

Meeting of the

# Tower Hamlets Council

## Supplemental Agenda

**Wednesday, 21 July 2021 at 7.00 p.m.**

### **VENUE**

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

### **Democratic Services Contact:**

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# London Borough of Tower Hamlets

## Council

Wednesday, 21 July 2021

7.00 p.m.

- |     |  |         |
|-----|--|---------|
| 6.  | <b>MAYOR'S REPORT</b><br>The Council's Constitution provides for the Elected Mayor to give a report at each Ordinary Council Meeting.<br><br>A maximum of six minutes is allowed for the Elected Mayor's report, following which the Speaker of the Council will invite the leader of the opposition group to respond for up to two minutes should he so wish. | 3 - 22  |
| 11. | <b>TO CONSIDER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL</b><br>Amendment to Motion 11.4 by the Labour Group.  | 23 - 26 |



## Mayor's Report to Council

21<sup>st</sup> July 2021

John Biggs, Mayor of Tower Hamlets

### Key Events/Announcements

**Cllr John Pierce:** This is our first Full Council meeting since John passed away, and I know that many of us are still coming to terms with what has happened. He was a friend and close colleague to many of us, and his dedication, passion, kindness and humour touched many of our lives. I will miss him a great deal.

John was a committed local councillor, focussed on making his ward and borough a better place and he played such a big role at the council, including serving as the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and as Chair of the Strategic Development Committee.

He was also a respected housing professional with a career at the National Housing Federation, and he cared greatly for young people too, with volunteering work and of course he had become a newly adopting parent. In other words, he was a person we can all be incredibly proud of and I know everyone will miss him enormously.

There have been many touching tributes shared online, and Tower Hamlets Council has now opened a book of tributes where we can all share our thoughts and memories. This is available at: [https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/News\\_events/2021/July-2021/Sad-news-The-death-of-Councillor-John-Pierce.aspx](https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/News_events/2021/July-2021/Sad-news-The-death-of-Councillor-John-Pierce.aspx)

As a council we are also working with John's family, friends and colleagues on other ways we can commemorate his life and pay tribute to him, and I will keep members updated on this.

**Euro 2020:** My congratulations to the England team for their incredible performance in the European Championship. The team has done their country proud and I know so many people across Tower Hamlets were cheering them on throughout.

Not only did the team excel on the pitch, they also displayed the very best that our country has to offer off the pitch. They have proven themselves to be excellent role models and the strength they have derived from their diversity and unity and their positive attitude has been outstanding and something that we understand very well in our borough.

The treatment that some black members of the England team received following the final was disgusting, in particular the racist abuse thrown at Marcus Rashford, Jadon Sancho and Bukayo Saka, and the jeering when the team 'took the knee'.

On behalf of the council I would like to extend my solidarity to the team, and I hope that those involved in the horrific abuse are held accountable for their deeply damaging actions.

**Covid-19:** With most of the Covid-19 restrictions in England now lifted, we are entering a period where infections are rising rapidly but many of the checks on the spread of the virus have been removed.

It's vital that we do everything we can to keep each other safe as Covid infections continue to rise. Wearing face coverings in crowded places, council buildings and on public transport will help us do that and give people the confidence they need to go about their daily lives. It is also my view that the government should be encouraging people to continue to wear

masks. It's important to recognise we still have a duty to one another and wearing a mask in certain situations will continue to keep our community safe.

It is also crucial that we drive up the vaccination rate in Tower Hamlets. It's great news that roughly 200,000 residents have now had their jab, but like many other urban, and younger, areas we need to get more people vaccinated. We wrote to the Health Secretary recently on this subject, calling for the Government to support our work in driving up vaccination rates in Tower Hamlets. We need more public, turn-up-and-go centres, and a better supply of vaccines.

**Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund:** We have now launched the fund – a £3m investment that we're putting into various projects across Tower Hamlets to help kickstart our community's economic, health and social recovery from the pandemic.

We're going to be providing funding for projects and initiatives like food pantries, activities in parks, supporting residents who have been isolated during the pandemic, careers support, continuing funding for our volunteer hub, and much more.

This is going to be a big boost to the borough so please keep an eye out for details on specific projects over the coming months.

**Our response to Covid:** I would like to thank our council staff, local residents, community groups, and many others for the incredible work they've done over the past 16 months in response to the pandemic. Our recent Covid-19 Response Annual Report highlighted how much the council and our community has done responding to Covid, and the figures speak for themselves:

## Our response to coronavirus...



**3,009**  
volunteers recruited  
through Covid-19 hub



**6,000**  
food parcels  
directly delivered



**£227m+**  
in grants and rate  
relief for businesses



Over  
**75,944**  
children received  
support with food



**21,920**  
residents supported  
through council's  
Covid-19 helpline



**2,084**  
self-isolation grants  
paid totalling **£187,000**



**35,837**  
books and resources sent  
to children and schools to  
support learning



Over  
**650 tonnes**  
of food distributed



**422**  
Covid-19 champions  
recruited



**£98,210**  
in rent relief for  
community organisations



Over  
**10,000**  
laptops handed out to  
support remote learning



Over  
**19,000**  
clinically extremely  
vulnerable residents  
supported



Over  
**1.4m**  
items of PPE  
distributed



Over  
**13,000**  
callers helped to  
book a vaccine



**260**  
people given emergency  
accommodation when  
the pandemic hit



**£769,000**  
paid through council  
resident support scheme



June 2021  
(March 2020 - March 2021)



Thank you all for everything you've done and continue to do.

**Tackling Laughing Gas and ASB:** We've introduced a borough-wide Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) in Tower Hamlets to tackle the use of nitrous oxide (laughing gas) and the anti-social behaviour linked to it. It is a constant complaint from residents that its use, and littering, creates a sense of insecurity and disrespect in many public areas of our borough.

Our officers will be able to enforce the PSPO using a fixed penalty notice of £100, and indeed we've seen some early results from the new measures.

**Summer activities programme:** Our programme has now been launched and it features 200 activities including online and face-to-face events. It's really positive that we've been able to plan these activities and I hope that families will be able to make the most of them.

**Protecting private renters:** We've renewed our Selective Licensing Scheme for an additional five years, which has covered Weavers, Whitechapel, Spitalfields and Banglatown since October 2016 and has put a legal duty on landlords to apply for a licence. We do not have the powers to extend this scheme across the whole borough, but we're lobbying the Government to change the rules on this. We of course have other private sector registration elsewhere but this does not include all properties.

**Registered Provider Mergers:** One Housing Group who manage several thousand homes in the Borough including in Bethnal Green, Spitalfields and particularly the Isle of Dogs, have announced they are merging with Riverside HA, a larger association from outside of London. There have been previous mergers with local associations, including East Thames into L&Q, and Old Ford/Circle into Clarion. We have little power in these changes, as Registered Providers are effectively private, if not for-profit, organisations and live in a fairly lightly regulated environment totally outside of local government and largely outside of national government control; and yet they manage many thousands of local homes. It is right that we make representations, and I intend that we do so. I would like to see greater accountability and a stronger local focus of RPs than the law and these mergers provide. Change will however require national political engagement, but we should make our concerns known at this latest proposal. I and my lead member will be meeting OHG this week. Further discussions should follow locally.

**Building Safety:** It is now four years since Grenfell Tower, and we commemorated this last month, but the horror story of cladding and other unsafe building issues continues. We are hosting an online Ask the Mayor to listen to residents' concerns with cladding and building safety issues.

The event will focus on building safety, including cladding, following the recent fire at New Providence Wharf and the high numbers of tower blocks in the borough. Residents who face issues with building safety will get the chance to ask questions and get answers to the issues that matter to them.

Join us online on Thursday 22 July between 7pm and 8pm to ask your questions and get a live response: <https://talk.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ask-the-mayor-building-safety/>

## **Individual Mayoral Decisions taken since last meeting**

The number of decisions has been greater than usual as a consequence of Covid restrictions on meetings.

- [16 Apr 2021 2.00 p.m.](#) - Agenda; 198 - Liveable Streets Bethnal Green – Jesus Hospital Estate update
- [28 May 2021](#) - Agenda; 199-204 Notices published following Cabinet Discussion on 26 May
- [17 Jun 2021 12.33 p.m.](#) - Agenda; 205 - Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund Summer Programme
- [28 Jun 2021 2.45 p.m.](#) - Agenda; 206 - Formal offer of Historic Buildings Grant to Columbia Road Nursery School

## **Mayor's engagements and meetings**

Below is a summary of my main engagements and meetings from 18<sup>th</sup> March to 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021.

### **17 March 2021**

- Mayor John Biggs and Councillor Eve McQuillan Poplar HARCA Quarterly Meeting
- Virtual Climate Engagement Event
- Assets/Property Portfolio Meeting
- Pre-Council Labour Group
- Council Meeting

### **18 March 2021**

- Final Interviews for DD, Customer Services post
- Launch Event for the Black, Asian, Minority, Ethnic Commission Report
- Shadwell Liveable Streets meeting
- Labour Group session - Brick Lane Liveable Streets
- Catch Up with Councillor Mellen

### **19 March 2021**

- Catch up with Councillor Rachel Blake
- Poplar Mural
- Wapping 'Town Hall' meeting via Zoom

### **20 March 2021**

- Anti-Racism Event in Altab Ali Park

## **22 March 2021**

- Corporate Induction
- Mayor's Community Safety Faith & Equalities Portfolio Meeting
- New Town Hall Members Consultative Steering Group Meeting
- Mayor's Surgery
- Overview and Scrutiny Meeting

## **23 March 2021**

- London Councils Labour Group
- London Councils Leaders' Committee
- Pre-Meet Box Park & Bishopsgate Goods Yard
- Royal Mint visit

## **24 March 2021**

- Conference call with VCS Organisations
- Strategic Plan and the Partnership Annual Report
- Mayor's Portfolio Meeting Housing
- Strategic Forward Planning Meeting
- Cabinet Pre-Meet
- Mayor's Political Cabinet
- Mayoral Advisory Board
- Cabinet

## **25 March 2021**

- Chief Executive 1:1
- Covid 19 - NE London Leaders and Mayors Meeting
- Staff Conference
- Eastend Homes Board
- Millwall Outer Dock Slipway Park meeting
- Leaside Partnership Board
- National Hate Crime Awareness Week online presentation
- Meeting with Rushanara Ali MP
- Berners Estate Meeting

## **26 March 2021**

- SME4LABOUR online meeting hosted by Galliard Homes
- Altab Ali Park to record video for 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Bangladesh
- Bangladesh High Commission event Independence and National Day of Bangladesh
- 50th Anniversary of Bangladesh Virtual Celebration

## **28 March 2021**

- Invitation to launch of online TV channel Chabbishe

## **29 March 2021**

- Children Education & Youth Services Portfolio Meeting
- Susmita Sen, Tower Hamlets Homes Catch up
- Mayor's Advice Surgery
- Bangladesh Independence Day Celebration Zoom Event
- Old Ford Road West Liveable Streets
- Joint London Councils and NHS England (London Region) Vaccine Best Practice Event
- 50th Anniversary of Bangladesh - Photocall and Lighting Up Bromley Hall

## **31 March 2021**

- Grants Determination Committee (Pre Agenda Meeting)
- Planning Meeting
- Mayor's Planning & Social Inclusion Portfolio Meeting
- Mayor John Biggs and Cllr A Islam re Vehicle Idling and Air Quality Meeting
- Catch Up with Councillor Mellen

## **6 April 2021**

- Sadiq Khan Manifesto launch
- Mayor's Advice Surgery
- Future for London Catch up
- Chief Executive 1:1
- Pre-Meet Regeneration Board
- Mayor's Traffic Meeting

## **7 April 2021**

- Mayor's Portfolio Resources & Voluntary Sector Meeting
- Environment & Public Realm Portfolio Meeting
- Mayor's Advisory Board
- Audit Committee Meeting

## **8 April 2021**

- Covid 19 - NE London Leaders and Mayors Meeting
- Resident meeting regarding Chinese Embassy
- 21/22 Budget process
- Mayor's Portfolio Adults, Health & Wellbeing Meeting
- Update on Capital Projects
- MHCLG Ministerial Webinar
- Pre-meet-Faith Conference



- Faith Conference Meeting
- Helping Bow Grow Meeting
- Clichy update meeting
- On panel for Covid-19 vaccination Q&A aimed at Bengali community

#### **12 April 2021**

- Local Health Structures Meeting
- Catch up with Councillor Mellen
- TH Partnership Executive Group meeting
- Weekly briefing for Leaders and Chief Executives on COVID-19

#### **13 April 2021**

- Central London Forward Residents & Employment Sub-group
- Councillor Asma Begum
- Councillor Sirajul Islam
- Town Hall Project Board - April 2021
- Tower Hamlets Cooperative Commission
- Mayor's Portfolio Culture, Arts & Brexit Meeting
- COVID 19 Local Engagement Board
- Stepney Redcoat estate meeting

#### **14 April 2021**

- Mayor's Portfolio Work & Economic Growth Meeting
- Assets/Property Portfolio Meeting
- Mayor's Regeneration Board
- Catch Up Meeting with Councillor James King
- Liveable Streets Bow
- Mayoral Advisory Board Teams meeting
- Commercialisation Meeting

#### **15 April 2021**

- Mayors Advice Surgery
- Freedom of the Borough Panel Meeting
- Chief Executive 1:1
- Rushanara Ali MP
- Janet Fasan, Divisional Director, Legal Services

#### **16 April 2021**

- Councillor Rachel Blake

## **19 April 2021**

- Will Tuckley, Mayor, Cllr Blake, Denise Radley -Introduction meeting with Henry Black from NHS CCG
- Catch Up with Jane Groom, London Communications Agency
- Meeting with resident regarding employment support
- Meeting with Chinese Embassy
- Executive Committee
- Labour Group

## **20 April 2021**

- Visit to Tobacco Dock
- Poplar HARCA Mural Walk About
- Communications Portfolio Meeting

## **21 April 2021**

- Will Tuckley 1:1
- Councillor Mufeedah Bustin
- Mayor's Political Cabinet
- Spitalfields City Farm

## **22 April 2021**

- Mortuaries team meeting
- NARE Meeting
- ICS Leaders Meeting
- Capital Strategy Board
- Mayor's Housing Portfolio Meeting
- Mayor's Advice Surgery

## **23 April 2021**

- London Councils Labour Group
- Central London Forward Intro Meeting

## **26 April 2021**

- Call resident regarding Employment and Training
- Annual General Meeting and policy development planning
- Briefing for Leaders and Chief Executives on COVID-19

## **27 April 2021**

- Mayor's Advice Surgery
- Catch up with Councillor Mellen

- Annual Governance Statement 2021
- Rushanara Ali MP
- Strategic Forward Planning Meeting

### **28 April 2021**

- Discussion on The Foundry Building with Stephen Greenhalgh, Minister of State at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
- Planning Meeting
- Minute Silence to commemorate International Workers Memorial Day
- Children Education & Youth Services Portfolio Meeting
- Pre-Meet Cabinet
- Malting Brewster House Meeting
- Mayor's Advisory Board
- Cabinet

### **29 April 2021**

- Community testing - John Scurr School
- Partnership Executive Group Agenda
- Appointment with Resident
- Chief Executive Will Tuckley
- Celebrating Golden Jubilee of Bangladesh's independence
- Mayor's Portfolio Community Safety Faith & Equalities Portfolio
- Shortlisting for CD, Resources and Governance

### **30 April 2021**

- Councillor Rachel Blake

### **4 May 2021**

- Chief Executive Will Tuckley

### **5 May 2021**

- Dan Jones Divisional Director, Public Realm
- Numbi Arts Meeting

### **11 May 2021**

- Mayor's Portfolio Culture, Arts & Brexit Meeting
- Youth Service update

### **12 May 2021**

- Central London Forward Partnership Board
- Mayor's Portfolio Work & Economic Growth Meeting

- Mayor's Advisory Board
- Mansard Roof - Next Steps Discussion with residents

### **13 May 2021**

- Covid 19 - NE London Leaders and Mayors Meeting
- Chief Executive Will Tuckley
- Capital Strategy Board Meeting
- Isle of Dogs & South Poplar Area Board
- Mayor's Traffic Meeting
- Councillor Mellen

### **14 May 2021**

- Councillor Rachel Blake
- London Councils Labour Group Meeting
- New Town Hall - Topping out ceremony

### **16 May 2021**

- St Matthias visit

### **17 May 2021**

- Corporate Induction
- Central London Forward Employment and Skills Board Pre-Meet
- Catch Up with Colin Bailey – QMU
- Mayor's Portfolio Civil Contingencies & Emergency Planning
- Janet Fasan, Divisional Director Legal
- Billingsgate - pre meeting
- Pre-Council AGM Labour Group

### **18 May 2021**

- Mayor's Advice Surgery
- Introductory Meeting with London Councils Labour political advisor
- Induction meeting with new Education Director, Steve Nyakatawa
- Councillor Sirajul Islam
- Catherine McGuinness & John Barradell (City of London Corporation)
- Greater London Provincial Council
- Mulberry Housing Society Board Meeting
- Communications Portfolio Meeting
- Councillor Asma Begum

## **19 May 2021**

- Mayor's Portfolio Resources Meeting
- THEP/ Schools & Year Ahead
- Mayor's Political Cabinet
- Pre-meeting: Shadwell Liveable Streets
- Assets/Property Portfolio Meeting
- Annual Meeting – Council

## **20 May 2021**

- Final Interviews for CD, Resources and Governance
- Chief Executive, Will Tuckley

## **21 May 2021**

- Place Based Partnership Development - London Councils Event
- Meeting with Marcus Barnett Metro Police
- Visit to Rich Mix

## **24 May 2021**

- PEG pre-meet
- Chief Executive Will Tuckley
- NHS - Provider Collaboration
- Mayor's Advice Surgery
- Catch up with James Thomas, Corporate Director of Children and Culture
- Regeneration Portfolio Meeting
- Liveable Streets – Shadwell

## **25 May 2021**

- Every Child Online visit to Blue Gate Fields Infants School
- Call with resident
- Proposal to Council for a space for Mile End Bengali Community Association
- Anti-Racist Pledge - Video Signing
- CLF Employment and Skills Board
- Rushanara Ali, MP
- Catch Up with Councillor Mellen
- Commemorating George Floyd event at Watney Market

## **26 May 2021**

- Site visit: Lowder House (Altab Ali House)
- Children Education & Youth Services Portfolio Meeting
- Cabinet Pre-Meet
- Mayor's Planning & Social Inclusion Portfolio Meeting
- Mayors Housing Meeting

- TH Partnership Executive Group meeting
- Cabinet Discussion invite
- Cabinet
- Covid Recovery Fund discussion

### **27 May 2021**

- Brick Lane Car Free Scheme
- London Councils Labour Group AGM
- Chest Hospital meeting
- Freedom of the Borough Panel Meeting
- Mayor's Community Safety Faith & Equalities Portfolio
- Town Hall Project Board
- Adults, Health & Wellbeing Portfolio Meeting
- Chief Executive Will Tuckley

### **28 May 2021**

- Catch up with Cllr Rachel Blake
- Careers in Theatre – Half Moon Theatre visit
- Barnet Grove resident meeting

### **29 May 2021**

- Mixed Football Game - Wapping Garden

### **1 June 2021**

- Head of Mayors Office
- Introduction to New Director, Customer Services
- Labour Leaders briefing call
- Mayor and Susmita Sen – THH Catch up
- Budget Approach Briefing
- Regeneration Board
- Ask the Mayor

### **2 June 2021**

- CLT/Cabinet Away Day
- Chief Executive Will Tuckley

### **3 June 2021**

- Mayor's Advice Surgery
- Volunteer Week
- Visit to Docklands Community Organisation

#### **4 June 2021**

- BBC Radio London Interview – Volunteering
- Campaigns catch-up
- King George Trust update

#### **5 June 2021**

- Fire Cladding Demonstration, Isle of Dogs

#### **8 June 2021**

- Mayor's Portfolio Housing Meeting
- Labour Group Pre-meet
- London Councils Leaders' Committee AGM
- BBC TV Interview - Neighbours in Poplar
- Councillor Sirajul Islam
- Mayor's Advice Surgery
- Briefing re: Cladding Remediation and Fire Safety
- Group Workshop - Covid Recovery Fund

#### **9 June 2021**

- Partnership Board update
- Waste and Recycling meeting
- Liveable Streets - Shadwell Consultation Documents
- City Fringe Area Board Pre-meet
- Community Endowment, East End Community Foundation
- Mayors Advisory Board
- Chief Executive Will Tuckley
- Labour Group Workshop - Covid Recovery Fund

#### **10 June 2021**

- Pre-meet for ICS Leaders' Agenda setting
- Shortlisting for Director of Finance post
- LGA Labour Group meeting
- Carers Week visit
- Resident meeting
- Follow Up Explorers Court residents with One Housing Meeting
- Friends in High Places

#### **11 June 2021**

- Councillor Rachel Blake
- Visit to Raines House

- Channel S Interview - Child Poverty

#### **14 June 2021**

- Head of Mayor's Office
- Councillor Asma Begum
- Mayor's Portfolio Culture, Arts & Brexit Meeting
- Informal Chats - Chief Finance Officer
- Briefing for Leaders and Chief Executives on COVID-19
- Environment & Public Realm Portfolio Meeting
- Labour Group Drop-in: Covid Recovery Fund

#### **15 June 2021**

- Mayor's Advice Surgery
- Channel S Interview: Cladding
- Leaside Partnership Board
- Mayor's Traffic Meeting
- Cladding Action Group - Safety Issues in Tower Blocks

#### **16 June 2021**

- Poplar HARCA Quarterly Meeting
- PhD research on the London Fruit and Wool Exchange
- Tower Hamlets CE Appraisal call: John Nicholson & Mayor John Biggs
- South Poplar SPD & Options For LIF Allocations.
- Mayor's Political Cabinet
- Mayors Advisory Board
- Strategic Partnership Board
- City Fringe Area Board Meeting

#### **17 June 2021**

- Final Interviews for Director of Finance
- MHCLG Minister-led webinar
- Chief Executive Will Tuckley

#### **18 June 2021**

- Campaigns catch-up

#### **19 June 2021**

- Councillor James King
- Redcoat Mosque



## **21 June 2021**

- Susmita Sen, THH
- Head of Mayor's Office
- Chief Executive Will Tuckley
- Central London Forward Health and Social Care Outcomes Agreement Launch
- Ballymore Meeting - Fire at New Providence Wharf
- Executive Committee
- Labour Group

## **22 June 2021**

- Budget Meeting
- Young People's Conference (Rise & Shine Showcase)
- Reconvened Appointments Sub-Committee for DoF Role
- Learning Disabilities Awareness week event
- Mansards Meeting
- Strategic Forward Planning
- Housing & Regeneration Sub-Committee

## **23 June 2021**

- Poplar Harca
- Social Inclusion Portfolio Meeting
- Assets/Property Portfolio Meeting
- Manorfield - National Teaching School Awards
- Meeting with Municipal Partners Limited
- Mayor's Housing Portfolio Meeting
- Grants Determination Sub – Committee
- Times Radio Interview

## **24 June 2021**

- Mayor's Advice Surgery
- ICS leaders Bi-Monthly Meeting
- Mayor's Portfolio Adults, Health & Wellbeing Meeting
- Chief Executive Will Tuckley
- Isle of Dogs Police Meeting

## **25 June 2021**

- Councillor Rachel Blake
- Event London tea exchange
- Bangladesh-UK Youth Voices on Climate Action

## **26 June 2021**

- Councillor Faroque Ahmed
- Numbi arts event, Toynbee hall

## **28 June 2021**

- Visit to the Mortuary
- LBTH & NCC: Redevelopment of Poplar
- Head of Mayor's Office
- New Town Hall Members Consultative Steering Group Meeting
- Communications Portfolio Meeting
- Overview & Scrutiny Committee

## **29 Jun 2021**

- Mayor's Surgery
- Janet Fasan, Divisional Director - Legal
- Tower Hamlets Health and Wellbeing Board
- Wapping Station Step Free Access TfL meeting

## **30 June 2021**

- Planning Meeting
- Cabinet pre-meet with the Mayor
- Director's Meeting with All Heads
- Mayor's Portfolio Meeting Community Safety Faith & Equalities Portfolio
- Mayor's Political Cabinet
- Mayors Advisory Board
- Cabinet

## **1 July 2021**

- Talk at Mulberry Academy Shoreditch Secondary School
- Vaccine Centre (Thank You Day Visit)
- Sharon Godman, DD Strategy and Policy Team
- Alpha Grove Meeting
- Leisure Recommissioning Meeting
- Jewish Community Meeting
- Chief Executive Will Tuckley
- St Katharines Ward Labour Party Meeting

## **2 July 2021**

- London Councils Labour Group Meeting
- Roman Road Bow Opening
- Tallow court

### **3 July 2021**

- Re-opening of Glamis Playground
- KO Community Projects

### **4 July 2021**

- Rainbow Festival

### **6 July 2021**

- New Weavers Field Playground
- TH Partnership Executive Group meeting
- Locking of Parks meeting
- Regeneration Portfolio Meeting

### **7 July 2021**

- Liveable Streets photo op/site visit
- Official opening of the new Phoenix School building
- Visit Granby Community Hub / promo for Mayor's Recovery Fund
- Mayor's Portfolio Work & Economic Growth Meeting
- Video for Young Mayor's election
- Mayors Advisory Board
- Aberfeldy Regeneration

### **8 July 2021**

- Capital Strategy Board
- Chief Executive Will Tuckley
- Children Education & Youth Services Portfolio Meeting

### **9 July 2021**

- Councillor Rachel Blake
- Councillor Asma Begum
- St. George's Leisure

### **12 July 2021**

- Head of Mayor's Office
- Staff Awards Ceremony
- Councillor Asma Begum
- Mayor's Surgery
- CLF ESB Pre-Meet
- Fire Safety Update
- Briefing for Leaders and CEXs on COVID-19
- OSC Briefing Session 'Target Setting'

### **13 July 2021**

- St. George Leisure
- London Councils Labour Group Pre Meet
- London Councils Leaders' Committee
- Ambrose Walk Community Garden - national award nomination
- Faith Conference
- Resident Meeting
- Mayor's Traffic Meeting
- Covid response update

### **14 July 2021**

- NARE Meeting
- Regeneration Board
- Mayor's Political Cabinet
- MHCLG Minister-led webinar
- Mayors Advisory Board
- Rushanara Ali, MP

### **15 July 2021**

- Invitation - Leavers Presentation and Farewell to Chair of Governors
- Annual Staff Awards 2021
- Covid Recovery Meeting
- Assets/Property Portfolio Meeting
- THCT Lease Renewal
- Chief Executive Will Tuckley
- Environment & Public Realm Portfolio Meeting
- LCF AGM

### **19 July 2021**

- Kickstart Scheme photo
- Head of Mayor's Office
- CLF Employment and Skills Board
- Mayor's Advice Surgery
- Executive Committee
- Labour Group

### **20 July 2021**

- Barnsley Street housing visit
- Eid in the Park
- Councillor Peter Golds
- Greater London Employment Forum

## **21 July 2021**

- Bethnal Green Liveable Streets Meeting
- Meeting with One Housing
- ICS Leaders Working Group
- St. Georges Leisure
- Council meeting

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## LABOUR GROUP AMENDMENT

### 12.4 Motion on The Purchase of a 64-Metre or Taller Turntable Ladder for Tower Hamlets Residents

Proposed by: Cllr Eve McQuillan

Seconded by: Mayor John Biggs

#### The Council Notes:

- June 14<sup>th</sup> marked the day four years ago when a fire broke out at Grenfell Tower killing 72 and leaving many more injured, traumatised, and homeless.
- This motion puts on record the bravery of our firefighters and recognises the especially important work that they do. In our own borough, crews were on site within 4 minutes of the first 999 call from New Providence Wharf and we are immensely grateful for the work they did to protect residents' lives.
- Tower Hamlets has more tall residential buildings than anywhere in the country. These buildings are predominately located on the Isle of Dogs and in Aldgate.
- Whilst blocks should be designed to ensure that fires are contained within the area of the building in which they begin, we know that 293 high-rise buildings have applied to the government's building safety fund because surveys have found that they are not fully fire safe. This is the highest number for any local authority in England. Mitigation has been put in place to reduce risk to residents and their homes in the event of a fire.
- ~~As we saw with the New Providence Wharf incident of May 7th, fires in tower blocks can start at any time.~~
- ~~As more high-rise schemes are built which individually house many occupiers, the need to locate a Turntable Ladder of at least 64m or taller where the supertall residential buildings are, i.e. Isle of Dogs and Tower Hamlets, is urgent.~~
- ~~292 high-rise privately-owned blocks in Tower Hamlets are in need of fire safety remedial work, having applied to the government's Building Safety Fund, the highest number of any Local Authority in England.~~
- Residents living in social housing across the borough are also in high rise towers.
- LFB is responsible for ensuring that fire fighters have the equipment and infrastructure they need in the event of a fire. LFB holds the expertise necessary to do this properly.
- Council officers and THHF meet regularly with the LFB to work in partnership to protect residents in the event of a fire, and to do all we can to prevent fires starting. There was also a briefing held for councillors following the New Providence Wharf Fire.
- LFB have told councillors that fires in high-rise blocks are fought using their internal systems in the overwhelming majority of cases.

- ~~Tower Hamlets councillors had a meeting with the Tower Hamlets London Fire Brigade Commander on the 30th of June 2021 regarding fire safety infrastructure in the Borough and lessons learnt from the New Providence Wharf incident of May 7th.~~
- ~~This motion puts on record the bravery of our firefighters and recognises the especially important work that they do.~~
- London Fire Brigade are working within a time of budget restraints with the LFB having to find £10 million of savings in 2020/21 and £15 million in 2021/22 in a way that does not affect the frontline services they provide to Londoners.
- ~~Tower Hamlets does not have a 64m tall Turntable Ladder, that could minimise risk and support our firefighters during a live fire event.~~

#### The Council Further Notes:

- The borough hosts several high-rise socially owned or ex-social properties.
- Irrespective of whether these properties have cladding issues or fire safety defects, their occupiers need protection in the event of a fire and suitable equipment that could be at the site almost immediately.
- ~~A tall ladder will benefit all in the high-rise community of Tower Hamlets, whether leaseholder, shared owner, renter, right-to-buy lessee or social tenant.~~
- ~~This is a safety issue, not a tenure issue.~~
- LFB has 15 32m tall ladders in London (11 active, 4 reserve) and these are set to be joined by three new tall ladders to be based in Dagenham, Old Kent Road and Wimbledon fire stations.
- ~~The location of the 64m ladders is determined by LFB, who will locate them in places so that the average response time for anywhere in London is 12 minutes.~~
- Unfortunately, none of these ladders will be housed in Tower Hamlets, an area of intense redevelopment and whose comparatively unique high-rise terrain (in the UK context), especially in the Isle of Dogs and surrounding area, ~~demands that sort of fire safety infrastructure to be hosted locally.~~ Many buildings in Tower Hamlets are considerably taller than 64m.
- ~~In any case, a fire in a tall building now automatically triggers the dispatching of a ladder to the affected site, it can take some time for these to arrive, especially in traffic whilst the average response time is 12 minutes, it may take longer for a ladder to reach a fire.~~

#### The Council Resolves:

- The Mayor will contact Fiona Twycross to ask her to ensure that the siting of the new tall ladders will be optimal for residents in Tower Hamlets and to explain to us and residents lessons learnt from tall building fires and the steps the LFB are taking to both better safeguard and reassure residents.
- The Council to investigate through working with the LFB whether purchasing a further 64m ladder to site in the borough would be beneficial in the event of a fire in a tall building in the borough.



- Dependent upon this, the Council should work with the LFB to determine where it would be best to site a 64m ladder. This would depend on a variety of factors including the capacity of fire stations and the road network, alongside the likely need for this ladder in other boroughs.
- Dependent upon this, with the LFB and statutory partners, neighbouring boroughs, housing associations and the private sector the council should explore options for the provision of an aerial fire and rescue platform at least 64m or taller to be based in Tower Hamlets, if the LFB deems this necessary.
- If the provision of a further aerial platform was deemed to be a priority, but without funding, the council consider using CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) which is generated by new developers, towards such a purchase, noting that S106 funds cannot be used for this purpose according to legislation, and further noting that the revenue costs of operating an additional appliance would be a matter for the LFB.

- ~~The Council to investigate with statutory partners, housing associations and the private sector options for the purchase of a tall aerial fire and rescue platform of at least 64m or taller to be based in Tower Hamlets.~~
- ~~The council uses its existing and considerable s106 and CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funds, most of which have been generated by intense redevelopment of the Isle of Dogs and surrounding area, but also seek to secure donations from developers and other private sector stakeholders.~~
- ~~Once the funds are raised for the Tall Ladder the Council works with LFB to identify the appropriate aerial equipment for the borough. LFB will have the expertise to work related to operation of aerial equipment needed to tackle a fire in high rise towers.~~
- ~~That the Council works with LFB to identify the designated location of the aerial equipment in the borough whether it is at Millwall or Poplar fire stations which are ideally placed, on top of the heavily built-up Isle of Dogs dominated by multi-occupancy apartments buildings, many of which compete to be amongst the tallest in Europe. Or a relevant location identified by LFB.~~
- ~~The council seeks to investigate that life saving infrastructure is located closer to the area with the biggest concentration of high-rise and high-density residential developments in the entire United Kingdom.~~
- ~~Since Tower Hamlets regularly clinches the top spot for number of new homes built in the country, it is essential that this housebuilding achievement is matched by world class fire safety infrastructure, including adequate water pressure and a Turntable Ladder of at least 64m or taller.~~

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