

AMENDMENTS

ITEM 3.2 – MEMBERS MOTION ON THE THEME: SCHOOLS, STANDARDS AND PLACES (see pages 1 - 2 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT A

Moved: Councillor James Barber

Delete all and insert:

1. Council assembly welcomes the progress being made by the council, school providers and teachers in increasing supply for primary and secondary school places and in driving up standards for educational achievement, but recognises that the council needs to develop a clear long-term strategy for school places.
2. Council assembly recognises the incredible work of Southwark schools, where results and performance are rising and scores continue to be above the national average and contrasts this with the pre-2002 situation where standards in Southwark schools were so concerning that the then Labour government had taken control away from the council.
3. Council assembly notes the vital contribution that Pupil Premium payments make to schools to raise the attainment levels of disadvantaged pupils and help close the gap between them and their peers and thanks Liberal Democrats in the previous government for this policy.
4. Council assembly also welcomes the ongoing contribution of Pupil Premium payments to schools in the borough, which this year will total over £20 million
5. Council assembly recognises the need to work within the government's free schools programme and supports the work done by Liberal Democrat councillors to campaign for new schools across the borough, working with communities and providers to open schools that parents want in areas of high demand.

Standards

6. Council assembly welcomes the increase in the number of schools in the borough that are rated either Good or Outstanding, which has risen to 91%, from 64% in 2010, with no schools in Southwark rated inadequate.
7. Council assembly notes that:
 - Southwark's performance is higher than the national and London averages at foundation stage and is narrowing the gap with London average for Key Stage 1 performance
 - Southwark ranks in the top quartile nationally for Key Stage 2 results
 - Southwark is in the top quartile nationally for GCSE results and was ranked joint 20th in the country, an improvement of 43 places since 2013
 - Southwark is one of the most improved and high-performing London boroughs at secondary level, and continues to outperform other neighbouring boroughs in results at GCSE, English Baccalaureate and A Levels.

8. Council assembly applauds Southwark secondary schools for record levels of improvement achieved in GCSE results and calls on cabinet to continue supporting schools and protecting school improvement work in the face of vicious government cuts, to achieve even more and meet the council's ambitious target of 70% of our young people achieving five or more A* to C grades at GCSE or equivalent by 2016.

Places

9. Council assembly recognises that demand for school places in Southwark, particularly in the north of the borough, continues to rise.
10. Council assembly is concerned that the council has spent five years denying the problem and then only expanding existing, rather than helping to create new schools. Council welcomes the two recent new free school projects at Belham and Galleywall, following pressure from Liberal Democrats. However, council assembly remains concerned about the consultation on these plans and the piecemeal approach instead of clear strategic planning with the involvement of existing schools, parents and local residents.
11. Council assembly notes that from September 2016 two primary schools in the borough will enrol four forms of entry and calls on the cabinet to ensure that there is a clear policy in place limiting the size of primary schools to prevent 'Titan Schools' emerging in the borough.
12. Council assembly also recognises that half-forms are an inefficient use of resources and calls on cabinet to ensure that the number of half-form entries is minimised.
13. Council assembly recognises that outdoor play space is vital to children's health and educational attainment and therefore calls on the cabinet to pledge not to reduce open spaces when expanding existing schools.
14. Council assembly welcomes the work of Liberal Democrat councillors in East Dulwich to provide a new secondary school and is pleased that the Labour council eventually joined the campaign for a new school. However, council assembly notes the failure of the Labour council to obtain a complete guarantee of a new school from the developers of the former Southwark Fire Station site and therefore calls on cabinet to work with the community and providers to open a secondary school on the site, to meet growing demand for secondary school places in the north of the borough.
15. Council assembly notes with concern that the currently available forecasts for primary places in the borough do not reach beyond the academic year 2017/18. Council assembly therefore calls on the cabinet to urgently develop and adopt a more strategic, long-term approach to school place planning, potential sites and school providers to ensure that future need is met.
16. Council assembly notes that the schools places strategy update will be presented to cabinet in July 2015 and that it would be more beneficial to discuss the forecast for school places when the updated strategy is published.

ITEM 5.2 – MEMBERS MOTIONS: SAVE SOUTHWARK WOODS (see pages 9-10 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT B

Moved: Councillor Paul Fleming

Seconded: Councillor Jasmine Ali

Delete all and insert:

1. Council assembly is proud of Southwark being one of the greenest boroughs in London and believes that woods in Southwark are a vital part of our borough. The council invests approximately £130,000 every year in valuable woodlands such as Dulwich Upper Wood, Sydenham Hill Wood and Russia Dock Woodland - a combined 55 acres of woodland - and also maintains many dedicated wildlife sites, nature gardens and Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation around the borough, to provide a habitat for wildlife and open space for residents to enjoy.
2. Council assembly notes that at no stage prior to the submission of this motion have Liberal Democrat councillors sought to comment on or engage with the council on its cemeteries strategy and condemns any party seeking to “play politics” with this important issue.
3. Council assembly regrets that inaccurate claims have been made about the council’s cemeteries strategy and notes its concern that these claims have led to residents being misinformed about the council’s plans to bring two pieces of designated burial ground, one of which is currently inaccessible, into use in Camberwell Old and New Cemeteries. The areas proposed for development measure less than one acre in total.
4. Council assembly recognises the challenge the council faces in securing sustainable burial space in the borough and notes that if the council takes no action, burial space in Southwark will run out in early 2017.
5. Council assembly believes that it is important to recognise the wishes of those residents who want to have the option to bury their loved ones locally and who for financial reasons would struggle to travel to visit a cemetery outside the borough.
6. Council assembly notes that an extensive public consultation was undertaken in 2011 on the future of Southwark’s cemeteries and that the local community has also been given the opportunity to review detailed plans for the next phase of the Cemetery Strategy and contribute feedback over the last seven months.
7. Council assembly calls on the cabinet to:
 - Maintain the status of Camberwell Old and New Cemeteries as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
 - Continue to work with the London Wildlife Trust, the Forestry Commission and the local community to ensure that the plans for managing the cemeteries enhance the existing biodiversity and ecology of the area
 - Continue to engage with the local community on the council’s plans for cemeteries throughout the process of implementing the cemeteries strategy

- Continue to protect green spaces throughout the borough, as well as providing burial space for the future, to create quality open space for local people alongside a respectful place for the deceased.

ITEM 5.2 – MEMBERS MOTIONS: RIGHT TO BUY (see page 10 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT C

Moved: Councillor Ben Johnson

Seconded: Councillor Adele Morris

Delete all and insert:

Council assembly:

1. Notes this administration's aspiration of building 11,000 new council homes to meet growing demand for affordable housing in the borough, building on the programme initiated by the previous Liberal Democrat administration.
2. Notes too that the first 75 of these new homes are currently being built at Willow Walk – 54 of which (72%) are dedicated exclusively to temporary accommodation, not general needs housing.
3. Further notes that as of 31 March 2015 the number of new council homes built since 2010 is just 44 homes compared to the 1,721 homes sold or demolished.
4. Acknowledges that the administration's new council house-building programme will, in fact, take place over the next thirty years and that a consultation is only now underway on possible locations for these homes with no guarantee that the target will be met.
5. Is concerned that the outcome of the current consultation could lead to new homes being squeezed onto existing estates, while developers often get away with huge developments of luxury flats with no affordable homes whatsoever.
6. Recognises the disastrous impact of government proposals which could lead to up to 500 new council homes being sold as soon as they are built and the forced sale of existing high-value council housing.
7. Notes too, however, that the current Labour administration has embarked on its own programme of council home sell-offs over the last few years with the disposal of properties over the value of £300,000 until the decision last year to adopt the Liberal Democrat policy to raise this threshold.
8. Further notes that during thirteen years of a Labour government little was done to tackle the effects of the right-to-buy policy on boroughs such as Southwark.
9. Believes the government's intention to extend the right-to-buy to all housing association tenants will make the affordable housing situation in the borough even worse in Southwark, especially when a recent survey showed that just 16% of the public believe that this policy would be the most useful way of tackling the housing affordability crisis.
10. Urges the cabinet, given the thirty-year council house-building timescale, to adhere in the meantime to its own target of on-site affordable homes wherever possible to

ensure Southwark residents have access to new housing in all parts of the borough.

11. Calls on the cabinet to work with other London boroughs to lobby the government to reconsider their right-to-buy plans and to push for an exemption to new build homes.
12. Further calls on the cabinet to oppose the extension of right-to-buy to housing association tenants which would force registered providers to simply play catch-up replacing sold homes, rather than building the additional affordable housing Southwark people need so desperately.

ITEM 5.2 – MEMBERS MOTIONS: CHILDREN MISSING FROM CARE (see pages 10-11 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT D

Moved: Councillor Evelyn Akoto

Seconded: Councillor Kath Whittam

After paragraph 3 **insert:**

4. Welcomes the council's decision to commission the St Christopher's Charity to provide home visits for all young people reported missing, building trust and working with the young people to understand the reasons behind why they go missing, which is successfully reducing repeat missing episodes.
5. Welcomes the close analysis of the impact of this work by the Corporate Parenting Committee over the last year, by meeting with St Christopher's and considering the early data produced and the feedback from young people.
6. Welcomes the work being done by the council to respond to the reasons why children are going missing from care, and to find innovative ways to improve outcomes for children and young people at risk of family breakdown, to strengthen parenting and rebuild relationships between young people and their parents and to help keep more families together.
7. Welcomes the council's recruitment drive to increase the number of local foster carers through exempting them from council tax so that when children do need to be taken into care they are able to stay close to family and friends.
8. Also welcomes the work of the Safer London Project working with young people who are at risk of sexual exploitation, to build relationships with some of our most vulnerable young people and ensure that safety plans are put in place to reduce the risk of exploitation.

Delete paragraph 4.

After paragraph 5 **insert:**

10. Recognises that this is a problem that should be acknowledged and understood by all councillors in order to highlight the issue, work towards reducing the number of recorded incidents in future years and ensure there is no complacency whatsoever where the welfare of looked-after children is concerned.

Delete paragraphs 6 – 8 and **insert:**

11. Notes that the council has a weekly report on children missing from care and that all children are offered a missing from care interview undertaken by St Christopher's to find out if the young person is at risk, or if there are any problems with their placement.
12. Notes that corporate parenting has responsibility for monitoring data on children missing from care and has a membership of cabinet member, backbenchers and

independent members, is cross-party and has regular attendance not only from officers but also other agencies such as health as well as contributions from Speakerbox, our award-winning Children in Care Council.

13. Notes that corporate parenting committee is not only well placed to scrutinise the issue of children missing from care and the council's response but is actively doing so.
14. Also notes the on-going scrutiny of this issue by the multi-agency Children's Safeguarding Board.
15. Welcomes any request for further scrutiny by education and children's services scrutiny sub-committee.
16. Calls on the cabinet to continue to tackle the problem of children missing from care by:
 - Monitoring each of the recommendations included in the corporate parenting committee's statutory guidance on children who run away or go missing from home or care
 - Receiving a report on the work commissioned from St Christopher's and the council's response to the feedback captured from our young people
 - Working closely with the police and all other key partners from the Children's Safeguarding Board on missing children and those at risk of sexual exploitation.

Renumber paragraphs accordingly.

ITEM 5.2 – MEMBERS MOTIONS: REVITALISING THE BLUE (see pages 11-12 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT E

Moved: Councillor Eliza Mann

Seconded: Councillor Damian O'Brien

Insert new paragraph 3 and re-order the remaining paragraphs accordingly:

3. Further welcomes the council's decision to adopt the Liberal Democrat policy to introduce 1-hour free parking at all the borough's shopping parades to help boost the amount of trade locally for small businesses.

Insert new paragraph 7 and re-order the remaining paragraphs accordingly:

7. Calls on the cabinet to extend to fast-food and takeaway applications the council's recently announced policy of refusing planning permission for betting shops, pawnbrokers and payday lenders for units in its ownership in order to help tackle obesity levels and cap the number of this type of food outlet in The Blue.

Add new paragraph 9 at end:

9. Further calls on the cabinet to lobby for and support new transport links to increase the number of shoppers coming to The Blue, including the Bakerloo Line extension along the Old Kent Road, expansion of the London Cycle Hire Scheme to SE16 and improved or new bus services from the surrounding areas.