

# Council Assembly

Wednesday 24 November 2021

7.00 pm

Council Offices, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

## Supplemental Agenda No.1

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#### Contact

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Date: 22 November 2021

<b>Item No.</b> 2.2	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 24 November 2021	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Public Question Time	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Proper Constitutional Officer	

**1. QUESTION FROM EMMA DOBINSON TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COUNCIL HOMES AND HOMELESSNESS**

Southwark Council have committed to a significant number of private builds in South Bermondsey. Knowing how much maintenance work is required on the Vauban Estate (just one council estate example), how are the sums acquired from Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 private developments being spent locally?

**AUDIT TRAIL**

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional Services
<b>Report Author</b>	Virginia Wynn-Jones, Principal Constitutional Officer
<b>Version</b>	Final
<b>Dated</b>	19 November 2021

# Agenda Item 3.1

<b>Item No.</b> 3.1	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 24 November 2021	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Community Evidence on the Themed Debate	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Proper Constitutional Officer	

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Introduction

1. The council assembly business panel agreed that the theme for council assembly in July 2021 should be "Climate justice: a green future for all".

### Community evidence on the theme

2. The deadline for community evidence was 12 midnight, 18 November 2021.
3. The following requests have been received by the deadline for consideration by this meeting and they are listed in the order received below.
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.
5. If the community evidence is not dealt with by council assembly, the matter shall be referred without debate to the relevant cabinet member who shall, after consideration, respond with an open reply to the sender.

### Submissions

#### 1. Emma Trueman, Global Generation

The community evidence requests states:

"I would like to speak about the Paper Garden, a community garden we have been growing in Canada Water since 2017. We have worked with local schools and young people to develop the garden, and are in the process of moving the garden to its new site. I would like to talk about our circular economy build, the co-design of our new garden, community growing beds, and a long term vision for community grown pockets of the Canada Water Masterplan public realm."

#### 2. Jack Skillen, Team London Bridge

The community evidence requests states:

"Team London Bridge is supporting Southwark's declaration to be net zero by 2030 and increase our resilience to a changing climate. We need to do this through

concrete actions – particularly on the Low Line. I would like support and commitment from the Council to help us work together with our partners on two specific projects for the Low Line:

1. We are applying to the Mayor’s Green Resilient Cities fund to put greening in public realm along the Low Line. Can we work with you, and get the support of the highways team, to realise this vision for bringing greenery into highways projects.
2. We are shifting deliveries near the Low Line from van to e-cargo bike. Can Southwark Council commit to looking at how Southwark Council deliveries across departments could be switched to cargo bike? ”

### **3. Southwark Youth Parliament**

The community evidence requests states:

“We would like to talk about the experience of young people in relation to climate change and the impact that this crisis is having and will continue to have on our lives and future generations. We will offer some ideas on how, together we can tackle this important issue that matters to us all and give our planet the justice it deserves. Through the Southwark Youth Parliament, we want to improve relationships between our schools, communities and the council and implement social and environmental changes that will enable us to lead more informed and environmentally friendly lives.”

### **4. Alan Jones, Sustainable Energy 24**

The community evidence requests states:

“I aim to outline what SE24 does and suggest ways the council could act to scale up community energy to help meet its net zero targets.”

### **5. Jeremy Brackpool, climate expert**

It is not possible to address climate change in Southwark without significant shifts in behaviour from individuals\*. Personal choices around diet, purchasing, leisure travel, and financial services, are responsible for over half of Southwark's emissions\*\*. Low carbon options already exist for all these areas and could be implemented by most individuals right now, without major investment from government, councils or the individuals themselves.

The critical question is therefore how to best engage and support individuals to make the necessary changes. I live in Southwark, work as a climate professional at a FTSE 100 company, and have degrees in physics and in environmental science. I facilitate events, run coaching and give talks on climate change, engaging with over 300 local individuals over the last two years. I wish to share my experiences with the Council Assembly on the most effective ways of engaging and supporting people to reduce their climate impact.

\* Source: Climate Change Committee. \*\* Source: carbon.place

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

<b>Background Papers</b>	<b>Held At</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Constitution	160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Constitutional Team <a href="mailto:constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk">constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk</a> 020 7525 7228

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<b>Key decision?</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer title</b>	<b>Comments sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Director of Law and Governance	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	No
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	No	No
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>		19 November 2021

<b>Item No.</b> 4.	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 24 November 2021	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Deputation Requests	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Proper Constitutional Officer	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That council assembly considers whether or not to hear deputations from the groups listed in paragraph 5 of this report.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. Council assembly procedure rule 2.6 (11) states that no more than three deputations shall be considered at any one meeting. However the meeting can decide to suspend this rule in order to hear more or vary the order.
3. When considering whether to hear the deputation request, council assembly can decide:
  - to receive the deputation at this meeting or a future meeting; *or*
  - that the deputation not be received (if the matter is not dealt with by council assembly, the matter shall be referred without debate to the relevant cabinet member who shall after consideration, respond with an open reply to the sender); *or*
  - to refer the deputation to the most appropriate committee/sub-committee.
4. A deputation shall consist of no more than six people, including its spokesperson. One member of the deputation shall be allowed to address the meeting for no longer than 5 minutes. The deputation spokesperson or any member of the deputation nominated by him or her shall be invited to ask a question of the leader or relevant cabinet member. After this time councillors may ask questions of the deputation for up to 5 minutes. At the conclusion of the questions, the deputation will be shown to the public seating area where they may listen to the remainder of the open section of the meeting.

## KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

### Deputation requests

5. The following deputation requests have been received:

## **1. Southwark Group of Tenants Organisations (SGTO)**

The deputation request states:

“We come to this deputation as a group of council tenants and leaseholders from across the borough of Southwark. We bring a number of concerns regarding Southwark Council's New Homes Programme. High standards of consultation are required to establish genuine consent from existing residents to new housing developments within their estate.

The residents on estates where infill and/or rooftop homes are proposed have been poorly consulted on these developments - consultations have been ill-attended, questions have been leading and in many cases, widespread resident objections to proposed new homes developments have been ignored.

We welcome new homes developments were the majority of residents consent to the council's plans, and we recognise the desperate need for new council homes. But the loss of greenspace, or months of noise and disruption caused by the construction of rooftop homes, cannot be justified when residents do not consent. Residents have a right to greenspace and a right to quiet enjoyment - this cannot be taken from them without their consent.”

## **2. Living Streets and Southwark Cyclists**

The deputation request states:

“In our deputation, we would outline a number of the positive steps that Southwark has taken as a borough in the past 18 months (Low Traffic Neighbourhoods, School Streets, car-free Rye Lane, enabling more walking and cycling in lockdown) but also emphasise what more there is to do from the perspective of people walking and cycling and using public transport with a particular focus on reducing road casualties, improving air quality, addressing social justice and accessibility goals in relation to transport, reducing CO2 emissions, strategies for transport in the borough to become carbon neutral by 2030, getting more people walking and cycling and active, reducing the amount of (short) driven journeys and helping our town centres and high streets recover from the pandemic.”

## **3. Pauline Nandoo, Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers**

The deputation request states that they wish to speak on:

“Government asylum policy: the impact on people in Southwark; what the main challenges are as well as the risks experienced by refugee organisations supporting local asylum seekers and refugees. What current work is being done with the council, local statutory and voluntary sector partners to support asylum seekers and refugees and what more

needs to be done to strengthen the work in this area as a matter of urgency.”

#### **4. Hadi Sharifi, British Afghan Society**

The deputation request states:

“I will be talking about what we have been doing and what we have done until now.

We have been actively working to promote for the benefit of the public in particular, the Afghanistan community within Southwark. This includes the asylum seekers or refugees with view to enabling them better integrate into the society they live in. We do this by providing training courses, invite specialists in various fields to deliver speeches. We run regular meetings for women and children where they interact with each other more openly and exchange views and concerns. We hold Eid and New Year celebration event for all families to attend.

Since August 2021, we have been working at the forefront of the chaotic situation that happened in Afghanistan; we worked with various organisations and Southwark council to deliver all sorts of services, from filling out registration forms for GPs, school, Needs assessment, as well as sorting out clothes donation and distribution of the clothes, mobile phones and laptops for the newly arrived refugees.

We have been doing all these activities entirely from the money we have raised from within our community and have never had a physical address where people can approach as so we can help and be more productive. We can do a lot better and more if we had a place like a community centre where we can have regular volunteers as well as staff to work with families and individuals especially women within the Afghan community in Southwark who do not have or are aware of a lot services which they can access.

The place not only will sort the problem for the Afghan community but we can also help with other community members to ease off the pressure on both other organisations as well as the council.”

#### **5. Natalia Perez, Latin Elephant**

The deputation request states:

“A year on since the closure and demolition of the Shopping Centre in Elephant and Castle, Latin Elephant reiterates the demands for a proper scrutiny and enforcement of the s106 agreement signed by developers, so that every local trader that has been displaced is relocated; that the necessary Funds are released by developers to cover moving and fit-out costs and not passed on as a burden to us small traders; and that the



much needed investments in the relocation sites are put in place for the benefit of displaced traders as well as the local community.”

## 6. Rachel Bentley, The Litterati

The deputation request states:

“We founded a volunteer litter-picking group in March 2021 in response to our concern around the persistent and growing litter and waste management problems in our neighbourhoods. We litter-pick individually or as a group several times a week collectively putting in around 45 hours a week. Through our efforts, we have pulled together observations from our activities that we would like to share with Southwark Council. Our aim is to share information in a constructive and community minded spirit that could be useful to the Council and enable them to take further steps to tackle littering and improve recycling rates and waste management across the borough.”

## 7. Emma McGovern, Leaseholders deputation on cladding and fire remediation works

The deputation request states

We would like to make a deputation to explain why we strongly urge the council to not use the services of housing associations and developers who are not taking responsibility for their unsafe buildings.

With the cladding scandal and the need for so many buildings in Southwark to have fire remediation works there clearly is something terribly flawed with the current situation and until this is rectified the council should be distancing themselves from these organisations until they can prove that they are working to help leaseholders rather than pass life changing bills onto them. If they cannot even rectify their mistakes in their current housing stock they most certainly should not be allowed to build any more.

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Deputation Request File	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Virginia Wynn-Jones <a href="mailto:constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk">constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk</a>
Council Assembly Procedure Rule 2.6, Southwark Constitution	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Virginia Wynn-Jones <a href="mailto:constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk">constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk</a>

## AUDIT TRAIL

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Strategic Director Finance and Governance	No	No
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	No	No
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>		19 November 2021

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**COUNCIL ASSEMBLY AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN) (FULL LIST)  
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22**

**NOTE:** Original held by Constitutional Team; all amendments/queries to  
Virginia Wynn-Jones Tel: 020 7525 7055

<b>ONE COPY TO ALL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED</b>	Copies	To	Copies
<p><b>Councillors</b> (1 each) Councillor Jasmine Ali Councillor Radha Burgess Councillor Sunil Chopra Councillor Nick Dolezal Councillor Tom Flynn Councillor Renata Hamvas Councillor Lorraine Lauder Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall Councillor Eliza Mann Councillor Darren Merrill Councillor David Noakes Councillor Damian O'Brien Councillor Leo Pollak Councillor Sandra Rhule Councillor Martin Seaton Councillor Andy Simmons Councillor Cleo Soanes Councillor Kath Whittam</p> <p><b>Electronic Versions (No hard copy)</b> All other councillors</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>Press</b></p> <p>Southwark News South London Press</p> <p><b>Group Offices</b></p> <p>Ellie Mitchell, Labour Group Office Pavle Popovic, Liberal Democrat Group Office</p> <p><b>Officers</b></p> <p>Eleanor Kelly Duncan Whitfield Doreen Forrester-Brown Chidilim Agada Caroline Bruce David Quirke-Thornton Michael Scorer Sangeeta Leahy</p> <p><b>Constitutional Team</b></p> <p>(Copies to Virginia Wynn-Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hub 2, Tooley Street)</p> <p><b>Others</b></p> <p>Matt Dean, Grant Thornton Ground floor audit office, Tooley Street</p> <p><b>Total:</b></p> <p><b>Last updated:</b> May 2021</p>	<p>by email by email</p> <p>by email by email</p> <p>by email by email by email by email by email by email</p> <p>by email</p> <p>by email</p> <p><b>18</b></p>