



**COUNCIL ASSEMBLY
(EXTRAORDINARY MEETING)**

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the EXTRAORDINARY meeting of the COUNCIL ASSEMBLY held on THURSDAY MARCH 24, 2005 at 7.00 P.M. at the Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor Councillor Anne Yates

Councillor Alfred Banya	Councillor Kenny Mizzi
Councillor Mick Barnard	Councillor Abdul Mohamed
Councillor Beverley Bassom	Councillor Catriona Moore
Councillor Paul Bates	Councillor Vicky Naish
Councillor Columba Blango	Councillor Graham Neale
Councillor Catherine Bowman	Councillor Gavin O'Brien
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle	Councillor Dr. Abdul Rahman Olayiwola
Councillor Toby Eckersley	Councillor Michelle Pearce
Councillor Stephen Flannery	Councillor Caroline Pidgeon
Councillor John Friary	Councillor Richard Porter
Councillor Aubyn Graham	Councillor Lewis Robinson
Councillor James Gurling	Councillor Jane Salmon
Councillor Barrie Hargrove	Councillor Andrew Simmons
Councillor Alun Hayes	Councillor Tayo Situ
Councillor David Hubber	Councillor Robert Skelly
Councillor Kim Humphreys	Councillor Robert Smeath
Councillor Jonathan Hunt	Councillor Charlie Smith
Councillor Peter John	Councillor Nicholas Stanton
Councillor Billy Kayada	Councillor Richard Thomas
Councillor Paul Kyriacou	Councillor Dominic Thorncroft
Councillor Jelil Ladipo	Councillor Veronica Ward
Councillor Lorraine Lauder	Councillor Neil Watson
Councillor Linda Manchester	Councillor Sarah Welfare
Councillor Eliza Mann	Councillor Lorraine Zuleta
Councillor Daniel McCarthy	
Councillor Dermot McInerney	

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1.1 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Mayor announced that permission had been given for the filming and recording of the meeting to allow proceedings to be transmitted live to Room A2 in order to increase public accessibility.

The Mayor welcomed visitors from Langenhagen, Germany who are twinned with Southwark Council.

The Mayor announced with great pleasure that on March 14 2005, Southwark Council was voted 'Most Improved Council' in the country in the annual Local Government Chronicle awards.

The Mayor further noted that in the Municipal Journal awards, Southwark had been shortlisted as one of the 'Best Achieving Councils' in the country and Phil Davies of the Environment & Leisure department was shortlisted for 'Young Manager of the Year.'

The Mayor announced that School Standards Minister, Stephen Twigg, had praised St. Saviour's and St. Olave's School and the St. Thomas the Apostle College in Southwark and that results in the national tests for 14 year olds (Key Stage 3) made these schools two of the top 100 fastest improving schools based on sustained improvement since 2002.

The Mayor announced that Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment have awarded the Elmington Estate Phase One scheme a 'Building for Life Silver Standard'.

The Leader thanked members of staff and the community for their contribution to the 'most improved council' award.

1.2 NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE MAYOR DEEMS AS URGENT

The Mayor agreed to accept a late deputation request from the Black Awareness Group as it related to business on the agenda.

A copy of supplemental agenda 1 was circulated.

1.3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no disclosures of interests and dispensations.

1.4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Tony Ritchie, Fiona Colley, Ian Wingfield, Alison Moise, Mark Glover, William Rowe, David Bradbury, Mark Pursey, Jeffrey Hook, Lisa Rajan, Denise Capstick and Norma Gibbes.

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillors Kenny Mizzi and Jelil Ladipo.

2 & 3 INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY FRAMEWORK BY LORD OUSELEY (see pages 15 of the agenda)

Council Assembly agreed to hear a deputation relating to this item from the Black Awareness Group. Members were addressed by the deputation's spokesperson, Lucia Hinton. Thereafter the deputation withdrew to the public gallery.

Councillor Nick Stanton, seconded by Councillor Columba Blango, moved the motion.

Councillor Peter John, seconded by Councillor Tayo Situ, moved Amendment A.

A procedural motion to alter Amendment A was put to the vote and was carried.

Following debate (Councillors Aubyn Graham, Richard Thomas, Dominic Thorncroft, Dr. Abdul Rahman Olayiwola, Paul Bates, Mick Barnard, Vicky Naish, Andrew Simmons, Michelle Pearce and Daniel McCarthy), Amendment A (as altered with the consent of council assembly) was put to the vote and declared to be lost.

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.17 (5), Councillors Mick Barnard, Alfred Banya, Paul Bates, Dora Dixon-Fyle, John Friary, Aubyn Graham, Barrie Hargrove, Alun Hayes, Peter John, Billy Kayada, Lorraine Lauder, Abdul Mohamed, Vicky Naish, Michelle Pearce, Andy Simmons, Tayo Situ, Robert Smeath, Charlie Smith, Dominic Thorncroft, Veronica Ward and Sarah Welfare requested that their votes in favour of Amendment A be recorded in the minutes.

Following debate, (Councillors Eliza Mann, Jonathan Hunt, Catherine Bowman, Richard Porter, Caroline Pigeon, Alun Hayes and Andrew Simmons) Councillor Nick Stanton exercised his right to reply.

The substantive motion was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED: That council welcomes Lord Ouseley's review of the council equalities and diversity framework and thanks Lord Ouseley for his work.

Council notes that Lord Ouseley found that Southwark has comprehensive equality and diversity policies, which are among the best in local government, but that Southwark's success cannot be measured simply on its policies but also on how it delivers them. In some cases the council has not succeeded in doing so. The council must be seen to deliver and gain the trust and confidence of all sections of the community by communicating and consulting with them.

Council welcomes the action of the executive in setting up an all party working group to oversee the council's response to Lord Ouseley's recommendations.

Council recognises the key role for members that Lord Ouseley highlights and urges all members to accept their responsibility to ensure that the issues facing the communities of Southwark are addressed to the highest possible standard.

4 DEPUTATION FROM THE BLACK AWARENESS GROUP (see supplemental agenda 1)

This item was considered alongside item 2 & 3.

The meeting closed at 8.59 p.m.

MAYOR:

DATED: