

Council Assembly Ordinary Meeting

Wednesday 4 July 2012

7.00 pm

Southwark College, Bermondsey Centre, Keetons Road, London, SE16
4EE

Supplemental Agenda No.1

List of Contents

Item No.	Title	Page No.
1.5.	Minutes To approve as a correct record the open minutes of the council assembly meeting held on 23 May 2012.	1 - 28
3.	Themed Debate: Health in Southwark A programme of community outreach work had been undertaken in advance of the themed debate to compile a dossier of "community views" to be shared with members. This selection of community views includes feedback from the community outreach work and from local groups.	29 - 47

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: 26 June 2012



Council Assembly (Annual Council)

MINUTES of the Council Assembly (Annual Council) held on Wednesday 23 May 2012 at 7.00 pm at The Atrium, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor for 2011/12, Councillor Lorraine Lauder
The Worshipful the Mayor for 2012/13, Councillor Althea Smith

Councillor Kevin Ahern	Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Anood Al-Samerai	Councillor Eliza Mann
Councillor James Barber	Councillor Catherine McDonald
Councillor Columba Blango	Councillor Tim McNally
Councillor Catherine Bowman	Councillor Darren Merrill
Councillor Chris Brown	Councillor Victoria Mills
Councillor Michael Bukola	Councillor Michael Mitchell
Councillor Denise Capstick	Councillor Jonathan Mitchell
Councillor Sunil Chopra	Councillor Abdul Mohamed
Councillor Poddy Clark	Councillor Adele Morris
Councillor Neil Coyle	Councillor Helen Morrissey
Councillor Robin Crookshank Hilton	Councillor Graham Neale
Councillor Rowenna Davis	Councillor Wilma Nelson
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle	Councillor David Noakes
Councillor Nick Dolezal	Councillor Paul Noblet
Councillor Toby Eckersley	Councillor the Right Revd Emmanuel Oyewole
Councillor Gavin Edwards	Councillor Lewis Robinson
Councillor Dan Garfield	Councillor Martin Seaton
Councillor Mark Gettleson	Councillor Rosie Shimell
Councillor Norma Gibbes	Councillor Andy Simmons
Councillor Mark Glover	Councillor Michael Situ
Councillor Stephen Govier	Councillor Cleo Soanes
Councillor Renata Hamvas	Councillor Nick Stanton
Councillor Barrie Hargrove	Councillor Geoffrey Thornton
Councillor Helen Hayes	Councillor Veronica Ward
Councillor Claire Hickson	Councillor Mark Williams
Councillor Jeff Hook	Councillor Ian Wingfield
Councillor David Hubber	
Councillor Peter John	
Councillor Paul Kyriacou	

1. ELECTION OF THE MAYOR

The outgoing Mayor, Councillor Lorraine Lauder, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The outgoing Mayor made the following announcements:

- That Councillor Lisa Rajan gave birth to a baby girl on 27 April and Councillor Fiona Colley gave birth to a baby boy on 8 May 2012. The meeting congratulated them both on their new arrivals.
- Congratulations were sent to Southwark born Ryan Bertrand who made his champions league debut in Germany on Saturday night as part of the victorious Chelsea team.

The outgoing Mayor announced that Councillor Toby Eckersley had served on the council for 30 years. Councillor Lewis Robinson paid tribute and thereafter the outgoing Mayor presented Councillor Eckersley with a ceremonial certificate and a silver tankard bearing the Southwark Crest.

The outgoing Mayor announced that the leaders of each political group wished to make a statement.

Thereafter, Councillors Peter John, Anood Al-Samerai and Lewis Robinson paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor.

The outgoing Mayor asked for nominations for Mayor for the ensuing municipal year 2012/13.

Councillor Peter John, seconded by Councillor Rowenna Davis, moved that Councillor Althea Smith be elected Mayor of the London Borough of Southwark for the municipal year 2012/13.

The nomination was put to the vote and it was:

RESOLVED: That Councillor Althea Smith be elected Mayor for the 2012/13 municipal year.

Councillor Althea Smith accepted the office of Mayor. The outgoing Mayor declared that Councillor Althea Smith was duly elected Mayor of Southwark for 2012/13. Thereafter the outgoing Mayor announced that the meeting would stand adjourned to allow the Mayor-elect to be robed. The outgoing Mayor, followed by the Mayor-elect, were escorted to the Mayoral robing room by the mace bearer.

Upon their return the retiring Mayor, Councillor Lorraine Lauder, invested the Mayor-elect, Councillor Althea Smith, with the badge of office. The new Mayor signed the declaration of acceptance of office and took the chair. The new Mayor stated that her consort would be her daughter, Serena Dyett, and that she would also be inviting local teenagers and residents to accompany her on her various Mayoral duties.

The Mayor appointed Councillor Abdul Mohamed as Deputy Mayor and announced that his consort would be his partner, Caroline McDonald. The Deputy Mayor was invested

with the badge of office.

The retiring Mayor, Councillor Lorraine Lauder, gave her outgoing speech. Thereafter, the retiring Mayor and her consort, her son John Lauder were presented with a replica of the Mayoral badge of the London Borough of Southwark.

At 8.00pm the fire alarm sounded and the building was evacuated. At 8.40pm the meeting reconvened.

2. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

2.1 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Mayor invited Councillors Peter John, Nick Stanton and Lewis Robinson to pay tribute to Gill Davies, strategic director of environment and leisure, who was leaving the council at the end of May 2012 after 10 years of service.

2.2 NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE MAYOR DEEMS URGENT

There were no late items of business.

The clerk stated that the following papers had been circulated:

- Nominations for chairs and vice chairs of committees and community councils (on cream paper)
- nominations to LGA General Assembly (on cream paper)
- the voting sheet (on green paper)
- Questions on reports (yellow paper).

2.3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

The clerk advised that in respect of the member allowances report, members did not need to declare an interest as they were deemed to have a personal and non-prejudicial interest in the report.

There were no further declarations.

2.4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Fiona Colley, Lisa Rajan, Patrick Diamond and Linda Manchester.

2.5 MINUTES

(See supplemental agenda 1 pages 1 - 51 of the main agenda)

RESOLVED:

That the open minutes of the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of council assembly held on 28 March 2012 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

3. OTHER REPORTS

3.1 EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS 2012/13

(See pages 1 - 4 of the main agenda)

There was one question to the leader, the written response to which was circulated on yellow paper at the meeting. A supplemental question was asked of the leader. The questions and written responses are attached as Appendix 1 to the minutes.

The leader of the council, Councillor Peter John, reported on the following appointment of members of the cabinet and the determination and allocation of their functions:

Cabinet

Councillor Peter John – Leader of the council

Councillor Ian Wingfield - Deputy leader and cabinet member for housing management

Councillor Catherine McDonald - Health and adult social care

Councillor Barrie Hargrove - Transport, environment and recycling

Councillor Richard Livingstone - Finance, resources and community safety

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle - Children's services

Councillor Claire Hickson - Communities and economic development

Councillor Veronica Ward - Culture, sport, the Olympics and regeneration (South)

Councillor Fiona Colley (currently on maternity leave)

Deputy Cabinet Members

Renata Hamvas – School admissions and families

The Right Rev Emmanuel Oyewole – Faith communities

Neil Coyle – Welfare.

In closing, the leader thanked Councillor Abul Mohamed for his hard work over the year as

cabinet member for equalities and community engagement.

A copy of the cabinet portfolios was circulated at the meeting.

The Mayor informed the meeting that as a consequence of the above announcement on the appointment of the cabinet the monitoring officer would update Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the leader's report on the delegation of executive functions.

3.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES, COMMUNITY COUNCILS AND OTHER CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES 2012/13

(See pages 5 - 48 of the main agenda)

There were four questions on the report, the written responses to which were circulated on yellow paper at the meeting. Three supplemental questions were asked of the leader. All questions and written responses are attached in Appendix 1 to the minutes.

The Mayor stated that in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.11(2), this being an officer report, the recommendations set out in the report were deemed to have been moved and were subject to amendment only. She announced that she intended to consider each recommendation where a decision was needed separately. The remaining recommendations would be considered as part of the substantive motion.

The Mayor moved Recommendation 3 – establishment of ordinary committees. The recommendation was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

The Mayor moved Recommendation 4 – establishment of the size and composition of the overview and scrutiny committee. The recommendation was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

The Mayor announced she had received one amendment to Recommendation 5 – establishment of the size and composition of community councils. Councillor Anood Al-Samerai, seconded by Councillor Paul Noblet, moved Amendment A.

Following debate (Councillors Columba Blango, Richard Livingstone, Mark Gettleston, Stephen Govier, Abdul Mohamed, Eliza Mann, Gavin Edwards, Robin Crookshank Hilton, Mark Glover, Lewis Robinson, Catherine Bowman, Peter John, Michael Mitchell, Claire Hickson, Poddy Clark, Veronica Ward and Nick Stanton), Councillor Tim McNally, seconded by Councillor Paul Noblet, moved that council assembly procedure rule 1.12(6) (suspension of the guillotine) be agreed in order to extend the debate. The procedure motion was put to the vote and declared to be lost.

The debate continued (Councillor Nick Dolezal). Thereafter Amendment A was put to the vote and declared to be lost.

At 10.08pm the bell was rang and the Mayor informed the meeting that the guillotine had fallen, therefore each recommendation would be voted upon without further debate.

The Mayor moved Recommendations 6 to 7 – establishment of the size and composition of the licensing committee. The recommendations were put to the vote and declared to be carried.

In moving Recommendation 8 - appointment of chairs and vice chairs of committees and community councils, the Mayor announced that there was one change to the cream papers circulated at the meeting in respect of the new standards committee effective from 1 July 2012, Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle's nomination for chair was invalid as she was a member of the cabinet and cabinet members cannot chair the standards committee. Councillor Helen Morrissey was nominated but council assembly having agreed to appoint Councillor Morrissey, the appointment was declined and the nomination withdrawn. Subsequently Councillor Peter John, seconded by Councillor Ian Wingfield, nominated Councillor Cleo Soanes as chair of the standards committee.

No further nominations were forthcoming, therefore the nomination was put to the vote and council assembly appointed Councillor Cleo Soanes as chair of the new standards committee, with effect from 1 July 2012.

The Mayor stated that two nominations had been received for the position of chair of the audit and governance committee, Councillors James Barber and Mark Glover. No further nominations were forthcoming, therefore the nominations were put to the vote and council assembly appointed Councillor Mark Glover as chair of the audit and governance committee.

Thereafter the Mayor moved the uncontested nominations in respect of Recommendation 8 for the appointment of chairs and vice chairs of committees and community councils. The nominations set out on the cream paper circulated at the meeting were put to the vote and declared to be carried

The Mayor moved Recommendation 9 – establishment of a standards committee until 30 June 2012. The recommendation was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

The Mayor moved Recommendation 15 – establishment of panels. The recommendation was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

As part Recommendation 15 the Mayor announced that the meeting needed to appoint the chairs of the constitutional steering panel and the voluntary bodies appointment panel. The nominations set out on the cream paper circulated at the meeting were put to the vote and declared to be carried

The Mayor moved Recommendation 16 – Council assembly dates. The recommendation was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

The Mayor moved Recommendation 18 – allocation of representative and votes on the Local Government Association General Assembly. The nominations set out on the lilac paper circulated at the meeting were put to the vote and declared to be carried

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

RESOLVED:

1. That the appointment of political leaders, deputies and whips be noted as follows:

Labour Group

Leader	Councillor Peter John
Deputy Leader	Councillor Ian Wingfield
Chief Whip	Councillor Helen Morrissey

Liberal Democrat Group

Leader	Councillor Anood Al-Samerai
Deputy Leader	Councillor Paul Noblet
Chief Whip	Councillor Tim McNally

Conservative Group

Leader	Councillor Lewis Robinson
Deputy Leader	Councillor Toby Eckersley
Chief Whip	Councillor Michael Mitchell

2. That the size and composition of the council's regulatory and other committees be established in accordance with the number of seats each political group has on the council as a whole, as set out below:

Table 1: Committees which will operate until 30 June 2012 whilst the current standards regime applies

Committee	Total	Lab	Lib Dem	Con
Committee 1 Appointments Committee	7	4	3	0
Committee 2 Planning Committee	7	4	3	0
Committee 4 Audit and Governance Committee	7	4	2	1
Committee 5 Corporate Parenting Committee	7	4	3	0
Total	28	16	11	1

Note on Table 1: In the period until the end of June 2012, a standards committee be established comprised of six councillors, with seats allocated to political groups as follows:

- *Labour 3 places*
- *Liberal Democrat 2 places*
- *Conservative 1 place.*

Table 2: Committees from 1 July 2012 when the new standards regime takes effect

Committee	Total	Lab	Lib Dem	Con
Committee 1 Appointments Committee	7	4	3	0
Committee 2 Planning Committee	7	4	3	0
Committee 3 Standards Committee	9	5	3	1
Committee 4 Audit and Governance Committee	7	4	2	1
Committee 5 Corporate Parenting Committee	7	4	3	0
Total	37	21	14	2

Overview and scrutiny committee

3. That an overview and scrutiny committee be established, with a total of 11 seats with the following proportionate allocation of seats:
- 6 Labour
 - 4 Liberal Democrat
 - 1 Conservative.

Community councils

4. That in line with the council assembly decision of 29 February 2012, the community councils be established as set out below:
- Bermondsey and Rotherhithe
 - Borough, Bankside and Walworth
 - Camberwell
 - Dulwich
 - Peckham and Nunhead.

Licensing committee

5. That a licensing committee be established with a total of 15 seats with the following allocation of seats:
- 8 Labour
 - 6 Liberal Democrat
 - 1 Conservative.

Licensing sub-committee

6. That a licensing sub-committee be established with delegated authority to hear licence applications including Licensing Act 2003, Gambling Act 2005, street trading and markets and other licensing responsibilities granted by statute. The sub-committee to include members of the licensing committee with a quorum of three members.

Appointment of chairs and vice chairs

7. That the following be appointed as chairs and vice chairs for the committees and community councils outlined below:

Overview and scrutiny committee

Chair: Councillor Catherine Bowman
Vice Chair: Councillor Dan Garfield

Planning committee

Chair: Councillor Nick Dolezal
Vice Chair: Councillor Darren Merrill

Licensing committee

Chair: Councillor Sunil Chopra
Vice Chair: Councillor Jeff Hook

Appointments committee

Chair: Councillor Peter John
Vice Chair: Councillor Ian Wingfield

Audit and governance committee

Chair: Councillor Mark Glover
Vice Chair: Vacant

Corporate parenting committee

Chair: Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle
Vice Chair: Councillor Eliza Mann

Standards committee (effective from 1 July 2012)

Chair: Councillor Cleo Soanes
Vice Chair: Councillor Tim McNally

Bermondsey and Rotherhithe community council

Chair: Councillor Nick Stanton
Vice Chair: Councillor Michael Bukola

Borough, Bankside and Walworth community council

Chair: Councillor Martin Seaton
 Vice Chair: Councillor David Noakes

Camberwell community council

Chair: Councillor Norma Gibbes
 Vice Chair: Councillor Dora Dixon Fyle

Dulwich community council

Chair: Councillor Robin Crookshank Hilton
 Vice Chair: Vacant

Peckham and Nunhead community council

Chair: Councillor Cleo Soanes
 Vice Chair: Councillor Mark Glover.

Note: The vacant position of vice-chair for the audit and governance committee and of Dulwich community council will be considered at the first meeting.

Establishing a standards committee (until 30 June 2012)

8. That until 30 June 2012, a standards committee be established under the Local Government Act 2000.
9. That it be noted that the current constitution states all political groups must be represented on the standards committee and it should comprise of at least four councillors and up to seven councillors. Council assembly noted the decision in previous years to allocate the councillor membership proportionately. In order to comply with its constitutional requirements, council assembly agreed to establish a standards committee comprising of six councillors and the five independent members up until 30 June 2012. The seats to be allocated to political groups as follows:
 - Labour 3 places
 - Liberal Democrat 2 places
 - Conservative 1 place.
10. That political groups will be entitled to nominate reserves on the following basis:
 - The number of reserves is equivalent to the number of places on the standards committee.
11. That it be noted that in accordance with the constitution, the election of chair and vice chair of the standards committee (until 30 June 2012) takes place at its first meeting in the 2012/13 municipal year.
12. That the terms of office of the following independent members be extended to allow them to serve on the standards committee after annual council until 30 June 2012:

Name of independent member and term of office on appointment

- Peter Bibby - until annual council May 2012 (1st term)
- Wendy Golding - until annual council May 2012 (2nd term).

Establishing a standards committee (from 1 July 2012)

13. That it be noted that a new standards committee under the new regime will be established with effect from 1 July 2012 (see recommendation 3).

Establishment of the council's panels

14. That the following council panels be established:

- **Council assembly business panel** – The panel is chaired by the Mayor and also consists of one representative from each political group. The panel acts as an advisory panel to the Mayor on council assembly, including the annual programme and the setting of themes for debate. Groups can nominate a reserve to attend in the absence of a representative.
- **Constitutional steering panel** – That council assembly agrees to establish a constitutional steering panel comprised of the whip and one other member from the Labour Group and the political whips of the other groups represented on the council.
- **Pensions advisory panel** – The panel has a composition of members, officers, independent advisors and a trade union representative. The purpose of the panel is to advise the advice to the finance director when performing functions relating to the council's pension scheme.
- **Voluntary bodies appointment panel** – The panel has a composition of three Labour and two Liberal Democrat members. The panel will be responsible for recommending the appointment of charity trustees to specific Southwark charities and recommending appointments to the position of school governor on local education authority secondary and special school governing bodies.

15. That the following members be appointed chair of the panels outlined below:

Constitutional steering panel

Chair: Councillor Helen Morrissey

Voluntary bodies appointment panel

Chair: Councillor Ian Wingfield.

Council assembly dates

16. That the following dates be agreed for meetings of council assembly and that these

dates be fixed in the council calendar for the municipal year 2012/13:

Council Assembly Meetings 2012/13	Theme
Wednesday 4 July 2012	Health in Southwark
Wednesday 17 October 2012	Opportunities for young people, including youth employment
Wednesday 28 November 2012	Transport in Southwark
Wednesday 23 January 2013	Affordable housing and social housing
Wednesday 27 February 2013	Budget and council tax setting
Wednesday 27 March 2013	To be confirmed
Wednesday 22 May 2013	Annual meeting (Mayor making & constitutional)

Council calendar

17. That the calendar of council meetings for the 2012/13 municipal year ahead as shown at Appendix 6 of the report be noted.

Appointments to Local Government Association General Assembly

18. That two representatives with an allocation of five votes be appointed to the representatives to the LGA General Assembly as follows:
- Councillor Peter John - 3 votes
 - Councillor Anood Al-Samerai - 2 votes.

Other appointments to joint committees/outside bodies

19. That it be noted that the cabinet and other committees will make appointments to all other outside committees and bodies for the municipal year 2012/13 as required by part 3S of the constitution.

Urgency committee

20. That the role of the urgency committee between a municipal election and the annual meeting of council assembly be reviewed in light of the post-election period in 2010 and the new executive arrangements. Officers will report to the constitutional steering panel with proposals on future urgency arrangements.

3.3 NOMINATIONS TO LONDON COUNCILS COMMITTEES, GREATER LONDON EMPLOYMENT FORUM AND NOMINATIONS OF LEAD BOROUGH MEMBERS 2012/13

(See pages 49 - 54 of the main agenda)

This report was considered after the guillotine had fallen, therefore in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.12 (3) & (4), the report was afforded up to a maximum of 15 minutes.

The nominations were circulated on blue paper. The Mayor stated that none of the nominations were contested, therefore the nominations outlined on the blue paper were put to the vote and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:

London Councils Leaders' Committee (S101 Joint Committee)

Representative

Councillor Peter John

Deputies

Councillors Fiona Colley and Ian Wingfield

London Councils Transport and Environment Committee (S101 Associated Joint Committee)

Representative

Councillor Barrie Hargrove

Deputies

Councillors Fiona Colley, Claire Hickson and Richard Livingstone

London Councils Grants Committee (Associated Joint Committee)

Representative

Councillor Claire Hickson

Deputies

Councillors Dora Dixon-Fyle, Richard Livingstone, Catherine McDonald and Veronica Ward

Greater London Employment Forum

Representative

Councillor Richard Livingstone

Deputy

Councillor Fiona Colley

London Councils Borough Lead Member – Children and Young People

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle

London Councils Borough Lead Member – Crime and Public Protection

Councillor Richard Livingstone

London Councils Borough Lead Member – Culture, Tourism and London 2012

Councillor Veronica Ward

London Councils Borough Lead Member – Economic Development

Councillor Claire Hickson

London Councils Borough Lead Member – Health and Adult Services

Councillor Catherine McDonald

London Councils Borough Lead Member – Housing

Councillor Ian Wingfield

London Councils Limited

Councillor Peter John.

3.4 CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW 2012/13

(See pages 55 – 155 of the main agenda)

This report was considered after the guillotine had fallen, therefore in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.12 (3) & (4), the report was afforded up to a maximum of 15 minutes.

There were three question on the report, the written responses to which were circulated on yellow paper at the meeting. Three supplemental questions were asked. The questions and written responses will be appended to the minutes.

The Mayor stated that in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.11(2), this being an officer report, the recommendations set out in the report were deemed to have been moved and were subject to amendment only.

The Mayor announced she had received three amendments to the report.

Amendment B - to Appendix 2, page 83 – section 106 of the Town and County Planning Act 1990. Councillor Nick Dolezal, seconded by Councillor Dan Garfield, moved Amendment B. Following debate (Councillor Stephen Govier), Amendment B was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

Amendment C – protecting planning powers. Councillor James Barber, seconded by Councillor David Hubber, moved Amendment C. Amendment C was put to the vote and declared to be lost.

Amendment D – holding the leadership to account. Councillor Tim McNally, seconded by Councillor Poddy Clark, moved Amendment D. Amendment D was put to the vote and declared to be lost.

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

RESOLVED:

That the following constitutional changes be adopted by council assembly:

Audit and governance committee

1. That the changes to the terms of reference of the audit and governance committee as set out in paragraph 28 of the report be agreed.
2. That committee procedure rule 6.1 on the composition of the audit and governance committee be deleted (see paragraph 31 of the report) and it be noted that size of the committee is to be increased to seven as part of the decision on the establishment of committees and proportionality (see item 3.2, resolution 3).

Community councils

3. That following the decisions of council assembly on 29 February 2012 relating to changes to community councils, the following constitutional changes are recommended for approval:
 - That the Article 8 be updated as set out in paragraph 34 of the report to reflect the change in community council boundaries and names.
 - That the changes to planning function/thresholds and establishment of new structure of strategic planning committee and two sub-committees as set out in paragraphs 45-50 of the report and Appendix 2 be agreed, subject to the following amendment in Appendix 2, page 83 of the report - Part 3F: Planning Committee and Planning Sub-Committees:

Reinstate deleted clause 2 amended as follows:

2. To consider the expenditure of funds over £100,000 of strategic importance secured through legal agreements under section 106 of the

Town and County Planning Act 1990, or any previous legislation.

- That the addition of a cleaner greener safer revenue fund as set out in paragraph 52 of the report be agreed.
- That school governor appointments be delegated to the relevant chief officer (see paragraph 53 of the report).

Standards committee

4. That the following recommended constitutional changes to the standards committee as set out in Appendix 4 of the report be agreed:
 - Change to roles and functions / matters reserved of the standards committee
 - Part 4 – Rules – Change to procedure rules of the standards committee
 - Changes to scope of questions and deputations in the procedure rules for all meetings.

The changes in Appendix 4 will take effect from 1 July 2012, with the exception of the changes to clauses 6 and 14 of the matters reserved which take immediate effect.

Part 3n: Urgency committee

5. That council assembly notes the role of the urgency committee between a municipal election and the annual meeting of council assembly be reviewed in light of the post-election period in 2010 and the new executive arrangements. Officers will report to the constitutional steering panel with proposals on future urgency arrangements.

Part 4: Committee procedure rules concerning licensing and planning committee

6. That a new rule on the use of social media in relation to members sitting on the planning and licensing committees/sub-committees, as described in paragraph 71 of the report, be agreed.

Part 4: Council assembly procedure rules

7. That changes to the procedure rules on the themed debate as described in paragraph 73 of the report be agreed.
8. That the changes to members' questions on reports as described in paragraph 75 of the report be agreed.
9. That the changes to public question time as described in paragraph 76 of the report be agreed.
10. That the changes to members' question time, questions on behalf of community councils, as described in paragraph 79 of the report be agreed.
11. That a new clause be added to allow for changes to the date, time and venue of a

meeting in exceptional circumstances, as described in paragraph 81 of the report.

12. That the changes to length of speeches for relevant cabinet member and shadow cabinet member in relation to the annual budget report, as described in paragraph 82 of the report, be agreed.
13. That the changes to the order of business in relation to deputations relating to the themed debate, as set out in paragraph 84 of the report, be agreed.

Part 4: Rules – Overview and scrutiny committee

14. That the constitutional changes to the overview and scrutiny procedure rules as set out in paragraph 86 of the report be agreed in order to reflect a decrease in the number of scrutiny sub-committees from five to three and an amendment to the terms of reference of overview & scrutiny committee.

Part 4: Contract standing orders

15. That the substantive changes to contract standing orders as described in paragraph 88 and as set out in full in Appendix 6 of the report be agreed.

Part 4: Financial standing orders

16. That the substantive changes to financial standing orders as described in paragraph 91 and as set out in full in Appendix 7 of the report be agreed.

Part 5: Code of conduct

17. That the proposed new code of conduct following the Localism Act 2011, considered by the standards committee on Tuesday 24 April 2011 (see Appendix 5 of the report) be noted. The code will need to be amended once regulations on the “Disclosable Pecuniary Interests” are published and therefore the code will be brought to the July council assembly for adoption.

Part 6: Member and officer protocol

18. That the changes to the member and officer protocol and the amendments suggested by the standards committee, as described in paragraphs 104-107 of the report, be agreed (see Appendix 8).

Part 6: Communication protocol

19. That the changes to the communication protocol as described in paragraphs 108-112 of the report be agreed (see also Appendix 9).

Part 6: Member allowances scheme

20. That it be noted that there is a separate report on the member allowances scheme elsewhere on the agenda.

Consequential changes

21. That council assembly authorise officers to undertake any necessary consequential changes to the constitution as a result of the changes outlined above.

3.5 MEMBER ALLOWANCES SCHEME

(See pages 156 - 159 of the main agenda)

This report was considered after the guillotine had fallen, therefore in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.12 (3) & (4), the report was afforded up to a maximum of 15 minutes.

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.11 (2), the report was formally moved by the Mayor.

Following debate (Councillors Anood Al-Samerai, Ian Wingfield, Nick Dolezal, Mark Gettleson, Stephen Govier, Adele Morris and Neil Coyle) Councillor Adele Morris made a point of personal explanation. The debate continued (Councillors Richard Livingstone, Poddy Clark and Peter John), the Mayor declared that the 15 minutes allocated to the report had elapsed.

The recommendation contained within the report was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:

That the revised Member Allowances Scheme as set out in paragraphs 8 – 18 of the report, be agreed.

4. QUESTIONS ON REPORTS AND AMENDMENTS

Questions on reports and amendments are contained within Supplemental Agenda No.2, pages 1 – 6.

5. ANY OPEN ITEMS IDENTIFIED AS URGENT AT THE START OF THE MEETING

There were no late items.

The meeting closed at 10.55pm.

CHAIR:

DATED:

COUNCIL ASSEMBLY
(ANNUAL MEETING)
WEDNESDAY 23 MAY 2012
QUESTIONS ON REPORTS

ITEM 3.1: EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS 2012/13

1. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI

Has the leader considered returning to the committee system?

RESPONSE

Yes, I have considered it, but don't believe it is right for Southwark for the following reasons:

- **Cost** – at a time when we are making considerable savings by cutting the cost of councillors and meetings, any increase in council meetings would come with as yet unidentified costs. Any increase in costs would have to be funded by cuts to services that people value.
- **Transparency** – in the already hugely complex world of local government, the leader and cabinet model is easier to understand for residents, businesses and partners, and political accountabilities are clear. In contrast, the committee system adds a further layer of complexity and blurs accountability, making it less transparent.
- **Efficiency** – since the introduction of the leader and cabinet model, the council has been working to break down internal silos and to respond to problems more cohesively and holistically. The leader and cabinet model facilitates this by focusing team-working at the top level of political leadership in the council, cutting across all portfolios and policy areas. In contrast, the committee system focuses team-working at a second-tier committee level, promoting a less joined-up approach with more duplication of effort across the organisation.

I wish good luck to those councils, such as Liberal Democrat Kingston, that are choosing to focus their resources, efforts and attention on changing their administrative and governance structures at the time of the biggest ever cuts for local government. In Southwark, we will be using all of our ingenuity and effort to try to protect our residents' valued front line services.

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI

Congratulations to you Madam Mayor on your election this evening.

Thank you to the leader for his answer – it is a shame you have not made more of the opportunities now that the government is allowing councils to think more about their own governance arrangements. I am not suggesting that you and your seven colleagues make all bad decisions but if two heads are better than one, surely sixty three heads are better than eight; and why not give councillors that extra involvement that a committee system would bring? Certainly it does not seem like democracy has come up as one of these issues that you have considered and I would like to know why not.

RESPONSE

Well I don't want to repeat the reasons set out in my answer, but that is the answer to her question – there is the question of costs, there is a question of transparency under the system as we operate it. People do know who take decisions in this borough; it is not a question of decisions being fixed behind closed doors by people who are not seen making those decisions in public, in a way that sometimes the committee system operated. I do note that during the eight years when the Liberal Democrats were in power in this council, in fact they supported the introduction of the strong leader and cabinet model. Other councils across the country continued to operate the committee system even though the legislation had changed; I think of Brighton as one which only at the very last did they move to a cabinet or leader and executive model when the government absolutely insisted, but they continued to operate a committee system for many years, I think six or seven years after. So it was a system which was open to the Liberal Democrats when they were in power. As with many things that are raised by the opposition in this chamber, it seems to be one rule when they're in power, one rule or issue when they are in opposition.

ITEM 3.2 - ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES, COMMUNITY COUNCILS AND OTHER CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES 2012/13

1. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR NICK STANTON

In section 5, the report highlights five community council areas to be established as set out below:

- Bermondsey and Rotherhithe
- Borough, Bankside and Walworth
- Camberwell
- Dulwich
- Peckham and Nunhead

Please can the relevant cabinet member set out a) the population and b) the size of each geographical area for each community council?

RESPONSE

Community Council	Area in Hectares	Area %	Population	Population %
Bermondsey & Rotherhithe	761	25	74,136	26
Bermondsey				
Riverside	133	4	13,548	5
Grange	120	4	14,855	5

Community Council	Area in Hectares	Area %	Population	Population %
South Bermondsey	97	3	12,906	5
	350	12	41,309	15
Rotherhite				
Rotherhithe	149	5	13,069	4
Surrey Docks	190	6	12,883	4
Livesey (50%)	72	2	6,875	3
	411	14	32,827	11
Dulwich	704	24	34,403	12
Dulwich				
College	323	11	11,314	4
Village	279	9	11,101	4
East Dulwich	102	3	11,988	4
Peckham & Nunhead	655	22	58,636	21
Peckham				
Peckham	87	3	12,082	4
Livesey (50%)	72	2	6,875	3
	159	5	18,957	7
Nunhead & Peckham Rye				
Nunhead	132	4	12,104	4
The Lane	139	5	14,587	5
Peckham Rye	225	8	12,988	5
	496	17	39,679	14
Borough, Bankside & Walworth	543	18	73,480	26
Borough & Bankside				
Cathedrals	176	6	15,988	6
Chaucer	82	3	16,221	6
	258	9	32,209	12
Walworth				
Faraday	88	3	13,586	5
Newington	83	3	14,495	5
East Walworth	114	4	13,190	4
	285	10	41,271	15
Camberwell	323	11	38,678	15
Camberwell				
South Camberwell	133	4	12,337	5
Brunswick Park	93	3	12,363	5
Camberwell Green	97	3	13,978	5
Borough Total	2,986	100	279,333	100

*Source GLA 2009

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR NICK STANTON

Thank you Madam Mayor; the answer makes it fairly clear that this is a big gerrymander, doesn't it. Is there anyone in the entire borough outside the Labour group who has responded to the consultation saying 'yes, that is a good idea'?

RESPONSE

Yes.

2. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK

Who proposed the themes for council assembly as set out in paragraph 16? Will the relevant cabinet member consider allowing community councils to propose themes for council assembly?

RESPONSE

Following the democracy commission review of council assembly a council assembly business panel was established to review the work of council assembly. The panel consists of the Mayor and the three group whips. Amongst other things the panel has the function of choosing the themes for meetings of council assembly for the municipal year ahead.

The council assembly business panel met to set the 2012/13 themes on 23 April 2012 as set out in item 3.2, pages 10-11. Community councils are able to make suggestions for themes through the group whips.

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK

I would like to thank the leader for his answer – we all know the democracy commission should have been called the anti-democracy commission, but that aside, whilst I was chair of the Rotherhithe community council, we did not actually foist onto residents a theme for that community council, we allowed them to choose a range of themes so we could then debate at the forthcoming meetings. But has the leader considered asking residents directly or even possibly having the chairs of the community council on this panel besides the theme for the future assembly meetings, not just the whips and the Mayor?

RESPONSE

Well Madam Mayor, there is all-party representation from this body which meets; I would hope that whips speak to group members in their group to decide what the themes for the year ahead might be and I hope members of the individual and respective groups might have some idea what interests the residents in their borough. We do on our side have an idea of what interests the residents of our borough and therefore our proposals I am sure came from what we have been listening to on the door steps in the last couple of years. So I am not sure that expanding the membership of this particular group is actually going to serve any particular purpose if the people on that committee are doing their job properly, if they are not doing their job properly and not representing the constituents they represent; well that is his problem, not mine.

3. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE

Are community councils allowed to meet more than five times a year on requests of local residents, as set out in paragraph 41, if they can find the resources to do so?

RESPONSE

Following the decisions of council assembly in February 2012, the community councils will meet five times a year in 2012/13. Due to the reductions in council budgets no additional meetings can be supported. There is nothing to stop local residents holding public meetings if they have the resources to do so. However, they would not be community council meetings as these are formal council meetings and require the appropriate officer support.

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE

I thank the leader for the answer to the question. My supplemental question is as follows: how will staff levels and staff costs for community councils be changed by the restructuring? Thank you.

RESPONSE

I am not sure of the precise details of the answer to that question; I will have to come back to him with a detailed response to that.

4 QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID HUBBER

Has the cabinet member considered devolving licensing powers to community councils?

RESPONSE

The democracy commission were tasked with investigating the roles and functions of community councils in the context of budgetary savings. Devolving licensing powers to community councils would result in additional meetings at a higher cost than licensing sub-committee meetings. Taking regulatory decisions at community councils can also make it difficult for ward members to represent their constituents – as highlighted by the democracy commission. This was a consideration in their recommendation to introduce planning sub-committees

ITEM 3.4 - CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW 2012/13**1. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES BARBER**

What will be the cost of forming two planning sub committees? How many planning applications that have previously gone to members will now be decided by officers?

RESPONSE

Introducing two planning sub-committees as an alternative to planning at community councils resulted in a saving of £92,238. Deleting planning from

community councils and delegating all decisions currently taken by community councils to officers would have saved £186,435.

It is likely that around 100 applications will be considered by the planning sub committees compared with 119 applications considered by community councils in 2011.

It is important to note that between June 2010 and May 2011 approximately 76% of applications which went to community councils were considered after the application expiry date, and could have been subject to legal challenge for non-determination.

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES BARBER

Thank you Madam Mayor. What consultations took place with the many Southwark civic societies before deciding to centralise planning decisions away from community councils in Tooley Street?

RESPONSE

Well Madam Mayor, the democracy commission was tasked with consulting far and wide and I hope and trust that organisations (as part of the debate within the democracy commission was how planning was going to be dealt with going forward) I hope that other organisations were consulted on this issue. I think Councillor Dolezal already made important points about how planning is protected going forward under the new sub-committee system.

2. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GETTLESON

At the budget meeting in February 2012, the cabinet member for finance, resources and community safety said he would investigate whether there is a requirement to have five community council areas as he outlined at the meeting of Bermondsey community council as the reason behind not merging Camberwell community council in with one of its neighbours. Please can he confirm whether he has done this?

RESPONSE

The democracy commission recommended the new five community council areas identifying that:

- there were overlaps in items being considered in Borough and Bankside and Walworth community councils on issues such as the regeneration of Elephant and Castle
- there was an overlap of attendance between Bermondsey and Rotherhithe (20 people on average) and to a lesser extent between Peckham and Nunhead and Peckham Rye (three people on average)
- there was no overlap at Camberwell community council in terms of either issues or attendees.

The commission therefore did not recommend merging it with another community council area.

On the specific matter of my undertaking to investigate the matter further, I can confirm that I did ask the strategic director of communities, law & governance for further advice after the meeting. I have set out below the reply I received in full:

“The constraint is set out below, in bold.

Although two-fifths is greater than a quarter, the issue for us is that complying with the two-fifths rule while keeping some form of sensible boundary was getting very difficult.

I hope this helps.

Deborah Collins

Section 18 Local Government Act 2000

18 Discharge of functions by area committees. E+W

This section has no associated Explanatory Notes

(1)The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision for or in connection with enabling an executive of a local authority, or a committee or specified member of such an executive, to arrange for the discharge of any functions which, under executive arrangements, are the responsibility of the executive by an area committee of that authority.

(2)Regulations under this section may impose limitations or restrictions on the arrangements which may be made by virtue of the regulations (including limitations or restrictions on the functions which may be the subject of such arrangements).

(3)In this section—
"area committee", in relation to a local authority, means a committee or sub-committee of the authority which satisfies the conditions in subsection (4)
"specified" means specified in regulations under this section.

(4)A committee or sub-committee of a local authority satisfies the conditions in this subsection if—

(a)the committee or sub-committee is established to discharge functions in respect of part of the area of the authority,

(b)the members of the committee or sub-committee who are members of the authority are elected for electoral divisions or wards which fall wholly or partly within that part, and

(c)either or both of the conditions in subsection (5) are satisfied in relation to that part.

(5)Those conditions are—

(a)that the area of that part does not exceed two-fifths of the total area of the authority,

(b)that the population of that part, as estimated by the authority, does not exceed two-fifths of the total population of the area of the authority as so estimated.”

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GETTLESON

I do Madam Mayor, thank you. From Councillor Livingstone’s reply it is clear there was no legal requirement to not merge the untouched community councils in with their neighbours, in particular with Camberwell community council and its neighbours. I refuse to believe his answer in saying that there were no border issues between Camberwell community council and Walworth community council over Burgess Park or Camberwell community council over South Bermondsey and the Dog Kennel Hill issue. It is clear that the answer he gave to Bermondsey community council when he was asked this question was wrong. Will he take the opportunity at the first meeting of the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe community council to apologise for his incorrect answer at the last time he addressed that meeting?

RESPONSE

I would like to thank Councillor Gettleson for his supplemental question. I am more than happy to clarify the situation at the next merged meeting of the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe community council and explain that. I have been giving similar explanations to Rotherhithe for a number of meetings, so I am happy to do that within the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe community council.

3. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL NOBLET

The report clarifies the process for community council questions being asked to cabinet members. Does the cabinet member believe community councils should get to ask cabinet members supplemental questions?

RESPONSE

Yes, the councillor asking the question on the community council’s behalf can ask a supplemental question.

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL NOBLET

Thank you Madam Mayor if I may, it is a very brief one; can I welcome the answer and could we have a double dose of good news perhaps by an indication there maybe some support for guaranteeing 30 minutes for members’ questions even if the guillotine has fallen, which formed part of the amendment slightly lower down the order paper?

RESPONSE

As Councillor Wingfield says, we will come to that when we get to it. We are not going to be minded to support that. It is up to us all to ensure that we manage the time of council assembly meetings efficiently so that there is sufficient time to

cover questions as well as deputations, as well as the themed debate. I think that is up to all of us to exercise a little bit of control in terms of how many people contribute to debates even when we are repeating points over and over again – all in the name of democracy, importantly – but if questions need to be addressed, and myself and my cabinet colleagues always welcome the opportunity to deal with questions, then a bit of self-control is necessary.

COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY 4 JULY 2012

Themed debate: Health in Southwark

SOME COMMUNITY VIEWS

Resident 1

We need to do much more as a community to address the spread of HIV. Southwark is the second highest borough in London with people living with the disease.

Resident 2

I like football and going to the gym. I also believe in the importance of eating at the right times and getting enough sleep. I also try to avoid getting too upset or putting myself under too much pressure. All this improves my health.

Having a clean house, wearing clean shoes and clothes, and getting rid of rubbish properly improves the community's health and well-being.

Resident 3

I could do with having a more active lifestyle by walking, exercising, managing my anger, and believing positively in myself. We as a community should come together more in unity to discuss and talk about how we can improve our health and well-being.

Resident 4

I try and eat healthy. I cook and take regular exercise. As a community, we could set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, giving us a sense of added security and peace of mind.

Resident 5

I'm Somali and we eat too much fatty food and meat. We consume too much sugar in our tea at cafes - it's not healthy.

The climate in this country doesn't really allow us to burn off the amount we eat and drink as quickly as if we were in a hot weather country.

We need somewhere where we can go and get exercise at local leisure centres, and advice. We feel we don't have anywhere to go. Community leaders should talk about the real meaning of community, and give advice on healthy living.

Resident 6

I exercise, eat healthily, and avoid substances like alcohol and drugs. I also maintain a positive outlook on life by being optimistic on the subject of change. I'm very much a 'life is half full rather than half empty' kind of person.

We as a community should help people, especially the elderly. There are lots of other things we need to address too such as community safety and over-crowded housing. This can often impact on people's mental health.

We need to support young people by having more community centres where they can hang out, to prevent young people congregating on estates. We could manage these activities and programmes, with the financial support of the council.

Resident 7

We need to place more emphasis on a child's psychological development, covering practical help, education, home life, play areas, better health services, mentoring services, and schools.

Minimise fast food outlets in poor areas by teaching people how to climb out of poverty. Address housing issues and create hope!

Put in place mental health programmes that appreciate people's different cultures, and tackle the underlying issues of a person's mental health e.g. drug misuse, homelessness, lack of finance, etc.

Promote healthy eating and provide more sports and exercise areas that are free for residents. Those outdoor gyms are a great idea!

Resident 8

The things I could you do to improve my personal health and well-being are less smoking and drinking, and improve my diet. I'm trying to make a difference each day by walking as much as possible and not using the bus for short journeys.

Resident 9

I'm happy with our local GP service. I have a good doctor and the surgery staff are very helpful. There needs to be greater awareness of the affects and consequences of eating fast and non nutritional food.

Being in my fifties I need to watch what I eat carefully on a daily basis. I'm amazed to see how many young people eat fast food after school. There are far too many fast food restaurants and shops in my area.

Resident 10

I'll tell you the one thing I could do to improve my personal health and well-being – change my career as I work and teach children and young people, and relocate out of London!

Our services and GP provision are good. We have good referral pathways to Kings College Hospital.

Community cohesion on our estate has improved over the last few years. But we need more NHS dental practices nearby and better visible signposting for early years, as well as a better transport system for local elderly people to access health centres.

The main roads & roundabout intersecting the area near our estate can be improved to make it safer for mothers and elders to get to local services.

Resident 11

We need more drop-in health centres for young or teenage mums as well as more information for them. Information sharing and signposting of health services needs to become better and more easily accessible.

We use a good pharmacy service but it's in Lambeth. We can't walk to the nearest Southwark pharmacy due to the distance.

Resident 12

I'm currently in a fit and healthy state. I walk daily and Peckham Rye is a nice big open space to walk with friends and family. We're very fortunate in Southwark to have so many green spaces.

My local health services are good and they seem to cover a broad range of provision adequately. I have a good relationship with my GP and I know she will provide me with information when I need it.

It's important to have a good GP who cares and pays full attention to your needs. Some of my friends tell me they don't have a good relationship with their GP. They are reluctant to visit their GP as they have a lack of confidence he/she will take their condition seriously. Or else they'll rush the appointment and their expectations are not met.

Resident 13

I'm in good health. No recent visits to my doctor thankfully.

The local women's health clinic seems to only cater for young people, especially women with sexually transmitted diseases. Lots of young women and teenage mums have other issues and the clinic should extend their services to meet those other needs.

Being the mother of teenage boys I can safely say that more needs to be done to encourage teenage boys and young men to use the health services. There's still a big stigma attached for teenage boys and young men to visit their GP.

Resident 14

I'm in good health and I use the local gym. That's how I take care of my personal health and well-being.

My local GP is good and my wife and children feel welcomed when they visit him. I feel that people need to exercise more, play sports and get on with people at work and in their local area. Being happy is everything. It's all about a healthy mind in a healthy body!

Resident 15

To improve personal health and well-being we need effective access to leisure facilities that takes into consideration culture and cost as barriers. For cultural or religious reasons, some women can only take part in 'women only' sessions at leisure centres but we have very few of these available. Women from our group have tried to join three leisure centres but none have 'women only' sessions.

We also need to highlight safe areas to promote walking as a natural form of exercise.

Resident 16

At community level, we need occasional workshops on healthy cooking and eating, including ethnic dishes (especially prior to Ramadan).

Let's all campaign to reduce the number of cheap fried food shops permitted to open near schools and colleges to tackle obesity.

Resident 17

A number of Bengali people drink alcohol but it's frowned on in our culture and in the Muslim religion, so it's hidden and difficult to quantify. Some of the younger generation are more into drugs, similar to other communities, but drinking alcohol is not such a major issue.

Resident 18

I speak as a Bengali and more work needs to be done to break down barriers about mental health within our community. Also to help identify troubled children and young people, who suffer in silence, are excluded at school, and later end up as part of the prison population.

Cultural, religious (especially Islamic), and language barriers need to be acknowledged.

There's a great lack of facilities and spaces where young people can 'hang out' and enjoy themselves after school or at weekends.

Resident 19

Large numbers of people still live on housing estates in overcrowded conditions, with little or no outside access. Gangs and a culture of group violence, as well as the expense of joining leisure centres, mean that people lack social outlets. That all impacts on health and well-being.

Resident 20

To improve health and well-being, let's have more organised sports for local young people – which is meant to be the legacy of 2012. I'd also like to see better provision of 'women only' sessions at leisure centres and the promotion of 'rambler walking' locally for all the local residents.

Let's also have regular MOT health checks and the promotion of physical exercise for people with chronic illnesses.

Resident 21

Please acknowledge language and culture as barriers to individuals and community members finding appropriate routes to improving their health. Especially when it comes to the talking therapies, it will be more effective to have greater provision of Bengali trained counsellors. The same goes for other cultures and ethnic groups.

Resident 22

I know what I need to do – quit smoking. That's the one thing that would improve my personal health. I also need to cut down on the amount of meat and dairy products I consume and eat more veg.

Resident 23

A better night's sleep would make a big difference to improving my health. I might just achieve that if there was less noise at night, including helicopters.

Resident 24

There needs to be greater emphasis on helping children with parents who are mentally ill - especially as they may not be known to any authority and therefore slip through the net.

Resident 25

It's probably not possible with current budgets, but I'd like to see more exercise classes delivered in the community, to help people work out. Lots of people won't go to gyms so we need to try other ways to get them to exercise.

If you aren't very fit, it's difficult to start exercising and those held in gyms are aimed at those who are already fit. We need activities that are suitable for a much lower level of fitness.

Resident 26

The mental health services have taken a real hit over the past few years, and as a service user I am afraid for the future. I used to be on an enhanced care programme and while my mental health hasn't improved at all, the input I get now is minimal, and time-limited. There used to be therapy groups (art, pottery, crafts) and one could be a day-patient but the psychiatric wards I knew at Guys have closed and moved to The Maudsley.

The current mental health provisions are totally inadequate and centre around crisis management for the most acutely ill, and the rest get a time-limited 'staying well' programme at the end of which you are discharged back to your GP, who may not have the time to give you enough attention.

I really fear that someone is going to slip through the net and end up dead, because they don't fit the criteria - which seem to change without telling anyone.

As for health and fitness, there used to be a 'gym on prescription' deal, where your GP could refer you to Southwark's swimming pools and gyms. Does that still exist?

Resident 27

I completely agree with tackling public disorder - if that's what we mean by alcohol misuse - and helping those with mental health issues, but I don't think it's the council's role to make people slimmer and healthier.

We have so much of this stuff from central government already. There's only so many times you can tell people to stop eating burgers and take exercise, the ultimate choice rests with them.

Resident 28

I believe that the council now leads on public health, with the abolition of the PCT, so they are responsible for the major health challenges and obesity is one of the major ones - plus mental health. I don't think the council has any money for this new role, so it's more of an honorary position.

Resident 29

The council can make a big difference by encouraging walking and cycling over motorised means of transport. The great thing about walking and cycling is that they're easy to integrate into every-day life - you don't need to make a special effort to go to a gym or exercise class. It can even help save money and time.

Walking or cycling doesn't create noise and pollution, so there's the extra health benefit to everyone of living in a calmer and more pleasant area. So anything the council invests in helping people to choose walking or cycling over driving is money very well spent.

I suggest cycle training. According to the council's website cycle training is already delivered at every school, which is great.

To get the best outcome (i.e. most people actually cycling, safely, in the long term) the training should be done over an extended period of time, and should also involve the parents as much as possible. Reaching out to parents and offering to train them as well, perhaps at a different time of day, ensures that families can take up cycling together, and that parents who currently chose to drive their child to school might opt to accompany them on a bike instead.

The council also offers a free 2-hour cycle training session to any adult who lives, works, or studies in the borough. Again, I think this is excellent and I hope it continues to get funding.

I feel the council could do even more to promote this - by actively encouraging its own staff to get trained, by reaching out to parents via schools, by working with businesses, residents' organisations, doctor's surgeries.

Wherever the council has influence on the design of streets or public spaces, the aim should be to make them pleasant and convenient for walking or cycling first and foremost. Look into all one-way roads: could they allow counter-flow cycling? This helps traffic calming and creates shortcuts for cycling. Bermondsey Street is a good example.

Are walking routes direct, fast, and feel pleasant and safe? Railings that kettle people in or prevent them from using the natural line should be removed. Pedestrian traffic flow should have priority over motor traffic flow.

Dimly-lit, smelly, cumbersome and unsafe underpasses should be replaced by level crossings.

Resident 30

To combat alcohol misuse we should educate people that there are other alternatives – it takes a lot of money though, and if people want to drink, they will.

Resident 31

In the work place, managers can be made more aware of how to spot the signs of mental illnesses, and to give support. Again, this takes a lot of money.

Resident 33

I'm very conscious that everything is in my hands, and that my routine now will have an impact on the later life stages. I want to be able to move independently and to prepare for having children.

Resident 34

Your diet now can affect what you do later in life. Illnesses like hypertension and diabetes could be avoided. Many people from my Latin American background have problems such as high cholesterol, hypertension, high blood pressure, from diets which include too many fried foods.

Resident 35

Many supermarkets only sell pre-packaged fruit and vegetables, which can't be examined closely. We need more markets selling organic produce.

Restaurants and supermarkets should vary their produce and menus to include food for the health conscious eater, alongside traditional dishes.

Also, more parks should provide outdoor gym facilities. People could improve their health in outdoor 'boot camps' and group activities such as roller skating in the parks.

Resident 36

I used to work in a drug rehabilitation charity, so I've seen what addiction to drugs and alcohol can do. I'm from Colombia which has a history of drug production. We know how devastating the impact is on society. If people here knew how bad it is, that would change their opinions about using drugs.

Resident 37

We have to be more proactive about recognising early signs of mental distress and combating it. There is not the understanding in the immigrant community of mental health problems - there is a stigma attached.

Resident 38

I have been working long hours and I want to organise my time better, so that I work only the hours required and have more time for myself. My work-life balance needs to improve.

Resident 39

To improve health and well-being in the community it is very important to have access to information, particularly for people with language barriers, or people arriving recently in London. They postpone looking for doctors and health workers because of this.

Lack of information about mental health prevents access to assistance, and the problems get worse. Many people are also ashamed of mental health issues, and feel they may be shunned.

Resident 40

Parents are often in denial that their children suffer with obesity. Others don't seem to realize that their children have an unhealthy diet, and sometimes they don't stop to think of the consequences of eating junk food. Parents need to realise and accept that there is a problem.

Resident 41

The Lesbian community, more than other women, have problems of low self-esteem, leading to depression, drinking too much, misusing drugs, and obesity.

We can help ourselves by exercising more, smoking less, drinking less, eating less; but people need encouragement, and the Gay community - especially Lesbians - find it hard to talk to professionals, or anyone, because they fear discrimination. They feel ill at ease.

For the LGBT community, we need targeted services to tackle alcohol misuse or depression. In the case of more acute mental health issues that require hospitalization, we need to listen to patients.

Resident 42

LGBT people with mental health issues often suffer double discrimination, because of their illness and their sexual orientation. It's a basic requirement that health professionals be entirely free from any prejudice against their service users. This has to be addressed!

Resident 43

There's a higher than average incidence of self-harm, injury and suicide amongst young LGBT people. They get bullied about their sexuality, and they internalise it, thinking that there's something horribly wrong with them. It's the way they're being treated that's horribly wrong.

When there's a crisis and young people are hospitalised, it's often the first time they will disclose their sexuality to an adult. This is completely unacceptable. All health professionals have to make it clear that they can be talked to, before the child is dead.

Resident 44

As an LGBT person with a disability, my personal difficulty is access to consultants. I know there are lots of services out there but it's gaining access that's the problem. The use of social media has helped me a lot with finding out about services which can help me.

Resident 45

Awareness of alcohol misuse should be taught in schools – people don't relate to all this talk about 'units'. In France the culture teaches about alcohol consumption as an accompaniment to food – in this country, we only know about alcohol consumption. It's not so cool to sit in a Starbucks that closes at eight o'clock in the evening! I for one am quite happy to sit in a coffee house which closes later. The industry has to take some responsibility as well.

Resident 46

There seems to be a sedentary lifestyle inbred in our culture. We need to change our attitude towards food, and social media should be used a lot more. That way the message will get viral and begin trending. We also need education in schools.

Resident 47

Stopping smoking would most improve my health. It's just willpower. But at the moment I'm just not interested to stop. It helps me cope.

Resident 48

I lost weight as I became more confident. Respect for your body leads you to want to improve it. I have worked with people who were sufferers who subsequently lost weight. Body dysmorphia (including anorexia as well as obesity) is about not liking yourself – they must make the decision for themselves.

Resident 49

Getting up and moving about if your job involves sitting down at a desk all day would help people's health. It's just so bad for you. There's also too much fast food - cheap fast food that's seriously bad for you.

Smoking - that's another one. I was a heavy smoker and then I quit. I got sick of waking up in the morning and coughing like I was an old man.

Resident 50

For my own health and wellbeing, getting regular sleep throughout the night would help. As would consistent hours of work. I do sporadic work. I might work for 24 hours, then go home to sleep, or take another job on if I need the money.

Resident 51

I think obesity and people's diet is a problem in this area. Maybe it's the culture - they don't look after themselves when they are younger and it gets progressively worse. Then by the time they realize, it's too far gone.

Resident 52

Some people think a healthy breakfast is a heart-attack on a plate. You've got to ask yourself if fried bread, fried eggs, bacon and sausage is a healthy breakfast? Then again, if you're in a lower income area, you're going to see more fast food places survive.

Resident 53

A lot of people don't eat a balanced diet. Many people don't know how to cook for themselves. And they're not teaching their kids how to cook at home.

Resident 54

Nowadays when you have a problem in the house the council doesn't want to know. We pay rent and council tax. I'm not on benefits - I'm in full-time work. How can you have good health living in such an environment? The rents are too high, and they keep on going up.

Resident 55

When I go to my local GP they say they can only deal with one issue at a time. If you've got a headache and a bad knee for example, you have to come back the next day to get treatment for the knee. The service is not good. What's going on?

When I last went to the GP I was explaining my symptoms to my doctor in detail and she said, "Sorry, I don't have much time. I've got 50 people to see".

Resident 56

The environment in this country is not good. That's why people are sick and stressed. We have to stand up and say something - otherwise nothing will change.

Resident 57

I went into the Accident and Emergency Department at King's College Hospital on a Friday at 9 o'clock at night, and came out at 5 o'clock in the morning. So, for A&E to have a turnaround time in about four to five hours would be good.

Resident 58

I just lost my husband. He had a horrible neurological illness. I'm now challenging having to pay his medical fees because his illness was so terrible.

I feel he was entitled to the NHS continuing healthcare. I could do with more support to help me with my claim and I think other people would also benefit from this.

Resident 59

A lot of people I know are stressed. London is a depression city. If your neighbours don't talk to you, it has an affect. You feel isolated. Everybody just gets up, goes to work, comes home and goes to bed. Day in - day out. The same cycle.

And being broke and all that, it gets you down. It's just bills, bills, and bills. It's like there's nothing to look forward to. If the postman delivers a letter you don't want to open it in case it's a bill. All this affects people's health.

Resident 60

The one thing that would improve my health is exercise and better food. I don't have time to do enough exercise and I need to eat more protein. The problem is lunch time. If you're working you end up just getting snacks, chocolates, or rubbish food, and that doesn't help.

Resident 61

I'm perfectly capable of helping myself with my health. I have a bad back at the moment and I'm doing lots of exercise to make that better. I walk everywhere as I don't have a car, and I don't eat rubbishy food, so I wouldn't call upon the council to help my health.

I might call upon the NHS - but not the council. I know how to look after myself. You've got to. I think a lot of people do abuse their bodies and then expect miracles to put it right. But the council is very good in other ways.

Resident 62

I could improve my health if the council would give us somewhere we can exercise for free. I've considered using the free gym in the parks, but they don't have one around here.

Resident 63

I'm losing trust in the NHS. I've gone to my GP and they make it difficult to make an appointment. I struggled with back pain for a year before going for help. I feel they're ignoring me, and now I've suffered pain for 2 years. I'm planning on going to Singapore or India - maybe I will have to spend lots of money.

Resident 64

I'm nearly seventy and I feel healthy. I carefully choose the type of food that I eat. I read books about diets and healthy eating - that sort of thing.

GROUP SUBMISSIONS

We have also received responses from some community groups with a particular interest in health issues:

1. Southwark Cyclists

A community group 'committed to encouraging cycling'.

The following are a set of notes and facts about health and active travel drawn together by **Southwark Living Streets** and **Southwark Cyclists**. They are intended to draw attention to the link between the long-term health benefits of walking and cycling and the importance of creating a borough that supports these activities through:

- Land use and planning policies which encourage local journeys on foot and by bicycle with communities having viable local shops and services within walking distance and town centres within cycling distance.
- Transport policies which encourage walking and cycling and discourage domination by motor vehicles. Key policies include:
 - Borough 20mph speed limit which is enforced.
 - Segregated cycle lanes for cyclists on main roads.
 - Removal of major barriers to movement (i.e. motorway-like places such as E&C northern roundabout, OKR, NKR, Newington Causeway and Bricklayers Arms Flyover).

- Traffic-free residential streets to encourage children to play outside.
 - Green/traffic-lite routes to encourage walking and cycling to local parks and open spaces, local amenities and town centres.
 - Town centres designed as places for people rather than principally to facilitate vehicle movement.
 - Safe routes that encourage children to walk and cycle to school.
- Overall we would like to see the conversation about health also focus on the enormous preventative public health benefits that active forms of travel can offer Southwark. Investment in cycling infrastructure and encouraging walking journeys offers fantastic pay-offs for Southwark. Please do consider these as low-cost remedies for many of Southwark's big health problems such as obesity and heart disease. They are also free or nearly free forms of movement/transport in areas of high deprivation.
 - Our Top 10 Health & Active Travel Facts:
 1. **Active Travel Keeps You Healthy.** Countries with the highest rates of driving have the highest levels of obesity; countries with higher levels of use of public transport and active forms of travel such as walking and cycling tend to have lower levels of obesity. For example, in the US where 34.3% of adults are obese, just 5% of all journeys are made on foot, by bicycle or by public transport; in Holland, 11.2% of adults are obese but 50% of journeys are made by non-driving modes.
 2. **Walking is Good for You.** A Harvard study found that those who walk for 30 minutes a day for 5 days a week cut the risk of death by a half.
 3. **Walking Keeps You Happy.** There are strong links between even moderate levels of walking and increased scores for happiness and a lower incidence of mental degeneration. Walking also has benefits in the treatment of mental health problems.
 4. **Cycling is Good for You.** People who cycle live longer and lead healthier lives. Those who cycle three hours or more per week have a 39% lower risk of early death than those who do not.

5. **Cycling Keeps You Happy.** People who cycle lead happier lives. Cycling has been shown to improve mental health and happiness significantly.
6. **Many More People in Southwark Want To Cycle.** 40% of adults in Southwark would like to cycle or to cycle more than they currently do. The biggest barriers stopping them are road safety fears and a lack of safe cycle routes.
7. **Many More Journeys Could Be Cycled.** 45% of all trips by vehicles could be made by bicycle in Southwark; just 8% of these trips are in fact cycled.
8. **Children in Southwark Don't Cycle to School But Want To.** Under 5% of Southwark's primary schoolchildren currently cycle to school. Almost a third (30%) say that they would like to cycle to school.
9. **Southwark Has LOW Levels of Walking.** Southwark has the (equal) lowest modal share for walking of the Inner London boroughs (30% of journeys on foot). This compares with the Inner London borough average of 37% and highs of 44% in Kensington & Chelsea and 42% in Camden.
10. **Southwark Has LOW Level of Cycling.** Just 3% of all journeys in Southwark are by bicycle. This compares with 8% in Hackney and 28% in Cambridge.

References for the facts:

1. <http://policy.rutgers.edu/faculty/pucher/jpah08.pdf>
2. Reference: Manson JE et al. A prospective study of walking as compared with vigorous exercise in the prevention of coronary artery disease, The New England Journal of Medicine, August 1999;341:650-658
3. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1755296612000099>
4. Cycling England, 2007, Cycling and Health: What's the evidence?, London: Cycling England, (p26)
5. Ohta, M, Mizoue, T., Mishima, N. and Ikeda, M., 2007, "Effect of the Physical Activities in Leisure Time and Commuting to Work on Mental Health". Journal of Occupational Health, 49, p46-52
6. <http://southwarklivingstreets.files.wordpress.com/2008/07/peckham-lcz-report-12jul10.pdf>
7. TfL - Analysis of Cycling Potential Policy Analysis Research Report December 2010

8. Southwark Council Transport Plan – July 2011

9. <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/assets/downloads/corporate/travel-in-london-report-3.pdf>

10. <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/assets/downloads/corporate/Travel-in-London-report-1.pdf>

2. CoolTan Arts

A mental health and arts charity that believes ‘mental well-being is enhanced by the power of creativity’.

As a community based organisation and user led mental health charity (run by and for people with mental distress) we see the huge and often life changing benefits for people with mental distress in taking part in structured arts projects with a high public profile. We feel it is imperative that a culture exists where mental health is de-stigmatised and that people are given true choice and control over the services they receive.

CoolTan Arts significantly improves the lives of up to 800 people with mental distress per year through a range of strategies and interventions including de-stigmatising volunteer led mental health walks, health & wellbeing workshop programmes, volunteer services and a Self Advocacy Training programme. We find this inclusive approach to the mental health and wellbeing of participants means that people choose to use CoolTan Arts services time and time again and we have a very strong reputation within the borough and beyond for our approach.

We feel very strongly that organisations such as ours should be recognised for the front line services we can offer that compliment statutory services. We would like to see clearer routes to signpost people with mental distress to the relevant services they need with greater involvement by local authorities to support this; and that our value as a frontline service when responding to people in crisis be recognised as we are often the first point of contact for many. We would like to see services such as ours funded to deliver a range of services to people with mental distress in a structure and at times to suit them.

This page left intentionally blank.

**COUNCIL ASSEMBLY AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN) (MINUTES)
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2012/13**

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	Shahida Nasim, Audit Commission Ground Floor, Tooley Street	1
Alex Doel, Labour Group Office	1		
Tom Greenwood, Liberal Democrat Group Office	1		
Libraries	3		
Albion / Newington / Local History Library	1 each		
Officers	6		
Eleanor Kelly	1		
Deborah Collins	1		
Duncan Whitfield	1		
Ian Millichap	1		
Sonia Sutton	1		
Doreen Forrester-Brown	1		
Constitutional Team	15		
(Copies to Lesley John , 2 nd Floor, Hub 4, Tooley Street)			
		Total:	90