

Item No. 3.3	Classification: Open	Date: 27 March 2013	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Motions on the Theme – Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		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.¹

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.²

1. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR MICHAEL BUKOLA** (Seconded by Councillor Adele Morris)

Basic safety and security for residents

Council assembly:

1. is concerned about the budget cuts to basic services pushed through by Labour councillors since 2010, including cuts to the Southwark antisocial behaviour unit (SASBU) and the noise team
2. notes that funding for SASBU has been stripped back to deal with only high risk cases, meaning low level anti-social behaviour blighting the lives of residents is not always properly addressed
3. also notes that cuts to the noise team have ended the previous 24/7 service despite the need for a round the clock team to deal with any problems
4. believes this is the wrong approach to tackling low level crime and anti-social behaviour, and is appalled that the safety and quality of life of residents is being put at risk by Labour's failure to prioritise basic front line services.

¹ Council assembly procedure rule 2.7 (3)

² Council assembly procedure rule 2.7 (9) and (10)

5. therefore calls on cabinet to restore staffing and enforcement levels to SASBU and the noise team to ensure Southwark residents remain safe and that anti-social behaviour in the borough is tackled quickly and effectively.

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

2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR CLEO SOANES (Seconded by Councillor Lorraine Lauder)

Crime and anti-social behaviour

1. Council assembly believes that crime and the fear of crime are among our residents' main concerns and notes the council's fairer future promise to crack down on anti-social behaviour and implement a violent crime strategy.
2. Council assembly notes the progress being made against the 5 priorities in the violent crime strategy including:
 - 9% reduction in violence with injury
 - 4% reduction in most serious violence
 - 22% reduction in knives used to injure
 - 19% reduction in youth violence
 - 10% reduction in domestic abuse
3. Council assembly notes that despite savings to Southwark's anti-social behaviour unit, the number of ASB cases that have been managed by SASBU and housing officers over the last three years has actually increased by 40%; the number of acceptable behaviour contracts issued increased by 19% on last year; and 90% of residents were satisfied with the support they received.
4. Council assembly welcomes the establishment of the Southwark anti-violence unit (SAVU), a multiagency team working together to support individuals and families affected by gang and serious youth violence. It welcomes the fact that, the first 10 months evaluation highlights that following engagement with SAVU, 45% of SAVU clients have not come to police notice, compared with the 12 months prior to their involvement in the scheme when 100% had come to notice. Council assembly further notes the favourable review of this work by the Home Office in October 2012, in which the council was praised by the review team for its 'political leaders recognising and prioritising ending gang and youth violence work and sending out a very strong signal that this is a priority for the borough and will be resourced and supported'.
5. Council assembly also welcomes the announcement in last month's budget of £1.4m to upgrade outdated camera systems on Southwark's housing estates as well as 30 new redeployable cameras and an upgraded control room. It notes that CCTV has supported the police in making around 900 arrests between April and March of 2012/13.
6. Council assembly regrets the government's decision to cut the Met's budget by 20% and the impact this has had on police officer numbers in the borough and on closures to police stations in Rotherhithe and East

Dulwich. It welcomes the council's decision to identify £ 750,000 for community safety initiatives including alternative police front counters.

7. Council assembly asks the cabinet to develop plans to:
- Work collaboratively with customs and excise, police and neighboring boroughs to tackle the drugs trade
 - Work with communities and registered social landlords to develop new approaches to resolve conflicts within communities
 - Help communities gain confidence to tackle anti-social behaviour in their midst
 - Continue the excellent work of SAVU despite government cuts
 - Develop further the work with our partners to reduce re-offending
 - Work with Solace, the voluntary sector and local hospitals to develop innovative approaches to tackling violence against women and girls

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

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer
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