

<b>Item No.</b> 5.2	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 4 July 2012	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Motions	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The councillor introducing or “moving” the motion may make a speech directed to the matter under discussion. This may not exceed five minutes<sup>1</sup>.

A second councillor will then be asked by the Mayor to “second” the motion. This may not exceed three minutes without the consent of the Mayor.

The meeting will then debate the issue and any amendments on the motion will be dealt with.

At the end of the debate the mover of the motion may make a concluding speech, known as a “right of reply”. If an amendment is carried, the mover of the amendment shall hold the right of reply to any subsequent amendments and, if no further amendments are carried, at the conclusion of the debate on the substantive motion.

The Mayor will then ask councillors to vote on the motion (and any amendments).

## IMPLICATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution allocates responsibility for particular functions to council assembly, including approving the budget and policy framework, and allocates to the cabinet responsibility for developing and implementing the budget and policy framework and overseeing the running of council services on a day-to-day basis. Therefore any matters that are reserved to the cabinet (i.e. housing, social services, regeneration, environment, education etc) cannot be decided upon by council assembly without prior reference to the cabinet. While it would be in order for council assembly to discuss an issue, consideration of any of the following should be referred to the cabinet:

- to change or develop a new or existing policy
- to instruct officers to implement new procedures
- to allocate resources.

**Note:** In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10 (7) & (8) (prioritisation and rotation by the political groups) the order in which motions appear in the agenda may not necessarily be the order in which they are considered at the meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> Council assembly procedure rule 1.14 (9)

**1. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE** (Seconded by Councillor Catherine Bowman)

**Save Southwark's Nurseries**

1. Council assembly regrets the initial decision made by the department for children's services in March 2012 to 'withdraw childcare' at the two council-run children and parents' centres in South Bermondsey (Tenda Road) and Newington (Bishop's House) and further regrets the lack of consultation before this announcement was made.
2. Council assembly welcomes, after pressure from Liberal Democrat councillors, the latest announcement in May 2012 to enter into a consultation process with parents and residents on the proposal for the 'phased withdrawal of childcare provision' at these two centres. However, council assembly is concerned about the leading and biased questions in the consultation document.
3. Council assembly is proud of the excellent childcare at these children's centres which have had significant investment and one of which has earned an 'outstanding' rating from Ofsted.
4. Council assembly urges the cabinet to ensure these children's centres remain open and continue to provide the excellent childcare which so benefits the local community and future generations.

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

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

<b>Background Papers</b>	<b>Held At</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Member Motions	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Andrew Weir 020 7525 7222

**AUDIT TRAIL**

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