

Item No. 7.	Classification: Open	Date: September 14 2005	Meeting Name: Council assembly
Report title:		Motions	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Chief Executive (Borough Solicitor)	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 3.10, the member moving the motion may make a speech directed to the matter under discussion. (This may not exceed five minutes without the consent of the Mayor).

The seconder 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 open up to debate on the issue and any amendments on the motion will be dealt with.

At the end of the debate the mover of the motion may exercise 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 members to vote on the motion (and any amendments).

IMPLICATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution allocates particular responsibility for functions to council assembly, for approving the budget and policy framework, and to the executive, 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 reserved to the executive (i.e. housing, social services, regeneration, environment, education etc) cannot be decided upon by council assembly without prior reference to the executive. While it would be in order for council assembly to discuss an issue, consideration of any of the following should be referred to the executive:

- 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 3.10 (5) & (6) (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. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR CAROLINE PIDGEON (seconded by Councillor Beverley Bassom)

Please note that in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 3.10 (3), this motion will be considered by council assembly.

Council assembly notes:

(i) the vital role that volunteers play in our community and the importance of volunteering in improving people's lives, tackling local problems and strengthening neighbourhoods and people's sense of community;

(ii) that volunteering can lead to a reduction in crime in the community and an increase in local trust and social capital;

(iii) that volunteering can provide people with important work experience and skills that are useful in employment as well as providing a connection to social networks;

Council assembly believes:

(i) that businesses should encourage their staff to volunteer by offering more opportunities to them, advertising volunteering schemes and establishing links with voluntary organisations;

(ii) that meaningful incentives are important in recruiting volunteers and notes the innovative idea of time banks as a way of rewarding volunteers for their time and encouraging new people to start volunteering. Council assembly further notes the success of Time Banks UK and London Time Banks in setting up time banks across the UK allowing people to share their time and resources to help one another;

Council assembly therefore:

- welcomes the initiative of the Council's environment & leisure department in setting up a time bank pilot scheme which started in July 2005 and calls upon the council to receive a progress report on the first six months of the pilot in January 2006;
- pledges its support to Time Banks UK and London Time Banks and asks officers to look into meaningful ways that the Council can actively support the Southwark Timebank Consortium made up of: Aylesbury Time Bank; Cares of Life; Charles Dickens Time Bank; Hour Bank, Peckham; My Time, Your Time; SLAM NHS Trust; Time to Share, Southwark; and Cambridge House Time Bank [the Help Exchange].
- requests that, if the environment & leisure pilot proves successful, the council considers how time banking projects can be rolled out across all council departments.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE

The council is currently a member of the Southwark Time Bank Consortium – the objective of which is to support and develop the time bank approach and infrastructure in Southwark.

The Southwark Alliance through the neighbourhood renewal fund currently supports the role of Timebank Connector for the Southwark Timebanking Consortium.

The Southwark Time Bank Connector's role focuses on strengthening the time bank co-operation; expanding the activities; and building partnerships with public and voluntary organisations and bodies.

The future funding of this role will be taken on jointly by all members of the Southwark Time Bank Consortium.

The environment and leisure Pilot involves the arts, parks and sports business units. A programme has been developed in collaboration with the Time Bank Consortium and the brokers of the Southwark Time Banks. Members of time banks can get benefit from a wide range of activities including training, work shadowing, volunteering at arts and sports events, swimming, theatre performances, tennis court hire. This is all done without any exchange of money.

The head of social inclusion and the strategic director of environment and leisure will report back on the first six months of the pilot in January 2006.

2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR FIONA COLLEY (seconded by Councillor Andy Simmons)

Please note that in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 3.10 (3), this motion will be considered by council assembly.

Council assembly notes that due to tender bids vastly exceeding original estimates the long awaited refurbishment plans for Bishop's House Children's Centre have been placed on hold and that officers are considering recommending the permanent closure of the centre to the council in October.

Council assembly believes that Bishop's House is an immensely valuable community resource. It was one of the first centres in Southwark to achieve Children's Centre status. It provides a range of mainstream services, including education and childcare, in addition to specialised services such as a family contact centre and facilities for children with special needs. Its closure would be a huge loss for the local community and would leave Newington ward without children's centre facilities.

Council assembly is deeply concerned that despite the increased refurbishment costs being known in June 2005

- that officers decided to go ahead with the closure in late August;
- that staff at the centre were not informed of the change in plans until one week before the closure;
- and that parents were not informed of the changed circumstances until after the closure

Council assembly believes that for consultation on the future of the centre to be meaningful it should have taken place whilst the centre was still open and deeply regrets the failure of the council to do this.

Council assembly asks the members for Newington ward to clarify their involvement and knowledge of events, especially with regard to the point at which they became aware that refurbishments might not be affordable, and that the centre would be recommended for closure.

Council assembly requests that the deputy leader of the council take steps to ensure that staff and parents are consulted on the future of Bishop's House as comprehensively as is now possible.

Council assembly also calls on overview and scrutiny committee instigate a full investigation into these concerns and also into possible links between increased early years fees, the increasing vacancy rate at Southwark's early years centres and the proposed closure.

Note: If the motion is agreed, any proposals will be submitted to the overview and scrutiny committee for consideration.

COMMENTS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

To follow.

3. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR KIM HUMPHREYS (seconded by Councillor Lewis Robinson)

Please note that in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 3.10 (3), this motion will be considered by council assembly.

Council assembly notes with disappointment the continuing inability of Transport for London (TfL) to carry out adequate consultation on proposed bus route changes, and where representations are made, reach solutions which local communities feel are acceptable, the introduction of bus stands on Friern Road being just one example of many in the borough.

Whilst the No 12 bus is an important service linking Dulwich to central London, the introduction of bendy buses on unsuitable roads in Dulwich, and the bus stands on Friern Road, has had a considerable adverse impact on traffic flow, safety and the local community.

Council assembly calls on the executive to instruct the transport group to investigate the following proposals, already proposed by local residents and councillors regarding the No 12 Bus;

- Our own feasibility study (working with Lewisham transport officers) of the viability of running the service through to Forest Hill.
- A traffic and amenity study of the effects of the bus stands on Friern Road and Lordship Lane.
- Negotiate with TfL the use of a smaller bus in the late evenings to minimize current disturbance to residents on this 24/7 route.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION

London Buses' procedures for consultation on bus route changes have been considered by overview and scrutiny committee and at the transport consultative forum.

This matter has also been taken up by the London Assembly's transport committee and, taking into account the conclusions of overview and scrutiny committee, the council has made submissions to that committee. In general, the statutory obligations on London Buses to consult on matters such as route changes limit their responsibility although it is noted that they are increasing their efforts to consult by, for example, sending representatives to community councils when requested. For matters such as changes to the highway and the positioning of bus stands to facilitate bus operation on all borough roads it falls to the council to carry out consultation.

Consultation on changes to the bus stands at the terminus of the number 12 route was carried out by Southwark Council. The results of this consultation have been reported to London Buses. Residents have concerns about the proposal to make part of Friern Road one-way and it is not recommended that this is carried out.

London Buses have reported that, as far as bus operations are concerned, the present arrangements are operating satisfactorily and the reliability of route 12 has improved since November 2004.

London Buses have informed us that they have thoroughly investigated the option of extending route 12 to Forest Hill as a result of suggestions raised throughout the consultation period. However, having undertaken a cost benefit analysis their conclusion is that there is no business case for this as the link is already provided by routes 176, 185 and 312.

Officers will request a copy of the investigation and cost benefit analysis undertaken by London Buses so that it can be reviewed by council officers and ward members to ascertain if the final decision not to re-route the service to Forest Hill is fully justified. This assessment should be carried out before any decision to commission a further study.

The effects on traffic of the bus stands in Lordship Lane and Friern Road have already been addressed by the stage three safety audit that prescribed recommendations to improve safety, operation of the bus stands and traffic management in the area. Officers will assess the impact on amenity of the bus stands with specific reference to noise issues.

The current evening frequency of the route 12 service is the same as when the route was previously being served by route master buses. However, the new buses have a larger capacity to cope with growing demand for the service.

London Buses have informed the council that the type of bus used on the route is prescribed in the tender document with the service operator. Changing the type of bus at certain times of the day will increase the cost to the operator. Using a smaller bus would also result in an increase in the number of buses accessing the area to meet current capacity requirements, which in itself have impacts on traffic, safety and amenity. However, officers will continue to explore with London Buses possible ways in which amenity and safety can be further enhanced.

4. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR DR. ABDUR-RAHMAN OLAYIWOLA (seconded by Councillor Nick Stanton)

Please note that in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 3.10 (3), this motion will be considered by council assembly.

Council assembly notes the current heightened security status of the whole of London's transport system and the need for greater vigilance;

Council assembly understands the important role played by station staff in identifying possible threats to security and in reassuring passengers;

Council assembly therefore notes with regret the proposals put out to consultation by South Eastern Trains Ltd. to reduce the opening hours of ticket offices and to cut staffing at smaller stations;

Council assembly notes that the proposals as set out would result in a loss of hundreds of hours of ticket office staffing across all South Eastern Train stations, with a loss of nearly 65 hours a week in stations in and just outside the borders of Southwark (including Denmark Hill, Herne Hill, London Bridge, Nunhead, Sydenham Hill and West Dulwich);

Council assembly therefore calls on South Eastern Trains to reconsider these proposals to improve the safety and security of all those using their trains and stations.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (PERFORMANCE AND STRATEGY)

To follow.

5. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLIE SMITH (seconded by Councillor Veronica Ward)

Please note that in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 3.10 (3), this motion will be considered by council assembly.

This assembly calls upon the council to undertake an urgent review of the housing repairs call centre. Inefficiencies and daily mistakes caused by poor communication systems are affecting the quality of life for council tenants especially in emergency situations. These problems must be put right as a matter of urgency.

We ask that the review look particularly at three areas of concern:

- Poor recording of the problem by the call centre leading to contractors being sent out to the wrong address and the wrong problem and leading to confusion between contractors and housing office about who in the line of communication is taking responsibility for a specific repair.
- The long time many tenants and residents wait on the phone before they get through to the call centre.
- The need to look at the adequacy of the training given to people working at the call centre

We believe that these serious communication defects are costing a great deal of money totally unnecessarily and frustrating tenants and residents as well as staff and contractors.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT)

To follow.

6. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID BRADBURY (seconded by Councillor Kim Humphreys)

Please note that in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 3.10 (3), this motion will be considered by council assembly.

Council assembly notes that when members meet to determine planning applications, applicants are increasingly suggesting that “modern” designs put forward are because officers have steered them in that direction.

Council assembly believes it is inappropriate for the local authority to be actively encouraging “modern design” in new developments in those areas of the borough which maintain a preponderance of more traditional designs, and that in areas with a mixture of housing design, where residents wish to see a balance maintained, the authority should strictly observe a neutral stance when dealing with developers.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION

To follow.

7. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR LISA RAJAN (seconded by Councillor Columba Blango)

Please note that in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 3.10 (3), this motion will be considered by council assembly.

Council assembly congratulates the successful London 2012 Olympic bid team and notes Southwark's potential as a host for events in the cultural programme of the Olympics;

Council assembly hopes that in its stated aim of helping some of the most deprived areas, the London 2012 plan will extend to parts of Southwark;

Council assembly notes the tremendous success of the Community Games in involving local people of all ages and backgrounds in sporting activities and calls on officers to promote the Community Games as a model for community involvement and the promotion of a healthy lifestyle across all London boroughs;

Council assembly notes that the success of the Community Games and also the success of the Southwark team in coming third in this year's London Youth Games, highlights the sporting potential of young people in the borough;

Council assembly therefore urges Southwark's department of environment and leisure to work closely with the London 2012 organising bodies and Tessa Jowell's Department of Culture, Media and Sport to ensure that Southwark receives the fullest benefits from the Olympic legacy;

Council requests that the executive receives a report covering all potential opportunities the Olympics and Paralympics may provide for Southwark, including opportunities for investment in sports facilities, for hosting cultural events and for attracting countries to the borough for their training and preparation camps.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE

To follow.

8. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR DORA DIXON-FYLE (seconded by Councillor Graham Neale)

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.12 (2), notice of this motion, which is similar to one rejected at a meeting of the council assembly in the previous six months, was signed by at least 16 members. The named members are as follows: Councillors Dora Dixon-Fyle, Graham Neale, Peter John, Fiona Colley, Paul Bates, Charlie Smith, Michelle Pearce, Tayo Situ, Andy Simmons, Stephen Flannery, Nick Stanton, Eliza Mann, Jane Salmon, Bob Skelly, David Hubber and Jeff Hook.

Please note that in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 3.10 (3), this motion will be considered by council assembly.

1. This council notes that since 4th May 2004 when the council pledged its support to the principles of Fairtrade, the London Borough of Southwark has registered with the Fairtrade Foundation as an organisation working towards securing Fairtrade status and made some progress including making Café Direct products available at community council meetings, promoting Fairtrade principles at the Fairtrade fair as part of the ‘taste the flavas of Peckham’ festival, and switching to Fairtrade coffee/tea suppliers by some business units in the council.

2. Council assembly welcomes the work that many local groups including Christ Church Barry Road, Friends of the Earth, Oxfam, other faith groups and many local individuals have done over the years in support of Fairtrade and trade justice, in particular in raising awareness of Fairtrade issues and beginning work on a Fairtrade directory of shops and outlets where Fairtrade products are available.

3. Council assembly reiterates its commitment to Southwark becoming a Fairtrade borough, and notes that a report will be presented to the council in the autumn to include a 12 month action plan for promoting Fairtrade. To meet the standards set out by the Fairtrade Foundation, plans for achieving the following goals must be included:

- Ensuring that Fairtrade tea and coffee are served at all council meetings/buildings.
- Determining the current availability of Fairtrade products within Southwark.
- Investigating ways in which Fairtrade products could be available more generally within the council.
- Enlisting the support of suppliers to the campaign.
- Raising awareness of and so stimulate demand for Fairtrade products, for example via articles in the Council’s magazine *Southwark Life*

- Working with local workplaces and community groups to persuade them to commit to using Fairtrade products
- Seeking out further potential retail and catering outlets
- Assembling a portfolio of evidence of meeting the five goals for submission to the Fairtrade Foundation.

4. In addition, council assembly calls on the executive to set up a cross-party steering group with members from each political group, to work urgently towards achieving Fairtrade status for Southwark.

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

COMMENTS FROM ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (PERFORMANCE AND STRATEGY)

To follow.

9. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR WILLIAM ROWE (seconded by Councillor Toby Eckersley)

Please note that in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 3.10 (3), this motion will be considered by council assembly.

With regard to the need to improve value for money and relationships with both tenants and leaseholders, Council assembly requests the council to instruct officers to bring a full report to council assembly on the risks and opportunities facing the council from current housing issues including;

- “partnering” arrangements for works contracts
- “Decent Homes” targets and timetable
- capacity constraints in the construction industry
- waivers of obligations to leaseholders

and setting out in detail how the housing department proposes to address each of these areas to minimise risk and maximise benefit.

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

COMMENTS FROM STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

Within the housing department we are currently looking at improving value for the council from the contracts we let. We are actively developing a partnering programme which reflects Egan principles as well as complying with the council's new contract standing orders. Examples of how we are developing this programme are set out below.

- i. We piloted this approach in two partnering contracts for major works in Housing - West Bermondsey with United House, and Peckham with Apollo (partnering) Ltd. We intend to adopt the 'Lessons Learned' from both partnering schemes, prior to extending this approach to other areas. The review of these current contracts is already underway, with a view to submission of a strategy for major works procurement for housing to the executive in October.

Executive have already agreed the approach for the new housing repairs & maintenance contract - to be let in 2006. Repairs and maintenance contracts will be let on an 'incremental partnering' basis, where full partnering will be developed when the performance of the contracts is at a level when full partnering can be proved to be successful and improve value.

As part of both processes, residents - tenants and leaseholders have, or will be, involved in both the appointment; and monitoring and management of all contractors. Working groups have been established for both contracts. The contribution from residents will be detailed in the executive reports. (Gateway 1 and Gateway 2 – Major Works Procurement; and Gateway 2 for the Repairs and Maintenance Contract 2006-2013).

- ii. The government's target for all social housing to meet the decent homes standard is 2010. The council is already making progress in reducing the number of properties not meeting this standard through targeting our existing investment programme toward decent homes components. However, in common with most local authorities these targets will prove challenging in view of the major investment required. We are required by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) to conduct a stock options appraisal to identify any investment shortfall and determine how best to meet this shortfall.

In April 2005, executive, in line with ODPM guidance, we agreed to set up a working group comprising cross party member representatives, tenant and leaseholder representatives, and independent tenant and leaseholder advisors. The group is currently meeting fortnightly.

As well as ratifying the council's investment and resource assumptions; the group is developing a communications strategy to ensure all tenants and leaseholders in relation to both the decent homes target and their own aspirations for future investment. The working group will then make recommendations to executive on preferred options to meet the decent homes target, prior to submission to the Government Office for London.

- iii. As part of the review of major works and following the implementation of Southwark's first partnering pilots, the major works strategy to be submitted to Executive will consider the deliverability of works. This strategy will incorporate consideration of industry capacity which can have a major effect on the deliverability of any major works project.
- iv. By "waivers of obligations to leaseholders" it is assumed that the motion refers to applications to the Leasehold Valuation Tribunal (LVT) for dispensation under the statutory provisions governing consultation with leaseholders.

The council has no policy on applying to the LVT for dispensation - it is only ever done when circumstances dictate that the detailed consultation requirements cannot be met. The LVT will only agree to dispensation if all other statutory consultation requirements that can be met are dealt with properly and only then if it is reasonable to do so.

Responses to the ODPM's consultation paper on the changes to section 20 contained in Commonhold and Leasehold Reform Act 2002 indicated that it would be impossible to comply with the (then draft) regulations if local authorities started to procure services following Egan principles. The ODPM's written response was that in such cases landlords should apply to

the LVT for dispensation. In other words it is fully accepted that dispensation applications would be the norm, especially for local authorities using non traditional procurement methods. Indeed the specific purpose of this statutory device is to ensure that landlords would not be in a position of being unable to comply when delivering major works in accordance with government policy. The dispensation route should not be seen as 'a way out of consultation', quite the contrary, it can be far more onerous both in itself and if the LVT sets conditions.

10. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN (seconded by Councillor Bob Skelly)

Please note that in accordance with Council assembly procedure rule 3.10 (3), this motion will be considered by Council assembly.

Council assembly

(i) expresses its concern at

- the decline of local services and facilities which affects local communities and in particular the elderly and people on the lowest incomes;
- the resulting decline of local jobs and local economies and the resulting extra traffic and pollution caused by the need to travel further

(ii) and notes that this combination of factors increases people's feelings of exclusion and lack of involvement; and so

(iii) supports measures to reverse this process and

(iv) supports the concept of local sustainability as envisaged in the Sustainable Communities Bill, namely;

- the promotion of local economies
- the promotion of local services and facilities
- the protection of the environment
- the reduction of social exclusion and
- measures to increase involvement in the democratic process

(iv) and accordingly resolves to support the Sustainable Communities Bill which

- requires the government to assist councils and communities in promoting local sustainability in ways decided by them; and
- sets up a participative process whereby councils and communities can drive the way in which government uses its power and influence to assist with the promotion of local sustainability; and
- notes that this Bill is therefore fully in accord with current thinking in local government in that it impacts on central authorities and does not impose any new duties on councils but instead enables them to influence how government uses its resources and influence to help councils and communities; and
- specifically provides that where councils themselves decide to take action to promote local sustainability that they should be given the resources to do so; and so

(v) resolves to write to

- local MPs, asking them to sign EDM (Early Day Motion) No. 641 and/or publicly declare their support for the Bill; and
- Local Works, the campaign behind the Bill, (at 94 White Lion St, London N1 9PF) expressing its support.

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

COMMENTS FROM ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (PERFORMANCE AND STRATEGY)

To follow.

11. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LAUDER (seconded by Councillor Paul Bates)

Please note that in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 3.10 (3), this motion will be considered by council assembly.

This council notes the very many incidences of lift breakdowns on the Portland estate.

Council notes that in the last year alone, a number of elderly residents have been injured through falls because the lifts doors open when the lift itself is not level with the ground; that elderly residents have been trapped in their own homes because they cannot manage flights of steps; that residents have been trapped on the ground floor unable to access their homes.

Council notes the recent expenditure as agreed by housing department officers to “refurbish” the lifts on the Portland estate. Council notes that an identified contractor was chosen to carry out the “refurbishment”.

Council notes consistently high numbers of breakdowns in the lifts, despite “refurbishment” work having taken place at cost to the taxpayer.

Council believes that the “refurbishment” programme on the Portland estate has failed to improve service performance.

Council believes that only a complete replacement of lifts on the Portland estate would guarantee service performance in line with residents’ expectations.

Council believes that serious mistakes have been made in the management of the recent “refurbishment” process and that the programme itself has largely been a waste of taxpayer’s money.

Council requests the Housing scrutiny sub-committee to conduct a one-off inquiry into the situation on the Portland estate, with special regard to the recent appointment of contractors to manage the “refurbishment” and look at whether best value was achieved; as well as to recommend a course of action to the Council which would improve service performance beyond current unacceptable levels.

Note: If the motion is agreed, any proposals will be submitted to the overview and scrutiny committee for consideration.

COMMENTS FROM STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

In January and February 2005, the high incidence of repairs required to the lifts on Portland Estate prompted an inspection of each lift by Southwark's lift engineers. They found that the lifts were generally well maintained and in good working condition. One component, however, which controls how the lifts move and stop, was found to be obsolete and in a poor state of repair.

Work was prioritised to invest in the replacement of this component in each lift on Portland Estate and special arrangements were made with the manufacturers to shorten the usual delivery times, so that the job could be started as soon as possible. The work started in May 2005 and was completed at the end of August. The lifts are now generally operating without problems (over the August bank holiday, for example, the lifts were all operating all the time, with the exception of the last one in the programme, in Studland House, which was still being checked over, after the component replacement.)

The investment work has brought the lifts back into a state of overall high reliability and good repair, with a life expectancy of another ten years. The work has cost one-third of the cost of the "complete replacement" works suggested in the motion and offers good value for money.

12. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR IAN WINGFIELD (seconded by Councillor John Friary)

Please note that in accordance with Council assembly procedure rule 3.10 (3), this motion will be considered by Council assembly.

The council assembly calls upon the council to plan & hold suitable celebrations in Southwark led by the Mayor to commemorate the bicentenary of Admiral Lord Nelson's victory at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805 given the historic ties of this borough to the Royal Navy and maritime trade more generally.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE

The Sea Britain coordinating group agreed the programme of Trafalgar and Nelson events being staged in the UK in 2005 several years ago. Given the status and profile of the events they were focused on major maritime ports of Chatham and Portsmouth.

Trafalgar events were not proposed to form a part of this years Southwark events programme. It was decided to focus on the enhancement of existing major events in the borough and on VE/VJ day and equalities events.

However, as part of our collaborative approach, this years Thames Festival which is held on the 17 and 18 of September is being extended from Tate Modern to Tower Bridge and Southwark has contributed funding to this major national event. Trafalgar and Nelson themes form a significant part of the festival including:-

- The Trafalgar great river race
- The Thames flotilla
- Faldo Barge race
- Thames Walks "with a touch of Nelson"

alongside other events that generally celebrate the river.

Therefore it is not proposed that there should be any further events to commemorate the bicentenary of Nelson's victory.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Member Motions	Town Hall Peckham Road London SE5 8UB	Constitutional Team 020 7525 7228

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Team Manager
Report Author	Cameron MacLean, Constitutional Officer
Version	Final
Dated	September 2 2005