

Council Assembly

Annual meeting

Saturday 20 May 2023
11.00 am

Southwark Cathedral, London Bridge, London SE1 9DA

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

Althea Loderick
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.

Babysitting/Carers allowances

If you are a resident of the borough and have paid someone to look after your children, an elderly dependant or a dependant with disabilities so that you could attend this meeting, you may claim an allowance from the council. Please collect a claim form at the meeting.

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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Date: 12 May 2023



Council Assembly

Annual meeting

Saturday 20 May 2023

11.00 am

Southwark Cathedral, London Bridge, London SE1 9DA

Order of Business

Item No.	Title	Page No.
1.	ELECTION OF THE MAYOR	
	To elect a Mayor for the municipal year 2023-24	
	PART A - OPEN BUSINESS	
2.	PRELIMINARY BUSINESS	
	2.1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	To receive any apologies for absence.	
	2.2. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE	
	To receive any announcements from the Mayor, members of the cabinet or the chief executive.	
	2.3. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE MAYOR DEEMS URGENT	
	In special circumstances an item of business may be added to an agenda within seven working days of the meeting.	
	2.4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS	
	Members to declare any interests and dispensations in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meeting.	

2.5. MINUTES	1 - 23
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To approve as a correct record the open minutes of the ordinary and extraordinary council assembly meetings held on 22 March 2023.

3. REPORTS FOR DECISION FROM THE CABINET

3.1. EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS 2023-2024	24 - 29
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3.2. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES, PANELS AND RELATED MATTERS 2023-2024	30 - 44
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Council assembly is asked to establish committees, panels and related matters for the coming municipal year 2023-24 and to appoint up to three representatives to attend the Local Government Association General Assembly.

3.3. NOMINATIONS TO LONDON COUNCILS COMMITTEES, GREATER LONDON EMPLOYMENT FORUM, BOROUGH LEAD MEMBERS, LONDON LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME (LGPS) COMMON INVESTMENT VEHICLE (CIV) LTD AND LONDON COUNCILS LIMITED 2023-24	45 - 48
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Council assembly is asked to agree nominations to the London Councils committees, the Greater London Employment Forum and London Council Limited.

Council assembly is also asked to nominate borough lead members for the following areas: Children and Young People / Safeguarding and Schools, Skills and Employment; Housing and Regeneration; Health, Social Care and Adult Services; Arts/Culture, Tourism, Port and Leisure; Crime and Public Protection; Economic Development / Business; and Planning / Infrastructure / Development.

3.4. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23	
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To follow

4. AMENDMENTS

Any member of the council may submit an amendment to a report or motion on the agenda. The amendments will be circulated to all members in a supplemental agenda.

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**

Date: 12 May 2023



Council Assembly (Ordinary meeting)

MINUTES of the Council Assembly (Ordinary meeting) held on Wednesday 22 March 2023 at 7.00 pm at Council Offices, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor for 2022-23, Councillor Sunil Chopra (Chair)	Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall
Councillor Suzanne Abachor	Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Evelyn Akoto	Councillor Alice Macdonald
Councillor Jasmine Ali	Councillor James McAsh
Councillor Naima Ali	Councillor Hamish McCallum
Councillor John Batteson	Councillor Kimberly McIntosh
Councillor Rachel Bentley	Councillor Victoria Mills
Councillor Maggie Browning	Councillor Portia Mwangangye
Councillor Victor Chamberlain	Councillor Graham Neale
Councillor Stephanie Cryan	Councillor Margy Newens
Councillor Ellie Cumbo	Councillor Leo Pollak
Councillor Sam Dalton	Councillor Reginald Popoola
Councillor Helen Dennis	Councillor Bethan Roberts
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE	Councillor Catherine Rose
Councillor Esme Dobson	Councillor Jane Salmon
Councillor Gavin Edwards	Councillor Martin Seaton
Councillor Sabina Emmanuel	Councillor Andy Simmons
Councillor Natasha Ennin	Councillor Michael Situ
Councillor Sam Foster	Councillor Charlie Smith
Councillor Renata Hamvas	Councillor Cleo Soanes
Councillor Barrie Hargrove	Councillor Emily Tester
Councillor Ketzia Harper	Councillor Chloe Tomlinson
Councillor Jon Hartley	Councillor Joseph Vambe
Councillor Esme Hicks	Councillor Irina Von Wiese
Councillor Emily Hickson	Councillor David Watson
Councillor Adam Hood	Councillor Kath Whittam
Councillor Nick Johnson	Councillor Kieron Williams
Councillor Sarah King	Councillor Ian Wingfield
Councillor Sunny Lambe	
Councillor Richard Leeming	

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cassandra Brown, Laura Johnson, Darren Merrill, Jason Ochere and Sandra Rhule. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillors Hamish McCallum and David Watson.

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

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle, cabinet member for community safety, made an announcement to welcome the new community wardens in post.

Councillor Catherine Rose, cabinet member for leisure, parks, streets and clean air, made an announcement to support the new online Fix My Street project.

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

At this point, the programme motion was agreed:

The order of business and timings for the evening will be as follows:

Time	Business
19:00 – 19:10	1. Preliminary business and announcements
19:10 – 19:20	2.2 Public question <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Wilkinson
19:20 – 20:20 (20 minutes – 5 minutes' speech) (7 minutes) (5 minutes) (25 minutes) (3 minutes)	Themed debate 3.1 Community Evidence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detective Chief Superintendent Seb Adjei-Addoh (Three questions from members to Det Ch Supt Adjei-Addoh) • Reclaim the Streets • Active Communities Network 3.2 Motion on the Theme <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle, Community Safety 2. Councillor Irina von Wiese, opposition spokesperson 3. Themed debate open to all other councillors 4. Cabinet member's right of reply to the debate
20:20 – 20:35 (5 minutes' speech,	4. Deputation requests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plane Hell Action • Safety on Green Dale

question to the cabinet; no questions from members)	
20:35 – 21:10 (5 minutes) (15 minutes) (15 minutes)	5.1 Members' Question Time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late questions • Members' questions to the leader • Members' questions to the cabinet
21:10 – 22:00	5.2 Motions
	Motion 1 – Tackling Second Homes with Council Tax Premiums
	Motion 2 – This Council commits to being a Diverse Council
	Motion 3 – One year on, Southwark stands with Ukraine
	Motion 4 – RSPCA: Pets as Prizes
	Motion 5 – Local Climate Action Bonds for Southwark
22:00*	6. Reports
	6.1 Adjustment of member allowances in line with the national local government officer pay settlement 2022-23 and Member Allowances Scheme 2023-2024
	6.2 Pay Policy Statement
	6.3 Council assembly dates and calendar of meetings 2023-2024
	6.4 Special urgency and urgent implementation decisions - annual report
	6.5 Appointment of returning officer and electoral registration officer
	6.6 Appointment of independent persons

* subject to the guillotine rule; maximum 15 minutes debate per item.

Note: Any time left remaining on any item will be rolled into the next items.

That the meeting be conducted as follows:

Item 3 - Themed debate

Community Evidence Submissions

To receive submissions from the groups listed in the themed section of the agenda:

- Det Ch Supt Seb Adjei-Addoh
- Reclaim the Streets
- Active Communities Network

(five minutes to speak; three questions from members to Det Ch Supt Seb Adjei-Addoh only)

Format

A five minute presentation from the group.

Themed debate

To accept a late alteration to the themed motion. (CAPR 1.14.15)

To accept a late amendment to the altered themed motion.

To run as listed in the timings above.

Item 4 – Deputations

That the meeting give Safety on Green Dale the opportunity to be heard as a deputation instead of community evidence.

That the meeting agree to hear deputations from:

- Plane Hell Action
- Safety on Green Dale

(Five minutes to speak; deputation question to relevant cabinet member, no questions from members)

Item 5.2 General motions:

Each motion to have a single debate, subject to the guillotine.

Item 5.2.1: Tackling Second Homes with Council Tax Premiums

To vary the mover and seconder of Motion 1: Tackling Second Homes with Council Tax Premiums as below.

Mover: Councillor Emily Tester

Secunder: Councillor Victor Chamberlain

1.4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

The Mayor announced that the Monitoring Officer had given all members a dispensation to vote on Item 6.1: Member Allowances Scheme 2023-24.

There were no other declarations of interest.

1.5 MINUTES

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of council assembly held on 22 February 2023 were

approved as a correct record.

2. ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

2.1 PETITIONS

There were no petitions.

2.2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

(See page 1 of supplemental agenda 1 and additional papers circulated at the meeting)

There was one question from the public, the answer to which had been circulated before the meeting. The public questioner asked one supplemental question.

3. THEMED DEBATE

3.1 COMMUNITY EVIDENCE

The meeting agreed to receive submissions from the following:

Detective Chief Superintendent Seb Adjei-Addoh

The representative spoke to the meeting for five minutes. Three councillors asked questions of the representative. The cabinet member for community safety thanked the representative.

Reclaim the Streets

The representative spoke to the meeting for five minutes. The cabinet member for community safety thanked the representative.

The meeting recessed for ten minutes at this juncture.

Active Communities Network

The representative spoke to the meeting for five minutes. Three councillors asked questions of the representative. The cabinet member for community safety thanked the representative.

3.2 MOTION ON THE THEME

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle, cabinet member for community safety, presented the motion in the themed debate.

Councillor Irina von Wiese, the opposition spokesperson, responded to the motion and proposed Amendment A.

Following debate (Councillors Evelyn Akoto, Ellie Cumbo, Maria Linforth-Hall, Reginald Popoola, Jasmine Ali, Jon Hartley, Jane Salmon, Ketzia Harper, Sunny Lambe, Portia Mwangangye, Andy Simmons and Kieron Williams) Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle responded to the debate.

Amendment A was put to the vote and declared to be Lost.

The motion was put to the vote and declared to be Carried.

RESOLVED:

Safer Southwark Communities

1. This council notes:
 - a. That Southwark Council thanks Baroness Casey for her independent review into the standards of behaviour and internal culture of the Metropolitan Police Service ('the Met').
 - b. Southwark residents and all Londoners expect and deserve a police service they can trust, not fear, which responds to the needs of the communities it serves and is accountable to the community for the decisions it makes. The fundamental principle of policing by consent requires the Met to both earn and maintain this public trust in everything it does.
 - c. We are therefore appalled by the findings of the review, including the finding of institutional racism, sexism, misogyny and homophobia in the Met and the failure to implement much needed operational, cultural and systemic change, despite numerous opportunities to do so over several decades.
 - d. Our community have been let down by a longstanding failure within the Met to fully accept that policing can also attract predators and bullies. The Met needs to be alive to this very serious risk. It needs to keep them out when they try to get in, to root them out where they exist, and to guard against the corrosive effects that their actions have on trust, confidence and the fundamental Peelian principles of policing by consent.
 - e. We are deeply concerned that our residents' trust and confidence in the Met has fallen even more than in other areas of London. Trust and confidence in the Met fell by 10% in Southwark in the last year alone.

Less than half of Southwark residents feel the Met is doing a “good job”. Our borough had the lowest number of residents in London who felt well informed about the activity of their local police. People from Black and mixed ethnic groups have the lowest trust and confidence in the Met of all racial groups.

- f. We welcome the fact that the new Met Commissioner has committed to major reform of the Met and to rebuild Londoners’ confidence in their Police Service.
 - g. However to rebuild trust and confidence in the police the Metropolitan Police Service must go further and must follow the full recommendations of the Casey report and work with our communities and the council in a genuine and meaningful way to deliver them.
 - h. Southwark Council has written to Sir Mark Rowley, to seek a joint meeting with our basic command unit (BCU) partners, Lambeth Council, to discuss how these vital changes can best be taken forward in our two boroughs.
 - i. The failures highlighted in the Casey review are overwhelmingly due to a longstanding failure of culture within the force. However, the review also highlights that government cuts to funding for the Met have exacerbated some problems, putting children and women in particular at greater risk and leading to a situation where London no longer has a functioning neighbourhood policing service.
2. This council resolves to:
- a. Send a joint letter from all Southwark councillors calling on the Met to fully implement the recommendations Baroness Casey has set out in her report
 - b. Ask the Leader and Cabinet to:
 - i. Consistently and constructively challenge the Met to work with our community and especially women, Black, Asian, minority ethnic, young people and LGBTQ+ residents to restore trust and confidence in policing
 - ii. Maintain and strengthen the work of the Youth Independent Advisory Group – young people who train Met officers on the fair and respectful use of stop and search – and the work of our pilot Police Encounter Panels, who review body worn video footage.
 - iii. Build on the work of the Youth Independent Advisory Group, to create the opportunity for other groups to review and challenge policing

practices constructively including work with our women and our Black, Asian, minority ethnic and LGBTQ+ communities.

- iv. Write to the Home Secretary asking her to urgently take action to amend the law so that failing police officers can be dismissed where needed.
- v. Work with colleagues in London Councils, as well as with our local London Assembly Member, Marina Ahmad, to challenge and support the Met to deliver these vital reforms.
- c. Request that the council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Housing and Community Safety Scrutiny commission consider how they can proactively work with our community to hold the Met to account for their progress against Baroness Casey's recommendations, and use the full powers of Southwark's Overview and Scrutiny function to summon relevant senior members of the Metropolitan Police Service to give regular updates on progress made in relation to implementing the recommendations of Baroness Casey's report.
- d. Campaign with other local authorities and the Greater London Authority (GLA) to fully reverse the government's damaging police cuts.

4. DEPUTATIONS

As part of the programme motion the meeting agreed to hear deputations from:

Plane Hell Action

The group's representatives spoke to the meeting for five minutes and thereafter asked a question of the cabinet member for leisure, parks, streets and clean air.

Safety in Green Dale

The group's representatives spoke to the meeting for five minutes and thereafter asked a question of the cabinet member for community safety.

5. ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS

5.1 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

There was one late question to the leader from Councillor Victor Chamberlain, the written response to which was circulated before the meeting. There were two supplemental questions.

There were 25 members' questions, the written responses to which were circulated before

the meeting. The meeting had agreed that 10 minutes be allocated for members' questions. There were five supplemental questions.

5.2 MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Motion 1: Tackling Second Homes with Council Tax Premiums

This motion was considered prior to the guillotine having fallen.

Councillor Emily Tester moved the motion. Councillor Victor Chamberlain seconded the motion.

There was one amendment to the motion. Councillor Richard Livingstone moved Amendment B. Councillor Kath Whittam seconded Amendment B.

Amendment B was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

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

Note: This motion will be referred as a recommendation to the cabinet for consideration.

1. Council assembly notes that:
 - a. The UK is in the midst of a housing crisis.
 - b. As of 1 February 2023, Southwark had 17,509 residents on the housing waiting list. This is a national issue, and we as a council are determined to tackle it. Figures compiled by London Councils suggest there are currently 166,000 homeless Londoners living in temporary accommodation within the capital. Out of these, 81,000 are children, meaning one in every 23 children in London is homeless.
 - c. While thousands in our borough wait years for decent accommodation, those with means continue to buy up properties, reducing the housing supply even further and exacerbating housing inequality.
 - d. To the detriment of ordinary residents, London has become fertile ground for the development of 'investment properties' – destined to be second homes for, or left empty by, the lucky few who can afford them. In response, Cabinet approved the Southwark Empty Homes Action Plan in October 2021 to bring empty homes back into use and increase the supply of homes for homeless households in Southwark.
 - e. Our two best means to tackle the housing crisis are through our own council home delivery programme and through the planning process. Since 2010, Southwark has delivered, or started on site, 3,020 new council homes. Through the planning process, we demand at least 25% social housing in all new developments, as part of our overall commitment to 35% affordable

housing, and this target has been exceeded in every quarter this year.

- f. Southwark has one of the most clear and direct requirements for private developers, to ensure they build social rent homes, and since 2010 this had led directly to 5,024 new social rent homes being delivered or under construction in Southwark.
 - g. Investment properties contribute the housing crisis. The council welcome the work already done to encourage developers to market new homes locally first, and the work to encourage developers in signing up to the Mayor of London's initiative to offer Londoners 'first dibs' on new homes in the capital.
 - h. These are important steps, and more robust legislation is needed from central government to make it easier for local authorities to ensure that house builders market locally first.
 - i. However, local authorities like Southwark cannot tackle the housing crisis alone. We need action from central government. Instead, the housing crisis has been made worse by 12 years of government failure. Notably, in 2010 the Liberal Democrat and Conservative coalition slashed funding for subsidised housing by 60%.
 - j. By contrast, the Labour Party has committed to building a "new generation of council housing." Under a Labour government, the country would deliver more than 400,000 social homes, by building and bringing homes back into the ownership of local councils and communities.
2. Council assembly further notes that:
- a. The council currently applies the maximum allowable premium on council tax for empty homes.
 - b. Thanks to lobbying from the Labour Party and local government, councils will be granted additional powers by central government to tackle second homes.
 - c. Clauses 73 of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill will allow councils to charge an additional 100% council tax premium on second homes.
 - d. These additional powers will discourage purchase of second homes and bring in additional revenue for the council.
 - e. Southwark must ensure residents now that it will use these new powers to the full effect as soon as they are implementable.
 - f. The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill does not go far enough in granting new powers to local authorities. The council has been lobbying for additional powers to tackle empty homes and to simplify the existing powers to make them easier and cheaper to use, such as empty dwelling management orders (EDMO) and compulsory purchase orders (CPO).

- g. Thanks to lobbying and campaigning from the Labour Party, there has been some movement from the government on this issue, with potential changes to the application of council tax premiums to empty but substantially furnished properties, and potentially reducing the vacant period to one year from two before a premium can be applied. The council will continue to push for these new powers as the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill progresses.
- h. Further powers are needed to tackle this issue. The government must introduce:
 - i. Simpler, swifter and more cost effective enforcement powers, such as simplifying EDMO and CPO procedures and allowing for community impact and housing need to be accepted reasons to seek enforcement actions.
 - ii. New planning powers to allow local authorities to revert property to local authority's affordable housing supply where it remains empty following completion. Current planning powers do not allow for planning consent to require homes to be occupied. If new powers are introduced the council would quickly implement these new powers.
 - iii. Greater flexibility over council tax premiums on empty homes – government should allow unlimited council tax premiums on empty homes and greater flexibility to enable local authorities to charge the premium on homes empty for less than 2 years. We will also seek further flexibilities to charge premiums on second homes and other furnished empty properties.
 - iv. Increased resources for grants and loans
 - i. The current council tax receipt revenue is all allocated into the general fund, and is assigned to spending that was agreed by the Labour group and the Liberal Democrat group of councillors at last month's budget and council tax setting Council Assembly.
- 3. Council assembly resolves to:
 - a. Continue to charge the highest possible rates of council tax on empty homes and second homes, and continue to lobby for the inclusions of clause 73 of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill.
 - b. Carefully consider how best to use any additional revenue from the premium to improve the lives of Southwark residents and to tackle the housing crisis.
 - c. Lobby central government to introduce further legislation allowing councils to impose higher council tax premiums on empty and second homes.
 - d. Support the election of a Labour Government at the earliest opportunity that would tackle the housing crisis through an expansion of council houses, and

has committed to building a “new generation of council housing” and tackle the housing crisis.

Motion 2: This Council commits to being a Diverse Council

This motion was considered after the guillotine had fallen.

There were no amendments to the motion.

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

Note: This motion will be referred as a recommendation to the cabinet for consideration.

1. Council Assembly notes:
 - a. Councillors represent their community and it is important that they reflect the diversity within their communities, particularly those with protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation).
 - b. Diversity in representation makes for good decision making.
 - c. The work of Baroness Debbie Wilcox of Newport and the Co-operative Party in developing a Declaration for councils aimed at increasing diversity in local government.
 - d. The council has already adopted a parental leave policy setting out members’ entitlement to maternity, paternity, shared parental and adoption leave and relevant allowances.
2. This Council resolves to:
 - a. Provide a clear public commitment to improving diversity in democracy by signing up to the Co-operative Party’s Diverse Councils Declaration.
 - b. Demonstrate an open and welcoming culture to all, promoting the highest standards of behaviour and conduct.
 - c. Set out a local Diverse Council Action Plan ahead of the next local elections. Including:
 - i. Encourage each political group to appoint Diversity Ambassadors to work with each other and local party associations to encourage recruitment of candidates from under-represented groups.
 - ii. Encourage and enable people from under-represented groups to stand for office through the provision of activities such as

mentoring and shadowing programmes and information and learning events for people interested in standing as official candidates.

- iii. Proactive engagement and involvement with local community groups and partner organisations supporting and representing under-represented groups
- iv. Encourage each political group to ensure that all members and candidates complete a candidates' and councillors' survey distributed at election time.
- v. Encourage each political group to set ambitious targets for candidates from under-represented groups at the next local elections.
- d. Work towards the standards for member support and development as set out in the LGA Councillor Development Charter and/or Charter Plus.
- e. Demonstrate a commitment to a duty of care for councillors by:
 - i. providing access to counselling services for all councillors having regard for the safety and wellbeing of councillors whenever they are performing their role as councillors.
 - ii. taking a zero-tolerance approach to bullying and harassment of members including through social networks.
- f. Provide flexibility in council business by:
 - i. regularly reviewing and staggering meeting times
 - ii. encouraging and supporting remote attendance at meetings, where physical attendance is not a legal requirement
 - iii. agreeing recess periods to support councillors with caring or work commitments.
- g. Encourage all members take up the allowances and salaries to which they are entitled, particularly any reimbursement for costs of care, so that all members receive fair remuneration for their work and that the role of member is not limited to those who can afford it.
- h. Ensure that councillors from under-represented groups are represented whenever possible in high profile, high influence roles.

Motion 3: One year on, Southwark stands with Ukraine

This motion was considered after the guillotine had fallen.

There was one amendment to the motion.

Amendment C was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

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

Note: This motion will be referred as a recommendation to the cabinet for consideration.

1. Council assembly notes that:

- a. On 24 February 2022, Vladimir Putin commenced his illegal invasion of the sovereign state of Ukraine.
- b. Within this unprecedented humanitarian crisis, over 8,000 people have died and more than 8,000,000 have been forced to flee their country as refugees.
- c. The whole United Kingdom, from local authorities to central government, must continue to stand in unwavering support of Ukraine and in explicit condemnation of Vladimir Putin's illegal invasion.

2. Council assembly welcomes that:

- a. One year ago, a cross-party motion expressed Southwark's support for Ukraine in the face of Russian aggression.
- b. Southwark is a borough of sanctuary for refugees and has welcomed nearly 500 refugees since the invasion began
- c. Southwark council provides tailored support to refugee's living in Southwark; providing regular welfare checks for guests, help with school places for children, registering with GPs, advice and support as needed on employment, benefits, access to housing in the PRS, opening bank account, referrals to other agencies for support where that is required including health and mental health.
- d. Southwark Council also support refugee families with any other integration support that is needed, deal with any safeguarding issues that arise, arrange emergency financial support prior to people accessing benefits or employment, deliver support in finding new hosts or moves into other forms of accommodation where relationships with the original host do not work out. Alongside this, every individual or family has a named caseworker.

- e. The Council is fully supporting host families in Southwark, ensuring quality accommodation and supporting families to make any changes needed, making thank you payments to hosts of £350 per month, and offering advice and support as required to hosts through the named caseworkers.
3. Council assembly further notes that:
- a. Southwark council fully supports and carefully observes the economic sanctions brought against the Russian federation following its brutal invasion of Ukraine.
4. Council assembly resolves to:
- a. Continue to support and carefully observe the economic sanctions brought against the Russian federation following its brutal invasion of Ukraine.
 - b. Unilaterally condemn, on behalf of all elected members of Southwark Council, the cruel, criminal and unprovoked aggression of Vladimir Putin and Russia against Ukraine.

Motion 4: RSPCA: Pets as Prizes

This motion was considered after the guillotine had fallen.

There were no amendments to the motion.

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

Note: This motion will be referred as a recommendation to the cabinet for consideration.

- 1. This Council:
 - a. Is concerned about the number of cases reported to the RSPCA each year, regarding pets given as prizes via fairgrounds, social media and other channels in England - and notes the issue predominantly concerns goldfish.
 - b. Is concerned for the welfare of those animals that are being given as prizes.
 - c. Recognises that many cases of pets being given as prizes may go unreported each year.
 - d. Supports a move to ban the giving of live animals as prizes, in any form, in Southwark.

2. The Council agrees to:
 - a. Ban outright the giving of live animals as prizes, in any form, on Southwark land.
 - b. Write to the UK Government, urging an outright ban on the giving of live animals as prizes on both public and private land.

Motion 5: Southwark green finance

This motion was considered after the guillotine had fallen.

There was one amendment to the motion.

Amendment D was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

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

Note: This motion will be referred as a recommendation to the cabinet for consideration.

1. Council assembly notes that:
 - a. The commitment to 'launch Southwark Green Finance, to create new ways for local people and businesses to invest in making our borough net zero and expanding community energy' was a key commitment in the recent Southwark Labour manifesto. Southwark Green Finance can be a vital part in tackling the climate emergency.
 - b. The council's delivery plan sets out a timeline to scope out this project and consider different options, including climate bonds.
 - c. The Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission is also considering climate finance this year and will issue recommendations to the council in coming months, based on evidence and testimonials from leading experts.
 - d. Southwark Council must prioritise tackling the climate emergency, dedicating sufficient funding and investment in positive policies that reduce emissions, improve air quality and promote biodiversity protection in Southwark and across the globe.
 - e. The Southwark Citizen's Jury on Climate showed us all the pivotal role the local community can and must take in the council's climate strategy.
 - f. 'Southwark Green Finance' can further engage residents in Southwark's approach to tackling the climate emergency.
 - g. Schemes like 'Southwark Green Finance' will allow residents, from Southwark or elsewhere, to invest their money in specific income generating projects that

benefit the local community and have a positive climate impact.

- h. Investors can choose to give back the interest on their investments to fund smaller, non-income generating projects such as wildflower meadows.
 - i. Our climate change agenda across the whole council is hugely ambitious and we are spending many millions of pounds across every part of the council to tackle the climate emergency. Climate action bonds may play a role in raising the capital for the project, but it is worth noting that a 1 million pound fund would represent a relatively small part of the funding needed to tackle climate change.
2. Council assembly further notes that:
- a. The UK's first Community Municipal Investment in West Berkshire raised £1m which was used in part to fund solar panel installation on public buildings.
 - b. Neighbouring Labour Council Lewisham has just launched a Climate Action Bond, aiming to raise £1m for local climate initiatives.
 - c. Labour-run councils Islington, Camden and local authorities around the UK have funded similar projects through launching Community Municipal Investment using the 'Abundance Investment' platform.
3. Council assembly resolves to:
- a. Launch 'Southwark Green Finance' in the next financial year, as a means to use community investment to tackle climate change.
 - b. Determine which projects would bring the most benefit to each local community and reduce the most carbon emissions, ensuring decision making is both guided by science and informed by resident consultation via multi-ward forums, Southwark 2030 events and events such as the recent Southwark Climate Day.
 - c. Reinvest any returned interest in socially and environmentally positive schemes around Southwark.
 - d. Support the election of a Labour Government, at the earliest opportunity that would make Britain a clean energy superpower to create jobs, cut bills and boost energy security with zero-carbon electricity by 2030, accelerating to net zero.

6. REPORTS FOR DECISION

6.1 ADJUSTMENT OF MEMBER ALLOWANCES IN LINE WITH THE NATIONAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICER PAY SETTLEMENT 2022-23 AND MEMBER ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2023-2024

There was one question on this report. The Leader responded to one supplemental

question.

There was one amendment on this report. Councillor Victor Chamberlain moved Amendment E. Councillor Nick Johnson seconded Amendment E. After debate, (Councillors Sarah King, Maggie Browning, Kieron Williams) Amendment E was put to the vote and declared Lost.

The recommendations were put to the vote and declared Carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly approved with immediate effect (back dated to 1 April 2022), the adjustment of member allowances in line with the national local government officer pay settlement and allowances for officers 2022-2023, as detailed in paragraphs 20 to 22 of the report.
2. That council assembly approved, with effect from 1 April 2023, the member allowances scheme for 2023-2024 as detailed in paragraphs 20 to 29 and Appendix 2 of this report, having had regard to the advice of the London Councils Independent Remuneration Panel Report 2022 (see Appendix 1 of the report).

6.2 PAY POLICY STATEMENT

The recommendations were put to the vote and declared Carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly approved the annual pay policy statement set out at Appendix A of the report.

6.3 COUNCIL ASSEMBLY DATES AND CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2023-2024

The recommendations were put to the vote and declared Carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly agreed the following dates for meetings of council assembly be fixed in the council calendar for the 2023-24 municipal year:

Council Assembly

Saturday 20 May 2023 at 11am
(Date as agreed by council assembly
24 March 2022)
Wednesday 12 July 2023
Wednesday 22 November 2023
Wednesday 21 February 2024

Type of Meeting

Mayor Making/Annual Meeting
*Note: To be held jointly with Civic
Awards Ceremony*
Ordinary meeting
Ordinary meeting
Budget and council tax setting

Wednesday 20 March 2024	Ordinary meeting
Wednesday 22 May 2024 at 6pm	Mayor Making/Annual meeting
<i>*Alternative date: Saturday 1 June 2024 at 11am</i>	<i>Note: May be held jointly with Civic Awards Ceremony</i>

*Note that 1 June 2024 is the last Saturday of half-term.

2. That council assembly agreed dates for Mayor Making / Annual meetings of council assembly for 2025 to 2027 municipal years as detailed in paragraph 6 of the report.
3. That the calendar of council meetings for the 2023-24 municipal year as shown at Appendix 1 of the report be noted.

6.4 SPECIAL URGENCY AND URGENT IMPLEMENTATION DECISIONS - ANNUAL REPORT

The recommendations were put to the vote and declared Carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly noted the schedule of special urgency and urgent implementation decisions (set out in Appendix 1 of the report) taken in accordance with access to information procedure rules 19 and 20.

6.5 APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER AND ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER

The recommendations were put to the vote and declared Carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly approves the appointment of Althea Loderick as Southwark Council's Returning Officer for local elections and Electoral Registration Officer.
2. That council assembly approves the continued appointment of Frances Biggs as Deputy Electoral Registration Officer.
3. That council assembly approves that authority to appoint Deputy Electoral Registration Officers be delegated to the Electoral Registration Officer (Althea Loderick).
4. That council assembly approves that the proper officer for the purpose of deciding polling districts and polling places will be the Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance.

6.6 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS

The recommendations were put to the vote and declared Carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly approved the appointment of the two individuals named in the closed report as independent persons for three years with effect from 1 April 2023, subject to the clearance of satisfactory employment checks.

7. AMENDMENTS

The amendments are set out in supplemental agenda 1.

8. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS

The decision for this item is listed in item 6.6.

The meeting closed at 10.25 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED:



Council Assembly (Extraordinary meeting)

MINUTES of the Council Assembly (Extraordinary meeting) held on Wednesday 22 March 2023 at 9.00 pm at Council Offices, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor for 2022-23, Councillor Sunil Chopra (Chair)

Councillor Suzanne Abachor
Councillor Evelyn Akoto
Councillor Jasmine Ali
Councillor Naima Ali
Councillor John Batteson
Councillor Rachel Bentley
Councillor Maggie Browning
Councillor Victor Chamberlain
Councillor Stephanie Cryan
Councillor Ellie Cumbo
Councillor Sam Dalton
Councillor Helen Dennis
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE
Councillor Esme Dobson
Councillor Sabina Emmanuel
Councillor Natasha Ennin
Councillor Sam Foster
Councillor Renata Hamvas
Councillor Barrie Hargrove
Councillor Ketzia Harper
Councillor Jon Hartley
Councillor Esme Hicks
Councillor Emily Hickson
Councillor Adam Hood
Councillor Nick Johnson
Councillor Sarah King
Councillor Sunny Lambe
Councillor Richard Leeming

Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Alice Macdonald
Councillor James McAsh
Councillor Hamish McCallum
Councillor Kimberly McIntosh
Councillor Portia Mwangangye
Councillor Graham Neale
Councillor Margy Newens
Councillor Leo Pollak
Councillor Reginald Popoola
Councillor Bethan Roberts
Councillor Catherine Rose
Councillor Jane Salmon
Councillor Martin Seaton
Councillor Andy Simmons
Councillor Michael Situ
Councillor Charlie Smith
Councillor Cleo Soanes
Councillor Emily Tester
Councillor Chloe Tomlinson
Councillor Joseph Vambe
Councillor Irina Von Wiese
Councillor David Watson
Councillor Kath Whittam
Councillor Kieron Williams
Councillor Ian Wingfield

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cassandra Brown, Gavin Edwards, Laura Johnson, Darren Merrill, Victoria Mills, Jason Ochere and Sandra Rhule.

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

There were none.

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

There were none.

1.4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

2. REPORT FOR DECISION

2.1 HONORARY ALDERMAN/ALDERWOMAN NOMINATIONS

The recommendations were put to the vote and declared Carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That the proposed recipients for the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman as set out in the closed report be agreed.
2. That officers write to all nominees to seek confirmation that the named individuals would wish to accept the title.

2.2 FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH

The recommendations were put to the vote and declared Carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That Council Assembly agreed the recommendation from the Constitutional Steering Panel (CSP) to confer the award of Freedom of the Borough to the nominees outlined in the closed report.

3. HONORARY ALDERMAN/ALDERWOMAN NOMINATIONS

The decision on this report is set out in item 2.1.

4. FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH

The decision on this report is set out in item 2.2.

The meeting closed at 10.30 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED:

Item No. 3.1	Classification: Open	Date: 20 May 2023	Meeting Name: Council Assembly (Annual Meeting)
Report title:		Executive Functions 2023-24	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That council assembly receives a report from the leader on the following executive issues for the coming municipal year 2023-24:
 - Notes the appointment by the leader of cabinet members
 - Notes the appointment of any deputy cabinet members
 - Notes the establishment and appointment of any cabinet committees
 - Notes the leader's report on the delegation of executive functions to the full cabinet, cabinet committees, individual cabinet members, chief officers and any other delegations.

Appointment of the cabinet

2. That the leader reports to council assembly on the appointment of members of the cabinet and determination of their executive functions.

- Note:
1. The leader will report on appointments to the cabinet and on individual portfolios.
 2. The leader can appoint between two and nine members to form a cabinet.
 3. The leader must appoint a deputy leader.

Appointment of deputy cabinet members

3. That the leader reports to council assembly on the appointment of deputy cabinet members and determination of their duties and responsibilities.

- Note: The leader will report on any changes to deputy cabinet members and on individual responsibility for specific tasks designated by the leader, following consultation with the monitoring officer.

Establishment and appointment of cabinet committees

4. That the leader reports on the establishment of any cabinet committees.

- Note: 1. The leader to establish any cabinet committees, set terms of reference and nominate cabinet members to serve on the committees, including appointing a chair and vice-chair.

2. There are three cabinet committees: Cabinet (Livesey Trust) Committee, Better Placed Joint Committee and Joint IT Committee (Brent, Lewisham and Southwark).

Delegation of executive functions

5. That the leader reports on the delegation of executive functions between full cabinet, individual decision makers, chief officers and any other delegations.
6. That council assembly notes the leader's report on any changes to the delegation of executive functions to the full cabinet, cabinet committees, individual cabinet members, chief officers and any other delegations.
7. That council assembly notes that as a consequence of recommendation 6, the proper constitutional officer will update Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the leader's report on the delegation of executive functions.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

8. The constitution is updated as and when changes are required. The recommendations in this report are based on the current constitution.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Leader and cabinet

9. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 required the council to make changes to its governance and decision making arrangements. At an extraordinary meeting of council assembly on 4 November 2009, the council agreed that the current executive leader and cabinet model be adopted. The new arrangements commenced immediately after the elections in May 2010.
10. Under the executive "leader and cabinet" model, there is a leader of the council and a cabinet of at least two but no more than nine other councillors. The leader is responsible for all executive functions, and decides which of these functions are going to be delegated to other cabinet members, local committees or council officers. The cabinet is appointed by the leader.
11. Councillor Kieron Williams was first elected as leader of the council by council assembly on 16 September 2020. On 21 May 2022, council assembly re-elected Councillor Williams as leader of the council and his term of office commenced from that date and shall end at the start of the first annual meeting of the council following the next ordinary election¹.

Report of the leader of the council and delegation of executive functions

12. Each year the elected leader must appoint their cabinet. In accordance with the constitution, this can consist of a minimum of two and up to a maximum of nine nominated members, whose portfolios are determined and allocated by the leader. The leader must appoint a deputy leader.

¹ Article 6.3 of the Constitution

13. The leader will be invited to report on the delegation of executive functions, appoint a deputy leader and appoint other cabinet members and determine their portfolios.
14. The leader will report on any further delegations including:
 - The extent of any authority delegated to cabinet members individually, including details of the limitation on their authority
 - The terms of reference and membership of any cabinet committees
 - The nature and extent of any delegation of executive functions, any other authority or joint arrangement
 - The nature and extent of any delegation to officers with details of any limitation on that delegation.
15. The leader may also decide to delegate executive functions to the health and wellbeing board. During the year the leader may vary the executive scheme of delegation by giving notice to the monitoring officer. A variation may be permanent or relate to a particular decision.

Deputy cabinet members

16. The leader will also report on the appointment of any deputy cabinet members and determine their roles. Deputy cabinet members may hold responsibility for specific tasks designated by the leader, in consultation with the monitoring officer. Deputy cabinet members cannot take part in any formal decision making.
17. The role description and parameters of deputy cabinet members is attached as Appendix 1.

Role of council assembly

18. Following receipt of the leader's report, council assembly will note as a consequence that the proper constitutional officer will update Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the leader's report on the delegation of executive functions.

Appointments to panels, boards and forums

19. The cabinet will consider appointments to panels, boards and forums where the function falls within the responsibility of the executive (e.g. housing, education, social services, regeneration, etc.).

Policy framework implications

20. This report is not considered to have direct policy implications.

Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts

21. There are no specific impacts on the community from this process.

Climate change implications

22. There are no direct climate change implications arising from this report.

Legal implications

23. There are no specific legal implications.

Financial implications

24. There are no direct resource implications in the context of this report.

Consultation

25. There are no specific consultation requirements arising from this report.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Appointment of Leader and Executive Functions 2022-23 Council Assembly 21 May 2022 report.	Online: Report (southwark.gov.uk)	Virginia Wynn-Jones 020 7525 7055
The Council's Constitution: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=425&Info=1&bcr=1		

APPENDICES

Appendix	Title
Appendix 1	Deputy Cabinet Members Role Description (to follow)

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional and Member Services		
Report Author	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional and Member Services		
Version	Draft v2		
Dated	11 May 2023		
Key Decision?	No		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER			
Officer Title		Comments Sought	Comments Included
Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance		Yes	Yes (included in body of report)
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance		No	No
Cabinet Member		No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team			

Item No. 3.2	Classification: Open	Date: 20 May 2023	Meeting Name: Council Assembly (Annual Meeting)
Report title:		Establishment of Committees, Panels and Related Matters 2023-2024	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That council assembly notes the appointment of political group leaders, deputies and whips (information to be circulated separately).
2. That council assembly notes the political balance of the council as follows:

Group	Members	%
Labour	52	82.54
Liberal Democrat	11	17.46
Total	63	100.00

3. That council assembly notes that there is no change to proportionality and the allocation of seats on committees and panels as agreed by council assembly on 21 May 2022 except for changes to the planning committee as set out below.
4. That council assembly establishes the following committees for the coming municipal year 2023-24 and notes the amended calendar of planning committee meetings for the 2023-24 municipal year as shown at Appendix 1.

Table 2: Ordinary Committees - Total number of seats 42

Note: The political balance rules require that the political groups represented on council have proportionate representation on council committees. A political group must comprise at least two members. Councils can allocate seats on committees to members not aligned to a group, but are under no statutory obligation to do so.

The below tables are based on the committees as agreed by council assembly on 21 May 2022 with the following amendments for 2023-24: two main planning committees to be known as "Planning Committee (Major Applications) A and B and one Planning Committee (Smaller Applications) – formerly planning sub-committee.

Note: Consequential changes will be made to Part 3F of the constitution and to the member allowances scheme amending the name of the planning sub-committee to Planning Committee (Smaller Applications). The special responsibility allowance for the chair remains the same.

Committee	Total	Lab	Lib Dem
Committee 1 Appointments Committee	7	6	1
Committee 2 Planning Committee (Major Applications) A	7	6	1
Committee 3 Planning Committee (Major Applications) B	7	6	1
Planning Committee (Smaller Applications)	7	5	2
Committee 4 Audit, Governance and Standards Committee	7	6	1
Committee 5 Corporate Parenting Committee	7	6	1
Total	42	35	7

Table 3: Other committees - Total number of seats 26

Committee	Total	Lab	Lib Dem
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	11	9	2
Licensing Committee	15	12	3
Total	26	21	5

Table 4: Multi-ward areas

1.	North-west
2.	North-east
3.	West-central
4.	East-central
5.	South

Note: The composition of multi-ward areas is set out in Article 8 of the constitution (see paragraph 42 of this report).

Health and wellbeing board

5. That the health and wellbeing board be established as a committee of the council under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 with the membership set out in paragraph 39 of the report.
6. That it be noted that the leader of the council nominates the local authority membership. In accordance with committee procedure rules, the leader chairs the board.

Appointment of chairs and vice chairs

7. That council assembly considers whether it wishes to appoint chairs and vice chairs for the following committees:

Committees

- Appointments committee
- Planning committee
- Audit, governance and standards committee
- Corporate parenting committee [see note 1 below]
- Overview and scrutiny committee
- Licensing committee

Notes:

1. In 2022-23, the cabinet member responsible for children's services chaired the corporate parenting committee. Council assembly is asked to formally approve this appointment in 2023-24.
2. All outstanding appointments will be referred to the first meeting of the respective committees in the 2023-24 municipal year.

Appointment of community champions

8. That council assembly appoint community champions for the following multi-ward areas:

Multi-ward areas

- North-west
- North-east
- West-central
- East-central
- South

Establishment of the council's panels

9. That council assembly establishes the following council panels (see paragraph 53):

Table 5: Panels - Total number of seats 16

Panel	Total	Lab	Lib Dem
Council assembly business panel	4	3	1
Constitutional steering panel	4	3	1
Pensions advisory panel	3	2	1
Voluntary bodies appointments panel	5	4	1
Total	16	12	4

Note: This table is based on the panels established in 2022-23.

Appointments of chair to constitutional steering panel and voluntary bodies appointments panel

10. That council assembly appoints a chair to the following panels:

- Constitutional steering panel [see note 1 below]
- Voluntary bodies appointments panel.

Notes:

1. The group whip of the majority group chaired the constitutional steering panel in 2022-23. Council assembly is asked to formally approve this appointment in 2023-24.
2. That it be noted that the Mayor chairs the council assembly business panel.

Urgency committee

11. That the role of the urgency committee between a municipal election and the annual meeting of council assembly, as agreed by council assembly on 26 March 2014, be noted as set out in paragraphs 55 and 56.

Appointments to Local Government Association (LGA) General Assembly

12. That council assembly appoints up to three representatives and allocates the seven votes to representatives to attend the LGA General Assembly (see paragraphs 57 and 58).

Other appointments to joint committees/outside bodies

13. That council assembly notes the cabinet and other committees will make appointments to all other outside committees and bodies for the municipal year 2023-24 as required by part 3Q of the constitution.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

14. The constitution is updated as and when changes are required. The recommendations in this report are based on the current constitution and previous decisions of the council.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Proportionality – the legal position

15. The size and composition of the council's regulatory and other committees are established in accordance with the number of seats each political group has on the council as a whole – this is known as "proportionality".

16. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 covers the allocation of seats to political groups. It makes no provision for single independent councillors so they do not form part of the proportionality considerations. The political balance rules require the council to ensure that the political groups represented on council have proportionate representation on the committees of the council. Political groups have to constitute two or more members and be actively constituted as a group in accordance with the above regulations.
17. Seats on committees and sub-committees must be allocated in accordance with the four principles of proportionality contained in sections 15, 16 and 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. There is a duty to give effect to the following principles, as far as is reasonably practicable:

- (i) That not all the seats on a committee or sub-committee are allocated to the same political group
- (ii) That the majority group must have the majority of seats on each committee or sub-committee

Note: As the Labour Group has an overall majority on the council, this principle has been applied.

- (iii) Subject to (i) and (ii) above, it must be ensured that the proportion of each political group's seats of the total number of seats on "ordinary committees" reflects, as closely as possible, their proportion of seats on full council.

Notes:

- 1. The ordinary committees are: appointments; planning; audit, governance and standards; corporate parenting (see also paragraphs 19 to 22).
- 2. The licensing committee is appointed under the Licensing Act 2003, the overview and scrutiny committee is appointed under section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000 and the health and wellbeing board is appointed under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and is to be treated as if appointed under section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 (subject to modifications of the effect of section 102 made by the Secretary of State). None of the aforementioned committees is treated as an ordinary committee.
- (iv) Subject to (i) to (iii) above, the proportion of each political group's seats on each committee and sub-committee reflects as closely as possible their proportion of seats on full council.

Note: This rule applies to all committees, sub-committees and joint committees, except for the licensing committee.

18. Council assembly can agree an allocation that is disproportionate, provided no member votes against this.

Appointments to seats

19. Section 16(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 provides that it is the duty of an authority or committee to exercise its power to make appointments in such a way as to give effect “to such wishes about who is to be appointed to the seats on that body which are allocated to a particular political group as are expressed by that group”.

Ordinary committees

20. The regulatory and other committees are the “ordinary committees” of the council. In 2022-23 the annual meeting established the following:
- Appointments committee
 - Planning committee
 - Audit, governance and standards committee
 - Corporate parenting committee.
21. The proportionality is based on the total number of seats compared to the overall allocation of seats each political group has on the council. As the Labour Group has an overall majority on the council, it has been allocated a majority on each committee.
22. Council assembly is exercising a matter reserved to it in Part 3A (4) of the constitution to establish committees. It is for council assembly to agree the committees it wishes to establish, to set the total number of seats and allocate them to the committees numbered 1 to 4 in the Table 2 in paragraph 4 above.

Appointments committee

23. The appointments committee determines appointments to posts of chief officers, chief finance officer and monitoring officer and also acts as a panel for the purpose of advising council assembly on matters relating to the dismissal of the head of paid service, the chief finance officer or the monitoring officer as prescribed by the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 (as amended).
24. At least one member of the cabinet shall serve on the appointments committee.

Audit, governance and standards committee

25. The audit, governance and standards committee provides independent assurance of the adequacy of the council's governance arrangements, independent scrutiny of the council's financial and non-financial performance, has oversight of the financial reporting process of the council and ensures that its members and co-opted members maintain high standards of conduct and requires such authorities to adopt a code of conduct for their members.
26. The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA's) guidance (Audit Committees Practical Guidance for Local Authorities, 2005) states that although audit committees are not mandatory, "Audit committees are an

essential element of good governance". It goes on to say, "Good corporate governance requires independent, effective assurance about the adequacy of financial management and reporting. These functions are best delivered by an audit committee, independent from the executive and scrutiny functions."

27. No more than one member of the cabinet may be a member of the audit, governance and standards committee and no cabinet member may chair the committee. The chair may be a deputy cabinet member, as this role does not include the exercise of any delegated powers.
28. No more than one member of the overview and scrutiny committee may be a member of the audit, governance and standards committee and no member of the overview and scrutiny committee may chair the committee. In 2022-23, no members of the cabinet sat on the audit, governance and standards committee.

Overview and scrutiny committee

29. The overview and scrutiny committee (OSC) is the coordinating scrutiny body and appoints a number of scrutiny commissions. It questions cabinet members and can "call-in" decisions taken by the cabinet, individual cabinet members, decisions on executive functions and key decisions taken by chief officers.
30. OSC co-ordinates councillor calls for action and scrutiny of health, crime and disorder, considers requests for scrutiny reviews and approves scrutiny work programmes.
31. The committee can also appoint joint committees with other local authorities.
32. The overview and scrutiny committee is not an ordinary committee, but it is one to which the proportionality requirements apply. Scrutiny commissions will be established by the overview and scrutiny committee at its first meeting and it will consider the allocation of places on the commissions including members who are not part of any political group.
33. Council assembly can agree an allocation that is disproportionate, provided no member votes against this.
34. The overview and scrutiny procedure rules provide that the overview and scrutiny committee will consist of the chair, vice chair and the chairs of the scrutiny commissions provided that the proportionality rules are not compromised. Each political group is permitted to nominate members who are not cabinet members should it be necessary to maintain proportionality and/or if there are fewer chairs of scrutiny commissions than places on the overview and scrutiny committee.
35. The overview and scrutiny committee and any commission which scrutinises the council's education functions will contain in its membership four voting education representatives in addition to its councillor members, comprising one Church of England, one Roman Catholic Church and two parent governor representatives.
36. No member of the cabinet shall serve on any scrutiny committee.

Health and wellbeing board

37. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 enables the local authority to arrange for any of its functions to be exercised by the board should it so wish. The health and wellbeing board was first constituted by council assembly on 27 March 2013. The board will not have the power to perform any of the functions given to the health overview and scrutiny committee, and it will itself be subject to overview and scrutiny as a committee of the council. Members of scrutiny committees who are members of the health and wellbeing board should not be involved in the scrutiny process if the health and wellbeing board undertakes executive functions, which is then subject to scrutiny, as this may create a conflict of interests. The proportionality requirements do not apply to the health and wellbeing board.
38. It will be for the leader of the council under the 'strong leader' model to decide whether any executive functions should be delegated to the board. Until such a decision is taken, the board will operate in accordance within the council's existing decision-making framework and normal council budget setting processes.
39. The health and wellbeing board must include six statutory members which are:
 - At least one councillor, who will be (or be nominated by) the leader
 - The director of adult social services of the local authority
 - The director of children's services of the local authority
 - The director of public health of the local authority
 - A representative of local healthwatch
 - A representative of the Integrated Care Board.
40. The membership of the board is set out below:
 - Leader of the Council
 - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education
 - Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing
 - Opposition Spokesperson for Health (Southwark Councillor)
 - Chief Executive Officer of Southwark Council
 - Strategic Director of Children's and Adults' Services
 - Director of Children's Services
 - Director of Public Health of Southwark Council
 - NHS South East London Integrated Care Board (ICB) representatives x2
 - Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust representative
 - Community Southwark representative (Voluntary Sector)
 - King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (Kings Health Partners) Representative
 - Chair of Partnership Southwark Strategic Board
 - South London and Maudsley (SLAM) NHS Foundation Trust (King's Health Partners) Representative

- Healthwatch Southwark Representative
- Southwark Headteachers Representative
- Voluntary Sector Representative

Note: The health and wellbeing board membership is reviewed periodically. This is to ensure that the right partners are represented on the board. Any proposed change to the membership will be put forward to the health and wellbeing board for agreement.

41. All members of the health and wellbeing board are subject to Southwark's Code of Conduct for elected members when acting as a member of the board and will be subject to declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests. Consequently, it is recommended that substitutes should not be permitted at meetings of the committee.

Multi-ward areas

42. The boundaries of the multi-ward areas reflect the borough's communities as far as possible.

Table 7: Multi-ward areas divided by geographical areas

Multi-ward area	Electoral wards
North-west	Borough & Bankside, London Bridge & West Bermondsey, St George's and Chaucer wards
North-east	North Bermondsey, South Bermondsey, Rotherhithe and Surrey Docks wards
West-central	North Walworth, Newington, Camberwell Green, St Giles and Faraday wards
East-central	Old Kent Road, Peckham, Rye Lane, Nunhead & Queen's Road and Peckham Rye wards
South	Champion Hill, Goose Green, Dulwich Hill, Dulwich Village and Dulwich Wood wards

Licensing committee

43. Section 6 of the Licensing Act 2003 requires that each licensing authority must establish a licensing committee of at least 10, but no more than 15 members of the authority. The power to establish the committee rests with council assembly. Council agreed in December 2004 that the licensing committee should comprise 15 members in order to achieve maximum flexibility and provide a sufficient pool of members to ensure quorate sub-committees.
44. There is no requirement in the Licensing Act 2003 that the licensing committee should be proportionate. Council assembly agreed in December 2004 to establish the current committee on a proportionate basis.
45. The Licensing Act 2003 makes no provision to appoint reserve members.
46. In accordance with the constitution, a licensing sub-committee with delegated authority will be established to hear licence applications including Licensing Act

2003, Gambling Act 2005, street trading and other licensing responsibilities granted by statute. The sub-committee will include members of the licensing committee with a quorum of three members and a reserve. Sub-committees shall be summoned as required to deal with any business and the membership will be based on the allocation process agreed by the licensing committee on 6 December 2007.

Appointment of chairs and vice chairs

47. Chairs and vice chairs may be appointed directly by council assembly or the appointments may be delegated to the first meeting of the relevant committee.
48. In the case of the corporate parenting committee, it is proposed that the cabinet member with responsibility for children's services be appointed chair. This is in line with the decision of the annual meeting last year.
49. The leader of the council, in accordance with committee procedure rule 8.13, chairs the health and wellbeing board.

Reserve members

50. The council assembly, committee and overview and scrutiny procedure rules make provision for the appointment of reserve members to council committees and to scrutiny committees. There is no provision for reserves on the licensing committee and the health and wellbeing board.
51. Each political group can appoint reserve members. The number of reserve members a group can appoint is, with the exception of the overview and scrutiny committee, planning committee and audit, governance and standards committee, one less than the number of places the group holds on the committee or sub-committee. If a political group holds only one place on a committee or sub-committee, that group may appoint one reserve member.
52. On the overview and scrutiny committee and the audit, governance and standards committee, the number of reserve members that each political group can nominate is equal to the number of places each group holds on the committee.

Establishment of the council's panels

53. Council assembly will consider the establishment and composition of the following council panels. Panels are not required to be proportionate. This is a matter of local choice for the local authority.
 - **Council assembly business panel** – The Mayor chairs the panel and consists of two representatives from the majority group (one of whom is the whip) and the whips of the other political groups represented on the council. The panel acts as an advisory panel to the Mayor on council assembly matters, including the setting of themes for debate.

- **Constitutional steering panel** – The panel is responsible for reviewing and recommending amendments to the constitution. It is also responsible for making recommendations to council assembly for the award of the Honorary Freedom of the Borough and Honorary Aldermen and to recommend changes to the members' allowances scheme. In 2021-22, the chief whip of the majority group chaired the panel.

In 2021-22, council assembly established a panel with a membership comprising the group whip and two other members from the majority group and the whips of the other political groups represented on the council. In accordance with current practice, groups can nominate a reserve to attend in the absence of a representative.

- **Pensions advisory panel** – The panel has a composition of three members, officers, independent advisors and a trade union representative. The purpose of the panel is to advise the chief finance officer when performing functions relating to the council's pension scheme.
- **Voluntary bodies appointments panel** – The panel has a composition of four Labour and one Liberal Democrat member. The panel will be responsible for recommending the appointment of charity trustees to specific Southwark charities.

Council assembly dates

54. A calendar of council assembly meetings for the 2023-24 municipal year was agreed at council assembly on 22 March 2023. This meeting agreed the council assembly dates, in accordance with the relevant statutory provision.

Urgency committee

55. On 26 March 2014, council assembly established the urgency committee, together with planning and licensing (urgency) sub-committees, to function during the interim period between a municipal election and the annual meeting of council assembly. The urgency committees will exercise the non-executive functions of the council, other than those reserved by law to council assembly for decision, in cases where in the opinion of the chief executive it was necessary to act urgently. The urgency committees have normally only met to consider issues that are time sensitive and cannot wait for the annual meeting to establish the decision making arrangements. The leader shall exercise any urgent executive matters.
56. Council assembly on 26 March 2014 agreed that the urgency arrangements should be as follows:
 - Urgency committee - The urgency committee will deal with non-executive functions only that are not reserved by law to council assembly, and are not planning or licensing applications. The urgency committee arrangements comprise the leaders of the two largest political groups following the borough-wide elections.

- Executive arrangements – Executive decisions will be exercised by the leader (if personally re-elected or his nominee, a relevant cabinet member). If the leader (or relevant cabinet member) is required to take an executive decision, because the normal scrutiny arrangements would not have been established by the annual meeting, executive decisions would be treated in a similar way to urgent implementation decisions or an urgent decision outside the budget and policy framework. If the leader is not re-elected, the urgency committee shall exercise the executive functions.
- Planning and licensing – Separate arrangements exist for a planning (urgency) sub-committee and a licensing (urgency) sub-committee. Each licensing (urgency) sub-committee convened to hear an urgent application would comprise of three licensing members who will be selected using the current procedure from the pool of re-elected councillors who previously served on the licensing committee. The arrangements are set out in more detail in Part 3N of the council's constitution.

Appointments to Local Government Association (LGA) General Assembly

57. In 2017, the Local Government Association informed the council that it was now entitled to seven votes and advised that votes can be allocated amongst the representatives as the local authority sees fit. The LGA encourages local authorities with three or four representatives to allocate at least one position and vote to a minority group representative. Council assembly can agree any combination of representatives and votes:
58. For 2022-23, council assembly appointed three representatives and allocated seven votes:

Representative	No. of votes	Group
Councillor Kieron Williams (Leader)	3	Labour
Councillor Jasmine Ali	3	Labour
Councillor Victor Chamberlain	1	Liberal Democrat

Establishment of overview and scrutiny commissions and sub-committees

59. Overview and scrutiny commissions and sub-committees of the audit, governance and standards committee will be established at a special meeting that immediately follows the conclusion of this annual meeting or can be established at the first meeting of the relevant parent committee. The division of seats will be included in the reports to the relevant committees.

The below tables are based on the commissions and sub-committees as agreed by the parent committees in May 2022.

Scrutiny Commissions	Total	Lab	Lib Dem
Scrutiny Commission 1 (Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission)	7	5	2
Scrutiny Commission 2	7	5	2

Scrutiny Commissions	Total	Lab	Lib Dem
(Housing and Community Safety Scrutiny Commission)			
Scrutiny Commission 3 (Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission)	7	5	2
Scrutiny Commission 4 (Health and Social Care Scrutiny Commission)	7	5	2
Total	28	20	8

Audit, governance and standards sub-committees	Total	Lab	Lib Dem
Audit, governance and standards (civic awards) sub-committee	4	3	1
Audit, governance and standards (standards) sub-committee	3	2	1
Total	7	5	2

Policy framework implications

60. This report is not considered to have direct policy implications.

Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts

61. This report is not considered to have direct community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts.

Climate change implications

62. There are no direct climate change implications arising from this report.

Legal implications

63. There are no specific legal implications.

Financial implications

64. There are no direct resource implications in the context of this report. The member expenditure budget makes provision for the special responsibility allowances for members. There are no additional costs arising from this report.

Consultation

65. There are no specific consultation requirements arising from this report.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Appointment of Leader and Executive Functions 2018 Report - Council Assembly 20 May 2022	Southwark Council Constitutional team 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk
Establishment of committees and other constitutional issues 2022-2023 Report - Council Assembly 20 May 2022		
Agenda and minutes for the following meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licensing Committee - 6 December 2007 Council Assembly 2004 to 2023 		

APPENDICES

Appendix	Title
Appendix 1	Political Group Leaders, Deputies and Whips (to be circulated separately)
Appendix 2	Nominations for Chairs and Vice Chairs (to be circulated separately)

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional and Member Services	
Report Author	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional and Member Services	
Version	Version 3	
Dated	5 May 2023	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included
Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance	Yes	Yes (included in body of report)
Strategic Director of Finance	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		12 May 2023

Appendix 1

Currently agreed calendar of meetings for planning committees 2023-2024

	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024
Planning Committee (14 meetings pa)	Sat 20 ££	Tue 6	Tue 18		Wed 13	Tue 3	Tue 7 and Tue 28	Tue 12	Tue 9 and Tue 16 and Wed 31	Tue 20	Wed 6 and Wed 27	Tue 16	Wed 22 or Sat 1 June
Planning Sub-Committee A (6 meetings pa)			Tue 5			Mon 2	Tue 14		Wed 24		Wed 13	Mon 15	
Planning Sub-Committee B (6 meetings pa)		Tue 13			Mon 11	Wed 18		Mon 4		Tue 27	Tue 26		

New proposed calendar of meetings for planning committees 2023-2024

	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024
Planning Committee A (7 meetings pa)		Tue 6			Wed 13		Tue 7	Tue 12	Wed 31		Wed 6	Tue 16	
Planning Committee B (7 meetings pa)			Tue 18			Tue 3	Tue 28		Tue 16	Tue 20	Wed 27	Mon 29	
Planning Committee (Smaller Applications) (8 meeting pa)		Tue 13	Tue 5		Mon 11		Tue 14	Mon 4	Wed 24		Wed 13	Mon 15	

Item No. 3.3	Classification: Open	Date: 20 May 2023	Meeting Name: Council Assembly (Annual Meeting)
Report title:		Nominations to London Councils Committees, Greater London Employment Forum, Borough Lead members, London Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Common Investment Vehicle (CIV) Ltd and London Councils Limited 2023-24	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		Not applicable	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That council assembly consider and agree nominations to the London Councils committees, the Greater London Employment Forum, London Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Common Investment Vehicle (CIV) Ltd and London Councils Limited, details listed in Appendix 1 of the report.
2. That council assembly nominate borough lead members/relevant portfolio holders for the areas listed in paragraph 9 of the report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. The council nominates representatives to serve on the London Councils committees on an annual basis. The nomination of representatives to the London Councils committees and forums fall within the terms of reference of the cabinet. council assembly is being asked to agree the nominations for 2023-24 in order to appoint members prior to the London Councils AGM.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Joint committees

4. The Local Government Act 2000 and regulations enable local authorities to make use of joint arrangements with other authorities. Under these arrangements, a "joint committee" can be established in agreement with other local authorities to promote the economic, social or environmental well being of the area.
5. In this report the council is invited to make nominations to the following joint committees:

- London Councils Leaders' Committee (s101 Joint Committee)
 - London Councils Transport and Environment Committee (Associated Joint Committee)
 - London Councils Grants Committee (Associated Joint Committee)
6. The council is also invited to make nominations to the London Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Common Investment Vehicle (CIV) Ltd.
 7. Council assembly may only nominate cabinet members as representatives or deputies to the joint committees. The nominations need not reflect the political composition of the local authority as a whole. This is set out in Article 9 on joint arrangements in the council's constitution. London Councils advise that the deputies should have some knowledge of the policy area concerned, can be kept informed of the member body's activities and be able to act as substitute if the principal nominee is unable to attend a meeting.

Greater London Employment Forum

8. The Greater London Employment Forum acts as the regional employer for London for those staff employed under the National Joint Council for Local Government Services. The representative is usually the lead cabinet member for human resources issues.

Borough lead members

9. The London Councils Executives who lead on particular policy areas need to consult and liaise with relevant borough lead members on matters of major importance and are seeking to identify borough lead member / relevant portfolio holders (by way of nominations) for the following areas:
 - Children and Young People / Safeguarding and Schools
 - Skills and Employment
 - Housing and Regeneration
 - Health, Social Care and Adult Services
 - Arts/Culture, Tourism, Port and Leisure
 - Crime and Public Protection
 - Economic Development / Business
 - Planning / Infrastructure / Development

London Councils Limited

10. The council is required to appoint a representative to the company, London Councils Limited. The London Councils advise that the borough's representative on the Leaders' Committee is normally appointed unless a council specifically indicates otherwise.
11. All formal London Councils committee and forum meetings are held during

the day on weekdays.

Policy framework implications

12. This report is not considered to have direct policy implications.

Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts

13. The council is being invited to nominate to the London Councils committees, the Greater London Employment Forum and the London Councils Limited company. The nominations process has no direct impact on the community.

Climate change implications

14. There are no direct climate change implications arising from this report.

Legal implications

15. There are no specific legal implications.

Financial implications

16. There are no direct resource implications in the context of this report.

Consultation

17. Consultation is being undertaken with the Mayor, Group whips and finance officers.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Correspondence from London Councils	160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Chidilim Agada constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Nominations to London Councils Committees, Greater London Employment Forum, London Councils Limited Company, London Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Common Investment Vehicle (CIV) Ltd. (to follow)

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional Services		
Report Author	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional Services		
Version	Final		
Dated	12 May 2023		
Key Decision?	No		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES			
Officer Title		Comments Sought	Comments Included
Director of Law and Governance		Yes	Yes (included in body of report)
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance		No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team			12 May 2023

[illegible]