

<b>Item No.</b> 4	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 25 March 2015	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Council Assembly
<b>Report title:</b>		Deputation Requests	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Proper Constitutional Officer	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That council assembly considers whether or not to hear a deputation from the groups listed in paragraph 5 of this report.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The council assembly procedure rule 2.6 (11) states that no more than three deputations shall be considered at any one meeting. However the meeting can decide to suspend this rule in order to hear more or vary the order. All deputations have been informed that they are not guaranteed to be heard and the decision will be made by council assembly as part of the programme motion.
3. When considering whether to hear the deputation request, council assembly can decide:
  - to receive the deputation at this meeting or a future meeting; *or*
  - that the deputation not be received; *or*
  - to refer the deputation to the most appropriate committee/sub-committee.
4. A deputation shall consist of no more than six people, including its spokesperson. One member of the deputation shall be allowed to address the meeting for no longer than 5 minutes. The deputation spokesperson or any member of the deputation nominated by him or her shall be invited to ask a question of the leader or relevant cabinet member. After this time councillors may ask questions of the deputation for up to 5 minutes. At the conclusion of the questions, the deputation will be shown to the public seating area where they may listen to the remainder of the open section of the meeting.

## KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

### Other deputation requests

5. The following deputation requests were received on issues other than the subject of the themed section of the meeting. The deputations are listed in order of receipt.

#### 1. Deputation request from a group of local residents

The deputation request states:

The Local Government Ombudsman has set up the LGO Advisory Forum and invited a number of former complainants to become members of that forum. I

myself (Mr. Mick Barnard) am a participant in the LGO Reference Group and have just submitted my first contribution. The remit of the forum is to establish "what the LGO does well" and "what the LGO needs to improve most". The deputation hopes to pursue members that Southwark Council might consider taking a similar approach to the Local Government Ombudsman and set up its own advisory forum along the same lines as the LGO Advisory Forum with regard to the council complaints policy and associated procedures. The deputation would like to take this opportunity to explain how, why and when the LGO process began, what has been achieved so far and how this could help Southwark Council to deliver on certain elements contained in its promises of "Fairer Future Principles" and "Fairer Future for all Vision" and the "Our Values" element of the "Council Plan". Additional information can be found on the Local Government Ombudsman website which contains the minutes of the LGO Advisory Forum's last meeting on 21 November 2014.

## **2. Deputation from CoolTan Arts**

The deputation request states:

The deputation wishes to inform councillors of the issues currently faced by people with mental distress of whom there are many in the borough.

Currently CoolTan works with 2,500 people a year. Most of our participants are telling us how afraid they are of the changes which are about to come into force on 1 April. We know these changes are trends rather than political. The universal credit will happen, personalisation is here to stay therefore it is critical that we work with the council bringing our solutions to help people stay well ensuring that more expensive interventions are not necessary.

## **3. SE1 Parents**

The deputation states:

There aren't enough secondary schools in our area. Demand for places outstrips supply, with the result that many local children are forced to travel long distances to secondary schools across south east London and north of the river. Demographic change means that spaces will become even more limited in the future and the problem will get worse with primary schools taking on bulge years and expanding.

Because of this, local parents have started a non-political, grass roots campaign for a new secondary school in North Southwark. As there are already several same-sex and religious schools in the area, parents are proposing that this new school increase local options by being mixed gender and non-denominational. We have identified a possible site for the new school as the old Southwark Fire Station, on Southwark Bridge Road. We are seeking the support of the council assembly in this endeavour.

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Deputation Request File	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Lesley John 020 7525 7228
Council Assembly Procedure Rule 2.6, Southwark Constitution	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Lesley John 020 7525 7228

## AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager		
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer		
Version	Final		
Dated	23 March 2015		
Key Decision?	No		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER			
Title	Comments sought	Comments included	
Director of Legal Services	No	No	
Strategic Director Finance & Corporate Services	No	No	
Cabinet Member	No	No	
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		23 March 2015	