

AMENDMENTS - SUPPLEMENTAL

ITEM 5.2.1 – MEMBERS' MOTIONS - STAND UP FOR LOCAL PHARMACIES (see page 20 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT F

Moved: Councillor Eleanor Kerlake

Seconded: Councillor David Noakes

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.

Insert after paragraph 5:

6. Council assembly also asks the cabinet member for public health, parks and leisure write to the borough's three Members of Parliament asking them to make similar representations on this matter to the Secretary of State for Health.