

Item No. 7.1	Classification: Open	Date: November 4 2009	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Report back on motions referred to executive from council assembly	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Executive	

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – CROSS RIVER TRAM

Executive on May 19 2009 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on April 8 2009 which had been moved by Councillor Paul Noblet and seconded by Councillor Caroline Pidgeon and subsequently amended:

1. That council notes the continuing cross-party support in Southwark for the cross river tram and reiterates its disappointment that the Mayor of London has chosen not to support the project by removing a commitment to develop the project from the Transport for London business plan.
2. That council believes that the tram would increase access to employment for people from some of London's most deprived areas, support the regeneration of Elephant and Castle, Aylesbury and Peckham and provide construction jobs, while providing a clean, green transport solution for one of the few areas in central London without a tube line.
3. That council assembly welcomes the decision to kick-start the East London Line extension 2B, which with the cross river tram would transform transport options in Southwark.
4. That council further notes the chancellor's announcement in his 2008 pre-budget report of £20bn in fiscal stimulus to be brought forward before April 2010.
5. That council notes that the leader of the council wrote to transport minister Lord Adonis, seeking funding for the cross river tram from this fiscal stimulus and that the response said that the cross river tram does not currently qualify for money from the pre-budget report fiscal stimulus, where existing funding is brought forward, because spending on the project is not currently part of Transport for London's business plan: It further notes, however, that the response also said: 'Should the Mayor [of London] decide to fund the project, we would be happy to discuss with him the possibility of delivering it expediently.'
6. That council assembly therefore calls on the executive to write to the Mayor of London asking him to make the cross river tram project part of Transport for London's business plan.

7. That council assembly calls on the executive to write to the Chancellor asking him to review the decision to only bring forward existing funding in the fiscal stimulus, and make provision for the funding of the tram as part of the fiscal stimulus package.
8. That council assembly notes the executive member for regeneration's assertion at the January council meeting that he would "continue [to seek] funding sources for the project, be they public or private, through a variety of forums such as Cross River Partnership.
9. That council assembly calls on the executive member for regeneration to continue to seek such funding sources in his role as chair of the Cross River Partnership and update members on his current progress before council's annual meeting.

We agreed the motion.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – YOUTH PROVISION

Executive on May 19 2009 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on April 8 2009 which had been moved by Councillor Althea Smith and seconded by Councillor Peter John and subsequently amended:

1. That council assembly notes that in the Liberal Democrats' 2006 election manifesto the party pledged to carry out a full audit of youth facilities in the borough. Council notes that in July 2007, the executive agreed a report entitled 'Activities for Young People – Things to do, places to go, someone to talk to in Southwark' which reported the results of the audit that had been undertaken.
2. That council assembly notes that the audit informed the creation of the Children and Young Peoples Partnership's Things to do priority areas and resulted in a rebalancing of spending on youth services and facilities across Southwark, compensating for historic under-investment in parts of the borough.
3. That council assembly notes that in last year's joint area review the council's youth services were given only an 'adequate' or two star rating.
4. That council assembly notes that in the 2008 residents' survey, youth facilities were the services that residents thought were most important and also the services that they were most dissatisfied with. It notes that the same was true in the 2006 residents survey and that despite massive government grants for children and young people and significant capital investment in youth facilities by the council, residents' satisfaction with youth facilities has not significantly improved.
5. That council notes that as a result of the government's failure to take account of the significant additional pressures placed on the council's budget by the recession, the executive was forced to identify £17.3m of savings in the 2009-10 budget. Council notes that £381,000 (4.5%) of the savings were from the youth service budget, and that this amount equates to approximately 0.3% of the budget for 11-19 year old and youth services division.

6. That council notes that the £381,000 savings identified from youth services will be generated from the modernisation and integration of the division and will not involve cuts in front-line services in the youth service. Council further notes that £150,000 of new funding was allocated to the youth service from the WNF programme for work-based learning sites.
7. That council acknowledges that Southwark has unacceptably high levels of teenage conceptions and child obesity and recognises these are key shared strategic priority for Young Southwark, the primary care trust and the executive. Council notes the coordinated activities undertaken by these agencies to address these problems, including:
 - a) The roll out of a healthy schools accreditation which has seen 65% of Southwark Schools attain Health Schools status.
 - b) The recent "Team Around the Issue" event on March 11, where officers came together to discuss approaches to the 5 priority areas, including childhood obesity.
 - c) The Teenage Pregnancy Summit on March 23 2009 which looked at new approaches to tackling this issue.
8. That council assembly notes that Southwark's levels of young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs) were the third highest in London in 2007, but notes that the number of Southwark young people in NEET has fallen from 875 in 2004 to 395 (54.8% fall) as a result of coordinated work by the council, including:
 - a) Targeted work with those with poor attendance at end of Year 11 (e.g. 5 hot spot schools targeted and being support).
 - b) Development of Foundation 2 Work programme in Southwark College where 40 young people NEET have been enrolled since Jan'09 and therefore off the NEET register.
9. That council assembly notes the children's services and education scrutiny sub-committee's youth provision review, which was discussed by the executive in December last year. It notes that at that meeting, the executive agreed to ensure that the findings of the review would be taken into account in the current review of youth services across the borough. Council notes that officers checked this course of action with the chair of children's scrutiny and agreed with him that the executive would report back as part of that review process in April 2009.
10. That council assembly notes that the youth service is currently being reviewed and restructured, with a view to meeting government demands for an integrated and targeted youth support service. Council notes that the restructure is aimed at streamlining management structures and will not affect front-line staff or services.
11. That council assembly expresses concern that residents' satisfaction with youth facilities remains low and that teenage pregnancy, obesity and the number of young people not in education, employment or training remain serious challenges for the borough.
12. That council therefore endorses the review of youth services offered by the council which is currently being undertaken and calls on the executive to report back to council assembly on the outcome of the review, given its overwhelming importance to all members.

We agreed the motion.

**MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE
RULE 2.9 (6) – BUS ROUTE 42**

Executive on May 19 2009 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on April 8 2009 which had been moved by Councillor Toby Eckersley and seconded by Councillor James Barber and subsequently amended:

1. That council assembly believes that the extension of the route of the 42 bus from North Dulwich to Sainsbury's via East Dulwich Grove to Sainsbury's on Dog Kennel Hill would benefit Village, East Dulwich and South Camberwell wards.
2. That council assembly notes the cross party work over many years to promote the proposed new route.
3. That council assembly welcomes the planning consent obtained by Sainsbury's to accommodate the turn-round on their premises providing a proper terminus for this route with facilities for drivers and standstill space for the buses as presently the buses terminating in Sunray Avenue cause noise and inconvenience to residents.
4. That council assembly regrets the previous delays by Transport for London(TfL), and welcomes a recent undertaking to review the business case.
5. That council assembly notes the widespread support for the extension evidenced by the responses to the recent Village ward councillors' questionnaire and the interest shown by "Southwark News".
6. That council assembly therefore requests the executive to ensure that the council as a whole promotes the extension with vigour and that the executive member for environment writes to London Mayor Boris Johnson requesting that the re-routing proposal be given high priority.

We agreed the motion and requested that these concerns be fed into the overview and scrutiny committee work on buses.

**MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE
RULE 2.9 (6) – A BOROUGH WIDE FOOD STRATEGY**

Executive on May 19 2009 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on April 8 2009 which had been moved by Councillor Jenny Jones and seconded by Councillor Richard Thomas and subsequently amended:

1. That council assembly:
 - a) Notes the vitality, vibrancy and diversity of Southwark's food industries and cultures.
 - b) Notes that the production, processing and manufacturing, transport, storage and distribution, sale, purchasing, preparation, consumption and disposal of food within and beyond Southwark has significant implications for health, environmental, economic, social/cultural and security issues across the borough.

2. That the council notes the value of allotments to the production of sustainable and healthy and local food in the borough, and asks the executive to adopt the following action:
 - a) Improve the quality of information available to residents, by improving the council's website.
 - b) Look for ways to increase the borough's allotments, as some of the allotments in the borough are on waiting lists only.
 - c) Engage with the London Food Board to look at practical ways in which food can be grown sustainably.
 - d) Provide an undertaking that the council will not close any allotments, and ensure rents are affordable by the many, not the few."
3. That this council therefore invites the executive to undertake the development of a borough wide food strategy with a view to:
 - a) improving the health and reduce the health inequalities of people living and working in Southwark
 - b) reducing poverty and deprivation
 - c) reducing the negative environmental impacts of Southwark's food system
 - d) supporting a vibrant food economy
 - e) celebrating and promoting Southwark's food culture
 - f) enhancing Southwark's food security
 - g) Encouraging health eating in schools.
4. That council assembly asks the executive to report back to council assembly within 6 months on progress in developing the strategy.

We asked that the overview and scrutiny committee be asked to consider allocating the issue of a borough wide food strategy and the points raised in the motion above to one of their unthemed committees.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – COUNCIL HOUSING FOR SOUTHWARK

Executive on May 19 2009 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on April 8 2009 which had been moved by Councillor Nick Stanton and seconded by Councillor Kim Humphreys:

1. That council welcomes the announcement by the Prime Minister in a speech in January 2009 that: "...if local authorities can convince us that they can deliver quickly and cost effectively more of the housing that Britain needs, and if local authorities can build social housing in sustainable communities that meets the aspirations of the British people for the 21st century, then we will be prepared to give you our full backing and put aside any of the barriers that stand in the way of this happening."

2. That council believes that Southwark is a local authority which has proven its ability to build sustainable communities and to deliver quickly and cost effectively and notes that there are three barriers to the council building new council homes:
 - a) the fact that the council is unable to access grant from the homes and communities agency (HCA) to support the cost of building new homes.
 - b) the high interest rate applying when the council borrows money under current prudential borrowing rules, which set the effective interest rate at an average of historic rates, rather than the current public works loan board (PWLb) rate.
 - c) uncertainty over the future of housing revenue account (HRA) subsidy during the joint CLG/Treasury review, which has not yet issued any proposals.
3. That council notes with concern that despite past commitments and promises from senior Labour politicians, including the current Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, about the 'fourth option' and council home building, these three barriers have remained in place.
4. That council therefore calls on the government to use the next budget to make provision for Southwark and other councils to access grant from the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) and to amend borrowing rules to take account of current low interest rates, thereby allowing us to build new council homes.
5. That council calls on the executive to write to the Prime Minister with immediate effect seeking a clear and unequivocal guarantee that his January announcement will be followed by genuine action, rather than repeating the empty promises of the past, which have left so many across the country trapped on housing waiting lists.

We agreed the motion asking that disappointment is expressed to the £100 million allocated to the Challenge Fund to develop new properties which has to be shared by all authorities.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – SURREY CANAL ROAD STATION

Executive on May 19 2009 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on April 8 2009 which had been moved by Councillor Barrie Hargrove and seconded by Councillor Richard Thomas and subsequently amended:

1. That council assembly welcomes the joint funding of £60 million from the Department for Transport and £15 million from Transport for London (TfL) to complete Phase 2 of the East London Line Extension (ELLX).
2. That council assembly notes that funding for a new station at Surrey Canal Road, just over the border in Lewisham, has not yet been secured as part of the scheme. It notes the considerable local demand in South Bermondsey and North Peckham for a new station there and the strong regeneration case for the station.
3. That council assembly calls upon the leaders of all the political groups to write jointly to the Mayor of London and the Transport Secretary urging them to fund this vital piece of public transport infrastructure as part of the planned Phase 2 works. It calls on the executive to work with the Mayor of Lewisham to effectively lobby for the new station.

4. That council assembly notes the strong support for a station at Surrey Canal Road from Millwall FC and calls on the leaders, in their letter to the Mayor, to request that TfL officers meet with Millwall representatives to discuss the proposals and ways to involve the club.
5. That council assembly calls upon the leader of the council to also support Lambeth Council in any bid made for a Brixton ELLX stop, for a better linked inner south London.

We agreed the motion and noted the receipt of a letter from the Mayor of London dated May 15 2009 concerning Surrey Canal Road Station. This confirmed that the decision and provision of a new station at Surrey Canal Road will follow an assessment process and discussions with the Department for Transport on the additional funding required.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – FUEL POVERTY BILL

Executive on May 19 2009 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on April 8 2009 which had been moved by Councillor Ian Wingfield and seconded by Councillor Susan Elan Jones and subsequently amended:

1. That this council notes that 418 MPs supported the Warm Homes Act during its passage through Parliament.
2. That council further notes that a recent high court judgment ruled that the targets in the Warm Homes Act 2000 were not targets but merely “aspirations”.
3. That council believes that urgent action is needed to help the 4 million people living in fuel poverty in the UK.
4. That council therefore supports David Heath MP’s Fuel Poverty Bill (introduced into Parliament with cross-party support on January 21 2009) which seeks to reinstate the statutory duty to end fuel poverty and focuses on increasing the energy efficiency of the housing stock of the fuel poor. It also requires energy suppliers to provide social tariffs to vulnerable customers in the short-term.
5. That council is therefore disappointed to note that on Friday March 20, the bill failed to proceed beyond second reading as a result of a lack of support in parliament, with only 91 MPs voting for the bill to proceed to its next stage.
6. That council notes that the Labour climate change minister, Joan Ruddock MP spoke against the bill, the Labour chief whip voted against the bill and that 58 Labour MPs who signed an early day motion (EDM) supporting the bill – including 4 with constituencies in London – failed to attend and support the bill.
7. That council further notes that neither of the borough’s Labour MPs attended parliament to vote for the bill to proceed and therefore calls on the executive to write to the MP for Camberwell and Peckham, urging her to use her position as Leader of the House to make parliamentary time available to debate this crucial bill.

We noted that the Fuel Poverty Bill did not succeed.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – FIRE AT LAKANAL HOUSE

Executive on September 29 2009 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on July 8 2009 which had been moved by Councillor Ian Wingfield and seconded by Councillor Alison McGovern:

1. That council assembly notes, with deep sadness, the awful events at Lakanal House in Camberwell on July 3, which led to the death of 6 people and a number of injuries.
2. That council assembly expresses sympathy and condolences to the families and friends of those who lost their lives. Council assembly shares the deep sense of loss, bereavement and disbelief that is felt by the whole community as a result of these terrible events.
3. That council assembly also extends its sympathies to the numerous residents of Lakanal House who have been made homeless as a result of the fire. Council assembly calls upon the executive to work with maximum speed and commitment to ensure that these residents are satisfactorily and comfortably housed in the shortest possible time.
4. That council assembly pays tribute to the bravery demonstrated by the emergency services on July 3, whose work undoubtedly saved many lives. Council assembly also expresses its gratitude and sincere thanks to the professionalism and dedication shown by Southwark council officers across many departments who, since Friday, have worked tirelessly to assist those affected by this tragedy.
5. That council assembly believes that there may be serious lessons to be learnt from these tragic events, which will be relevant to similar buildings in Southwark and those owned by other local authorities and housing bodies across the country. In that event, council assembly therefore believes it is imperative that a full and independent public inquiry be held at the earliest possible opportunity once the local investigations are complete.
6. That council assembly notes and welcomes the decision by the Secretary of State to instruct Sir Ken Knight the government's chief fire and rescue advisor to report back to him on the various investigations into the fire and seeks assurances that this information will be shared with Southwark and other housing authorities urgently.

We agreed the motion and noted that a high court judge had been appointed to conduct a full and independent inquest - we welcomed this development.

We also noted that the information gathered by Sir Ken Knight had been shared with other local authorities.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – REGENERATION OF THE ELEPHANT & CASTLE

Executive on September 29 2009 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on July 8 2009 which had been moved by Councillor Chris Page and seconded by Councillor Peter John and subsequently amended:

1. That council assembly notes that residents in Southwark have waited too long for the regeneration of the Elephant & Castle which extends beyond the 'footprint' of the Heygate Estate and shopping centre, and which was first promised by the Labour administration in the late 1990s.
2. That council assembly notes that the current recession has had a major impact on private sector led developments but supports the continued efforts of the executives and chief officers to secure the best possible deal for local residents.
3. That council assembly further notes that the executive and council officers are bound by EU procurement rules which do not allow the council to vary significantly from the original 'best and final offer' accepted in July 2007, and that achieving the best value for money for Southwark's taxpayers should be paramount.
4. That council assembly believes that the regeneration of the Elephant & Castle has to put the needs of residents first, and ensure local residents who want to can move back to the area.
5. That council assembly calls on the executive to ensure that any development includes a high proportion of affordable homes and does not sacrifice the needs of residents simply because of the current property market. Council assembly agrees with the vision for the area which will provide more high quality homes, including socially rented affordable home to replace existing units on the Heygate Estate, new public squares and open spaces, and new retail units, especially for small independent traders.
6. That council assembly notes that some developments, including at Steedman Street and Wansey Street, have already been completed and have provided both new private and affordable units.
7. That council assembly recognises the successful completion of St Mary's Churchyard, the securing of money to improve the southern roundabout, the progress being made at Strata Tower which will provide 90 shared-equity units, and the advanced negotiations with the Homes and Community Agency to help kickstart developments at the Oakmayne Plaza and London Park Hotel sites which will provide a new home for the Southwark Playhouse and new units for small independent traders.
8. That council assembly further notes the successful negotiations with the Homes and Communities Agency which have led to an increase of 200 social rented homes above the levels granted at the six Elephant and Castle housing sites.
9. That council assembly further notes and laments the failure of the former London Mayor, Ken Livingstone to include improvements to the transport infrastructure into Transport for London's funding plans.
10. That council assembly looks forward to welcoming former US President Bill Clinton who plans to visit the Elephant and Castle to see the innovative work being undertaken to reduce carbon emissions by creating the Multi Utility Service Company (MUSCO).
11. That council assembly further notes that the previous Labour administration decided to demolish the Heygate in 1998 but then ten years later called for the council to stop the process of decanting tenants and leaseholders.

12. That it be noted that had councils like Southwark been allowed to invest in building new homes by the Labour government, then it would have been possible to have developed all the planned “early sites” at the Elephant and Castle by now.
13. That council assembly calls on the executive to move forward the regeneration vision for Elephant and Castle by using all the tools and options at its disposals.

We noted the motion and the comments of the deputy chief executive.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES IN DULWICH

Executive on September 29 2009 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on July 8 2009 which had been moved by Councillor Toby Eckersley and seconded by Councillor James Barber:

1. That council assembly notes:
 - i) That Village Ward councillors had identified the need for increased primary school provision in North Dulwich, previously recognised in the corporate plan.
 - ii) The recent complaints amongst parents in Dulwich about the perceived lack of places available for children, and about how their cases were handled by education service.
2. That council assembly requests:
 - i) The executive to request a report from education officers which clarifies the number of children in Dulwich who have not received a primary school place offer within one mile of their residence, maps their location, and considers whether pressure on primary school places will increase in the Dulwich area over the next five years.
 - ii) To identify best practice in communication with parents and providing advice at what is a difficult time for many parents who do not receive an offer for which they have indicated a preference.
 - iii) If continued pressure on primary school places in the Dulwich area, or parts of it, is predicted to present to the executive options that may be available to expand existing provision and costs associated with these options.

We noted that a report on the issue was being brought to the November 2009 executive.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – ONE HOUR BUS TICKET PROPOSAL

Executive on September 29 2009 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on July 8 2009 which had been moved by Councillor Caroline Pidgeon and seconded by Councillor Paul Kyriacou and subsequently amended:

1. That this council believes in affordable public transport and in the need to ensure that passengers who use "Pay As You Go" Oystercards have a fair deal.
2. That council notes that in other European capital cities bus passengers have the benefit of a time-limited bus ticket which enables them to use two or three buses within a set time without having to pay again.
3. That council notes that almost a million car journeys every day in London are less than one mile in length, and supports effective ways of encouraging modal shift to public transport.
4. That council views with concern at this time of economic recession that even short journeys in London may involve using two or three buses and can cost up to £3.00 if more than one bus is needed.
5. That council notes that the average bus journey length is 3.54 km (2.2 miles, 9 stops), and that Transport for London estimate that 16% of bus journeys on Oyster 'Pay As You Go' involve using a second bus within 60 minutes of the first.
6. That council commends the proposal for a One Hour Bus Ticket to be available on "Pay As You Go" Oystercard, enabling passengers to use more than one bus during a 60-minute period without paying more than £1.00.
7. That council calls on the leader of the council and the lead executive member for transport to write to the Mayor of London promoting the One Hour Bus Ticket proposal; and to ask the Mayor of London to request that Transport for London investigates the practicalities of implementing such a scheme.
8. That council assembly also notes the extremely low take-up of the income support and job seeker allowance half price fares scheme in Southwark. It notes that take-up for those on job seekers allowance is 3.14% in Southwark and for income support is 2.02%.
9. That council assembly calls on the executive to explore ways to promote this scheme more widely, for instance by including an article in Southwark Life, Southwark Housing News and other council publications and ensuring information is available in One Stop Shops, housing offices, libraries and leisure centres.

We agreed the motion.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Executive agenda and minutes – May 19 2009 September 29 2009 Letter from Mayor of London dated 15 May 2009	Constitutional Team, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2TZ	Paula Thornton 020 7525 4395

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Team Manager	
Report Author	Paula Thornton / Everton Roberts, Constitutional Team	
Version	Final	
Dated	October 21 2009	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Executive Member	N/A	N/A
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		October 21 2009