

Item No. 8.1	Classification: Open	Date: December 6 2006	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 - HEALTH SERVICE CUTS

Executive on October 10 2006 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on September 13 2006 which had been moved by Councillor Denise Capstick and seconded by Councillor Michelle Holford:

1. That council assembly notes and condemns the severe funding cuts of £20 million to health services across Southwark.
2. That these cuts include:
 - £8 million cut to King's College Hospital NHS Trust
 - £8 million cut to Guy's & St Thomas' Hospital Foundation Trust
 - £4 million cut to South London & Maudsley (SLAM) NHS Trust
3. That at the same time social services across the country are already under pressure.
4. That council assembly notes that these cuts come despite much promoted real increases in funding.
5. That council assembly believes that the NHS is over centralised with too much national target setting, which prevents clinicians from working in the best interests of the patient and diverts money from local priorities.
6. That council assembly notes that of the 31 London primary care trusts (PCTs) nearly one third are predicting a deficit for the 2005/06 year and Southwark PCT is having its resources cut to bail out indebted PCTs elsewhere in London.
7. That council assembly further notes that concerns have been raised that changes to the national payment-by-results system financially penalise acute trusts, such as Guy's & St Thomas' and King's College Hospital, for being more cost-effective in reducing specific waiting lists, such as hip replacement surgery.
8. That council assembly notes with concern the evidence of the Royal College of Psychiatrists to the House of Commons Health Select Committee, which states

that disinvestment in mental health services results in “damaging cuts to Adult Mental Health, Older Adult Services, and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

9. That council assembly therefore disagrees with the Secretary of State for Health’s claim that the NHS is enjoying “its best year ever” and requests that the executive member for health & adult care writes to the Health Secretary asking her to halt the proposed cuts to our local health services. Furthermore, council assembly requests that the executive asks the secretary of state to revisit the policy that allows strongly performing trusts to be penalised by the actions of under performing ones.
10. That council assembly also calls on the Joint PCT/executive board to work with Southwark’s local Members of Parliament to put forward Southwark’s case to the Health Secretary at the MPs’ upcoming meeting.

We agreed the motion and noted that an item relating to this issue would be considered by the joint meeting of the executive and Southwark PCT (Health and Social Care Board) on October 16 2006.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 3.10 - NELSON & PORTLAND ESTATE SECURITY

Executive on October 10 2006 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on September 13 2006 which had been moved by Councillor Lorraine Lauder and seconded by Councillor Paul Bates and subsequently amended:

1. That council assembly notes the continued problem of vagrants and drug users congregating on the stairwells of the Portland estate towers, as well as drugs paraphernalia in and around the Nelson & Portland estate.
2. That council assembly notes the long-standing campaign by the Nelson Estate Tenants and Residents Association (TRA) for secure entry doors for residents and further notes the view of the local Faraday Safer Neighbourhood Team that secure entry doors would provide the best means of guaranteeing a reduction in problems with drug dealing, drug use and vagrancy on the estate.
3. That council assembly believes that ballots on the estate held some years ago to allow residents to approve a secure door entry scheme did not secure a positive result in favour because a surcharge was to be imposed to finance it.
4. That council assembly believes that council tenants and leaseholders should not be scared to step foot outside their own door because they are worried about crime being perpetrated by non-residents using the estate as a shelter and/or place to sleep or engage in drug use.
5. That council assembly notes that a previous administration introduced the policy to charge for the installation of secure door entry schemes and to reverse that policy for the Portland & Nelson estate would be inequitable for tenants and residents across the borough.

6. That council assembly notes the comments of the strategic director of housing that he will continue to bid for any other resources that might become available for community safety initiatives to supplement its investment programme.
7. That council assembly notes the comments of the strategic director of housing that door entry systems are not part of the government's decent homes criteria and asks the executive member to press the government to provide additional resources to fund security measures on housing estates.

We agreed the motion and requested that officers compile a list of blocks in excess of 10 stories and carry out a feasibility study of where door entry systems could be provided (subject to resources being available).

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 3.10 - UNITED NATIONS MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Executive on October 10 2006 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on September 13 2006 which had been moved by Councillor Columba Blango and seconded by Councillor Jonathan Mitchell:

1. That council assembly notes the United Nations Millennium Development Goals as agreed by the UN in its Millennium Declaration in 2000:
 - (a) Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
 - (b) Achieve universal primary education
 - (c) Promote gender equality and empower women
 - (d) Reduce child mortality
 - (e) Improve maternal health
 - (f) Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
 - (g) Ensure environmental sustainability
 - (h) Develop a global partnership for development
2. That council assembly notes that although some progress has been made on the eight goals there is growing concern that they will not be achieved by 2015. There is also a growing acceptance that the MDGs and targets must be localised and that local governments should play a greater role in achieving them.
3. That council assembly notes Southwark's successful partnership work, through the Local Government International Bureau, with Koidu Town Council in Sierra Leone and the benefits it has provided to both communities.
4. That council assembly also notes the work that Southwark has undertaken to alleviate poverty locally and internationally, including:
 - the wide-ranging anti-poverty programme which includes support to local enterprises, improved childcare provision, increased benefit take-up, and help for those people who face difficulties finding work;

- committing to large-scale regeneration programmes across the borough designed to vastly improve the quality and supply of housing, and economic opportunities;
 - a strong commitment to becoming a fair-trade borough.
5. That council assembly therefore calls on the executive to:
- Request that officers work closely with the UK Local Government Alliance for International Development to promote the work that Southwark is undertaking to eradicate poverty and to learn from other local authorities on action they are taking locally, nationally and internationally.
 - Call on members and officers to take part in the “STAND UP Against Poverty, Stand Up for the Millennium Development Goals” event on Monday October 16, which aims to set an official Guinness World Record for the largest number of people to stand up against poverty in 24 hours to raise awareness of the MDGs.

We agreed the motion.

**MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE
3.10 - MAROONS RESOURCE CENTRE CARERS GROUP**

Executive on October 10 2006 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on September 13 2006 which had been moved by Councillor Aubyn Graham and seconded by Councillor Chris Page:

1. That council assembly welcomes the valuable and important service which the Maroons Project in Camberwell has provided for many years for mental health sufferers in Southwark.
2. That council assembly notes that the project has been running from industrial units unsuitable for vulnerable service users.
3. That council assembly calls on the executive member for health and social care to investigate and report back on what attempts have been made by Southwark council in the past 10 years to find suitable premises for the project; and further calls on the executive member to assist in relocating this valuable project to adequate premises.

We agreed the motion and noted that suitable premises in Bethwin Road, SE5 had been identified.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Executive agenda and minutes October 10 2006	Constitutional Team, Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB	Everton Roberts 020 7525 7221

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Team Manager	
Report Author	Everton Roberts, Constitutional Team	
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CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
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Borough Solicitor	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Support Services		November 21 2006