



## **Cabinet**

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Cabinet held on Monday 16 September 2024 at 1.30 pm at the Council Offices, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

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**PRESENT:** Councillor Kieron Williams (Chair)  
Councillor Jasmine Ali  
Councillor Evelyn Akoto  
Councillor John Batteson  
Councillor Stephanie Cryan  
Councillor Helen Dennis  
Councillor Natasha Ennin  
Councillor James McAsh  
Councillor Portia Mwangangye

### **1. APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Sarah King.

### **2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT**

None.

### **3. NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN A CLOSED MEETING, AND ANY REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED**

No closed items for this meeting.

### **4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were none.

## 5. MINUTES

### RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2024 be approved as a correct and signed by the chair.

## 6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

There were none.

## 7. DEPUTATION REQUESTS

There were none.

## 8. BOROUGH OF SANCTUARY FRAMEWORK AND SANCTUARY ACTION PLAN

The following attended cabinet to provide comments on the report:

- Pauline Nandoo, Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers
- Sally Causer and Madeleine Kelleher, Southwark Law Centre
- Eltayeb Hassan from Southwark Refugee Communities Forum
- Mazan, an asylum seeker who has received refugee status.

Sally Causer advised that she would be retiring this year from her job at the Southwark Law Centre and the Leader placed on record his thanks for her phenomenal work for the past 20 years, transforming peoples' lives in the Borough.

### RESOLVED:

1. That it be noted that Southwark Council was awarded Borough of Sanctuary status on 17 June 2024 under the City of Sanctuary movement. Part of undertaking the full assessment, the council was required to have its own Sanctuary Framework and Sanctuary action plan to demonstrate its commitment to being a Borough of Sanctuary by adhering to the terms and values of the City of Sanctuary movement.
2. That the 2024-2027 Southwark Borough of Sanctuary Framework and Sanctuary action plan for the delivery of services to refugee, asylum seeker and migrant communities residing in Southwark be approved and the next steps set out in the report be noted.
3. That the requirement of the implementation of a framework and action plan for sanctuary seekers for future decision making and integration into council's

business and budget planning process be noted.

4. That the four-year grant programme for voluntary community sector (VCS) organisations working with refugees, asylum seekers and disadvantaged migrants with a total budget of 100k per year be approved. This will be paid by the local authority through a number of grants already received from central government.
5. That the progress made against the other resolutions in the motion passed by council assembly on 28 January 2020 be noted.

**9. CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY ANNUAL REPORT AND PROGRESS ON THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN FOR 2023-24**

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the following be noted:
  - The progress that Southwark has made in tackling the climate emergency over the last financial year, as detailed within the annual report, and the specific project updates contained within the climate action plan.
  - The adoption of the climate resilience and adaptation strategy and that officers to work collaboratively to implement its actions to adapt the borough and make it more resilient to the effects of climate change.
  - The priorities for the next twelve months and the subsequent preparation of an updated climate change strategy and action plan in 2025 that supports the goals and principles of the Southwark 2030 strategy.
  - That the new investment secured by officers to support tackling climate change in the borough be welcomed, but the significant cost of addressing climate change, and the lack of resources which have been made available by central government in recent years to reduce carbon emissions and expand climate adaptation be noted.

**10. FIRST CONSIDERATION OF THE STRENGTHENED BIODIVERSITY DUTY, ARISING FROM THE ENVIRONMENT ACT 2021**

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the requirement to meet the strengthened biodiversity duty, introduced by the Environment Act 2021 be noted and supported.

2. That the report and its Appendix be approved as our statutory First Consideration of the strengthened biodiversity duty.
3. That the new reporting requirements of the duty be noted, including the publication of a first biodiversity report no later than 12 weeks from the end of the reporting period on 1 January 2026. This must detail the actions taken and progress made for biodiversity over the reporting period (1 January 2024 – 1 January 2026), and the objectives and policies in place to meet the biodiversity duty in the next reporting period.
4. That it be noted that subsequent biodiversity reports must be published every five years thereafter, or within 12 weeks of the reporting end date.

## **11. LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**

### **RESOLVED:**

#### **Decision by the Cabinet**

1. That the approval and implementation of the updated Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be agreed.

#### **Decision by the Leader of the Council**

2. That the implementation of the strategy as per the council's statutory duties as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) role be agreed.

## **12. ALLOCATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING**

### **RESOLVED:**

#### **Decisions by the Cabinet**

1. That minor changes to the existing process that will allow for allocations of funding collected as neighbourhood community infrastructure levy through the planning process as set out in paragraphs 18 to 23 of the report be agreed. In summary this process will result in project allocations of funding in the ward or neighbourhood in which the funding is generated, assessment of project allocation against Southwark 2030 goals, a minimum level of project funding and a streamlined approval process where local priorities are already agreed.
2. That it be noted that a report setting out a draft revised neighbourhood

community infrastructure levy allocation process will be presented to cabinet in March 2025 prior to consultation and adoption in September 2025.

3. That the minor amendments in the table at paragraph 17 of the report be noted. An updated version of the table was circulated and published.

### **Decision by the Leader of the Council**

4. That the executive scheme of delegation be varied to delegate authority to the cabinet member for new homes and sustainable development to approve individual neighbourhood community infrastructure levy projects for a year in accordance with the framework set out in paragraphs 18 to 23 of the report.

## **13. POLICY AND RESOURCES: REVENUE MONITORING REPORT 2024-25**

### **RESOLVED:**

That the following be noted:

1. The housing revenue account (HRA) initial forecast of an adverse variance of £10.1m, acknowledging the volatility and assumptions that this forecast is based on the adverse variance of £12.9m forecast for the general fund (GF) in 2024-25.

The key adverse variations and budget pressures and mitigating actions underlying the position:

- Housing revenue account (paragraphs 14-30 of the report)
  - General fund (paragraphs 31-84 of the report)
  - Demand pressures in temporary accommodation (TA) (housing)
  - Increased costs for those who have 'No Recourse to Public Funds' (NRPF) (environment neighbourhoods and growth)
  - Increased costs in children services driven by the increased placement costs for children with complex needs and shortage of available foster placements (children's and adults)
  - Planning and growth – less than expected income and cost of maintaining void properties (finance)
  - Customer services – Additional resources into the contact centre to address capacity issues (finance).
2. The dedicated schools grant (DSG) in-year pressure of £0.68m.

That the following be approved:

3. The write-off of a bad debt totaling £0.140m for a commercial outdoor event which is deemed to be irrecoverable (paragraph 67 of the report).

## 14. TUSTIN ESTATE PHASE 2 COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER

### RESOLVED:

1. That the following be noted:
  - a) (i) that initial demolition notices (pursuant to Schedule 5A Housing Act 1985) were served (as authorised by the 13 July 2021 cabinet meeting) on qualifying tenants suspending the council's duty to complete any associated right to buy (RTB) applications and (ii) that such initial demolition notices will currently cease to be in force on 30 April 2025.
  - b) the current position in relation to the delivery of 295 new homes at phase 2 of the Tustin Estate redevelopment:
    - A development partnership with BY Development Ltd (trading as Linkcity) to deliver the estate redevelopment, along with the financial plan to deliver the scheme, was agreed by cabinet in October 2022
    - The council appointed BY Development Ltd (trading as Linkcity) to bring forward the phased rebuilding of the Tustin Estate under a development agreement dated 8 November 2022
    - A planning application for phase 2 has been submitted in August 2024, with an expected target date for planning permission in January 2025
    - The council has successfully acquired 13 leaseholder interests in Heversham House
    - Only 15 leaseholder interests remain outstanding in Heversham House;
    - The council is pursuing a negotiated settlement with all remaining leaseholders situated within Heversham House with the intention to acquire these remaining interests by agreement without the need for the council to use its compulsory purchase powers. Cabinet notes that the council may need to use its compulsory purchase powers to acquire outstanding land and interests in the absence of a negotiated settlement to acquire such and
    - The council is offering to rehouse all resident leaseholders who want to stay on the rebuilt Tustin Estate, a new leasehold home on a shared ownership or shared equity loan basis in phase 1 or 2. Phase 1 is anticipated to complete in April 2025.

2. That it be agreed in principle, to use compulsory purchase powers under Section 226(1)(a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (“the 1990 Act”) and section 13 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 for the acquisition of all land and interests (which are not already owned by the council) within the area of land shown for identification purposes edged black and bold on the plan at Appendix 2 of the report, for the purposes of facilitating the redevelopment, development and improvement of the land and securing the delivery of 295 new homes on the site in line with the planning application for phase 2 (“the Scheme”) thereby securing the continued redevelopment of the Tustin Estate subject to a formal resolution to make a compulsory purchase order (CPO) at a later date.
3. That it be noted that a further report will be prepared and submitted to cabinet at a later date (if required) seeking cabinet’s formal resolution to make a CPO.
4. That the director of planning and growth, in consultation with the managing director of Southwark Construction, be authorised on behalf of the council to:
  - Acquire for planning purposes all land and interests (which are not already owned by the council) within the area of land shown for identification purposes edged black and bold on the plan at Appendix 2 of the report and wider masterplan area as may be necessary to facilitate the scheme by agreement, including entering into negotiations with any third parties for the acquisition of the land interests and/or for new rights over their land (as appropriate), and the payment of compensation
  - Make any minor additions, deletions, or amendments to the extent of the land as shown on the plan at Appendix 2 of the report should the need arise, to include all land and interests required to facilitate the construction, maintenance, and use of the scheme; and
  - Appoint and/or retain such external professional advisors and consultants as are necessary to assist the council in facilitating the scheme, including in the promotion of any potential CPO and the settlement of any compensation claims.
5. That the following be approved:
  - To apply to the Secretary of State for consent to (i) extend the initial demolition notices issued by the council dated 28 October 2021 in respect of the Tustin Estate and (ii) issue further initial demolition notices (under Schedule 5A of the Housing Act 1985) in respect the Tustin Estate

- The service of further initial demolition notices under Schedule 5A Housing Act 1985 (subject to receipt of the Secretary of State's consent) in order to suspend the council's duty to complete right to buy applications in relation to qualifying tenants from exercising their right to buy their homes for a period of up to 7 years.

6. That the following be approved:

- To apply to the Secretary of State for redevelopment status in order to rely on Ground 10A of the Housing Act 1985 (in respect of any secure tenants).

**15. GATEWAY 1 HOUSING – PROCUREMENT SUPPORT AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT SYSTEM - DEFERRED**

This item was deferred.

**16. MOTIONS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL ASSEMBLY**

**RESOLVED:**

That the motion referred from council assembly as a recommendation to cabinet, set out below be agreed.

**Renewing our borough: a strategy for building the homes and infrastructure we need**

1. Council Assembly believes that:
  - a. Everyone should be able to afford somewhere they can call home. And that delivering new, high quality social rent, including council homes, and other genuinely affordable homes, should be central to this Council's ambitions and plans;
  - b. That transport and community infrastructure is essential in order to support existing and new residents in our borough, and to help us achieve wider priorities such as tackling the climate emergency, reducing inequality, and creating decent jobs;
  - c. The Council should use every tool available in order to secure delivery of new homes and the infrastructure that residents need;
  - d. The Council will need to work with a wide range of partners in different ways, from voluntary and community groups, public organisations, and developers, in order to further increase the social and affordable housebuilding and infrastructure we need in Southwark.



2. Council Assembly notes that:

- a. Under Conservative and Liberal Democrat governments we have had 14 years of under-investment in housing and infrastructure, and policies such as the Benefit Cap which have driven an increase in homelessness and numbers on the council's housing waiting list;
- b. That under the Conservatives, the UK has experienced the lowest levels of investment of any G7 country;
- c. Building genuinely affordable homes was hugely impacted by the Coalition's decision in 2010 to reduce the affordable housing grant by 60%;
- d. Housebuilding has completely collapsed across London as a result of Conservative economic mismanagement, with a 90% fall in affordable housing starts in 23/24;
- e. The Conservative government turned its back on London, failing to back the Bakerloo Line Extension, and failing to invest properly in the nation's capital despite some of the highest levels of deprivation;
- f. The Labour Party has a plan to get Britain building again with 1.5 million new homes and will build more high-quality, well-designed, and sustainable homes along with the infrastructure our communities need.

3. Council Assembly also notes:

- a. That the Labour administration has a plan for delivering genuinely affordable new homes in Southwark. That in 2023-24, 550 social rent homes were completed in Southwark, the highest number in London, and that last year we granted planning permission for a further 794 social rent homes in Southwark;
- b. That the Old Kent Road opportunity area in particular is delivering new homes at a pace, achieving over 50% affordable homes on sites which are completed or on site to date;
- c. That Southwark is building more council homes than any other council in the country, with 3,000 new council homes either completed or currently on site;
- d. That our Estate Renewal programmes on the Aylesbury, Tustin and Ledbury Estates are driven by the need for good quality homes for our residents which are sustainable and fit for the future. And that the First Development Site on the Aylesbury Estate is delivering 581 new council homes for local residents;

- e. That whilst the economic recession has affected our ability to deliver new council homes over the last year, the Labour administration has a viable plan to start bringing forward new homes on additional sites, whilst prioritising investment from our Housing Revenue Account (HRA) into existing stock;
  - f. That the Labour administration also has plans to bring forward Keyworker Homes, dedicated homes for older residents, a new nursing home, to expand Housing First, and to facilitate the delivery of Community Land Trusts in Southwark.
4. In addition, Council Assembly notes:
- a. That this Labour administration is among other things delivering:
    - i. Over £70m of investment via Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (SCIL) into the Elephant & Castle tube upgrade;
    - ii. Additional investment via SCIL into wider station improvements, including at Elephant & Castle Overground Station and Peckham Rye;
    - iii. Significant investment into preparatory work for the Bakerloo Line Extension, and spearheading the Back the Bakerloo campaign with other London Councils;
    - iv. Investment in improvements to our streets including more cycle storage and new pedestrian crossings via our Streets for People strategy;
    - v. A new leisure centre at Canada Water, whilst also opening up Greenland Dock for supervised swimming this summer;
    - vi. New libraries across Southwark including the new Una Marson library on the Aylesbury Estate;
    - vii. Plans for new integrated Health Hubs across the borough including on the Aylesbury, at Canada Water and at Elephant & Castle;
    - viii. A refurbished Walworth Town Hall, following the devastating fire in 2013 with new workspace and community space;
    - ix. Plans for a new LGBTQ+ Cultural Centre as part of the Native Land development at Bankside;
    - x. Innovative community partnership projects with groups like Livesey Exchange and Kingswood Arts;

- xi. A new home for our Southwark Young Advisers coming soon at 231 Old Kent Road;
  - xii. A new home for the Southwark Pensioners' Centre, supported through SCIL;
  - xiii. The extension of SELCHP to reduce our carbon emissions and connect more homes and organisations to this low-carbon source of heating and hot water;
  - xiv. Improved, and new, parks through development, such as the Bramcote Park project and 12 acres of new open space at Canada Water.
- b. That this Labour administration set up the Southwark Land Commission, the first of its kind in London, to look at how we could free up more public land for public good.
  - c. That through development in Southwark, we have not only secured tens of millions of pounds in investment through Community Infrastructure Levy but have also benefited from additional council tax and business rates receipts which support our General Fund and keep our frontline services going.
5. Council Assembly therefore resolves to support the council in:
- a. Bringing forward the next phase of its New Homes Programme, including the delivery of new council homes, keyworker homes, a new nursing home, and backing local people to build genuinely affordable homes via a Community Land Trust pilot scheme;
  - b. Continuing to maximise the delivery of social rent homes through development in accordance with planning policy and always pushing developers to go further;
  - c. Responding to what residents say they need and setting out further plans for capital investment in the borough; and to support its bids to other funders such as TfL and the department for transport (DfT);
  - d. Campaigning for the Bakerloo Line Extension, and in discussions with the Mayor of London about implementing the 'Bakerloop' bus;
  - e. Responding to the Southwark Land Commission including through the establishment of a Southwark Land Partnership, development of 'affordable workspace hubs', and identification of 'pilot sites' to test new models of community participation;

- f. Setting out the process this autumn for a further round of local CIL allocations, whilst preparing the way for a new framework designed to maximise impact and reduce inequality;
- g. Working with the new government to ensure that policies are fit for purpose and that the sustainable Future of Council Housing is especially high on its agenda.

### **Declaring a Housing Emergency**

That the motion referred from council assembly as a recommendation to cabinet, set out below be agreed.

1. Council Assembly notes:
  - a. Everyone should have a home they can afford, where they feel comfortable and safe. This is an essential foundation for a good life. Yet across our country we face a housing emergency, with over a quarter of a million people homeless, and one and a half million more living in overcrowded homes. In London alone, 1 in 23 children are living in temporary accommodation, more than one in every classroom.
  - b. This national emergency is one of the greatest challenges for our community. In Southwark, there are now 3,920 households in our borough living in temporary accommodation, many more living in overcrowded homes and over 17,000 households on our council housing waiting list. This emergency is not new and has been clear to the people of Southwark for well over a decade.
2. Council Assembly further notes:
  - a. This crisis is not inevitable. The last Labour government halved homelessness (reducing the number of households living in temporary accommodation from 101,300 to 50,400) and reduced rough sleeping by two thirds, whilst also doubling the proportion of social homes that met the decent homes standard.
  - b. In contrast, under the last fourteen years of Conservative and Liberal Democrat governments, street homelessness has risen by 169% and the number of households living in temporary accommodation is up 260%. With policies imposed by the Conservative and Liberal Democrat parties in government deepening the crisis including their Bedroom Tax; changing the national definition of an affordable home to include homes at rents that are unaffordable to people on even average incomes; reducing the Affordable Housing Grant by 60 per cent in 2010; increasing the Right to Buy Discount so thousands more council homes have been lost; capping benefits for housing costs at rates below the cost of even the cheapest private rented homes in our borough; and

rolling out Help to Buy which has pushed house prices up even higher and benefited big developers most. Furthermore, in 2022 under Liz Truss the Conservative Party's mini budget crashed the economy, sending mortgages and private rents spiralling, and causing house building across our country to grind to a halt.

3. Council Assembly further notes:

- a. That for over a decade our borough has been leading the way in tackling the housing emergency, and that this has been the first priority of the council since 2010.
- b. Southwark Council is the largest builder of new council homes in the country with over 3,000 built or on site being built which is more than at any time since the 1970s. Southwark has:
  - i. secured more social rent homes than any other borough through the planning system since 2016.
  - ii. led the way in tackling rough sleeping, with over 130 people supported into long term homes.
  - iii. been a national trailblazer for homelessness prevention.
  - iv. some of the most robust affordable housing planning policies in the country, with over a third of homes given planning permission since 2020 being affordable ones and over a quarter being social rent.
- c. And Southwark is delivering the equivalent of a new town on the Old Kent Road, with half the homes given planning consent being affordable ones.

4. Council Assembly further notes and welcomes:

- a. The publication of the interim report produced by England's 20 largest council landlords focused on five solutions for the new Government to secure the future of England's council housing.
- b. Led by Southwark Council, the cross-party group of council landlords warns that England's council housing system is broken and its future in danger. The interim report finds that the current financial model and erratic national policy changes under recent Conservative and Liberal Democrat governments have squeezed councils' budgets and sent costs soaring.
- c. That unless action is taken nationally, council landlords across the country with struggle to maintain their existing homes to the standards that our residents deserve let alone build the new council homes our communities need.

- d. The recommendations in the report include urgent action to restore lost income and unlock the capacity of councils to work with the Labour Government to deliver its commitments for new council homes across the country.
  - e. The five solutions set out detailed and practical recommendations to the new government:
    - A new fair and sustainable HRA model – including an urgent £644 million one-off rescue injection, and long-term, certain rent and debt agreements
    - Reforms to unsustainable Right to Buy policies
    - Removing red tape on existing funding
    - A new, long-term Green & Decent Homes Programme
    - Urgent action to restart stalled building projects, avoiding the loss of construction sector capacity and a market downturn.
5. Council Assembly also welcomes:
- a. A new Labour Government which, unlike governments over the last fourteen years, has put tackling the housing crisis centre stage, including commitments to deliver 1.5 million new homes, deliver the biggest increase in social and affordable housing in a generation, review the use of low quality Green Belt, strengthen planning obligations to ensure new developments provide more affordable homes, prioritise the building of new social rented homes and review the increased right-to-buy discounts and increase protections on newly-built social housing
  - b. That within a week of the general election, the Labour Government has already taken action including announcing the restoration of mandatory housing targets, the reform of the National Planning Policy Framework and established a new taskforce to accelerate stalled housing sites, all to deliver much needed new homes.
6. Council Assembly resolves:
- a. To support the new Labour Government in its ambitious plans to deliver much needed new homes, whilst always ensuring these are truly affordable for our residents.
  - b. To work with the Government's newly established taskforce and the Mayor of London to unlock and increase the pace of delivery of new council, social rent and intermediate homes across the borough.
  - c. To ask Cabinet to bring forward and agree plans to:
    - i. Deliver the next phase of new council homes in Southwark, going beyond the 3,000 already completed or on site

- ii. Deliver affordable key worker homes for nurses, social workers, teachers and other essential workers in our borough
  - iii. Establish community land trusts in Southwark, providing affordable homes to buy in perpetuity for people on lower incomes
  - iv. Continue to deliver more homes through the planning system, including more social rent and affordable homes
  - v. Invest over £200 million over the next two years in improving the quality of council homes in our borough
  - vi. Continue to improve the council's repairs service, building on the progress over the last few years, working with the council's resident led repairs improvement board
  - vii. Upgrade the councils heat networks so they are more reliable, affordable and sustainable, including expanding SELCHP to serve more council estates
  - viii. Reduce rough sleeping in our borough
  - ix. Further enhance the council's already strong affordable housing policies with thorough new Supplementary Planning guidance on affordable housing
  - x. Work with partners in the borough including TfL, the NHS and faith organisations to identify land partnerships that can deliver more affordable homes
  - xi. Enhance support for council tenants wishing to down size and free up a large home for a family in need.
  - xii. Continue to extend the licencing of private rented homes in Southwark and take robust action against rogue landlords.
- d. To continue to work in collaboration and on a cross party basis with the largest council landlords in England to make the case to Government for the reforms which will make our council homes safe, healthy, modern and sustainable and allow Southwark Council to deliver the thousands more council homes our borough needs.

### **Debate not Hate**

1. Southwark council notes that:
  - a. The intimidation and abuse of councillors, in person or otherwise, undermines democracy; preventing elected members from representing the communities they serve, deterring individuals from standing for election, and undermining public life in democratic processes.
  - b. This council notes that increasing levels of toxicity in public and political discourse is having a detrimental impact on local democracy and that prevention, support and responses to abuse and intimidation of local politicians must improve to ensure councillors feel safe and able to continue representing their residents.

2. Southwark council therefore commits to:
  - a. Challenging the normalisation of abuse against councillors and officers and uphold exemplary standards of public and political debate in all it does.
  - b. Signing up to the LGA's Debate Not Hate campaign. The campaign aims to raise public awareness of the role of councillors in local communities, encourage healthy debate and improve the response to and support those in public life facing abuse and intimidation.
3. Southwark council further commits to:
  - a. Writing to the local Members of Parliament to ask them to support the campaign.
  - b. Write to the Government to ask them to work with the LGA to develop and implement a plan to address abuse and intimidation of all politicians including councillors.
  - c. Ensuring the council has a clear reporting mechanism, which councillors can use to monitor and record incidents of harassment and abuse of councillors and officers.
  - d. Regularly review the support available to councillors in relation to abuse and intimidation and councillor safety.
  - e. Work with the local police to ensure there is a clear and joined-up mechanism for reporting threats and other concerns about the safety of councillors and their families and discuss the need to take a preventative approach that accounts for the specific risks that councillors face, as they do with other high-risk individuals, like MPs
  - f. Take a zero-tolerance approach to abuse of councillors and officers.

### **Ending the Lower Road chaos**

That the motion referred from council assembly as a recommendation to cabinet, set out below be agreed.

1. Council Assembly notes:
  - a. That improving active travel infrastructure in Southwark is essential for



combatting the climate emergency and increasing healthy transport options, with segregated cycle lanes being a key part of promoting safe cycling in our borough, helping to reduce our emissions, encourage a healthy and active population, and improve air quality

- b. That Rotherhithe has the most constrained road network in the borough: boxed in by the river and with lots of traffic going through to use the tunnel
  - c. There is a huge amount of development ongoing in the Rotherhithe area which is adding stress to the road network: the Canada water master plan, the reprovision of the bus station, and works on the Blackwall tunnel
  - d. When the Lower Road cycle lane opened, residents, businesses, the local Labour MP and the Rotherhithe Labour councillors raised a number of issues, including regarding safety
  - e. That a public meeting was convened where the council and Transport for London listened to these concerns, and put forward a number of mitigating measures including re-marking all parking and loading restriction road markings, amending the phasing of the traffic lights to give as much “green time” to Lower Road southbound traffic as feasible, and painting the cycle track blue to provide a visual cue to all road users to improve safety
  - f. That the council has further committed to a subsequent meeting in the autumn to assess the impact of these measures and to consider further ones as necessary.
2. Council Assembly resolves that:
- a. The Cabinet Member for Clean Air, Streets and Waste should continue to work closely with local Labour councillors in Rotherhithe, the local Labour Member of Parliament, local residents, businesses, alongside council officers and representatives from TfL to monitor the situation and find further solutions as necessary
  - b. The Cabinet Member for Clean Air, Streets and Waste should restate the invitation for local Liberal Democrat councillors to put forward their ideas to this collaborative process.

**17. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2024-25 - SOUTHWARK AND LAMBETH ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION COMMITTEE (DEPUTY) POSITION**

**RESOLVED:**

That Raymond Whitaker be appointed to the vacancy that has arisen for the council's deputy representative to serve on Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Excavation Committee for the 2024-25 municipal year.

**EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in category 3 of paragraph 10.4 of the access to information procedure rules of the Southwark Constitution.

The following is a summary of the decisions taken in the closed part of the meeting.

**18. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the chair.

**19. GATEWAY 1 HOUSING – PROCUREMENT SUPPORT AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

This item was deferred.

The meeting ended at 2.45pm.

**CHAIR:**

**DATED:**

**DEADLINE FOR NOTIFICATION OF CALL-IN UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES IS MIDNIGHT, TUESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2024.**

**THE ABOVE DECISIONS WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTABLE UNTIL AFTER THAT DATE. SHOULD A DECISION OF THE CABINET BE CALLED-IN FOR SCRUTINY, THEN THE RELEVANT DECISION WILL BE HELD IN ABEYANCE PENDING THE OUTCOME OF SCRUTINY CONSIDERATION.**