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| Item No. 6.1 | Classification: Open | Date: January 30 2008 | 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 3.10 – COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW 2007 AND GENERAL LOCAL
GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENT 2008/9 – 2010/11**

Executive on December 18 2007 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on November 21 2007 which had been moved by Councillor Toby Eckersley and seconded by Councillor Nick Stanton:-

1. That council assembly notes:

(a) after adjusting for:

- funding related to the Private Funding Initiative
- a deflator commensurate with inflationary pressures facing local government (3.3%) rather than the GDP deflator of 2.7%.

the three-year settlement for local government announced on 9 October amounts to a real terms increase of 0.5% in the first year and real terms decreases of 0.5% and 0.7% in the second and third years – an average real terms decrease of 0.2% per year in contrast to the government's assertion of an average 1% increase per year over the period;

- (b) that the government's treatment of the devolved regions of the United Kingdom remains unfair to English local authorities, for example the settlement for Scotland is almost twice as generous as the settlement for English councils (on the government basis a 1.8% real terms increase);
- (c) that funding for the Local Authority Business Growth Incentive scheme is to be reduced by 85%;
- (d) London boroughs are not to be permitted to raise the new supplementary business rate.

2. That council assembly notes that research commissioned by the three London Boroughs of Southwark, Lambeth and Lewisham indicates that in recent years the government's use of under-estimates of Southwark's population has resulted in Southwark being short-changed to the extent of around £18m (before grant damping) between 2002 and 2006.

3. That with regard to the government's calculations of residual needs formulae (RNF) for individual local authorities for 2008/09 and beyond (2008/09 figures to be announced in December), council assembly notes:
 - a) that the population on which Southwark's RNF is to be based still seriously under-counts our true population, since a 2004 based population projection instead of a 2006 based projection will be used – implying that our 2008 population is taken by the government to be 266,400 rather than 272,100. Our loss for the three years of the settlement is estimated at £6m (before grant damping). Of all the London boroughs Southwark suffers worst in this regard;
 - b) that, as a result of the inadequacy of the government's methods for estimating migration, areas of high migration and population mobility are disproportionately disadvantaged – the unfairness being exacerbated by many people in the highly mobile category having above-average needs;
 - c) that recent changes in the government's methodology for calculating elements within each authority's RNF pose a massive threat to Southwark, particularly in respect of funding for social services provision for children and vulnerable adults aged 16 – 64. The new method could result in Southwark losing £14m per year;
 - d) that the government's "damping" and "floors and ceilings" mechanisms (designed to cushion temporarily the above effects) are arbitrary and variable year by year, thus preventing Southwark and many other councils from planning over a three-year horizon, and that the government is threatening to reduce from 2008/09 protection for councils which like Southwark are "on the floor".
4. That council assembly therefore urges the executive, and all relevant officers to continue to lobby government for changes of policy and/or for mitigation of the seriously adverse consequences of the above-mentioned matters on the people of Southwark, and urges the opposition party to join this effort.

We agreed the motion.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 3.10 – TRANSPORT PRIORITIES FOR SOUTHWARK

Executive on December 18 2007 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on November 21 2007 which had been moved by Councillor Paul Noblet and seconded by Councillor Lewis Robinson:-

1. That council assembly notes the recent consultation by Network Rail on its rail utilisation strategy for South London and the detrimental effect changes to services could have on thousands of people who live and work in Southwark.
2. That council assembly calls on the executive to keep up pressure on Network Rail not to cut services on the existing route from London Bridge to Victoria via Peckham Rye and Denmark Hill as this would not only negatively impact on the lives of local residents and those who come to work in Southwark, but also on the thousands of local residents and patients who work or use services at Guy's Hospital, King's College Hospital and the Maudsley Hospital.

3. That council assembly further notes that the southern section of the Cross River Tram, and phase 2 of the East London Line extension costs £500 million while the Crossrail scheme is estimated at £16 billion.
4. That council assembly notes the continuing absence of central government funding for the Cross River Tram and phase 2 of the East London Line extension and notes the contribution by the Department for Transport to the Crossrail scheme.
5. That council assembly calls on the Mayor of London to secure early release of funding for transport projects in South London and to guarantee the construction of phase 2 of the East London Line extension and the southern section of the Cross River Tram by ensuring that these items are a funding priority for London.

We agreed the motion.

**MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE
RULE 3.10 – VIOLENT CRIME**

Executive on December 18 2007 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on November 21 2007 which had been moved by Councillor John Friary and seconded by Councillor Peter John and subsequently amended:-

1. That council assembly notes violent crime consists of all violence against the person offences, sexual offences and robberies. It notes that there has been a downward trend in all crime in Southwark since 2003/04 and that violent crime in Southwark is falling faster than the London average.
2. That council assembly notes in 2002/03 Southwark had the third highest violent crime rate in London amongst comparable boroughs.
3. That council assembly notes in 2006/07 Southwark had the second highest violent crime rate amongst comparable boroughs in London, with Tower Hamlets suffering the most violent crimes per 1000 of the population.
4. That council assembly notes in the first six months of this year the people of Tower Hamlets have suffered 8.5% fewer violent crimes per 1000 residents than Southwark, the people of Lambeth 7.8% fewer, Lewisham 6.1%, Newham 5%, Hackney 3.7% and Westminster 1.6% fewer. Council assembly believes this reveals the need for greater resources for Southwark's police to enable them to effectively tackle these types of crime.
5. That council assembly notes violent crime in Southwark fell 7% for the period 2006/07, compared with the London wide reduction of 6%. It notes that there was a 3% decrease in violent crime in the period July-September.
6. That council assembly notes the council is taking steps to address the causes of crime – including:
 - a. Investing in excess of £1 million of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding to support the Safer Southwark Partnership and Southwark Alliance;
 - b. Investing almost £850,000 from children's services to support positive activities for young people, such as the KARROT project;

- c. Setting up the pioneering 'Whatever' campaign to publicise the dangers of gun crime; and,
 - d. Providing funding support to the nationally-recognised 'From Boyhood to Manhood' foundation and the 'Damilola Taylor Trust'
7. That council assembly notes the leading role taken by Southwark Council in establishing the cross-border five boroughs group to take action against crime which often cuts across local authority borders.
 8. That council assembly notes the positive impact which initiatives undertaken by the council are having on the crime rate in Southwark, but believes that without an increased police presence on the borough's streets, the Safer Southwark Partnership and Southwark Alliance are impeded in taking all measures necessary to tackle violent crime in the borough.
 9. That council assembly notes the police budget for London boroughs, including Southwark, is set by the Mayor of London and that he therefore bears direct responsibility for policing levels and crime rates in the borough.
 10. That council assembly supports the "We Need 1,000" campaign to get funding for 1,000 police based in and dedicated to tackling crime in Southwark.
 11. That council assembly therefore calls on the executive member for community safety to write to the Mayor of London to seek his support for the campaign and an assurance that funding for these officers will be made available,

We agreed the motion.

**MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE
RULE 3.10 – CLOSURE OF FELIX POST DAY HOSPITAL**

Executive on December 18 2007 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on November 21 2007 which had been moved by Councillor Michelle Holford and seconded by Councillor Denise Capstick:-

1. That it be noted:
 - a) that government estimates are currently that 1 in 4 people will suffer from some form of mental illness at some point in their life;
 - b) that many people develop mental illness following retirement from work; and,
 - c) that the incidence of dementia-related conditions is increasing as people live longer and that conditions such as multi-infarct dementia and alcohol-related dementia are becoming more common.
2. That it be further noted:
 - a) that South London and Maudsley Foundation Trust (SLAM) is about to consult on proposals to close the Felix Post Day Hospital for older people, which offers diagnostic assessment - including on-site MRI scanning - and therapeutic mental health interventions to people over 64 years of age;

- b) that managers at SLAM are stating that older people who currently attend the Felix Post Day Hospital will move to attend day centres run by social care;
 - c) that the Felix Post Day Hospital may close purely because of cost pressures within SLAM and that any costs will be transferred to the social care budgets of Southwark and Lambeth Councils; and,
 - d) that as a part of the recent comprehensive spending review, the National Health Service is set to receive an increase in funding in region of 7%, while local council budgets continue to be squeezed as a result of the unsatisfactory grant settlement putting further pressure on budgets for social care services.
3. That council assembly believes:
- a) that the service received by older people at the Felix Post Day Hospital is crucial, a "life line" for older people who currently attend;
 - b) that the facility should not be closed simply as a cost saving measure;
 - c) that the closure of the Felix Post facility could have a detrimental impact on the quality of life of the older people who currently attend the day hospital and could take away a valuable resource for those who are likely to require urgent or therapeutic intervention in the future;
 - d) that the proposed expansion of the outreach service will not be an adequate replacement for the loss of the current speedy and responsive diagnostic assessment service and the therapeutic service that is currently available at the Felix Post Day Centre;
 - e) that closure of the Felix Post Day Centre would result in more older people living in isolation in our communities; and;
 - f) that cost shunting from the NHS onto social care budgets is common across the country.
4. That council assembly congratulates the organisations that are campaigning to keep the hospital open, in particular the Southwark Pensioners Action Group, for raising public awareness of the problems faced by mental health service users and therefore calls on the executive to write to the Secretary of State and to the local Members of Parliament to seek assurances that they will respect the views of local residents as expressed in response to the consultation on the proposals.

We agreed the motion.

**MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE
RULE 3.10 – REGENERATION**

Executive on December 18 2007 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on November 21 2007 which had been moved by Councillor Mary Foulkes and seconded by Councillor Kirsty McNeil and subsequently amended:-

- 1. That council assembly believes that local people should benefit from the regeneration of the Elephant and Castle area and it is critical that they have the skills and competencies to gain meaningful employment from it.

2. That council assembly believes that there should be dedicated resources to help local people and businesses to benefit from the jobs, training and business opportunities created by the Elephant and Castle regeneration and welcomes the strong lead already being taken by the executive in partnership with their development partners in this area.
3. That council assembly believes that managing the supply chain effectively is essential to secure opportunities for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) during and post regeneration.
4. That council assembly calls upon the executive to adopt the following recommendations as part of the negotiations for the regeneration agreement which should bind both the council and Lend Lease to adhere to these core principles in taking forward the regeneration of the Elephant and Castle. The negotiations should be based upon ensuring that the opportunities coming from the regeneration scheme should benefit the existing population despite the challenges many in the area face, by investing in education, qualifications and skills and to support local people and SMEs to benefit from the opportunities presented by the regeneration scheme.
5. That council assembly calls upon the executive to ensure that the negotiations for the regeneration agreement aim to ensure that local SMEs benefit from supply chain opportunities by providing them with the support and training required to bid for contracts, and that those displaced have the opportunities to return post regeneration.

And therefore calls upon the executive to ensure that:

- a) The regeneration agreement includes a commitment from Lend Lease and all sub-contractors to ensure equality and diversity is at the forefront of the recruitment practice including advertising in minority newspapers and journals, noting that the executive has already announced its commitment to ensure diversity and equality in the supply chain workforce including equalities impact assessments and notes that the Building London Creating Futures programme has an excellent track record in promoting opportunities among hard to reach groups and those under-represented in the construction sector.
- b) All current and future opportunities should be advertised on the Southwark Council website and proactive steps should be taken to ensure local people and SMEs know about these opportunities, noting that the executive is already working with Lend Lease on an approach that ensures opportunities for local people and SMEs are made widely available through the development period through an on-site access centre as well as partner organisations including Jobcentre Plus, local training and community organisations, local business networks and business support agencies.
- c) The council's development partner should be accountable for tracking fair and compliant employment practices, noting that the council is proposing that Lend Lease should implement the council's innovative Building London Creating Futures project whilst working with the supply chain to develop and enforce equitable recruitment practices. Appropriate targets will be set under the regeneration agreement for recruitment of under-represented groups into construction jobs across the supply chain.

- d) There is adequate supply chain support to assist local firms seeking to compete for contracts, noting that the council has a good record of providing procurement support to local SMEs and will seek to agree with Lend Lease further development of a dedicated specialist procurement project to support Southwark SME/BME businesses to access contracts both for construction and for goods and services in the completed development.
- e) Ensure that the plan includes developing affordable workspace requirements, similar to policies on affordable housing, to make sure that retail and employment space in new development includes affordable accommodation for local SMEs, noting that the council has already secured a commitment from Lend Lease for the construction of substantial affordable work/business space available on flexible lease terms, and in a range of unit sizes suitable for small businesses and that the council has adopted supplementary planning guidance which provides for non-retail workspace within the core area as a necessary component of any eventual area-wide planning consent.
- f) Funding secured through section 106 obligations is used to fund schemes that promote local enterprise, noting that the council's section 106 supplementary planning document provides for section 106 contributions to be used for employment and enterprise support programmes and that officers will seek to secure funds from a range of sources, including section 106, to support delivery of the full economic development benefits expected from the development.
- g) New retail development avoids domination by "clone town" chains at the expense of independent retailers, inviting bodies such as New Economics Foundation (NEF) to advise the council, noting that the council has through the planning approach adopted for the Elephant, rejected a 'clone town' shopping centre with national retail multiples in favour of a network of open streets that supports shopping within a public environment with guarantees space for local, independent retailers.
- h) Support is offered to SMEs in capacity building. That should include promoting good quality public transport in tandem with a sensible approach to parking and vehicle access; and establishing forums where local SMEs can work together to advertise so that they are in a position to compete with larger businesses, noting that SMEs will be supported during the development period and beyond through supply chain support, local business support services and business networks which will continue to operate locally, provide advice and communications forums for local SMEs.
6. That council assembly calls upon the executive to ensure that the regeneration offers local people the opportunity for sustainable jobs.
7. That it should be made clear in the regeneration agreement that Lend Lease and sub-contractors should adopt best employment practice by providing employment opportunities, transparent recruitment, fair employment terms and a decent working environment. This includes:
- A total commitment to health and safety, noting that the council has a long standing commitment to promoting health and safety within its Building London Creating Futures employment and training initiative, including the promotion of incident and injury free (IIF) construction sites and provision of specialist health and safety training for those entering the construction sector through the nation Construction Site Certification Scheme.

- A commitment where feasible to offer the London Living Wage, noting that the council has campaigned strongly in support of the London Living Wage and would encourage all our partners and contractors to sign up to offering this where feasible.
 - Full access to appropriate employee representation (e.g. trade unions), noting that the council recognises the value of trade unions in supporting fair and equitable recruitment and employment practices and we would encourage all our partners and contractors to take a positive approach to employee representation through trade unions.
8. That council assembly calls upon the executive to help ensure that local people have the skills for jobs arising from the regeneration agreement by:
- a) Providing the support for local people to gain apprenticeships and qualifications such as the construction skills certificate schemes, NVQs and equivalents, noting that the council has made it clear that it will seek to agree through the regeneration agreement the adoption of the Building London Creating Futures model (or an appropriate alternative) within the Elephant and Castle redevelopment to deliver local construction jobs, including apprenticeships, and access to the skills needed to work in construction.
 - b) Introducing an employment outreach programme designed to give one-to-one support and advice for local job seekers as well as access to basic skills and interview skills training, noting that the council has made it clear that it will seek to ensure that those furthest from the labour market are included in the benefits of economic development by including in the regeneration agreement the ongoing delivery of the Southwark works programme throughout the development. In addition the council will seek to develop with Lend Lease a specific job brokerage and training programme focused on jobs in the completed Elephant and Castle development.
 - c) Launching a local education programme aimed at raising young people's career aspirations related to the wide range of job opportunities that will be available in their area, noting that the council will seek to include within the regeneration agreement, a programme of work with Lend Lease, local schools, further education and higher education colleges, employers and the Southwark Education Business Alliance to raise awareness of opportunities within the development.
9. That council assembly also calls upon the executive to agree with the regeneration partner clear public targets for local employment and that the monitoring of these targets will be public.
10. That council assembly notes the responsibility of Southwark as a corporate parent and calls on the executive to ensure the best possible access to training and employment for the borough's looked after children.
11. That council assembly calls upon the executive to ensure that the process for ensuring community engagement and involvement should be spelt out in the regeneration agreement. This involves reaching out to all sections of our community including young people, BME communities and those residents with disabilities.

We agreed the motion.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

| Background Papers | Held At | Contact |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Executive agenda and minutes December 18 2007 | Constitutional Team, Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB | Everton Roberts 020 7525 7221 |

AUDIT TRAIL

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|--|--|--------------------------|
| Lead Officer | Ian Millichap, Constitutional Team Manager | |
| Report Author | Everton Roberts, Constitutional Team | |
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