

AMENDMENTS

ITEM 3.2: THEMED DEBATE - HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING NEEDS

(see pages 21-23 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT A

Moved: Councillor Hamish McCallum

Delete all and replace with:

1. Council assembly notes that Southwark is facing a housing crisis:
 - a. 1 in 47 people in Southwark are homeless, with 11,000 on the waiting list for a council home;
 - b. Approximately 2,500 Southwark households are currently housed in temporary accommodation, with 2,000 children growing up without a permanent home and 1,000 families placed in temporary housing outside the borough;
 - c. The number of people seen by outreach teams sleeping rough in Southwark between April 2018 and March 2019 was 435, an increase of 40% from the 309 people seen the previous year.

2. Council assembly further notes that this crisis has been exacerbated during 10 years of this Southwark Labour administration's buck-passing, incompetence and inaction, including by:
 - a. Selling and demolishing more than 3,900 council homes since 2010, while building or buying less than 900, a net loss of over 3,000 Council Homes in our borough on their watch;
 - b. Failing to take action on empty homes in Southwark, resulting in a doubling to nearly 7,000, making Southwark the borough with the most empty homes in London;
 - c. Spending more time talking to developers than engaging with residents about planning applications;
 - d. Housing families with children in temporary accommodation outside of the borough, isolating them from their support networks, and forcing them to spend up to 3 hours a day travelling to and from school;
 - e. Making selective use of statistics to claim that rough sleeping in our borough is falling, when the official figures from the Greater London Authority Combined Homelessness and Information Network (CHAIN) data make it clear that rough sleeping in Southwark is on the rise;
 - f. Refusing to vote for innovative and fully costed Liberal Democrat proposals to provide support for the significant proportion of people sleeping rough who, because of the complexity of their personal circumstances, are either not eligible or not able to access the support currently available for rough sleepers in Southwark;
 - g. Failing to meet the council's own carbon neutral targets on any of the new council homes sites.

3. Council assembly therefore calls upon cabinet to:

- a. Guarantee at least 50% of all new homes delivered across Southwark are affordable for those in local housing need;
- b. Prioritise getting empty homes back into use and commission an independent investigation into why Southwark has the highest number of empty homes in London;
- c. Guarantee quality homes within Southwark for all families with children requiring temporary accommodation;
- d. Work with the voluntary sector to establish a permanent hub for rough sleepers, offering immediate respite from rough sleeping as well as access to multidisciplinary, wrap-around support to help people move away from life on the streets on a more permanent basis, which is free at the point of access for people sleeping rough in Southwark who are not eligible or able to access existing support;
- e. Reaffirm their 2018 manifesto commitment to “build at least 1,000 more council homes” during this term by committing to resign en masse if they fail to deliver that net increase by 2022.

ITEM 5.2.4: MEMBERS' MOTIONS - SAFE MEETING SPACES (see pages 34-35 of the main agenda)

AMENDMENT B

Moved: Councillor Michael Situ
Seconded: Councillor Alice Macdonald

Delete points 2 a. b. and c. and **replace** with:

2. Council assembly further notes that:
 - a. Local neighbourhood police teams currently use a variety of spaces to meet members of the public within their areas. These include businesses, libraries and community venues, and are advertised on social media and through local police panels. More confidential one to one meetings are also arranged at a range of suitable locations with the date and time agreed with the community members.
 - b. The council is currently working to ensure that the ways in which the police and the public interact is tailored to meet the needs of the community, and recognises the need for sensitivity, given that members of the public can be concerned about inviting the police into their homes, being seen to enter a police station, or being seen speaking to police officers near to where they live.

Delete point 3 and **replace** with:

3. Council assembly therefore calls on cabinet to:
 - a. Direct officers to continue to work with the police and other partners to offer a range of spaces which local people and policing teams can use to meet to discuss a range of issues that concern them the most, recognising that these arrangements will need to be flexible and tailored to local areas and include faith establishments, youth centres, TRA halls.
 - b. Work with partners to establish more permanent community contact points for police to ensure a long term solution to the issue.
 - c. Work with the police and other partners to ensure that communication of these community contact points is robust.