

## **ITEM 17 - MOTIONS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL ASSEMBLY**

### **Appendix 3 - Save Chambers Wharf**

#### **Comments of the Deputy Chief Executive**

Thames Water recently consulted on its preferred route and sites for the tunnel. In its response to Thames Water dated 8 February 2012, Southwark raised significant concerns over the current proposal. The issues raised in the motion are consistent with those identified by the council in its response. In its February letter, Southwark indicated that Thames Water has not demonstrated that the tunnel proposal is the most appropriate means of meeting the requirements of the EU waste water directive. Southwark also strongly objected to the use of Chambers Wharf as a shaft construction site on the grounds that Thames Water has not satisfactorily addressed impacts on the amenities of nearby residents and schools. The council also has significant concerns about the number of anticipated lorry movements and potential impacts on residential amenities, congestion and highway safety.

Serious concerns were raised about the escalating costs of the Thames tunnel and the impact this will have on customers, pushing a significant proportion of Thames Water bill payers into water poverty.

Thames Water expects to submit a development consent order application in autumn 2012 which would be determined by the Major Infrastructure Planning Unit in the Planning Inspectorate or the Secretary of State. Southwark will be invited to make representations as part of that process.