



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the

TOWER HAMLETS COUNCIL

Wednesday, 17 May 2017 at 8.00 p.m.

A G E N D A

VENUE

Council Chamber, 1st Floor,
Town Hall, Mulberry Place,
5 Clove Crescent,
London E14 2BG

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**TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER
HAMLETS**

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets to be held in **THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG** at **8.00 p.m.** on **WEDNESDAY, 17 MAY 2017**

Will Tuckley
Chief Executive

Public Information

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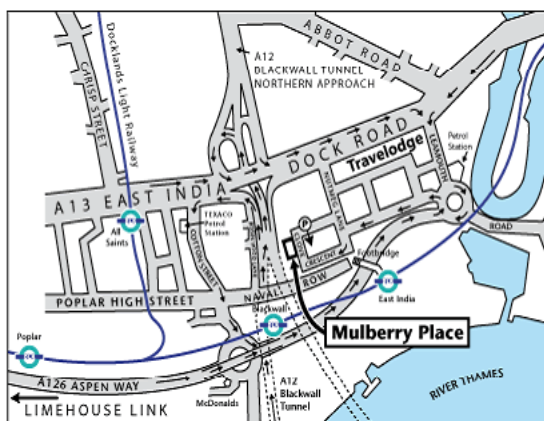
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LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 17 MAY 2017

8.00 p.m.

PAGE
NUMBER

1. ELECTION OF SPEAKER

To elect a Councillor to serve as Speaker of the Council for the municipal year 2017/18 or until a successor is appointed, whichever is the sooner.

(Note: Section 4 and Schedule 2 of the Local Government Act 1972 provide that the election of the chairman (which post the Council has resolved to title "Speaker" in Tower Hamlets) shall be the first item of business transacted at the Annual Meeting of the Council and that in the case of an equality of votes, the person presiding at the meeting shall give a casting vote in addition to any vote s/he may have).

2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

To elect a Councillor to serve as Deputy Speaker of the Council for the municipal year 2017/18 or until a successor is appointed, whichever is the sooner.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

4. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

1 - 4

To note any declarations of interest made by Members, including those restricting Members from voting on the questions detailed in Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992. See attached note from the Monitoring Officer.

5. MINUTES

5 - 38

To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 22 March 2017.

6. **TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE COUNCIL OR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**
7. **MAYOR'S CABINET AND EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS** **To Follow**
- To note the Mayor's Cabinet and related appointments in the Executive Scheme of Delegation as at 17 May 2017. Report to follow.
8. **PROPORTIONALITY AND ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES** **39 - 44**
- To establish Committees and Sub-Committees of the Council for the Municipal Year 2017/18 and allocate places on those Committees and Sub-Committees with the review of proportionality as required by the Local Government Housing Act 1989.
9. **COMMITTEE CALENDAR 2017/18** **45 - 56**
- To agree a revised Schedule of Meetings for the Council, committees and other meetings for the municipal year 2017/18.
10. **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND PANELS OF THE COUNCIL** **57 - 74**
- To appoint a Chair and Members to each of the Committees and Panels of the Council established at Item 8 above, in accordance with the nominations submitted by the political groups.

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Agenda Item 4

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS - NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Members' Code of Conduct at Part 5.1 of the Council's Constitution.

Please note that the question of whether a Member has an interest in any matter, and whether or not that interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, is for that Member to decide. Advice is available from officers as listed below but they cannot make the decision for the Member. If in doubt as to the nature of an interest it is advisable to seek advice **prior** to attending a meeting.

Interests and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs)

You have an interest in any business of the authority where that business relates to or is likely to affect any of the persons, bodies or matters listed in section 4.1 (a) of the Code of Conduct; and might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of yourself, a member of your family or a person with whom you have a close association, to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward affected.

You must notify the Monitoring Officer in writing of any such interest, for inclusion in the Register of Members' Interests which is available for public inspection and on the Council's Website.

Once you have recorded an interest in the Register, you are not then required to declare that interest at each meeting where the business is discussed, unless the interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI).

A DPI is defined in Regulations as a pecuniary interest of any of the descriptions listed at **Appendix A** overleaf. Please note that a Member's DPIs include his/her own relevant interests and also those of his/her spouse or civil partner; or a person with whom the Member is living as husband and wife; or a person with whom the Member is living as if they were civil partners; if the Member is aware that that other person has the interest.

Effect of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest on participation at meetings

Where you have a DPI in any business of the Council you must, unless you have obtained a dispensation from the authority's Monitoring Officer following consideration by the Dispensations Sub-Committee of the Standards Advisory Committee:-

- not seek to improperly influence a decision about that business; and
- not exercise executive functions in relation to that business.

If you are present at a meeting where that business is discussed, you must:-

- Disclose to the meeting the existence and nature of the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, if later; and
- Leave the room (including any public viewing area) for the duration of consideration and decision on the item and not seek to influence the debate or decision

When declaring a DPI, Members should specify the nature of the interest and the agenda item to which the interest relates. This procedure is designed to assist the public's understanding of the meeting and to enable a full record to be made in the minutes of the meeting.

Where you have a DPI in any business of the authority which is not included in the Member's register of interests and you attend a meeting of the authority at which the business is considered, in addition to disclosing the interest to that meeting, you must also within 28 days notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest for inclusion in the Register.

Further advice

For further advice please contact:-

Graham White, Acting Corporate Director, Governance and Interim Monitoring Officer , 020 7364 4800

APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

(Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, Reg 2 and Schedule)

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by the Member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of the Member.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	<p>Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority—</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged.</p>
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	<p>Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)—</p> <p>(a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.</p>
Securities	<p>Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where—</p> <p>(a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) either—</p> <p>(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</p> <p>(ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.</p>

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LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 22 MARCH 2017

**THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5
CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG**

Members Present:

Councillor Khales Uddin Ahmed	Councillor Clare Harrison
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	Councillor Danny Hassell
Councillor Shafi Ahmed	Councillor Sirajul Islam
Councillor Suluk Ahmed	Councillor Denise Jones
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	Councillor Aminur Khan
Councillor Sabina Akhtar	Councillor Rabina Khan
Councillor Mahbub Alam	Councillor Shiria Khatun
Councillor Shah Alam	Councillor Abjol Miah
Councillor Asma Begum	Councillor Ayas Miah
Councillor Rachel Blake	Councillor Harun Miah
Councillor Chris Chapman	Councillor Md. Maium Miah
Councillor Dave Chesterton	Councillor Mohammed Mufti Miah
Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury	Councillor Muhammad Ansar Mustaqim
Councillor Andrew Cregan	Councillor John Pierce
Councillor David Edgar	Councillor Oliur Rahman
Councillor Marc Francis	Councillor Candida Ronald
Councillor Amy Whitelock Gibbs	Councillor Rachael Saunders
Councillor Peter Golds	Councillor Helal Uddin
Councillor Shafiqul Haque	Councillor Andrew Wood

The Speaker of the Council, Councillor Khales Uddin Ahmed in the Chair

During the meeting, the Council agreed to vary the order of business. To aid clarity, the Minutes are presented in the order that the items originally appeared on the agenda. The order the business was taken in at the meeting was as follows:

- Item 1 - Apologies for absence.
- Item 2 – Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.
- Item 3 – Minutes.
- Item 4 – Announcements.
- Item 5.1 – 5.3 – Petitions
- Item 5.4 – Petition Debate – Save our Nurseries from Privatisation.
- Item 6 – Public Questions.
- Item 7 – Mayor’s Report.
- Item 8 – Members Questions (8.1)
- Item 12.7 - Motion regarding School Funding
- Item 8 – Members Questions (8.2-8.4, 8.6-8.11)

- Item 9 – Reports from the Executive and the Council's Committees.
- Item 9.1 - Report of the General Purposes Committee: Localism Act 2011 - Pay Policy Statement 2017/18
- Item 9.2 - Report of the General Purposes Committee: Revision of the Council' Constitution - Parts 1 to 3
- Item 10 –Reports and Questions on Joint Arrangements/External Organisations
- Item 11 – Other Business
- Item 11.1 - Members' Allowance Scheme
- Item 11.2 - Committee Calendar 2017/18

With great regret, the Speaker of the Council referred to the tragic events that took place earlier in the day in Westminster. He stated that it was important that the Council showed solidarity at this time and that the Council's thoughts were with those affected. The Statutory Deputy Mayor, Councillor Sirajul Islam and the Leaders of the Opposition Groups echoed these points and paid tribute to the work of the emergency services and those that had provided assistance to the victims. Support was also expressed for a joint statement on behalf of the Council.

The Council rose to observe a minutes silence in memory of the victims

The Speaker was also sorry to report that Mayor John Biggs was unable to attend the meeting as his mother sadly passed away on Monday at the age of 96. Mayor Biggs had therefore asked that his apologies be given for this meeting and had requested that the Statutory Deputy Mayor, Councillor Sirajul Islam deputise for him at this meeting. The Council sent their deepest condolences and sympathies to the Mayor for his loss.

The Speaker also welcomed to the meeting the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Leslie Morgan OBE.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Mayor John Biggs
- Councillor M. Abdul Mukit
- Councillor Amina Ali
- Councillor Joshua Peck
- Councillor Gulam Robbani
- Councillor Abdul Asad
- Councillor Julia Dockerill
- Councillor Craig Aston

Apologies for lateness was received on behalf of Councillor Amy Whitelock Gibbs.

Procedural Motion

Councillor Ohid Ahmed **moved** and Councillor Mahbub Alam **seconded**, a procedural motion “that under Procedure Rule 14.1.14, Rule 13.1 be suspended to enable an urgent motion regarding Personal Independence Payments to be considered”. The procedural motion was put to the vote and was **defeated**.

Procedural Motion

Councillor Rabina Khan **moved** and Councillor Shafi Ahmed **seconded**, a procedural motion “that under Procedure Rule 14.1.14, Rule 19 be suspended to enable an urgent petition regarding Save our Nurseries from Privatisation to be considered”. The procedural motion was put to the vote and it was **agreed** that the petition be heard following the consideration of the petitions listed on the agenda.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

No declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests were made.

Councillor Helal Uddin declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 12.6 Motion regarding Poplar HARCA Auction of 50 Social Dwellings as his employers had a working relationship with Poplar HARCA

Councillor Denise Jones declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 8.3, Members Question regarding business rates, as she had a small business.

3. MINUTES**RESOLVED:**

1. That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on Wednesday 18 January 2017 be agreed as a correct record of proceedings.
2. That the minutes of the Budget Council meeting held on Wednesday 22 February 2017 be agreed as a correct record of proceedings.
3. That the supplementary note (attached in the agenda as Appendix A to the minutes of that meeting) be agreed as an addition to the minutes of and a variation to the decision of the Budget Council meeting of Wednesday 22 February 2017

4. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE COUNCIL OR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Chief Executive provided an update on the recruitment of a Corporate Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer.

He reported that the position had been awarded to Asmat Hussain of the London Borough of Enfield. The Council looked forward to working with her in the future.

5. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS**5.1 Petition relating to Compensation for no heating and hot water in Killick Way, Ocean Estate Tower Hamlets**

Sofijur Rahman addressed the meeting and responded to questions from Members. Councillor Sirajul Islam, Cabinet Member for Housing Management & Performance, then responded to the matters raised in the petition. He sympathised with the petitioners and the residents' concerns. He also explained that whilst responsibility for responding to the issues rested with East Thames Homes, both the Housing provider and the Council had provided support to the tenants to alleviate the issues. He also reported that the issues were referred to the housing regulator, but it was found that there had been no breach of procedures.

He added that the Mayor would continue to work with the housing provider and the residents to implement their action plans and achieve the outcomes they deserved.

RESOLVED:

1. That the petition be referred to the Corporate Director, Place for a written response within 28 days.

5.2 Petition relating to Tower Hamlets Nursery Schools

Chris Lewis, Becky Dolomore, and Bridget Cass addressed the meeting and responded to questions from Members. Councillor Rachael Saunders, Cabinet Member for Education & Children's Services then responded to the matters raised in the petition. She expressed concern about the impact government's changing policy on service. She also reported that the Council had been permitted a one year disapplication in implementing the plans which they would reapply for each year. They would use this period to identify an appropriate solution to protect early years services.

RESOLVED:

1. That the petition be referred to the Corporate Director Children's, for a written response within 28 days.

5.3 Petition relating to Construction/building work in Aston Street E14

Adm Azim Khan Chowdhury addressed the meeting and responded to questions from Members. Councillor Rachel Blake, Cabinet Member for Strategic Development, then responded to the matters raised in the petition. She advised that she took seriously the issues. She reported that she visited the site earlier today to learn more about the problems and that she would be raising Members' Enquiries about aspects of the work with the appropriate Officers. Environmental Health and Trading Standards were aware of the issues and the Council would be following the issues up with them and also the housing provider to ensure that the construction management plan for the development was implemented.

RESOLVED:

1. That the petition be referred to the Corporate Director, Place for a written response within 28 days.

Procedural Motion

Councillor Aminur Khan **moved** and Councillor Shah Alam, **seconded**, a procedural motion "that under Procedure Rule 14.1.3 the order of business be varied such that item 12.6 Motion regarding Poplar HARCA Auction of 50 Social Dwelling be taken as the next item of business". The procedural motion was put to the vote and was **defeated**.

5.4 Petition Debate – Save our Nurseries from Privatisation.

[The text of the petition and the procedure for considering petitions for debate were circulated].

Nouruja Rahman, Shahanara Zaman, and Alicja Son addressed the meeting on behalf of the petitioners and the Council then debated the matters raised by the petition. Councillor Rachael Saunders, Cabinet Member for Education & Children's Services responded to the issues raised. She provided reassurance about the plans for the children's services and the nature of the changes. She considered that the review should be parent led and there would be plenty more opportunities, particularly over the summer, for nurseries and parents to have their say given the decision making timescale. She urged parents to get involved in the forthcoming consultation process and to contact her directly. She also reassured the petitioners that the John Smith Children's Centre would not be affected by this review

RESOLVED:

1. That the petition be referred to the Corporate Director Children's, for a written response within 28 days.

6. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The following question followed by a supplementary question was put and was responded to by the relevant Executive Member:-

6.1 Question from Abu Talha Chowdhury:

Can the Mayor outline under what circumstances and in which areas, together with relevant Acts, could the local authority intervene in the schools maintained by the authority - and separately how it differs from a school run by a trust or as a free school?

Response of Councillor Rachael Saunders, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education & Children's Services:

To our frustration the ability of the Local Authority to have a leadership role over education is reducing but it remains something that is hugely important to us. Local Authorities may only intervene when the education of the pupils in any individual school is at risk. This includes issues relating to standards, safeguarding, and finances, including pay and conditions. Local Authorities can only intervene in Local Authority maintained schools. Academies and free schools come under the purview of the Regional School Commissioner (RSC) who has the same powers but for all schools including maintained schools. So we can only intervene in maintained schools, the Regional Commissioner can intervene in all schools.

We are in regular contact and have regular discussions with the Regional School Commissioner as you would expect. Where a school is considered at risk of failing, the Local Authority has the power to issue a formal warning notice. We would usually do this alongside the RSC. There are three forms of intervention: schools that have been judged inadequate by Ofsted, schools that are coasting and schools that have failed to comply with a warning notice.

Supplementary question from Abu Talha Chowdhury:

Can you provide updates on the two motions relating to schools; the death of Nasar Ahmed, Bow School and the results of the investigation at Ian Mikado school. In relation to the Ian Mikado motion, can you confirm that the first Chair of Governors made serious objections to this appointment and said that 'some crimes should discount individuals from working in schools' but he was pushed out and eventually left. This quoted evidence collaborates with the member of the governing body of Ian Mikado school, Lisa Stepanovic who came here at this very Council on 20th July 2016, and said that children told me that they were not allowed to challenge this, I was told that I could not challenge it.

In order to be transparent, could the Deputy Mayor inform who were the two Councillors that were involved in the decision making process of this appointment at Ian Mikado school, and have the recommendations arising out of the review been now fully implemented by the Council and school, if so, what actual changes have taken place?

The Lead Member talked about safeguarding, so my question was which two Councillors were involved in the decision making of safeguarding the children at Ian Mikado school.

Councillor Rachael Saunders's, response to supplementary question:

The issues you raised are really important both in terms of Ian Mikado and Bow School. A number of investigations have been undertaken in both cases in terms of the statutory issues and the work of the Council. A number of complaints have been investigated. I don't think it's responsible for me without receiving notice of your question to freelance and give an update on the safeguarding issues but I would be happy to write to you or to meet if you find that easier.

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

Councillor Sirajul Islam, Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing Management & Performance, made his verbal report to the Council on behalf of Mayor John Biggs summarising key events, engagements and meetings since the last Council meeting.

When Councillor Islam had completed his report and at the invitation of the Speaker, the Leaders of the Opposition Groups then responded briefly to the report.

8. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

The following questions and in each case supplementary questions were put (except where indicated) and were responded to by the Mayor, relevant Executive Member or Councillor:-

8.1 Question from Councillor Sabina Akhtar:

The National Audit Office recently published a report highlighting the major cost pressures that schools face. What assessment has been made of the savings required by schools in Tower Hamlets, including the changes to the school funding formula?

Response of Councillor Rachael Saunders, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education & Children's Services:

There are two issues here. One is the additional costs that the government is forcing schools to pay, so that leads to costs pressures of around 8% which includes increases in National Insurance contributions, pension contribution, pay awards and the apprenticeship levy. The real adjustment of this is that if you are a maintained school, you have to pay the apprenticeship levy. If you are an Academy, you don't, so the way in which the government racks up punishment against schools who are just choosing the way in which they want to be governed. There are also inflationary pressures. We have heard that inflation is going up due to the government's mismanagement and the

pressures on the economy caused by Brexit. In addition to that, the government's proposed new national funding formula will see our funding cut by 7.6%. This is equivalent to £551 per pupil. The combination of the additional pressure that the government are choosing to put on school's budgets plus cuts to school funding, if you add it together it is over a £1000 per pupil. Which is terrifying considering how absolutely vital both strong leadership, management, governance and support from parents, and the efforts of children and also good funding has been to the excellent results of schools in Tower Hamlets.

Supplementary question from Councillor Sabina Akhtar:

Do you agree that the new funding formula is an attack on social mobility?

Councillor Rachael Saunders's, response to supplementary question:

The government's idea of making school funding 'fair' is to take money away from the poorer areas and give it to wealthier areas. Schools across London will have to cut £360m which is the equivalent of nearly 13,000 qualified teachers. Losing £551 per pupil, as I described in addition to the huge budgetary pressures that the government is imposing on our schools really does put the progress our schools have made at serious risk.

Procedural Motion

Councillor Danny Hassell **moved** and Councillor Rachael Saunders, **seconded**, a procedural motion "that under Procedure Rule 14.1.3 the order of business be varied such that item 12.7 Motion regarding School Funding be taken as the next item of business". The procedural motion was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

Following consideration of the motion, the Speaker adjourned the meeting at 9:15pm. The meeting was reconvened at 9.25pm

8.2 Question from Councillor Oliur Rahman:

In response to my previous council question at 18 January 2017 meeting about vulnerable Syrian refugee children, the Mayor said that he is committed to resettling 3 to 5 households and has allocated funding the council need - will he update us on exactly how many vulnerable Syrians children does his commitment translate into, and how many have now been settled?

Response of Councillor Sirajul Islam, Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing Management & Performance

Since the Mayor's response to your question from January we have now procured a specialist provider to deliver an 'Integration Support Service' to assist the families that we will host through the SVPRS scheme. I'm pleased to say that Refugee Action won this contract. They are an experienced independent provider who will help our new families settle and make new lives here in our borough.

We are now working with Genesis Housing Association to identify three suitable properties for the families to occupy. The Mayor and I share members frustration that this has taken so long, but this is the final piece of the jigsaw for us. Once we can supply the details of these properties to the Home Office they will identify families in Syria, and within six weeks we should be able to welcome them to the Tower Hamlets

It is important to note that the Council does not wholly determine the make-up of the households it receives, as this is done by the Home Office through its own 'matching' process. Although it is likely that children will form part of the households brought to Tower Hamlets, it is not possible to put exact figures on this number at the current time.

SVPRS should not be confused with the programmes for resettling Unaccompanied Child Asylum Seekers (UASC) from Europe. This Council played an outstanding role in assisting the resettlement of vulnerable children from the Calais 'jungle', when over 20 such children from a variety of national backgrounds were resettled in the UK via our Rest Centre. We ourselves continue to support five of these children, one of whom is Syrian.

The resettlement of UASC has recently been restricted by the Government, which has decided not to fulfil its previous commitment made under the 'Dubs Amendment' to bring 3,000 UASC to the UK. It will instead limit the number to 350. This is deeply disappointing as Councils across the country have stated they stand ready to help achieve the original target.

Supplementary question from Councillor Oliur Rahman:

Out of the 173 refugees that came to London by the end of last year, Newham rehoused 26, Southwark Council officially announced its intention to help 25 families of Syrian refugees working with the Salvation Army. Somerset has taken 8 families this year, with a public pledge of 30. This question has been on the table for a very long time, and I think that Mayor John Biggs has had ample opportunity to address this issue. Even he himself admitted that this is an embarrassing record for him and now you are saying that you have appointed somebody. I wonder how much that person is costing to do the research to help. They can simply pick up the phone and ask the Mayor of Newham how he did it. You don't need a consultant to tell you how to take the families from Syria

Councillor Sirajul Islam response to supplementary question:

As I said in my response, the Mayor is frustrated by this but I think that the owner of this is the Home Office. We are having a lot of issues with getting families. We want to help families. But it is up to the Home Office to help us to do that. I think the other issue is the cost of housing, if you compare Newham to Tower Hamlets. There are constraints but we do want them to resettle here and if those constraints can be rectified, then of course.

8.3 Question from Councillor Denise Jones

What action has the Mayor taken to challenge the Government's damaging business rate increase?

Response of Councillor David Edgar, Cabinet Member for Resources:

Clearly everyone in this room will recognise the importance of small businesses to the economy and the impact that the huge increase in business rates that the government has imposed will have on those business and on the streets of the borough. We campaigned as a Council with Hackney and the East End Trades Guild, and a petition was delivered to Downing Street, by Mayor John Biggs and his counterpart at Hackney and the East End Trades Guild. We asked the government in that petition to think again and to hold any rises until they have had time to sort out a fairer system of relief for small and medium sized businesses. That petition was one that was signed by over 10,000 residents plus business owners. So the rate of relief the government is giving Tower Hamlets over 4 years is £8 m but that hardly compares with the £160m that businesses in Tower Hamlets will have to pay in addition. I think it's important that the Chancellor does more to recognise the impact of his cuts. We do need the government to do much more than it has done so far to think about the impact that these increases are having on small and medium sized businesses.

No supplementary question was asked.

8.4 Question from Councillor Andrew Wood

Given the imminent closure of Marsh Wall & Eastferry road for gas works for five weeks starting the 27th March what has the Mayor done to ensure that construction sites in the area have adapted their plans, that people dependent on the 135 & D6 buses can still access transport and that disruption is minimised. Also given that this is the 2nd major utility related digging up of Marsh Wall in the last 8 months what assurances do we have that this will not happen again next year?

Response of Councillor Rachel Blake, Cabinet Member for Strategic Development:

We are really disappointed that we only became aware of these issues from a letter from the National Grid. We totally recognise the importance of Marsh Wall. We have instructed the Chief Executive to coordinate officers on this issue.

Supplementary question from Councillor Andrew Wood:

I would like to thank the Mayor for our email exchanges on this. I know he shares our frustrations on this. I realised today that Marsh Wall west now has one lane closed as well for works, so the eastern end is completely shut and the western end is 50% shut and this just happened today so there is going to

be complete chaos. So is the Council aware of that additional road closure or not?

Councillor Rachel Blake response to supplementary question:

I was planning to visit the area today but had to do some enforcement in respect of cement trucks on Aston Street while I was dealing with the other issues. I will look into the issue you raise. You will have probably noticed in the budget that we have set aside £151,000 for additional planning enforcement officers. We know that if we are to achieve the level of homes and jobs that we want to in Tower Hamlets we need to take these issues very seriously and we are setting aside resources in order to coordinate some of those issues.

8.6 Question from Councillor Rabina Khan:

Can the Mayor ensure that leaseholders and freeholders will secure a like for like property in the future regenerated scheme of what is known as "Project Stone"?

Response of Councillor Rachel Blake, Cabinet Member for Strategic Development:

The Mayor has made it clear that any redevelopment plans on the Isle of Dogs should have residents at the heart of it. We have been enabling residents to bring forward what they believe will be like for like and the Mayor has made clear that the scheme should be a resident led process.

Supplementary question from Councillor Rabina Khan:

Can the Mayor ensure through his JV meeting with One Housing and Argent that the leaseholders and freeholders will get a similar scheme to the Robin Hood Gardens regeneration as the bare minimum with a seven year full ownership deal?

Councillor Rachel Blake's, response to supplementary question:

I am not aware of any JV meetings that have taken place. The Mayor, unlike yourself who as far as I can see did very little to hold Argent and One Housing Group to account when they were putting forward Project Stone, has been really clear that any development that takes place on the Isle of Dogs would have to be resident led. We have moved from a position where the Housing Association was bringing forward Project Stone without any communication with residents to a situation where residents have been helped by the Council in order to bring forward what they considered to be a like for like offer. [inaudible sentence]. I am not aware of any JV meetings but we have tried to work in a way that holds One Housing and Argent to account.

8.7 Question from Councillor Danny Hassell:

Can the lead member please update me on what work is being undertaken by the council and its partners to improve safety along Cantrell Road (the pedestrian path running alongside Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park between Knapp Road and Bow Common Lane) and what specific actions will be taken to improve safety here?

Response of Councillor Ayas Miah, Cabinet Member for Environment:

A survey of the area has been carried out, which looked at lighting, vegetation and general appearance of the area. This was done through three separate visits at different times of the day. Some issues were identified that would make the area more open and accessible, and give feeling of a safer environment. The survey made three recommendations:

Recommendation 1: About three quarters of the way through the route there is a hawthorn, or berry bush by a telegraph pole. Trimming bushes along the route to allow end to end vision. Currently the through vision is only part way through the walkway.

Recommendation 2: Changing the parking control restrictions on this section would reduce parking and also allow dumped cars to be removed quicker. There are no residential properties or users that park in this area, it would not affect or reduce resident parking.

Recommendation 3: Crime tends to happen in the eastern end of the cemetery exit near to the work units and dumped cars. We are considering additional LED pads.

I will be speaking to officers about progressing these works quickly, to ensure that safety is improved as soon as possible.

Supplementary question from Councillor Danny Hassell:

Can I thank the Lead Member and Officers for their thorough analysis and report. One thing that I don't think has been explored as well as it might have been is around CCTV provision in the area. Now I am not one to say that we need CCTV everywhere. I don't think it is necessarily always effective. But I do think it should be considered here where there is not a lot of natural surveillance, especially as there has been a number of very serious issues reported here by residents. CCTV is something that could really be considered to improve the safety and the sense of security of residents. So will the Lead Member please commit to exploring this as an option?

Councillor Ayas Miah's response to supplementary question

Yes I will discuss this proposal with Officers.

8.8 Question from Councillor Ohid Ahmed:

Will the Mayor provide official crime rate figures (overall) for each year since 2010 until present (2017) for the Borough? And will the Mayor confirm that Anti-Social Behaviour is a priority for him which is backed up by his utmost focus and required leadership?

Response of Councillor Shiria Khatun, Cabinet Member for Community Safety:

Tackling anti-social behaviour is absolutely a key priority for the Mayor and it is a key priority for the year ahead in his letter to the Chief Executive. It forms an important part of our refreshed Strategic Plan.

An ASB review is in progress and we will develop an ASB partnership strategy to review existing services, learn from best practice and to continue to develop and improve on the ASB support and services for the borough.

I won't read out the official crime rates since 2010 but they will be included in the official minutes. I can confirm that overall crimes increased from 2010 to 2012, fell slightly for two years, and then rose again in 2014 and 2015. For the current year, up to January 2017, there have been 26,005 reported crimes in our borough

Tackling ASB is one of the Community Safety Partnership's four priorities for 2017-20 and a Local Police Priority with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime.

The Mayor's recent budget takes a robust approach to tackling anti-social behaviour, including dog fouling and littering, by ensuring our Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers focus their time on areas with the greatest need.

We are also investing in increasing enforcement and prosecution against landlords who do not comply with the requirements of the Council's landlord licencing scheme.

Supplementary question from Councillor Ohid Ahmed:

The reality is different from your answer. The Overview and Scrutiny report, presented this month on 1 March 2017, stated that there has been a significant delay in progressing the scrutiny review recommendations. In fact residents and Members would be interested to know that the Mayor and Cabinet have made no progress on the recommendations of the ASB scrutiny review carried out by the Council in 2015. [inaudible sentence]. One simple supplementary question, how do you compare our borough with neighbouring boroughs?

Councillor Shiria Khatun's response to supplementary question:

Once again let me reiterate that tackling ASB is a very key priority for the Mayor and his administration. With regards to statistics and comparisons to

other boroughs, we do have an issue with ASB in Tower Hamlets which was highlighted in the ASB review that you were part of two years ago and was presented at the scrutiny meeting that I attended. You do realise that from that meeting it has to follow a process before it gets to Cabinet. So from O&S, it can't just be adopted as a Council policy. It has to go through all the processes and mechanisms that we have at this Council. Once again, I want to reiterate that I know you were in power at a time when crime statistics in Tower Hamlets did rise, they then fell again and have risen since. So we have this pattern in Tower Hamlets. However with the review taking place which is looking at a partnership approach, the issue of what we can do better internally and how we can work with our partner externally, it should actually provide us with a coordinated service to deal with not just ASB but different forms of ASB and the perception of ASB that we have.

8.9 Question from Candida Ronald:

What assessment has the Council made of the Government's Budget, as announced on 8th March, and its impact on Tower Hamlets?

Response of Councillor David Edgar, Cabinet Member for Resources:

As you noticed, there was a rather embarrassing U-turn the Chancellor had to make on his increase in National Insurance contributions. This is something that would have had an impact on self employed people in the borough. I look forward to some more U-turns. The budget did announce some extra funding for social care, but nowhere near the amounts that are needed. There was a significant investment in free schools and grammar schools which we have already discussed, where they are not needed, rather than in new places where they are needed. We still have the promise of further cuts across public expenditure in 2019/20 with no details of where the axe will fall.

Supplementary question from Councillor Candida Ronald:

You talked about some of the ways which those cuts are likely to impact on us. Does it feel to you that these are political decisions and have actually nothing to do with the state of the economy?

Councillor David Edgar's response to supplementary question:

They have announced some small relief for business rates and as said earlier that relief is not anywhere near enough when compared to the costs to the businesses. We still don't know what the shape of the consultation will include. That consultation is going on now. I hope that the government will take the opportunity of the consultation to think again on that issue. They gave us some additional money for social care that goes nowhere near to meeting the scale of the crisis facing this country. It won't plug the gap and we still won't know the details of how it will work out. So overall, it was not a good announcement and the details are not going to take us very far.

8.10 Question from Councillor Chris Chapman:

The Labour controlled Manchester City Council is ceasing the 20mph limit that was implemented in some areas of the City. The reason being that it made almost no difference to speeds. Manchester Road, Tower Hamlets is increasingly dangerous because of the unenforced and indeed almost unenforceable 20mph speed limit. Will the Mayor bring Manchester Road in line with Manchester and scrap this scheme?

Response of Councillor Dave Chesterton:

I appreciate that Councillor Chapman may think he is being clever with his question. There are quite some significant differences between Manchester and the Isle of Dogs. The Council's review of the first year of operation of the experimental 20mph speed limit was presented to Cabinet in September 2016 to inform the decision on whether to make it permanent or not. Its early days but borough wide it is showing a reduction in 46% of killed and seriously injured in collisions, but we are not complacent. The 20mph is one part of our strategy to calm traffic and make out streets safer. The Mayor is happy to look at specific areas in the borough where there remain problems. Indeed a commitment was given to review traffic calming road design on Manchester Road, to reinforce the speed limit and encourage lower speeds. Whilst we will not blindly follow Manchester Council in scrapping the 20mph limit, there is one area where I think they have got it right and I hope Tower Hamlets can follow this. Despite having 96 Councillors, the good people of Manchester have decided not to elect a single Tory.

Supplementary question from Councillor Chris Chapman:

Do you not feel that we should follow the guidance laid down by Manchester City Council, who wasted a significant sum of money in their roll out of the scheme.

We do note that the area where they are proposing to withdraw the scheme happens to coincide with the borders of a constituency where there is a by – election due to take place but we won't dwell on that.

Will, in the context of air pollution, you not recognise that toxic fumes generated by vehicles travelling 20mph are in fact 50% higher than those travelling at 30mph. As someone who represents the Isle of Dogs you will know the huge pollution implications of forthcoming development. Do you not feel that repealing this will cut pollution and improve safety? Many Members of this Council Chamber will have witnessed the very dangerous driving practices including the accident in my colleague's ward last week caused by people observing the 20mph speed limit.

Councillor Dave Chesterton's response to supplementary question

The reduction in 46%in killed and seriously injured across the borough speaks volumes. I think that the campaign that you appear to have got yourself involved in on the island which would suggest that traffic problems on isle of

dogs can be resolved by people driving even faster on Manchester Road is a mistake. I do think we need to stick to the speed limit. But I do think, as the Mayor said, that we do need to continue to review the traffic calming road design and that is exactly what is happening on Manchester Road.

8.11 Question from Councillor Helal Uddin:

The London Food Board has named Tower Hamlets as a leading borough in tackling food poverty issues, and the GLA has awarded the Council £5,000 to develop a food poverty action plan to build on this work. Can members be updated about this plan?

Response of Councillor Amy Whitelock Gibbs, Cabinet Member for Health & Adult Services:

I am very pleased to update colleagues on this important recognition of our work on food poverty. It's really a crucial issue. As you know we have got hugely and stubbornly high levels of child poverty and also high levels of obesity amongst children and that is something that I and colleagues on the Health and Wellbeing Board have made a big priority for the Board and the Council for the future. Regarding food poverty, we have been named the leading borough and some areas of good practice are particular noted. The fact we have universal free school meals, something that Labour campaigned for and that Mayor Biggs has confirmed funding for in the budget for the next few years. Other steps included: the delivery of a subsidised 'Meals-on-Wheels' service for older people and work to improve the uptake of 'Healthy Start' vouchers which provided free milk, fruit and vegetables for eligible families in receipt of certain benefits for each child under four. So there is already a lot of work going on. There is also work that Councillor Ayas Miah and I jointly oversee to improve the quality of the local food environment. I have seen first-hand businesses offering healthier chicken and chips for example.

No supplementary question was asked.

Question 8.5 was not put due to the absence of the questioner. Questions 8.12 - 28 were not put due to lack of time. Written responses would be provided to the questions.

9. REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES**9.1 Report of the General Purposes Committee: Localism Act 2011 - Pay Policy Statement 2017/18**

The Council considered the report of the General Purposes Committee recommending Full Council adopt the Pay Policy Statement for 2017/18.

Following debate, the recommendations were put to the vote and were unanimously **agreed**. Accordingly it was

RESOLVED:

1. That the Pay Policy Statement 2017/18 be agreed.

9.2 Report of the General Purposes Committee: Revision of the Council' Constitution - Parts 1 to 3

The Council considered the report of the General Purposes Committee proposing revisions to Parts 1 to 3 of the Council's Constitution.

Councillor Oliur Rahman tabled comments from the Independent Group on the draft changes, it was agreed with the Acting Corporate Director, Governance and Interim Monitoring Officer that the paper would be considered when the Constitution Working Party next met.

Following debate, the recommendations were put to the vote and were unanimously **agreed**. Accordingly it was

RESOLVED:

1. That the spreadsheet in Appendix 1 of the report setting out the revisions and the reasons be noted;
2. That the revised Part 1 Summary and Explanation of the Constitution in Appendix 2 with the revisions shown as tracked changes be approved;
3. That the revised Part 2 Articles of the Tower Hamlets Constitution in Appendix 3 with the revisions shown as tracked changes be approved; and
4. That the revised Part 3 Responsibility for Functions of the Tower Hamlets Constitution in Appendix 4 to 12 with the revisions shown as tracked changes be approved.

10. TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND QUESTIONS ON JOINT ARRANGEMENTS/EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (IF ANY)

There was no business to transact under this agenda item.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 Members' Allowance Scheme

The Council considered the report of the Acting Corporate Director, Governance and Interim Monitoring Officer proposing the adoption of the Members' Allowance Scheme for 2017/18.

Following debate, the recommendations were put to the vote and were **agreed**. Accordingly it was

RESOLVED:

1. That the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Members' Allowances Scheme 2017 be adopted as set out at Appendix 'A' to the report

11.2 Committee Calendar 2017/18

The Council considered the report of the Acting Corporate Director, Governance and Interim Monitoring Officer proposing a Committee Calendar for 2017/18.

A proposed minor amendment to the calendar was noted as set out in resolution 1 below.

The recommendations were put to the vote and were **agreed**. Accordingly it was

RESOLVED:

1. That the proposed calendar of meetings for the municipal year 2017/18 be approved as set out in Appendix A to the report subject to the following changes:
 - The Pensions Committee meeting on 29th November be moved to 20th November 2017 at 7pm
 - The Pensions Board meeting on 27th November be moved to 20th November 2017 at 10am
 - The Employee Appeals Sub Committee meeting on 20th November be moved to 29th November 2017 at 6.30pm
2. That the Corporate Director for Governance be delegated the authority to agree meeting dates for any new Committees or Panels that are set

up subsequent to this report being presented to Council, subject to appropriate consultation with Members.

12. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

12.7 Motion regarding School Funding

Councillor Rachael Saunders **moved** and Councillor Danny Hassell **seconded** the motion as printed in the agenda.

Councillor Rachael Saunders proposed the following amendment to the motion in respect of sentences 3, 4, and 5 under 'This Council notes that':

3. Delete '£18.8m by 2018/19', a 7.6% cut and replace with ' £32.5m by 2020 – the equivalent of 873 teachers, according to analysis by the NUT'

4. Delete '£511 per pupil by 2018/19' and replace with '£905 per pupil by 2020'.

5. Delete '£360m by 2018/19' and replace with '£657m' and delete '12,857' and replace with '17,638' and add (NUT analysis) to the end of the sentence.

Councillor Rachael Saunders and Councillor Danny Hassell altered their motion accordingly:

Councillor Oliur Rahman **moved** and Councillor Ohid Ahmed **seconded** a friendly amendment to the motion as set out below:

Under This Council believes, add the following:

This Government proposal puts at risk the great strides made in Tower Hamlets by successive administrations. For example, an independent report in December 2013 "Transforming Education for All : the Tower Hamlets Story" concluded that Tower Hamlets has some of the best urban schools in the world.

Under Council Resolves, add the following (bold emphasis part) in point 1

To call on Mayor Biggs to write '**on a cross-party basis**' to the Department for Education.....

Councillor Rachael Saunders and Councillor Danny Hassell indicated that they accepted the amendment and altered their motion accordingly.

Following further debate, the motion as amended was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

RESOLVED:

This Council notes that:

1. Tower Hamlets is a place of huge diversity, and deprivation, and over the last 20 years families, schools, young people and the Council have come together to drive up standards through collaboration and through a determination to achieve excellence – backed by a Labour government which funded us appropriately. This is now at risk from Tory cuts.
2. The Government has proposed a new school funding formula, which will take money from poorer areas and reallocate it to wealthier areas.
3. The impact of the changes, included with other cost pressures, mean that schools in Tower Hamlets will have to save ‘ £32.5m by 2020 – the equivalent of 873 teachers, according to analysis by the NUT
4. Schools in Tower Hamlets will lose £905 per pupil by 2020, making the borough the hardest hit in London.
5. Cumulatively schools across London will need to save £657M under the new system – equivalent to 17,638 qualified teachers (NUT analysis).
6. The Government’s Budget 2017 included £360m for new free schools and grammar schools, but ignored the financial crisis that our existing schools face.

This Council believes:

1. The new funding formula won’t bring about fairer school funding across the country. Instead, it will further cut funding from schools already struggling with education cuts.
2. The new formula will put the progress made by our schools in jeopardy by punishing pupils from the poorest areas and harming social mobility.
3. That schools in Tower Hamlets deserve to be fairly and properly funded.
4. This Government proposal puts at risk the great strides made in Tower Hamlets by successive administrations. For example, an independent report in December 2013 “Transforming Education for All : the Tower Hamlets Story” concluded that Tower Hamlets has some of the best urban schools in the world.

This Council resolves:

1. To call on Mayor Biggs to write on a cross-party basis to the Department for Education, highlighting the threat to progress that the school funding changes represent.
2. To support the Mayor's campaign to challenge these unfair and deeply damaging cuts to schools in Tower Hamlets.

Motions 12.1 – 12.6 and 12.8 - 9 were not debated due to lack of time.

The meeting ended at 10.12 p.m.

Speaker of the Council

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APPENDIX A – WRITTEN RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS THAT WERE NOT PUT AT THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING (22 March 2017)

Question 8.8 Question from Councillor Ohid Ahmed

Will the Mayor provide official crime rate figures (overall) for each year since 2010 until present (2017) for the Borough? And will the Mayor confirm that Anti-Social Behaviour is a priority for him which is backed up by his utmost focus and required leadership?

Response from Councillor Shiria Khatun, Cabinet Member for Community Safety:

Whilst I provided a verbal response to Councillor Ahmed's question at the meeting, I referred to official crime rates, which I include here for completeness:

Official crime rates since 2010

Actual figures:

- 2009/10 – 26,989
- 2010/11 – 28,668
- 2011/12 – 29,463
- 2012/13 – 29,082
- 2013/14 – 27,139
- 2014/15 – 27,348
- 2015/16 – 28,752
- 2016/17 (10 months up to and including January 2017) – 26,005.

8.12 Question from Councillor Abdul Asad

Has the Mayor met with the petitioners following the Budget Meeting on 22nd February to discuss with them their concerns and how the council could work with them to address the issues they highlighted related to children's centres, nurseries and young people's services?

Response from Councillor Rachael Saunders

I have held a series of meetings with a wide range of parents, carers, and providers, including petitioners who came to the Budget meeting in February.

Meetings have taken place with petitioners regarding children's centres, nurseries, and young people's services and we share a lot of their concerns.

However the people we have met have also understood the difficult position the council is in. We have no choice but to save £58m from our budget due to Tory cuts and the cost of dealing with the chaos we inherited from the previous Mayor.

Despite those cuts we will still have one of the best funded early years services in London, and we are keeping all of our children's centres open – and as we have already heard tonight, are investing in new facilities.

I'm also pleased that the Mayor also agreed to release some further funding from reserves to address gaps in the new service.

8.13 Question from Councillor John Pierce

Can the Mayor update us on the Council's progress to meet the second goal of the OSC Transparency Commission to 'publish all data by default wherever possible'?

Response from Councillor David Edgar

The Council is currently at a Level 3 publication level. Publication of details of spending over £500 is ahead of the requirements of the Transparency Code with January 2017 already published.

The new Socrata software is in the course of development and when it becomes operational which is anticipated for June 2017 the Council will move to Level 4. This will allow residents and other users to look at and use the data in a variety of different ways and cross reference data.

Work is in progress to publish expenditure from £250 and all payment card expenditure via the Socrata software.

8.14 Question from Councillor Mahbub Alam

How would the Mayor describe Poplar HARCA's relationship with the Council and the Mayor, as well as its performance?

Response from Councillor Sirajul Islam

I personally feel that, as an organisation created in 1996 from a stock transfer of Council housing, the Harca should be a lot closer to and influenced by the Council than an historically separate body would be - but the fact is it is a completely legally separate organisation from the council.

As such, they have developed a way of working which includes the sharing of information, but a more limited spirit of partnership than we might have hoped. I think this position largely developed under the previous Mayor when council nominees to the Harca board were removed, partly because of the disengagement of the previous administration's nominees.

Whilst we do share a common allocations system, and have collaborated on a number of regeneration projects, we were not happy with their position, for example, on parking charges and on sales of empty properties. The Mayor very assertively makes these points, as do officers, with the HARCA.

Our duty to residents in Harca properties means we of course need to maintain a working relationship with them but we will continue to stand up for residents and to raise issues when we disagree with them.

8.15 Question from Councillor M. Abdul Mukit:

Tower Hamlets has a successful night-time economy which has major benefits but also needs careful management. What is the Lead Member doing to tackle drug abuse and the associated anti-social behaviour?

Response from Councillor Shiria Khatun

It is important that we make the Borough a safe place for both our residents and visitors to the area. But we are also proud to have a strong and successful night time economy that attracts investment and jobs to our borough and provides a range of entertainment opportunities, including bars, restaurants, cinemas, and clubs.

Having a successful night time economy does however, bring other challenges, including managing bad behaviour.

The Council are currently reviewing all of our services that are associated with tackling anti-social behaviour, and it is a priority to ensure that those enjoying our night time economy do so in a welcoming environment.

The Council is also introducing a Late Night Levy, in effect from 1 June 2017, which will raise additional money to be used in the reduction of crime and disorder, promotion of public safety, reduction or prevention of public nuisance, and cleaning of highways or land in the borough.

The Council will continue to work with our partners, from a wide range of agencies to tackle the problem of drugs, but it is not one that the Council alone can resolve. All agencies are committed to working together, and it is through this approach that we will make the Borough safer.

8.16 Question from Councillor Peter Golds

Isle of Dogs residents continue to express concern at the loss of the three houses on Eastferry Road which were illegally pulled down, the future of the Victorian Pier Tavern, which although recently refused demolition could still be in danger and finally the future of the 110 year old, Cubitt Town Library, which is again under threat. Will the Mayor update the council as to what is being done to reassure Islanders about these valuable local assets?

Response from Councillor Rachel Blake:

There are no current proposals that would result in any changes to the Cubitt Town Library – it remains in use as an operational property to deliver library services.

The Council attaches great significance to protecting, celebrating and improving access to the historic environment. In doing so it recognises that heritage assets such as the houses on East Ferry Road, the Pier Tavern and Cubitt Town Library are important elements of the boroughs local distinctiveness and character.

It also understands the contribution that community facilities make to local character and the value they hold for local communities.

The Council robustly defends heritage assets in a manner that is appropriate to their significance, including, where possible, prosecuting those found to have unlawfully harmed the historic environment. The Council also protects community facilities so that they can continue to provide for an identified need. It is however an unfortunate fact that enforcement action after an unlawful demolition is a protracted and frustrating process. This is the same for all councils in this position.

8.17 Question from Councillor Aminur Khan

Will the Mayor state how many Tower Hamlets Council run nurseries he plans to privatise?

Response from Councillor Rachael Saunders:

The Council directly runs three day nurseries - John Smith, Overland and Mary Sambrook. There are no plans to 'privatise' any of them.

We have no choice but to save £58m from our budget due to Tory cuts and the cost of dealing with the chaos we inherited from the previous Mayor. It is right that we look at whether a process to transfer management of these nurseries to a different sector, including the voluntary sector, would be a better use of our resources.

This would be through an open and transparent process and the specification will require the new providers to continue with the highly regarded provision, particularly the provision for SEN and the specialism in support for children who have hearing impairment and deafness.

8.18 Question from Councillor Maium Miah

Will the Mayor update us on the total amount of cuts that were approved in his budget in February 2016 but were not achieved in the year by February 2017?

Response from Councillor David Edgar

The budget approved by Full Council in February 2016 included savings of £17.4m. The vast majority of the approved savings proposals have been achieved though some are now scheduled to take place in 2017-18 as we have been focused on taking the time to fully consult with service users and staff to get the changes right.

8.19 Question from Councillor Julia Dockerill

Tower Hamlets has huge financial resource at its disposal from unspent s106 contributions. Yet all too many small parks, green spaces and leisure facilities in our borough look shabby and neglected. The Mayor has previously advised me that the council team with responsibility for improving our green spaces hasn't the capacity to deliver improvements. This being so, would he now look into contracting out more of these projects so that residents actually get the amenity improvements that local development is meant to pay for?

Response from Councillor Rachel Blake

The council currently holds s106 funds of £2.46m for leisure facilities and a further £6.35m for landscaping and open spaces. The use of these funds is restricted by the s106 legal agreement, particularly in relation to the geographic area the funds can be spent in. In some cases, funds are restricted for specific locations or specified works.

All of the above funds have been allocated to projects with detailed approvals in place for 43% of funds. The delivery of these projects is regularly monitored at departmental level to ensure they are delivered on time and to budget.

The council is also developing a range of public realm / open space improvement projects, to provide a steady stream of projects for delivery over the coming years.

In addition, as part of the recent corporate restructure, the council reorganised the way it delivers capital schemes. All capital schemes are now to be delivered by the Property & Major Programmes service, with the client function sitting in the relevant department (e.g. the Parks Service). This will allow a more delivery-focused approach to these schemes; securing continuous improvement in how we deliver projects (including staffing, procurement and delivery efficiencies). This will ensure residents are able to benefit from improved amenities in their local area.

8.20 Question from Councillor Shafi Ahmed

Can the Mayor clarify if he is closing 18, 10, 8 or no Youth Centres?

Response from Councillor Rachael Saunders

When the Mayor took office the youth service was in crisis. Many of the buildings where activities took place were in poor repair with only one or two sessions run a week and very few young people using them.

Since July 2016 the youth service has been delivered through an interim delivery model. Under this model there are 16 youth centres, made up of 8 youth centres run by council youth workers and a further 8 youth centres delivered by commissioned providers.

In January 2017, Cabinet agreed plans to make the youth service more efficient and to fix the problems of the past. This will improve the service for young people whilst also saving money for taxpayers. It is intended that there will continue to be 16 youth centres.

8.21 Question from Councillor Muhammad Ansar Mustaqim

Will the Mayor update as to what is the average percentage of built-in inflation in the Council contracts of £1m and above?

Response from Councillor David Edgar

The Council does not generally include provision for inflation within its contracts. The majority of contracts are awarded on a fixed price basis as contractors are expected to take price fluctuation into account when calculating their prices.

In exceptional cases such as complex or longer term contracts a base rate is agreed and contractors reimbursed for price fluctuation on certain items. For example; the Passenger Transport contract includes a Retail Price inflation (RPI) uplift in order to reflect variations in oil and fuel prices and avoid bidders adding excess premiums onto their bids to offset this risk.

8.22 Question from Councillor Craig Aston

What is the Council's intention towards the Council owned green space known as the Limehouse Triangle on Salmon Lane. Given the known scarcity of green space in the Borough should this space not be used as part of the Borough's green grid rather than for housing?

Response from Councillor Rachel Blake

The site known as the Limehouse Triangle forms part of the Locksley Estate.

The council took a decision to develop the site to provide much-needed council housing. In developing the scheme, there was extensive consultation with local residents in order to ensure that comments and any concerns were reflected in the eventual design.

The council is looking at providing high quality communal gardens and children's play space as well as the creation of a biodiversity area, as part of the development.

The Limehouse Triangle has mostly been inaccessible to residents for a significant period of time. The development of the site will give the council the opportunity to make other enhancements, such as reviving the existing dilapidated play area and include biodiversity enrichments, to the estate at the same time.

The demand for good quality social housing in the borough is high; in responding to that demand, the council must make the best use of its existing estate. This proposal will allow the council to deliver much needed homes (including family housing) while also delivering improvements for existing residents of the estate.

Seven consultation events have taken place for the Locksley Estate:

- The first two events took place in August 2015. We spoke to residents about the proposal to build new homes on the estate and asked for their views to help shape the design. 25 people in total attended.
- The next two sessions took place in January 2016 residents were presented with initial designs, based on resident's comments, and asked for further feedback. 31 people attended.
- Two more sessions of consultation events took place in March 2016 showing residents the latest designs reflecting some of the feedback received at the January consultation events, as well as providing an opportunity for residents to give further comments on the revised designs. 11 people attended.
- The final consultation was held May 2017 – presenting the final scheme prior to submitting a planning application. 3 people attended this.
- Invitation letters were sent to residents on the Locksley Estate and the surrounding blocks giving advance notice of the events. The letter contained the LBTH standard translation script in a number of community languages. Posters reminding residents of the events were put up around the estates a week prior to the meetings.
- Residents in the vicinity of the proposed development were door knocked on the day of the day of the event to encourage attendance.

8.23 Question from Councillor Shah Alam

Can the Mayor state how many staff will lose their jobs through the cuts to the Careers Centre?

Response from Councillor Rachael Saunders

By setting up a Single Employment Service for young people and integrating our Careers Service with the council's Employment and Enterprise team we will improve the offer to young people.

This will consolidate resources and deliver a more seamless service for young people from advice on careers options, to placement in apprenticeships or jobs. This will ensure the best possible training and employment outcomes for young people.

Given work to design the new service is still in progress the staffing impact of the changes has not yet been determined. As with all proposals which have a staffing impact, they will be subject to a full consultation with staff and unions and consideration of the equalities impact before any decisions are finalised.

8.24 Question from Councillor Suluk Ahmed

Will the Mayor inform exactly how many staff – not just full-time equivalent figure - will lose their jobs due to his budget cuts approved last month? Can he confirm the total number of staff – part-time or full time - have lost their job since June 2015?

Response from Councillor David Edgar

Savage government cuts, combined with the cost of clearing up the mess left by the previous Mayor, mean a challenging financial environment for the council.

We have changed the way the council plans ahead by publishing a three year budget to ensure greater opportunity to assess future workforce needs and undertake workforce planning activities to minimise the number of redundancies.

The final staffing impact of the budget proposals to deliver the savings required by the MTFs for the three year period 2017/18 to 2019/20 is still being determined as a number of business cases contained options which are being appraised and many are subject to a full consultation with staff and unions and consideration of the equalities impact before any decisions are finalised.

Since June 2015, there have been 122 redundancies. All have been on a voluntary basis.

To put this into context, under the previous Mayor, between 2012 and June 2015, 340 members of staff were made redundant.

8.25 Question from Councillor Harun Miah

What funding amounts and for which specific service areas remained unallocated in 2015/16 and 2016/17?

Response from Councillor David Edgar

Approximately £3.562m of prior year unallocated growth was used to support growth proposals in 2016/17 reducing total growth requirements in that year.

In 2016/17 there are a number of budgets held centrally for specific purposes which currently remain unallocated. Budget forecasts suggest that these will be spent by year end.

- Implementation of the Ethical Care Charter £1.0m
- Support for Higher Education £0.6m
- Planned Property Maintenance £0.523m
- Discretionary Housing Payments £1.0m
- Antisocial Behaviour Project £0.480m
- Inflation £2.6m

8.26 Question from Councillor Kibria Choudhury

Does the Council have no statutory, welfare and/or moral responsibility to keep a record as to precisely how many people – not families – are currently housed in temporary accommodation – particularly children under the age of 16?

Will the Mayor undertake to ensure that this record is kept and monitored immediately to avoid potential abuse and impropriety that the Council can be liable for?

Response from Councillor Sirajul Islam

The Council is required to provide prescribed information to the DCLG every quarter, including a snapshot figure at the end of each quarter of the number of households with dependent children and pregnant women with no other children and the total number of children/expected children. This is provided by type of temporary accommodation, for example bed and breakfast, self-contained accommodation and private sector leased accommodation.

Both the national figures and the figures by Local Authority are published on the DCLG website www.gov.uk

The P1E is also published on the Council's website http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ignl/housing/housing_options_service/housing_and_homelessness_public.aspx

8.27 Question from Councillor Gulam Robbani

Will the Mayor share with residents and elected members the following:

- a) the Council's new communications strategy?
- b) the Council's campaigns schedule for 2017/18?
- c) if the Mayor has asked the communications team 'not' to send the standard daily media monitoring alerts to the elected members other than his administration? If he has not, will he ask the Head of Service to immediately start sending the daily media alerts to 'all' elected councillors?

- d) the Council's protocol and the legislation relating to the journalists or media filming the public full council meetings provided they give notice and are non-disruptive?
- e) the legislation and the Council's protocol to allow residents to undertake democratic, peaceful and non-disruptive protests at public meetings?
- f) if the Mayor has asked the Council's security to overzealously remove innocuous banners or display cards from the residents and discourage them when they come to peacefully and democratically voice their concerns at the council's public meetings? if the Mayor has not done so, can he explain why is this taking place under his administration that residents are being discouraged? Will he ensure that clear instruction is given to the council's security, facility and members team – particularly security - 'not to discourage the peaceful and civic democratic engagement', and continue to be courteous and helpful to all residents when they come to attend the council meetings?

Response from Councillor David Edgar

(a)&(b)

The Communications Strategy and the Campaigns Schedule for 2017/18 are both in the course of development. It is anticipated that they will be submitted to the Corporate Management Team and the Mayor's Advisory Board shortly and thereafter published.

(c)

The Mayor has not asked for the daily media monitoring alerts to have limited circulation. The alerts are prepared for the Mayor, Cabinet and Corporate Management Team ie the Administration and the Senior Managers.

(d) The Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended by the Openness of Local Government Regulations 2014 give members of the press and public the right to film and digitally report from all public meetings of local government bodies, and our guidance around filming reflects and endorses this right.

There is no specific media protocol but representatives of the media are requested to contact Communications to ensure their proposals will not be disruptive. Film recordings of recent full council and cabinet meetings are also available at the following address, <http://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>, but this is an additional service and in no way prevents the media from being able to attend and record/film in person, if they so desire.

(e) Provided residents who attend meetings act appropriately and do not disrupt the proceedings they may protest. However, if any protest is disruptive persons causing a disruption may be asked to leave the meeting.

(f) Anything that might put members of the public at risk or is disruptive to other people will not be allowed. This includes protest banners if for example they are long, obstruct people's views or contain poles that could injure people. A4 sheets on the other hand, as evidenced at the last council meeting, do not present any of the above issues and are therefore allowed.

Security and other staff are present to ensure that the meeting proceeds in an orderly fashion and that all present are not subject to health and safety risks. These duties will always be conducted with courtesy and respect for Members, officers and the public alike. The conduct of the council meeting is the responsibility of the Speaker of the Council and as a result the Mayor has no role in the arrangements for the conduct and security of Council meetings.

8.28 Question from Councillor Andrew Cregan

What is the Mayor doing to address the borough's recycling rate of 21% - one of the poorest in the UK?

Response from Councillor Rachel Blake

The current recycling rate for Tower Hamlets is 27%, which is similar to other London boroughs due to the challenges we all face with high rise developments and the problem of contamination.

Keeping our borough clean will always be a top priority and the Mayor's three-year Budget includes significant investment and measures to keep our streets clean.


The Budget includes extra street cleaning for areas with heavy visitor or residents populations, and a more robust approach to tackling dog fouling, littering and dumping.

The Council is working with registered providers to improve the recycling rate, and funding has been set aside to provide incentives to encourage registered providers to get involved in promoting recycling and tackling contamination.

The Council recently held a Member workshop on waste and recycling – I trust you found the session useful.

Recycling creates jobs, reduces waste disposal costs, helps tackle climate change and saves energy – so it's vital that we get recycling right.

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Non-Executive Report of the: Council 17 May 2017	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Graham White, Acting Corporate Director, Governance and Interim Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Review of Proportionality and Establishment of Committees and Panels of the Council for 2017/18	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Committee Services Manager
Wards affected	All wards

Summary

This report reviews proportionality as required by section 15 of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 ('The 1989 Act'); recommends the establishment of committees and sub-committees as set out in the Council's Constitution; and proposes the allocation of places on those Committees and Sub-Committees between the political groups represented on the Authority.

The nominations from the groups for membership of those Committees and Sub-Committees in accordance with the allocation of places; and certain other bodies not covered by the proportionality rules, will follow at Agenda Item 10.

Part 4.1 of the constitution states that the Annual Council Meeting will establish an Overview & Scrutiny Committee and such other Committees/ Sub-Committees as it considers appropriate to deal with matters which are neither Executive Functions nor reserved to the Council. The Committees, Sub-Committees and other bodies appointed by the Council are listed at Part 3.3 of the constitution.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to agree:

1. The review of proportionality as at section 3 of this report overleaf and agrees the allocation of seats on Committees and Panels for the Municipal Year 2017/18 as set out at paragraph 4.2.
2. The Committees and Sub-Committees established for the municipal year 2017/18, and places be allocated on those Committees and Sub-Committees, as set out at paragraph 4.2 overleaf.
3. To note the proposed arrangements for Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committees.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 This report reviews proportionality as required by section 15 of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 ('The 1989 Act'). It also reviews the arrangements for Non-Executive Committees to ensure that they continue to provide an efficient way of considering the required business to be conducted.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 Council could determine a different arrangement of Committees to perform the required decision making and scrutiny functions.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

- 3.1 Section 15(1) of the 1989 Act requires the Council at, or as soon as practicable after, the Annual Meeting to carry out a review to determine the allocation to the political groups of seats on the Committees/ Panels of the Council. The principles which must be adopted are:
- (i) that in relation to each body covered by the Act, all seats are not allocated to the same political group;
 - (ii) that the majority of seats on each body must go to the political group with the majority on the Council (if any);
 - (iii) that subject to (i) and (ii) the number of seats on the total of all the ordinary Committees/ Panels of the authority allocated to each group bears the same proportion as that group's proportion of the seats on the full Council; and
 - (iv) that subject to the above three principles, the number of seats on each ordinary Committee/ Panel of the authority allocated to each political group bears the same proportion as that group's proportion of the seats on the full Council.
- 3.2 Once the political groups have been allocated their places in accordance with the above rules, the Council may appoint ungrouped members to any remaining positions.
- 3.3 Neither the Cabinet, any executive sub-groups of the Cabinet; nor the Tower Hamlets Health and Wellbeing Board, are covered by the requirement for proportionality.

3.4 The current political composition of the Council is now as follows:

GROUP	SEATS	PROPORTION ON COUNCIL	ENTITLEMENT
Labour	22	48.89%	33.73 (34)
Independent Group	9	20.00%	13.80 (14)
Conservative	5	11.11%	7.67 (8)
People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets	5	11.11%	7.67 (8)
Ungrouped	4	0*	5 (remainder)
	45		69

* Ungrouped Councillors are not directly included in the proportionality calculation. As two Councillors are required to form a group the Liberal Democrat Councillor is included in the 'ungrouped' designation above.

4. Allocation of Places on Committees

4.1 The Committees and Panels established by the Council for the municipal year 2017/18 are listed below. There is a recommended total of 69 places on these Committees and Panels.

4.2 Applying the principles in the 1989 Act as closely as is reasonably practicable, the proposed allocation of places on the committees and panels covered by the requirement for proportionality for the remainder of the municipal year or until the next review of proportionality, whichever is sooner, is as follows:-

Committee/panel	Total	Labour	Independent Group	Conservative	People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets	Ungrouped
Overview & Scrutiny Committee (plus 6 co-optees)	9	5	2	1	1	
Audit Committee	7	3	1	1	1	1
Development Committee	7	4	1	1	0	1
Strategic Development Committee	8	4	2	1	1	
General Purposes Committee	9	5	2	1	1	
Licensing Committee	15	7	3	1	2	2
Pensions Committee	7	3	1	1	1	1
Standards Advisory Committee (plus 7 co-optees)	7	3	2	1	1	
TOTALS	69	34	14	8	8	5

- 4.3 The above will result in the allocation of all committee places amongst the political groups in accordance with the rules set out in the 1989 Act.
- 4.4 It is for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to agree arrangements for its own Sub-Committees. However, the expected Sub-Committee arrangements and memberships are set out below.

Sub-Committee	Total	Labour	Independent Group	Conservative	People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets
Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee	6	3	1	1	1
Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee	6	3	1	1	1
Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee	6	3	1	1	1

5. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 5.1. There are no direct financial considerations arising from this report.

6. LEGAL COMMENTS

- 6.1. The legal considerations are set out in the main body of the report.

7. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1. None directly related to this report.

8. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. None directly related to this report.

9. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

- 9.1. None directly related to this report.

10. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. None directly related to this report.

11. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1. None directly related to this report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None.

Appendices

- None.

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report


List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- None.

Officer contact details for documents:

- N/A

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<p>Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p>Council</p> <p>17 May 2017</p>	 <p>TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Graham White, Acting Corporate Director for Governance and Interim Monitoring Officer</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>Committee Calendar 2017/18 - Amended</p>	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Committee Services Manager
Wards affected	All Wards

Summary

Council, at its meeting on Wednesday 22 March, agreed a calendar of Council and Committee meetings for 2017/18. However, due to the General Election due to be held on Thursday 8 June, and a number of other reasons, dates for some meetings have been amended. This report asks Council to agree the proposed changes to the municipal calendar.

The calendar of meetings, as amended, is presented in Appendix One to this report.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to:

1. Approve the proposed amended calendar of meetings for the municipal year 2017/18 as set out in Appendix A.
2. To delegate to the Corporate Director Governance the authority to agree meeting dates for any new Committees or Panels that are set up subsequent to this report being presented to Council, subject to appropriate consultation with Members.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Council Procedure Rules provide for the Council to agree a programme of meetings for each municipal year. This is normally done at the last ordinary meeting of the Council in each municipal year and there is provision for the calendar to be revised subsequently at the Annual meeting if necessary.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 There are no alternative options.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

- 3.1 Council, on Wednesday 22 March 2017, agreed the calendar of meetings for the 2017/18 municipal year. Details on how the calendar was prepared, including the issues taken into consideration are set out in that report.
- 3.2 However, since that date a number of events, including the calling of a General Election on Thursday 8 June 2017, have resulted in a few revisions to that calendar. This report sets out those changes and asks Council to agree the amendments to the calendar.

General Election

- 3.3 The UK Parliament has agreed to hold a General Election on Thursday 8 June 2017. Whilst, Council business will continue where possible it is proposed to move a number of meetings that were scheduled to take place on election day and shortly beforehand.
- Cabinet – moved from 30 May to 13 June
 - Note that the related Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) –on 25 May may also be moved depending on its work planning (potentially to 12 June).
 - Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee – the meeting on 5 June will not take place and will be merged with the current July meeting. The date for the merged meeting will be confirmed in due course as it may differ from the current planned July date.
 - King George’s Field Charity Board – meeting on 6 June moved to 27 June.
 - Licensing Sub-Committee – the meeting on 7 June is to be brought forward to 30 May.
 - General Purposes Committee – move from 7 June to 5 July – note the Employee Appeals meeting scheduled for 5 July may change time to run before or after the GP Committee meeting if required.
 - Strategic Development Committee – move from 8 June to 28 June.
 - The initial Freedom of the Borough Ad-Hoc Panel meeting will be deferred.

Member Learning and Development Training

3.4 A number of changes have been made to the Member Learning and Development Training Programme:

- Most training sessions scheduled during the run-up to the General Election have been postponed or cancelled, this includes:
 - Ethics and Probity Training – originally to be held on 2 and 24 May, now to be held on 13 September and 2 October.
 - Training related to serving on Council Committees will be postponed until after the election. Individual dates will be organised and circulated to relevant Members at the appropriate time.
- Please note that should the AGM agree changes to the Committee Memberships for Licensing, Strategic Development Committee or Development Committee, those new Members must be trained before they can sit on the Committees.
- A training session for Members of the Strategic Development/Development Committees has been arranged for Monday 12 June 2017. New Members of those Committee will need to attend before they can sit on the Committee. Officers will make contact with those new Members of the other Committees to discuss their training requirements.
- A full set of dates for workshops in relation to Waste Management have been arranged and are set out below.

Workshop title	Dates
Waste Mgmt - Registered Providers	16 May
Waste Mgmt - Street scene/ Street cleansing	20 June
Waste Mgmt - Enforcement	4 July
Waste Mgmt - Communications and behaviour change	11 July
Waste Mgmt – Summary session	18 July

Tower Hamlets Best Value Improvement Board

3.5 The original proposed dates for the Tower Hamlets Best Value Improvement Board have been reviewed in light of the directions received from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government at the end of March 2017. The original dates were found not to match well with the reporting schedule to the Government. The dates have therefore been amended and the new dates are as follows:

- 14 June 2017
- 11 September 2017
- 18 December 2017

- 19 March 2018

3.6 As Members will be aware, any subsequent requests to change dates of meetings of Committees following approval of the Committee Calendar by Council, or to set up Special Meetings of the Committees, are subject to consultation with the Chair(s) of the Committees, relevant members and the Chief Executive.

3.7 Each year changes to the Committee structure may be necessary to enable the Council to discharge its responsibilities. Should it be necessary to revise the meeting structure further the Calendar of Meetings will be adjusted and a new Calendar will be presented at the AGM if required but it is also proposed to provide delegated authority to the Corporate Director for Governance to agree any new meeting dates should that be required.

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

4.1 The timely consideration of budget monitoring information is critical to ensuring sound financial management and oversight and informed decision making. However, there are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations within this report.

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

5.1 There are no specific legal comments arising from this report.

6. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 In collating this schedule of meetings, consideration has been given where possible to avoiding school holidays, known religious holidays and other dates which could inhibit attendance or participation by one or more section(s) of the borough's community

7. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

8. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

8.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- Appendix A – Proposed Calendar of Committee Meeting dates

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- None.

Officer contact details for documents:

- N/A

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CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE 2017/2018 MUNICIPAL YEAR

Committee Calendar 2017/18 – Changes from March Council (Underlined = new – whilst cross through = deletion)

	MEETING DAY/TIME/	MAY 17	JUN 17	JUL 17	AUG 17	SEP 17	OCT 17	NOV 17	DEC 17	JAN 18	FEB 18	MAR 18	APR 18	MAY 18	JUN 18	No. of Mtgs
COUNCIL																
Council	7.00pm 3 rd Wednesday	17 AGM		19		20		22		17	21 (Bud)	1 (Bud) 21		23 (AGM)		8
CABINET																
Cabinet (monthly on the last week of the month)	5.30 pm Last Tuesday	30	<u>13</u> , 27	25		19	31	28	19	30	27	27				10
Grants Determination Sub Committee (every 6 weeks)	5.30pm Tuesday		20**		1	12	24		5		6		3			7
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY																
Overview & Scrutiny Committee Monthly before Cabinet - plus budget meeting	6.30 pm Weds / Thurs	25	21**	20		14	25	23	13	15(Bud) 24	5(Bud) 22	22				12
Grants Scrutiny Sub Committee	6.30pm Weds / Thurs		15**	27		6	19	30		31		28				7
Health Scrutiny Sub Committee (every 2 months)	6.30pm Monday		5**	<u>TBC</u>			9			8		5				<u>4,5</u>
Housing Scrutiny Sub Committee	Monday 6.30pm		12**			11		13		29		19				5
COMMITTEES AND PANELS																
Development Committee (every 4 weeks)	7.00 pm		14**	12	9	6	11	8	6	8	7	7 28	18			12

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE 2017/2018 MUNICIPAL YEAR

	MEETING DAY/TIME/	MAY 17	JUN 17	JUL 17	AUG 17	SEP 17	OCT 17	NOV 17	DEC 17	JAN 18	FEB 18	MAR 18	APR 18	MAY 18	JUN 18	No. of Mtgs
Strategic Development Committee (every 5/6 weeks)	7.00 pm		8**, <u>28</u>	13	17	25	26	30		11	15	19	25			10
Licensing Committee (Quarterly)	7.00 pm	23				13 26SEV 27SEV 28SEV	2SEV		14			15				4 4 SEV
Licensing Sub Committee (fortnightly)	6.30 pm	24, <u>30</u>	7**, 19**, 28	11 26	8 23	5 19	4 18	1 15 29	5 20	10 24	6 26	6 20	4 11 24	8 (prov)		26
Audit Committee	7.00 pm		28			27		16		23		29				5
General Purposes Committee (Quarterly)	7.00 pm		7**	<u>5</u>			12			25			4			4
Appeals Sub Committee (GP) Monthly	6.30pm		21**	5	2	25	30	29	11	10	19	8				10
Standards (Advisory) Committee (Quarterly)	7.00 pm Thursday		29				19			25		14				4
Pensions Board (Quarterly)	Monday 10.00am			10		11		20				12				4
Pensions Committee (Quarterly)	7.00pm			13		14		20				14				4
Corporate Parenting Steering Group (Quarterly)	6.30pm Thursday		15**			21			14			22				4
King George's Field Charity Board (Quarterly)	5.30 pm		6**, <u>27</u>				3			9		6				4

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE 2017/2018 MUNICIPAL YEAR

	MEETING DAY/TIME/	MAY 17	JUN 17	JUL 17	AUG 17	SEP 17	OCT 17	NOV 17	DEC 17	JAN 18	FEB 18	MAR 18	APR 18	MAY 18	JUN 18	No. of Mtgs
Partnerships																
Health and Wellbeing Board (every 2 months)	5.30pm Tuesday			4		5		7	20		20	20				6
Other Meetings																
Freedom of the Borough	TBA		14**													
Tower Hamlets Best Value Improvement Board (Quarterly)	6.00pm	31	14		15	11		24	18		13	19				4
Civic Centre Cross Party Reference Group	Monday 5.00pm-6.30pm		26**			11		27								3
MEMBERS																
Training & Development	Tuesdays 6.30pm-8.30pm	3, 18, 19, 23, 24, 16	13** 20	4, 5, 11, 18		13, 19	2, 17	14	6	16	14	13				

KEY TO SYMBOLS

* - Clashes with, or is the day before or day after a religious holiday

** - Takes place during Ramadan Meeting time will be 5.30pm wherever the normal starting time would be listed later in the evening

- meeting starting time earlier than the normal scheduled time

NOTES:

1. OTHERS

- a. Freedom of the Borough Panel - new
- b. Tower Hamlets Improvement Board - new
- c. Appointments Sub-Committee - arranged on an ad hoc basis as required.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE 2017/2018 MUNICIPAL YEAR

2. RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:

- **RAMADAN** - 27th May 2017 – 25th June 2017 (to be confirmed)
- **EID-AL- FITR** –26th June 2017
- **EID – UL – ADHA** – 4th September 2017
- **ROSH HASHANAH** – 20th/ 21st September 2017
- **YOM KIPPUR** – 29th/30th September 2017
- **ASHURA** – 29/30 September 2017
- **HANUKKAH** – 12 – 20 December 2017
- **EASTER 2018**: Good Friday: 30 Mar 2018, Easter Monday: 2nd April 2018

3. BANK HOLIDAYS:

- **MAY 2017** –1st, 29th
- **AUGUST 2017** – 28th
- **DECEMBER 2017** – 25th, 26th
- **NEW YEAR** – 1st January 2018
- **APRIL 2018** – 14TH, 17TH
- **MAY 2018** – 7th ,28th

4. POLITICAL GROUPS:

- Conservative Party Conference – 1st October – 4th October 2017
- Labour Party Conference – 24th September – 27th September 2017

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE 2017/2018 MUNICIPAL YEAR

5. **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS:**


- **2017**
 - Half Term – 29 May – 02 June
 - Summer Holidays – 26 July – 01 September
 - Half Term – 23 October – 27 October
 - Christmas Holidays – 18 December 2017 – 01 January 2018

- **2018**
 - Half Term – 12 February – 16 February
 - Easter Break – 26 March – 6 April
 - Half Term – 28 May – 01 June
 - Summer Holidays – 25 July – tbc

6. **MEMBERS:**

- **Training And Development** – As listed in the table.

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<p>Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p>Council</p> <p>17 May 2017</p>	 <p>TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Graham White, Acting Corporate Director, Governance and Interim Monitoring Officer</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL</p>	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Committee Services Manager
Wards affected	All wards

Summary

A report at Item 8 of the Annual Council agenda recommends the establishment of Committees and Sub-Committee of the Council as set out in the Constitution; and the allocation of places on those committees and sub-committees in accordance with the proportionality rules.

The attached appendices set out the nominations received from political groups before the meeting for (a) members of committees and sub-committees and (b) chairs of the Council committees in accordance with the places allocated. Any further nominations received before the meeting will be reported verbally.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to:

1. Appoint members and substitute members to the committees and sub-committees of the Council and other bodies for the municipal year 2017/18 as set out at Appendix 1 attached.
2. Appoint the Chairs of Committees for 2017/18 from amongst the nominations listed at Appendix 2 attached or any further nominations made at the meeting.
3. Agree that in relation to any unfilled places within the seats allocated to a particular political group, the Council note that the Corporate Director, Governance has delegated authority subsequently to agree the appointments to those places in accordance with nominations from the relevant political group.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Council is required to appoint Councillors as Members to the various Committees listed in line with proportionality rules.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 There are no alternative options.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

- 3.1 Following the Council's decision to agree the establishment of committees and sub-committees of the Council as set out at Agenda Item 8; and the allocation of places on those committees and sub-committees in accordance with the proportionality rules, it is for Council to subsequently agree the appointment of Members to those Committees.
- 3.2 This report presents the proposed appointments from the political groups on the Council. Note that any appointments received after publication of the agenda will be circulated at the meeting for agreement.
- 3.3 Following the allocation to a political group by the Council, or a committee, of a seat or seats on a committee or sub-committee respectively, regulation 15 of the relevant Regulations provides that the political group has a period of three weeks from the date that notice is given to express its wishes in relation to the appointment to such a seat or seats. If the group fails to express its wishes within the prescribed period, the Council or committee may make such appointment to that seat or seats as they think fit. Further, the group to which a seat has been allocated is entitled to express a wish that the seat be filled by a member of a different political party or an ungrouped Councillor. However, that seat remains, in law, allocated to the first group and that group therefore retains the right to terminate the appointment.

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 4.1 There are no specific financial comments arising from this report.

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

- 5.1 This report complies with statutory requirements regarding the establishment and appointment of committees and sub-committees. There are no other immediate legal implications arising from this report.

6. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 No implications arising from this report.

7. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS

7.1 No implications arising from this report.

8. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

8.1 No implications arising from this report.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The Council needs Committee meeting arrangements to ensure effective and efficient decision-making.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 No implications arising from this report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Nominations of Members to Committees (information to be tabled)
- Appendix 2 – Nominations of Chairs to Committees (information to be tabled)

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- None.

Officer contact details for documents:

- N/A

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LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS 2017-2018

NOMINATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING ON 17 MAY 2017

AUDIT COMMITTEE (Seven members of the Council)				
<i>Labour Group (3)</i>	<i>Independent Group (1)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (1)</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	<i>(Substitutes not applicable)</i>

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (Seven members of the Council)				
<i>Labour Group (4)</i>	<i>Independent Group (1)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (0)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (1)</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	N/A	<i>(Substitutes not applicable)</i>

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (Eight members of the Council)				
<i>Labour Group (4)</i>	<i>Independent Group (2)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (0)</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	N/A

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

(Nine members of the Council)

<i>Labour Group (5)</i>	<i>Independent Group (2)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (0)</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	N/A

LICENSING COMMITTEE

(Fifteen members of the Council)(No Substitutes permitted)

<i>Labour Group (7)</i>	<i>Independent Group (3)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (2)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (2)</i>

<p align="center">OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (Nine members of the Council plus six co-opted members) (NB Scrutiny Lead Members and Chairs of Sub-Committees to be appointed by the O&S Committee)</p>				
<i>Labour Group (5)</i>	<i>Independent Group (2)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)</i>	<i>Co-Opted Members (for information – to be appointed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee)</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	<p>Dr Phillip Rice - Church of England Diocese representative</p> <p><i>Asad M Jaman - Muslim Faith representative</i></p> <p>Parent Governor representatives:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatiha Kassouri • Shabbir Chowdhury • Christine Trumper

HEALTH SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE
(Nominations for information - Panel to be appointed by Overview & Scrutiny Committee)
(Six members of the Council)

<i>Labour Group (3)</i>	<i>Independent Group (1)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)</i>	<i>Co-opted Members:-</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	<p><i>To be appointed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as required</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>David Burbidge (Healthwatch Tower Hamlets)</i> • <i>Tim Oliver (Healthwatch Tower Hamlets)</i>

GRANTS SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE
(Nominations for information - Panel to be appointed by Overview & Scrutiny Committee)
(Six members of the Council)

<i>Labour Group (3)</i>	<i>Independent Group (1)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (0)</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	N/A

HOUSING SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE
(Nominations for information - Panel to be appointed by Overview & Scrutiny Committee)
(Six members of the Council)

<i>Labour Group (3)</i>	<i>Independent Group (1)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (0)</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	N/A

PENSIONS COMMITTEE (Seven members of the Council)				
<i>Labour Group (3)</i>	<i>Independent Group (1)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (1)</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	<i>(Substitutes not applicable)</i>

PENSIONS BOARD (One Councillor to work alongside six other members of the Board)				
<i>Labour Group</i>	<i>Independent Group</i>	<i>Conservative Group</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets</i>	<i>Ungrouped</i>

STANDARDS (ADVISORY) COMMITTEE

(Seven Members of the Council (who may not include the Mayor or more than one other Cabinet Member) - plus up to seven co-opted members, one of whom shall chair the Committee)

<i>Labour Group (3)</i>	<i>Independent Group (2)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets (1)</i>	<i>Co-opted Members (for information)</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	<i>John Pulford Nafisa Adam Fiona Browne Mike Houston Daniel McLaughlin</i>

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

(The Executive, Councillors, Local Authority Officers, Healthwatch and NHS Commissioners. In addition, non-voting co-opted members including NHS Providers and the Young Mayor amongst others.

Ex-officio Elected Members

Non-Executive Councillor nominee

Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing (Chair)
Cabinet Members for Children’s Services, Housing Strategy & Performance and Resources
Non-Executive Majority Group Councillor

Non-executive largest minority group councillor nominated by Council

ADOPTION PANEL (To comprise two Social Workers, one elected Member, three Independent Persons and to include one man and one woman, up to a maximum of ten persons)				
<i>Labour Group</i>	<i>Independent Group</i>	<i>Conservative Group</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets</i>	<i>Ungrouped</i>

FOSTERING PANEL (To comprise two Social Workers, one elected Member and four Independent Persons, up to a maximum of ten persons)				
<i>Labour Group</i>	<i>Independent Group</i>	<i>Conservative Group</i>	<i>People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets</i>	<i>Ungrouped</i>

CORPORATE PARENTING STEERING GROUP

(Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, other Councillor(s), a Corporate Director and two Young People’s Representatives)

<i>Labour Group</i>	<i>Independent Group</i>	<i>Conservative Group</i>	<i>People’s Alliance of Tower Hamlets</i>	<i>Ungrouped</i>

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

(To comprise members appointed by the LEA)

(there is a requirement for two majority group and one minority group appointments)

<i>Labour Group</i>	<i>Independent Group</i>	<i>Conservative Group</i>	<i>People’s Alliance of Tower Hamlets</i>	<i>Ungrouped</i>

MAYORAL ADVISORS

-

TO NOTE POLITICAL GROUP APPOINTMENTS

Labour Group

- Leader of the Labour Group
- Deputy Leader of the Labour Group
- Group Whip

- Mayor John Biggs
- Councillor Sirajul Islam
- Councillor Danny Hassell

Independent Group

- Leader of the Independent Group
- Deputy Leader of the Independent Group
- Group Whip

- Councillor Oliur Rahman
- Councillor Mahbub Alam
- Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury

Conservative Group

- Leader of the Conservative Group
- Deputy Leader of the Conservative Group
- Group Whip

- Councillor Peter Golds
- Councillor Chris Chapman
- Councillor Julia Dockerill

People's Alliance of
Tower Hamlets

- Leader of the PATH Group
- Group Whip

- Councillor Rabina Khan
- Councillor Aminur Khan

APPENDIX 2

Appointment of Committee Chairs

Article 8 of the Council's Constitution states that 'the Council will appoint a Member to serve as Chair of each Committee that it appoints under this Article. If the Council does not, the Committee may appoint a Chair from amongst the Members appointed to the Committee by the Council. Each Committee may appoint a Vice-Chair from amongst its Members.'

In accordance with the above, the Council is requested to appoint the Chairs of the committees listed below, to serve for the municipal year 2017/18 or until either (i) they resign the position, (ii) are no longer a member of the Council or the Committee concerned or (iii) a successor is appointed, whichever is the sooner.

Any nominations received at the time of printing are listed below and any further nominations received subsequently will be reported verbally.

Committee	Nominations received for Chair
Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
Development/Strategic Development Committee	
General Purposes Committee	
Audit Committee	
Pensions Committee	
Licensing Committee	

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