

Item No. 3.3.	Classification: Open	Date: 27 February 2013	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Date of Council Assembly in July 2013	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the council assembly dates for 2013/14 be confirmed as set out in Appendix A, and it be agreed to hold the July meeting on Wednesday 10 July 2013 for the reasons set out in paragraph 4 of the report.
2. That should council assembly wish to set an alternative date, the meeting resolves to suspend council assembly procedure rule 2.1 (Dates and frequency of meetings).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. On 23 January 2013, council assembly agreed dates for its meetings for the 2013/14 municipal year. A future list of the dates is set out in Appendix A together with notes on the constraints in confirming some dates in 2014 due to the current uncertainty regarding the date of local government and European elections in 2014. This earlier decision was in response to the wishes of group whips for the calendar to be agreed earlier than usually to provide greater notice of meeting dates for the forthcoming municipal year.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

4. Following the meeting in January 2013, officers noted that the date of the July 2013 needed to be changed to avoid it clashing with the Local Government Association Annual Meeting and Conference in the first week of July 2013. As a result officers have reviewed the calendar in late June / July 2013 and are recommending that the July meeting be held on Wednesday 10 July 2013. The recommendation also confirms the other dates for council assembly as set out in Appendix A.
5. It should be noted that if this change of date in July 2013 is agreed this would have some impact on the council calendar. However any meetings displaced can be accommodated on other days. The changes include: a straight switch between council assembly and community councils chair and vice-chairs meeting scheduled for 10 July 2013; with the group meetings taking place a week later on Monday 1 July 2013, this would mean two community councils meetings (Bermondsey and Rotherhithe / Borough, Bankside and Walworth) re-scheduled to Wednesday 26 June 2013.

Legal implications

6. If council assembly wishes to set an alternative date for a council assembly date it would have to suspend council assembly procedure rule 2.1, which states “Meetings (or ordinary meetings) shall take place on such dates agreed by the annual meeting...” Procedure rule 1.1.5 allows meeting dates to be changed in exceptional circumstances by the Mayor, in consultation with the monitoring officer. In this case it is considered there is sufficient time to report this to council assembly to agree the change.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Council Assembly Procedure Rule 2.1, Southwark Constitution	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Lesley John 020 7525 7228

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix A	Dates of Council Assembly 2013/14

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
Report Author	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
Version	Final	
Dated	12 February 2013	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Title	Comments sought	Comments included
Director of Legal Services	Yes	Incorporated in report
Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services	N/a	N/a
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	14 February 2013	