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| <b>Item No.</b><br>9.              | <b>Classification:</b><br>Open | <b>Date:</b><br>November 4 2009                     | <b>Meeting Name:</b><br>Council Assembly |
| <b>Report title:</b>               |                                | Motions   |  |
| <b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b> |                                | All   |  |
| <b>From:</b>                       |                                | Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance |  |

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.12 (9), the member moving the motion may make a speech directed to the matter under discussion. This may not exceed five minutes without the consent of the Mayor.

The seconder 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 open up to debate on the issue and any amendments on the motion will be dealt with.

At the end of the debate the mover of the motion may exercise 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 members 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 executive 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 executive (i.e. housing, social services, regeneration, environment, education etc) cannot be decided upon by council assembly without prior reference to the executive. While it would be in order for council assembly to discuss an issue, consideration of any of the following should be referred to the executive:

- 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 2.9 (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. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR LEWIS ROBINSON** (Seconded by Councillor Kim Humphreys)

Please note that, in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.9 (6), council assembly shall consider this motion.

**Pedestrian Safety at Junction of Lordship Lane and Dulwich Common**

Council assembly notes:

1. The long standing calls by College Ward councillors and local residents, particularly the elderly of the Lordship Lane Estate, for the introduction of a “pedestrian phasing” of the traffic lights at the junction of the South Circular with Lordship Lane at Dulwich Common.
2. The council traffic survey commissioned by College Ward councillors through cleaner, greener, safer funding which concluded that the most effective way to improve pedestrian safety and reduce car collisions at this junction was the introduction of “pedestrian phasing” amongst other measures.
3. Following the survey the description of this junction in local newspapers as “Is this the most dangerous junction in Southwark?” (Southwark News)

Council assembly welcomes:

4. The commitment now given by Transport for London (TfL) under the new London Mayor that a “pedestrian phasing” will now be introduced at this junction in the next 12 months.
5. The recent petition of local residents organised by College Ward councillors which calls on TfL to recognise the importance of making this junction as safe as possible and to bring forward the “pedestrian phasing” forward in their work programme at the earliest opportunity.

Council assembly requests the executive to:

6. Make the appropriate representations to TfL in support of ward councillors to ensure that these works are brought forward at the earliest opportunity in the next 12 months and coincide with upgrading the lights to ease any potential traffic congestion.

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

**2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR CAROLINE PIDGEON** (Seconded by Councillor Lewis Robinson)

Please note that, in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.9 (6), council assembly shall consider this motion.

**Save the South London Line**

1. Council assembly notes the importance of the South London Line to Southwark residents, as well as to those working and visiting the borough.

2. Council assembly further notes the vital importance of the service for helping some of the borough's most vulnerable residents access health services at Guy's Hospital, King's College hospital and The Maudsley.
3. Council assembly recognises that residents in areas such as Peckham Rye and East Dulwich continue to be poorly served by public transport despite the efforts of the council to secure the implementation of the Cross River Tram.
4. Council assembly condemns the actions of the Labour government and Network Rail in planning the removal of the South London Line, which takes no account of the impact on local people, and could seriously affect plans for the regeneration of Peckham.
5. Council assembly laments the failure of the Minister for London to bring any influence to bear on her ministerial colleagues.
6. Council assembly calls on the Department for Transport to provide the funding necessary to provide platform capacity for the service at London Bridge station as part of its redevelopment.
7. Council assembly calls on the executive to meet with Network Rail and the Department for Transport at the earliest opportunity to put the case for the revision of the plans for London Bridge station so that it is developed to its full capacity, including terminating platforms for the South London Line.

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

**3. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR IAN WINGFIELD** (Seconded by Councillor Martin Seaton)

Please note that, in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.9 (6), council assembly shall consider this motion.

**Southwark's Council Housing Crisis**

1. Council assembly notes the £700 million gap in the funding for the executive's Southwark decent homes programme reported by the press. It notes the omission of this figure in the housing strategy agreed by the executive.
2. Council assembly notes that according to Communities and Local Government's most recent survey of English housing half of the non-decent council homes in London will be in Southwark by 2013. It notes that there will be almost 19,000 unfit homes in Southwark in 2013, more than there are at the moment.
3. Council assembly notes the 'red flag' provisionally given to the council for its decent homes programme by the Audit Commission in the draft corporate area assessment.
4. Council assembly notes the Labour group's proposal to address the decent homes funding gap on a cross-party basis in January 2008. It notes that this proposal was not accepted by the coalition, who proposed instead to "continue" with existing programmes.

5. Council assembly notes that other local authorities have set up cross party working bodies in the past to work towards improving their own housing stock and calls on the executive for a second time to take this step.

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

#### **4. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES** (Seconded by Councillor Tim McNally)

Please note that, in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.9 (6), council assembly shall consider this motion.

##### **Freedom Pass Cuts**

1. Council assembly notes the Labour government is considering reviewing the last year of the 3-year special grant for concessionary fares to support the introduction of the English national concession which could mean the grant to London being cut by up to £50 million a year.
2. Council assembly also notes the concessionary fares scheme in London is currently only 66% funded by government grant that the withdrawal of the special grant would reduce this to about 50%.
3. Council assembly notes with alarm that London Councils estimate that the possible shortfall in funding could equate to £18 on the average council tax bill at a time of economic hardship.
4. Council assembly rejects any move by central government that threatens the future of the much cherished freedom pass for elderly and disabled people.
5. Council assembly calls upon the Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Sadiq Khan MP, to announce that he will not be withdrawing the special grant to London.
6. Council assembly calls on the executive members for resources and health and adult social care to write to the Minister for London to demand funding for London is maintained at the promised level and urges the borough's MPs to do likewise.
7. Council assembly continues to support efforts to ensure London gets an equal share of future concessionary fare funding.

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

#### **5. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR BARRIE HARGROVE** (Seconded by Councillor Veronica Ward)

Please note that, in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.9 (6), council assembly shall consider this motion.

##### **Save the South London Line**

1. Council assembly notes the importance of the current South London Line rail service between London Bridge and London Victoria via four stations in

Southwark to the residents, businesses and public services of Camberwell, Peckham and South Bermondsey.

2. Council assembly notes that under the current proposals to end the operation of the South London Line, Denmark Hill and Peckham Rye stations would lose half of their daytime services to London Victoria and have no service at all to Victoria at evenings or on Sundays. It further notes that Denmark Hill station will lose all direct services to London Bridge.
3. Council assembly notes and welcomes the fact that at a meeting on September 30 2009 Peter Field, Director of London Rail at Transport for London (TfL), stated that the retention of a direct Victoria to London Bridge service would in fact be considered as part of the TfL/London Travelwatch study into the options for the future of the South London Line.
4. Council assembly notes that TfL, at the direction of the Mayor of London, requested that £24m Department for Transport funding intended for a new London Victoria-Bellingham service be diverted to the provision of East London Line Extension Phase 2.
5. Council assembly does not believe that the East London Line Extension should act as a replacement for the South London Line.
6. Council assembly believes that it is disingenuous of the Mayor of London to claim that funding is not available for both the Victoria-Bellingham service and the East London Line Extension Phase 2. It notes that the removal of the western extension of the congestion charge is estimated to lose TfL between £55m and £70m in revenue.
7. Council assembly notes the contents of a letter from the Minister of State for Transport, Sadiq Khan MP, to the Mayor, which confirms that it was Mayor Johnson's decision to request funding be removed from the Victoria-Bellingham service.
8. Council assembly congratulates the community and cross-party campaign against the threat to the South London Line services on its high-profile and effective activities to date, and re-affirms its own commitment to the campaign.
9. Council assembly calls on the executive to write to the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, asking that he urgently reconsider the removal of funding for the essential Victoria-Bellingham service, and pointing out which of his costly vanity projects could be cut to provide the £24m required. It further calls on the executive to demand a written assurance from TfL that the retention of direct Victoria-London Bridge services is being considered as part of the South London Line Options Study.

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

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

| Background Papers | Held At                                     | Contact                              |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Member Motions    | Town Hall<br>Peckham Road<br>London SE5 8UB | Constitutional Team<br>020 7525 7228 |

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|----------------------|--|
| <b>Lead Officer</b>  | Ian Millichap, Constitutional Team Manager |
| <b>Report Author</b> | Sean Usher, Constitutional Officer         |
| <b>Version</b>       | Final                                      |
| <b>Dated</b>         | October 20 2009                            |