

Item No. 5.2	Classification: Open	Date: 12 July 2017	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Motions	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		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 minutes¹.

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.

¹ Council assembly procedure rule 1.14 (9)

1. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ROSIE SHIMELL (Seconded by Councillor Ben Johnson)

Promoting the sale of new housing to local people

1. Council assembly notes with concern that:
 - Recent research conducted for the Mayor of London indicates that over half of new build properties bought by foreign investors in London are sold at a price-point deemed suitable for first-time buyers (under £500,000).
 - The same research indicates that 25% of new build homes sold in the London Borough of Southwark are sold overseas, putting Southwark in the top four London boroughs for the proportion of new homes sold overseas.
2. Council assembly further notes that:
 - The redevelopment of the Heygate Estate will see more than 2,700 new homes built; however less than 25% of these new homes will be offered for social rent, affordable rent or shared-ownership sale.
 - All 51 newly built homes at South Gardens, part of the Heygate Estate redevelopment, were recently sold to investors from overseas.
3. Council assembly welcomes:
 - The announcement from Labour's shadow housing secretary, John Healey, indicating that a Labour government would give local people "first dibs" on new homes ahead of overseas buyers.
 - The call from the Mayor of London's advisory board, Homes for Londoners, for steps to be taken "to make more homes available to Londoners before anyone else, with any measures particularly focusing on homes sold for prices that Londoners, especially first-time buyers, are more likely to be able to afford".
 - The Liberal Democrats' call to give UK residents a fair chance by marketing new homes to them before they are advertised abroad.
4. Council assembly therefore calls on cabinet to take urgent action to promote the sale of new homes to local people by:
 - Ensuring that at least one in three homes in every new development is genuinely affordable.
 - Using its influence with existing developers to ensure that new-build homes in Southwark costing £500,000 or less are actively marketed to local people in the first instance rather than marketing them overseas.
 - Including the above two conditions in any future development agreements.

- Lobbying the Mayor of London to implement the recommendations of the Homes for Londoners Sub-Group Board Report on Overseas Investment.

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

2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR CATHERINE DALE (Seconded by Councillor Helen Dennis)

Southwark's response to the London Bridge attack

1. Council assembly notes that on 3 June 2017, a horrific terrorist attack took place on London Bridge and in Borough Market which killed eight people, and left a further forty-eight people injured.
2. Council assembly notes that within 20 minutes of the terrorist attack taking place, Southwark Council's emergency planning team were in contact with the chief executive of the council and setting up the Borough Emergency Control Centre (BECC).
3. Council assembly notes that in the immediate aftermath of the terrorist attack and beyond, Southwark Council staff voluntarily came into work on a Saturday night to support the work of the BECC, with many working throughout the night. In the days and weeks after the attack, staff continued to play an important role, which included, but was not limited to:
 - Supporting residents who were unable to immediately return to their homes and helping them find alternative accommodation.
 - Providing information and support to local businesses affected, and assisting them in re-opening.
 - Co-ordinating the lifting of the police cordon around Borough Market.
 - Cleaning and preparing roads and other areas before they were re-opened to the public.
 - Working with the NHS and local charities to set up a community assistance centre for local people affected by the terrorist attack to seek emotional support.
4. Council assembly notes that without the council staff who volunteered their assistance, the council would not have been able to provide as high quality support to residents, businesses, local organisations and the emergency services.
5. Council assembly would like to formally put on record its thanks to the emergency services, and all council staff, local residents, business owners and community groups who helped to respond to the terrorist attack. By standing together, we have shown that this dreadful attack will not defeat us, and that we will always stand together as a community. Southwark can, and should, be proud of our response.

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

3. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES (Seconded by Councillor Adele Morris)

The Terror Attack on London Bridge and Borough Market

Council assembly:

1. Offers its thoughts and condolences to the friends and family of the eight people who lost their lives, those who were injured, are still in hospital or were otherwise caught up in the horrendous terrorist attack on London Bridge and Borough Market on Saturday 3 June 2017.
2. Offers its sincere thanks to the Metropolitan Police Service, the Counter Terrorism Police, the London Ambulance Service, NHS staff, Southwark Council staff and other emergency workers for the professional and outstanding way they responded to the incident and the care and support they have provided to those affected.
3. Acknowledges the impact on Borough Market, Southwark Cathedral and other business and venues in the vicinity of the attack and pledges its support to their response and commitment to get “back to business”.
4. Acknowledges the impact on residents who live in the area which was cordoned-off and who were either unable to leave their homes or unable to return home.
5. Thanks the clergy and staff of Southwark Cathedral and religious leaders from churches, mosques and other places of worship across the borough for their prayers and spiritual guidance in the wake of the attack.
6. Thanks the Mayor of London and other politicians for their united response to the terror attack and acknowledges the wider support and love shown to those affected by the attack from people across London, the UK and the world.
7. Acknowledges the unique role that James Hatts and @SE1 played in providing up to date information to those caught up in the incident, including residents and businesses.
8. Recognises the strength and solidarity of the community in SE1 and across Southwark in their response to the attack and celebrates the community cohesion and diversity that exists in our borough.
9. Calls upon cabinet to take steps to look at what lessons can be learnt from the response to the attack, including exploring any additional measures that can be put in place to make our borough safer and seeking to improve our response to sharing information and building on existing networks and communities in the event of a major incident.
10. Resolves to promote the financial appeals and ongoing support structures that have been launched or put in place for those who lost their lives, were injured or were impacted psychologically or financially as a result of the attack.

11. Resolves to celebrate our way of life and our shared values of tolerance, openness and diversity and reconfirms that those who seek to attack us will never win and that love will always conquer hate.
12. Calls on the council, in conjunction with the families of those who died, those who were injured and other appropriate stakeholders, to consider an appropriate memorial for the victims of this attack.

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

4. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR RENATA HAMVAS (Seconded by Councillor Octavia Lamb)

Southeastern Trains

1. Council assembly recognises the importance of public transport for residents in Southwark and that the Southeastern line to London Victoria is used by thousands of passengers from Nunhead, Peckham Rye and Denmark Hill stations. It links south East London and Kent to the DLR and Overground as well as the tube network at Victoria and provides public transport to Kings College and the Maudsley Hospitals.
2. Council assembly notes that after much lobbying (including the 2012 motion agreed by this assembly), this service was extended to a full Monday to Sunday service including evenings. Residents had already lost the Victoria to London Bridge service when the Overground service via Peckham Rye started and extension to this service was much needed. There has already, therefore been a net loss in service to Victoria on Monday to Saturday peak times of two trains per hour.
3. Council assembly is deeply concerned by the recent Department for Transport consultation seeking passengers' views on the principle of reducing the choice of London termini to provide a more regular timetable and reliable service. This has arisen to appease the Kent commuters who want a faster service into London. The proposal is to rationalise the services via Lewisham so they go to London Bridge or Cannon Street only and not to Victoria, thereby cancelling the service via Southwark to Victoria. As well as the loss of the service, this means, that when there are problems or engineering works on the Thameslink line, there won't be the option of rerouting services into Victoria as happens at present.
4. Council assembly accepts that the Lewisham train junction is a busy one. Therefore, if rationalisation of services through this junction is deemed necessary, alternative rerouting to the south of Lewisham would need good, frequent connections at Lewisham and extra train services, i.e. a return to four trains per hour through Southwark, as our residents also use the service southbound towards Dartford for work and school.
5. Council assembly find it unacceptable that the recent consultation has been skewed towards the longer distance commuters. This consultation was not even advertised at our stations. We believe the current system provides a poor outcome for our residents and that Transport for London (TfL) should take on the responsibility for the running of this and other south east London rail services to enable our residents to have a properly integrated transport system.

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

5. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI (Seconded by Councillor Damian O'Brien)

Fire Safety in Southwark

1. Council assembly offers its sincere and heartfelt condolences on behalf of the people of Southwark to all those affected by the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower in Kensington and Chelsea.
2. Council assembly notes:
 - The courageous response of the men and women of the emergency services to the fire at Grenfell Tower.
 - The impressive scale of donations and offers of help from members of the public and voluntary organisations in response to the fire at Grenfell Tower.
 - The contribution of Southwark Council to the London Councils' led Grenfell Fire Response Team in providing support to those affected.
3. Council assembly further notes:
 - The investment into improving the fire safety of council properties in Southwark since the devastating fire at Lakanal House in 2009.
 - Decisions made by the cabinet in 2013 on where best to focus investment in response to the coroner's recommendations.
 - The understandable concerns that Southwark residents will have about the safety of council-owned blocks and about whether they will be safe in the event of a fire.
4. Council assembly therefore calls upon the leader of the council to:
 - Initiate a comprehensive and independent review of fire safety in council tenant blocks across the London Borough of Southwark, including, but not limited to:
 - A review of the decision not to install sprinkler systems in council tower blocks.
 - A review of the advice given to local residents of what to do in the event of a fire.
 - A review of fire escapes and emergency services' access to council tower blocks.
 - A review of all materials used in refurbishment including cladding.

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	Chidilim Agada, Constitutional Manager
Report Author	Virginia Wynn-Jones, Principal Constitutional Officer
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