

Item No. 3.2	Classification: Open	Date: 12 July 2017	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Motion on the Theme: What does Brexit mean for Southwark?	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The theme for this meeting is What does Brexit mean for Southwark?

The relevant cabinet member shall submit a motion on the theme. All other political groups on the council are allowed to submit one amendment to the motion. The cabinet member's motion and the amendments do not need to be seconded. The cabinet member will present the motion to the meeting, followed by the lead opposition spokesperson's response and moving of their amendment, if any. Following this, the subject matter of the theme will be open to debate. Amendment(s) from other opposition groups on the council can be moved during this part of the meeting.

MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR PETER JOHN, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

What does Brexit mean for Southwark?

1. Council assembly notes that the administration remains committed to its core values of fairness and equality, and to delivering its manifesto commitments made to the residents of our borough in 2010 and 2014 - to creating a fairer future for all. This commitment will not change as the UK prepares to leave the EU.
2. Council assembly notes that the UK Statistics Authority estimates the number of EU nationals living in the borough is 31,000, and recognises the significant contribution that EU nationals living and working in Southwark make to our community.
3. Council assembly notes that since 2010 the employment rate in our borough has risen by over 10% to nearly 77%, with nearly 40,000 more people aged 16 – 64 now in work.
4. Council assembly welcomes the administration's commitment to attracting jobs and investment to Southwark, and notes with concern that some employers may delay investment decisions or consider transferring some employment away from London as a result of the Brexit decision.
5. Council assembly notes that this administration is dedicated to making our borough a greener and healthier place to live, and has invested in making walking and cycling easier, and reducing the council's own carbon emissions.
6. Council assembly notes that despite years of national government funding cuts, this administration has remained committed to protecting the most vulnerable in our communities, recognising that because of inflation and a weaker pound in the

period since June 2016, our residents are facing rising costs for food, energy and other essentials.

7. Council assembly recognises the importance of Southwark's cultural, ethnic and religious diversity, and believes that this diversity is one of the factors that makes Southwark such an exciting and vibrant area to live and work in. Our diversity is strengthened by our bonds with other EU countries, and we should therefore continue to work with, and strengthen our connections with, our twinned boroughs of Clichy and Langenhagen.
8. Council assembly calls on cabinet to work with Southwark's three Labour MPs to lobby this Conservative government to clarify the rights of EU nationals to remain, and to take every opportunity to ensure that local residents can continue to benefit from the jobs and apprenticeships in our borough which are connected to the EU.
9. Council assembly further calls on cabinet to maintain our high environmental standards and diversity, and to continue to protect our most vulnerable residents during the Brexit negotiations, and after the UK leaves the EU.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Cabinet members motion	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Andrew Weir 020 7525 7222

AUDIT TRAIL

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