

# THE ASSEMBLY

15 SEPTEMBER 2010

## REPORT OF THE ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE

<b>Title: Motions</b>	<b>For Decision</b>
<p>The following motions have been received in accordance with paragraph 14 of Article 2, Part B of the Council's Constitution:</p>	
<p><b>1. Building Schools for the Future (BSF)</b></p>	
<p>To be moved by Councillor Rocky Gill:</p>	
<p>"This Council welcomes the Government decision to continue to grant BSF funding to the Borough's two sample schools, Dagenham Park Church of England and Sydney Russell, to enable them to proceed with planned school improvements.</p>	
<p>However, this Council is deeply concerned by the cancellation of over £200m of the remaining BSF funding which was planned for local secondary schools in Barking and Dagenham.</p>	
<p>Over the next five to ten years, Barking and Dagenham will be faced with significant pressures on school places, especially with the re-development of Barking Riverside and the University of East London site. We need funding to provide first class facilities for both our primary and secondary schools. Without that finance previously earmarked for our schools, some of our young people will not get the education they deserve.</p>	
<p>We therefore, call upon the Cabinet and our local MPs to continue lobbying Government for the necessary funding to ensure we can meet the needs of every child, and their families, in the borough."</p>	
<p><b>2. Playbuilder Grants</b></p>	
<p>To be moved by Cllr Tarry:</p>	
<p>"This Council is dismayed at the decision of the Education Secretary, Michael Gove, to freeze Playbuilder Grants this year to councils across the country which would have provided the funding to refurbish existing playgrounds and play areas and build new play facilities for local children.</p>	
<p>Because of the Government's decision, locally the future of proposed new and renovated playgrounds and play areas at St Chad's, Central Park, Harts Lane, Middle Meadow, Mayesbrook Park, Pondfield Park, Barking Park and Abbey Green is now in doubt.</p>	
<p>Barking and Dagenham councillors believe any Government decision to scrap funding for new play schemes will be at odds with the London 2012 vision - to use the power of the Olympic games to create a healthier London.</p>	

This Council hopes, in light of the Olympics and the aim to leave a games legacy of a healthier London, that the Government sees sense and recognises that decent play facilities are not an extravagance, but a necessity.

Senior councillors intend to lobby Lord Sebastian Coe, Chair of the London 2012 Organising Committee, calling on him to put pressure on Government ministers not to betray the Olympic legacy to London youngsters, by scrapping funding for new play areas in the Borough.

Councillors will also lobby Ministers and we urge local people to write to the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister calling on them to rethink this short sighted decision."

The deadline for amendments to these motions is noon on Friday 10 September 2010.

For information, attached at Appendix A is the relevant extract from the Council's Constitution relating to the procedure for dealing with Motions.

### **Recommendation**

The Assembly is asked to debate and vote on the above motions and any amendments.

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**Extract from the Council Constitution  
Part B, Article 2 - The Assembly**

**14. Motions on issues directly affecting the Borough**

- 14.1 Written notice of any motions must be received by the Chief Executive by no later than 4.00 pm on the Wednesday two weeks before the meeting. *The following provisions exclude a motion moving a vote of no confidence in the Leader of the Council (see paragraph 10 for details)*
- 14.2 The Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair, or in their absence the Deputy Chair, of the Assembly may decide not to place on the agenda any motions that he/she considers are of a vexatious or derogatory nature, or contrary to any provision of any code, protocol, legal requirement or rule of the Council; or that do not relate to the business of the Council or are otherwise considered improper or inappropriate.
- 14.3 The Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair, or in their absence the Deputy Chair, of the Assembly may decide not to place on the agenda any motions the content of which he/she feels forms the basis of a motion already considered at the Assembly within the previous twelve months.
- 14.4 In the event that the Member who submitted the motion is not present at the Assembly meeting, the motion will be withdrawn.
- 14.5 Any motions withdrawn as indicated above, or withdrawn at the request of the Member who submitted the motion, either before or during the meeting, may not be resubmitted to the Assembly within a period of six months. This condition will be waived where the Member, or a colleague on their behalf, has notified the Chief Executive by 5 pm on the day of the meeting of their inability to attend due to their ill health or family bereavement.
- 14.6 Motions will be listed on the agenda in the order in which they are received.
- 14.7 Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility or which directly affect the borough.
- 14.8 Written notice of any amendments to motions must be received by the Chief Executive by no later than 12 noon on the Friday before the meeting. The same criteria and actions as described in paragraphs 14.3, 14.4, 14.5 and 14.6 will apply in relation to any amendments received.
- 14.9 Any amendments proposed after the time specified in paragraph 14.8 will only be considered for exceptional reasons such as a change in circumstances appertaining to the original motion, in which case the consent of the Chair will be required.
- 14.10 Order/rules of debate:
1. Except with the Chair's consent, the debate on each motion shall last no longer than 10 minutes and no individual speech shall exceed two minutes.

2. The mover will move the motion and explain its purpose.
3. The Chair will invite another Member to second the motion
4. If any amendment(s) has been accepted in accordance with paragraphs 12.8 or 12.9, the Chair will invite the relevant Member to move the amendment(s) and explain its (their) purpose.
5. The Chair will invite another Member(s) to second the amendment(s).
6. The Chair will then invite Members to speak on the motion and any amendments.
7. Once all Members who wish to speak have done so, or the time limit has elapsed, the Chair will allow the mover(s) of the amendment(s) a right of reply followed by the mover of the original motion.
8. At the end of the debate, any amendments will be voted on in the order in which they were proposed.
9. If an amendment is carried, the motion as amended becomes the substantive motion to which any further amendments are moved and voted upon.
10. After an amendment has been carried, the Chair will read out the amended motion before accepting any further amendments, or if there are none, put it to the vote.
11. If all amendments are lost, a vote will be taken on the original motion.

## **15. Closure Motions**

- 15.1 A member may move, without comment, the following motions at the end of a speech of another Member:
  - (i) to proceed to the next business;
  - (ii) that the question/motion be now put;
  - (iii) to adjourn a debate; or
  - (iv) to adjourn a meeting.
- 15.2 If a motion to proceed to next business is seconded the Chair will put this to a vote without further discussion on the original motion or item
- 15.3 If a motion that the question/motion be now put is seconded the Chair will call the vote on the original motion or question.
- 15.4 If a motion to adjourn the debate or to adjourn the meeting is seconded and the Chair thinks the item has not been sufficiently discussed and cannot reasonably be so discussed on that occasion, they will put the procedural motion to the vote without giving the mover of the original motion the right of reply.