

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL****HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2017****THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5
CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG****Members Present:**

Mayor John Biggs	Councillor Clare Harrison
Councillor Khaled Uddin Ahmed	Councillor Danny Hassell
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	Councillor Sirajul Islam
Councillor Shafi Ahmed	Councillor Denise Jones
Councillor Suluk Ahmed	Councillor Aminur Khan
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	Councillor Rabina Khan
Councillor Sabina Akhtar	Councillor Shiria Khatun
Councillor Mahbub Alam	Councillor Abjol Miah
Councillor Shah Alam	Councillor Ayas Miah
Councillor Amina Ali	Councillor Harun Miah
Councillor Abdul Asad	Councillor Md. Maium Miah
Councillor Craig Aston	Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE
Councillor Asma Begum	Councillor Muhammad Ansar Mustaqim
Councillor Rachel Blake	Councillor Joshua Peck
Councillor Chris Chapman	Councillor John Pierce
Councillor Dave Chesterton	Councillor Oliur Rahman
Councillor Andrew Cregan	Councillor Gulam Robbani
Councillor David Edgar	Councillor Candida Ronald
Councillor Marc Francis	Councillor Rachael Saunders
Councillor Amy Whitelock Gibbs	Councillor Helal Uddin
Councillor Peter Golds	Councillor Andrew Wood
Councillor Shafiqul Haque	

The Speaker of the Council, Councillor Sabina Akhtar 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 – 5.2 – Petitions.
- Item 12.15 - Motion regarding Westferry Printworks Secondary School
- Item 5.3 – Petitions.
- Item 6 – Public Questions.

- Item 7 – Mayor’s Report.
- Item 13.1 Urgent Motion regarding the Autumn Budget 2017 and Fire Safety measures.
- Item 8 – Members Questions.
- Item 12.4 - Motion regarding Operation Lynemouth.
- Item 12.8 - Motion regarding the future of Old Ford Housing Association.
- Item 9 – Reports from the Executive and the Council’s Committees.
- Item 9.1 - Report following an Individual Mayoral Decision - Acquisition of Affordable Homes
- Item 9.2 - Report of the General Purposes Committee - Constitution Review – Council Procedure Rules.
- Item 9.3 Report of the General Purposes Committee - Constitution Review – Member/Officer Relations’ Protocol.
- Item 9.4 Report of the Audit Committee - Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2017/18.
- Item 10 – Reports and Questions on Joint Arrangements/External Organisations.
- Item 11 – Other Business.
- Item 11.1 - Review of proportionality and allocation of places on committees and panels of the Council 2017/18

The Speaker of the Council brought the Council up to date with some of her activities since the previous Council meeting. She reported that in September Tower Hamlets hosted ‘London in Bloom’ for the first time, for its 50th Anniversary receiving excellent feedback and also winning awards.

The Speaker had also attended a number of events including: the Costermongers’ Harvest Festival and parade bringing together all London Borough Civic Heads, the British Bangladesh Fashion Week event, the London Mayors’ Association Annual Civic Service and also the launch of ‘Hate Crime Awareness Week’ in London.

She was also pleased to announce that she had welcomed a Chinese Task Group and the crew of a French Ship that visited the Borough’s docks and had also participated in Citizenship Ceremonies, many community events and celebrations.

The Speaker had enjoyed meeting local schoolchildren in the Town Hall as part of Local Democracy Week, visited local schools, her charities and had attended award ceremonies, celebrating the achievements of young people. In addition, the Speaker had attended the launch of the Poppy Appeal, undertaken fundraising for the appeal and had represented the Council at remembrance events

Turning to future events, the Speaker reminded the Council that her Charity Ball would take place on Monday 4th December 2017. She invited all to attend and if they were not able to, to make a donation. The Speaker reported that she would also be hosting a Squadron Air Cadets Awards Ceremony and

be attending the Civic Awards, Charity Dinners, the International Women's Day Afternoon Tea and the Civic Service.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Councillor Mohammed Mufti Miah
- Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury

Apologies for lateness were received on behalf of Councillors Rachael Saunders, Amina Ali, Rabina Khan, Shafi Ahmed, Ayas Miah, Joshua Peck, and Rachel Blake.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor Shafi Ahmed declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 5.3 Petition regarding Zebra Crossing at Henriques Street, E1 as a Governor at Harry Gosling Primary School.

Councillor Denise Jones declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda item 8.2, a Member Question relating to the Council Tax reduction scheme as she was self employed.

Councillor Mahbub Alam declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda item 8.2, a Member Question relating to the Council Tax reduction scheme as he worked for a car hire company. He also declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Items 12.17, Motion regarding housing in Tower Hamlets and 12.18 Motion regarding Fire Safety in Tower Hamlets for Residents (which were not considered) as a housing tenant.

Councillor Sirajul Islam declared a personal interest in Agenda item 12.8 Motion regarding the future of Old Ford Housing Association as he was a Council tenant.

Councillor Rajib Ahmed declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 12.17 Motion regarding housing in Tower Hamlets as a leaseholder of property.

Councillor Dave Chesterton declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 12.17 Motion regarding housing in Tower Hamlets as a landlord of property in the borough.

Councillor Khaled Uddin Ahmed declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 12.17 Motion regarding housing in Tower Hamlets as a leaseholder of property in the borough.

Councillor Helal Uddin declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 12.17 Motion regarding housing in Tower Hamlets as he and his wife were leaseholders of property in the borough. He also declared a personal

interest in this item as his employer had a working relationship with Poplar HARCA.

Councillor David Edgar declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 12.17, Motion regarding housing in Tower Hamlets as his wife is a landlord of property.

The following Councillors declared Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Items 12.17 Motion regarding housing in Tower Hamlets and 12.18 Motion regarding Fire Safety in Tower Hamlets as landlords of property:

- Councillor Shah Alam
- Councillor Muhammad Ansar Mustaquim
- Councillor Harun Miah
- Councillor Suluk Ahmed

Councillors Craig Aston, Clare Harrisson and Danny Hassell declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 12.17 Motion regarding housing in Tower Hamlets as private renters in the Borough.

Members declaring Disclosable Pecuniary Interests would be required to leave the room for the duration of the relevant agenda items.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

1. That the unrestricted minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 20 September 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and the Speaker be authorised to sign them accordingly.

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

There were no announcements.

5. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS

5.1 Petition regarding Watts Grove

Terry McGrenera addressed the meeting and responded to questions from Members. Mayor John Biggs then responded to the matters raised in the petition. He thanked the petitioner for all the hard work that he had undertaken in relation to housing issues in the borough over the years. He and Councillor Sirajul Islam, Cabinet Member for Housing were willing to meet with the petitioner to discuss his particular concerns. He considered that the rents secured at the Watts Grove development were genuinely affordable. The new homes would accommodate residents from the Borough's housing waiting list based on need. He also confirmed that Tower Hamlets Homes would manage the development and the arrangements were to be reviewed in 2018.

RESOLVED:

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

5.2 Petition regarding new secondary school, Westferry Printworks site

Father Tom Pyke and others addressed the meeting and responded to questions from Members. Councillor Amy Whitelock Gibbs Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services then responded to the matters raised in the petition. She thanked the petitioners and also Councillors on the Isle of Dogs for highlighting the issues raised in the petition at an early stage.

She also explained that whilst the Mayor and Cabinet welcomed the new school, they shared the concerns about the government's approach to selecting the provider. They would continue to contact the government to ensure that the views of local community were taken into account regarding the selection of the provider. Councillor Whitelock Gibbs invited fellow Councillors from other parties to join with them in this.

RESOLVED:

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

Procedural Motion

Councillor Dave Chesterton **moved** and Councillor Danny Hassell, **seconded**, a procedural motion "that under Procedure Rule 14.1.3 the order of business be varied such that agenda item 12.15 Motion regarding Westferry Printworks Secondary School be taken as the next item of business". The procedural motion was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

5.3 Petition regarding Zebra Crossing at Henriques Street, E1

Lukey Begum addressed the meeting and responded to questions from Members. Mayor John Biggs then responded to the matters raised in the petition. The Mayor stated that he had met with the school governors and had visited the area outside the school to assess the situation. The Council took seriously the issue of road safety and would be developing plans to address the issues highlighted in the petition. There would be public consultation on the proposals and it was anticipated that the new scheme should be put in place in the next few months.

RESOLVED:

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

6. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The following questions followed by a supplementary question (except where indicated) were put and responded to by the Mayor or the relevant Executive Member:-

6.2 Question from Norma Vondee:

How many residents has WorkPath actually supported into work compared to Skillsmatch?

Response of Councillor Joshua Peck, Cabinet Member for Work and Economic Development:

I am delighted to be able to say that WorkPath has resulted in 416 residents getting into work in its first six months of operation. That's a 41% increase on what Skillsmatch achieved in the same period last year.

(No supplemental question was asked)

6.4 Question from Mohammad Rafique Ullah

How do rent levels at Watts Grove compare with rent levels at Poplar Baths and Dame Collet House?

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

When Mayor Biggs was first elected, he asked us to do an Affordability Commission to get to the bottom of what genuinely affordable homes meant now. We found that under the previous Mayor, rents were set too high for local people to afford, often due to expensive PFI deals that the previous Mayor signed up to. Rents on new Council homes agreed under the previous Mayor for example at Poplar Baths, Bradwell Street and Dame Collet House were set at expensive framework rents. Our new rent levels which will be social rent and the Tower Hamlets living rent at a proportion of local incomes will make new affordable homes far more affordable to those on low incomes saving residents significant amounts of money. We also took the decision to apply these new rents levels at Watts Grove.

Supplementary question from Mohammad Rafique Ullah:

Do you have a limit on affordable rents and what do you mean by affordable rents?

Councillor Blake's response to supplementary question:

Sadly this Government's affordable rents could be anything up to 80% of market rents. We think that is completely unaffordable for our residents. So for us, we are setting rent levels at social rent and at the Tower Hamlets living rent which is about a third of average incomes in Tower Hamlets. There is still

much more to do to make housing genuinely affordable, including encouraging other social landlords to take up these lower rents, and to really start tackling private landlords on their rent levels. Our new rent levels are definitely a big step in the right direction.

6.5 Question from Polly Avison:

How many police officers and PCSOs have been cut from Tower Hamlets?

Response of Councillor Asma Begum, Cabinet Member for Community Safety:

Due to huge cuts to the policing budget from the Conservative Government, Tower Hamlets lost almost a quarter of their police from the seven years following May 2010. Since the Tories took power, there has been a reduction from 818 officers to just 630. Tower Hamlets also lost more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of their PCSOs. 78% since 2010. More importantly, in the absence of intervention from central Government, we've taken steps ourselves to increase the police presence on our streets. We've ring fenced funding of £3m for police officers in Tower Hamlets, committing £3m of funding over the next three years to help protect neighbourhood policing. The police officers are tasked with tackling issues that residents told us were their biggest concerns, such as tackling anti-social behaviour, acid attacks, drug dealing and violent crime. 14 officers will be responsible for tackling crime on estates and 25 additional officers will work across the borough. A new 'Designing Out Crime' officer will also help planners, housing providers and developers to ensure that future developments consider community safety issues from the outset and design them out before being built. The Government expects local councils to step in to fill the gap – while we are doing everything we can, like funding extra officers, we simply cannot replace every police officer that the Government scraps. The Met has already lost £600 million since 2010 and the Government is threatening to go further. These are not sustainable cuts to the Met's budget and are damaging frontline policing and putting the public at risk. We are continuing to urge the Government to think again.

(No supplemental question was asked)

Questions 6.1, 6.3, and 6.6 were not put due to the absence of the questioner. Written responses would be provided to the questions. (Note: The written responses are included in Appendix 'A' to these minutes.)

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor made his report to the Council, referring to his written report circulated at the meeting, summarising key events, engagements and meetings since the last Council meeting.

When the Mayor had completed his report and at the invitation of the Speaker, the Leaders of the Independent Group, the People's Alliance of

Tower Hamlets and the Conservative Group, responded briefly to the Mayor's report.

Procedural Motion

Councillor Danny Hassell **moved** and Councillor Rachel Blake **seconded**, a procedural motion "that under Procedure Rule 14.1.5, Rule 13.1 be suspended to enable an urgent motion regarding the Autumn Budget 2017 and Fire Safety measures to be considered". The procedural motion was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

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 or relevant Executive Member-

8.1 Question from Councillor Helal Uddin:

Can the Mayor or Cabinet Member update Council on ongoing work to tackle the housing crisis?

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

I am sure that you will be aware that the Council adopted a new Housing Strategy in December 2016 which set out our plan to tackle the Housing crisis through to 2021. A lack of affordable housing is a major concern for residents and we have made significant strides forward over the past two and a half years. I pledged to provide 1,000 council homes and we're on track to meet this target. On affordable housing, Council figures show we delivered 1,070 affordable homes last year, 2016/17, and another 1,073 the year before. And under my new Living Rent policy, rents for new affordable homes are more affordable to those on low incomes, saving residents up to £6,000 a year. We are also investing £3m in local neighbourhoods to make them safer, cleaner and greener. Further, we're driving up standards in the private rented sector with landlord licensing scheme and our new Tower Hamlets Private Renters' Charter. The Council is doing a great deal to tackle the housing crisis, but we need the Government to back us up and take the challenge seriously, something we discussed already in the motion earlier.

Supplementary question from Councillor Uddin:

What sort of strategies are in place to increase social housing as well as affordable housing in the borough and will the Lead Member ensure me that the work programmes created by the Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee will be supported and resourced by the administration to ensure that fire safety issues are being dealt with effectively?

Councillor Sirajul Islam's response to supplementary question:

We have recently announced £119m funding to purchase surplus housing stock from registered providers including £19m to buy homes from Poplar HARCA. We have purchased additional homes for use as temporary accommodation. We have also purchased new housing from developers as part of their planning obligations. We'll discuss this in more detail later this evening, but this is a massive investment in affordable homes for our residents highlighting just how seriously we take the housing crisis.

In terms of fire safety, we take this very seriously. We cannot forget the 71 lives lost at Grenfell Tower. The Mayor has allocated around £30m for fire safety work. As you know, we are already carrying out work at Brewster House and on the Cranbrook Estate. Under Mayor Biggs' leadership in 2015 we carried out fire risk assessments of every Council block and registered provider block which is something the previous administration failed to and left our residents in grave danger.

8.2 Question from Councillor Oliur Rahman

Following the changes to the Council Tax reduction scheme by the Mayor in April 2017, how is the Council supporting self-employed residents – like mini cab drivers and driving instructors etc. – in relation to their council tax rebate and reduction?

Response of Councillor David Edgar, Cabinet Member for Resources:

The changes made to the local Council Tax reduction scheme earlier this year, kept the option of providing up to a 100% discount. Many Councils throughout the county require all working people to make a contribution to Council Tax. We did make some changes to the assessment criteria that took into account the changes that come from the introduction of the universal credit. The introduction of which means that the Council will no longer be responsible for housing benefit for working age claimants. The Government in their budget made some small changes to universal credit, but really did not make the changes that were absolutely necessary. The introduction of universal credit by the Government has been a disaster for many people. It means that not only are many of the rules around benefits changing, but the government is also stopping sharing information with Councils and is cutting the funding that they give Councils to process benefits. This means that we have no verified information on actual income for those in receipt of universal credit which is the information that we previously used to base the local Council tax calculation on. As a result, one of the changes that was made by the Council in January this year was the introduction of a minimum income floor which was based on 35 hours work on a national minimum wage. That is the same criteria that is going to be applied and is applied under universal credit which will increasingly affect the Borough's self-employed claimants as universal credit is rolled out. That has had an impact on some self-employed claimants.

Supplementary question from Councillor Rahman:

Not every resident receives universal credit and I think for the Council to have a blanket policy affecting every single working resident is not right. When I asked Officers what legal legislation they used to reach that decision they could not answer maybe you could answer that question. What legal legislation have you used to reach this decision that is affecting the self-employed working people in this borough?

Councillor Edgar's response to supplementary question:

Councils are able to set their Council tax reduction schemes. The Government abolished a number of years ago the national scheme and also reduced significantly the funding that came to it. But what we have done in response to help those people who face problems as a result of the changes, that will affect more and more people as universal credit is rolled out, is to provide support to people so that everybody who feels that they are in financial hardship and feels that they have been affected by the changes can contact the Council and have a discussion with the Council. What the Council can do in response is reduce financial hardship through the support it provides. The Council can provide help on work and advice on benefits. These measures will form part of a report that goes to the November Cabinet. This is in addition to the hardship scheme that was introduced with the Council Tax reduction scheme. We are doing this in the context where the Government continues to push forward universal credit. This makes the work that we do as a Council to support people into work through the hardship fund and through the other things we can do all the more important.

8.5 Question from Councillor Shiria Khatun:

How did the Council respond to the Met Police consultation on police front counter closures?

Response of Councillor Asma Begum, Cabinet Member for Community Safety:

A detailed written response from the Council was submitted to the London Mayor's Office for Policing & Crime (MOPAC) opposing the closures. There were 17 questions in total covering many aspects of community engagement and accessibility. One of which specifically asked "Do you agree that it is right that the Metropolitan Police Service prioritise police officers over poorly-used front counters?" The Council did not agree with this proposed prioritisation which is far from simple. The Council expressed serious concerns over the impact of government cuts on the police and that MOPAC should not be placed in the situation of having to choose between police officers and front counters.

Concerns were raised on the loss of two front counters in the borough and the isolation this would cause. We offered alternative options to avoid their closure.

(No supplemental question was asked)

Questions 8.3 – 4 were not put due to the absence of the questioners. Questioners 8.6- 29 were not put due to lack of time. Written responses would be provided to the questions. (Note: The written responses are included in Appendix 'A' to these minutes.)

Procedural Motion

Councillor Danny Hassell **moved** and Councillor Sirajul Islam, **seconded**, a procedural motion “that under Procedure Rule 14.1.3 the order of business be varied such that agenda item 12. 4 Motion regarding Operation Lynemouth be taken as the next item of business”. The procedural motion was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

Procedural Motion

Councillor Danny Hassell **moved** and Councillor Marc Francis, **seconded**, a procedural motion “that under Procedure Rule 14.1.3 the order of business be varied such that agenda item 12. 8 Motion regarding the future of Old Ford Housing Association be taken as the next item of business”. The procedural motion was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

Extension of time limit for the meeting

Mayor John Biggs **moved**, and Councillor Danny Hassell **seconded**, a procedural motion that “under Procedure Rule 15.11.7 the meeting be extended for up to an additional 10 minutes to enable item 12. 8 Motion regarding the future of Old Ford Housing Association and the remaining reports on the agenda to be considered”. The procedural motion was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

9. REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES

9.1 Report following an Individual Mayoral Decision - Acquisition of Affordable Homes

The Council considered a decision following on from an Individual Mayoral Decision published on Friday 10 November 2017. The recommendation was put to the vote under the guillotine procedure at Council Procedure Rule 9. Accordingly it was

RESOLVED:

1. That the allocation of £119.0 million in the capital programme to fund the purchase of, and any works required to dwellings be agreed.

9.2 Report of the General Purposes Committee - Constitution Review – Council Procedure Rules

The Council considered a report of the General Purposes Committee following a review of the Council Procedure Rules section of the Council's Constitution. The recommendation was put to the vote under the guillotine procedure at Council Procedure Rule 9. Accordingly it was:

RESOLVED:

1. That the revised Council Procedure Rules at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

9.3 Report of the General Purposes Committee - Constitution Review – Member/Officer Relations' Protocol

The Council considered a report of the General Purposes Committee following a review of the Member/Officer Relations' Protocol section of the Council's Constitution. The recommendation was put to the vote under the guillotine procedure at Council Procedure Rule 9. Accordingly it was:

RESOLVED:

1. That the revised Member/Officer Relations' Protocol at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

9.4 Report of the Audit Committee - Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2017/18

The Council considered a report from the Audit Committee setting out the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2017/18. The recommendations were put to the vote under the guillotine procedure at Council Procedure Rule 9. Accordingly it was

RESOLVED:

That the Council note:

1. The contents of the treasury management activities and performance against targets for half year ending 30th September 2017;
2. The Council's outstanding investments which amount to £447.1m at 30th September 2017 as set out at appendix 2 to the report;
3. The potential impact on the Council of becoming a retail client with effect from 3rd January 2018 as set out at section 3.7 of the report; and
4. The protections available to retail clients that the Council will forgo as a result of opting up to professional client as set out at appendix 4 to the report.

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 Review of proportionality and allocation of places on committees and panels of the Council 2017/18**

The Council considered the report of the Corporate Director, Governance, in respect of changes to the proportionality calculations for allocating places on the Council's Committees. The recommendations were put to the vote under the guillotine procedure at Council Procedure Rule 9. Accordingly it was:

RESOLVED:

1. That the review of proportionality as at section 3 of the report be noted and the allocation of seats on committees and panels be agreed for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2017/18 as set out at paragraph 4.2 of the report.
2. To note the committees and panels established for the municipal year 2017/18 as listed in paragraph 4.2 as agreed at the Annual Council meeting held on Wednesday 17 May 2017.
3. That Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury be appointed as a Member of the Development Committee and Councillors Md Maium Miah and Mohammed Mufti Miah be appointed deputies of the Development Committee.
4. That the Corporate Director, Governance be authorised to approve the appointment of ungrouped Councillors to any committee places not allocated by the Council to a political group, after consultation with those Councillors and the Speaker of the Council.

12. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**12.4 Motion regarding Operation Lynemouth**

Mayor John Biggs **moved** and Councillor Sirajul Islam **seconded** the motion as printed in the agenda.

Councillor Peter Golds **moved** and Councillor Andrew Wood **seconded** the following friendly amendment to the motion:

Insert as Item 2 after this Council notes;

The report contains a number of significant observations including;

From Page 12

“It would appear that the original MPS investigation failed to secure pivotal evidence which could have led to further enquiries. Operation Lynemouth has done so and is seeking early advice from the CPS as to whether the evidence provides realistic opportunities for investigation and prosecution.”

From Page 14

“The MPS’s fraud squad considered ten matters during the original investigation, including allegations of fraud, bribery, perjury and tax evasion, but did not make any arrests. Operation Lynemouth has already identified potential evidential opportunities, although there is still much work to be done.”

Insert as Item 4 after this Council resolves;

Item 4

That the residents of the borough will look to the police, electoral officials, political parties, their candidates and supporters to ensure that the elections to be held in 2018 are free, fair and untainted by the malpractice which so damaged the reputation of this borough in 2014.

Renumber Item 4 as Item 5

Mayor John Biggs and Councillor Sirajul Islam accepted the amendment and altered their motion accordingly.

Councillor Oliur Rahman attempted to move a further amendment to this motion. However the Council’s Monitoring Officer advised the Speaker that the content of the amendment was out of order so it should not be accepted.

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

RESOLVED:

This Council notes:

1. That Operation Lynemouth has published its second interim report, which is investigating *‘any alleged criminal or electoral wrongdoing... committed, counselled or procured by a senior figure (or senior figures) within the London Borough of Tower Hamlets’* between 25 October 2010 and 23 April 2015.
2. The report contains a number of significant observations including;

From Page 12

“It would appear that the original MPS investigation failed to secure pivotal evidence which could have led to further enquiries. Operation Lynemouth has done so and is seeking early advice from the CPS as to whether the evidence provides realistic opportunities for investigation and prosecution.”

From Page 14

“The MPS’s fraud squad considered ten matters during the original investigation, including allegations of fraud, bribery, perjury and tax evasion, but did not make any arrests. Operation Lynemouth has already identified potential evidential opportunities, although there is still much work to be done.”

This Council believes that:

1. Although, as was stated in the election Court judgement *‘the election of all THF (Tower Hamlets First) Councillors must be taken to have been achieved with the benefit of the corrupt and illegal practices’*, all councillors in Tower Hamlets have a legal and moral duty to support the police investigation into the wrongdoing of the past;
2. While many councillors who were elected as part of Tower Hamlets First still serve on the Council in the Tower Hamlets Independent Group and the People’s Alliance of Tower Hamlets, including potentially two Mayoral Election candidates, and that they remain in denial about the corrupt regime which they were a part of, all sitting councillors and the Mayor have a personal responsibility to address the failures and criminality of the Lutfur Rahman administration and help the borough move forward. We note with sadness that while a majority accept this responsibility a sizeable minority clearly do not.

This Council resolves:

1. To welcome and fully support the HMIC investigation into alleged criminal offences arising from the 2014 mayoral election;
2. That every councillor should cooperate fully with any police investigation into criminality, including coming clean about any of their own actions and proactively offering any evidence they may have of wrongdoing;
3. To work to ensure the highest possible standards in the coming election and consign the electoral fraud of the previous administration to the past;
4. That the residents of the borough will look to the police, electoral officials, political parties, their candidates and supporters to ensure that

the elections to be held in 2018 are free, fair and untainted by the malpractice which so damaged the reputation of this borough in 2014.

5. To condemn in the strongest possible terms the illegality of the former mayor.

12.8 Motion regarding the future of Old Ford Housing Association

Councillor Marc Francis **moved** and Mayor John Biggs **seconded** the motion as printed in the agenda.

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

RESOLVED:

This Council notes:

1. Old Ford Housing Association (OFHA) was established in 1998 as the successor body to Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust (HAT);
2. OFHA was a subsidiary of Circle 33 Housing Trust for financing purposes, but was accountable to its own Board of tenants, leaseholders and independent members;
3. In 2005, Circle 33 merged with Anglia Housing to form Circle Anglia Ltd, and that other associations joined later to form Circle Housing Group;
4. In July 2007, LBTH transferred the "Parkside" council estates to OFHA with the promise to refurbish individual flats and the estates within five years;
5. In 2015, following complaints from LB Islington and LBTH about the performance of its repairs service, the Social Housing Regulator found evidence of "serious detriment" to tenants and downgraded Circle Housing Group, requiring an action plan to improve governance;
6. In response, Circle put forward an "action plan", which involved closing down its subsidiaries, including Old Ford HA, and centralising services, moving most Bow-based staff to a new call-centre in Kent;
7. In summer 2016, despite clear evidence of a continuing deterioration in services, including tenants being left without heating for weeks on end, the Regulator upgraded Circle again;
8. Within days, Circle announced its intention to merge with Affinity Sutton "*to create the largest housing association in Western Europe*";
9. In response to Circle's "consultation", more than 1,000 residents signed a petition opposing the proposed closure of Old Ford, which led to Old Ford's Board declining to agree to Circle's proposal;

10. Following a Parliamentary debate initiated by Rushanara Ali MP, the Regulator finally began an investigation, which confirmed “serious detriment” had again been caused to tenants and resulted in the newly-merged Circle / Affinity Sutton being downgraded again in December 2016;
11. The former Chief Executive and Chair of Circle have both left the new organisation - Clarion Housing Group - and it is now run by former Affinity Sutton staff;
12. While Clarion’s new Management Team has made some improvement in services, it is continuing with Circle’s plan to close subsidiaries and centralise services;
13. Clarion has asked Old Ford’s Board to consult residents again on closing Old Ford;
14. At least two other local community-based housing associations have expressed an interest in coming together with Old Ford.

This Council believes:

1. The ex-HAT and “Parkside” estates in Bow were transferred to Old Ford on the basis that it would be a “*community-based housing association*”, and that residents voted in favour of the transfers from LBTH on that basis;
2. As the former landlord, Tower Hamlets Council has a moral and legal responsibility to ensure that any substantive changes to the governance arrangements at Old Ford are only made with the consent of residents;

This Council resolves:

1. To oppose any attempt by Clarion Housing Group to close Old Ford without the formal consent of residents;
2. To support the Mayor and Cabinet in opposing these plans publicly, including by raising objections to the Housing Minister and Social Housing Regulator, and by legal means if necessary;
3. To support the Mayor and Cabinet in facilitating direct discussions between Old Ford’s Board and those other community-based housing associations that have expressed an interest in combining with Old Ford.

12.15 Motion regarding Westferry Printworks Secondary School

Councillor Dave Chesterton **moved** and Candida Ronald **seconded** the motion as printed in the agenda.

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

RESOLVED:

The Council notes:

1. The Council's Local Plan adopted in April 2013 identifies the site of the former Printworks on Westferry Road as a priority location for a new secondary school on the Isle of Dogs.
2. A new 1,200 place secondary school on this site was granted planning consent in May 2016. When this opens this will be the first new second secondary school on the Isle of Dogs since George Green's School opened in 1975, more than 40 years ago;
3. Currently there is a surplus of secondary school places on the Isle of Dogs (just over 7% across all year groups). Current projected demand for secondary school places indicates that additional provision will not be required until the start of the school year 2021/22;
4. The "free school presumption" is the process Local Authorities have to follow where they intend to open a new school. It is set out in section 6(A) of the Education & Inspections Act 2006 which provides that where a Local Authority believes that a new school needs to be established in their area, they must seek proposals for the establishment of an Academy or Free School;
5. However, the guidance clearly states (para 17) that 'In considering the need for a new school, local authorities should factor in any other free school projects that the department has approved and are due to open;'
6. The Secretary of State has made it clear that she considers Canary Wharf College to be an appropriate provider as it is already open as a school and includes secondary provision from September 2016;
7. Even where the Council decides to run a competition, the Secretary of State is the ultimate decision maker and may decide to appoint a sponsor other than that recommended to her by a local authority following competition. The guidance states: "The Secretary of State reserves the right to agree a sponsor of her own choice (from the list of approved sponsors) on the basis that she may have further evidence about a proposer, or proposers, which means that none of those put forward is suitable." In this instance it seems likely she may decide to appoint Canary Wharf College despite other expressions of interest submitted, making the process abortive for the Council and other schools who bid;
8. If the Council opts to run a competition, the Council could bear costs of up to £30million, in addition to the costs of running the free school competition. The costs would remain the responsibility of the Council regardless of the Secretary of State's decision on who the provider will be;

9. If the school goes ahead as a central free school determined by the Department for Education, and the Council does not run a competition, the capital costs and the pre and post-opening costs for the school would be borne by the Department for Education;

This council also believes:

10. That the previous Regional Schools Commissioner indicated that, by virtue of the fact Canary Wharf College has already been approved by the Secretary of State to open a secondary school on the Isle of Dogs, it would be fair to assume the Government intends to approve Canary Wharf College despite any recommendation process.

The Council Believes;

1. There is no need to rush to select an operator for the Westferry Printworks Secondary School, this secondary school will not be required until September 2021;
2. The process by which an operator for this new school is selected should be by open competition, completely transparent and the views of parents placed at the centre of the selection process;
3. Potential operators must be able to evidence outstanding success in:
 - a. High educational attainment for children from diverse backgrounds;
 - b. Community cohesion and inclusiveness;
 - c. Actively reaching out to children from poor families;
 - d. Actively reaching out to children of parents from all faiths;
 - e. Positively encouraging children with special needs.
4. Ideologically motivated interference by the Secretary of State in this selection process is unacceptable;
5. That by making the Council liable for what could cost £30m, without giving them the power to decide on who will run the school is entirely wrong and flies in the face of parents' wishes and local democracy;

The Council Resolves to:

1. Ask the Mayor to continue to stand up for the rights of local parents, to have their voices heard and to write to the Secretary of State urging her to properly consider and be guided by local opinion before making any decision on this site;
2. Ask the Mayor to urge the Secretary of State and Regional Schools Commissioner not to undermine local decision-making and accountability, and to be open about their intentions relating to the Westferry Printworks Secondary School and to make this process fully open by waiving in advance of any local competition, the requirement for council to fund as much as £30m costs should the recommendation of such a competition not be approved by the Secretary of State;

3. Call on Conservative Councillors to add their voices to local concerns and make representations to the Department for Education to enable a genuine free school competition where the decision is not pre-determined and which does not cost the council millions even if the local process is then overturned by Government;
4. Refer the petition signed by local people to the Secretary of State and Regional Schools Commissioner.

Motions 12.1, 12.3, 12.5-12.7, 12.9- 12.14 and 12.16-12. 21 were not debated due to lack of time.

13. URGENT MOTIONS

The Council agreed to suspend Procedure Rule 13.1 to enable the following urgent motion to be debated without notice:

13.1 Motion regarding the Autumn Budget 2017 and Fire Safety measures

Councillor David Edgar **moved** and Mayor John Biggs, **seconded**, the motion as **tabled**.

Following debate the motion was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

RESOLVED:

This Council notes:

1. The Government's Autumn Budget 2017 was presented to Parliament on 22nd November 2017.
2. The Budget failed to address the crisis facing our public services, directly caused by the Government's austerity programme.
3. That the Council is committed to keeping our residents safe with a focused programme of works based on up-to-date and professionally considered Fire Risk Assessments, but the Government's Budget did not include any new funding for fire safety measures, such as sprinklers, which many residents across the UK have understandably called for.

This Council believes:

1. That the Government's continued austerity programme is having a real impact on residents here in Tower Hamlets and across the UK:
 - a. Cuts of £18.7m to schools in Tower Hamlets, the equivalent of £508 per pupil;
 - b. 295 fewer police officers and PCSOs on streets in Tower Hamlets since the Tories came to power in 2010;
 - c. Government cuts to council funding have meant that Tower Hamlets Council has to save £58m over the coming years;
 - d. By 2019, local authorities will be forced to spend 19% less per household under the Tories;

- e. An open letter, signed by five major children's charities and organisations, warned that children's social care will have a £2bn funding gap nationally by 2020;
 - f. Child poverty has risen to 4 million under the Conservative Government and is set to rise by a further million by the end of this Parliament;
 - g. Cuts to adult social care budgets are expected to reach £6.3 billion by March 2018;
 - h. There are over 4 million people on NHS waiting lists in England, and there are 6,000 fewer mental health nurses than in 2010.
2. That the Budget should have included extra funding for fire safety measures, including cladding removal, fire doors, other protection systems and sprinklers.

This Council resolves:

1. To call on the Mayor to write to the Prime Minister:
 - a. Demanding that proper funding is provided for public services;
 - b. Demanding that the Government properly fund fire safety works across the UK, for example sprinklers, and accept that its disastrous programme of deregulation and cost cutting is putting lives at risk.

The meeting ended at 10.18 p.m.

Speaker of the Council

This page is intentionally left blank

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

8.3 Question from Councillor John Pierce

The Mayor's 2017/18 Budget included nearly £6m additional spending for Mayoral Growth Priorities – what sort of programmes and projects has this £6m provided?

Response by Mayor John Biggs

A number of programmes and projects were approved as part of this £6m:

- £2m for free school meals
- £1.7m towards the £5m tackling poverty fund
- Nearly £700k to support women from unemployment into health care careers
- £120k for Children's Centre commissioning of voluntary and community sector organisations
- £50k to improve air quality in Tower Hamlets
- £185k to help residents overcome barriers to employment
- £230k for the Mayor's Apprenticeship Programme
- Many other projects benefitting residents right across the borough.

I note that Cllr Rabina Khan wanted to scrap this £6m in her February budget amendment. In short it would have meant that these projects would not have gone ahead so there would have been no money to help residents into work, to tackle poverty, for apprenticeships and crucially, Cllr Khan's budget proposals would mean no more free school meals.

8.4 Question from Councillor Chris Chapman

Will the Mayor explain as to why housing, built on land owned by the taxpayer through the council on Blackwall Reach, is being marketed to speculative investors in Singapore, Hong Kong and the Middle East before the council and partners have even opened a UK sales office?

Response by Councillor Rachel Blake

The overseas marketing of these homes just goes to show that London's housing market is broken, it can't be right that to pay for social homes we have to sell private homes overseas. Sadiq Khan is right in his 'first dibs' policy. We have complied with that policy and would like to work with him to go further to make sure that new homes in Tower Hamlets are available for local residents. The agreement was signed under the previous Mayor.

The scheme has to be commercially viable ' the alternative would have been for LBTH to part-subsidise directly or through grant. A normal deal for a private developer under a s106 planning agreement would not have these marketing conditions.

Marketing of the private homes at Blackwall Reach Regeneration Project is in line with a Principal Development Agreement (PDA) signed between project partners LBTH, the GLA and Swan Housing Association. This was signed under when Boris Johnson and Lutfur Rahman were Mayor of London and Tower Hamlets respectively - in April 2011 following the appointment of Swan as development partner and updated December 2013.

This summer saw a sales launch for the 200 private homes being built for Phase 1b of this project.

Initially, and as per the PDA, homes for sale in this phase were marketed by Swan for three months within Tower Hamlets and then London-wide for a further three months. Following this combined six month period, there has been marketing overseas.

Whilst the development phase does not complete till September 2019, it was hoped to secure advance sales in part to fund the affordable homes being built both in this phase and the already completed Phase 1a which was 100% affordable to facilitate rehousing from the Robin Hood Gardens Estate.

8.6 Question from Councillor Rabina Khan

Will the Mayor agree to set up a Tower Hamlets' Brexit Task Group to plan for a number of Brexit scenarios in the lead up to Britain's departure from the EU?

Response by Mayor John Biggs

Brexit is one of the biggest challenges facing our council and our country. The Growth and Economic Partnership Sub-Group – co-chaired by Councillor Peck and Ian Parkes of ELBA - has also been looking at the potential economic impacts of Brexit on the borough, and considering what partners need to do to respond to a number of potential scenarios. This work is focussed on ensuring that any skills or labour shortages caused by Brexit can be responded to by employment schemes in the borough.

I have been clear to our EU citizens living and working in Tower Hamlets, about 12% of our population, that our borough will remain a welcoming, open and international place, as it always has been.

In terms of preparation for Brexit we have done a lot but this is hampered by the Government's chaotic handling of the Brexit negotiations. Despite that, the council has been working to prepare ourselves for whatever the outcome.

As you will be aware, I have asked the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee to form a working party which met on 7th December to consider three things: the impact on the Council; the impact on the Borough and community, such as the rights of EU citizens; and to ensure we position the Borough accordingly. In effect we already have the group you are asking for.

We are also working with leading business figures and our partners across the NHS, schools, business, police, housing associations and other public services to jointly analyse the impact of Brexit on the whole borough. From house building to employment, tackling poverty to regeneration, Brexit will have a major impact which we are meeting head on.

8.7 Question from Councillor Ayas Miah

How many meetings of the Best Value Improvement Board have opposition members attended?

Response by Mayor John Biggs

Thank you for this important question. Since the previous Mayor left the Council in utter chaos we have been working hard to repair the damage he did. A major part of that has been through the work of the Best Value Review Board and then the Best Value Improvement Board which have overseen this vast improvement.

The Best Value Review Board Public Meetings ran from May 2015 until April 2017 with the Best Value Improvement Board replacing it since 10 April 2017. In total the two Boards have held ten meetings.

The meetings are open to all councillors and held in public. Representatives from all the political Groups are invited.

In answer to your question:

Councillor Peter Golds has attended on six occasions.
Councillor Oliur Rahman has NEVER attended
Councillor Rabina Khan has NEVER attended.

8.8 Question from Councillor Ohid Ahmed

How do the figures for all crime categories in Tower Hamlets since June 2016 compare to those for the previous two years?

Response by Councillor Asma Begum

From June 2016 to June 2017 there were 34,367 offences recorded in Tower Hamlets.

At the time of writing the Met were not able to provide comparison figures for the previous 24 months but were able to provide monthly comparisons: there was a 1.7% reduction in crime from May to June 2017.

To put this in context other boroughs saw increases – In Newham 3.52%, Hackney 1.25% and Islington 5.86%.

We are committed to making this borough a safer place for residents and to tackling crime. Nationally, recorded crime has risen and we are deeply concerned about central Government cuts.

The Mayor recently announced £3m for an additional 19 officers (on top of the 14 previously announced, focusing on estates) which will work across the whole borough.

In addition I recently took the new Community Safety Partnership to Cabinet, focusing on taking action in the following areas:

- ASB including drugs and alcohol
- Violence
- Hate crime, Community Cohesion and Extremism
- Reducing Reoffending

This was in response to extensive consultation with residents in Tower Hamlets in which we received responses from 1,400 residents living or working in the borough.

8.9 Question from Councillor Danny Hassell

Can the Lead Member please update on improvement work undertaken in relation to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub since the Ofsted inspection earlier this year?

Response by Councillor Amy Whitelock Gibbs

Since the Ofsted inspection in February this year there has been a significant amount of work to address the concerns outlined in the report. This work started before the report was published and seeks to make the required improvements across the service with a view to being rated as at least 'good' at our next inspection.

We have put in extra resources across the service but have put an additional focus on our Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). The MASH is a vitally important service receiving all of the initial contacts from partners and members of the public. The reason for focusing on this part of the child's journey first is that if we get things right at the very beginning of the child's journey then this has a positive impact on the life of that child, as well as ensuring that resources are appropriately targeted at those who most need them.

Since the inspection, two new team managers have been brought in which has greatly improved the functioning of the teams. Daily MASH meetings now take place which has greatly increased the multi-agency involvement in decision making. Performance has significantly improved, with the majority of contacts being closed within 24 hours. A small amount do take longer than this but usually only an additional 24 hours.

There has been a significant increase in the number of cases which are referred for a multi-agency response. These "MASH Episodes" greatly improve decision making and ensure that the children and families receive the most appropriate level of support.

Ofsted's first monitoring visit took place on the 30th and 31st of August 2017. The feedback was:

"Senior managers have appropriately prioritised improving the 'front door' multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) and the assessment and intervention (AI) service. As a result, most children in need of help and protection are beginning to benefit from the effective identification of risk and timely action by managers to safeguard them to prevent further harm. Leaders and elected members are developing comprehensive knowledge of the strengths and areas for development in the local authority."

"As a result, children in need of help and protection benefit from a more timely response, ensuring that their needs are prioritised. Cases are speedily transferred to the AI teams, where they are allocated promptly."

"Staff who have been working in Tower Hamlets for a long time are very positive about the changes, describing the MASH and AI service as 'unrecognisable'"

We are not complacent about the scale of the task and know that there is much to do in order to ensure that the changes are sustained and that the improvement is replicated across the service.

Under the previous Mayor there was a severely underfunded service that relied on using reserves as a short term fix, but which stored up significant problems in the long term. In contrast, Mayor Biggs has invested £4.8m in Children's Social Care, as agreed by Full Council in the last Budget. In addition, in the 2018/19 budget process we plan to invest a further £5m plus an estimated £4m for the specific Improvement Plan Budget.

The challenges we face locally are in the context of a national crisis. Nationally Children's social care is being pushed to breaking point, with an unprecedented surge in demand leaving services struggling to cope, across the public, voluntary and community sector. The funding gap facing children's services across the UK will reach at least £2 billion by 2020. The Government's failure to invest in these vital services, including early help for vulnerable families, will have long term consequences for our country's children and families. The number of children needing child protection plans has nearly doubled over the past decade, and last year saw the largest annual increase in children in care since 2013.

8.10 Question from Councillor Andrew Wood

Will the Mayor arrange a meeting between the Councils Planning, Clean and Green, Roads, Public Health and the Environmental Health teams and affected residents on the Isle of Dogs as to how to mitigate the cumulative impact of construction on their health and quality of life?

Response by Councillor Rachel Blake

We are already taking action - in April 2017, the Council's structure was reorganised which resulted in planning and environmental health services being brought together within the new Place Directorate. The Planning Compliance (Enforcement) Team has been restructured and expanded following a Mayoral Growth bid approved in the 2017/18 budget. A new Planning Compliance Manager has been recruited to and all vacant posts within the team have been filled, providing much needed additional capacity, stability and strong team leadership. All open enforcement cases, including ones centred on construction issues, are subject to progress review at least once a month and more frequently for high profile, urgent or harmful cases. We have also assigned a lead officer to deal largely with construction management issues

In terms of the meeting, this is already in progress. The Planning Compliance Team is working to produce a cross-departmental Construction Works Forum with Environmental Health, Highways, Licensing, Building Control, as well as the Director of Public Health and others. The group should be fully operational within the next month and will consider input from residents. The meetings are being held monthly with the second meeting held on 21st November 2017. The next meeting after the Christmas break is tentatively set for 23rd January 2018.

The forum meets on a monthly basis with key nominated officers from each service acting as main contact points and monitoring officers for significant cases. We are currently compiling a 'hitlist' of sites in order to co-ordinate action and necessary monitoring arrangements.

The main crux of this forum is to tackle problematic construction work especially focused on the rapidly developing Canary Wharf and Isle of Dogs

areas.

The working group is a cross-departmental initiative set up to collaborate and co-ordinate action, site inspections and/or communication for construction sites where resolution is on-going. In this regard internal lead contact points for departments such as Environmental Health, Planning, Parking and Highways have been established and they will continue to share information amongst themselves in a more expeditious and concentrated manner. Additionally key sites such as Landmark Pinnacle have been prioritised for collaborative action and enhanced direction or enforcement.

8.11 Question from Councillor Marc Francis

Will the Lead Member update me on the outcome of the survey of Bow residents about the current parking restrictions that took place over the summer?

Response by Mayor John Biggs

The Council has undertaken an informal survey on parking in zones B4 and B2, to listen to residents and business regarding their parking and gave the opportunity for residents and businesses to indicate their parking views.

The main reason for the informal survey is that with significant development on the eastern edge of Tower Hamlets, particularly resulting from the development of the nearby Olympic Park, Westfield, West Ham Football Club and new housing schemes, some residents and business have expressed concerns about the pressure on parking. As a result we carried out this survey to gather wider views of residents and businesses.

We are reviewing feedback. There may be some limited areas such as Fish Island where residents may be keen for changes, but we would not proceed unless there is a strong local demand.

We would like to thank residents and businesses for taking the time to complete the informal parking survey questionnaire and providing us with your feedback.

8.12 Question from Councillor Abdul Asad

With the changes introduced under the new Council Tax Reduction Scheme does the Mayor believe that it has not affected our most vulnerable members in the community?

Response by Councillor David Edgar

The council's Local Council Tax Reduction scheme (LCTRS) is designed to ensure that the most vulnerable households in Tower Hamlets can qualify for a maximum 100% Council Tax rebate. Most councils no longer have a scheme which allows a 100% reduction in Council Tax.

We have 27,977 live claims of which 19,322 (69%) receive a full reduction in their council tax bill.

Since the abolition of Council Tax Benefit in April 2013, the funding provided to local authorities for their Local Council Tax Reduction Schemes has significantly reduced. Tower Hamlets kept a local scheme broadly similar to Council Tax Benefit between April 2013 and March 2017. This had significant costs because the council had to fund the difference between the actual cost of the scheme and the funding provided by central government

Following a public consultation in autumn 2016, the council decided to make changes to its scheme, partly in response to the Government's introduction of Universal Credit which means we no longer receive much of the income information we used to base the LCTRS calculation on. The changes also aimed to slightly reduce costs and make the scheme fairer, whilst prioritising protecting the poorest.

The council wants to ensure that residents do not suffer financial hardship as a result of the changes and has a hardship scheme as part of the revised LCTRS. This allows a reduction in council tax liability where it is deemed appropriate to do so.

In addition to this, the November Cabinet meeting considered and agreed two reports that are part of the Mayor's wider Tackling Poverty priority. These reports set out the additional support and funding available for the borough's more vulnerable residents.

8.13 Question from Councillor Khales Uddin Ahmed

Does the Mayor feel his human rights have been impeded by responding to questions at Full Council meetings?

Response by Mayor John Biggs

Thank you Councillor Ahmed for what in any other council would be an utterly bizarre question.

Sadly as we all know the previous Mayor refused to answer a single question from councillors or members of the public at Council meetings.

You could reasonably be forgiven for assuming he didn't have a clue, or potentially a care, about what he did with taxpayer money.

Instead he hid behind a farcical defence that it was against his human rights to be made to account for his decisions. Some might call that cowardly. I call it a disgrace.

Since becoming Mayor I have not only answered countless questions, petitions and motions at Council, I've attended Overview and Scrutiny

regularly, made myself as open and accountable as possible to local residents through surgery, casework and community meetings and held numerous Ask the Mayor sessions to invite residents to quiz me on my decisions and plans for the borough.

From the next meeting Members will note the rules have changed so each opposition group will get a chance to bring a motion to Full Council.

I believe that being Mayor is a privilege and that residents should have the power to question every decision you make. By contrast, the previous mayor and Cabinet treated it like an entitlement and were accountable to no-one. An utter disgrace.

8.14 Question from Councillor Maium Miah

Can the Council provide the record of the number of missed bin collections (household waste, recycling and associated log of complaints) for each electoral ward since 2010 until now?

Response by Councillor Rachel Blake

The statistics for this response will be circulated separately.

Some of the information you requested is not held or not effectively recorded to provide analysis and breakdown of your query. Clean, Green and Highways was created in 2011

8.15 Question from Councillor Candida Ronald

The 20mph speed limit on Prestons Road in my ward of Blackwall & Cubitt Town is regularly ignored by drivers and there have been a spate of accidents at the traffic bollard outside Horizons Tower. What measures will the Mayor take to improve road safety in this area?

Response by Councillor Amina Ali

Officers are currently completing a design review of Prestons Road to improve the safety of this road and encourage slower speeds through design, thus improving compliance with the 20mph speed limit.

The traffic island houses an ANPR security camera which monitors the two lanes of traffic to either side.

This island links to another island at Westferry Circus lower roundabout and forms part of the "Canary Wharf ring of steel" that was put in as part of Canary Wharf security. Unfortunately there is a history of accidents within the vicinity as vehicles merge into a single lane.

The design review will seek to address this problem both in terms of revising the road layout and providing a safer location for the camera to be able to

maintain its role.

The design review also takes into account the changes required to provide access to the Wood Wharf development.

It is expected that the study will be completed before Christmas and subject to Mayoral approval, will be issued for local public consultation early in the New Year.

8.16 Question from Councillor Peter Golds

It has been council policy for the past seventeen years, under both the Labour and Tower Hamlets First administrations, for the provision of a second South Quay Bridge. In view of the population explosion on the Isle of Dogs, will the Mayor outline when the bridge will be delivered? By Contrast the Mayor of London has started a full public consultation on the new Rotherhithe to Canary Wharf bridge one year after announcing he would build it by the year 2020.

Response by Mayor John Biggs

We have progressed this unlike the previous administration. I have taken an interest in this from 2002, and it has been a complicated project.

A feasibility study completed by the Council has identified options for the provision of additional crossing capacity over South Dock.

A project team, including secured project management resources, and a Project Executive Board are in place.

A report is to be considered by the Mayor in Cabinet at the meeting on the 19th December. This report will provide an overview and outline of the project. Subject to the Mayor's approval we hope to start consultation on crossing options in February next year.

The draft programme of works identifies completion of the project by March 2020.

8.17 Question from Councillor Dave Chesterton

When does the Mayor anticipate being able to announce the creation of a new riverside public park on the site of the old Millwall Lock Entrance, opposite the Dockland Sailing Centre?

Response by Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE

The Council has secured Section 106 funding to support the improvement of the open space in its ownership at Millwall Outer Dock.

A project team, including secured project management resources and a

steering group are in place.

The draft programme of works identifies completion of the project by August 2018, with public consultation programmed in for the first quarter of 2018. Officers are seeking dialogue with the owners of non-Council owned land.

8.18 Question from Councillor Aminur Khan

How many council funded police officers did the Mayor cut following his first two budgets?

Response by Councillor Asma Begum

Since 2010, Tower Hamlets council – like councils across London and the UK – has faced a Conservative-led Government determined to cut police budgets. The Met has already lost £600 million in funding since 2010 and the Government is threatening to go even further.

This has left Tower Hamlets Council to pick up the tab. In fairness to the opposition, to that end the council funded a team of 21 police officers in July 2011. However, the disgraced former Mayor Lutfur Rahman chose to scrap them in March 2015 when their contract was up for renewal.

Central Government cuts to police budgets are having a real impact.

This administration is determined to do everything it can to protect our community from huge central Government cuts to policing. This year we hired fourteen new police officers as part of a ground-breaking team to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour on council estates – the first of its kind in the borough.

Furthermore the Mayor in Cabinet has recently agreed to fund additional officers to support neighbourhood policing, including an officer focused on 'designing out crime'. This will bring the total number of officers including those patrolling THH estates to 39.

8.19 Question from Councillor Clare Harrison

How will the Mayor's £200,000 Air Quality Fund be spent?

Response by Councillor Rachel Blake

At Cabinet on the 31st October 2017 the Mayor agreed a new fund as part of the Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP).

The fund is for £200,000 over a two year period of 17/18 and 18/19.

The fund is intended for 'prospective bidders to support activities aligned to the Council priorities in improving air quality'.

Criteria for the proposed projects include:

- be related to either reducing emissions of, reducing exposure to or increasing awareness of air pollution;
- be directly relevant to actions in our AQAP;
- have a measurable impact; and
- have wider community benefits

The next stage is to take a report to the grants sub-committee to approve the process to release the funds.

8.20 Question from Councillor Mahbub Alam

Following the Grenfell tragedy, will the Mayor commit to publishing all Fire Risk Assessments immediately?

Response by Councillor Sirajul Islam

The Mayor has publicly committed to publishing THH's Fire Risk Assessments and this programme is already underway. All blocks rated a substantial risk have already had their FRA's published. All remaining blocks are being processed by THH who have a programme agreed with the council to upload the assessments.

8.21 Question from Councillor Rachael Saunders:

What plan for Old Flo did the Mayor inherit when he was elected?

Response by Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE

Old Flo is an important part of our cultural heritage and it deserves proper recognition.

Before the previous mayor was removed from office, he planned to sell Old Flo. One of the first decisions I made after my election was to cancel the sale and return her to the borough.

Old Flo is now safely back in Tower Hamlets, at a secure and accessible home in Cabot Square. Whilst I would have loved to see Old Flo returned to her old home in Stepney her considerable value means we've had to find her a safe and secure home for her for the next five years, in Canary Wharf. My hope is after that she can move even closer into our community, at the new Civic Centre in Whitechapel when it is complete.

Tower Hamlets has recently submitted its bid to be London Borough of Culture and I'm proud that Old Flo is back home and played a big role in our bid.

8.22 Question from Councillor Craig Aston

Will the Mayor indicate what discussions he held with his counterpart in Hackney with regard to sharing the costs of the firework display which was much appreciated by residents of both Tower Hamlets and Hackney but paid for by Tower Hamlets?

Response by Councillor Chunu Mukit

The London Borough of Hackney has not in recent times been formally approached with regard to sharing the costs of the Victoria Park fireworks display with Tower Hamlets. The Mayor did briefly mention it to Mayor Glanville who said that resources were allocated to the north of the borough.

The Fireworks event attracted an audience of 80,000 this year and was a successful event. It is one of the few remaining free events of this kind in London. As a neighbouring borough Hackney residents already benefit from the high quality facilities in the park as do many others who live in other parts of London

8.23 Question from Councillor Shah Alam

Does the Mayor agree that this budget overlooks the needs of the disabled children who use council funded nurseries and abandons the low income families these nurseries currently serve?

Response by Councillor Amy Whitelock Gibbs

Supporting our children to get the best start in life is one of our top priorities in Tower Hamlets. We are proud to have a diverse range of early years services for children under 5 with over 7,000 children attending sessions across the borough. The vast majority of these are provided by pre-school classes within primaries, separate maintained nursery schools, independent nurseries, numerous playgroups and child-minders, with around 105 children (dropping to about 30 children during holidays) attending day nurseries run directly by the Council - Overland, Mary Sambrook and John Smith.

We know parents value the service their children receive at these council-run nurseries. That's why we have been consulting online and directly with parents on proposals about how we manage them in the future and we very much welcome people's views as we decide what to do.

As of June this year the breakdown across our early years provision was:

- 68 primary schools, 65 of which have nursery classes and the other 3 have reception classes (attended by 2,980 children)
- 6 maintained nursery schools with teaching staff (407 children)
- 47 day care nurseries and nursery schools provided by private businesses and voluntary or independent organisations including charities (2,503 children)

- 30 playgroups (888 children) and 114 child minders (560 children)
- 3 Local Area Day Nurseries

The quality of services offered is exceptional with the vast majority (95%) of nurseries in our borough rated “good” or “outstanding” by Ofsted, which accredits all childcare settings.

We are clear that anyone seeking to run our nurseries would have to show they can offer services which are as good or better than what is currently there, including meeting tough contract requirements about maintaining excellent standards of care for children. That includes protecting the excellent specialist support for our children with disabilities or special educational needs, in particular the hearing impairment support at Overland. We would also ensure these and other nurseries continue to support vulnerable children that are being supported through the council’s social care and child protection services.

We are committed to listening to local people and will take the results of the consultation into account before any final decisions are made.

8.24 Question from Councillor Suluk Ahmed:

Will the Mayor provide the number of housing units (affordable, private and council) ‘approved’ since June 2015 until now with their completion schedules?

Response by Councillor Rachel Blake

The population of Tower Hamlets recently passed the 300,000 mark and it is predicted there will be a further 87,400 people living in the Borough over the next 25 years. While an increasing population brings opportunities, a lack of affordable housing is a major concern for our residents.

Mayor Biggs has committed to fighting the housing crisis and increasing the number of affordable homes in Tower Hamlets.

In the last two years of the previous administration, 2013/14 and 2014/15, only 595 and 635 affordable homes were built in Tower Hamlets, respectively.

Since Mayor Biggs came into office we have almost doubled that figure with over 1,000 new affordable homes built in each of the past two years.

Since June 1st 2015, the numbers of affordable housing units which have been built, i.e. completed, is as follows:

Year	Total Affordable	Rented	Intermediate
June 2015 – Mar 2016	1009	728	281
April 2016 – Mar 2017	1066	734	332

2017			
April 2017 – Sept 2017	464	357	107
	2539	1819	720

In addition to this Mayor Biggs has introduced new rent levels, based on the findings of the Affordability Commission, which will save residents up to £6,000 per year compared to rents under the former mayor before he was removed from office.

When Mayor Biggs was elected, 174 families were living in B&B accommodation for longer than the six week legal limit. After significant investment and planning, we've brought this figure down to zero.

We have a proactive approach to housing; we don't bury our head in the sand like the previous administration.

8.25 Question from Councillor Julia Dockerill

The building of a new secondary school was part of the deal when the London Dock planning application was approved, and the development is now completed in parts. However, there has been very little information about the building and running of the school ever since, beyond two last-minute 'consultation' meetings, the most recent of which was held outside of the ward. Given that the council is meant to hold an open and competitive tendering process for any new provider, will the Mayor update the council on what his administration intends to do?

Response by Councillor Amy Whitelock Gibbs

Cabinet agreed on 19 September 2017 to defer implementation of the London Dock secondary school building scheme while there is a review of the demand for secondary school places in the borough.

We are seeking planning consent at this stage to consult with residents in advance of gaining planning approval and starting the process with the Department for Education to open a new school. Based on current figures it is anticipated that the school will not be needed before September 2021 at earliest, with the likelihood that the scheme will be planned for either September 2022 or 2023. The implementation date will be considered again by the Council's Cabinet at a meeting in September 2018.

The consultation invite was mailed to 2,275 addresses (residential 2213 and businesses 62) that may be affected by the proposed plans. The design team is currently working with Planning Officers to finalise the proposals taking account of the consultation issues raised.

Where the need for a new school is identified, the local authority (LA) is no longer able to open a new community school. We can seek expressions of

interest from approved free school or academy providers, following a procedure set out by the DfE.

We will set a specification for the new school at London Dock to ensure that a provider is appointed who can deliver the specification, including a requirement to support the Tower Hamlets Education Partnership. Once the specification is agreed, Expressions of Interest (Eols) in providing the services specified will be sought. Eols are publicised by the LA as well as the requirement for them to be available on the DfE website.

8.26 Question from Councillor Shafi Ahmed

Does the Mayor think that there has been an increase in knife crime in Tower Hamlets?

Response by Councillor Asma Begum

Sadly we have seen knife crime rise across London, including in Tower Hamlets. According to the latest figures from the Police in the Borough on a rolling year to date (12.11.17) compared to the previous rolling year to date (12.11.17)

Total Knife Crime has increased by 22.1% to 684 offences (this includes a knife or sharp instrument that has been used to injure, used as a threat, or the victim was convinced a knife was present during the offence and knife possession).

Other London boroughs have seen similar increases:

Lambeth up 50.58% to 646
Hackney up 10.85% to 562
Croydon up 102.67% to 683
Newham up 15.08% to 702
Southwark up 45.58% to 840

Knife Injury Victims (under 25 non domestic abuse) has stayed the same at 106.

We are committed to tackling knife crime in Tower Hamlets. In June 2017 the Community Safety Partnership and Council set up a Task force of partner agencies to review knife and knife enabled crime in the borough and ensure that the partnership's response was effective in order to prevent and respond to future incidences.

Since then we have undertaken the following:

- 7 community weapon sweeps, supported by our dedicated youth outreach Rapid Response Team.

- knife test purchase operations have been carried out by Trading Standards and police cadets during which 22 premises have been visited and 5 failed, those 5 are subject to further action and prosecution being considered.
- 4 young people were referred to the most recent LFB LIFE Course, of which 2 engaged with the course and 1 young person completed the course which offers positive activities and diverts them from ASB and crime. A further 4 young people have referred to the next course.

8.27 Question from Councillor Harun Miah

Will the Mayor provide details of how many Council staff have been made redundant or left the council since June 2015 including the number who fall under the protected categories of the Public Sector Equality Duty and their final impact assessments?

Response by Councillor David Edgar

All staff are covered by the Public Sector Equality Duty as all have protected characteristics. The 'Annual workforce equalities report' published in 2016 showed that 54% of the people working for the Council identify as Asian, Bangladeshi, Black or Mixed race. That is slightly higher than the percentage of BAME people living in Tower Hamlets and slightly higher than when I was elected.

Two of the council's five Corporate Directors are from BAME backgrounds and all five are women.

There has been a significant reduction in the size of the workforce due to Government spending cuts – a 1,200 reduction since 2010.

Overall in my 30 months as Mayor, the BAME composition of our workforce has actually risen from 52.6% in 2015 to 54% in 2017.

In terms of the number of staff who have been made redundant or left the Council since June 2015 for any other reason, the information below covers the protected characteristics where sufficient information is held for reporting.

Table 1 – Leavers by ethnicity

Leavers June 2015 - Oct 2017		
Ethnicity	Number	%
Asian	93	4.8
Bangladeshi	414	21.5
Black	282	14.6
Mixed	60	3.1
Other	12	0.6
White	796	41.2
Declined to State / Missing	273	14.1
Grand Total	1930	100.0

Table 2 – Leavers by religion

Leavers June 2015 - Oct 2017		
Religion	Number	%
Buddhist	23	1.2
Christian	520	26.9
Hindu	14	0.7
Jewish	14	0.7
Muslim	448	23.2
No religion	350	18.1
Other	73	3.8
Sikh	9	0.5
Decline to State Missing	479	24.8
Grand Total	1930	100.0

Table 3 – Leavers by sexual orientation

Leavers June 2015 - Oct 2017		
Sexual Orientation	Number	%
Bisexual	22	1.1
Gay	27	1.4
Heterosexual	1309	67.8
Lesbian	10	0.5
Decline to State Missing	562	29.1
Grand Total	1930	100.0

Table 4 – Leavers by gender

Leavers June 2015 - Oct 2017		
Age band	Number	%
<=20	31	1.6
21 - 24	159	8.2
25 - 34	552	28.6
35 - 44	490	25.4
45 - 49	164	8.5
50 - 54	119	6.2
55 - 59	157	8.1
60 - 64	155	8.0
65+	103	5.3
Grand Total	1930	100.0

Leavers June 2015 - Oct 2017		
Gender	Number	%
Female	1162	60.2
Male	768	39.8
Grand Total	1930	100.0

Table 5 – Leavers by disability

Leavers June 2015 - Oct 2017		
Disability	Number	%
Not disabled	1363	70.6
Disabled	110	5.7
Declined to State / Missing	457	23.7
Grand Total	1930	100.0

Table 6 – Leavers by age

Leavers June 2015 - Oct 2017		
Age band	Number	%
<=20	31	1.6
21 - 24	159	8.2
25 - 34	552	28.6
35 - 44	490	25.4
45 - 49	164	8.5
50 - 54	119	6.2
55 - 59	157	8.1
60 - 64	155	8.0
65+	103	5.3
Grand Total	1930	100.0

Please note the following about the information above: -

These figures are slightly different than those quoted in an FOI (9551965) which asked for similar information because they include all leavers by post. i.e. a person who leaves 2 posts is counted twice - once for each post.

The figures include iTRES leavers – the Council's in-house resourcing agency. The figures are inclusive of staff who left due to TUPE transfer. This includes Fides Care staff who initially TUPEd in to the Council with no protected characteristics information provided, which partially explains the high 'declined to state/missing' figures.

8.28 Question from Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury

Will the Mayor provide the number of recorded ASB cases (incidents and complaints) in each electoral ward from June 2015 until now?

Response by Councillor Asma Begum

There have been a total of 29,087 anti-social behaviour calls in LBTH to Police 101 between 1st June 2015 and 12th November 2017.

The latest comparison for ASB calls to 101 for the 12 months up to and including 12th November 2017 compared to the previous 12 months up to 12th November 2016 show that they are down 13.8% as follows:

2016: 17,816
2017: 15,351

For the same period, repeat callers for ASB to Police 101 are down 14.0% as follows:

2016: 701
2017: 603

This administration is committed to tackling ASB, including making it a top priority of the new Community Safety Partnership and for the new police officers tasked with tackling crime and ASB in Tower Hamlets.

These figures are for ASB between 1st June 2015 and 12th November 2017

Ward	Number of ASB calls
Bethnal Green	1478
Blackwall and Cubitt Town	1692
Bow East	1577
Bow West	1200
Bromley North	1669
Bromley South	1500
Canary Wharf	1022
Island Gardens	1068
Lansbury	1061
Limehouse	1128
Mile End	1326
Poplar	1472
Shadwell	1632

Spitalfields and Banglatown	2085
St Dunstan's	2103
St Katharine's and Wapping	1759
St Peter's	1570
Stepney Green	1374
Weavers	1162
Whitechapel	1209
Grand Total	29087

8.29 Question from Councillor Muhammad Ansar Mustaqim:

Will the Mayor set out the list of youth centres which are no longer in use but which were operational (full or part time) in February 2015?

Response by Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE

In February 2015 the Youth Service was responsible for a number of youth projects. However, young people were getting a poor offer from the Youth Service which was characterised by:

- Insufficient staffing levels to guarantee that youth centres would open at the stated time. Because staff were spread too thinly across youth centres;
- Short notice closures of youth centres;
- An inconsistent youth offer delivered from youth centres;
- Very low attendance of young people at some youth centres due to the poor programme offer

At its meeting on 10th January 2017 Cabinet agreed that the Youth Service could be restructured to commission internally run youth activities from 8 key youth centre hubs; providing support for a number of young people, including more vulnerable young people.

As a result, the restructured Youth Service now has a total of 24 council youth projects operating now (made up of 18 universal youth centres, five specialist projects, and a youth participation programme).

This page is intentionally left blank

Refuse

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 17-18
Domestic total	248	267	549	573	368	483	304	0	0	0	0	0	2792

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 16-17
Domestic total	167	236	355	337	290	310	281	208	204	289	350	289	3316

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 15-16
Domestic total	360	370	383	490	335	242	204	184	161	277	283	338	3627

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 14-15
Total	205	266	302	337	247	274	426	315	223	412	290	341	3638

Wards	April - Sept	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 13-14
Total	356	360	356	356	356	356	213	270	223	284	268	318	3716

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 12-13
Total	259	352	317	474	467	347	327	283	241	444	386	330	4227

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 11-12
Total	251	226	294	295	347	313	284	269	198	267	208	282	3234

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 10-11
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	62	415	577	237	231	326	1848

Recycling

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 17-18
Recycling total	286	298	539	419	253	274	295	0	0	0	0	0	2364

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 16-17
Recycling total	172	177	322	371	457	427	326	351	380	305	282	389	3959

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 15-16
Recycling total	236	297	311	391	256	240	215	199	163	293	260	283	3144

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 14-15
Total	210	236	266	294	267	264	384	319	233	484	252	322	3531

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 13-14
Total	285	290	285	285	285	285	228	193	165	256	154	180	2891

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 12-13
Total	130	265	258	279	206	166	140	158	135	240	195	197	2369

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 11-12
Total	507	317	300	315	766	816	355	269	205	261	153	217	4481

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 10-11
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	103	223	238	196	182	291	1233

Food and Garden

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 17-18
Recycling total	67	114	189	94	94	70	68	0	0	0	0	0	696

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 16-17
Recycling total	130	119	92	94	132	129	216	186	104	107	105	75	1489

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 15-16
Recycling total	74	48	105	89	149	85	205	89	153	97	90	51	1235

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 14-15
Total	116	200	205	188	103	129	87	79	59	212	171	129	3531

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 13-14
Total	69	60	77	99	240	218	167	146	81	149	92	175	2891

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 12-13
Total	63	107	95	133	85	79	101	66	55	122	80	65	1051

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 11-12
Total	137	120	118	107	132	218	165	175	73	123	82	81	1531

Wards	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total 10-11
Total							51	136	107	67	63	115	539

Complaints

Complaints	Domestic	Recycling	Organic	Bulky waste
Year 17/18	24	10	10	7

Complaints	Domestic	Recycling	Organic	Bulky waste
Year 16/17	90	50	23	33

Complaints	Domestic	Recycling	Organic	Bulky waste
Year 15/16	73	25	14	26

Complaints	Domestic	Recycling	Organic	Bulky waste
Year 14/15	179	80	42	52

Complaints	Domestic	Recycling	Organic	Bulky waste
Year 13/14	51	10	5	1