 35 to 38 of the report.
7. That the updated forecast of demand for year 7 secondary school places in the borough be noted and the steps being taken by officers to:
 - Assist and facilitate an appropriate expansion of existing secondary schools in Southwark
 - Assist and facilitate the two prospective applicants for a new secondary free school in the south of the borough

- Engage with NHS Property Services on arrangements for disposing of surplus land at the Dulwich Hospital site.

18. NON-DOMESTIC RATES - DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF POLICY FOR RETAIL RELIEF, REOCCUPATION RELIEF AND NEW BUILD EMPTY PROPERTY RELIEF

RESOLVED:

That the discretionary rate relief policy attached as Appendix A of the report for retail relief, reoccupation relief and new build empty property relief be approved.

19. ELEPHANT AND CASTLE REGENERATION PROGRESS

RESOLVED:

1. That the regeneration agreement dated 23 July 2010 between the London Borough of Southwark and Lend Lease (Elephant & Castle) Limited be amended as follows:
 - (a) the transfer of the Crossways Church site is delayed until the earlier of the completion of the replacement Crossways Church at Hampton Street or 30 September 2016.
 - (b) to revise MUSCO provisions with the sustainable energy provisions provided within the Planning Committee approval (minute 6) on 15 January 2013.
2. That it be confirmed that the land edged black on the plan at Appendix B of the report that is currently held for housing and leisure purposes is no longer required for those purposes and the appropriation of the land to planning purposes be confirmed to facilitate the carrying out of the development proposals for the area in accordance with section 226 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and section 122(1) of the Local Government Act 1972
3. That it be confirmed that the land edged black on the plan at Appendix D of the report that is currently held for housing purposes is no longer required for those purposes and that the appropriation of the land to planning purposes to facilitate the carrying out of the development proposals for the area in accordance with section 226 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and section 122(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 be approved.

20. GATEWAY 1 ABBEYFIELD ESTATE HINE (MAYDEW HOUSE) WORKS

RESOLVED:

Decisions of the Cabinet

1. That the procurement strategy outlined in the report for the Abbeyfield Estate HINE (Maydeew House) works contract at an estimated value of £22m for an estimated

period of 208 weeks be approved.

2. That the estimated internal and external fees of £2.2m making a total estimated scheme cost of £24.2m be noted.

Decision of the Leader

3. That authority be delegated to the cabinet member for housing to award the contract for the reasons set out in paragraph 17 of the report, subject to an update being provided to cabinet on progress with this procurement in December 2014.

21. REVIEW OF VOID DISPOSAL STRATEGY

RESOLVED:

1. That the progress of disposals of void housing properties since the last report to cabinet in May 2011 be noted.
2. That the continuing requirement to raise capital receipts for the housing investment programme, and the role of void disposals in providing a proportion of those receipts be noted.
3. That the general increase in property values in Southwark since the review of 2011 be noted.
4. That the criteria for disposals in the void disposal strategy from those agreed by cabinet in May 2011 be revised, to those set out in paragraph 52 of the report, and specifically to increase the threshold for disposal of void properties valued at £300,000 to £500,000 with the additional proviso that such properties be backed by one further category.
5. That a change in focus from the setting of an annual target for void disposals to an ongoing assessment of the resource requirements of the housing investment programme to be provided by void disposals be agreed.
6. That all disposal decisions be continued to be delegated in respect of the implementation of the policy to the head of property for disposals, but to increase this threshold from £500,000 to £750,000 estimated value (subject to the constitutional changes that this will require), and that the cabinet member for housing shall continue to monitor the process.
7. That the change in the strategy for delivering the hidden homes programme in January 2013 be noted.

22. QUARTERLY CAPITAL MONITORING OUTTURN REPORT FOR 2013/14 AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME REFRESH FOR 2013/14 - 2023/24

RESOLVED:

1. That the outturn position for 2013/14 for the general fund capital programme

including the overall position of the programme for the period 2013/14 to 2023/24 as detailed in appendices A and D of the report be noted.

2. That the outturn position for 2013/14 for the housing investment programme, including the overall position of the programme for the period 2013/14 to 2021/22, as detailed in Appendix B of the report be noted.
3. That the virements and funded variations to the general fund and housing investment capital programme as detailed in Appendix C of the report be approved.
4. That the re-profiling of the forecast expenditure and resources in the new financial year 2014/15 and future years in light of the 2013/14 outturn position for both the general fund and housing investment programmes as detailed in Appendices A, B and D be approved and it be noted that further re-profiling will be required during 2014/15 based on more up to date information available at that time.

23. REVENUE OUTTURN REPORT 2013/14, INCLUDING TREASURY MANAGEMENT

RESOLVED:

1. That the following be noted:
 - general fund outturn for 2013/14 and movement on reserves
 - housing revenue account's (HRA) outturn for 2013/14 and movement on reserves
 - the schools budget outturn, which has been taken to the dedicated schools grant reserve
 - the collection fund's year-end surplus
 - the treasury management activity for the year
 - the investment of up to £200,000 in the Municipal Bond Agency (subject to council assembly approval on 16 July 2014).
2. That the performance for the collection of council tax be noted.
3. That the performance for the collection of business rates and the risks associated with the business rate retention scheme be noted.
4. The the general fund budget movements that exceed £250,000 as shown in Appendix A of the report be approved.

24. NOMINATIONS TO CENTRE FOR LITERACY IN PRIMARY EDUCATION AND SAFEGUARDING ADULTS PARTNERSHIP BOARD 2014/15

RESOLVED:

That the following nominations be agreed for the 2014/15 municipal year:

- Councillor Jasmine Ali - Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE)
- Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle - Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board

25. MOTIONS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

RESOLVED:

That all the following motions be noted and that Councillor Barrie Hargrove, cabinet member for public health, parks and leisure lead on the action arising from the motion relating to Meat Free Mondays.

A Vision for Southwark

1. That council assembly welcomes the work that this administration has done over the last four years to deliver the council's vision of creating a fairer future for Southwark.
2. That council assembly notes that since 2010, the council has faced almost £80 million in government funding cuts, which have caused significant budget pressures. This year alone the council has lost over £25 million in funding, equating to £249 for every single person in Southwark.

These cuts have meant the council has been required to do more with less. Council assembly welcomes the fact that the administration – in line with the preferences of Southwark residents - has protected frontline services and delivered savings through efficiencies in back-office and support services, cutting councillor allowances, cutting the cost of consultants and temps and cutting bills for catering, taxis and publicity.

3. That council assembly applauds the success of this administration in delivering on its "Fairer Future" promises, including:
 - i. Ensuring every primary school child in Southwark receives a free healthy, nutritious hot meal every day – delivering nearly four million free school meals each year and saving families £340 a year per child
 - ii. Supporting residents in Southwark through the current cost of living crisis by freezing council tax for four years in a row and keeping council rents low
 - iii. Ensuring that every employee, contractor and agency staff employed by the council are paid the London Living Wage
 - iv. Doubling Southwark's recycling rate and bringing a record 17 council parks up to green flag standard
 - v. Investing £326 million to make every council home in the borough warm, dry and safe
 - vi. Supporting older people in the borough by halving the price of meals on wheels, introducing a social care hotline providing expert advice, and building a new Centre of Excellence to deliver cutting edge facilities for dementia patients
 - vii. Supporting 26 talented young people from Southwark facing financial hardship to go to university

- viii. Supporting 1,000 Southwark residents to find work through the council's employment programmes in the last 18 months
4. That council assembly calls on the cabinet to continue working towards delivering a fairer future for all in Southwark, and in particular by:
- i. Creating quality affordable homes in Southwark, building more homes of every kind for local people, including 11,000 new council homes, improving the quality of existing council homes, driving up standards in the private rented sector and keeping rents in Southwark among the lowest in London
- London faces a housing crisis and needs new homes. Council assembly welcomes that this administration has already given permission for over 11,000 new homes of every type in the borough and has also started building 11,000 new council homes. Council assembly supports Labour's commitment to:
 - Ensure there are more homes for local people, whether your home is privately rented, shared ownership, council or private.
 - Ensure that at least 50% of all new council homes go to people from that area, with the rest going to other Southwark residents.
 - Keep improving council homes and deliver a quality kitchen and bathroom for every council tenant.
- ii. Supporting the best start in life by continuing to deliver free school meals for all primary school children, investing in affordable childcare for families in Southwark and expanding school places across the borough
- Council assembly welcome's Labour's commitment to quality affordable childcare and the administration's decision to keep all our popular nurseries open despite the Liberal Democrat/Tory government cutting the money available for nurseries. Council assembly supports Labour's commitment to:
 - Invest in the borough's children's centres and work with parents to set up two new community nurseries to increase the number of affordable places in the borough.
 - Launch a Childcare Commission to bring together experts, parents, providers and employers to find new ways to guarantee care and early education to help parents and carers to balance work and family life.
 - Guarantee a local primary place for every child and open new secondary schools to meet demand.
- iii. Building a strong local economy by leading the campaign for the London Living Wage, working with local businesses to support job creation and ensuring that young people in Southwark are ready for work
- Southwark is a borough of growth and opportunity: a great place to do business, and to work. Council assembly supports Labour's commitment to:

- Ensure that this growth continues, by supporting 5,000 local people into jobs and creating 2,000 new apprenticeships over the next four years.
 - Ensure that our young people are ready for work; we will guarantee that every school leaver has something to do whether training, education or a job.
 - Provide an hour's free parking in our shopping parades to support small shopping parades, which rely on local and passing trade, and to help residents to shop locally.
- iv. Continuing to deliver value for money and get the basics right in the face of significant government cuts, continuing to drive up recycling rates, investing in our roads and working to keep our streets clean and safe
- Council assembly condemns the Liberal Democrat/Tory government for their savage cuts to Southwark's budget. Council assembly condemns Liberal Democrats and Tories in Southwark who have failed to stand up for the interests of people putting party interest before local need. Council assembly welcomes that this administration has been using money wisely, so even with 25% less money from the coalition government the council is keeping our streets clean, improving bin collection and making the borough safer. This administration has doubled recycling rates; council assembly supports Labour's commitment to continue to drive up recycling rates and divert more than 95% of waste away from landfill.
 - Historic underinvestment in roads means the council is faced with expensive bills to fill potholes. Council assembly supports Labour's commitment to double capital investment into roads making them safer with better surfaces for all roads users.
- v. Supporting people of all ages in Southwark to lead healthy and active lives, preventing barriers that prevent people from getting fit, investing in cycling to improve safety and take up, supporting our more vulnerable residents and becoming an "Age Friendly Borough", to help people get the best out of Southwark, whatever their age
- i. Council assembly notes that this administration wants to make it easier for people to be healthy, so that residents in Southwark can live a full life, whatever their age. Council assembly supports Labour's commitment to help residents to keep fit by making swimming and gym use free for all residents in our leisure centres.
 - ii. Council assembly welcomes the council's investment in better cycling and is making Southwark a 20mph borough to make our streets safer. Council assembly supports Labour's commitment to use Dutch expertise to deliver Southwark a safer cycling network and work with the Mayor to extend bike hire across the borough.
- vi. Taking pride in our borough, investing in our parks and libraries, continuing to invest in green energy and transforming our town centres through regeneration to make them places that we can all live, work and enjoy.

- After years of the Liberal Democrats and Tories talking down Southwark, council assembly welcomes that Labour is transforming our borough, through huge investment in Walworth, Camberwell and Peckham, and big improvements at the Elephant and Castle and Canada Water. Government cuts mean lots of councils are closing libraries. Council assembly supports Labour's commitment to invest in Southwark's libraries and keep them open, increasing access by giving a free library card to every secondary school child.
 - The Tory Mayor has cut over 300 Southwark police officers and PCSOs since 2010. Council assembly supports Labour's commitment to campaign to get them back.
5. That council assembly also calls on cabinet to help local parents by funding additional childcare hours on top of those already offered by government.

A Vision for Localism

1. That council assembly notes the persistently low turnouts in local elections, indicating a lack of connection with the voters; and also the wide disparity in turnout between the wards.
2. That council assembly believes the future of Southwark will be best served when the people are empowered and encouraged to engage with local politicians.
3. That council assembly warmly welcomes the steps that have been taken by this administration to improve consultation with local people through community conversations with thousands of residents. Council assembly welcomes the fact that this feedback from residents has been used to shape policy on issues such as priorities for council services, setting the budget and the future of council housing, and that the outcomes of this consultation have then been fed back to the community.
4. That council assembly also welcomes the council's work as an acknowledged leader in devolving control of housing services to residents through the creation of tenant management organisations (TMOs). Council assembly notes that residents on the D'Eynesford and Gloucester Grove estates have recently voted to create TMOs for their areas, and will join Styles House which launched in January 2014 and 12 other TMOs in Southwark who provide housing services to over 4200 homes.
5. That council assembly notes that this administration has also successfully sought to allow residents even greater control through the creation of the country's first 'self-financing' TMO in the Leathermarket Joint Management Board (JMB), giving residents control of all rents and service charges in their area.
6. That council assembly calls on the cabinet to continue working with local people in Southwark to encourage community involvement in decision-making and to ensure council policies reflect the priorities of local people.

Local Decision Making

1. That council assembly believes that decisions are best made by the people closest to them and supports devolving decisions from central government to local government, as well as within local government to community councils, wards and neighbourhoods.
2. That council assembly notes that the government has devolved some powers to local councils, such as neighbourhood plans, community right to bid and community right to challenge. However, council assembly is concerned that despite its rhetoric, the coalition government has failed to really deliver localism properly and has in fact centralised more decision making in Whitehall.
3. That council assembly notes that the coalition government has imposed new limits on the ability of councils to make local decisions on schools, council tax, or how we speak to the community. Council assembly notes with concern that the coalition government has now acquired sweeping powers to shut down hospitals at short notice without local consultation, even if they are performing strongly, despite opposition by Labour MPs.
4. That council assembly
 - i. Believes the council still has an important role to play in promoting the devolution of powers to local communities, and supporting ward councillors with local issues where appropriate.
 - ii. Calls on cabinet to review what further decisions and funding could be passed from the centre of Southwark Council to community councils and ward councillors.
5. That council assembly:
 - Welcomes work by Labour councillors and Val Shawcross AM to tackle the issue of slow broadband in Rotherhithe and Surrey Docks.
 - Condemns Liberal Democrats councillors and Simon Hughes MP for failing to deliver on this issue for local people in the area.
 - Welcomes that the leader of the council is working with broadband providers to discuss progress on the issue of slow broadband in the Rotherhithe peninsula and pressing them to take meaningful action.
 - Welcomes Southwark Labour's commitment to bring superfast broadband to Rotherhithe.
6. That council assembly:
 - Welcomes Southwark Labour's commitment to open new secondary schools in the borough including one in East Dulwich.
 - Notes that the Supplementary Planning Document for the East Dulwich hospital site states that "The use of part of this site for a school would help to meet the requirements of the planning brief".
 - Calls on cabinet to work closely with the steering group and deliver a new

secondary school on the East Dulwich Site, rather than following the Liberal Democrats suggestion of embarking on a long winded and unnecessary bureaucratic exercise of amending the planning brief, which in any case already allows for community facilities on the site, provides only guidance and will have little impact on the delivery of the school.

7. That council assembly:

- Welcomes the proposed rebuild of Elephant and Castle shopping centre and welcomes that this administration is delivering on the Elephant and Castle regeneration after years of dither and delay under the previous Liberal Democrat administration.
- Welcomes the council's commitment and vision for the area and work that is already going on to deliver this.
- Notes that the council is not the owner or landlord of the shopping centre, however calls on the cabinet to work with key landlords such as Delancy, Lend Lease and Network Rail to draw up a retail strategy for the Elephant & Castle, Walworth Road and East Street which protects the vibrant mix of businesses in the area and allows local businesses meaningful involvement in plans for the area.
- Welcomes the recommendation to the cabinet member for communities and economic wellbeing to allocate £22,000 from the first round of The High Street Challenge to the Latin Elephant group to fund business planning, which is the first step of realising this administration's vision for creating a Latin American quarter at the Elephant & Castle.

8. That council assembly

- Welcomes this administration's investment of £5.96 million for parks in the Elephant & Castle area, including Dickens Square Park in Chaucer ward (£1.5m), Pullens Open Space in Newington (£350k), St Mary's Churchyard in Cathedrals (£1.25m) and Nursery Row Park (£600k) and Victory Park (£1.8m) in East Walworth, through the capital refresh programme.
- Notes that as a result of cabinet's decision of 18 March, consultation with residents on proposals to revitalise Dicken's Square Park will proceed with all due haste.
- Welcomes the proposals developed by this administration to revitalise Dicken's Square Park, which will include tree planting, sightline and accessibility improvements, new footpaths, new green space as well as new links to other green space, and improved recreational and play-space.

9. That council assembly:

- Recognises the concerns of residents in South Bermondsey about the need for good quality affordable housing in the area, and in particular family-sized council homes, and welcomes this administration's commitment to delivering 11,000 new council homes in Southwark – the biggest house building programme in the country.
- Condemns the Liberal Democrats for falsely accusing Labour of a “mass sell-off of council homes”, when the number of council homes sold or demolished under

the current Labour administration is actually four times less than the amount in previous years under the Liberal Democrats.

- Condemns Liberal Democrat councillors in South Bermonsey for spreading misleading information about the sale of council homes in the area, and in particular for telling local residents that a property on Longley Street is being sold by the council, when the council is in fact renovating the property to let to council tenants as a family home.

10. That council assembly:

- Welcomes this administration's investment of £326 million to make every council home in Southwark warm, dry and safe.
- Welcomes Southwark Labour's commitment to deliver quality kitchens and bathrooms for every council tenant, including residents on the Arnold Estate.
- Condemns the attempt by Liberal Democrat councillors to ignore need across the borough by prioritising particular council properties in wards they currently hold rather than where the need in the borough is greatest.
- Notes the failure of the Liberal Democrat/Tory council to deliver improvements in housing where they left a housing department judged as failing and a £600m hole in the housing budget.
- Calls on cabinet to guarantee that every council home in Southwark will be made warm, dry and safe and to install new kitchens and bathrooms where they are needed for all council tenants in every ward in the borough.

11. That council assembly:

- Recognises the pressure on school places across the borough, including in Rotherhithe.
- Notes that Liberal Democrats in Rotherhithe have failed to raise this important issue with cabinet.
- Praises local residents who have pressed for a new primary and a new secondary school in the area.
- Welcomes Labour's commitment to new schools in the borough to meet demand.

12. That council assembly:

- Notes that traffic management in the very busy London Bridge is continually being reviewed by highways engineers and network planners, all part of Southwark Council's public realm department.
- Notes that councillors who are concerned about traffic movements should in the first instance contact the public realm division or the relevant cabinet member.
- Notes that the timescale to conduct a full traffic management study for streets in Grange Ward has passed, and regrets that Grange ward councillors have thus far failed to raise concerns about traffic problems in the ward.
- Calls on the cabinet to actively follow up any requests from future Grange ward councillors who wish to call for a traffic study in selected roads.

13. That council assembly:

- Notes that payments negotiated from developers in-lieu of on-site affordable homes are being spent within the communities affected by the new development and are helping to fund 1,000 new council homes, including 165 council homes in SE1 and 76 council homes in SE16.
 - Calls on cabinet to work with local ward councillors across the borough to identify sites that could be used to deliver more affordable housing.
14. That council assembly:
- Notes that due to savage cuts to government funding the council has to make savings wherever possible, including the cost of committee meetings.
 - Notes that planning committee meetings are currently held in Tooley Street and at Queens Road, Peckham, because of the significant cost implications of holding these meetings elsewhere.
 - Calls on the cabinet to hold planning committee meetings in locations across the borough whenever it is financially feasible to do so.
15. That in addition council assembly calls on the cabinet to continue delivering a fairer future for all by:
- Creating a new world class civic centre in Walworth.
 - Delivering £11million investment in Camberwell Green including a new state of the art library and keep campaigning to extend the Bakerloo Line.
 - Securing the long term future of Greendale.
 - Campaigning to ensure a Dulwich police base remains open on Seeley Drive on the Kingswood Estate.
 - Continuing improvements in Nunhead including a free cash point and a bigger and better playground in Peckham Rye Park.
 - Working with the community to transform Peckham town centre including support for local arts organisations and businesses.
 - Working with businesses to deliver a business improvement district on Southwark Park Road at The Blue.
 - Continuing to campaign with Bermondsey residents to stop the super-sewer at Chambers Wharf.
 - Restoring the Old Kent Road to its former glory with plans to build new homes and support for businesses.
 - Transforming the Elephant and Castle with a new leisure centre, affordable homes and shopping centre.

Free School Meals

1. That council assembly notes the recent London Assembly Labour report on food poverty in London, which shows that more people than ever in the capital are relying on food banks - the use of foodbanks in London has gone up by 400% in the last two years. Council assembly condemns the shameful rise in the numbers of families being forced to rely on emergency handouts from foodbanks, as Tory/Liberal Democrat welfare reforms push more families into poverty, and supports the report's call for free school meals for all children in London to combat the growing food poverty crisis.

2. That council assembly is concerned at reports that the national plan to give free school meals to the youngest primary school children across the country is “in chaos” and that young children are unlikely to get a hot, nutritious meal as promised by the government. Council assembly notes the concerns of primary schools about how the policy will be implemented, given that the Liberal Democrat Leader has failed to take into account the cost of upgrading school kitchen facilities in the plans for the national scheme.
3. That council assembly notes that a former Liberal Democrat Minister has described the policy as being dreamt up “on the back of a fag packet”. Council assembly believes that the utterly shambolic implementation of free school meals by Liberal Democrats in government shows that free hot healthy school meals are not safe in the hands of the Liberal Democrats.
4. That council assembly urges the cabinet to call on government to put forward a fully costed, implementable plan for the roll out of free school meals nationally; to provide reassurance to schools that they will be given the necessary support to upgrade kitchen facilities in order to meet the demand of the new policy; and to follow Southwark’s lead by extending free school meals to the youngest children.

That council assembly also calls on the cabinet to provide reassurance that regardless of the outcome of the national scheme, this council will continue to provide free, hot healthy school meals for every primary school child in the borough.

Meat Free Mondays

1. That council assembly notes the benefits to personal health and the environment of lowering the consumption of meat.
2. That council assembly therefore calls on cabinet to promote meat free options in schools and council buildings every Monday, and also promote the benefits of reducing meat consumption to council staff.

Regulation for Payday Lenders

That council assembly:

1. Notes that payday lenders are trapping millions of people in spirals of debt.
2. Believes that the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)’s new proposals for regulating payday lenders are a step in the right direction, but do not go far enough.
3. Considers the FCA’s proposals:
 - i. Would not prevent payday lenders from drip feeding new loans to people who already have payday debts and are struggling to pay them back
 - ii. Would not prevent people from being hit with escalating penalty fees
 - iii. Would not stop payday lenders from raiding people’s bank accounts without telling them.

4. Welcomes the steps that this administration has taken to stop the spread of payday lenders in Southwark, including:
 - i. Refusing to let council buildings to pay day lenders
 - ii. Using Article 4 planning directions on change of use to protect high streets
 - iii. Reducing the exposure of residents to payday lenders by getting agreement from two of the council's billboard advertising contractors not to display payday loan adverts
 - iv. Lobbying the government for the power to levy payday lenders in Southwark.
5. Welcomes that some of Britain's biggest debt, consumer and anti-poverty organisations – including Which, Citizens Advice, StepChange Debt Charity, Church Action on Poverty and the Centre for Responsible Credit – and MPs from every party represented at Westminster have come together to support the Charter to Stop the Payday Loan Rip-Off.
6. Council assembly supports the Charter to Stop the Payday Loan Rip-Off which calls on the FCA to introduce tougher regulation of payday lenders. Council assembly calls on the cabinet to:
 - i. Encourage residents of Southwark to support the Charter by signing the online petition at <http://www.change.org/paydayloancharter>
 - ii. Promote and support the development of local credit unions and more affordable lending
 - iii. Work with partners on campaigns against increasing levels of personal debt
 - iv. Send a copy of this motion to Martin Wheatley, Chief Executive of the Financial Conduct Authority, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Fixed Odds Betting Terminals

1. That council assembly notes:
 - i. The prevalence of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) in betting shops, often referred to in the media as “the crack cocaine of gambling”.
 - ii. That, unlike fruit machines in pubs, bingo halls and amusement arcades where cash stakes are limited to £2, gamblers can bet with cash or via a debit card up to £100 every 20 seconds on FOBTs, more than four times as fast as the rate of play in casinos.
 - iii. That in 2012, over £1.5 billion was lost on FOBTs across the UK. More profit was made from FOBTs than from the National Lottery, when according to the most recent British Gambling Prevalence Survey, 56% of the population play the Lottery, but just 4% play FOBTs.
 - iv. Empirical evidence that suggests FOBTs are the most addictive form of gambling.

- v. Research carried out by Geofutures, which found there to be four times as many betting shops in areas of high unemployment than in areas of low unemployment.
 - vi. Research carried out by 2CV in Newham, which found that the average bet per spin on FOBTs is £17, and the average amount of cash inserted into the machine is £55 per session, with one in five putting in over £100 a time.
 - vii. Nationally, more than 80% of turnover in betting shops and more than half of profits are derived from FOBTs. Less than 20% of stakes in betting shops are over the counter.
 - viii. A recent economic analysis undertaken by Landman Economics, commissioned by the Campaign for Fairer Gambling, which assessed the impact of FOBTs on local economies and across the wider economy. The report concluded that every £1 billion spent on FOBTs produces a net reduction of 13,000 jobs, compared to if spent in the wider consumer economy. The projected doubling of revenue from FOBTs by 2023 could cost a further 23,000 jobs across the economy.
 - ix. The position in the Republic of Ireland where the government has introduced legislation to outlaw FOBTs in betting shops
2. That council assembly notes with concern the prevalence of high-speed, high-stakes gambling machines in the most deprived areas of the country. In the 55 most deprived boroughs of the country £13 billion was gambled and £470 million lost to fixed-odds betting terminals last year, in 2,691 betting shops – double the amount staked in the richest areas. Council assembly is concerned that it appears bookmakers are targeting the poorest areas with the highest unemployment and lowest income level. In Southwark, £523 million was gambled and £18.6m lost at fixed odds betting terminals in 81 shops last year.
 3. That council assembly notes that the gambling industry has recently been announced a new code of conduct, introducing optional time and money limits for gamblers and mandatory alerts to betting shop staff, but believes that this voluntary code does not go far enough to protect people from the risks of these high-stakes betting machines.
 4. That council assembly is concerned that the government has not addressed the issues caused by fixed-odds betting terminals (FOTBs) and has resisted calls to reduce stakes on FOBT, claiming that “it is currently not clear how great an impact a reduction would have on gambling related harm”.
 5. That council assembly applauds the work of Labour MPs in calling for local authorities to be given new powers to restrict the growth of fixed-odds betting terminals (FOTBs) and is disappointed that this motion was rejected by Tory and Liberal Democrat MPs, who failed to support the proposals despite the Liberal Democrats’ previous support for “Stop FOBT” campaigns.

6. That council assembly believes that the increase in FOBTs is causing significant problems and believes that the government should either use the existing legislative framework, or introduce legislation to outlaw B2 casino games in betting shops. At the very least, local authorities should be given the powers to protect the local amenity and wellbeing of communities by (1) stopping the proliferation of betting shops and (2) reducing the maximum stakes and slowing down the speed of play.
7. That council assembly therefore calls on the cabinet to:
 - a) Write to the Secretary of state for Culture, Media and Sport to outline the terms of this motion and demand urgent action against FOBTs by the government
 - b) Explore the use of the Sustainable Communities Act as a means to reduce the maximum stake on Fixed Odds Betting Terminals to £2 per spin.

26. DISPOSAL OF SITE A - 5 NUNHEAD GREEN, LONDON SE15

RESOLVED:

1. That the disposal of the council's freehold interest in Site A - 5 Nunhead Green, SE15 3QQ ("the property"), as shown edged black on the plan in Appendix 1 of the report be authorised, to the party on the terms outlined in the closed version of the report. That authority be delegated to the head of property to agree the detailed terms of the transaction and negotiate any other items considered necessary.
2. That the disposal of the property to an alternative bidder be authorised should the recommended purchaser not enter into contracts within a reasonable period as long as the transaction continues to represent the best consideration reasonably obtainable.

27. GATEWAY 2 - CONTRACT AWARD APPROVAL: LIFT MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

RESOLVED:

1. That the award of contract A (north of the borough) lift maintenance contract to Liftec Lifts Ltd be approved for the estimated sum of £1.8m per annum for a period of five (5) years from 2 January 2015 with the option to extend by a further two (2) years in (1+1 yearly increments) making a total estimated contract value of £12.3m.
2. That the award of contract B (south of the borough) lift maintenance contract to Guideline Lift Services Ltd be approved for the estimated sum of £1.4m per annum for a period of five (5) years from 2 January 2015 with the option to extend by a further two (2) years in (1+1 yearly increments) making a total estimated contract value of £10.0m.
3. That Liftec Lifts Ltd and Guideline Lifts Services Ltd be approved to act as back up contractors to each other on their own tendered rates when required.
4. That it be noted that when the full lift replacement programme has been finalised a

Gateway 3 report will be presented for approval to be included within these contracts. This programme forms part of the housing stock works package approved by cabinet on 18 March 2014.

28. PROPOSAL TO LEASE NORTHCOTT HOUSE HOSTEL

RESOLVED:

1. That Northcott House be leased subject to acceptable terms being agreed with the landlord with a view to using and managing the buildings as 'step down' accommodation for vulnerable adults, now deemed able to live independently, pending their move into either a social or private rented tenancy.
2. That authority be delegated to the head of property to agree detailed lease terms and to complete a lease of the premises on the terms (or better) set out the report.

29. GATEWAY 1 - PROCUREMENT STRATEGY APPROVAL - APPOINTMENT OF CONTRACTORS FOR PRIMARY EXPANSION PROGRAMME

RESOLVED:

1. That the procurement strategy for appointment of two contractors for the primary schools expansion programme using the Improvement and Efficiency South East (iESE) construction and management framework arrangements be approved.
2. That it be noted that a contractor will be appointed for each of two packages noted in paragraph 23 of the report for pre-construction services using the iESE contractor framework (estimated value for each package: £0.7m) and a series of works contracts for the construction stage of individual projects within their respective package using the iESE contractor framework (estimated total value of £60.5m, comprising a range of project values from £1.5m to £10.0m).
3. That the individual appointments set out in paragraphs 26 and 27 of the report will be approved in gateway 2 reports by the strategic director of children's and adults services be noted.

30. GATEWAY 1 - PROCUREMENT STRATEGY APPROVAL - HEATING AND WATER CONTRACTS

This item had not been circulated five clear days in advance of the meeting. The chair agreed to accept the item as urgent to avoid any service failure and to allow considerable time for the mobilisation period.

RESOLVED:

1. That the procurement strategy outlined in the report for two heating and water contracts - contract A - north of the borough at an estimated annual cost of £7.9m and contract B - south of the borough at an estimated annual cost of £7.4m, for a

period of five years from 1 April 2016 with the potential to extend up to five (three years plus two years), making an estimated value of £153m for the contracts be approved.

2. That the rationale behind the geographical division of contract areas is based on the need to ensure efficient delivery of the service be noted.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in category 3 of paragraph 10.4 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules of the Southwark Constitution.

The following is a summary of the closed part of the meeting.

31. DISPOSAL OF SITE A - 5 NUNHEAD GREEN, LONDON SE15

The cabinet considered the closed information relating to this item. See item 26 for decision.

32. GATEWAY 2 - CONTRACT AWARD APPROVAL: LIFT MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

The cabinet considered the closed information relating to this item. See item 27 for decision.

33. PROPOSAL TO LEASE NORTHCOTT HOUSE HOSTEL

The cabinet considered the closed information relating to this item. See item 28 for decision.

The meeting ended at 6.20pm.

CHAIR:

DATED:

DEADLINE FOR NOTIFICATION OF CALL-IN UNDER SECTION 21 OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES IS MIDNIGHT, WEDNESDAY 30 JULY 2014.

THE ABOVE DECISIONS WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTABLE UNTIL AFTER THAT DATE. SHOULD A DECISION OF THE CABINET BE CALLED-IN FOR SCRUTINY, THEN THE RELEVANT DECISION WILL BE HELD IN ABEYANCE PENDING THE OUTCOME OF SCRUTINY CONSIDERATION.