

<b>Item No.</b> 3.3	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 17 October 2012	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Motions on the Theme – Opportunities for young people, including youth employment	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Proper Constitutional Officer	

## 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.<sup>1</sup>

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.<sup>2</sup>

### 1. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL NOBLET** (Seconded by Councillor Tim McNally)

#### **Apprenticeships and work placements**

1. Council assembly welcomes the 103% increase in apprenticeships in London between 2009/10 and 2010/11. However, council assembly notes that national youth unemployment has been rising since 2001 and is concerned about the impact for Southwark.
2. Council assembly recognises the value of local schemes like the Foot in the Door project run by Southwark Works since 2008 with funding from Southwark Council. Council assembly welcomes the experience which the work placements provide and which leads to permanent paid jobs.
3. Council assembly therefore calls on cabinet to double the investment in this project from £50,000 to £100,000 so that the number of Foot in the Door placements can be increased.

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

<sup>1</sup> Council assembly procedure rule 2.7 (3)

<sup>2</sup> Council assembly procedure rule 2.7 (9) and (10)

**2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR PETER JOHN** (Seconded by Councillor Ian Wingfield)

**Opportunities for young people, including youth employment**

1. Council assembly recognises the importance of providing real opportunities for young people in Southwark if we are to have fair and resilient communities and a thriving local economy.
2. Council assembly believes that when the economy is in recession and youth unemployment is high, it is the role of government at both national and local level to take action.
3. Council assembly notes that education and training play a vital role in increasing opportunities for young people. Many young people in Southwark want to go to college and university and the council should do everything it can to support that ambition.
4. Council assembly notes that young unemployment is at its highest ever level. It regrets the complacency of the government regarding youth unemployment and the shambolic introduction of the work programme which will now only reach 1.4 million people; 1.2 million fewer than originally announced. It also regrets the government's disastrous decision to treble tuition fees and scrap educational maintenance allowance and notes the negative impact this is already having on the number of people applying for university.
5. Council assembly therefore welcomes Labour's £3 million youth fund which is supporting:
  - Talented Southwark scholars through university by paying all of their tuition fees
  - Paying an educational maintenance supplement so that young people can stay on in further education
  - Creating 1,500 job opportunities for young people in the borough.
6. Council assembly calls on councillors on all sides to support the youth fund and consider what more can be done to support employment opportunities for young people and to enable young people to access further and higher education.

**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

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager
<b>Report Author</b>	Virginia Wynn-Jones, Constitutional Officer
<b>Version</b>	Final
<b>Dated</b>	3 October 2012