

<b>Item No:</b> 5	<b>Classification</b> OPEN	<b>Date:</b> 24 March 2015	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee
<b>Report Title:</b>		Deputy Leader / Cabinet member interview	
<b>Ward(s) or Group affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Scrutiny project manager	

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Councillor Ian Wingfield; Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities, Employment & Business annual interview with the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee scrutiny sub committee is scheduled for 24 March 2015.
2. This will be on all aspects of the Deputy leader and Cabinet Member's portfolio:

To improve the council's engagement with all Southwark's communities, including those hardest to reach. To support the voluntary and community sector including a new commission to enhance the role of this sector in the life of the borough. To promote the civic life of the borough.

To promote business growth and employment including helping Southwark residents into 5,000 jobs and 2,000 apprenticeships. Develop and deliver a new Southwark Business Forum and working with the cabinet member for regeneration, planning and transport to ensure that Southwark's employers and job-seekers get a good deal out of development.

The cabinet member will lead the council's work on improving our high streets, business space, markets and new shops.

The deputy leader and cabinet member for communities, employment and business has particular responsibility for:

- relationships with the voluntary and community sector;
- relationships with Tenants and Residents Associations;
- community councils and community engagement;
- relationships with faith communities;
- economic development and employment;
- business improvement districts;
- the council's relationship with Jobcentre Plus;
- employment and enterprise support;
- market development and better business space;
- fairtrade;

- promoting fair pay and the London Living Wage;
- business engagement;
- relationship with the Credit Union;
- markets and business space;
- Southwark Business Forum
- community restoration fund;
- adult learning, further education and training;
- Southwark diversity standard;
- 18 year old employment, education and training guarantee.

## **THEMES**

3. Members of the committee have chosen six themes to structure the interview around:

- I. **Employment and apprenticeships opportunities for young people in Southwark**

- How are apprenticeships procured?
- The evolution of the Apprenticeships quality standard and what else can we expect for workplace learning.
- How do people with SEND fit into the new apprenticeship scheme and how are the new EHC plans linking in with the scheme, especially supported apprenticeships and traineeships.

- II. **Quality of Careers advice**

- What is the current quality of careers advice?
- How are the links between education and employment made – how joined up are we? What are the gaps?

- III. **Zero Hours Contracts & London Living Wage in Southwark**

- How can we ensure that nobody employed, either directly or indirectly, by the Borough is on a zero hours contract and that all employees are paid the London Living Wage? Including those employed in maintained schools, colleges and educational institutions, social services etc.

- IV. **Encouraging, supporting and funding initiatives that encourage interfaith dialogue and harmony**

**V. Herne Hill and the impact of flooding**

- What is Southwark proposing to do to ensure Thames Water contribute a fairer amount to the severely damaged Herne Hill area than the current offer of £100,000?
- Can the council help to prevent further closures of shops in Herne Hill due to the damage done by the Thames Water floods as in the last few months 2 traders have closed with one still not re-opened with the loss of a considerable number of jobs?

**VI. Sustainable development**

- What is the Council's policy to ensure that landlords understand the value and long term benefits of a balanced and mixed business economy in the high street and not to let their premises be used for unsuitable business uses, such as betting shops, excessive numbers of estate agents or national chains?
- Will the council ensure that landlords that do not operate in the long term interests of the local community do not in any way benefit from public money or council procurement?
- How will local neighbourhood plans and policies tackle town centre renewal and regeneration in a sustainable way?
- What funding is available for businesses on the whole to help generate jobs and growth.