

Council Assembly Ordinary Meeting

Wednesday 26 January 2011
7.00 pm
Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

Councillors are summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to consider the business contained herein

Annie Shepperd
Chief Executive

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Access to information

You have the right to request to inspect copies of minutes and reports on this agenda as well as the background documents used in the preparation of these reports.

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Access

The council is committed to making its meetings accessible. Further details on building access, translation, provision of signers etc for this meeting are on the council's web site: www.southwark.gov.uk or please contact the person below.

Contact

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lesley.john@southwark.gov.uk; sean.usher@southwark.gov.uk

Date: 14 January 2011



Council Assembly

Wednesday 26 January 2011
7.00 pm
Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

Order of Business

Item No.	Title	Page No.
	PART A - OPEN BUSINESS	
1.	PRELIMINARY BUSINESS	
	1.1. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE	
	1.2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE MAYOR DEEMS URGENT	
	1.3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS	
	1.4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2.	MINUTES	
	To approve as a correct record the Open minutes of the ordinary and extraordinary council assembly meetings held on 1 December 2011 (circulated separately).	
3.	PETITIONS	
	There were no petitions received.	
4.	DEPUTATION REQUESTS	1 - 2
5.	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
	To consider any public questions received.	
6.	MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME	3 - 9

Item No.	Title	Page No.
7.	REPORT(S) FOR INFORMATION FROM THE CABINET	
	7.1. REPORT BACK ON MOTIONS REFERRED TO CABINET FROM COUNCIL ASSEMBLY	10 - 14
8.	OTHER REPORTS	
	8.1. THE COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2011/12	15 - 27
	8.2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR OF THE NUNHEAD AND PECKHAM RYE COMMUNITY COUNCIL	28 - 29
9.	MOTIONS	30 - 34
	9.1. MOTION 1 - EDUCATIONAL MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE	
	9.2. MOTION 2 - REPAYMENT OF MAJOR WORKS CHARGES BY LEASEHOLDERS	
	9.3. MOTION 3 - SOUTHWARK COUNCIL TRIBUTE TO HEROES	
	9.4. MOTION 4 - CHOICES THAT COUNT	
	ANY OPEN ITEMS IDENTIFIED AS URGENT AT THE START OF THE MEETING	
	EXCLUSION MOTION (IF NECESSARY)	
	The following motion should be moved, seconded and approved if the council wishes to exclude the press and public to deal with reports revealing exempt information:	
	“That under the access to information procedure rules of the Southwark constitution, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in section(s) 1 – 7 of paragraph 10.4 of the procedure rules.”	
	PART B - CLOSED BUSINESS	
	ANY CLOSED ITEMS IDENTIFIED AS URGENT AT THE START OF THE MEETING	

Item No. 4.	Classification: Open	Date: 26 January 2011	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Deputation Requests	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That council assembly considers whether or not to hear the deputations.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. 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; *or*
 - to refer the deputation to the most appropriate committee/sub-committee.
3. A deputation shall consist of no more than six people, including its spokesperson. Only one member of the deputation shall be allowed to address the council assembly, her or his speech being limited to five minutes. The deputation spokesperson or any member of the deputation nominated by her or him shall be invited to ask a question of the leader or relevant cabinet member.
4. After this time members 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 gallery where they may listen to the remainder of the open section of the meeting.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Educational Maintenance Allowance

5. A deputation request has been received from a group of students in Southwark on the government's withdrawal of the educational maintenance allowance, a motion on the same subject can be found elsewhere on this agenda (see item 9.1)

Southwark Tribute to Heroes

6. A deputation request has been received from a two local businesses in respect of the motion 'Southwark Tribute to Heroes, which can be found elsewhere on this agenda. The deputation states:

"We would like to explain the work which we do in the community to support Help for Heroes and Homes for Heroes. We would also like to explain the process by which armed forces killed in action make their last journey from Southwark and why we support the suggestion that Southwark Council should recognise this and pay formal tribute."

A motion on this subject can be found elsewhere on the agenda (see item 9.3).

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Deputation Request File	160 Tooley Street London SE1 2TZ	Lesley John 020 7525 7228

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Team	
Version	Final	
Dated	12 January 2011	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Title	Comments sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	12 January 2011	

Agenda Item 6

Item No. 6.	Classification: Open	Date: 26 January 2011	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Members' Question Time	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.9 members' question time shall not exceed 30 minutes. During this time, members may not question any one cabinet member or committee chair for longer than fifteen minutes.

Members are limited to one question at each meeting. One councillor from each community council will be able to submit a question on behalf of their community council.

Questions to the leader will be taken first, followed by question from community council councillors followed by questions to other cabinet members. The order in which the different political groups ask questions of the leader will be rotated. Questions to cabinet members will be taken in the order of receipt and portfolio. The order of portfolios will be rotated at each meeting such that the cabinet member answering questions immediately after the leader will be the last cabinet member to answer any questions at the next meeting of council assembly.

Cabinet members and committee chairs have discretion to refer a question to another cabinet member if this is appropriate.

Responses to member's questions will be circulated on yellow paper around the council chamber on the evening of the meeting.

The Mayor will ask the member asking the question if they wish to ask one supplemental question to the member to whom the question was asked. The supplemental question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. Therefore, supplemental questions to the leader or other cabinet members are not free ranging.

No question shall be asked on a matter concerning a planning or licensing application.

Note: In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.9 (12) & (13) (prioritisation and rotation by the political groups) the order in which questions to the leader appear in this report may not necessarily be the order in which they are considered at the meeting.

1. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR NORMA GIBBES

Unlike the previous administration, this council recognises the importance of Camberwell to the borough. Can the leader confirm whether there will be a consultation exercise for a new library in Camberwell and what the time frame is likely to be? Can the leader also comment on the response from Transport for London (TFL) on re-modelling Camberwell town centre?

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

Please can you give a summary of the responses from the public budget consultation?

3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR LEWIS ROBINSON

In light of local misgivings expressed about the proposal to relocate to Camberwell Green the building currently housing the "One Stop Shop" and reopen it as the "Camberwell Pavilion" would the leader state whether the council will proceed with the proposals and if so indicate the cost of the move and what further consultation will take place?

4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR GAVIN EDWARDS

Do you think that the cabinet has kept to its election pledge to have the most open budget process in the council's history?

5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR PODDY CLARK

Will the leader reduce the level of pay of the chief executive by 5%, as suggested by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government?

6. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL MITCHELL

Does the leader of the council share my concern about suggestions that the existing very successful community councils are under threat? Does he agree with me that creating fewer larger community councils takes power away from local people and runs counter to the whole localism agenda?

7. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR ALTHEA SMITH

Given the current financial challenges facing the council does the leader intend to break promises that he has made to the electorate?

8. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR WILMA NELSON

Does the leader think it was necessary to have 8 community wardens in addition to security staff for the cabinet meeting on 21 December 2010?

9. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LAUDER

Can the leader provide an update on the two visits that he has made to Grant Shapps?

10. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR TIM MCNALLY

Will the leader be using reserves and the contingency set aside by the previous administration in order to prevent cuts to front line services?

11. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR MARTIN SEATON

We are all very concerned that the previous administration accounts relating to the decent homes investment programme highlighted woeful strategic administrative weaknesses coupled with political sleight of hand. Can the leader confirm by ward and how much was spent between years 2006 to 2010 by the previous administration?

12. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR LINDA MANCHESTER

As quoted in question 17 at the last council assembly, can the leader tell me the location of additional CCTV cameras he has installed, not including the link up with Transport for London (TfL) which was agreed with TfL under the last administration?

13. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR NICK DOLEZAL

Does the leader believe that the Conservative/Liberal Democrat government's decision to scrap the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) will have an effect on social mobility in Southwark?

14. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GETTLESON

What will the leader do to support the development of 'community plans' set out in the Localism Bill and maximise these opportunities for local residents?

15. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE

Does the leader believe residents of Southwark value community councils?

16. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID HUBBER

Does the leader agree that increased use of the River Thames could make a significant contribution to improving the travel services available to many residents of Southwark and has he pressed the Mayor and Transport for London to treat the river-bus service as public transport, rather than a tourist facility?

17. QUESTION TO THE LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR JONATHAN MITCHELL

Please will the leader provide attendance for Southwark citizens at all council assembly meetings and all of the community council meetings in Southwark since 01 May 2006? Please can he provide a breakdown by community council?

18. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES (BOROUGH AND BANKSIDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

Would the cabinet member for environment support a bid for Borough High Street for LIP funding in 2012/13, as both an important strategic road and as an identified local priority by residents and ward councillors for improvements?

19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK (ROTHERHITHE COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

Can the cabinet member for children's services advise how many pupils living in the Rotherhithe Community Council area are having to travel to secondary schools outside the Rotherhithe area due to acute shortage of secondary school places in the north of the borough? How many of these need to travel outside the borough?

20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL KYRIACOU (BERMONDSEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

Please will the cabinet member for resources please provide the number of people who have visited the Bermondsey One Stop Shop since it was opened? Please can he provide a breakdown by year?

21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES BARBER (DULWICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL)

Please can the cabinet member for children's services please inform me how many primary school applications for Southwark schools have been received from Dulwich residents, which schools she would expect to have bulge classes and what percentage of applicants she anticipates to have their 1st or 2nd choices?

22. QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR ROSIE SHIMELL

Has the cabinet member considered evidence given on free school meals by an expert panel to children's services scrutiny sub-committee on 16 November 2010 for the pilot?

23. QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR ADELE MORRIS

Please can the cabinet member provide the number of children who are currently eligible for free school meals for each of the following schools:

- a) Dulwich Church of England Infant School
- b) Oliver Goldsmith Primary School
- c) Southwark Park Primary School

Please can she provide what percentage of the total population of each school this equates to?

24. QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR CATHERINE BOWMAN

How many young people have a) visited and b) are members of Brandon Library?

25. QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR JEFF HOOK

Does the cabinet member think that stigma is an issue in the uptake of free school meals in primary schools?

26. QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL NOBLET

Please will the cabinet member list all the primary schools that require capital investment in their kitchens to provide universal free school meals? If she is unable to provide a complete list, please can she provide a list of schools that she knows require capital investment?

27. QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL KYRIACOU

Will the cabinet member ensure that she will not make any cuts to the youth service in order to fund universal free school meals?

28. QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES

What will the cabinet member do to ensure that every meal eaten by primary school children outside school are healthy and nutritious?

29. QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR NICK STANTON

How will the cabinet member measure the success of her teenage pregnancy strategy?

30. QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL BUKOLA

Following the abolition of the previous government's shameful policy on detaining children in asylum centres, would the cabinet member congratulate the coalition government and further would she confirm how many of our residents are affected locally in Southwark?

31. QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR VICTORIA MILLS

Can the cabinet member provide an update on the progress made to bring in free healthy school meals and any early findings from the pilot schemes that are now underway?

32. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES BARBER

Southwark winters appear to be trending towards colder more extreme weather - so far a very snowy third winter in a row. Recently stocks ran very low and we witnessed people being sent out litter picking in the snow due to running out of salt. Does the cabinet member agree with me that 1,000 tonnes of salt in stock at the winter start no longer seems adequate and would he please consider a proper salt barn that can hold more salt in ideal condition rather than in an open yard and hold sufficient salt such that side roads and pavements can be salted during snowy periods?

33. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR LISA RAJAN

The council's travel plan prioritises pedestrians and public transport over car use. Do you therefore agree that pavements, particularly bus stops, should be gritted during snowy/icy periods in response to residents' requests to grit pavements to reduce risk of injuries caused by slips and falls?

34. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR GEOFFREY THORNTON

Please will the cabinet member provide an update on the MUSCo?

35. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR DENISE CAPSTICK

Why are commuters allowed to use Southwark Park as a free car park while local residents around the corner have to pay to park outside their homes?

36. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR ROBIN CROOKSHANK-HILTON

How many trees have died over the past three years due to salt damage from gritting exercises, how much have the replacement costs been, and what is being done to make contractors and the public aware of the costs incurred by the unfortunate application of salted grit in tree pits on the pavements during inclement weather conditions?

37. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR TOBY ECKERSLEY

Would the cabinet member for the environment care to advise what response has been issued, or is being prepared, to the Civil Aviation Authority's current consultation entitled "Future Airspace Strategy"?

38. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR MARK GLOVER

Could the cabinet member provide leaf collection amounts for the years 2008/09, 2009/10, 2010/11?

39. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR HELEN MORRISSEY

Can the cabinet member update council assembly on plans to increase the number of intelligent speed adaptors (ISAs) used on the council fleet?

40. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR DAN GARFIELD

Has the cabinet member made any requests for the extension of the Mayor's cycle hire scheme into new parts of our borough?

41. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR RENATA HAMVAS

How has the car club scheme contributed to reduced car usage in the borough and how well is the scheme used locally?

42. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DARREN MERRILL

Please can the cabinet member tell us how the newly formed housing department plans to make changes to improve the repairs and maintenance department to ensure that where possible we have a improved quality and response times for repairs?

43. QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR CLAIRE HICKSON

Can the cabinet member outline how he has worked to undo the legacy of the previous administration and what steps he is taking to make sure that every council home is warm, safe and dry?

44. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY FROM COUNCILLOR PATRICK DIAMOND

The government has broken its election pledge of automatic jail terms for criminals caught carrying knives. What message does this send to the small minority of people in Southwark who think it is acceptable to carry a knife?

45. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR SUNIL CHOPRA

Concerns have been expressed for the future of adult learning in Southwark by some users due to changes in funding and rules through the creation of the Skills Funding Agency, the existing funder. What steps is the cabinet member taking to ensure Southwark continues to provide sustainable learning opportunities for residents in Southwark?

46. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE, SPORT AND THE OLYMPICS FROM COUNCILLOR KEVIN AHERN

What will the effects of the budget settlement be on culture and arts in Southwark?

47. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR COLUMBA BLANGO

How will the cabinet member make the monthly list of expenditure over £500 more user friendly for members of the public? Will he ensure that it is made clear exactly what each item was spent on?

48. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR ANDY SIMMONS

Where does Southwark rank in terms of cuts to its formula grant compared to other London boroughs?

49. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN

What work has the council done with Thames Water to find an alternative site for the sewage tunnel?

Item No. 7.1	Classification: Open	Date: 26 January 2011	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Report back on motions referred to cabinet from council assembly	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Cabinet	

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – FREE SCHOOL BREAKFASTS

Cabinet on 23 November 2010 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on 20 October 2010 which had been proposed by Councillor Lewis Robinson, seconded by Councillor Michael Mitchell and subsequently amended.

That council assembly notes:

1. The current administration's manifesto commitment to provide a "free healthy school meal" for every primary school child studying in the borough.
2. That officers are currently working on proposals and costs to implement this commitment.

That council assembly believes:

3. There is a considerable body of evidence, both academic and within the education profession in our borough, supporting the introduction of "breakfast clubs", especially in primary schools. This has mainly been driven by concerns that a substantial proportion of pupils are not eating breakfast and arriving at school hungry, impacting on learning and behaviour during the school day. Breakfast clubs have a wider impact in assisting pupils to arrive at school on time and provide a safe and calm environment before the school day.
4. Evaluations have taken place in inner city boroughs similar to Southwark (Camden, Haringey and Lambeth in particular) where schools participating believed that benefits derived were: children no longer hungry at the start of the school day; more focused on their work; improved punctuality and less unauthorised absences. It was also concluded that the introduction of a "breakfast club" in schools in deprived neighbourhoods was associated with an improvement in pupils' Key Stage 2 average point score.

That council assembly therefore requests the cabinet:

5. Many of our schools in Southwark have different needs and circumstances. It is often the headteachers, the education professionals at each school, who best understand the needs of their schools pupils rather than politicians.
6. Council assembly calls on the cabinet member for children and young people to explore with officers whether the provision of free breakfasts would be more appropriate than free lunches across the borough and the feasibility of allowing schools to choose themselves and to report back to councillors.

7. Council assembly welcomes cross-party support for the principle of universal free school meals.

We noted that the pilot of the free healthy school meals for all primary aged pupils was being launched in January 2011 and will run in 10 schools until July 2011, with implementation in all primary schools – initially in specific year groups from September 2011.

We also noted that whilst for some families the provision of breakfast at school may be helpful, for other households breakfast is an important family meal at home. We will look into the practicality and relative costs of any option to extend the school day to provide breakfasts. The feasibility of introducing an option of free healthy breakfasts instead of lunches will be looked into as part of the evaluation of the free healthy school meals pilot.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – LABOUR’S RECORD IN OFFICE SO FAR AND THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS’ BROKEN ELECTION PROMISES

Cabinet on 23 November 2010 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on 20 October 2010 which had been proposed by Councillor Anood Al-Samerai, seconded by Councillor Paul Noblet and subsequently amended.

1. That council assembly notes that since the elections in May Labour has, in line with its manifesto:
 - Signed a deal guaranteeing a minimum level of affordable housing at Elephant & Castle and made progress on the swimming pool and demolition of the shopping centre
 - Saved Nursery Row Park and Brayards Green in line with our commitment to value green spaces
 - Cut special responsibility allowances (SRAs) by the same amount that they were increased by the last administration
 - Put in place tough new restrictions on consultancy spending
 - Started a budget consultation as part of our commitment to open up the budgeting process
 - Made every fire risk assessment publicly available
 - Hired a new housing director for the new housing department
 - Started to pilot our dedicated line for social care queries
 - Extended CCTV coverage
 - Consulted on our new charter of rights for people who need social care
 - Worked with other boroughs to see what savings can be achieved through cooperative working.

2. That council assembly notes that in the coming months Labour will, in line with its manifesto, at the very least:
 - Set out how we will make every home warm, dry and safe
 - Open two air quality monitoring stations
 - Launch the teen pregnancy commission
 - Publish news on the violent crime strategy
 - Continue to consult on the budget, in spite of the coalition government’s cuts.

3. That council assembly notes that in contrast to this record of achievement, the last Liberal Democrat council administration left office with at least 50 of its election pledges unfulfilled.
4. That council assembly further notes the Liberal Democrats significant broken manifesto promises since entering a coalition government with the Tories, not least on:
 - the scale and speed of spending cuts
 - the hike in the level of VAT
 - the hike in tuition fees, which every Liberal Democrat MP pledged to oppose.
5. That council assembly calls on the cabinet to continue to meet its election obligations, despite the Tory/Liberal Democrat cuts.

We noted the motion.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – THAMES WATER SEWAGE TUNNEL

Cabinet on 23 November 2010 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on 20 October 2010 which had been proposed by Councillor Wilma Nelson, seconded by Councillor Eliza Mann and subsequently amended.

1. That council assembly notes the proposal by Thames Water to close King's Stairs gardens for seven years and the Alfred Salter playground, Druid Street, for two years for the construction of the new Thames Tunnel.
2. That council assembly further notes that if the Thames Water proposals go ahead both sites will be used to construct massive permanent sewage ventilation towers with significant loss of local green space and residential amenity.
3. That council assembly supports the Thames Tunnel scheme, but believes these two sites – which provide welcome recreational and green spaces in some of the most densely populated parts of the capital – are entirely inappropriate for the task of constructing a major infrastructure project.
4. That council assembly supports the progress that the cabinet and community have made to date and will continue to make in finding less environmentally damaging alternative sites by lobbying Thames Water and calls on Simon Hughes MP to use his influence over ministers in government to find such alternative sites.

We noted the motion and agreed that as part of the report to be received by cabinet on 14 December 2010 officers include a complete timeline of events in respect of this issue.

MOTION FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE RULE 2.9 (6) – THE COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW

Cabinet on 23 November 2010 considered the following motion referred from council assembly on 20 October 2010 which had been moved by Councillor Mark Glover and seconded by Councillor Helen Morrissey.

1. That council assembly notes the publication of the coalition government's comprehensive spending review (CSR) today and the bigger than expected 28% cuts which will be made to the council's budget as a result.
2. That council assembly notes other announced changes with concern, including cuts of 60% to capital budgets for new housing and for rents for new council tenants to be increased to 80% of market value. This would mean an average rent of £1,358 a month for a two-bedroom flat in SE1, not only will this be pricing young families out of the borough, but also creating an impediment to the housing moves needed for Southwark's regeneration projects.
3. That council assembly does not believe that the cuts brought forward within the CSR needed to be so deep or so quick. An alternative approach could have been adopted.
4. That council assembly welcomes the commitment of the Southwark cabinet to making the budget process open and transparent and the budget principles which have been agreed.
5. That council assembly calls on the cabinet to continue to make the case against the cuts with the government and coalition MPs, but to prepare a budget within the financial constraints imposed by the government in the interests of the residents of Southwark.

We noted the motion.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Cabinet agenda and minutes – 23 November 2010	Constitutional Team, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2TZ	Paula Thornton 020 7525 4395
Council assembly agenda and minutes – 20 October 2010		

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
Report Author	Everton Roberts, Constitutional Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	13 January 2011	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional / Community Council / Scrutiny Team		13 January 2011

Item No. 8.1	Classification: Open	Date: 26 January 2011	Meeting Name Council Assembly
Report title:		The Council Tax Base for 2011/12	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		The Whole Borough	
From:		Finance Director	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Council Tax Base for 2011/12 be set at:

	Number of band D equivalent properties
For the parish of St. Mary Newington	13,521.88
For the parish of St. Saviour's	1,178.33
For the whole of the borough excluding the parishes of St. Mary Newington and St. Saviour's	84,293.74
For the whole borough	98,993.95

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. Regulations require the Council to inform its preceptors of the council tax base by 31 January 2011.
3. This report sets out the statutory information that Members need in order to set the Council's council tax base for 2011/12. A further report will be presented to Council Assembly on 22 February 2011 setting out the level of Council Tax needed to meet the Council's expenditure for the year.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Council tax base for 2011/12

4. Calculation of the council tax ("the tax") is governed by the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and various regulations there under. In particular, Section 33(1) of the Act requires the basic (Band D) tax to be calculated by applying the formula:

The budget requirement less Formula Grant

Divided by

The Council's "Tax Base"

5. Although the Council's net budget requirement has not yet been determined, the "tax base" can be set and is subject to the Local Authorities (calculation of council tax base) Regulations 1992, made under section 33 of the Act and subsequent amendments.

Regulation 8 of the 1992 regulations requires the calculation for 2011/12 to be made between 1 December 2010 and 31 January 2011.

6. The proportions applicable to the various Council Tax bands (the “basic” band being D) are as follows:

Band	Proportion (ninths)
A	6
B	7
C	8
D	9
E	11
F	13
G	15
H	18

7. The Council's basic tax is calculated in respect of band D. Band A properties therefore pay 6/9 of the basic tax, band B 7/9 of the basic tax and so on up to band H where the tax is 18/9 or twice the tax at Band D.
8. A calculation of the total number of dwellings net of discounts needs to be made for each of the above bands. This takes into account the number of dwellings on the official valuation list as at the 2011/12 CTB1 submission, the estimated number of dwellings that are exempt, attract disabled relief, attract single person discount, are empty, or have only disregarded residents, and estimated changes in the status of the dwellings during the year. Appendix A attached tabulates the above information for each of the bands. Line 3 of Appendix A (i) shows the total number of dwellings net of discounts for each band, which total 108,757.25
9. The line 3 total of 108,757.25 described above must be converted into the number of band D equivalents by applying the proportions shown in paragraph 6 above. The result for each of the bands is shown on line 4 of the appendix, which totals 103,118.70.
10. It is necessary to calculate the Council's Tax Base by applying an estimated collection rate to the total of all properties converted to the average equivalent property at band D shown in appendix A(i).
11. The Finance Director recommends that, based on collection performance in previous years and to date in 2010/11 (see below), a 96% assumed collection rate would give the best estimate of the likely value to be obtained from the demands issued in April 2011. A comparison of this rate to those currently levied and proposed for other inner London authorities is included as appendix B. It can be clearly seen in the Appendix that there is not a firm trend in projected collection rates within Inner London boroughs, the rate of 96% is consistent with the Inner London average, and similar to near neighbours Lambeth and Lewisham.
12. The resultant Council Tax base is calculated as follows:

Total of the relevant amounts (appendix A (i) line 4) 103,118.70

Estimated collection rate 96%

2011/12 council tax base 98,993.95

13. Additional earmarked income may be available from Trust Funds, which can subsidise the Council Tax in the former parishes of St. Mary Newington and St. Saviour's. Separate calculations have to be made for these specific areas. These are set out at Appendices A (ii & iii). The subsidy to St Mary Newington is taken from interest earned on the Walworth Common Trust capital sum, divided by the taxbase to give a band D equivalent subsidy, the subsidy to St Saviour's comes from contributions from the Borough Market Trustees, again divided by the taxbase.
14. The Council also has local discretion, granted under the Local Government Act 2003, in setting the discount for homes counted as long-term empty and second homes. These are currently:

Reason	Discount Given	Local / Statutory
Single Person	25%	Statutory
All except one person in household disregarded	25%	Statutory
All persons in household disregarded	50%	Statutory
Second Home	10%	Local Statutory Minimum 10% Statutory Maximum 50%
Long-term empty	0%	Local Statutory Minimum 0% Statutory Maximum 50%

Collection performance

15. The Council's contract with Liberata for the collection of revenues is output based incorporating financial incentives to encourage the contractor to achieve and sustain improvements in Council Tax collection.
16. The outturn in-year collection performance during 2009/10 was disappointing. Performance for that year out-turned at 91.81%, some 0.69% or £0.6m below the contract in-year target. Arrears collection performance in 2009/10 was £3.6m, £0.5m below target.
17. Given this level of performance in respect of the in-year collection target, at the start of this financial year significant work was undertaken jointly with Liberata to refocus efforts on achievable collection and service targets. This is monitored under a jointly agreed improvement plan.
18. Current in-year collection performance during 2010/11, however, remains disappointing. The latest collection figures produced by Liberata show total in-year collection at 31 December 2010 of 78.94%. This is a lower figure on the equivalent time in December 2009 and there remains a concern that that the minimum contract performance of 92.50% will not now be achieved.

19. Performance in respect of arrears collection is also disappointing. As at 31 December 2010 this was £2.75m compared to £3.13m at a similar stage in 2009/10. Although the full year minimum collection target of £3.9m is still achievable, there remains a risk that this target will not be achieved.

20. The table below highlights Liberata's performance for in year collection over the last 6 years and compares it to the Inner London average performance.

	2005/06 %	2006/07 %	2007/08 %	2008/09 %	2009/10 %	2010/11 %
In-year collection level	92.96	92.30	92.50	91.70	91.81	78.94
Inner London average	93.9	94.1	94.7	94.6	94.6	Not Available

21. Taking into account collection expected in future years, we still expect to achieve the budgeted overall collection level of 96.0% for 2010/11. See appendix D for details and the table below for a summary of projected performance for the last six financial years.

	2005/06 %	2006/07 %	2007/08 %	2008/09 %	2009/10 %	2010/11 %
Actual Collection level to date (31 December 2010)	96.03	96.13	96.03	95.47	94.67	83.03
Projected Final Collection Level	96.05	96.15	96.10	96.00	96.00	96.00
Budgeted Collection Rate	97.50	97.50	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00

22. Liberata have also taken steps to strengthen their revenues management resource on the contract to provide greater expertise and resilience as this has been accepted as a weakness. A new experienced manager has been drafted in to cover previous areas of concern.

23. The Revenues Client Team have piloted a Council Tax drop in session in partnership with the CAB and DLA Piper Solicitors. This has helped contact the most hard to reach individuals and ensured liability is correct and settled.

24. The Council continues to promote the take-up of Council Tax Benefit and close working with welfare rights groups aids this purpose.

25. Nevertheless the collection of Council Tax within Southwark is difficult, and the key difficulties remain:

- (a) Database accuracy
- (b) An historic culture of non-payment and avoidance.
- (c) Preference for non-direct debit methods of payment.
- (d) Deprivation levels

26. The collection rate of 96% for 2011/12 is considered prudent given past and current performance and the risks associated with bringing this service in-house. However, this will be kept under close review through 2011/12 with an objective of increased rates in future years

27. On 29 September 2009 the Council took the decision not to extend the current contract with Liberata in 2011 and look towards an in-house solution.

Collection fund monitor 2010/11

28. The estimated balance on the Collection Fund for Council Tax transactions to 31 March 2011 is a deficit of £0.087m, of which Southwark's element is £0.065m.

	£m
Southwark Council	0.065
Greater London Authority	<u>0.022</u>
Total deficit	<u>0.087</u>

29. The deficit must be accounted for in the council tax calculations for 2011/12 and recovered from council tax payers.

Revenue budget implications 2011/12

30. Subject to Council approval, the tax base recommended and the projected deficit on the collection fund as at 31 March 2011 will be used in the calculation of the level of council tax that will be recommended to Council on 22 February 2011.

Consultation

31. Calculation of the Council Tax Base forms an integral part of the revenue budget setting process for 2011/12. The budget is underpinned by the Council's draft medium term resource strategy as agreed by Cabinet on 21 December.

Community impact statement

32. This report contains technical calculations relating to the Council's tax base for 2011/12. There is no direct community impact at this stage. The impact on the community of any potential change in service design, outcomes or access arising from recommendations relating to the 2011/12 revenue budget will need to be addressed and identified as part of the final budget submission to Council Assembly on 22 February 2011.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Strategic Director of Communities, Law and Governance

33. Section 33(1) Local Government Finance Act 1992 imposes a duty on a billing authority to calculate its council tax by applying a formula laid down in that Section. This relies on calculating a figure for the council tax base for the year. The Local Authority (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 require a billing authority to use a given formula to calculate the council tax base

34. Other legal implications are set out in the body of the report.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
CTB (1) Working Papers	Revenues and Benefits Client Unit, 1 London Bridge	Dominic Cain – Client & Commissioning Manager
Monitoring schedules	Revenues and Benefits Client Unit, 1 London Bridge	Dominic Cain – Client & Commissioning Manager

APPENDICES

Appendix	Title
Appendix A (i)	Council Tax Base for 2011/12 for the Whole Area
Appendix A (ii)	Council Tax Base for 2011/12 for the Parish of St Mary Newington
Appendix A (iii)	Council Tax Base for 2011/12 for the Parish of St Saviours
Appendix A (iv)	Council Tax Base for 2011/12 for the whole area excluding the parishes of St Mary Newington and St Saviours
Appendix B	Inner London – Council Tax Collection Rates Used for Tax Setting
Appendix C	Collection of Council Tax – Statistical Information
Appendix D	Council Tax – Collection Achieved and Projected

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Duncan Whitfield, Finance Director	
Report Author	Patrick Hall, CSC and Client Services, John Braggins, Finance and Resources,	
Version	Final	
Dated	13 January 2011	
Key Decision?	Yes	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	Yes	Yes
Finance Director	Yes	Yes
Cabinet Member	Yes	Yes
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	13 January 2011	

COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2011/12 FOR THE WHOLE AREA – FOR COUNCIL TAX SETTING

	BAND - A	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H	TOTAL
(a) Number of Chargeable Dwellings per Valuation List		12,406.00	37,331.00	33,010.00	20,376.00	13,365.00	5,642.00	3,881.00	518.00	126,529.00
(b) Estimated number of Dwellings not listed (f.y.e.)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(c) Estimated number of Dwellings listed, which will not be in that Band (f.y.e.)		-7.00	-34.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-41.00
(d) Estimated number of Exempt Dwellings etc		-445.00	-1,310.00	-1,107.00	-723.00	-518.00	-180.00	-67.00	-18.00	-4,368.00
(e) Number of Dwellings falling into the Band as a result of disabled relief	7.00	20.00	46.00	67.00	38.00	24.00	17.00	8.00	0.00	227.00
(f) Number of Dwellings falling out of the Band as a result of disabled relief	0.00	-7.00	-20.00	-46.00	-67.00	-38.00	-24.00	-17.00	-8.00	-227.00
1 Revised Number of Chargeable Dwellings (a+b+c+d+e+f)	7.00	11,967.00	36,013.00	31,924.00	19,624.00	12,833.00	5,455.00	3,805.00	492.00	122,120.00
Number of Discounts:										
(g) Estimated number @ 25% (No of properties x 1)	-3.00	-7,426.00	-19,823.00	-13,191.00	-6,453.00	-3,365.00	-1,314.00	-674.00	-54.00	-52,303.00
(h) Estimated number of @ 50% (No of properties x 2)	0.00	-20.00	-74.00	-54.00	-50.00	-52.00	-32.00	-50.00	-38.00	-370.00
(i) Estimated number of @ 10% (No of properties x 0.4)	0.00	-36.40	-132.80	-177.20	-152.80	-132.80	-85.20	-51.60	-9.20	-778.00
(j) Total Appropriate Percentage Discounts (g+h+i)	-3.00	-7,482.40	-20,029.80	-13,422.20	-6,655.80	-3,549.80	-1,431.20	-775.60	-101.20	-53,451.00
2 Total deducted from Chargeable Dwellings at 25% (j) x 25%	-0.75	-1,870.60	-5,007.45	-3,355.55	-1,663.95	-887.45	-357.80	-193.90	-25.30	-13,362.75
3 Total in Band ((1) - (2))	6.25	10,096.40	31,005.55	28,568.45	17,960.05	11,945.55	5,097.20	3,611.10	466.70	108,757.25
Band Factor	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9	
4 Number of Band D Equivalent	3.47	6,730.93	24,115.43	25,394.18	17,960.05	14,600.12	7,362.62	6,018.50	933.40	103,118.70
5 Estimated Collection Level										0.960
6 Estimated 2011/12 TAX BASE (4) x (5)										98,993.95

COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2011/12 FOR ST MARY NEWINGTON – FOR COUNCIL TAX SETTING

	BAND - A	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H	TOTAL
(a) Number of Chargeable Dwellings per Valuation List		3,677.00	7,431.00	5,120.00	1,794.00	1,212.00	380.00	49.00	12.00	19,675.00
(b) Estimated number of Dwellings not listed (f.y.e.)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(c) Estimated number of Dwellings listed, which will not be in that Band (f.y.e.)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(d) Estimated number of Exempt Dwellings etc		-132.00	-318.00	-275.00	-171.00	-101.00	-15.00	-3.00	0.00	-1,015.00
(e) Number of Dwellings falling into the Band as a result of disabled relief	1.00	1.00	10.00	5.00	5.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23.00
(f) Number of Dwellings falling out of the Band as a result of disabled relief	0.00	-1.00	-1.00	-10.00	-5.00	-5.00	-1.00	0.00	0.00	-23.00
1 Revised Number of Chargeable Dwellings (a+b+c+d+e+f)	1.00	3,545.00	7,122.00	4,840.00	1,623.00	1,107.00	364.00	46.00	12.00	18,660.00
Number of Discounts:										
(g) Estimated number @ 25% (No of properties x 1)	-1.00	-1,734.00	-3,756.00	-1,965.00	-543.00	-283.00	-81.00	-4.00	0.00	-8,367.00
(h) Estimated number of @ 50% (No of properties x 2)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(i) Estimated number of @ 10% (No of properties x 0.4)	0.00	-5.60	-16.00	-17.60	-9.20	-7.20	-2.40	0.00	0.00	-58.00
(j) Total Appropriate Percentage Discounts (g+h+i)	-1.00	-1,739.60	-3,772.00	-1,982.60	-552.20	-290.20	-83.40	-4.00	0.00	-8,425.00
2 Total deducted from Chargeable Dwellings at 25% (j) x 25%	-0.25	-434.90	-943.00	-495.65	-138.05	-72.55	-20.85	-1.00	0.00	-2,106.25
3 Total in Band ((1) - (2))	0.75	3,110.10	6,179.00	4,344.35	1,484.95	1,034.45	343.15	45.00	12.00	16,553.75
Band Factor	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9	
4 Number of Band D Equivalents	0.42	2,073.40	4,805.89	3,861.64	1,484.95	1,264.33	495.66	75.00	24.00	14,085.29
5 Estimated Collection Level										0.960
6 Estimated 2011/12 TAX BASE (4) x (5)										13,521.88

COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2011/12 FOR ST SAVIOUR'S - FOR COUNCIL TAX SETTING

	BAND - A	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H	TOTAL
(a) Number of Chargeable Dwellings per Valuation List		57.00	285.00	325.00	180.00	179.00	112.00	145.00	37.00	1,320.00
(b) Estimated number of Dwellings not listed (f.y.e.)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(c) Estimated number of Dwellings listed, which will not be in that Band (f.y.e.)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(d) Estimated number of Exempt Dwellings etc		-5.00	-12.00	-11.00	-8.00	-10.00	-4.00	-1.00	-2.00	-53.00
(e) Number of Dwellings falling into the Band as a result of disabled relief	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
(f) Number of Dwellings falling out of the Band as a result of disabled relief	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1.00	0.00	-1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-2.00
1 Revised Number of Chargeable Dwellings (a+b+c+d+e+f)	0.00	52.00	274.00	313.00	173.00	168.00	108.00	144.00	35.00	1,267.00
Number of Discounts:										
(g) Estimated number @ 25% (No of properties x 1)	0.00	-30.00	-158.00	-147.00	-67.00	-60.00	-38.00	-41.00	-4.00	-545.00
(h) Estimated number of @ 50% (No of properties x 2)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(i) Estimated number of @ 10% (No of properties x 0.4)	0.00	0.00	0.00	-2.40	-2.40	-3.60	-3.20	-4.40	-2.80	-18.80
(j) Total Appropriate Percentage Discounts (g+h+i)	0.00	-30.00	-158.00	-149.40	-69.40	-63.60	-41.20	-45.40	-6.80	-563.80
2 Total deducted from Chargeable Dwellings at 25% (j) x 25%	0.00	-7.50	-39.50	-37.35	-17.35	-15.90	-10.30	-11.35	-1.70	-140.95
3 Total in Band ((1) - (2))	0.00	44.50	234.50	275.65	155.65	152.10	97.70	132.65	33.30	1,126.05
Band Factor	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9	
4 Number of Band D Equivalents	0.00	29.67	182.39	245.02	155.65	185.90	141.12	221.08	66.60	1,227.43
5 Estimated Collection Level										0.960
6 Estimated 2011/12 TAX BASE (4) x (5)										1,178.33

COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2011/12 FOR THE WHOLE BOROUGH EXCLUDING THE PARISHES OF ST MARY NEWINGTON & ST SAVIOUR'S - FOR COUNCIL TAX SETTING

	BAND - A	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H	TOTAL
(a) Number of Chargeable Dwellings per Valuation List		8,672.00	29,615.00	27,565.00	18,402.00	11,974.00	5,150.00	3,687.00	469.00	105,534.00
(b) Estimated number of Dwellings not listed (f.y.e.)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(c) Estimated number of Dwellings listed, which will not be in that Band (f.y.e.)		-7.00	-34.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-41.00
(d) Estimated number of Exempt Dwellings etc		-308.00	-980.00	-821.00	-544.00	-407.00	-161.00	-63.00	-16.00	-3,300.00
(e) Number of Dwellings falling into the Band as a result of disabled relief	6.00	19.00	35.00	62.00	32.00	23.00	17.00	8.00	0.00	202.00
(f) Number of Dwellings falling out of the Band as a result of disabled relief	0.00	-6.00	-19.00	-35.00	-62.00	-32.00	-23.00	-17.00	-8.00	-202.00
1 Revised Number of Chargeable Dwellings (a+b+c+d+e+f)	6.00	8,370.00	28,617.00	26,771.00	17,828.00	11,558.00	4,983.00	3,615.00	445.00	102,193.00
Number of Discounts:										
(g) Estimated number @ 25% (No of properties x 1)	-2.00	-5,662.00	-15,909.00	-11,079.00	-5,843.00	-3,022.00	-1,195.00	-629.00	-50.00	-43,391.00
(h) Estimated number of @ 50% (No of properties x 2)	0.00	-20.00	-74.00	-54.00	-50.00	-52.00	-32.00	-50.00	-38.00	-370.00
(i) Estimated number of @ 10% (No of properties x 0.4)	0.00	-30.80	-116.80	-157.20	-141.20	-122.00	-79.60	-47.20	-6.40	-701.20
(j) Total Appropriate Percentage Discounts (g+h+i)	-2.00	-5,712.80	-16,099.80	-11,290.20	-6,034.20	-3,196.00	-1,306.60	-726.20	-94.40	-44,462.20
2 Total deducted from Chargeable Dwellings at 25% (j) x 25%	-0.50	-1,428.20	-4,024.95	-2,822.55	-1,508.55	-799.00	-326.65	-181.55	-23.60	-11,115.55
3 Total in Band ((1) - (2))	5.50	6,941.80	24,592.05	23,948.45	16,319.45	10,759.00	4,656.35	3,433.45	421.40	91,077.45
Band Factor	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9	
4 Number of Band D Equivalents	3.05	4,627.86	19,127.15	21,287.52	16,319.45	13,149.89	6,725.84	5,722.42	842.80	87,805.98
5 Estimated Collection Level										0.960
6 Estimated 2011/12 TAX BASE (4) x (5)										84,293.74

APPENDIX B

Inner London - Council Tax Collection Rates Used for Tax Setting

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Proposed 2011/12
	%	%	%	%		
Camden	97.00	97.25	97.50	97.50	97.50	97.50
Greenwich	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	n/a
Hackney	91.00	92.00	93.00	97.00	94.00	n/a
Hammersmith and Fulham	97.50	97.50	98.00	98.00	97.50	97.50
Islington	96.80	96.80	96.80	96.80	96.80	n/a
Kensington and Chelsea	96.20	96.50	97.00	97.25	97.25	97.50
Lambeth	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.25	95.25	n/a
Lewisham	96.18	96.25	96.25	96.25	96.25	n/a
Southwark	97.50	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00
Tower Hamlets	97.00	97.00	97.00	97.00	97.00	97.00
Wandsworth	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.50	n/a
Westminster	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00
Inner London Average	95.87	96.00	96.10	96.36	96.19	N/A

Collection of Council Tax – Statistical Information

Volumes		Category
2010/11	2009/10	
125,028	123,994	Number of Council Tax Accounts
88,210	89,319	Number of Accounts where a payment has been made.
34,332	33,080	Number of Council Tax Accounts in receipt of Benefit
3,090	9,196	Number of Summons arrangements
942	1,054	Number of Attachment of Earnings in force.
2,237	2,151	Number of Attachment of Benefits in force.
45,283	44,248	Number paying by Direct Debit
68,687	75,626	Number of Reminders
2,571	4,211	Number of Final Reminders
27,002	32,688	Number of Summonses
21,512	12,913	Number of Bailiff Referrals
35	77	Number of committal/Regulation 36 cases

2009/10 data provided as at 11 January 2011

COUNCIL TAX COLLECTION ACHIEVED AND PROJECTED

APPENDIX D

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Total Debit	117,491	122,301	127,655	135,248	141,911	143,520	145,345
Exemptions	(6,228)	(6,448)	(6,788)	(7,399)	(7,884)	(7,910)	(6,491)
Disabled relief	(40)	(42)	(44)	(46)	(48)	(47)	(44)
Discounts	(13,555)	(14,055)	(14,442)	(14,956)	(14,811)	(14,838)	(14,587)
Collectable debit	97,669	101,755	106,381	112,847	119,167	120,724	124,222
Council Tax collected to date	(71,449)	(74,927)	(79,297)	(84,921)	(89,753)	(89,232)	(77,507)
Less credit balances	392	290	428	568	637	818	1,463
Less Costs paid	824	848	1,063	1,154	1,242	1,071	571
Adjustments	98	71	23	0	0	0	0
Council Tax to date	(70,134)	(73,718)	(77,783)	(83,199)	(87,874)	(87,343)	(75,473)
Estimated future collection	0	(20)	(23)	(84)	(634)	(1,603)	(16,115)
Total projected Council tax	(70,134)	(73,738)	(77,806)	(83,283)	(88,508)	(88,946)	(91,589)
Benefits	(23,400)	(23,998)	(24,479)	(25,163)	(25,893)	(26,949)	(27,665)
Total income	(93,534)	(97,736)	(102,285)	(108,446)	(114,400)	(115,895)	(119,253)
Actual Collection to date (as at 31 December 2010)	95.8%	96.0%	96.1%	96.0%	95.5%	94.7%	83.0%
Projected final collection level	95.8%	96.1%	96.2%	96.1%	96.0%	96.0%	96.0%

Item No. 8.2	Classification: Open	Date: 26 January 2011	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Appointment of Vice-Chair of the Nunhead and Peckham Rye Community Council	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Communities, Law and Governance	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That council assembly removes the existing vice-chair of the Nunhead and Peckham Rye community council and re-appoints to the position.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. Annual council on 19 May 2010 established eight community councils and appointed chairs and vice chairs for the 2010/11 municipal year.
3. The strategic director of communities, law and governance has received written notice from the Labour Group chief whip requesting withdrawal of their current nomination to the vice chair of the Nunhead and Peckham Rye community council, which needs approval by council assembly to create a vacancy.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

4. Council assembly procedure rule 4.2(1)(g) states that annual meeting of the council assembly shall appoint the chairs of committees, which includes community councils.
5. Where a position becomes vacant during the course of the municipal year, the practice in such situations is that any re-appointments are considered by the council assembly.
6. Nominations for the position may either be received in writing prior to council assembly, or be moved from the floor during the meeting. In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.15(6), if more than two people are nominated for a position to be filled, the names will be put to the vote in alphabetical order and the name of the person with the least number of votes will be taken off the list and a new vote taken. This process will continue until there is a majority of votes for one person.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Annual council agenda 19 May 2010	160 Tooley Street London SE1 2TZ	Constitutional Team 020 7525 7236

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	12 January 2011	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law and Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	13 January 2011	

Item No. 9.	Classification: Open	Date: 26 January 2011	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Motions	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.14 (9), the member moving the motion may make a speech directed to the matter under discussion. This may not exceed five minutes without the consent of the Mayor.

The seconder will then be asked by the Mayor to second the motion. This may not exceed three minutes without the consent of the Mayor.

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

At the end of the debate the mover of the motion may exercise a right of reply. If an amendment is carried, the mover of the amendment shall hold the right of reply to any subsequent amendments and, if no further amendments are carried, at the conclusion of the debate on the substantive motion.

The Mayor will then ask members to vote on the motion (and any amendments).

IMPLICATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution allocates responsibility for particular functions to council assembly, including approving the budget and policy framework, and allocates to the cabinet responsibility for developing and implementing the budget and policy framework and overseeing the running of council services on a day-to-day basis. Therefore any matters that are reserved to the cabinet (i.e. housing, social services, regeneration, environment, education etc) cannot be decided upon by council assembly without prior reference to the cabinet. While it would be in order for council assembly to discuss an issue, consideration of any of the following should be referred to the cabinet:

- to change or develop a new or existing policy
- to instruct officers to implement new procedures
- to allocate resources.

Note: In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10 (7) & (8) (prioritisation and rotation by the political groups) the order in which motions appear in the agenda may not necessarily be the order in which they are considered at the meeting.

1. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR CATHERINE McDONALD (Seconded by Councillor Patrick Diamond)

Please note that, in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10 (6), council assembly shall consider this motion.

Educational Maintenance Allowance

1. Council assembly notes that over 33,000 young people in Southwark have benefitted from the Educational Maintenance Allowance ('EMA') which provides financial support to young people from financially disadvantaged backgrounds and enables them to afford to remain in post-16 education.
2. Council assembly also notes that before the 2010 general election both the Conservative and Liberal Democrat parties promised to retain the EMA.
3. In the circumstances council assembly bitterly regrets the Conservative/Liberal Democrat coalition government's decision to withdraw the EMA to new students from January 2011 and existing students from July 2011.
4. Council assembly believes that the withdrawal of the EMA will have a significant and disproportionately adverse impact on the educational and life chances of thousands of young people in Southwark and will result in many more young people leaving full-time education at the age of 16.
5. Council assembly also notes and regrets the Conservative/Liberal Democrat coalition government attacks on young peoples' education through increasing university tuition fees, ceasing Bookstart and the withdrawal of the sport in schools programme and calls on the government to reconsider its approach and to invest in our young peoples' future rather than reduce services to them.

Council assembly calls upon the cabinet and the relevant cabinet members:

6. To oppose the abolition of the educational maintenance allowance by the Conservative and Liberal Democrat coalition government from the 1 January 2011.
7. To lobby the Conservative and Liberal Democrat coalition government and the newly appointed advocate for access to higher education, Simon Hughes MP, to reconsider the abolition of the education maintenance allowance.
8. To secure the support of the three Southwark Members of Parliament to oppose the abolition of the education maintenance allowance.
9. To use all appropriate means to publicise the withdrawal of the EMA to young people in higher education in Southwark, particularly those from low-income families who rely on the allowance to remain in education and to ensure Southwark's young people are informed of any alternative financial provision in place to help them to continue in post 16 education.

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

2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR LEWIS ROBINSON (Seconded by Councillor Toby Eckersley)

Please note that, in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10 (6), council assembly shall consider this motion.

Repayment of Major Works Charges by Leaseholders

Council assembly notes:

1. Southwark Council currently offers leaseholders a number of repayment options when major works (a charge for large one-off works to a block or an estate) are due on their property for which they are liable. These include a “voluntary charge” payable upon sale of the property, and an interest free repayment period of between 12 and 36 months. The council’s preferred option is repayment in 12 monthly instalments (Home Owners Guide)
2. The interest free repayment offer of 36 months is fairly standard across London local authorities, although some do offer a longer period of 48 months.

Council assembly believes:

3. A well planned programme of this type of work across the borough would ensure that all required works are carried out with good notice, and scheduled so that leaseholders are able to make adequate provision and plan ahead financially over a number of years.
4. There have been an increasing number of examples however, of the council failing to achieve this. For example, the council may have to carry out emergency major works following health and safety issues identified in an inspection, or a fire safety notice has been served. In some cases, the programme of works has just been poorly planned.
5. This can and has resulted in several major works programmes taking place in one financial year on an estate, and is highly likely to cause considerable financial hardship to leaseholders. Many on fixed or low incomes are unable to meet the increased costs or able to plan ahead, and given the current state of the housing market, offsetting costs against equity is an increasingly unviable option.
6. The council, while acknowledging that circumstances, and the legal position, may differ from block to block and lease to lease, also believes that further information is required about the obligation of leaseholders to make contributions towards the remedying of fire safety defects

Council assembly therefore requests cabinet:

7. That where exceptional circumstances occur, and the council is required to carry out more than one programme of major works on an individual estate in one financial year, the current repayment schedule of 36 months will be extended to 48 months so that those affected leaseholders are better placed to budget for the additional financial burden.
8. That when such a situation arises the council informs affected leaseholders this further option is available to them.

9. That definitive advice on leaseholder duties in respect of all types of request for contributions for remedying of fire safety defects be obtained.

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

3. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR DENISE CAPSTICK (Seconded by Councillor Paul Kyriacou)

Please note that, in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10 (6), council assembly shall consider this motion.

Southwark Council Tribute to Heroes

1. Council recognises and thanks the people of Southwark for all they have done to support the armed forces and to raise funds for Help for Heroes and Homes for Heroes.
2. Council notes that currently all servicemen and women who die in Afghanistan, are brought to Bermondsey before making their final journey to their resting places.
3. Council agrees to work with the relevant parties involved to facilitate an appropriate tribute from Southwark to recognise those who lose their lives whilst serving our country and make their final journey from our borough.

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

4. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI (Seconded by Councillor Columba Blango)

Please note that, in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10 (6), council assembly shall consider this motion.

Choices that count

Council notes:

1. The success of the Southwark Community Games in 2010 in bringing sports coaching and competition to over 9,000 young people.
2. The establishment of a new local Olympic Delivery Board consisting of 14 members eight of whom are either Southwark cabinet members or Southwark Council senior officers.
3. The proposed establishment of an Olympic Legacy Fund of £2 million as part of the council's capital programme and that funding is to be co-ordinated by a "Capital Legacy Group" consisting of the leader of the council, the chief executive, the director of finance, the building schools for the future co-ordinator, a property developer and the MP for Dulwich and West Norwood.

Council therefore calls for:

4. The terms of reference for the Olympic Delivery Board and the Capital Legacy Group to be published on the council's website.
5. The source of the £2 million legacy fund and a breakdown of how it is proposed to be spent to be published on the council website.
6. The cabinet to confirm as soon as possible that it will continue to fund, support and if possible expand, the Southwark Community Games.

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Member Motions	160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2TZ	Constitutional Team 020 7525 7228

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager
Report Author	Sean Usher, Constitutional Officer
Version	Final
Dated	13 January 2011

**COUNCIL ASSEMBLY AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN) (FULL LIST)
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010/11**

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

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Steven Gauge, Opposition Group Office	1	Robin Campbell	1
		Doreen Forrester-Brown	1
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Gerri Scott	1	Simon Hughes M.P.	
		Others	2
		Shahida Nasim, Audit Commission, Ground Floor, Tooley Street	1
		Mr. Mark Roelofsen	1
		Total:	140