

# Council Assembly

## Ordinary meeting; Theme: Health and Wellbeing in Southwark

Wednesday 12 July 2023  
7.00 pm  
Council Offices, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

---

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](http://www.southwark.gov.uk) or please contact the person below.

#### Contact

Virginia Wynn-Jones, Andrew Weir on 020 7525 7055 or 020 7525 7222 or email: [virginia.wynn-jones@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:virginia.wynn-jones@southwark.gov.uk); [andrew.weir@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.weir@southwark.gov.uk); [constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk)

---

Date: 30 June 2023



# Council Assembly

Ordinary meeting; Theme: Health and Wellbeing in Southwark

Wednesday 12 July 2023

7.00 pm

Council Offices, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

## Order of Business

| Item No.                      | Title   | Page No. |
|-------------------------------|---|----------|
| <b>PART A - OPEN BUSINESS</b> |   |          |
| <b>1.</b>                     | <b>PRELIMINARY BUSINESS</b>   |          |
| <b>1.1.</b>                   | <b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>  |          |
|                               | To receive any apologies for absence.   |          |
| <b>1.2.</b>                   | <b>ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>  |          |
|                               | To receive any announcements from the Mayor, members of the cabinet or the chief executive.                             |          |
| <b>1.3.</b>                   | <b>NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE MAYOR DEEMS URGENT</b>   |          |
|                               | In special circumstances an item of business may be added to an agenda within seven working days of the meeting.        |          |
| <b>1.4.</b>                   | <b>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS</b>  |          |
|                               | Members to declare any interests and dispensations in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meeting. |          |
| <b>1.5.</b>                   | <b>MINUTES</b>  | 1 - 14   |
|                               | To approve as a correct record the open minutes of the annual council assembly meeting held on 20 May 2023.             |          |

| <b>Item No.</b> | <b>Title</b>  | <b>Page No.</b> |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| <b>2.</b>       | <b>ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC</b>  |                 |
|                 | <b>2.1. PETITIONS</b>   |                 |
|                 | No petitions have been received for this meeting.   |                 |
|                 | <b>2.2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b>  |                 |
|                 | The deadline for public questions is 11.59pm, Thursday 6 July 2023. Questions can be emailed to <a href="mailto:constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk">constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk</a> .                  |                 |
|                 | Questions from the public will be distributed in a supplemental agenda.   |                 |
| <b>3.</b>       | <b>THEMED DEBATE</b>  |                 |
|                 | <b>3.1. COMMUNITY EVIDENCE</b>  |                 |
|                 | The deadline for community evidence on the theme is 11.59pm, Thursday 6 July 2023. Submissions can be emailed to <a href="mailto:constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk">constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk</a> . |                 |
|                 | Submissions from the public will be distributed in a supplemental agenda.   |                 |
|                 | <b>3.2. MOTION ON THE THEME</b>   | 15 - 19         |
|                 | The cabinet member for health and wellbeing to present the theme for the meeting.   |                 |
| <b>4.</b>       | <b>DEPUTATIONS</b>  |                 |
|                 | The deadline for deputation requests is 11.59pm, Thursday 6 July 2023. Deputations can be emailed to <a href="mailto:constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk">constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk</a> .             |                 |
|                 | Deputation requests will be distributed in a supplemental agenda.   |                 |
| <b>5.</b>       | <b>ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS</b>   |                 |
|                 | <b>5.1. MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME</b>  | 20 - 27         |
|                 | To receive any questions from members of the council.   |                 |

|                              |  |         |
|------------------------------|--|---------|
| <b>5.2. MEMBERS' MOTIONS</b> |  | 28 - 34 |
|------------------------------|--|---------|

To consider the following motions:

- Support the #LiftTheBan Campaign
- Clean Up Southwark
- Tackling Damp and Mould

**6. REPORT(S) FOR DECISION**

|   |  |         |
|---|--|---------|
| <b>6.1. TREASURY MANAGEMENT - OUTTURN 2022-23</b> |  | 35 - 45 |
|---|--|---------|

|  |  |         |
|--|--|---------|
| <b>6.2. NEW CIVIC AWARD - CLIMATE CHAMPION AWARD</b> |  | 46 - 50 |
|--|--|---------|

|  |  |         |
|--|--|---------|
| <b>6.3. WAIVER OF SIX MONTH COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE RULE - SECTION 85 OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972</b> |  | 51 - 53 |
|--|--|---------|

**7. 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**



## Council Assembly (Annual Meeting)

MINUTES of the Council Assembly (Annual Meeting) held on Saturday 20 May 2023  
at 11.00 am at Southwark Cathedral, London Bridge, London SE1 9DA

---

### PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor for 2022-23, Councillor Sunil Chopra,  
The Worshipful the Mayor for 2023-24, Councillor Michael Situ

|                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Councillor Evelyn Akoto        | Councillor James McAsh       |
| Councillor Naima Ali           | Councillor Hamish McCallum   |
| Councillor John Batteson       | Councillor Kimberly McIntosh |
| Councillor Rachel Bentley      | Councillor Darren Merrill    |
| Councillor Cassandra Brown     | Councillor Portia Mwangangye |
| Councillor Maggie Browning     | Councillor Graham Neale      |
| Councillor Victor Chamberlain  | Councillor Margy Newens      |
| Councillor Stephanie Cryan     | Councillor Jason Ochere      |
| Councillor Ellie Cumbo         | Councillor Leo Pollak        |
| Councillor Sam Dalton          | Councillor Reginald Popoola  |
| Councillor Helen Dennis        | Councillor Sandra Rhule      |
| Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE | Councillor Bethan Roberts    |
| Councillor Gavin Edwards       | Councillor Catherine Rose    |
| Councillor Sabina Emmanuel     | Councillor Jane Salmon       |
| Councillor Natasha Ennin       | Councillor Martin Seaton     |
| Councillor Sam Foster          | Councillor Andy Simmons      |
| Councillor Renata Hamvas       | Councillor Charlie Smith     |
| Councillor Barrie Hargrove     | Councillor Cleo Soanes       |
| Councillor Ketzia Harper       | Councillor Emily Tester      |
| Councillor Emily Hickson       | Councillor Irina Von Wiese   |
| Councillor Adam Hood           | Councillor David Watson      |
| Councillor Laura Johnson       | Councillor Kath Whittam      |
| Councillor Nick Johnson        | Councillor Kieron Williams   |
| Councillor Sunny Lambe         | Councillor Ian Wingfield     |
| Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall |                              |
| Councillor Richard Livingstone |                              |

## 1. ELECTION OF THE MAYOR

The Mayor of Southwark, Councillor Sunil Chopra, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Mayor announced the sad news of the death of Coral Newell, free person of the borough and former councillor.

Councillor Richard Livingstone and councillor Rachel Bentley spoke in her memory.

The meeting took one minute's silence.

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

Thereafter, Councillors Kieron Williams and Victor Chamberlain paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor.

The Mayor asked for nominations for Mayor for the ensuing municipal year 2023-24.

Councillor Kieron Williams, seconded by Councillor Evelyn Akoto, moved that Councillor Michael Situ be elected Mayor of the London Borough of Southwark for the municipal year 2023-24.

The nomination was put to the vote and it was:

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Michael Situ be elected Mayor for the 2023-24 municipal year.

Councillor Michael Situ accepted the office of Mayor. The clerk declared that Councillor Michael Situ was duly elected Mayor of Southwark for 2023-24.

The new Mayor signed the declaration of acceptance of office and took the chair.

The new Mayor stated that he appointed his wife, Itunu Ajeigbe, as his Mayoress.

The new Mayor appointed Councillor Naima Ali as Deputy Mayor.

The new Mayor gave his incoming speech and announced that his chosen charities would be London Community Kitchen, Salem Academy of Music, and St Giles' Trust.

## 2. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

## **2.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Suzanne Abachor, Jasmine Ali, Esme Dobson, Jon Hartley, Esme Hicks, Sarah King, Richard Leeming, Alice Macdonald, Victoria Mills, Chloe Tomlinson and Joseph Vambe.

## **2.2 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

There were none.

## **2.3 NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE MAYOR DEEMS URGENT**

There were none.

## **2.4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were none.

## **2.5 MINUTES**

The minutes of the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of council assembly on 22 March 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

## **3. REPORTS FOR DECISION FROM THE CABINET**

### **3.1 EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS 2023-2024**

#### **RESOLVED:**

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

Appointment of the cabinet

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

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Leader  | Cllr Kieron Williams |
| Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Refugees | Cllr Jasmine Ali     |
| Health and Wellbeing  | Cllr Evelyn Akoto    |
| Communities, Democracy and Finance                                    | Cllr Stephanie Cryan |
| New Homes and Sustainable Development                                 | Cllr Helen Dennis    |
| Community Safety  | Cllr Dora Dixon-Fyle |
| Climate Emergency, Clean Air and Streets                              | Cllr James McAsh     |
| Council Homes   | Cllr Darren Merrill  |
| Neighbourhoods, Leisure and Parks                                     | Cllr Catherine Rose  |
| Jobs, Skills and Business   | Cllr Martin Seaton   |

Deputy Cabinet:

|                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Equalities          | Cllr Natasha Ennin     |
| Green Finance       | Cllr Emily Hickson     |
| Young People        | Cllr Portia Mwangangye |
| Housing Allocations | Cllr Leo Pollak        |

3. That the leader reported on the establishment of the cabinet committees:

- Cabinet (Livesey Trust) Committee,
- Joint IT Committee (Brent, Lewisham and Southwark).

Delegation of executive functions

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



### 3.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES, PANELS AND RELATED MATTERS 2023-2024

The nominations for chairs and vice chairs of committees and the nominations to the Local Government Association General Assembly were circulated.

Council assembly noted an amendment to the membership of planning small applications committee – Councillor Richard Livingstone in place of Councillor Victoria Mills.

Council assembly also noted an administrative error in the membership of the west central area multi ward forum, which should include Councillors Naima Ali and Ellie Cumbo.

There were four contested positions.

The position of chair of overview and scrutiny committee was put to the vote, and it was agreed that Councillor Ian Wingfield be appointed chair of overview and scrutiny committee.

The position of vice chair of planning committee B was put to the vote, and it was agreed that Councillor Kath Whittam be appointed vice chair of planning committee B.

The position of community champion for North-west multi-ward area was put to the vote, and it was agreed that Councillor Joseph Vambe be appointed community champion for North-east multi-ward area.

The position of community champion for North-east multi-ward area was put to the vote, and it was agreed that Councillor Bethan Roberts be appointed community champion for North-east multi-ward area.

The substantive motion was carried.

#### RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly noted the appointment of political group leaders deputies and whips.

#### LABOUR GROUP

|               |                            |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| Leader        | Councillor Kieron Williams |
| Deputy Leader | Councillor Jasmine Ali     |
| Chief Whip    | Councillor Maggie Browning |

#### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP

|               |                               |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Leader        | Councillor Victor Chamberlain |
| Deputy Leader | Councillor Rachel Bentley     |
| Chief Whip    | Councillor Jane Salmon        |

2. That council assembly noted the political balance of the council as follows:

| Group                   | Members   | %             |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| <b>Labour</b>           | <b>52</b> | <b>82.54</b>  |
| <b>Liberal Democrat</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>17.46</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>63</b> | <b>100.00</b> |

3. That council assembly noted 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 in the report.
4. That council assembly established the following committees for the coming municipal year 2023-24 and noted the amended calendar of planning committee meetings for the 2023-24 municipal year as shown at Appendix 1 of the report.

**Table 2: Ordinary Committees - Total number of seats 42**

| Committee   | Total     | Lab       | Lib Dem  |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Committee 1<br>Appointments Committee                       | 7         | 6         | 1        |
| Committee 2<br>Planning Committee A                         | 7         | 6         | 1        |
| Committee 3<br>Planning Committee B                         | 7         | 6         | 1        |
| Planning (Smaller Applications)<br>Committee                | 7         | 5         | 2        |
| Committee 4<br>Audit, Governance and<br>Standards Committee | 7         | 6         | 1        |
| Committee 5<br>Corporate Parenting<br>Committee             | 7         | 6         | 1        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>42</b> | <b>35</b> | <b>7</b> |

Table 3: Other committees - Total number of seats 26

| Committee | Total | Lab | Lib Dem |
|-----------|-------|-----|---------|
|-----------|-------|-----|---------|

|  |           |           |          |
|--|-----------|-----------|----------|
| <b>Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>9</b>  | <b>2</b> |
| <b>Licensing Committee</b>             | <b>15</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>3</b> |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>26</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>5</b> |

**Table 4: Multi-ward areas**

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

*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.
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 appointed chairs and vice chairs for the following committees:

**Committees**

- Appointments committee  
Chair: Councillor Kieron Williams  
Vice-chair: Councillor Jasmine Ali
- Planning committee A  
Chair: Councillor Richard Livingstone  
Vice-chair: Councillor Kath Whittam
- Planning committee B  
Chair: Councillor Richard Livingstone  
Vice-chair: Councillor Kath Whittam
- Planning small applications committee  
Chair: Councillor Cleo Soanes  
Vice-chair: Councillor Jane Salmon

- Audit, governance and standards committee  
Chair: Councillor Barrie Hargrove
- Corporate parenting committee  
Chair: Councillor Jasmine Ali
- Overview and scrutiny committee  
Chair: Councillor Ian Wingfield  
Vice-chair: Councillor Irina von Wiese
- Licensing committee  
Chair: Councillor Renata Hamvas

**Note:**

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 appointed community champions for the following multi-ward areas:

**COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS**

|    | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Multi-ward area</b> |
|----|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Joseph Vambe      | North-west             |
| 2. | Bethan Roberts    | North-east             |
| 3. | Jason Ochere      | West-central           |
| 4. | Sabina Emmanuel   | East-central           |
| 5. | Andy Simmons      | South                  |

**DEPUTY COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS**

|    | <b>Councillor</b> | <b>Multi-ward area</b> |
|----|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Sam Dalton        | North-west             |
| 2. | Cassandra Brown   | North-east             |
| 3. | Naima Ali         | West-central           |
| 4. | Reggie Popoola    | East-central           |
| 5. | Charlie Smith     | South                  |

*Establishment of the council's panels*

9. That council assembly established the following council panels (see paragraph 53 of the report):

**Table 5: Panels - Total number of seats 16**

| Panel                                      | Total     | Lab       | Lib Dem  |
|--|-----------|-----------|----------|
| <b>Council assembly business panel</b>     | <b>4</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>1</b> |
| <b>Constitutional steering panel</b>       | <b>4</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>1</b> |
| <b>Pensions advisory panel</b>             | <b>3</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>1</b> |
| <b>Voluntary bodies appointments panel</b> | <b>5</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>1</b> |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>16</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>4</b> |

*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: Councillor Maggie Browning
- Voluntary bodies appointments panel: Councillor Stephanie Cryan

*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 of the report.

*Appointments to Local Government Association (LGA) General Assembly*

12. That council assembly appointed three representatives and allocates the seven votes to representatives to attend the LGA General Assembly.

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Councillor Kieron Williams    | 3 |
| Councillor Jasmine Ali        | 3 |
| Councillor Victor Chamberlain | 1 |

*Other appointments to joint committees/outside bodies*

13. That council assembly noted 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.

### **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**

**RESOLVED:**

## 1. LONDON COUNCILS LEADERS' COMMITTEE (S101 JOINT COMMITTEE)

Note: Council Assembly may only nominate cabinet members as representatives or deputies to this joint committee.

1 representative and up to 2 deputies

Labour nomination Councillor Kieron Williams

Deputies

Labour nominations Councillor Jasmine Ali

## 2. LONDON COUNCILS TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (S101 ASSOCIATED JOINT COMMITTEE)

Note: Council Assembly may only nominate cabinet members as representatives or deputies to this joint committee.

1 representative and up to 4 deputies

Labour nomination Councillor James McAsh

Deputies

Labour nominations Councillor Helen Dennis

## 3. LONDON COUNCILS GRANTS COMMITTEE (ASSOCIATED JOINT COMMITTEE)

Note: Council Assembly may only nominate cabinet members as representatives or deputies to this joint committee

1 representative and up to 4 deputies

Labour nomination Councillor Stephanie Cryan

Deputies

Labour nominations -

## 4. LONDON LGBS COMMON INVESTMENT VEHICLE (CIV) LIMITED

1 representative and up to 2 deputies

Labour nomination Councillor Stephanie Cryan

Deputy

- Labour nomination -
5. GREATER LONDON EMPLOYMENT FORUM  
1 representative and 1 deputy
- Labour nomination Councillor Stephanie Cryan
- Deputy
- Labour nomination -
6. LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE/SAFEGUARDING AND SCHOOLS
- Labour nomination Councillor Jasmine Ali
7. LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT
- Labour nomination Councillor Martin Seaton
8. LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/BUSINESS
- Labour nomination Councillor Martin Seaton
9. LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – COMMUNITIES, EMPOWERMENT AND INCLUSION
- Labour nomination Councillor Stephanie Cryan
10. LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/BUSINESS
- Labour nomination Councillor Martin Seaton
11. LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – CRIME AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
- Labour nomination Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle
12. LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – ARTS/CULTURE, TOURISM, SPORT AND LEISURE
- Labour nomination Councillor Catherine Rose
13. LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

## INCLUDING ADULT SERVICES

- |     |  |                            |
|-----|--|----------------------------|
|     | Labour nomination  | Councillor Evelyn Akoto    |
| 14. | LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – HOUSING AND REGENERATION   |                            |
|     | Labour nomination  | Councillor Helen Dennis    |
| 15. | LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – PLANNING/ INFRASTRUCTURE/DEVELOPMENT   |                            |
|     | Labour nomination  | Councillor Helen Dennis    |
| 16. | LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER –ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES (NOT COVERED BY NOMINATIONS TO THE TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (TEC), E.G. CLIMATE CHANGE, FLOODING ETC. |                            |
|     | Labour nomination  | Councillor James McAsh     |
| 17. | LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – DIGITAL AND CONNECTIVITY LEAD  |                            |
|     | Labour nomination  | Councillor Stephanie Cryan |
| 18. | LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – DEVOLUTION AND LEVELLING UP  |                            |
|     | Labour nomination  | Councillor Stephanie Cryan |
| 19. | LONDON COUNCILS BOROUGH LEAD MEMBER – FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES   |                            |
|     | Labour nomination  | Councillor Stephanie Cryan |
| 20. | LONDON COUNCILS LIMITED  |                            |
|     | <u>1 representative</u>  |                            |
|     | Labour nomination  | Councillor Kieron Williams |

**3.4 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23**

Councillor Ian Wingfield and Councillor Irina von Wiese spoke to the report.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That council assembly noted the scrutiny activity for the 2022-23 municipal year



as detailed in the report.

#### **4. AMENDMENTS**

There were none.

The meeting closed at 1.10 pm.

**CHAIR:**

**DATED:**

|                                    |                                |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Item No.</b><br>3.2             | <b>Classification:</b><br>Open | <b>Date:</b><br>12 July 2023                           | <b>Meeting Name:</b><br>Council Assembly |
| <b>Report title:</b>               |                                | Motion on the Theme: Health and Wellbeing in Southwark |  |
| <b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b> |                                | All  |  |
| <b>From:</b>                       |                                | Proper Constitutional Officer                          |  |

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The theme for this meeting is Health and Wellbeing in Southwark.

The relevant cabinet member shall submit a motion on the theme. All other political groups on the council are allowed to submit one amendment to the motion. The cabinet member’s motion and the amendments do not need to be seconded. The cabinet member will present the motion to the meeting, followed by the lead opposition spokesperson’s response and moving of their amendment, if any. Following this, the subject matter of the theme will be open to debate. Amendment(s) from other opposition groups on the council can be moved during this part of the meeting.

### **Motion from Councillor Evelyn Akoto, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing**

1. This council notes:
  - a. 5 July 2023 marked 75 years of the National Health Service (NHS).
  - b. Treating over a million people a day in England, the NHS touches all of our lives. When it was founded in 1948, the NHS was the first universal health system to be available to all, free at the point of delivery. Today, nine in 10 people agree that healthcare should be free of charge; more than four in five agree that care should be available to everyone, and that the NHS makes them most proud to be British.
  - c. Labour created the NHS. Our values are built into the NHS’s founding principle that everyone, wherever they live, whatever they earn, should get healthcare that is free at the point of use.
  - d. The NHS is facing both an unprecedented immediate crisis and a long-term challenge. Right now, the NHS is not working. 13 years of Conservative and the Conservative and Liberal Democrat coalition governments has run the service into the ground.

- e. The immediate crisis is that the NHS is no longer there for people when they need it: Month long waits to see a GP, ambulances that can't get to people in time to save lives, dangerously long queues in A&E, over 7 million on the waiting list for hospital treatment – a system at breaking point.
- f. The NHS has widened health inequalities, created barriers to access to healthcare and resulted in a disparity in outcomes.
- g. Everyone should be able to access the support and services they need to lead healthy lives. A Labour Government will tackle health inequalities, support mental wellbeing and help residents to be fit and active.
- h. Southwark Council have establish a new in-house Active Southwark Service designed to help our residents stay healthy and fit. Giving access to a wide range of activities across our pools, leisure centres, outdoor gyms, parks and sports facilities.
- i. Southwark Council is working to ensure quality care in Southwark for those who need it, and look after people who care for others too.
- j. We are rolling out our new Residential Care Charter to ensure all Southwark residential and nursing homes have high standards of care and fair pay for care home staff. This includes every home having a Family Forum so people have a place to raise any concerns about a loved one's care.
- k. The employers of five of our biggest care homes have signed up to the Residential Care Charter, equating to nearly 70% of our care worker staff working in homes that are fully compliant and will be paid at least the London Living Wage. They will also be paid for the time it takes to carry out a proper handover between shifts, ensuring safety and continuity of care for residents. Zero hour contracts will not be used in place of permanent contracts unless requested by staff and training must be free and carried out in work time. These steps mean that our most vulnerable residents receive the best care from carers whose work is respected.
- l. We have opened a new state of the art nursing home, so all older Southwark residents who need care can continue to have a home in our borough, and we are identifying another site to open another home in the next few years.
- m. Southwark is part of the Integrated Care System a partnership that brings together the organisations responsible for health and care services in south east London, to make the greatest possible contribution to the health and wellbeing of people living in South East London.

- n. Since 2019, Partnership Southwark has been working to better join up services and support, tackle the causes of inequality, and improve the health and wellbeing of Southwark residents. Partnership Southwark is our Local Care Partnership within the overall South East London Integrated Care System, working with other health, care and non-statutory organisations and local communities to bring together services and support at a neighbourhood level so that they do a better job of keeping people healthy and meeting their needs.
- o. The Conservative cost of living crisis has plunged many families into food poverty and food related health inequalities. Access to healthy and nutritious food impacts us at every stage in life, affecting development, wellbeing and life chances. Inequalities in diet result in inequalities in health.

2. The Council believes:

- a. This NHS crisis is leading to a two-tier system, with creaking NHS care for those who can't afford to pay, and timely care only for those with the money to go private.
- b. Our health system faces a long-term sustainability challenge. The NHS is still designed for the world of 1948, where people needed short-term treatment for infectious disease or injury. Now, we are looking to the same system to provide more care for people with chronic long-term conditions and it is simply not set up for this.
- c. Alongside the NHS crisis, it is extraordinary that in one of the richest countries in the world, the issue of food insecurity is soaring to unprecedented levels. The combination of food prices, wage stagnation and real-terms cuts to benefits is tipping more people into food poverty. This is not inevitable – it is a political choice by a Conservative-led government. We want a sustainable food system in Southwark to improve health and wellbeing for our population, to reduce inequalities and to protect the planet.
- d. In Southwark, we recognise the urgency of healthy, affordable food for the health and wellbeing of our communities. The council has a strong history of tackling food insecurity together with our partners in the voluntary, community and faith sector.
- e. We are proud to be one of only four councils in London to be recognised as cross-cutting leaders in our food work as part of the recently published Good Food for All Londoners report.

3. The Council resolves to:

- a. Support the election of a Labour government that can fix the immediate crisis and address the long-term challenge the NHS now faces after years of underfunding by the Conservatives and the

Liberal Democrat governments, so that future generation can benefit from the NHS for the next 75 years and long beyond.

- b. Support the election of a Labour Government with a strong ambition to create a National Care service that will resolve the crisis in the adult social care system.
- c. Work with our communities and NHS to reduce inequalities in access to healthcare, including those faced by Black, Asian and ethnic minority people. Expanding our Community Health Ambassadors network to empower more people to work with their community to increase the uptake of life saving vaccinations and cancer screening and holding local health services to account for the work they need to do to make sure care is accessible and high quality for all.
- d. Ensure all Southwark residents can access mental wellbeing support if they need it. The Council is already rolling out support for all children and young people. We will also launch innovative new support for adults, designed and delivered with and for people from across Southwark's diverse communities. Including support for parents delivered by parents.
- e. Continue to work to provide the highest possible care for residents who need it, and increase nursing home capacity in the Borough.
- f. Provide a defibrillator (AED) for every school and in public buildings to ensure all residents have access to these lifesaving pieces of equipment.
- g. Confirm that Labour will ensure quality care in Southwark for those who need it, and look after people who care for others too.
- h. Introduce more support for all unpaid carers, regardless of whether the person they care for gets funded care.
- i. Continue to look for opportunities to bring social care services in house, under the control of user led groups or into cooperative ownership and will campaign to keep our NHS in public ownership
- j. Make Southwark a Right to Food Borough. Working with local businesses, community groups and schools to ensure everyone in Southwark has access to healthy, affordable food within a short walk of their home.
- k. Continue to increase access to affordable food models (such as pantries) in the borough, and ensure more convenience stores provide an affordable, healthy food offer to residents. We will provide much needed support to local organisations that are tackling food poverty to embed cash-first approaches and provide a culturally appropriate food offer.

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

| <b>Background Papers</b>  | <b>Held At</b>   | <b>Contact</b>  |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| Cabinet members<br>Motion | Constitutional Team<br>160 Tooley Street<br>London SE1 2QH | Constitutional Team<br><a href="mailto:Constitutional.Team@southwark.gov.uk">Constitutional.Team@southwark.gov.uk</a> |

**AUDIT TRAIL**

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Lead Officer</b>  | Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional Services       |
| <b>Report Author</b> | Virginia Wynn-Jones, Principal Constitutional Officer |
| <b>Version</b>       | Final   |
| <b>Dated</b>         | 23 June 2023  |

|                                    |                                |                               |  |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Item No.</b><br>5.1             | <b>Classification:</b><br>Open | <b>Date:</b><br>12 July 2023  | <b>Meeting Name:</b><br>Council Assembly |
| <b>Report title:</b>               |                                | Members' Question Time        |  |
| <b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b> |                                | All                           |  |
| <b>From:</b>                       |                                | Proper Constitutional Officer |  |

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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.

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 also be rotated. The order of portfolios will be rotated at each meeting such that the cabinet member answering questions immediately after the leader will be the second to last cabinet member to answer any questions at the next meeting of council assembly. The rotation is in line with decisions of council assembly in July 2014 and rotations circulated by the proper constitutional officer.

Cabinet members and committee chairs have discretion to refer a question to another cabinet member.

Responses to members' questions will be circulated 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.

### Notes:

1. The procedures on members' questions are set out in council assembly procedure rule 2.9 in the Southwark Constitution.
2. 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 OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR VICTOR CHAMBERLAIN**

In May, Southwark Council was ordered to pay £10,000 for two cases of “inexcusable” severe maladministration by the housing ombudsman. How does the council plan to proactively improve the quality of its housing stock to avoid any more cases of severe maladministration?

**2. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR EMILY HICKSON**

Southwark Council is building one third of England’s council homes, how has this been achieved?

**3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID WATSON**

Last year Southwark was the second worst authority in the country for rat infestations, with levels almost doubling since 2021. Despite this, Southwark residents are still being asked to foot an extraordinary bill to tackle the issue. The council still charges a whopping £227 for treatment and a paltry half price discount for those on benefits.

The doubling not just of rats, but also of upfront inspection costs last year only highlights the absurdity of the situation.

Our neighbouring councils charge much less, with Lewisham charging only £80 for treatment - and other councils like Tower Hamlets even provide this service for free.

1. Is the council able to provide a geographic breakdown of problem areas by ward and postcode?
2. How many formal complaints about the pest control service have been received from residents over the last three years?
3. Will the council increase the discount available, and expand the discount to all users during the twin crises of the cost of living and rat infestations?

**4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR SUNNY LAMBE**

The Conservatives crashed the economy and we are all paying the price. The cost of living crisis is deepening for families, and since March the Government’s Energy Bills Support Scheme has stopped. How is the council planning to fill the hole this will leave ahead of the coming winter?



**5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR RACHEL BENTLEY**

Residents on the Kirby Estate have recently had a programme of window replacement by the council. Serious issues with the quality of the new windows have been raised with officers and cabinet members, and remedial action has yet to be taken, despite several attempts to engage the council on the issue. Progress has been slow, and residents have been forced to deal with draughty windows that fail basic building regulations.

This has not only impacted the energy efficiency of the homes, but also has exacerbated issues with damp and mould. Residents have raised serious concerns about the technical sign off process, with blame being shifted amongst various parties.

As a social landlord, we understand that the Council has an obligation to ensure its properties meet certain levels of energy efficiency but this is no excuse for shoddy work or failing to listen to residents when they raise genuine concerns collectively and individually. This work which is supposed to have been an investment in the building stock has not been appropriately monitored and will result in wasted spending from this council, as the windows will inevitably have to be replaced again.

1. Will the council investigate how and why apparently inadequate building work was signed off, and commit to reviewing the process to ensure this doesn't happen again?
2. Is the council aware of any other estates that may have been affected by this issue, with a similar error being made both in terms of the wrong windows being ordered in the first place, and then careless inspection processes not identifying and rectifying issues?
3. Will the council commit to restoring trust with the residents of Kirby Estate by properly responding to their concerns, and fixing the issue so that residents have flats that are both habitable and sellable?

**6. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR RENATA HAMVAS**

How will the council be able to take advantage of having an in house leisure service to promote health and wellbeing in Southwark?

**7. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR EMILY TESTER**

The Oceandiva party boat plans to host events with up to 1,500 attendees embarking and disembarking from Butler's Wharf up to 140 times a year. A vessel of this size, for this purpose, is entirely unsuitable for a working river like the Thames and will cause untold disruption for Shad Thames residents and all communities along the riverside. Numerous residents, businesses and

community groups have raised concerns about the potential negative impact of Oceandiva.

Static and floating events are due to begin in June 2023 yet the council has made no statement to its regard.

In the view of the council, does the use of Butler's Wharf Jetty and pier for this type of event represent an intensification of its current use? Does the council plan to make a representation at the Newham Licensing Committee when Oceandiva's application for a permanent licence is heard? How will the council mitigate disruption to Shad Thames and other riverside communities in Southwark caused by Oceandiva?

**8. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN BATTESON**

How did the Windrush 75 Commemoration Fund benefit local communities?

**9. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE**

The Conservative Government's attempt to curtail the right to protest is a serious threat to democracy.

On 13 June 2023, the House of Lords passed a Statutory Instrument that added restrictions to the Public Order Act, further curtailing the right to protest.

Liberal Democrat members of the chamber voted against the Statutory Instrument while Labour Peers abstained despite a letter signed by 49 campaign organisations urging them to vote against.

Will the leader of the council join Southwark's Opposition group in supporting those organisations and condemning the peers who chose not to oppose the Conservative Government's plans, and refused to stand up for the rights of Southwark's residents to be able to protest and speak freely?

**10. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLIE SMITH**

What progress has been made in developing an open water swimming offer in Southwark?

**11. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR HAMISH MCCALLUM**

Will the council provide an update on the progress of all 'infill' developments throughout the borough?

For each development on an existing estate, can the council provide the following information:

- The current stage of current construction (i.e. hoardings erected, demolition of existing site or building frame started)
- The projected completion date and number of new homes provided (split by affordable and not affordable) upon completion.

Additionally, can the council outline at what point in development does the council consider a new home to have been 'started' and included in house building data?

**12. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR CASSANDRA BROWN**

How will the Sustainable Food Strategy tackle food poverty in Southwark?

**13. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR MARIA LINFORTH-HALL**

According to the Southwark council's website, the council currently maintains around 30 public toilets across the borough, but the map is not up to date, with some appearing on it having since closed. Groups such as Age UK, the Royal Society for Public Health, and the Campaign for Public Infrastructure have highlighted the crucial need for these facilities both for vulnerable groups and the wider public benefit.

Better provision of public toilets provides convenience to all, but significantly helps to provide dignity for those with chronic illnesses, as well as the elderly and pregnant people. By providing greater access to public spaces, this also serves to boost local businesses and markets, as more people will have confidence to leave the house for extended periods of time without worrying about such basic needs as toilet access.

1. In which team, in which department, does the responsibility for toilets sit within the council?
2. Will the council commit to increasing the number of public toilets?
3. Why has the programme to proactively approach businesses for the community toilet scheme not been re-started after covid?

**14. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR CLEO SOANES**

What update can you give on Peckham Library, the re-design of Peckham Square and the management of anti-social behaviour on the Square?

**15. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HOOD**

In November 2022, council assembly passed a Liberal Democrat motion calling for free period products to be provided in all council buildings in Southwark and to provide sanitary bins in all male toilets.

What progress has the council made on this commitment? Can the council please provide a list of all council buildings where free period products are available to members of the public? Will the council go further and begin delivering free period products to low income families, as [Lambeth Council has committed to do](#)?

**16. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR BETHAN ROBERTS**

What can you tell us about the outcomes of the Apprenticeship open day, and the work the council is doing to deliver apprenticeship at the council and at local business?

**17. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR JANE SALMON**

Urban trees are increasingly important - providing carbon-sequestering to offset emissions, as well as shade and drainage to mitigate the impact of the changing climate.

The Liberal Democrat group have continued to advocate for an ambitious programme of tree planting - but it's been disappointing to see so many trees dying from the batch planted in 2021 and 2022.

1. Has an audit been done of how many and why recent trees have died which can be shared?
2. Why has the watering schedule continued to not be correctly followed?
3. What consequences, if any, have the contractor faced as a result of the failure to adequately implement the tree planting and maintenance programme, especially in terms of future use and fines?

**18. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND REFUGEES FROM COUNCILLOR IRINA VON WIESE**

Falling pupil roll numbers has seen a crisis in school finance, which is leading to some difficult decisions being made about some primary schools being amalgamated or closed. Despite vigorous campaigns by local residents and parents, the recent reports to Cabinet confirmed the sad closure of Townsend school, and further recommended the amalgamation of three more schools on the advice of an independent consultant.

St Mary Magdalen is one of those recommended for amalgamation. It has one of the highest levels of SEND Plus pupils in the borough (over twice the average). Many parents will be very concerned about the distress and disturbance amalgamation may cause.

1. What assessment has been made to ensure the most vulnerable children will continue to have their accessibility needs met in surrounding schools in the event of amalgamation or closure?
2. Why does the council not centrally collect disability data of pupils and staff to better make these assessments?
3. Does the council acknowledge the significant impact the rocketing cost of housing is having on families being able to live in London and the knock-on effect on pupil roll numbers in local schools?

**19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND REFUGEES FROM COUNCILLOR NATASHA ENNIN**

Southwark is the corporate parent for 417 looked after children and is also supporting 638 young people who are care leavers. How is the voice of children and young people shaping our children's care services?

**20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND REFUGEES FROM COUNCILLOR MARGY NEWENS**

Southwark has a proud tradition of supporting refugees - when will we be a fully-fledged Borough of Sanctuary?

**21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND REFUGEES FROM COUNCILLOR PORTIA MWANGANGYE**

Southwark is known for the commitment to support 100% of children and young people with a mental health need. How many young people are benefitting from the NEST free mental health drop in support and how many of those are referred to CAMHS for clinical support?

**22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND REFUGEES FROM COUNCILLOR MAGGIE BROWNING**

What action is the council taking to introduce free school meals in secondary schools?

**23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND REFUGEES FROM COUNCILLOR JASON OCHERE**

Can Southwark continue to deliver great educational outcomes in education in the context of such steep demographic change and falling school rolls?

**24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COUNCIL HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR KATH WHITTAM**

How many families now have a home thanks to the council's housebuilding efforts?

**25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COUNCIL HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR REGGIE POPOOLA**

How will the recent insourcing of homelessness hostels benefit service users?

**26. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS, LEISURE AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR NICK JOHNSON**

This year, residents who live on boats in South Dock Marina SE16 have once again seen their mooring fees go up. The 7% national government cap was applied to every other Southwark tenant resident but not those living on boats – people for whom Southwark Council is effectively their landlord. There has been an over 100% rise in mooring fees over the last 10 years and, when combined with the wider cost of living crisis, people will soon be priced out in a process of silent gentrification. What steps will the Council take to reduce the cost of Mooring Fees for this community?

|                                    |                                |                               |  |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Item No.</b><br>5.2             | <b>Classification:</b><br>Open | <b>Date:</b><br>12 July 2023  | <b>Meeting Name:</b><br>Council Assembly |
| <b>Report title:</b>               |                                | Members' Motions              |  |
| <b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b> |                                | All                           |  |
| <b>From:</b>                       |                                | Proper Constitutional Officer |  |

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The councillor introducing or “moving” the motion may make a speech directed to the matter under discussion. This may not exceed five minutes<sup>1</sup>. A second councillor 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 debate the issue and any amendments on the motion will be dealt with. At the end of the debate the mover of the motion may make a concluding speech, known as 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 councillors 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.

---

<sup>1</sup> Council assembly procedure rule 1.14 (9)

**1. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR NAIMA ALI (Seconded by Councillor Irina von Wiese)**

**Support the #LiftTheBan Campaign**

1. Council assembly notes that:
  - a. in Southwark there are 1,002 people seeking asylum in receipt of Section 98 support and 1,273 people in receipt of Section 95 support.
  - b. since 2002, people seeking asylum have only able to apply for the right to work
  - c. after they have been waiting for a decision on their asylum claim for over a year, and only if they can be employed into one of the narrow, highly-skilled professions included on the Government's Shortage Occupation List.
  - d. people seeking asylum are left to live on £5.84 per day, struggling to support themselves and their families, and left vulnerable to destitution, isolation, and exploitation.
  - e. the potential foregone economic gain for the UK economy of allowing people to work is estimated to be £97.8 million via increased taxable income and reduced payments of accommodation/ subsistence support.
  - f. 71% of people polled agreed with the statement: "when people come to the UK seeking asylum it is important they integrate, learn English and get to know people. It would help integration if asylum-seekers were allowed to work if their claim takes more than six months to process."
  
2. Council assembly believes that:
  - a. people seeking asylum want to be able to work so that they can use their skills and make the most of their potential, integrate into their communities, and provide for themselves and their families.
  - b. restrictions on right to work can lead to extremely poor mental health outcomes, and a waste of potentially invaluable talents and skills both for the economy of Southwark and the UK.
  - c. allowing people seeking asylum the right to work would therefore lead to positive outcomes for those seeking asylum in Southwark and for the local and national economy.



3. Council assembly resolves to:
  - a. join the Lift the Ban Coalition, which is campaigning to restore the right to work for everyone waiting for more than 6 months for a decision on their asylum claim.
  - b. call on the UK Government to give people seeking asylum the right to work unconstrained by the shortage occupation list after they have waited six months for a decision on their initial asylum claim or further submission.

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

**2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR RACHEL BENTLEY (Seconded by Councillor David Watson)**

**Clean Up Southwark**

1. Council Assembly notes:
  - a. That fly-tipping and litter have increased across the country after the pandemic, and nationally costs councils millions to address.
  - b. Many residents in Southwark have reported a general worsening state of rubbish, including household waste and street litter.
  - c. Waste on the streets causes significant environmental and health hazards, and worsens the aesthetics of where we live.
  - d. Whilst changes in national legislation would help to tackle the issue, there is room for councils to act within the current framework.
  - e. The bulky waste collection charge increase earlier this year, which the Liberal Democrat group opposed, which has not helped the situation with fly-tipping on estates a regular feature.
2. Council Assembly notes with concern:
  - a. That Southwark ranks particularly poorly, being the seventh most fly-tipped borough in London - compared to Richmond, Sutton, and Kingston which rank much more favourably, as well as our neighbouring borough of Lambeth.
  - b. That fly-tipping in Southwark has exploded post-pandemic, with a 56% increase in incidents 2021-2022 compared to 2018-2019.
  - c. Clinical fly-tipping is a particular concern – ranking the joint second highest in London, and has skyrocketed since covid.

- d. That enforcement of existing powers is negligible, with just 2% of reported cases of fly-tipping being followed up by Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN).
- e. This issue represents a significant area of spend by the council - with £983,000 being spent on the disposal of fly-tipped waste last year alone.
- f. That the street cleaning rota will move from 4 weekly to 5 weekly, which will only exacerbate the existing problem.
- g. That street waste contributes to the rat problem, which recent reports have highlighted has increased by 90% in Southwark, making it the second worst council area in the country.
- h. That in the same period inspection fees for pests also doubled, meaning the 'rat tax' that the Liberal Democrats campaigned against at the time will be hitting even more people during a cost of living crisis.

3. Council Assembly recognises:

- a. The extraordinary work that Kingston Council have done on this issue, which has seen impressive results to see fly-tippers cracked down on and cleaner streets as a result.
- b. The research and recommendations of Keep Britain Tidy, which have worked with councils in London and across the country to drastically reduce fly-tipping, including Newham Council which reduced fly-tipping in targeted areas by 64%.

4. This Council resolves to:

- a. Increase the number of public bins available.
- b. Produce a publicly available map of bins to better identify need.
- c. Implement similar strategies to Kingston Council such as:
  - i. Create a dedicated fly-tipping taskforce
  - ii. Appoint enforcement officers solely to enforce existing powers
  - iii. Use reported incident data to identify hotspots
- d. Maintain the existing street cleaning rota and improve services.
- e. Work with Keep Britain Tidy to develop further action plans based on case studies elsewhere in London.
- f. Call on MPs and Ministers to give local councils more powers and stricter fines to deter fly-tipping.

- g. Expand the existing discount for rat treatment and inspection to all residents during the cost of living crisis and rat epidemic.
- h. Remove the bulky waste collection charge altogether.
- i. Launch “bulky waste collection days” to be held on a regular basis, providing an active incentive for people to dispose of their furniture and white goods responsibly.
- j. Encourage and invite officers from the waste and recycling team to participate in ward forum meetings to encourage greater awareness and engagement between residents, the council, and officers.
- k. Require at minimum that officers compile annual reports to be considered at multi-ward forums, to update residents on the Council's waste and recycling strategy, key statistics and measures, and seek community feedback.

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

### **3. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR VICTOR CHAMBERLAIN (Seconded by Councillor Adam Hood)**

#### **Tackling Damp and Mould**

1. Council assembly notes that:
  - a. Damp and mould is a blight on housing in the UK and is putting lives at risk.
  - b. The tragic death of Awaab Ishak resulting from toxic mould has rightfully made damp and mould a top priority when tackling housing disrepair.
  - c. This increased attention has highlighted Southwark’s appalling record on tackling damp and mould:
    - i. In May 2023, the Housing Ombudsman ordered Southwark Council to pay £7,500 for “severe maladministration” after a family was left with “extensive damp and mould” for 17 months.
    - ii. In January this year, a resident was tragically found dead in her council flat which was in “swamp-like” conditions. Neighbours had alerted the council nine months prior, but the council took no action.
    - iii. An FOI revealed that in 2022 the council received 498 formal complaints regarding damp and mould issues.

- iv. An October 2021 report from the Housing Ombudsman, titled 'it's not lifestyle', ranked Southwark as one of the worst landlords nationally for dealing with damp and mould.
  - v. Despite this, as recently November 2022, Southwark's website stated that it is the responsibility of the resident "to reduce condensation and mould".
- d. A reactive service is not sufficient in tackling damp and mould. To guarantee all residents a safe home the council must undertake proactive improvement works to ensure the root causes of damp and mould are addressed.
2. Council assembly welcomes:
- a. The creation of the Southwark damp and mould taskforce and hopes this team can be put to effective use in improving Southwark's response to damp and mould in the borough.
  - b. The success of the repairs action days held throughout the borough that facilitated direct engagement between council officers and residents and saw proactive repairs carried out with effective follow-ups from the repairs team.
3. Council assembly resolves to:
- a. Improve intelligence sharing between repairs and major works teams in order to identify estates and buildings with consistent damp and mould issues to facilitate proactive and long-term repairs to the root causes of damp and mould.
  - b. Create a strategy for repairs actions days including a full calendar of events based on need and priority of different estates. The strategy should ensure every ward benefits from an action day within the year.
  - c. Improve response times by requiring each housing association to provide an action plan on how they resolve damp and mould problems (step by step), including service standards to the tenant and response times to the authority regarding casework.
  - d. Improve monitoring by requiring housing associations to provide the following data to the council every quarter:
    - i. The number of damp and mould cases that have been reported in their housing stock.
    - ii. The response time to each reported case of damp and mould and the outcome of each intervention.

- e. Consider how best to use Council powers under the Housing Act 2004 to act against housing providers that do not resolve damp and mould issues without delay.
- f. Report back regularly on the actual use or threat of use to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

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

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

| Background Papers | Held At  | Contact   |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Member Motions    | Constitutional Team<br>160 Tooley Street<br>London SE1 2QH | Constitutional Team<br><a href="mailto:Constitutional.Team@southwark.gov.uk">Constitutional.Team@southwark.gov.uk</a> |

## AUDIT TRAIL

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Lead Officer</b>  | Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional Services       |
| <b>Report Author</b> | Virginia Wynn-Jones, Principal Constitutional Officer |
| <b>Version</b>       | Final   |
| <b>Dated</b>         | 29 June 2023  |

|                                  |                                |                                       |  |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Item No:</b><br>6.1           | <b>Classification:</b><br>Open | <b>Date:</b><br>12 July 2023          | <b>Meeting Name:</b><br>Council Assembly |
| <b>Report title:</b>             |                                | Treasury Management – Outturn 2022-23 |  |
| <b>Wards or Groups affected:</b> |                                | All                                   |  |
| <b>From:</b>                     |                                | Strategic Director, Finance           |  |

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council Assembly note the 2022-23 treasury management outturn report and in particular:
  - the update on the Economic Background
  - that all treasury management activity was undertaken in compliance with the 2022-23 approved treasury management strategy and within the council’s prudential indicators for 2022-23, attached at appendix A
  - that the balance outstanding on all external debt as at 31 March 2023 was £991m
  - that the balance on investments at 31 March 2023 stood at £220m.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. In compliance with the Local Government Act 2003, the council has adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Treasury Management Code of Practice (the Code). The Code requires local authorities to determine an annual treasury management strategy and, as a minimum, formally report on their treasury activities and arrangements to Council Assembly mid-year and after the year-end.
3. The Code provides the following objective with regard to treasury management:
 

*“It is important that treasury management policies adequately reflect risk and in particular security, liquidity and yield, in that order of importance. No treasury management transaction is without risk and management of risks is the key purpose of the treasury management strategy.”*
4. The council is exposed to financial risks from its investments, existing external debt, as well as future borrowing requirements arising from the council’s capital programme. The risks include potential losses from investments and increased borrowing costs from changing interest rates. The successful identification, monitoring and control of risk remain central to the Authority’s treasury management strategy.

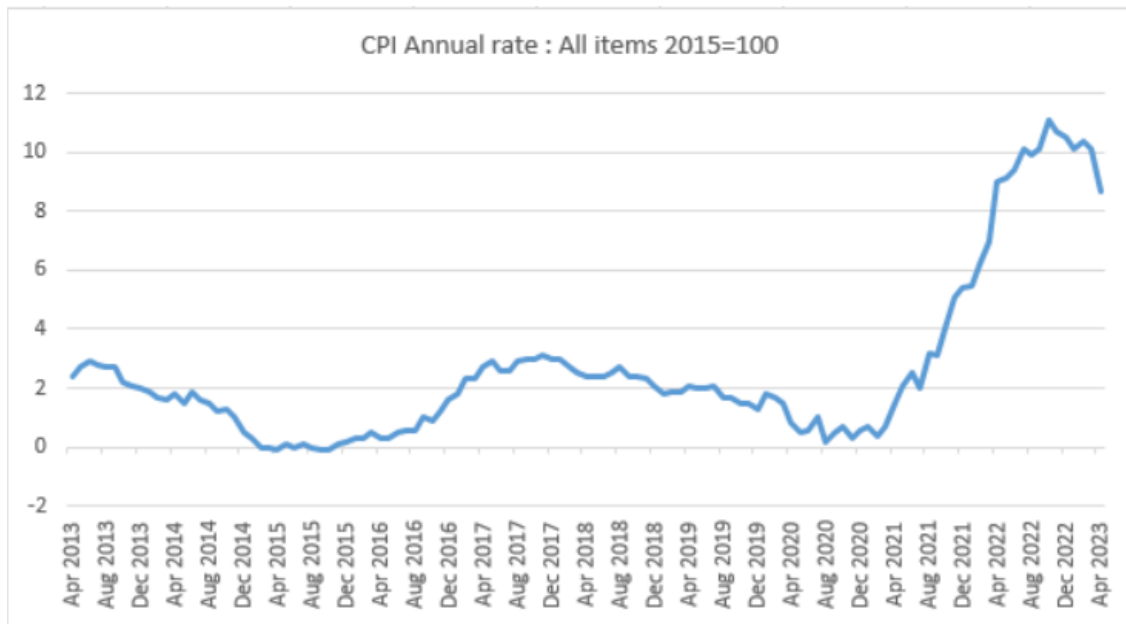
5. CIPFA published its revised Treasury Management Code of Practice and Prudential Code for Capital Finance in December 2021. The key changes in the two codes are around permitted reasons to borrow, knowledge and skills, and the management of non-treasury investments. The principles within the two Codes took immediate effect, although local authorities could defer introducing the revised reporting requirements within the revised Codes until the 2023/24 financial year if they wish, which the council has elected to do.
6. Treasury management within the council is conducted within the framework of the Treasury Management Code. The code now also includes extensive additional requirements for service and commercial investments.

## **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **Economic Background: April 2022 to March 2023**

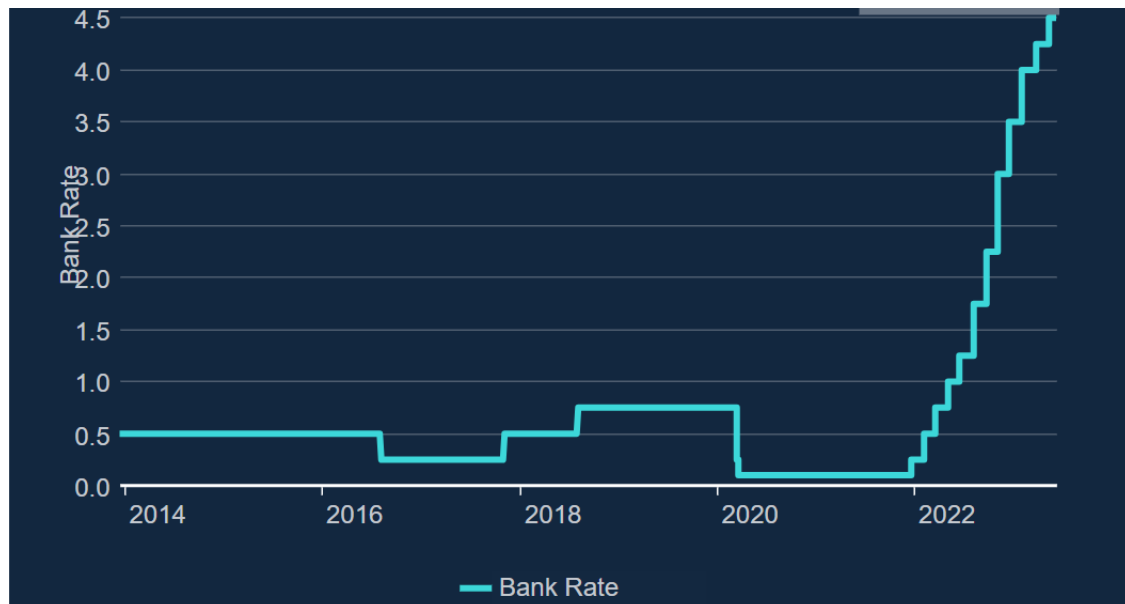
7. The war in Ukraine continued to keep global inflation above central bank targets and the UK economic outlook remained relatively weak with the chance of a mild recession. The economic backdrop during the January to March period continued to be characterised by high energy and commodity prices, high inflation, and the associated impact on household budgets and spending. Starting the financial year at 5.5%, annual CPI measure of UK inflation rose to 10.1% in July and then 11.1% in October. Inflation remained high in subsequent months but appeared to be past the peak, before unexpectedly rising again to 10.4% in February, up from 10.1% in January. By March 2023, inflation reduced slightly but remained stubbornly high at 10.1%.
8. The Bank of England base rate rose from 0.75% in March 2022 to 4.25% in March 2023, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) pushing through rises at every subsequent meeting over the period.
9. Uncertainty continued to be a key driver of financial market sentiment. Towards the end of the period, fears around the health of the banking system following the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank in the US and purchase of Credit Suisse by UBS caused further volatility.
10. As market volatility is expected to remain a feature, at least in the near term, the institutions and durations on the Authority's counterparty list recommended by Arlingclose remains under constant review.

## CPI Inflation 2013 – 2023



- From 0.75% in March 2022, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) pushed through interest rate rises at every subsequent meeting over the period, with recent hikes of 0.50% in December and February and then 0.25% in March, taking Bank Rate to 4.25%.

## Bank of England base rate 2014 - 2023



## OUTTURN 2022-23

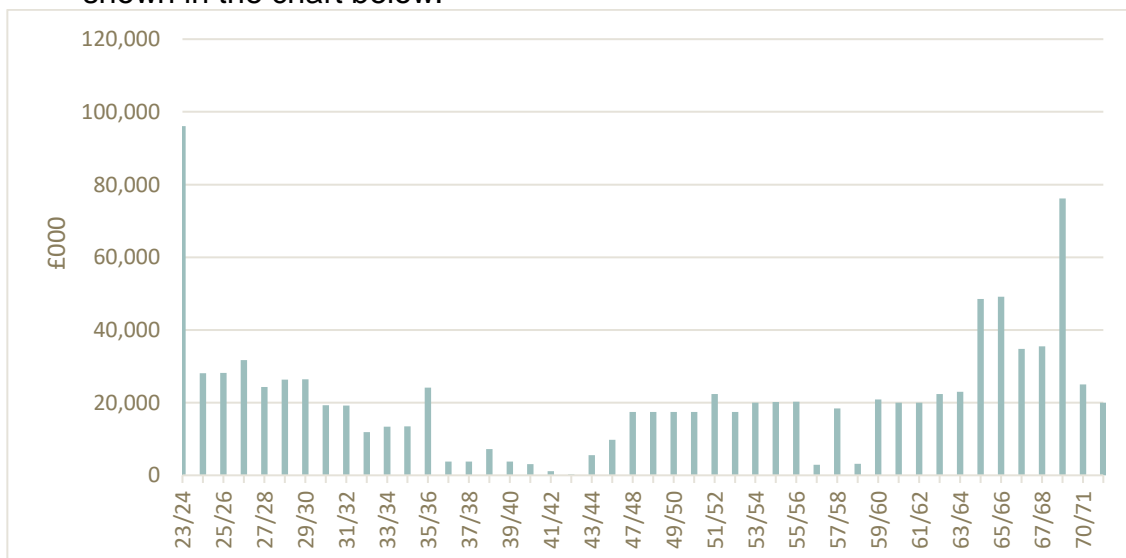
- The 2022-23 treasury management strategy was approved by Council Assembly in February 2022. Under financial delegation, all executive,



managerial and operational decisions are the responsibility of the strategic director of finance and governance.

## Debt Management

13. As at 31 March 2023, the outstanding debt held by the council was £991m, (£896m as at 31 March 2022).
14. During the financial year to 31 March 2023, the council borrowed £220m from the Public Works Loans Board, in various tranches with maturing terms ranging from 10 to 50 years, at an average interest rate of 3.36%.
15. Drawing of long-term borrowing is supplemented by short-term borrowing from other local authorities, to reduce overall debt interest expense for the council and to manage cash-flow. This approach continued during 2022-23. The level of outstanding short-term borrowing from other local authorities as at 31 March 2023 was £70m at an average rate of 4.33%. The weighted average rate of interest for the council's overall debt portfolio was 3.30% as at 31 March 2023. (Long-term weighted average rate of 3.72% and short-term weighted average was 1.49%.
16. Short-term debt drawn during 2022-23 will mature in 2023-24 and there will be a requirement to refinance this by drawing down further borrowing. The council will consider a number of borrowing sources, both long and short term. Decisions on the most optimal and value for money source and duration of the borrowing will be made in the context of any changes in interest rates and the longer term cash flow requirements of the council. It is expected that further borrowing will be required in 2023-24 both to refinance maturing debt and to finance the growing capital programme.
17. The maturity profile of outstanding long-term debt as at 31 March 2023 is shown in the chart below:



### **Provision for repayment of debt**

18. Each year, the general fund sets aside sums, known as the minimum revenue provision (MRP), to reduce its borrowing liabilities. In 2022-23, £11.2m (£9.1m in 2021-22) was set aside to repay debt. The HRA can, voluntarily, also set aside sums to reduce its borrowing liabilities. There were no additional sums set aside in 2022-23.

### **Investment Management**

19. CIPFA published a revised Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and Cross-sectoral Guidance Notes on 20th December 2021. These define treasury management investments as investments that arise from the organisation's cash flows or treasury risk management activity that ultimately represents balances that need to be invested until cash is required for use in the course of business.
20. The council has significant funds invested, representing income received in advance of expenditure plus balances and reserves held. Council cash that is not immediately required for current expenditure is invested in money market instruments in accordance with the DLUHC Guidance on Local Authority Investments and the investment strategy as approved by Council Assembly each financial year.
21. In accordance with DLUHC guidance, the council gives priority to the security and liquidity of any investments made and then seeks an investment return commensurate with these principles. The Authority's objective when investing money is to strike an appropriate balance between risk and return, minimising the risk of incurring losses from defaults and the risk of receiving unsuitably low investment income.
22. Council investments are managed both in-house and delegated to two external fund managers (Alliance Bernstein and Aberdeen Standard Investments). The focus for in-house investment is to meet variable near-term cash liquidity requirements.
23. The external fund managers invest over a longer term, across a range of investment instruments including UK government gilts, supranational bank bonds, and certificates of deposits and covered bonds issued by major banks/ building societies. The use of fund managers has the advantage of diversification of investment risk, coupled with the services of professional fund managers, which over the longer term, provides enhanced returns commensurate with the council's risk appetite. Although investments can be redeemed from the fund managers at short notice, the intention is to hold them for the medium term. Their performance and suitability in meeting the council's investment objectives are regularly monitored.
24. As at 31 March 2023, total investments stood at £220m (£161m at 31 March 2022). The overall rate of return on investments during 2022-23 was 2.07% (-0.04 % in 2021-22).

25. Internally managed funds achieved return on its share of the portfolio of 2.14% in 2022-23. (0.06% in 2021-22)
26. To assess the external fund manager's portfolio, the council measures the return against a composite investment benchmark of three month LIBID and one to three year gilt index. For the financial year, the benchmark index annualized return was 0.74%. Actual fund manager return was -2.01%, indicating a better performance compared to the benchmark.
27. The rate of return generated by the treasury management portfolio is a consequence of the council's prudent, low risk approach to treasury management investment policy. This is in line with the requirements of the statutory guidance for local government treasury investments issued by DLUHC.
28. The distribution of investments by maturity and credit rating as at 31 March 2023 is set out in the following table.

### Maturity Profile and Credit Ratings

| Investment Maturity | A         |           | AA        |           | AAA        |           | Total      |            |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|
|                     | £m        | %         | £m        | %         | £m         | %         | £m         | %          |
| Up to 1 Year        | 26        | 12        | 63        | 29        | 116        | 53        | 206        | 94         |
| 1-2 Years           | 2         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 4          | 2         | 6          | 3          |
| 2-5 Years           | 1         | 0         | 2         | 1         | 5          | 2         | 8          | 3          |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>29</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>65</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>125</b> | <b>58</b> | <b>220</b> | <b>100</b> |

AAA represents the highest credit quality, AA represents very high credit quality and A represents high credit quality.

### Non-Treasury Investments

29. The definition of investments in CIPFA's revised Treasury Management Code now covers all the financial assets of the Council as well as other non-financial assets which are held primarily or partly for financial return. These include:
- The council's commercial property portfolio is valued at £309.5m (£338.2m at 31 March 2022), and investment income of £20.6m was generated in 2022-23.
  - The balance of loans to local institutions totalling £26.7m at 31 March 2023.

### Prudential Indicators - Actuals

30. Local authority borrowing, investment and capital finance activity is supported by the Prudential Code for Capital Finance, the Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and related guidance published by CIPFA. The codes require councils to set a series of indicators

and limits each year. The 2022-23 indicators were agreed in February 2023, before the start of the financial year. Appendix A shows the outturn of the Authority against the 2022-23 prudential indicators.

31. The council complied with its prudential indicators throughout 2022-23.

### **Community, Equalities (including socio-economic) and Health Impacts**

32. This report monitors the council's compliance with the treasury management strategy and Council's prudential indicators as agreed in February 2022. This report has been judged to have no direct impact on local people and communities.

### **Climate change implications**

33. There are no climate change implications arising directly from this report.

### **Resource implications**

34. There are no direct resource implications in this report.

### **Consultation**

35. There has been no consultation on this report.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS**

### **Assistant chief executive – governance and assurance**

36. The constitution determines that agreeing the treasury management strategy is a function of the council assembly and that review and scrutiny of strategies and policies is the responsibility of the audit, governance and standards committee.
37. Financial standing orders require the strategic director of finance and governance to set out the treasury management strategy for consideration and decision by council assembly, and report on activity on a regular basis to cabinet and at mid and year-end to council assembly. Furthermore all executive and operational decisions are delegated to the strategic director of finance and governance.
38. The Local Government Act 2003 ("the 2003 Act") and supporting regulations require local authorities to determine annual borrowing limits and have regard to the Prudential Code for Capital Finance, and the Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and Guidance, published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, when considering borrowing and investment strategies, determining or changing borrowing limits or prudential indicators.
39. Section 15(1) of the 2003 Act requires a local authority "to have regard (a) to such guidance as the Secretary of State may issue". This guidance is

found in the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Guidance on Local Authority Investments updated February 2018 and there is statutory guidance on the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) made under section 21(1A) of the 2003 Act.

40. Section 12 of the 2003 Act grants local authorities the powers to invest for any purpose relevant to its functions or for the purposes of the prudent management of its financial affairs.

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

| Background Papers                                | Held at       | Contact       |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Capital and Treasury Management Strategy 2022-23 | Tooley Street | Timothy Jones |

## APPENDICES

| No.        | Title                                   |
|------------|---|
| Appendix A | Prudential Indicators – 2022-23 Actuals |

## AUDIT TRAIL

|   |   |                         |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| <b>Lead Officer</b>   | Clive Palfreyman, Strategic Director, Finance |                         |
| <b>Report Author</b>  | Timothy Jones, Departmental Finance Manager   |                         |
| <b>Version</b>  | Final   |                         |
| <b>Dated</b>  | 29 June 2023                                  |                         |
| <b>Key Decision?</b>  | No  |                         |
| <b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b> |   |                         |
| <b>Officer Title</b>  | <b>Comments Sought</b>                        | <b>Comment included</b> |
| Assistant Chief Executive – Governance & Assurance                      | Yes   | Yes                     |
| Strategic Director, Finance   | No  | N/A                     |
| <b>Cabinet Member</b>   | Yes   | No                      |
| <b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>                    | 29 June 2023                                  |                         |

## APPENDIX A

## PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS: 2022-23 ACTUALS

## BACKGROUND

1. Capital finance, borrowing and investment arrangements are supported by a series of prudential indicators, drawn from the Prudential Code on Capital Finance for Local Authorities and the Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice plus Guidance, published by CIPFA. The Local Government Act 2003 requires that councils have regard to these codes. The indicators were approved by Council Assembly in February 2022. This appendix updates the 2022-23 indicators as per the un-audited statement of accounts for 2022-23.
2. The indicators are grouped into three broad areas: affordability and prudence, capital finance and treasury management. The indicators are of a technical nature and existing budgets take account of capital finance and treasury activities. The indicators themselves have no effect on those budgets.

## AFFORDABILITY AND PRUDENCE INDICATORS

3. The indicators below are for affordability and prudence.

| 2021-22 | 2022-23 |  |
|---------|---------|--|
|         |         | <b>Ratio of Financing Cost to Net Revenue Stream</b><br>A measure of the cost of borrowing and long term liabilities (e.g. PFI) net of interest income and set-asides, as a percentage of revenue. |
| 8%      | 7%      | HRA  |
| 4%      | 4%      | General fund   |

|         |         |   |
|---------|---------|---|
|         |         | <b>Capital Financing Requirements (CFR) and Gross Debt</b><br>The CFR is the balance remaining on past capital expenditure financed through debt and long term liabilities (e.g. PFI). The level of gross debt should not exceed the CFR unless prudent over the short term.<br><br>Actual gross debt remained below the CFR throughout 2022-23 on account of cash balances, internal borrowing and PFI transactions. |
| £1,363m | £1,492m | CFR   |
| £896m   | £991m   | Maximum gross debt in the year  |

## CAPITAL FINANCING INDICATORS

4. The indicators below are for capital finance.

| 2021-22   | 2022-23      |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Capital Expenditure</b> - Capital expenditure includes PFI funded spend. |              |              |
| £211m   | £318m        | HRA          |
| £101m   | £88m         | General fund |
| <b>£312m</b>  | <b>£406m</b> | <b>Total</b> |

|  |                |              |
|--|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)</b> - the CFR is the balance on past capital expenditure financed through borrowing and long term liabilities (e.g. PFI). |                |              |
| £609m  | £704m          | HRA          |
| £754m  | £788m          | General fund |
| <b>£1,363m</b>   | <b>£1,492m</b> | <b>Total</b> |

## TREASURY MANAGEMENT INDICATORS

5. The indicators below are for treasury management.

| <b>Operational Boundary and Authorised Limit for External Debt:</b>  |                  |                    |   |
|--|------------------|--------------------|---|
| These are limits the council determines to accommodate borrowing and long term liabilities.  |                  |                    |   |
| The lower limit is the operational boundary and takes account of existing positions and ordinary activity and the higher limit is the authorised limit, enabling additional borrowing to be taken for very short periods, in the interest of prudence, within a risk controlled framework. |                  |                    |   |
| 2021-22<br>Outturn   | 2022-23<br>Limit | 2022-23<br>Outturn | <b>Operational Boundary</b>             |
| £896m  | £1,458m          | £991m              | Borrowing (maximum outstanding in year) |
| £81m   | £ 101m           | £76m               | Other Long -Term Liabilities            |
| <b>£977m</b>   | <b>£1,559m</b>   | <b>£1,067m</b>     | <b>Total</b>                            |
| <b>Authorised Limit</b>  |                  |                    |   |
| £896m  | £1,823m          | £991m              | Borrowing (maximum outstanding in year) |
| £81m   | £ 101m           | £76m               | Other Long -Term Liabilities            |
| <b>£977m</b>   | <b>£1,924m</b>   | <b>£1,067m</b>     | <b>Total</b>                            |

| 2021-22<br>Outturn | 2022-23<br>Limit | 2022-23<br>Outturn |  |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|--|
| 84%                | 100%             | 77%                | <b>Gross and Net Debt</b><br>An upper limit on net debt as a percentage of gross debt.<br>The net debt has remained below gross on account of investments held to meet spend.    |
|                    |                  |                    | <b>Maturity Structure of Borrowing</b><br>Limits accommodating existing positions with flexibility to vary exposure within a risk controlled framework.                          |
| 20%                | 35%              | 9%                 | Under 1 year   |
| 2%                 | 35%              | 4%                 | 1 year and within 2 years  |
| 9%                 | 50%              | 9%                 | 2 years and within 5 years   |
| 9%                 | 75%              | 10%                | 5 years and within 10 years  |
| 60%                | 100%             | 69%                | 10 years and over  |
|                    |                  |                    | <b>Limits on Investments Greater than One Year</b> Caps on the maximum exposure to longer investments, while recognising benefits from prudent exposure within a risk controlled |
| 13%                | 65%              | 6%                 | Percentage longer than one year  |
| 9 months           | 2.5 years        | 9.4 months         | Overall maximum average maturity   |



|                                    |                                |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Item No.</b><br>6.2             | <b>Classification:</b><br>Open | <b>Date:</b><br>12 July 2023             | <b>Meeting Name:</b><br>Council Assembly |
| <b>Report title:</b>               |                                | New Civic Award – Climate Champion Award |  |
| <b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b> |                                | All wards                                |  |
| <b>From:</b>                       |                                | Constitutional Steering Panel            |  |

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council Assembly note the report from the Constitutional Steering Panel and agree to establish a Climate Champion Award as part of the council's civic awards programme.
2. That Council Assembly ask officers to further develop nomination and award criteria and that this is considered by the Audit and Governance Committee.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. Since 1997 the London Borough of Southwark presents civic awards annually to people who live or work in Southwark who have demonstrated exceptional community spirit. Awards are made by the audit, governance and standards (civic awards) sub-committee, after nomination by any member of the public.
4. In addition to the rarely conferred Freedom of the Borough, the council has recently introduced a Southwark Together award. Conventionally the other Civic Awards have included:
  - The Liberty of the Old Metropolitan Borough of Bermondsey
  - The Liberty of the Old Metropolitan Borough of Camberwell
  - The Liberty of the Old Metropolitan Borough of Southwark
  - The Young Citizen of the Year Award
  - The Mayor's Discretionary Award
5. The council has declared a climate emergency and said that it will do all it can to make the borough carbon neutral by 2030. The council's climate strategy and action plan set out our approach. The task is huge, and we will only reduce the borough's carbon emissions with everyone in the borough playing their part to reduce carbon and support a more sustainable future.

6. There is excellent work going on across Southwark, from individuals, community groups, businesses and others. Given the importance of climate change and the crisis we face, the council is looking for ways to promote examples of excellence and celebrate those who are making an outstanding contribution to tackling climate change in the borough.
7. The cabinet member for climate emergency, clean air and streets has asked officers to consider the introduction of a specific climate award alongside the other civic awards so that excellence in this area can be rightly recognised alongside excellence in other aspects of the borough's life.

### **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

8. The council would establish a new award as part of the civic awards. This would be "The Climate Champion Award". The civic awards subcommittee of the audit and governance committee would consider applications and make the award to an appropriate nominee
9. As part of the selection process, the Climate Change Director would be asked for comments on applicants in order to assist the committee with making their decision.
10. Criteria for the new Civic Award should be "an individual, group or organisation which has championed tackling the climate emergency in Southwark and/or contributed to a more sustainable future".
11. Criteria for the award should include identifiable qualitative and quantitative impact on climate change, including bringing together members of our communities, inspiring others, and building engagement and action on tackling climate change in the borough.
12. Criteria should emphasise outstanding work in the area, as opposed to scale, size etc. However, scale or size could also be a factor in impact of the area of work/event/project etc.
13. Criteria should include significant impact on promoting carbon reduction or tackling climate change. It should include an action which has also reduced inequality or tackled injustice related to climate change.
14. Eligibility for the new award will be in line with the other civic awards i.e. the council accepts nominations for any individual whose unpaid voluntary activity is unrelated or additional to the nominee's current employment, or from any community group, organisation or business which is based in and/or benefits the Southwark community.
15. Elected members or council employees cannot be nominated (other than for other work) but can nominate others.

16. Awards would be limited to one per year. Nominees for the award could also be considered for other categories of civic award if the committee felt these were more appropriate. The committee may also decide that a nominee for another civic award would be appropriate to receive the climate champion award.
17. The council would promote this new award alongside other awards and use this as a way of encouraging interesting in climate change and also to showcase some of the excellent work going on in the borough.
18. As set out in recommendation 2, Council Assembly asks officers to further consider the nomination and award criteria and to bring a report to the Audit and Governance Committee for them to review, make changes and agree to the nomination and award criteria for the Climate Champion Award.

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

#### **Policy implications**

19. The new award is consistent with the council's declaration of a climate emergency made in March 2019, and the council's strategy and action plan agreed in 2021. The strategy and action plan highlights that climate change will only be tackled with everyone playing their part and highlights the need to engage the community and innovate to find solutions.

#### **Community impact statement**

20. The new award will contribute to recognition of outstanding work in the area of climate change. Our approach to tackling climate change is to support a fair transition, where our climate work not only reduces carbon but also tackles inequality to support the development of a fairer and more equal society. Our climate approach recognises that not everyone will experience the effects of climate change equally and that those with the least resource are often the most effected by climate change.
21. As part of the selection, we would encourage the committee to consider awards that not only celebrate excellence in the climate action, but also which are aligned with the values we set out in our strategy, particularly support of a fair transition.

#### **Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement impact statement**

22. As this theme cuts across all the Civic Awards, the criteria should make clear that any nomination for any of the other awards can be automatically considered for this new award – if the proposer so wishes.
23. This award would be open to all individuals and organisations as set out in paragraphs 10-14. The council, in promoting the award, would take steps to ensure that as wide a groups of people as possible are aware of the award to encourage a diversity of applicants.

**Health Impact statement**

24. None in the context of this report

**Climate impact**

25. This award will promote action to tackle climate change. We would expect that promotion of the award and engagement in the process encourages further action and the council's commitments to reduce carbon.

**Resource implications**

26. The award ceremonies will be held as part of the existing Southwark Civic Awards and can be managed within existing staff and financial resources.

**SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS****Assistant Chief Executive - Governance and Assurance**

27. Council assembly has the responsibility to take decisions in respect of functions which are not the responsibility of the cabinet and which have not been delegated by council assembly to committees, sub-committees or officers; which in this instance includes creating a new civic award.

28. The responsibility for considering the process by which the decisions with respect to civic awards applications are to be taken falls to the audit, governance and standards (civic awards) sub-committee and its parent body, the audit, governance and standards committee.

29. This is consistent with the recommendation for council assembly to agree the concept for the climate change award, and for officers to report to the audit, governance and standards committee before November 2023 to consider the criteria.

**Strategic Director of Finance**

30. None in the context of this report.

**APPENDICES**

| No.   | Title |
|-------|-------|
| None. |       |

**AUDIT TRAIL**

|   |  |                          |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| <b>Lead Officer</b>   | Chris Page, Climate Change and Sustainability Director |                          |
| <b>Report Author</b>  | Chris Page, Climate Change and Sustainability Director |                          |
| <b>Version</b>  | Final  |                          |
| <b>Dated</b>  | 28 June 2023   |                          |
| <b>Key Decision?</b>  | No   |                          |
| <b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b> |  |                          |
| <b>Officer Title</b>  | <b>Comments Sought</b>                                 | <b>Comments Included</b> |
| <b>Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance</b>             | Yes  | Yes                      |
| Strategic Director of Finance   | No   | N/A                      |
| <b>Cabinet Member</b>   | Yes  | No                       |
| <b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>                    | 28 June 2023   |                          |

|                                    |                                |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Item No.</b><br>6.3             | <b>Classification:</b><br>Open | <b>Date:</b><br>12 July 2023   | <b>Meeting Name:</b><br>Council Assembly |
| <b>Report title:</b>               |                                | Waiver of six month councillor attendance rule – Section 85 of Local Government Act 1972 |  |
| <b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b> |                                | All  |  |
| <b>From:</b>                       |                                | Assistant Chief Executive - Governance and Assurance and Monitoring Officer              |  |

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, council assembly approves Councillor Esme Hicks’ non-attendance at meetings until 2 January 2024 on the grounds of parental responsibility (maternity leave).

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 states that ‘if a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, he shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the authority.’ Any exemption must be considered before the expiry of the six consecutive months’ absence.
3. Qualifying meetings include council assembly, any committee or sub-committee of the authority, or at a meeting of any joint committee, joint board or other body by whom for the time being any of the functions of the authority are being discharged, or who were appointed to advise the authority on any matter relating to the discharge of their functions.
4. The extension would not prevent Councillor Hicks from returning to meetings at any time, but would give flexibility and prevent further recourse to the council before the end of the extension period.

## KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. Councillor Hicks last attended a meeting of the overview and scrutiny committee meeting on 24 April 2023 (as a substitute). She will start maternity leave from 1 July 2023 and wishes to remain on maternity leave up to 2 January 2024. The purpose of this report is to propose that council assembly approve her continuing absence for a period which exceeds 6 months and until able to resume normal duties.
6. Council assembly can only consider approval of any reasons for non-attendance before the end of the relevant six month period, which will be 23 October 2023. Councillor Hicks is on maternity leave and will not able

to attend this council assembly meeting scheduled for Wednesday 12 July 2023 and so a report has been submitted to approve an extension of the usual six moth rule.

7. Councillor Hicks' ward and constituency casework would continue to be co-ordinated by her ward colleague.
8. Councillor Hicks does not hold a post with a special responsibility allowance.

#### **Policy framework implications**

9. None in the context of this report.

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

##### **Community impact statement**

10. This report has no immediate impact on the community. Councillor Hicks' ward and constituency casework would continue to be co-ordinated by her ward colleagues.

##### **Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement**

11. Supporting members in being able to take extended absence due to maternity leave or ill health will have a positive impact on the general equality duty with regards to the protected characteristics under the Act.

##### **Health impact statement**

12. None in the context of this report.

##### **Climate change implications**

13. None in the context of this report.

##### **Resource Implications**

14. None in the context of this report.

##### **Consultation**

15. None in the context of this report.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS**

##### **Assistant Chief Executive - Governance and Assurance**

16. The legal requirements are detailed in the report.

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

| <b>Background Papers</b>                 | <b>Held At</b>   | <b>Contact</b>  |
|--|--|---|
| Section 85 (1) Local Government Act 1972 | Constitutional Team,<br>160 Tooley Street,<br>London SE1 2QH | Constitutional Team<br>Email:<br><a href="mailto:constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk">constitutional.team@southwark.gov.uk</a> |

**AUDIT TRAIL**

|   |  |                          |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| <b>Lead Officer</b>   | Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional and Member Services |                          |
| <b>Report Author</b>  | Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional and Member Services |                          |
| <b>Version</b>  | Final  |                          |
| <b>Dated</b>  | 26 June 2023   |                          |
| <b>Key Decision?</b>  | No   |                          |
| <b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b> |  |                          |
| <b>Officer Title</b>  | <b>Comments Sought</b>                                     | <b>Comments included</b> |
| Assistant Chief Executive - Governance and Assurance                    | Yes  | Incorporated in report   |
| Strategic Director of Finance   | No   | No                       |
| <b>Cabinet Member</b>   | No   | No                       |
| <b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>                    | 29 June 2023   |                          |



This page is intentionally blank.

**COUNCIL ASSEMBLY AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN) (FULL LIST)  
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2023/24**

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

| <b>ONE COPY TO ALL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED</b>  | Copies           | To  | Copies   |
|---|------------------|---|--|
| <p><b>Councillors</b> (1 each)<br/>Councillor Jasmine Ali<br/>Councillor Sunil Chopra<br/>Councillor Renata Hamvas<br/>Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall<br/>Councillor Darren Merrill<br/>Councillor Leo Pollak<br/>Councillor Sandra Rhule<br/>Councillor Martin Seaton<br/>Councillor Andy Simmons<br/>Councillor Cleo Soanes<br/>Councillor Kath Whittam<br/>Councillor Kieron Williams</p> <p><b>Electronic Versions (No hard copy)</b><br/>All other councillors</p> | <p><b>12</b></p> | <p><b>Press</b></p> <p>Southwark News<br/>South London Press</p> <p><b>Group Offices</b></p> <p>Jack Beddoe, Labour Group Office<br/>Euan Cadzow-Webb, Liberal Democrat Group Office</p> <p><b>Officers</b></p> <p>Althea Loderick<br/>Clive Palfreyman<br/>Doreen Forrester-Brown<br/>Chidilim Agada<br/>Caroline Bruce<br/>David Quirke-Thornton<br/>Michael Scorer<br/>Sangeeta Leahy</p> <p><b>Constitutional Team</b></p> <p>(Copies to Virginia Wynn-Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hub 2, Tooley Street)</p> <p><b>Others</b></p> <p>Matt Dean, Grant Thornton<br/>Ground floor audit office, Tooley Street</p> <p><b>Total:</b></p> <p><b>Last updated:</b> June 2023</p> | <p>by email<br/>by email</p> <p>by email<br/>by email</p> <p>by email<br/>by email<br/>by email<br/>by email<br/>by email<br/>by email</p> <p>8</p> <p>by email</p> <p><b>20</b></p> |