

Item No. 5.2	Classification: Open	Date: 22 March 2017	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 ANOOD AL-SAMERAI (Seconded by Councillor David Noakes)

Day Centre Services in Southwark

1. Council assembly notes:
 - The excellent work which takes place at the Queens Road and Riverside Day Centres, run by the Camden Society, and the life changing importance of these centres for some of Southwark's most severely disabled residents.
 - That there are currently considerable pressures on adult social care budgets and the system of personal budgets in Southwark.
 - That, these pressures notwithstanding, personal budgets cannot be spent on day centres which no longer exist.
2. Council assembly is concerned that:
 - The Camden Society was told in January 2017 that the leases for the Queens Road and Riverside Day Centre buildings would not be renewed by the council.
 - The decision not to renew these leases has been taken without either:
 - proper discussion with the Camden Society about how the centres could be supported to stay open, or
 - any consultation with service users about the impact of closing the centres.
 - Developers were invited to a "Sitematch Bidder's Day" in November 2016 where the Riverside Day Centre was promoted by council officers as a development site with space for 42 housing units.
 - Confusion and poor communication about decisions regarding the future of the Day Centre buildings has led to an unacceptable degree of uncertainty for carers and service users, as acknowledged by the Cabinet Member for Adult Care and Financial Inclusion in an article in Southwark News on 2nd March 2017.
 - Given the above, the decision not to renew these leases does not appear to have been made in such a way as to meet the following principles of decision making as set out in the council constitution:
 - respect for human rights, law and probity
 - due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers
 - presumption in favour of openness.
3. Council assembly therefore calls on the chair of overview and scrutiny committee to:

- Initiate an urgent investigation into the decision making processes involved in deciding not to renew these leases, including any discussions between the children's and adults services department and the regeneration directorate about the availability or suitability for development of the two day centre sites.
4. Council assembly further calls on the cabinet to:
- Commit publically to supporting the Queens Road and Riverside day centres remaining open in a manner which is fit for purpose.
 - Direct officers to work with the Camden Society to keep the day centres open in a manner which is fit for purpose.

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

2. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL FLEMING (Seconded by Councillor Lorraine Lauder MBE)

Don't Shaft Faraday

1. Council assembly notes that following successful campaigns over a number of years by Southwark Labour MPs, councillors, residents and community groups, Transport for London (TfL) are currently consulting on the Bakerloo Line extension.
2. Council assembly welcomes this consultation on the Bakerloo Line extension, which will improve connectivity, increase the capacity and resilience of the transport network and reduce journey times between key destinations, as well as helping the area to grow by supporting new homes and jobs.
3. Council assembly notes that TfL's consultation includes the location of a ventilation shaft between Elephant and Castle and the proposed Old Kent Road 1 station with two possible locations identified for the proposed shaft; the Bricklayers Arms road junction area and Faraday Gardens on Portland Street.
4. Council assembly notes its concern that Faraday Gardens, a much loved and historic green space is listed as a potential site. To build the proposed shaft there interrupts a well used park, and places it within yards of a primary school, and flats in the Liverpool Grove conservation area. Faraday Gardens is an iconic part of our community, lending its name to the council ward, and its history, from its establishment by Octavia Hill to its extension to replace bombed out buildings, is part of the pioneering story of our borough. Construction traffic would have to use the new Portland Street quietway, placing extra dangers for the cyclists TfL are encouraging to use the route.
5. Council assembly calls on the cabinet to lobby TfL to support the Bricklayers Arms option, to avoid causing unnecessary damage to a local park.

6. Council assembly further calls on cabinet to formally request TfL consider an additional station at Bricklayers Roundabout.

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 Okosun)

Tackling Congestion on Jamaica Road

1. Council assembly notes that:
 - Jamaica Road is one of the most congested roads in the country, being used by more than 1,000 cyclists and 14,000 vehicles per day with an average rush hour speed of just 0.1 miles per hour (MPH) and an average mid-morning speed of just 1.2 MPH.
 - Air pollution in the local area is more than three times the legal limit and that nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) pollution levels along Jamaica Road are 1.23 tonnes per km per year.
2. Council assembly recognises that:
 - A major cause of the congestion is the layout of the Rotherhithe roundabout which creates a bottleneck for vehicles travelling into the tunnel or onto the peninsula.
 - The cycle hire (“Boris Bike”) scheme does not include Bermondsey or Rotherhithe and that an extension of the scheme along Jamaica Road would encourage more people to cycle rather than travel by car.
3. Council assembly welcomes:
 - Ward councillors’ recent success in campaigning for yellow boxes at the junctions with Abbey Street, St James’s Road and Southwark Park Road.
 - The Mayor of London’s support for a walking and cycling bridge between Rotherhithe and Canary Wharf which will ease congestion on local roads and on public transport.
4. Council assembly therefore requests that cabinet calls on Transport for London to:
 - Urgently redesign the Rotherhithe roundabout to ease the flow of vehicles queuing to enter the Rotherhithe tunnel.
 - Introduce a variable messaging system on approach roads to warn drivers when the tunnel is closed or if queues are particularly long.

- Bring forward their proposals for Cycle Superhighway 4 and implement safer conditions for cyclists along Jamaica Road.
 - Improve pedestrian crossings along Jamaica Road, especially at Bermondsey Tube Station and the entrance to Southwark Park.
5. Council assembly further calls on the cabinet to:
- Commit the capital funding for the installation of cycle hire docking stations in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe.

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

4. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR ELEANOR KERSLAKE (Seconded by Councillor Jamille Mohammed)

Save Southwark Post Office services

1. Council assembly notes that:
- The Post Office announced on 10 January this year that it would be closing and franchising 37 Crown Post Offices across the country, including the New Cross branch which serves residents in Peckham Rye, Livesey and Nunhead ward. This follows the closure of the Crown Post office on Rye Lane in August 2016.
 - The Post Office also announced in late 2015 that it would be franchising Blackfriars and Walworth Road branches.
 - Closures across the country will lead to the loss of over 400 jobs nationwide, and they follow the announcement of 62 planned closures in 2016.
 - Post Offices across the borough are well used by, and valued by the local community. Local residents, councillors and the Walworth Society have been fighting for over a year to keep the Walworth Road branch crown and improve this important local Post Office.
 - Post Offices also provide wider social value for older residents, according to a government survey 87% of over-65s use the Post Office for pension's services and other social benefits. 66% of 65+ use the Post Office for personal banking services, insurance products and foreign currency.
 - Independent research shows that franchised Post Offices offer poorer disabled access, longer queuing times, worse customer service and fewer staff, often on minimum wage.
2. Council Assembly believes:
- That the continued closures of Post Offices are bad for our community and will downgrade vital services to our local community.

- That the loss of post office services on the Walworth Road is bad for our local economy and would have a detrimental impact on businesses on the Walworth road and the local economy.
 - That the closure of New Cross Post Office is bad for postal workers and will lead to good quality, skilled jobs on decent pay being replaced by insecure and low-paid work.
3. Council Assembly resolves:
- To affirm our opposition to the closure of New Cross Post Office as well as serving residents in New cross this provides vital post office services for residents in the south of our borough.
 - To affirm our opposition to the loss of Post Office services at Walworth Road, Blackfriars and Peckham Branches.
 - To call on councillors to offer their support to the CWU campaign against the closure of over 100 Post Offices across the country.

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

5. MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR JASMINE ALI (Seconded by Councillor Michael Situ)

The Dubs' Amendment

1. Council assembly welcomes Lord Dubs' amendment to the Immigration Act 2016 which offered unaccompanied refugee children safe refuge in Britain. It notes that this amendment committed the UK to providing a safe haven for vulnerable children fleeing war and persecution.
2. Council assembly is proud of Southwark's tradition of being a welcoming and compassionate borough, ready to play its part in supporting refugees.
3. Council assembly:
 - Condemns the government's decision to end the scheme prematurely which will put the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable children at risk.
 - Refutes the suggestion that local authorities are not willing to help.
 - Notes that the national transfer scheme set up within the act means that the demand on services is shared across the country but the Home Office has simply failed to take up the offers of help from councils.
 - Praises local authorities who, despite the government's underfunding of child refugees, are still meeting their commitments and ensuring the safety and wellbeing of child refugees.

4. Council assembly calls on the leader of the council to write to the Home Secretary urging that she:
 - Immediately reinstates the Dubs scheme.
 - Opens up new consultation with local authorities and commits to provide adequate funding for local authorities taking children under the scheme.
 - Publishes a strategy for the safeguarding of unaccompanied refugee children safeguarding of unaccompanied refugee children living in the UK.

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

6. **MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR KIERON WILLIAMS** (Seconded by Councillor Rebecca Lury)

NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plan

1. The council welcomes the publication in full of work undertaken on the South East London Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) and the commitment local NHS bodies, including Southwark Clinical Commissioning Group, have made to working collaboratively with the Councils and Southwark residents to further develop these plans. The Council also welcomes the work the Our Healthier South East London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is undertaking to scrutinise these proposals and to ensure they are developed in a way that is accountable to local people.
2. The council notes that:
 - There is an urgent need for the government to provide adequate and sustainable funding for health and social care. Whilst demand for these services is rising rapidly (due in a large part to our ageing population) the Government has cut funding to local authorities every year for the past seven years and now plans to cut in real terms NHS funding per head of population for the next two years.
 - The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) figures show that the UK now spends less on health care both per a person and as a proportion of gross domestic product (GDP) than most similar countries including Germany, France, Ireland, Denmark, Austria, Sweden, Belgium and Netherlands.
 - Significant concerns have been raised nationally about the Government's approach to STPs. For example the respected think-tank The Kings Fund has pointed out that: "Tight deadlines have made it difficult to secure meaningful involvement in the plans from key stakeholders, including patients and the public, local authorities, clinicians and other frontline staff"; "Despite the focus on local ownership, key elements of the process have been 'top-down'"; and, "National requirements and deadlines for the plans have changed

over time, and guidance for STP leaders has sometimes been inconsistent and often arrived late.”

3. Therefore, the council resolves to:

- Call on HM Government to provide the resources to fund good quality health and social care services across South East London.
- Call on HM Government to ensure the national STP process supports the real and meaningful involvement of and accountability to local people and organisations in South East London, and enables closer partnership between local authorities and health services.
- Request the continued full publication of all South East London STP documents, appendices and impact assessments.
- Require full public consultation on all significant changes to services arising from the South East London STP.
- Require continued pre decision scrutiny of all significant changes to NHS and social care provision arising from the South East London STP.
- Call on HM Government to provide adequate funding support to allow councils to effectively scrutinise STPs.

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	Chidilim Agada, Constitutional Manager
Report Author	Andrew Weir, Constitutional Officer
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