

Council Assembly

Wednesday 21 January 2015

7.00 pm

Harris Academy Peckham, 112 Peckham Road, London SE15 5DZ

Supplemental Agenda No.2

List of Contents

Item No.	Title	Page No.
3.	Themed Debate - Healthy and active communities including sport, leisure and volunteering	1
	Community views on the theme.	
3.1.	Community evidence	2 - 5
	.Community evidence has been received in respect of the following:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Dulwich Helpline• Ex-members of Westminster House Youth Club in Nunhead• The Terrence Higgins Trust• Community Action Southwark• Air quality in Southwark• Mental Fight Club (Dragon Cafe)• London City Athletics Club Committee.	
7.	Amendments	6 - 11

Contact

Lesley John on 020 7525 7228 or 020 7525 7222 or email: lesley.john@southwark.gov.uk;
andrew.weir@southwark.gov.uk; constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk
Webpage: <http://www.southwark.gov.uk>

Date: 20 January 2014

Council Assembly – 21 January 2015**Community views - Healthy and active communities****QUESTIONS:**

1. Do you currently take part in any regular physical activity or sport? What do you do, how often and where?
2. Would you like to do more physical activity and sport? What is preventing you from doing physical activity and sport at the moment?
3. Do you volunteer regularly?

RESPONSES:

- I exercise at home – sit ups, that sort of thing. I didn't realise that there will be free gym and swimming sessions, I might try them.
- I am on my feet 12 hours a day in my job, which is six days a week, and I am a single parent – I get my fitness through that. I suppose that there will be plenty of people who would benefit from free gym and swim and from support from a buddy (volunteer) because they can't afford it otherwise, but I have no time for that....same for volunteering.
- I have played football every Sunday since I was a kid – if I wasn't so busy working at my apprenticeship, then I would probably volunteer to help out at a sports club or fitness facility. I can't volunteer right now, because I am so busy.
- I am a member of a Fusion [gym] – I have been a member for over 10 years and use the facilities regularly. My friend used to go with me but has stopped since she lost her job. I think that volunteering to be a "gym buddy" is a good idea, but I haven't got time right now, because I help to look after my grandchildren. I used to volunteer. I think that volunteering is good to give to the community, especially to help the children when parents are so busy earning a living. I used to help at a youth centre.
- I play football every Sunday, and I go to a gym as well. I think that I would like to volunteer in an academic function, such as helping primary school children. I haven't done it before, so I wouldn't engage with adults.
- I have diabetes, so I don't do as much as I used to - I do walking. I used to volunteer as the chair of a tenants and residents organisation.

Item No. 4.	Classification: Open	Date: 21 January 2015	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Community Evidence on the Themed Debate	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Introduction

1. On 16 September 2014 the council assembly business panel met to agree the theme for 2014/15 meetings of council assembly. The panel agreed that the theme for 21 January 2015 should be 'healthy and active communities, including sport, leisure and volunteering'.

Community evidence on the theme

2. The deadline for community evidence was midnight, Thursday, 15 January 2015.
3. The following requests have been received by the deadline for consideration by this meeting (listed in the order received):
 - 1) Submission from Dulwich Helpline
 - 2) Submission from ex members of Westminster House Youth Club in Nunhead
 - 3) Submission from the Terrence Higgins Trust
 - 4) Submission from Community Action Southwark
 - 5) Submission on air quality, its sources and impacts in London with a focus on Southwark from Dr Ian Mudway and Andrew Grieve
 - 6) Mental Fight Club (Dragon Café)
 - 7) London City Athletics Club Committee
4. Which community evidence shall be considered and the length of each submission will be established by way of a programme motion at the start of council assembly. Community evidence shall be conducted under the existing rules for public participation.

Submissions

1. The Dulwich Helpline

Dulwich Helpline and Southwark Churches Care (DH&SCC) is a small, vibrant, local charity which provides friendly volunteer support to older people across Southwark. We have over 300 volunteers who support more than 530 older people, almost a quarter of whom are over 90 years old. We run 21 activity groups for older people in community settings across the borough, and support 145 one to one befriending relationships. We reduce isolation and loneliness and support older people to retain active, healthy lives for as long as possible. Last year, our volunteers contributed more than 16,000 hours of their time.

The Director of DH&SCC, an older person who uses our services and a volunteer will give evidence about the impact that volunteering has on people's health and wellbeing, about the role that volunteers play in creating and sustaining health and active communities, and how DH&SCC's services result in improved health and wellbeing among older people in Southwark.

We will be asking the council to recognise and endorse the role that volunteers play in sustaining healthy and active communities. We will request that the council makes a long-term commitment to work closely with DH&SCC and other members of the Consortium of Providers of Services to Older People (COPSINS) so that older people can maintain active and healthy lives, and the council's ambition for Southwark to be an age friendly borough can be realised.

2. Ex-members of Westminster House Youth Club in Nunhead

We are ex-members of Westminster House Youth Club in Nunhead. We have benefited massively from free sports activities offered at the club, including snowboarding, outdoor pursuits, football, badminton, trampolining, dance, hockey, athletics, surfing, etc. Not all young people are lucky enough to access such provision. We are all also Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award holders and we accessed the award via Westminster House. In addition to this, we have been able to take a variety of sports and sports related qualifications including junior table tennis umpire, sports leader level 1, cricket leader, first aid, fire safety, conflict management, safeguarding, self defence levels 1 and 2, non contact boxing levels 1 and 2, trampoline proficiency awards, etc. This has helped us all enormously in terms of accessing further education and employment.

Any steps that the council is able to take to open up free sports activities to other young people will be extremely beneficial for young people, and for the wider community. It will motivate young people, improve their health and enhance their future prospects. We wholeheartedly support any moves towards the goal of free or affordable access to council sports facilities for all. We would like the opportunity to discuss this on 21 January 2015.

3. The Terrence Higgins Trust

We wish to address the council assembly directly because Southwark has the second largest prevalence of HIV in the community for local authorities in England (12.63 residents per 1,000 population), as well as high rates of other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). We believe it would be very useful for council assembly to hear about what can be done by the council, health and wellbeing board, and in medical, educational, youth and community settings in the borough to improve the sexual health of the Southwark population, bring down late and undiagnosed HIV, and tackle HIV stigma to allow the HIV positive population to participate fully in a healthy and active Southwark community.

4. Community Action Southwark

Southwark has a vibrant and dynamic voluntary and community sector (VCS), and Southwark Council places a strong emphasis on the Southwark volunteering strategy which is due to be re-launched on 20 January 2015. However, external pressures such as the economic downturn and changing work patterns have caused significant changes for the VCS over recent years which must not be ignored. We believe it is to the benefit of the council assembly to be made

aware of the challenges facing the VCS in the current climate and the great things a properly supported VCS can achieve.

5. Submission on air quality, its sources and impacts in London with a focus on Southwark from Dr Ian Mudway and Andrew Grieve

We would like to make a submission to the assembly on the topic of air quality in Southwark which is estimated to be implicated in the early death of 7.9% of the borough's population annually.

Air quality has risen up the public and political agenda over the last few years and we would like to present the latest evidence on the sources, impacts and mitigation activities across London and the borough.

Dr Ian Mudway is a lecturer in respiratory toxicology at Kings College London and Andrew Grieve is an air quality measurement scientist at Kings College London.

6. Mental Fight Club (Dragon Café)

In terms of building healthy and active communities, Southwark's very own Mental Fight Club (MFC) has made something very special and creative happen in the heart of our borough – The Dragon Café. The Dragon Café is the UK's first 'mental health café' and creative space for all. It is a weekly pop-up, open every Monday including bank holidays. It is based in the crypt of St George the Martyr Church opposite Borough tube and is delivered by a resilient community of seven paid staff and over 50 volunteers, all of whom are themselves vulnerable people who have experienced mental ill-health.

Evaluations so far, show that The Dragon Café has a powerful positive effect on people's mental well-being and sense of social connection. Early indications are that it helps to overcome social isolation and reduce dependency on mental health services. We believe that this new model of creative and social support can be re-created in other settings and locations and because of the potential financial value of these skills and expertise, MFC and The Dragon Café have a very real opportunity to become financially sustainable in the longer-term. In the meantime, at our 100th Dragon Café on Monday 9 February 2015, MFC will be launching the DRAGONCAFE100 fundraising and awareness campaign to raise £100,000 to keep The Dragon Café open weekly throughout 2015/16 while MFC secures longer-term funding.

7. London City Athletics Club Committee

We would like to discuss:

- An overview and background of London City Athletics Club (LCAC) - Southwark's only affiliated athletics club, which was launched just a year ago
- The opportunities LCAC provides for participation in sport in Southwark
- The positive impact LCAC has had on increasing physical activity in Southwark
- How LCAC would like to be involved in maximising the value of the new athletics track in Southwark Park.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Constitution	160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Constitutional Team constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk 020 7525 7228

APPENDICES

No.	Title
None	

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Lesley John, Principal Constitutional Officer	
Report Author	Andrew Weir, Constitutional Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	19 January 2015	
Key decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer title	Comments sought	Comments included
Director of Legal Services	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	19 January 2015	

AMENDMENTS

ITEM 3.2 – MEMBERS’ MOTIONS ON THE THEME: HEALTHY AND ACTIVE COMMUNITIES (see pages 1 - 3 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT A

Moved: Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall

Delete all and insert:

1. Council assembly recognises and thanks all the health professionals in our borough for their dedicated service to residents. Council assembly also recognises Simon Hughes MP’s campaigns to save Guy’s Hospital and for the Urgent Care Centre following the closure of the Accident & Emergency Department by the last Labour government.
2. Council assembly welcomes the recent transfer of responsibility and funding for public health back to local government, and the unique opportunity this offers the council and its partners to improve residents’ health and wellbeing.
3. Council assembly notes that Southwark’s population disproportionately face a number of health and wellbeing challenges compared to national averages, including:
 - higher levels of mental health issues, heart disease, stroke, hypertension and diabetes
 - the second highest HIV prevalence rates in England and Wales and some of the highest figures for sexually transmitted diseases
 - higher levels of mortality from cancer, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases
 - higher levels of obesity and inactivity, including the highest levels of obesity for Year 6 (age 10-11) children in the country
 - high levels of alcohol and illegal drugs consumption and an increasing number of residents with dementia.
4. Council assembly therefore welcomes:
 - Liberal Democrats securing an extra £500m a year for mental health services and introducing waiting limits to ensure parity between physical and mental health.
 - the government’s success in ensuring record numbers of apprenticeships and reducing unemployment in Southwark given the importance of work in reducing poverty and improving mental wellbeing.
5. Council further calls on the cabinet to:
 1. adopt the Halve It campaign on HIV testing to halve the proportion of people diagnosed late and living with undiagnosed HIV.
 2. agree a target of 20% for the number of journeys completed by bike by 2025 and to invest in segregated cycle lanes.

3. campaign for an extension of the Ultra-Low Emission Zone to cover the whole of the borough, fit air filtration systems in schools in pollution hotspots and encourage safe green links for walking.
4. work closely with Public Health England on a more effective licensing policy, explore measures such as 'Reducing the Strength' campaigns to tackle street-drinking, as well as commission results-based drug treatment services.
5. ensure that Southwark's public health funding is protected (prioritising sexual health, drug and alcohol programmes) and is spent only on evidence-based initiatives.

ITEM 5.2 – MEMBERS’ MOTIONS: MOTION 1 – TACKLING EMPTY HOMES IN SOUTHWARK (see page 10 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT B

Moved: Councillor Tom Flynn

Seconded: Councillor Leo Pollak

After 1. 1) **insert:**

- 2) Notes that Southwark has one of the strongest records in London for delivering new homes, with more affordable homes being delivered over the last 3 years than any other London borough.
- 3) Welcomes the administration’s commitment to build 11,000 new council homes, with the first 1,500 to be delivered by 2018.
2. 2) After ‘recent’ **delete** ‘trends in similar’ and **insert** ‘media report of some other’; after ‘inner London boroughs’ **delete** ‘for’ and **insert** ‘where’; after ‘new developments’ **insert** ‘are said’.
2. 3) After ‘empty homes’ **insert** ‘and notes that Southwark was one of the first local authorities to use these powers’.

After 2. 3) **insert:**

- 4) Notes, however, that minimising the number of empty homes in the borough on its own will not meet the growing demand for housing, which will require more homes to be built across the borough, particularly affordable homes.
3. 2) After ‘council tax’ **insert** ‘by reviewing the current council tax exemptions on empty homes.’

After 3. 3) **insert:**

- 4) Continue to build more homes of every type in Southwark, including council homes at council rents.

Amended motion to read:

1. Council assembly:

- 1) Notes the projected rise in the borough’s population within the next twenty years and the need to ensure sufficient housing as part of the borough’s housing strategy and the new Southwark Plan.
- 2) Notes that Southwark has one of the strongest records in London for delivering new homes, with more affordable homes being delivered over the last 3 years than any other London borough.

- 3) Welcomes the administration's commitment to build 11,000 new council homes, with the first 1,500 to be delivered by 2018.
2. Council assembly also:
 - 1) Agrees that minimising the number of empty homes in the borough will also be a key way of ensuring the maximum number of homes for Southwark residents.
 - 2) Notes recent media reports of some other inner London boroughs where up to one third of new developments are said to be left empty as 'buy to leave' investment opportunities.
 - 3) Welcomes the new powers given to local authorities by the government to charge additional council tax for second and long-term empty homes and notes that Southwark was one of the first local authorities to use these powers.
 - 4) Notes, however, that minimising the number of empty homes in the borough on its own will not meet the growing demand for housing, which will require more homes to be built across the borough, particularly affordable homes.
 3. Council assembly therefore calls on the cabinet to:
 - 1) Identify ways the council's planning powers could be used to ensure future new homes in Southwark do not stay empty for more than three months.
 - 2) Increase the number of existing empty homes in the borough that are charged council tax by reviewing the current council tax exemptions on empty homes.
 - 3) Support calls for the qualifying period for charging the empty home premium to be reduced from two years to one and for the amount to be increased from 150% to 200% council tax.
 - 4) Continue to build more homes of every type in Southwark, including council homes at council rents.

**ITEM 5.2 – MEMBERS’ MOTIONS: MOTION 2 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT
DEVOLUTION** (see pages 10 - 11 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT C

Moved: Councillor David Hubber

Seconded: Councillor Rosie Shimell

Delete paragraph 3 and **insert:**

Local government has significant potential to shape outcomes for residents and to change positively the lives of people in our borough. Council therefore welcomes the transfer of budgetary controls and responsibilities to local authorities by the present government in areas such as public health.

Add new paragraph 6:

Council welcomes the administration’s conversion to the cause of localism and devolution in line with long-standing Liberal Democrat party policy.

ITEM 6.1 – THE COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2015/16 (see pages 12 – 26 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT D

Moved: Councillor Fiona Colley

Seconded: Councillor Tom Flynn

After 1. 4) **insert:**

2. That the council reviews all council tax exemptions for empty homes.

Re-number recommendations accordingly.

AMENDMENT E

Moved: Councillor Anood Al-Samerai

Seconded: Councillor James Barber

Paragraph 2, **delete** '87,727.28' and **insert:** '88,407.34'

Paragraph 3, **delete** all from '96.75%' onwards and **insert:**

'97.50%, to reflect improvements associated with bringing the collection service in-house.'

Note: Paragraphs 5 and 14 of the report should read '2015/16' and not 2014/15.

This page is intentionally blank.

**COUNCIL ASSEMBLY AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN) (AMENDMENTS)
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014/15**

NOTE: Original held by Constitutional Team; all amendments/queries to
Lesley John Tel: 020 7525 7228

ONE COPY TO ALL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED	Copies	To	Copies
All Councillors	1 each	Others	1
Group Offices	2	Elizabeth Olive, Audit Commission, Ground Floor, Tooley Street	
Aine Gallagher, Labour Group Office	1		
Niko Baar, Liberal Democrat Group Office	1		
Officers			
Eleanor Kelly	4		
Doreen Forrester-Brown	1		
Sonia Sutton, Mayor's Secretary	1		
Ian Millichap	1		
	1		
Constitutional Officer			
Lesley John, 2 nd Floor, Hub 4, 160 Tooley Street	20		
		Last Updated: November 2014	
		Total:	90