

Item No. 8.	Classification: Open	Date: 31 May 2011	Meeting Name: Cabinet
Report title:		Deputation Request – The Friends of Southwark Park	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		Users of Southwark Park	
From:		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the cabinet consider whether to hear a deputation from The Friends of Southwark Park in respect of a proposal by UK Power Networks to use Southwark Park as their main works compound for power supply works to the City of London.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. When considering whether to hear the deputation request, cabinet can decide
 - To receive the deputation at this meeting or a future meeting; or
 - That the deputation not be received; or
 - To refer the deputation to the most appropriate committee/sub-committee.
3. A deputation shall consist of no more than six people, including its spokesperson. Only one member of the deputation shall be allowed to address the meeting for no longer than 5 minutes. After this time members may ask questions of the deputation for up to 5 minutes. At the conclusion of the questions, the deputation will be shown to the public area where they may listen to the remainder of the open section of the meeting.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

4. A deputation request has been received from The Friends of Southwark Park in respect of a proposal by UK Power Networks company to use Southwark Park as their main works compound to dig a deep tunnel for electric cables to improve power supply to the City of London. The Friends of Southwark Park strongly oppose the plan as they believe it will:
 - Stop the public using a large area within the park between the China Hall entrance and Hawkstone Road
 - Turn the southern end of the park into an eyesore, with green space, flowers and trees giving way to hoardings, cranes, compressors, excavating machines and staff offices
 - Disrupt the landscape and wildlife and increase noise and nuisance for park users and nearby residents

- Add to traffic congestion in the area with over 20 lorries a day taking away the spoil from the tunnel
- Lead to loss of public land because UK Power Networks will have access rights to their tunnel forever
- Undermine all of the good work carried out over the last ten years to improve the park.

REASONS FOR URGENCY

5. The issues the deputation wishes to raise are connected to an imminent proposal from UK Power Networks concerning the use of Southwark Park.

REASONS FOR LATENESS

6. Confirmation that the deputation request would be considered at the special cabinet meeting was received after the agenda despatch. It was therefore not possible to prepare and finalise this report in time for the circulation with the main agenda.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Correspondence from the deputation	160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Everton Roberts 020 7525 7221 / Paula Thornton 020 7525 4395

APPENDICES

Appendix	Title
None	

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
Report Author	Everton Roberts, Constitutional Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	31 May 2011	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional/Community Council/Scrutiny Team	31 May 2011	