

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 14TH JULY 2010

**MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY
MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE HEAD,
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

SUMMARY

1. One motion has been submitted by a Member of the Council under Council Procedure Rule 13 for debate at the Council meeting on Wednesday 14th July 2010.
2. In accordance with the protocol agreed by the Council on 21st May 2008, the order in which the motions are listed is by turns, one from each group, continuing in rotation until all motions submitted are included. The rotation starts with any group(s) not reached at the previous meeting.
3. Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility or which affect the Borough. A motion may not be moved which is substantially the same as a motion which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the previous six months unless notice of motion is given signed by at least twenty Members.
4. There is no specific duration set for this agenda item and consideration of the attached motions may continue until the time limit for the meeting is reached. The guillotine procedure at Council Procedure Rule 9.2 does not apply to motions on notice and any of the attached motions which have not been put to the vote when the time limit for the meeting is reached will be deemed to have fallen. A motion which is not put to the vote at the current meeting may be resubmitted for the next meeting but is not automatically carried forward.

MOTIONS

Set out overleaf is the motion that has been submitted.

11.1 Youth offenders

Proposed: Councillor Stephanie Eaton

Seconded: Councillor Harun Miah

This Council notes:

1. 60-80 young people come off criminal justice orders every quarter in Tower Hamlets, of which 30-40 young people are of school age.
2. That a reduction in re-offending is closely linked to successful settlement into work.
3. There are often difficulties placing young ex-offenders into work placements and other forms of employment or training as employers are cautious about employing ex-offenders, and the young people often require support in the workplace.
4. There is a tendency for employers to view the recruitment of young offenders as a corporate social responsibility when a solid business case could be developed to give employers confidence and justify employing young ex-offenders.
5. Many employers outsource roles which might be appropriate to young people leaving the criminal justice system, however, the outsourced companies have stringent screening processes which inhibit young offenders from recruitment.
6. KPMG and Freshfields have delivered successful employment programmes targeted at the homeless and these programmes may provide models for employment of young ex-offenders. Such programmes have been successful because both employers and employees are offered support such as an employer's helpline.
7. That opportunities provided for the small number of young ex-offenders in the Borough would benefit other young people through a reduction in victimisation; the development of positive role models; and the demonstration of the longer term benefits of work and training.

This Council resolves:

1. To develop an effective training into work model which reduces the risk associated with employing young ex-offenders, and which can be used to support firms to employ young ex-offenders.
2. To ensure the Youth Justice Board is working with organisations such as Community Links and East Potential to ensure there is a smooth transition into employment and training after criminal justice orders are concluded.
3. To work with partners such as Community Links and East Potential to develop a training programme for motivated ex-offenders who wish to become self-employed.

4. To investigate the potential for employment opportunities for young ex-offenders among the Council's larger contractors e.g. Veolia, and larger employers in the borough e.g. Tesco to discuss with them their attitude to employment of ex-offenders.

5. That the East London Business Alliance undertakes a project to investigate the business case, costs and opportunities for employing young ex-offenders based on their potential contribution to a company.