

Item No. 5.2	Classification: Open	Date: 13 July 2016	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Motions	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The councillor introducing or “moving” the motion may make a speech directed to the matter under discussion. This may not exceed five minutes¹.

A second councillor will then be asked by the Mayor to “second” the motion. This may not exceed three minutes without the consent of the Mayor.

The meeting will then debate the issue and any amendments on the motion will be dealt with.

At the end of the debate the mover of the motion may make a concluding speech, known as a “right of reply”. If an amendment is carried, the mover of the amendment shall hold the right of reply to any subsequent amendments and, if no further amendments are carried, at the conclusion of the debate on the substantive motion.

The Mayor will then ask councillors to vote on the motion (and any amendments).

IMPLICATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution allocates responsibility for particular functions to council assembly, including approving the budget and policy framework, and allocates to the cabinet responsibility for developing and implementing the budget and policy framework and overseeing the running of council services on a day-to-day basis. Therefore any matters that are reserved to the cabinet (i.e. housing, social services, regeneration, environment, education etc.) cannot be decided upon by council assembly without prior reference to the cabinet. While it would be in order for council assembly to discuss an issue, consideration of any of the following should be referred to the cabinet:

- to change or develop a new or existing policy
- to instruct officers to implement new procedures
- to allocate resources.

Note: In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10.7 and 8 (prioritisation and rotation by the political groups), the order in which motions appear in the agenda may not necessarily be the order in which they are considered at the meeting.

¹ Council assembly procedure rule 1.14.9

1. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI** (Seconded by Councillor Richard Livingstone)

Motor Neurone Disease Charter

1. Council assembly notes that there is a 1 in 300 chance of developing Motor Neurone Disease (MND), a disease that has no cure and kills more than half those diagnosed within two years.
2. Council assembly supports the Motor Neurone Disease Charter, which sets out the care and support that people living with MND and their carers deserve and should expect. The charter identifies five rights for people living with MND and their carers:
 - (1) People with MND have the right to an early diagnosis and information
 - (2) People with MND have the right to high quality care and treatments
 - (3) People with MND have the right to be treated as individuals and with dignity and respect
 - (4) People with MND have the right to maximise their quality of life
 - (5) Carers of people with MND have the right to be valued, respected, listened to and well supported.
3. By adopting the Motor Neurone Disease charter, Council assembly expects Southwark Council to promote the Charter and make it available to all councillors, council staff, partner organisations and health and social care professionals who deliver services for the council.
4. Council assembly calls on cabinet to adopt the Motor Neurone Disease Charter and raise awareness of MND and what good care looks like for those living with this devastating disease, as stated in the charter, and do everything we can as the council to positively influence the quality of life for local people with MND and their carers living in our community.

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

2. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR KARL EASTHAM** (Seconded by Councillor Catherine Rose)

School funding in Southwark

1. Council assembly expresses its grave concern about the new schools funding formula being proposed by the government, which could see funding for Southwark schools cut by 20%, which would have a devastating impact on schools in our borough.
2. Council assembly notes that Southwark schools have made dramatic improvements in raising standards and that these unprecedented cuts risk reversing these improvements.
3. Council assembly believes that the government should show a real commitment to the next generation and level up funding for schools outside of London, like the previous Labour government did within London.

4. Council assembly welcomes the government's u-turn on its plans to force all schools to become academies following pressure from local authorities and campaigners, but remains concerned about the government's proposals to forcibly convert 'coasting' or 'failing' schools, despite evidence that intensive support from a local authority can help a struggling school get back on track.
5. Council assembly notes that the government's forced academisation plan would have cost an estimated £1.3bn and calls on the government to instead use this money to provide fair and adequate funding to all schools in the country.
6. Council assembly calls on the cabinet to continue to work with Southwark schools through support and investment to drive improvements and to oppose proposals for any schools to be forced to convert to academy status without the support of local parents and the community.

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

3. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR HAMISH MCCALLUM** (Seconded by Councillor James Barber)

Tax compliance and procurement

1. Council assembly notes that:
 - corporate tax evasion and avoidance are having a damaging impact on the world's poorest countries and the UK's tax revenue that funds vital public services
 - as much as £30bn is lost to UK tax revenues annually through tax evasion and avoidance
 - this practice also has a negative effect on small- and medium-sized companies in Southwark which pay more tax proportionately.
2. Council assembly further notes that:
 - the UK government has taken steps to tackle the issue of tax compliance by issuing 'Procurement Policy Note 03/14' which applies to all central government contracts worth more than £5m
 - the availability of independent means of verifying tax compliance, such as the Fair Tax Mark
 - in early 2015, new regulations required public bodies, including local authorities, to ask procurement qualification questions of all companies for tenders over £173,000 for service contracts and £4m for works contracts.
3. Council assembly believes that bidders for Southwark council contracts should be asked to account for their past tax record using the standards in PPN 03/14 rather than the lower standards in the recent regulations for public bodies.
4. Council assembly therefore calls on the cabinet to amend the borough's existing procurement procedures to require all companies bidding for

council contracts to self-certify that they are fully tax-compliant in line with central government practice, using the standards in PPN 03/14 in all contracts of the amount specified above.

5. Council assembly also calls on the cabinet to publicise this policy and to report on its implementation annually.

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

4. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR FIONA COLLEY** (Seconded by Councillor Nick Dolezal)

A Cinderella Line

1. Council assembly notes that commuters on the Catford loop stations are facing overcrowding and late running trains at Denmark Hill, Peckham Rye and Nunhead stations.
2. Council assembly notes with concern that at peak times trains run at 130 per cent capacity and are only on time 55 per cent of the time.
3. Council assembly welcomes Network Rail's commitment to delivering more train services from 2018 when the works at London Bridge station are complete.
4. Council assembly recognises, however, that urgent improvements are needed before 2018, and calls on the cabinet to lobby Thameslink and Network Rail to take immediate action to deliver:
 - A reliable day to day service
 - All trains in the morning and evening peaks having eight carriages.
5. Council assembly also calls on the cabinet to join forces with the Cinderella Line Campaign, Lewisham Council and other councils in responding to the forthcoming Department for Transport draft south London timetable for 2018 onwards to provide:
 - At least four trains per hour throughout the day on the Catford Loop with all trains running through to St Pancras, rather than some trains (mainly in the evening) running to Blackfriars only as presently
 - At least four trains per hour throughout the day to Victoria from Nunhead/Peckham Rye/Denmark Hill
 - For services to be evenly spread across the hour rather than bunched together
 - Station standards that match London Overground.

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

5. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR CATHERINE DALE** (Seconded by Councillor David Noakes)

Condemning hate crime

1. We are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, xenophobia and hate crimes have no place in our country. Southwark Council condemns racism, xenophobia and hate crimes unequivocally. All people living in Southwark are valued members of our community and we will not allow hate to become acceptable.
2. Southwark Council works closely with the police and local bodies and organisations to support programmes to fight and prevent hate crimes, including hate crime training and awareness, services and support for victims and taking robust action against perpetrators.
3. Council assembly calls on the cabinet to continue to work with these organisations and take all necessary action to fight and prevent racism and xenophobia and all hate crimes.

Notes:

1. This motion was received after the deadline for receipt of motions had passed. The reason for lateness and urgency is that the motion is in response to a recent increase in hate crime incidents following the European Union referendum result. The deadline for motions expired before the outcome of the referendum was announced.
2. 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	Virginia Wynn-Jones 020 7525 7055

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager
Report Author	Virginia Wynn-Jones, Constitutional Officer
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