

Item No. 3.3	Classification: Open	Date: 22 January 2014	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Motions on the Theme – Active Communities and the Elderly	
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 TOBY ECKERSLEY** (Seconded by Councillor Michael Mitchell)

"No Recourse to Public Funds"

Council assembly notes the increasing budgetary pressures caused by recourse to council funds by persons who, by virtue of their immigration status, have "no recourse to public funds", and in particular the advice in respect of adult services provided to cabinet on 19 November 2013 as follows:

"Clients with no recourse to public funds are 25% higher than the previous year"

and calls upon the cabinet to consider a report on this problem as part of their budget-making for provision of services for the elderly, and other services, in January and February 2014.

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

¹ Council assembly procedure rule 2.7 (3)

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

2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ADELE MORRIS (Seconded by Councillor Michael Bukola)

Housing for Older Residents

Council assembly:

1. Notes that suitable housing for older people in London remains in serious short supply and that demand is only likely to increase as our borough's population ages.
2. Recognises that there is a growing need for housing for older people to offer a range of different tenures and support options, including mainstream, specialist and residential care housing.
3. Believes that the council's housing and planning policies, working in partnership with key stakeholders including the NHS, should provide older people with real housing choices for their future which allow them to continue to lead independent, active lives.
4. Therefore urges the cabinet to:
 - (1) Work with housing associations and other specialist providers to increase the amount of good quality Lifetime Homes Standard accommodation for older people in the borough.
 - (2) Plan a new retirement village in Southwark, considering part of the Dulwich Hospital site.
 - (3) Better support older people in downsizing to smaller homes on the same estate.

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

3. MOTION BY COUNCILLOR REBECCA LURY (Seconded by Councillor Lorraine Lauder)

Active Communities and Older People

1. Council assembly welcomes this administration's commitment to supporting people to live long, healthy lives, and to helping older people stay independent in their own homes and integrated in our communities for as long as possible – in line with what people tell us they want.
2. Council assembly recognises that the 22,000 older people in Southwark form a very diverse group, including people who are: in their sixties through to people over 100; retired or in employment; carers (for example, for elderly parents, a partner or grandchildren); in full health, ill or frail; or disabled - as well as being diverse in terms of gender, ethnicity, sexuality and faith and belief.
3. Council assembly also recognises that almost all of the council's strategies and policies affect older people – including on the economy, environment,

transport, regeneration, culture and leisure, community safety, housing, health and social care.

Helping older people have healthy, active lives in our community

4. Council assembly notes the good work that the administration, across all departments, does with older people to help them stay healthy, active and integrated in our communities, including, for example:
 - (1) Providing employment support through Southwark Works and the independent living service.
 - (2) Enabling volunteering opportunities through our volunteering strategy. We applaud the valuable Olympics and Paralympics contribution that Southwark volunteers of all ages made, including older people.
 - (3) Offering reduced price or free access to physical activity for older people - including 60 pence swimming; free exercise classes; free group walks; and the 'Silver' programme in leisure centres.
 - (4) Working with GPs and hospitals to provide community exercise referrals and supporting older people identified through the health check programme to access physical activity as a preventative measure.
 - (5) Ensuring new homes are built to 'Lifetime Standards', making it easier to adapt homes to meet future changing needs.
 - (6) Tacking health inequalities and the addressing the causes of the borough's health challenges – including cardio-vascular disease, stroke, lung diseases, liver diseases cancers, diabetes, and sexually transmitted diseases – to help people live longer, healthier lives.

5. Council assembly recognises the excellent work done by voluntary and community organisations across the borough to help older people stay active and integrated in our community.

Caring for vulnerable and frail older people in our community

6. Council assembly notes that government cuts since 2010 have taken over £1.2 billion out of social care for older people in the UK. Despite these cuts, this administration has prioritised looking after vulnerable and frail people in our community, aiming to treat every person as we would wish a member of our family to be treated.
7. Council assembly welcomes the steps this administration has taken to help older people stay living independently in their own homes and communities for as long as possible and delaying or avoiding the need for hospital or residential care - in line with what people say they want, including:
 - (1) Halving the price people pay for meals on wheels to £1.71, the lowest price in London – after the price was hiked under the previous administration.

- (2) Agreeing plans to create a 'Centre of Excellence' day centre for older people with dementia and other complex needs – due to open in 2015 with enhanced, specialist facilities and guaranteed places for everyone using the council's existing day centres.
- (3) Working with partners - including Lambeth Council, hospitals, GPs and others – to integrate health and social care provision through the Southwark and Lambeth integrated care programme; helping people to avoid preventable hospital admissions.
- (4) Providing personal budgets to people who need social care, giving them choice and control over the support they have, to best fit their needs and aspirations. Southwark Council is in the top quartile of performance nationally for personal budgets.
- (5) Creating an 'Innovation Fund' to provide funding to voluntary sector providers, creating new services which give people real choice over how they allocate their personal budgets.
- (6) Creating a single social care phone line for people to get on-the-spot advice for themselves or their loved ones from social care experts.
- (7) Helping people stay living healthily and independently in their own homes and communities for longer, through home care; reablement; sheltered housing (where we recently reintroduced wardens); and an expansion of extra care housing – as well as our handyperson service.
- (8) Signing up to Unison's Ethical Homecare Charter and ensuring that workers providing care services are paid the London Living Wage and that care visits are not as short as 15 minutes.
- (9) Creating a new carers' strategy, to provide carers – many of them who are older people themselves - with support in their caring responsibilities and also support for themselves to stay healthy and pursue their other aspirations alongside caring.

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
Version	Final
Dated	6 January 2014