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| Item No. | Classification: Open | Date: July 8 2009 | Meeting Name: Council Assembly |
| Report title: | | Late Motion – Fire at Lakanal House | |
| Ward(s) or groups affected: | | All | |
| From: | | Strategic Director of Communities, Law and Governance | |

LATE MOTION

MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR IAN WINGFIELD (seconded by Councillor Alison McGovern)

1. Council assembly notes, with deep sadness, the awful events at Lakanal House in Camberwell on July 3, which led to the death of 6 people.
2. Council assembly expresses sympathy and condolences to the families and friends of those who lost their lives. Council assembly shares the deep sense of loss, bereavement and disbelief that is felt by the whole community as a result of these terrible events.
3. Council assembly also extends its sympathies to the numerous residents of Lakanal House who have been made homeless as a result of the fire. Council assembly calls upon the executive to work with maximum speed and commitment to ensure that these residents are satisfactorily and comfortably housed in the shortest possible time.
4. Council assembly pays tribute to the bravery demonstrated by the emergency services on July 3, whose work undoubtedly saved many lives. Council assembly also expresses its gratitude and sincere thanks to the professionalism and dedication shown by Southwark council officers across many departments who, since Friday, have worked tirelessly to assist those affected by this tragedy.
5. Council assembly believes that there may be serious lessons to be learnt from these tragic events, which will be relevant to similar buildings in Southwark and those owned by other local authorities and housing bodies across the country. Council assembly therefore believes it is imperative that a full and independent public inquiry be held at the earliest possible opportunity and calls on the executive to write to the Secretary of State requesting he continue to work with the Chief Fire & Rescue Adviser, Sir Ken Knight, to establish such an inquiry.

REASON FOR URGENCY

That it concerns a matter of public safety which the council cannot afford to leave until the next meeting in November.

REASON FOR LATENESS

The event occurred on Friday July 3, which was after the deadline for receipt of motion.

NOTES:

1. Prior to debating the late motion the following council assembly procedure rule would need to be suspended:
 - Notice for motions to be delivered (CAPR 2.9 (3)).
2. If the motion is agreed, any proposals will be submitted to the executive for consideration.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

| Background Papers | Held At | Contact |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Member Motions | Town Hall Peckham Road London SE5 8UB | Constitutional Team 020 7525 7228 |

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| Lead Officer | Ian Millichap, Constitutional Team Manager |
| Report Author | Lesley John, Constitutional Officer |
| Version | Final |
| Dated | July 7 2009 |