

Item No. 5.2	Classification: Open	Date: 30 November 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) & (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 ROSIE SHIMELL** (Seconded by Councillor Ben Johnson)

Tackling flytipping in Southwark

1. Council assembly:
 - notes with concern the publication of statistics by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in October 2015 which show that Southwark was the fourth worst council in England for reported flytipping in 2014-2015 with 25,583 recorded incidents in the borough.
 - further notes that there were only 1,889 actions against flytippers by the council recorded and that £0 was collected in fines for flytipping in the same year.
 - believes that the introduction last year of the flat-rate £16 bulky waste collection charge has also contributed to increases in flytipping on Southwark's streets and estates and discriminates against residents without access to a car or on lower incomes.
2. Council assembly therefore calls on the cabinet to withdraw the bulky waste collection charge for residents introduced in December 2015.

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

2. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ELEANOR KERSLAKE** (Seconded by Councillor Kieron Williams)

Stand up for local pharmacies

1. Council assembly notes that Department of Health has announced it is pushing forward with dramatic cuts of £170 million to the funding of community pharmacies in England this year and that it has not ruled out more cuts to follow.
2. Council assembly notes that this funding cut could result in 3,000 pharmacies (a quarter of all pharmacies) closing across the country. In Southwark, 18 pharmacies could be at risk of closing.
3. Council assembly believes that the government's plans threaten patient access to pharmacies and pharmacy services in Southwark. Our local pharmacies are at risk of closure or being forced to cut services such as free delivery of prescription drugs, family planning advice and advice on medicines. This will put more pressure on GPs and hospitals and impact social services and is at odds with the local Clinical Commissioning Group's desire to increase the use of pharmacists to ease pressure on GPs.
4. Council assembly notes that the Local Government Association (LGA) has criticised the Department of Health for overlooking the role of community pharmacy as a 'much needed social and economic asset' and warned of 'unintended consequences' that will impact elsewhere in the local community.

5. Council assembly therefore calls on the Government to abandon these cuts and maintain a fully-funded community pharmacy service and asks the cabinet member for public health, parks and leisure to write to the Secretary of State for Health, NHS England and Southwark Clinical Commissioning Group expressing this view.

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

3. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES** (Seconded by Councillor Eliza Mann)

Saving Southwark's community pharmacies

1. Council assembly notes:

- that Southwark's local pharmacies provide a range of NHS services and ensure residents can get professional, face-to-face healthcare advice without an appointment making them a health and social care asset close to where people live, work and shop.
- the £170million reduction in NHS funding for community pharmacies announced on 17 December 2015 which could put pharmacies in Southwark out of business.
- the statement by the Government on 20 October 2016 announcing that the proposals will proceed as planned.
- the reversal of plans to introduce a "hub and spoke" model for community pharmacies.

2. Council assembly believes that:

- the Government's plans threaten patient access to community pharmacy services in Southwark and are causing uncertainty about future investment in local pharmacy services.
- Southwark's local pharmacies are at risk of closure or being forced to cut services, such as free delivery of prescription drugs, family planning advice and advice on medicines.
- this will put more pressure on the borough's GPs and hospitals, as well as impact on adult social care services, and is at odds with Clinical Commissioning Groups' desire to increase the use of pharmacists to ease pressure on GPs.

3. Council assembly therefore calls on the cabinet to:

- write urgently to the Secretary of State for Health calling for the Government to abandon these funding cuts and to make a commitment to maintaining a fully-funded community pharmacy service.

- write to the borough's three Members of Parliament and to the Chair of the Southwark Clinical Commissioning Group asking them to make similar representations on this matter to the Secretary of State for Health.

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

4. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR STEPHANIE CRYAN (Seconded by Councillor Jasmine Ali)

Make fair transitional state pension arrangements for 1950's women

1. Council assembly calls on the Government to make fair transitional state pension arrangements for all women born on or after 6th April 1951, who have unfairly borne the burden of the increase to the State Pension Age (SPA) with lack of appropriate notification.
2. Council assembly notes that:
 - Hundreds of thousands of women had significant pension changes imposed on them by the Pensions Acts of 1995 and 2011 with little or no personal notification of the changes. Some women had only two years notice of a six-year increase to their state pension age.
 - Many women born in the 1950s are living in hardship. Retirement plans have been shattered with devastating consequences. Many of these women are already out of the labour market, caring for elderly relatives, providing childcare for grandchildren, or suffer discrimination in the workplace so struggle to find employment.
 - Women born in this decade are suffering financially. These women have worked hard, raised families and paid their tax and national insurance with the expectation that they would be financially secure when reaching 60.
 - It is not the pension age itself that is in dispute - it is widely accepted that women and men should retire at the same time. The issue is that the rise in the women's state pension age has been too rapid and has happened without sufficient notice being given to the women affected, leaving women with no time to make alternative arrangements.
3. Council assembly calls on the Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6 April 1951, so that women do not live in hardship due to pension changes they were not told about until it was too late to make alternative arrangements.

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

5. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LAUDER (Seconded by Councillor Sunil Chopra)

The Bus Services Bill motion

1. Council assembly notes:

- That the Bus Services Bill currently passing through Parliament includes Clause 21 that will effectively “prohibit a local authority from forming a company for the purposes of providing a local bus service”
- That the Localism Act 2011 provides general powers of competence to local authorities
- That municipal bus companies provide some of the best bus services in the country and have a successful track record of increasing bus passenger numbers and providing high quality bus services
- That polling by We Own It found that a majority of the public (57%) oppose Clause 21, whilst just 22% support it. The opposition to Clause 21 is consistent across voters from all political parties.

2. Council assembly believes:

- Clause 21 contradicts the general powers of competence and the spirit of the Localism Act 2011
- If there is a need and a demand from their public, then Councils should be able to provide their own bus services
- Should they wish, Councils should be legally able to follow the model developed by Reading and Nottingham
- Consequently Clause 21 should be omitted from the Bus Services Bill.

3. Council assembly therefore calls on cabinet:

- To write to Lord Ahmad and to call on the Department for Transport to omit Clause 21 from the final legislation
- To write to Harriet Harman, Neil Coyle and Helen Hayes MPs to ask them to oppose Clause 21 when the Bus Services Bill reaches the House of Commons and ask them to write to Lord Ahmad and the Department of Transport to raise concerns about Clause 21
- To work with any organisations such as We Own It to publicise our opposition to Clause 21 in local media.

Note: 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	Andrew Weir 020 7525 7222

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Chidi Agada, Constitutional Manager
Report Author	Virginia Wynn-Jones, Principal Constitutional Officer
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