

Item No. 18.	Classification: Open	Date: 25 September 2012	Meeting Name: Cabinet
Report title:		Motions Referred from Council Assembly	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Council Assembly	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the cabinet considers the motions set out in the appendices attached to the report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. Council assembly at its meeting on Wednesday 4 July 2012 agreed a number of motions and these stand referred to the cabinet for consideration.
3. The cabinet is requested to consider the motions referred to it. Any proposals in a motion are treated as a recommendation only. The final decisions of the cabinet will be reported back to the next meeting of council assembly. When considering a motion, cabinet can decide to:
 - Note the motion; *or*
 - Agree the motion in its entirety, *or*
 - Amend the motion; *or*
 - Reject the motion.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

4. In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10(6), the attached motions were referred to the cabinet. The cabinet will report on the outcome of its deliberations upon the motions to a subsequent meeting of council assembly.
5. The constitution allocates responsibility for particular functions to council assembly, including approving the budget and policy framework, and to the cabinet for developing and implementing the budget and policy framework and overseeing the running of council services on a day-to-day basis.
6. Any key issues, such as policy, community impact or funding implications are included in the advice from the relevant chief officer.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Motions submitted in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10 (6).	160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Lesley John Constitutional Team 020 7525 7228

APPENDICES

Number	Title
Appendix 1	Motion on the theme - Health and wellbeing priorities
Appendix 2	Southwark nurseries

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	13 September 2012	
Key decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Health and Community Services	Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Children's Services	Yes	Yes
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	13 September 2012	

Motion on themed debate – Health and Wellbeing Priorities

At council assembly on Wednesday 4 July 2012 a motion on the theme - Health in Southwark - was moved by Councillor David Noakes and seconded by Councillor Denise Capstick. The motion was subsequently amended and the amended motions stands referred to the cabinet as a recommendation

Recommendation

- (1) That 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.
- (2) That council assembly welcomes the increase in life expectancy in the borough, but notes the significant health inequalities which still exist among Southwark residents.
- (3) That 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) That council assembly noted 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) That council assembly also noted 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 the new shadow board to consider these issues.
- (6) That 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 consider ways to involve other parties and representatives from the voluntary sector.

Comments of the Strategic Director of Health and Community Services

1. At its first meeting on 10 July 2012 the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board identified four priority areas of focus: prevention or reduction of alcohol-related misuse; coping skills, resilience and mental wellbeing; early intervention and families; and healthy weight and exercise. It is recognised that the shadow board cannot do everything, nor should it override existing partnership work that is already delivering health improvements in Southwark. Rather the shadow Board will provide a specific focus to a number of areas where it can add particular value and lead change across organisations.

2. The board is also tasked with overseeing the development of a new health and wellbeing strategy for Southwark, based on a robust needs assessment. The board has therefore noted that while the four priority areas would be a focus for its work over the coming year, other issues identified via the needs assessment will inform the development and priorities of the new strategy.
3. As part of its public health responsibilities the Council will be taking on responsibility for leading the commissioning of sexual health and substance misuse treatment services from April 2013. The Council continues to work with local clinical commissioners and with local health trusts to provide services in an integrated way including through the developing integrated care programme for older people. The Council has also set out through its innovation funds a range of projects designed to improve health and wellbeing for disadvantaged people and the outcomes of these will need to be evaluated.
4. It is acknowledged that successful engagement with a wide range of organisations and stakeholders, including service users and the voluntary sector, is essential to addressing the health and wellbeing challenges faced by the borough. The board's current membership does indeed reflect a wide and diverse cross-section of the health and wellbeing sector, covering the local authority, the CCG, Kings College Hospital and King's Health Partners, LINKs, and the Metropolitan Police.
5. This decision was influenced by learning from other Southwark partnerships, and research undertaken by the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Planning Group into the approaches taken by other shadow boards into what works best in terms of accountability and effective decision-making. However board meetings are open to members of the public, and the board welcomes the contributions of interested parties in helping to develop its future agendas. As openness and transparency are intended to be at the heart of the work of the board, it therefore welcomes feedback on how well it is delivering against these and other objectives.
6. It will also be the role of board members to act as champions for the priority areas across all areas of their work including engagement with the voluntary sector.
7. Engagement with the voluntary sector on public health issues will also be addressed through other established partnerships and working groups (such as the Safer Southwark Partnership and Children and Families' Trust).

APPENDIX 2

Southwark nurseries

At council assembly on Wednesday 4 July 2012 a motion entitled Save Southwark nurseries was moved by Councillor Graham Neale and seconded by Councillor Catherine Bowman. The motion was subsequently amended and the amended motions stands referred to the cabinet as a recommendation.

Recommendation

- (1) That council assembly noted that Tenda Road and Bishop's House children's centres will remain open and this has always been the case and regrets the mendacious campaign by local Liberal Democrat councillors that gave the impression that these centres would close.
- (2) That council assembly noted that the consultation will continue until 31 July 2012 and urges parents and relevant stakeholders to submit their views.
- (3) That council assembly also noted that Southwark has had a real terms cut of 25% of its budget in the last 2 years – far greater than other local authorities including more affluent boroughs like Richmond.
- (4) That it noted the hypocrisy of the local Liberal Democrat MP for Bermondsey and Old Southwark, Simon Hughes, to campaign against nursery closures while voting to cut their funding.
- (5) That council assembly calls on the leaders' of each political group on the council and the local MP to write a joint letter to the Liberal Democrat Children's Minister, Sarah Teather MP, urging her to rethink her cuts to nursery funding.

Comments of the Strategic Director of Children's Services

1. The public consultation on the proposal to phase out childcare provision at South Bermondsey Children and Families' Centre and Bishop's House Children's Centre concluded on 31 July 2012.
2. On 23 August 2012, the Cabinet Member for Children's Services considered the outcomes of the consultation and took the decisions detailed in the report: 'South Bermondsey Children and Parents' Centre and Bishop's House Children's Centre - report back on initial consultation', full details are available on the council's website at: <http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=3230>