

<b>Item No.</b> 4.	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 8 July 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 full list of public requests to be heard at this meeting is set out in item 3 elsewhere on the agenda. 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.
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, members of 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

### Deputation requests

5. The following deputation request has been received:

#### 1. Deputation on the council's future cemetery intentions

The deputation request states:

I have been a Funeral Director in Southwark for a decade and would very much like to give a deputation in defence of the council's future cemetery intentions.

Being able to bury your loved one in the area you live and love is extremely important.

I have lived and worked in Southwark my whole life; I have served the bereaved people of Southwark for a decade and know the compulsory need for bereaved families to have the option of laying their loved ones to rest in the land they lived and loved. I wish to also discuss the various financial repercussions Southwark residents would have if they had to bury loved ones out of the borough and in private cemeteries. I will ensure that all is covered whilst taking the environmental consequences into consideration.

## **2. Southwark Defend Council Housing**

The deputation request states:

We would like to address the council assembly to ask them to rethink the programme of demolitions on the Aylesbury Estate and urge them to ensure that the building of new homes is not dependent on the demolition of council homes on other estates.

## **3. Aylesbury Tenants and Leaseholders First**

Many Southwark councillors seem not to be aware of the past and continuing strength of opposition on the Aylesbury Estate by residents who wish to save their council homes, the Aylesbury Estate, from demolition, nor of the quality of these light, spacious, solid, decent homes.

Our petition provides evidence of the number of Aylesbury residents demanding:

- Refurbishment not demolition – don't destroy our council homes
- Respect for the ballot held in 2001 when tenants voted overwhelmingly to remain in council ownership, or conduct another ballot and respect the result

Our deputation complements that from Southwark Defend Council Housing.

## **4. Camberwell Campus of Lewisham Southwark College, Southampton Way, Camberwell SE5 7EW**

We, the staff of the Camberwell Campus of Lewisham Southwark College request to send a deputation to address the Council on 8 July 2015. The current management of Lewisham Southwark College propose to close the Camberwell Campus in order to sell it off. This proposal has been put to the Board of Governors, who will meet on 14 July 2015, and the final decision will be made by them then.

We oppose the proposed closure of the Camberwell Campus on the following grounds:

- We believe that the Camberwell campus is a vital educational asset for the borough. Its closure, following the sale of the Bermondsey Campus in 2013, will leave the Waterloo Campus as the only remaining FE campus in Southwark, and as you may be aware, the Waterloo Campus is practically in Lambeth. Whole areas of Southwark (eg Camberwell, Peckham) will be denied viable access to FE provision.

- Once the Camberwell Campus has been sold it cannot be recovered. This will be a permanent loss to the borough, which cannot be replaced. There is no possibility that Lewisham Southwark College can find alternative accommodation for FE provision elsewhere in Southwark to the same extent.
- It is our understanding that the rationale for the sale of the Camberwell campus is to cover an anticipated shortfall in the college budget for 2015/16. We believe that it is no part of any reasonable business plan to sell off key capital assets to cover loss of funding, especially when there has been no attempt to explore alternative income streams.

We would like to address the council to ask for support against the closure of the Camberwell Campus, and to request that the council fill the 'empty seat' that they have vacated on the Board of Governors of Lewisham Southwark College. We feel that one of the main problems that the college has had in recent years is through inadequate oversight of management, and that the council's involvement on the Board would help to rectify this.

## 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

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
<b>Report Author</b>	Virginia Wynn-Jones, Constitutional Officer	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	6 July 2015	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Comments sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Director of Legal Services	No	No
Strategic Director Finance & Corporate Services	No	No
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	No	No
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>	6 July 2015	