

<b>Item No.</b> 5.2	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 26 January 2016	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Motions	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Proper Constitutional Officer	

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The councillor introducing or “moving” the motion may make a speech directed to the matter under discussion. This may not exceed five minutes<sup>1</sup>.

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

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

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

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

## IMPLICATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION

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

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

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

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<sup>1</sup> Council assembly procedure rule 1.14 (9)

1. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR KATH WHITTAM** (Seconded by Councillor Bill Williams)

**Transport in Rotherhithe**

1. Council assembly recognises that there are significant traffic problems on the Rotherhithe peninsula, with the high demand for river crossings making the Rotherhithe area particularly susceptible to congestion from tunnel related traffic, which is detrimental to the local environment, particularly air quality, and can make local trips difficult.
2. Council assembly further recognises that the significant growth planned in the Canada Water area, including an increase in new homes and job opportunities, will require a significant investment in transport infrastructure.
3. Council assembly therefore calls on Transport for London and the Mayor of London to:
  - Upgrade the existing public transport network, including increasing capacity on the overground, tube and buses
  - Take action to tackle congestion on Jamaica Road
  - Enhance pedestrian and cycle links and bring forward plans for a pedestrian and cycling bridge from Rotherhithe to Canary Wharf to alleviate congestion
  - Extend the cycle hire scheme to Rotherhithe
  - Explore means of integrating river transport into the network to make sure that residents in Rotherhithe get the full benefit from the river as a mode of transport
  - Address in a full and proper manner the concerns and recommendations raised by the council in relation to the proposals for the new Silvertown Tunnel, which will impact negatively on the quality of life of a vast number of people who live and work in the borough.

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

2. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR HAMISH MCCALLUM** (Seconded by Councillor Anood Al-Sameraï)

**The power to set a real living wage**

1. Council assembly welcomes the cross-party support for the London Living Wage since the motion agreed by council in November 2008.

2. Council assembly notes the progress in implementing the London Living Wage policy in Southwark and the proposal for a Living Wage Zone as part of the Canada Water regeneration area.
3. Council assembly further notes that Preston City Council in partnership with 'Unlock Democracy' is considering submitting the following proposal to government under the Sustainable Communities Act:

*'To delegate power to local authorities to compel all private and public sector employers within their area to pay the Living Wage. The rate of the Living Wage to be determined in accordance with the rates set by the Living Wage Foundation for London and outside London.'*

4. Council assembly believes that this power could reduce in-work poverty in Southwark and benefit the local economy through a multiplier effect in each local authority area it is introduced.
5. Council assembly further believes that as part of the negotiating process with the relevant Secretary of State, all or some of the benefits to government through increased income tax revenue and reduced welfare spending be used to enforce the new power and help local businesses which may struggle to move to the new rate.
6. Council assembly therefore calls on the cabinet to express its interest in joining Preston City Council in any collective submission to the government under the Sustainable Communities Act, and to work together with the Unlock Democracy campaign to gain support for the proposal from other councils in London and across the country.

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

### **3. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR RICHARD LIVINGSTONE** (Seconded by Councillor Mark Williams)

#### **Blacklisting**

1. Council assembly is aware of the destructive practice of blacklisting that occurred for decades in the UK construction industry and the disastrous effects it had on many of the workers that were included on the blacklist.
2. Council assembly notes that most of the workers on the blacklist of The Constructing Association were trade unionists, many of them were blacklisted for raising legitimate health and safety concerns with their employer.
3. Council assembly recognise that because of this administration's commitment to new affordable housing, lots of new homes are being built in Southwark, which is also providing opportunities for local people in construction work. We take the safety of our residents, staff and contractors very seriously and believe strongly that people who raise health and safety concerns should not be blighted for their working life through blacklisting.

4. Council assembly notes that the council already has a process in place for Major Works contracts to identify any companies that have made use of the blacklist in the past to ensure that they have put in place actions to prevent such behaviour recurring and to compensate those victimised by the practice. Council assembly believes that this good practice should be adopted in its other contracts.
5. This council is determined that blacklisting should never occur again and calls on cabinet to:
  - Make provision in Southwark Council's public tendering procedures to exclude blacklisters from public contracts if they are either still blacklisting or have not put into place genuine actions agreed by the blacklisted workers or their representatives concerning past blacklisting activities
  - Make provision in the council's terms and conditions for public works that provide for the termination of the contract if a supplier is found to engage in blacklisting activities during the course of that contract
  - Make provision to include blacklisting and trade union membership in the pre-qualification questionnaire for new construction contracts.

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

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

## AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager
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