

AMENDMENTS

REVISED AMENDMENT G

ITEM 5.2 – MEMBERS’ MOTIONS: MOTION 1 – LOCAL DECISION MAKING (see page 16 of the main agenda)

REVISED AMENDMENT G

Moved: Councillor Darren Merrill
Seconded: Councillor Sunil Chopra

In paragraph 1, after “neighbourhoods” **add**:

Council assembly notes that the government has devolved some powers to local councils, such as neighbourhood plans, community right to bid and community right to challenge. However, council assembly is concerned that despite its rhetoric, the coalition government has failed to really deliver localism properly and has in fact centralised more decision making in Whitehall.

Council assembly notes that the coalition government has imposed new limits on the ability of councils to make local decisions on schools, council tax, or how we speak to the community. Council assembly notes with concern that the coalition government has now acquired sweeping powers to shut down hospitals at short notice without local consultation, even if they are performing strongly, despite opposition by Labour MPs.

Delete “therefore” and 2i. Renumber paragraph 2 accordingly.

After paragraph 2 **add**:

3. Council assembly:

- Welcomes work by Labour councillors and Val Shawcross AM to tackle the issue of slow broadband in Rotherhithe and Surrey Docks.
- Condemns Liberal Democrats councillors and Simon Hughes MP for failing to deliver on this issue for local people in the area.
- Welcomes that the leader of the council is working with broadband providers to discuss progress on the issue of slow broadband in the Rotherhithe peninsula and pressing them to take meaningful action.
- Welcomes Southwark Labour’s commitment to bring superfast broadband to Rotherhithe.

4. Council assembly:

- Welcomes Southwark Labour’s commitment to open new secondary schools in the borough including one in East Dulwich.
- Notes that the Supplementary Planning Document for the East Dulwich hospital site states that “The use of part of this site for a school would help to meet the requirements of the planning brief”.

- Calls on cabinet to work closely with the steering group and deliver a new secondary school on the East Dulwich hospital site, rather than the following the Liberal Democrats suggestion of embarking on a long winded and unnecessary bureaucratic exercise of amending the planning brief, which in any case already allows for community facilities on the site, provides only guidance and will have little impact on the delivery of the school.

5. Council assembly:

- Welcomes the proposed rebuild of Elephant and Castle shopping centre and welcomes that this administration is delivering on the Elephant and Castle regeneration after years of dither and delay under the previous Liberal Democrat administration.
- Welcomes the council's commitment and vision for the area and work that is already going on to deliver this.
- Notes that the council is not the owner or landlord of the shopping centre, however calls on the cabinet to work with key landlords such as Delancy, Lend Lease and Network Rail to draw up a retail strategy for the Elephant & Castle, Walworth Road and East Street which protects the vibrant mix of businesses in the area and allows local businesses meaningful involvement in plans for the area.
- Welcomes the recommendation to the cabinet member for communities and economic wellbeing to allocate £22,000 from the first round of The High Street Challenge to the Latin Elephant group to fund business planning, which is the first step of realising this administration's vision for creating a Latin American quarter at the Elephant & Castle.

6. Council assembly

- Welcomes this administration's investment of £5.96 million for parks in the Elephant & Castle area, including Dickens Square Park in Chaucer ward (£1.5m), Pullens Open Space in Newington (£350k), St Mary's Churchyard in Cathedrals (£1.25m) and Nursery Row Park (£600k) and Victory Park (£1.8m) in East Walworth, through the capital refresh programme.
- Notes that as a result of cabinet's decision of 18 March, consultation with residents on proposals to revitalise Dicken's Square Park will proceed with all due haste.
- Welcomes the proposals developed by this administration to revitalise Dicken's Square Park, which will include tree planting, sightline and accessibility improvements, new footpaths, new green space as well as new links to other green space, and improved recreational and play-space.

7. Council assembly:

- Recognises the concerns of residents in South Bermondsey about the need for good quality affordable housing in the area, and in particular family-sized council homes, and welcomes this administration's commitment to delivering 11,000 new council homes in Southwark – the biggest house building programme in the country.
- Condemns the Liberal Democrats for falsely accusing Labour of a “mass sell-off of council homes”, when the number of council homes sold or

demolished under the current Labour administration is actually four times less than the amount in previous years under the Liberal Democrats.

- Condemns Liberal Democrat councillors in South Bermonsey for spreading misleading information about the sale of council homes in the area, and in particular for telling local residents that a property on Longley Street is being sold by the council, when the council is in fact renovating the property to let to council tenants as a family home.

8. Council assembly:

- Welcomes this administration's investment of £326 million to make every council home in Southwark warm, dry and safe.
- Welcomes Southwark Labour's commitment to deliver quality kitchens and bathrooms for every council tenant, including residents on the Arnold Estate.
- Condemns the attempt by Liberal Democrat councillors to ignore need across the borough by prioritising particular council properties in wards they currently hold rather than where the need in the borough is greatest.
- Notes the failure of the Liberal Democrat/Tory council to deliver improvements in housing where they left a housing department judged as failing and a £600m hole in the housing budget.
- Calls on cabinet to guarantee that every council home in Southwark will be made warm, dry and safe and to install new kitchens and bathrooms where they are needed for all council tenants in every ward in the borough.

9. Council assembly:

- Recognises the pressure on school places across the borough, including in Rotherhithe.
- Notes that Liberal Democrats in Rotherhithe have failed to raise this important issue with cabinet.
- Praises local residents who have pressed for a new primary and a new secondary school in the area.
- Welcomes Labour's commitment to new schools in the borough to meet demand.

10. Council assembly:

- Notes that traffic management in the very busy London Bridge is continually being reviewed by highways engineers and network planners, all part of Southwark Council's public realm department.
- Notes that councillors who are concerned about traffic movements should in the first instance contact the public realm division or the relevant cabinet member.
- Notes that the timescale to conduct a full traffic management study for streets in Grange Ward has passed, and regrets that Grange ward councillors have thus far failed to raise concerns about traffic problems in the ward.
- Calls on the cabinet to actively follow up any requests from future Grange ward councillors who wish to call for a traffic study in selected roads.

11. Council assembly:

- Notes that payments negotiated from developers in-lieu of on-site affordable homes are being spent within the communities affected by the new development and are helping to fund 1,000 new council homes, including 165 council homes in SE1 and 76 council homes in SE16.
- Calls on cabinet to work with local ward councillors across the borough to identify sites that could be used to deliver more affordable housing.

12. Council assembly:

- Notes that due to savage cuts to government funding the council has to make savings wherever possible, including the cost of committee meetings.
- Notes that planning committee meetings are currently held in Tooley Street and at Queens Road, Peckham, because of the significant cost implications of holding these meetings elsewhere.
- Calls on the cabinet to hold planning committee meetings in locations across the borough whenever it is financially feasible to do so.

13. In addition council assembly calls on the cabinet to continue delivering a fairer future for all by:

- Creating a new world class civic centre in Walworth.
- Delivering £11million investment in Camberwell Green including a new state of the art library and keep campaigning to extend the Bakerloo Line.
- Securing the long term future of Greendale.
- Campaigning to ensure a Dulwich police base remains open on Seeley Drive on the Kingswood Estate.
- Continuing improvements in Nunhead including a free cash point and a bigger and better playground in Peckham Rye Park.
- Working with the community to transform Peckham town centre including support for local arts organisations and businesses.
- Working with businesses to deliver a business improvement district on Southwark Park Road at The Blue.
- Continuing to campaign with Bermondsey residents to stop the super-sewer at Chambers Wharf.
- Restoring the Old Kent Road to its former glory with plans to build new homes and support for businesses.
- Transforming the Elephant and Castle with a new leisure centre, affordable homes and shopping centre.

NOTE: If Revised Amendment G is carried Amendments H to Q will fall.