

Council Assembly (Ordinary meeting)

MINUTES of the Council Assembly (Ordinary meeting; Theme: Health and Wellbeing in Southwark) held on Wednesday 12 July 2023 at 7.00 pm at Council Offices, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor for 2023-24, Councillor Michael Situ Councillor Michael Situ (Chair)

Councillor Suzanne Abachor
Councillor Evelyn Akoto
Councillor Jasmine Ali
Councillor Naima Ali
Councillor John Batteson
Councillor Rachel Bentley
Councillor Cassandra Brown
Councillor Maggie Browning
Councillor Victor Chamberlain
Councillor Stephanie Cryan
Councillor Sam Dalton
Councillor Helen Dennis
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE
Councillor Esme Dobson
Councillor Gavin Edwards
Councillor Sabina Emmanuel
Councillor Sam Foster
Councillor Renata Hamvas
Councillor Barrie Hargrove
Councillor Jon Hartley
Councillor Youcef Hassaine
Councillor Emily Hickson
Councillor Laura Johnson
Councillor Nick Johnson
Councillor Sarah King

Councillor Sunny Lambe
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor James McAsh
Councillor Darren Merrill
Councillor Victoria Mills
Councillor Portia Mwangangye
Councillor Graham Neale
Councillor Margy Newens
Councillor Jason Ochere
Councillor Leo Pollak
Councillor Sandra Rhule
Councillor Bethan Roberts
Councillor Catherine Rose
Councillor Jane Salmon
Councillor Martin Seaton
Councillor Andy Simmons
Councillor Charlie Smith
Councillor Cleo Soanes
Councillor Chloe Tomlinson
Councillor Joseph Vambe
Councillor Irina Von Wiese
Councillor David Watson
Councillor Kath Whittam
Councillor Kieron Williams
Councillor Ian Wingfield

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ellie Cumbo, Natasha Ennin, Ketzia Harper, Esme Hicks (on maternity leave), Adam Hook, Richard Leeming, Maria Linforth-Hall, Hamish McCallum, Kimberly McIntosh, Reggie Popoola and Emily Tester.

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Suzanne Abachor.

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

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Youcef Hassaine following his election as councillor for Newington ward.

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

At this point, the programme motion was agreed:

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

Time	Business
19:00 – 19:10	1. Preliminary business and announcements
19:10 – 19:25	2.2 Public questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 16 public questions, with supplemental questions to be heard for up to 15 minutes
19:25 – 20:25 (20 minutes – 4 minutes' speech) (7 minutes) (5 minutes) (25 minutes) (3 minutes)	Themed debate 3.1 Community Evidence <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Community Health Ambassadors Network2. Rebecca Efeotor, Managing Director of Supreme Care Services Limited3. Professor Kevin Fenton CBE, London Regional Director at Office for Health Improvement and Disparities 3.2 Motion on the Theme <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Councillor Evelyn Akoto, Health and Wellbeing2. Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall, opposition spokesperson3. Themed debate open to all other councillors4. Cabinet member's right of reply to the debate

20:25 – 20:40 (4 minutes' speech, question to the cabinet; no questions from members)	4. Deputation requests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirby Estate <i>Tenants</i> and Residents Associations – Damp and Mould • Nunhead Residents - Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ) in the Nunhead and Queen's Road and Peckham Rye Wards • Sonay Ozkutayli - Mint Street Park use as open community space
20:40 – 21:15 (5 minutes) (15 minutes) (15 minutes)	5.1 Members' Question Time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late questions • Members' questions to the leader • Members' questions to the cabinet
21:15 – 22:00	5.2 Motions
	Motion 1 – Support the #LiftTheBan Campaign
	Motion 2 – Clean Up Southwark
	Motion 3 – Tackling Damp and Mould
22:00*	6. Reports
	6.1 Treasury Management – Outturn 2022-23
	6.2 New Civic Award – Climate Champion Award
	6.3 Waiver of six month councillor attendance rule – Section 85 of Local Government Act 1972

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

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

That the meeting be conducted as follows:

Item 3 - Themed debate

Community Evidence Submissions

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

- **Professor Siobhan Gregory**, Clinical Quality Director- London, Acute Workstream Lead- Dementia Clinical Network
 - **To note** that Professor Gregory has withdrawn her submission for community evidence due to work commitments.
- **Community Health Ambassadors Network**
- **Rebecca Efeotor**, Managing Director of Supreme Care Services Limited
- **Professor Kevin Fenton CBE**, London Regional Director at Office for Health Improvement and Disparities

(Four minutes to speak)

Format

A four minute presentation from the groups.

3.1 Motion on the theme

To agree an amended themed motion:

1. f. **Insert** “crisis” after “NHS”

1. h. **Delete** “establish” and insert “established”

To note that Cllr Rachel Bentley will be speaking on behalf of Cllr Maria Linforth-Hall in responding to the cabinet member in the themed debate.

Themed debate

To run as listed in the timings above.

Item 4 – Deputations

That the meeting agree to hear deputations from:

- Kirby Estate *Tenants* and Residents Associations – Damp and Mould
- Nunhead Residents - Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ) in the Nunhead and Queen's Road and Peckham Rye Wards
- Sonay Ozkutayli - Mint Street Park use as open community space

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

Item 5.2 General motions:

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

1.4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of interest.

1.5 MINUTES

The minutes of the annual meeting of council assembly held on 20 May 2023 were approved as a correct record.

2. ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

2.1 PETITIONS

There were no petitions.

2.2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

(See pages 1-3 of supplemental agenda 1 and additional papers circulated at the meeting)

There were 16 question from the public, the answers to which had been circulated before the meeting. The public questioners asked four supplemental questions.

3. THEMED DEBATE

At the opening of the themed debate, Councillor Kieron Williams, the leader of the council, thanked the NHS for 75 years of service and support.

3.1 COMMUNITY EVIDENCE

The meeting agreed to receive submissions from the following:

Professor Siobhan Gregory, Clinical Quality Director, NHS London, Acute Workstream Lead - Dementia Clinical Network

The representative was unable to attend the meeting due to work commitments in the NHS.

Community Health Ambassadors Network

The representative spoke to the meeting for four minutes. The mayor thanked the representative.

Rebecca Efeotor, Managing Director of Supreme Care Services Limited

The representative spoke to the meeting for four minutes. The mayor thanked the representative.

Professor Kevin Fenton CBE, London Regional Director at Office for Health Improvement and Disparities

The representative spoke to the meeting for four minutes. The mayor thanked the representative.

Councillor Kieron Williams on behalf of council thanked Professor Fenton for the work he'd done with Southwark and across London in helping leading a strong response to the pandemic.

3.2 MOTION ON THE THEME

The meeting noted the amendment to the themed motion via the programme motion.

Councillor Evelyn Akoto, cabinet member for health and wellbeing, presented the motion in the themed debate.

Councillor Rachel Bentley spoke on behalf of Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall, the opposition spokesperson, and responded to the motion and proposed Amendment A.

Following debate (Councillors Gavin Edwards, Jasmine Ali, Victor Chamberlain, Sam Dalton, Victoria Mills, Irina Von Weise, Esme Dobson, Catherine Rose and Kieron Williams) Councillor Evelyn Akoto responded to the debate.

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

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

RESOLVED:

Health and wellbeing in Southwark

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 crisis 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 established 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.

4. DEPUTATIONS

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

Kirby Estate Tenants' and Residents' Association

The group's representatives spoke to the meeting for four minutes and thereafter asked a question of the cabinet member for council homes.

Nunhead residents

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

Sonay Ozkutayli

The group's representatives spoke to the meeting for four minutes and thereafter asked a question of the cabinet member for neighbourhoods, leisure and parks.

5. ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS

5.1 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

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

There were 26 members' questions, the written responses to which were circulated before the meeting. There were 13 supplemental questions.

5.2 MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Motion 1: Support the #LiftTheBan Campaign

This motion was considered prior to the guillotine having fallen.

Councillor Naima Ali moved the motion. Councillor Irina von Wiese seconded the motion.

There were no amendments to the motion.

After debate, (Councillors Jasmine Ali, Portia Mwangangye, Nick Johnson, and Barrie Hargrove) the substantive motion was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

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

1. Council assembly notes 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.

Motion 2: A Clean Southwark

This motion was considered prior to the guillotine having fallen.

Councillor Rachel Bentley moved the motion. Councillor David Watson seconded the motion.

There was one amendment to the motion. The guillotine fell before Amendment B was moved.

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

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

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

1. Council Assembly notes:
 - a. That fly-tipping and litter have increased across the country after the pandemic, and nationally costs councils millions to address.
 - b. Waste on the streets causes significant environmental and health hazards, and worsens the aesthetics of where we live.
 - c. Whilst changes in national legislation would help to tackle the issue, there is room for councils to act within the current framework.
2. Council Assembly notes the Council's record on fly-tipping:
 - a. The Council removed flytipping within 24 hours in 98.6% of cases in 2021/22, beating the target of 98%.
 - b. According to the national Flycapture database, Southwark has the

fewest incidents of flytipping reported by the public of all London boroughs who provided figures.

- c. 81% of flytipping collected is done so proactively, without the public even needing to report it.
 - d. It is notoriously difficult to find evidence for flytipping. Nonetheless, the Council's CCTV Team currently has four active cameras deployed to support enforcement activity in areas of concern for fly tipping, and since April the CCTV team have provided the Environmental Enforcement Team with 46 example of evidence.
 - e. Despite a tough financial climate, the council has not removed any funding from flytipping and instead invested £500k into improving street cleanliness in 2022/23. This includes additional resources for graffiti removal, fly-tip removal and enforcement, and litter bins to increase recycling from street cleaning.
3. Council Assembly notes the Council's record on litter and street cleaning:
- a) The resources deployed for cleaning of high profile locations such as town centres has been maintained in 2022/23 therefore no reduction in frequency.
 - b) The Council provides litter picking on residential roads between twice and six times per week, based on need. This will help maintain acceptable levels of cleanliness for litter on residential roads.
 - c) The most recent figures show the council meeting its targets for both littering and street detritus.
4. Council Assembly notes the Council's record on pest control:
- a. Reporting figures detail the total number of visits, not infestations, and for all rodent infestations not just rats
 - b. Almost 100% of pest related works involve a treatment programme which requires multiple visits to an individual property for a single infestation
 - c. All council tenants receive a free service for the most common pests including rat treatments
 - d. Those residents who pay for our service and are in receipt of benefits or state pension receive a 50% reduction in costs.
 - e. The council contracts the service to the London Borough of Croydon
5. This Council resolves to:

- a. Sustain the cross council approach of services working collaboratively to resolve the issue of fly-tip at hotspot locations. These services include Waste Management, Cleaning, Environmental Enforcement, Housing, CCTV and Markets.
- b. Maintain the Council's high standards of removing fly tipping within 24 hours and continue to aspire to beat the target of 98%.
- c. Keep up the council record of keeping Southwark streets clean, town centres and residential roads clean, with regular sweeping as well as targeted cleaning.
- d. Continue to offer all council tenants receive a free service for the most common pests including rat treatments and maintain the high standard of pest control that all residents receive from the council.
- e. Uphold the work of the enforcement team dealing with commercial waste compliance and fly-tipping and continue to provide a responsive service to our residents.
- f. Use the additional funding available in 2023/24 to address fly-tipping to enhance the fly-tipping removal service as well as to increase the level of enforcement action taken against those who are responsible for fly-tipping.

Motion 3: Tackling Damp and Mould

This motion was considered after the guillotine had fallen.

There was one amendment to the motion.

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

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

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

1. Council assembly notes that:
 - a. 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. Southwark Council recognises the importance of addressing the

problems damp and mould can cause and the need for a robust system and processes, both proactive and reactive, to ensure that measures are in place to tackle and reduce issues surrounding condensation in its properties.

- d. In October 2021 the Housing Ombudsman Spotlight Report was published, this made 26 recommendations for improvements across the industry. The key items for inclusion were:
 - i. Taking a zero tolerance approach to interventions with mould; meaning to take all reasonable measures to help resolve damp
 - ii. Avoid blaming the resident – The Ombudsman felt landlords were too quick to lay the blame of the problem with residents use of the property
 - iii. It's not lifestyle – The Ombudsman case studies highlighted a number of cases had underlying issues which were not identified or addressed. The council responded by reviewing the damp and mould strategy and implementing a new approach.
- e. Since 2022 the council has:
 - i. Delivered a Major works scheme to address the damp mould and piloted the use of smart home technology on Kingswood Estate
 - ii. Consulted with residents at Area Forums and set up a resident online workshop
 - iii. Implemented a new policy which sets out how Southwark Council will respond and manage damp, mould and condensation, as well as its proactive approach to identify and remediate potential causes of future damp and mould
 - iv. Created a new Damp & Mould team in November 2022 within the repairs function who take ownership of the end to end process of a resident making an enquiry through to completion and follow-up of the works
- f. The Council has also introduced enhanced IT and additional ways a resident can contact the service. This includes:
 - i. Providing a dedicated phone number with direct access to the Damp & Mould team
 - ii. A dedicated email contact, again, direct to the team
 - iii. A new online reporting form with the ability to upload pictures and videos
 - iv. Targeted action days on estates
 - v. Posters with QR codes on display within our estates informing residents on how to report D&M
 - vi. Updated web-site with key information

- vii. Produced a new resident facing damp pack brochure
 - g. Triaging for damp and mould works are now applied. An urgent priority, which is based on residents' vulnerability and severity of hazards & risks. Routine damp and mould cases are raised on a separate priority. The dedicated team communicate with the resident, checking that they are happy at the end of the process and returning if needed for further advice or works.
 - h. As part of our initial inspection process, our trained inspectors provide guidance and a damp pack to all residents when on site. Every resident receives a Hygrometer to measures the humidity and water vapour in the air, which helps identify factors that cause damp and mould.
 - i. The Damp & Mould team have been selected on the basis of their experience of damp and across the repairs spectrum, are trained in HHSRS (housing health and safety rating system), and can flag where a property is category one and doesn't meet decent home standard
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. Ensure that keeping people safe in their homes remains the number one priority for our housing teams.
 - b. Continue to use a data-led approach, with a Power BI dashboard which allowing us to accelerate our response to damp and mould. This allows the council to pull together and automate the reporting of data that is held on a separate database.
 - c. Ensure that this data is available to Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Housing Scrutiny Commission and the Cabinet.
 - d. Use newly created heat maps to identify repeat visits and flag blocks which could have recurring environmental, mechanical or structural issues

- e. Build on the success of the repairs action day, by creating a calendar for future repair action days, to the benefit of residents in all wards.
- f. Continue to insure that an inspector attends every report of damp within 20 days, taking the resident through a booklet on managing damp in the home and providing each resident with a hygrometer as well as inspecting for airflow, leaks or any other issues that may be causing damp.
- g. Call on the Government to support local authorities in tackling damp and mould by providing the necessary extra resources, ensuring the council continue to keep people safe in their homes.
- h. Continue enforcement on private landlords, who do not tackle or take action to solve damp and mould issues.
- i. Offer advice and support residents raising a complaint where housing associations are failing to tackle damp and mould, as well as signposting residents on how to report them to the Ombudsman if necessary.
- j. Remain committed to working with government, the GLA and other partners to ensure we continue to eradicate damp and mould across our council homes, and work with the GLA on the development of any 'gold standard'.

6. REPORT(S) FOR DECISION

6.1 TREASURY MANAGEMENT - OUTTURN 2022-23

After debate, (Councillor Stephanie Cryan) the recommendations were put to the vote and declared Carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That Council Assembly noted 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.*

6.2 NEW CIVIC AWARD - CLIMATE CHAMPION AWARD

After debate, (Councillor James McAsh) the recommendations were put to the vote and declared Carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That Council Assembly noted the report from the Constitutional Steering Panel and agreed to establish a Climate Champion Award as part of the council's civic awards programme.
2. That Council Assembly asked officers to further develop nomination and award criteria and that this is considered by the audit, governance and standards committee.

6.3 WAIVER OF SIX MONTH COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE RULE - SECTION 85 OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

The recommendations were put to the vote and declared Carried.

RESOLVED:

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

7. AMENDMENTS

The amendments are set out in supplemental agenda 1.

The meeting closed at 10.15 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED:

