

Item No. 3.3	Classification: Open	Date: 28 March 2012	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Motions on the Theme: Older People	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

During the themed debate, council assembly may debate motions. Members' motions on the theme will use present principles to allow sufficient political balance and for political groups to hold cabinet to account (maximum 30 minutes).¹

Members are limited to moving one motion and seconding one motion in the themed section of the meeting.

All motions shall be relevant to the topic under discussion and shall be conducted under the existing rules for members' motions. Normal deadlines shall apply for the submission of members' motions.

The order in which motions are debated and timings shall be determined by the Mayor.²

1. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL SITU** (Seconded by Councillor Kevin Ahern)

1. Council assembly acknowledges that:
 - 10 million people in the UK are over the age of 65 and this will rise to 15.5 million by 2035
 - 3 million are over the age of 80 and this is set to double in 20 years time.
2. Council assembly welcomes and celebrates the fact that we are all living longer and pays tribute to the amazing contribution older people make to Southwark's diverse communities, economy and society as a whole.
3. Council assembly calls on members to recognise this contribution and discuss how more can be made of the opportunities that longer lives bring with particular focus on:
 - How the council can recognise the role that people in later life often play in their communities, through volunteering, caring and by playing an active role in neighbourhood life
 - How people in Southwark can take advantage of the wide variety of sporting, educational and social activities available as they get older

¹ Council assembly procedure rule 2.7 (3)

² Council assembly procedure rule 2.7 (9) and (10)

- How the council can promote the greater role that more active grandparents play in their families' lives
 - How the council can work with the NHS and other partners to give older people more choice in the services they receive, enabling them to live healthy lives and stay in their own homes and communities for longer.
4. Council assembly also recognises the council's important role in caring for older people who require care and support.
 5. Council assembly notes that £1.3 billion has already been cut from local council budgets for older people's social care and believes the council should strive to create an adult care system that helps older people to find the support they need, enabling them to live healthy, independent lives in their own communities and homes, rather than retaining a long-term dependency on council services, whilst also protecting our most vulnerable older residents.
 6. Council assembly also recognises that many of the groups in Southwark that provide services to older people have lost their funding through government cuts and so welcomes the council's "innovation fund" which is enabling local organisations to become more self-sustaining going forward.

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

2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR WILMA NELSON (Seconded by Councillor Poddy Clark)

Fairer pensions for older people in Southwark

1. Council assembly regrets that the Thatcher government removed the link between the state pension and earnings.
2. Council assembly further regrets that the previous Labour government, which included Harriet Harman and Tessa Jowell, failed to re-link pensions with earnings.
3. Council assembly welcomes that, thanks to Liberal Democrats in government, the link between pensions and earnings has been restored,
4. Council assembly further welcomes the guarantee that the state pension will rise by the rate of increase in average pay, the rate of inflation or by £2.50, whichever is the highest, thanks once again by Liberal Democrats in government.

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 on the Themed Debate	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Andrew Weir 020 7525 7222

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer
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