

Item No. 3.3	Classification: Open	Date: 4 July 2012	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Motions on the Theme	
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.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 LEWIS ROBINSON** (Seconded by Councillor Michael Mitchell)

The threat to adult care services in the south of the borough

In 2011 Southwark Council closed Holmhurst day centre, Burbage Road following a consultation exercise with users and carers which explicitly guaranteed maintaining services at nearby Fred Francis House, Lordship Lane. Council assembly notes the intention of the council to renege on that promise within a year of the closure of Holmhurst and demands an adequate full service day centre continues to be provided in the south of the borough for the very vulnerable category of clients, and their carers, affected by these changes.

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

- 2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES** (Seconded by Councillor Denise Capstick)

Health and wellbeing priorities

1. Council assembly recognises and thanks the dedicated health professionals in our borough who work so hard to improve the lives of Southwark residents in our hospitals, GP surgeries and our homes.

¹ Council assembly procedure rule 2.7 (3)

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

2. Council assembly welcomes the increase in life expectancy in the borough, but notes the significant health inequalities which still exist among Southwark residents.
3. Council assembly welcomes the return of responsibility for public health to local government and the formation of Southwark's shadow health and wellbeing board, to finally provide some democratic accountability for health provision in Southwark.
4. Council assembly notes and supports the four work areas that have been identified as priorities for the shadow health and wellbeing board in their first year: prevention or reduction of alcohol-related misuse; coping skills, resilience and mental wellbeing; early intervention and families; healthy weight and exercise.
5. Council assembly also notes that sexual health and drug addiction are major areas of public concern in the borough, which have a disproportionate impact on the health and wellbeing of a significant minority of our residents, and calls on cabinet members and the new shadow board to consider these issues as priority work areas.
6. Council assembly believes that a wider and more diverse board membership leads to more effective, accountable and representative decisions and outcomes. Council assembly therefore calls for the health and wellbeing board to include councillors from all parties and representatives from the voluntary sector.

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

3. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR NEIL COYLE (Seconded by Councillor Mark Williams)

Health in Southwark

1. Council assembly recognises and appreciates the excellent work done by doctors, nurses and other health workers in Southwark.
2. Council assembly notes that from April 2013 the council will have a new duty for public health. Southwark is a borough where there are significant health inequalities, as well as a new legal duty to improve public health; the council will need to work with the new GP-led NHS Clinical Commissioning Group and patient champion group HealthWatch and other strategic partners to reduce health inequality and improve overall public health.
3. While the council welcomes the greater say it will now have in health locally, council assembly believes the Government's Health and Adult Social Care Act has created uncertainty in the NHS at a time when budgets are already tight and regrets that Southwark PCT will be required to hold back £21 million, which could be spent on patient care, to pay for the government's reorganisation.
4. Council assembly believes giving patients' certainty about when they will be treated is fundamentally important to their health and that low waiting times are a benchmark for excellence in the NHS.

5. Council assembly is concerned that the number of people in Southwark waiting more than 18 weeks from referral to treatment has increased by 171% since May 2010 – the largest increase in London.
6. Council assembly believes the government's decision to abolish waiting time targets has led to this increase in Southwark and now means fewer than 90% of Southwark patients are being treated within 18 weeks.
7. Council assembly calls on members to consider these issues and discuss:
 - a) How can the council, the NHS and other partners use our position in the local community as providers of a large number of services to reduce health inequalities?
 - b) What are the best local examples of residents working to improve their own health and wellbeing and that of their communities?
 - c) What can we all do as local councillors to help our constituents improve their own health?

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	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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