

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL

HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2020

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

During the meeting the Council agreed to vary the order of business. To aid clarity, the Decision Sheet is presented in the order that the items originally appeared on the agenda.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Councillor Sufia Alam
- Councillor Shad Chowdhury
- Councillor Marc Francis
- Councillor Denise Jones
- Councillor Harun Miah and
- Councillor Dan Tomlinson

It was also noted that Councillor Mufeedah Bustin was on maternity leave.

Apologies for lateness were also received on behalf of Councillor Eve McQuillan

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The Monitoring Officer reported that the Standards Advisory Committee on 30 January 2020 agreed a general dispensation to all Councillors in respect of NJC pay.

Members did not therefore have to declare a DPI in respect of agenda items in respect of pay.

Councillor Motin Uz – Zaman declared a Non - Disclosable Pecuniary interest that the Council has decided should be registered in agenda item 5.3, Petition requesting Tower Hamlets Council take urgent action on air pollution

This was on the basis that:

- He was an employee of New City College (Hackney);
- That the students speaking on the Petition were from the college.

3. MINUTES

DECISION:

1. That the unrestricted minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 15 January 2020 and the Budget Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19 February 2020 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

Please see the minutes.

5. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS

5.1 Petition regarding Waste collection in the Limehouse ward.

Paul Howick addressed the meeting on behalf of the petitioners, and responded to questions from Members. Councillor David Edgar, Cabinet Member for Environment then responded to the matters raised in the petition.

DECISION

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

(Action by: Ann Sutcliffe, Corporate Director, Place).

5.2 Petition regarding Bartlett Park Football Changing Rooms.

Terry Mcgrenera addressed the meeting on behalf of the petitioners, and responded to questions from Members. Councillor Sabina Akhtar, Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit, then responded to the matters raised in the petition.

DECISION

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

(Action by: Ann Sutcliffe, Corporate Director, Place).

5.3 Petition requesting that Tower Hamlets Council take urgent action on air pollution.

Local college students addressed the meeting on behalf of the petitioners, and responded to questions from Members. Councillor Rachel Blake, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Planning, Air Quality and Tackling Poverty then responded to the matters raised in the petition.

DECISION

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

(**Action by:** Ann Sutcliffe, Corporate Director, Place).

5.4 Petition regarding Keep Clear Boxes at Cornwall Street.

Mohammad Rakib addressed the meeting on behalf of the petitioners, and responded to questions from Members. Councillor David Edgar, Cabinet Member for Environment then responded to the matters raised in the petition.

DECISION

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

(**Action by:** Ann Sutcliffe, Corporate Director, Place).

6. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor presented his report to the Council. Following which:

- Councillor Peter Golds, Leader of the Conservative Group, responded briefly to the Mayor's report.
- The Mayor responded briefly

7. ADMINISTRATION MOTION DEBATE- REGARDING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY.**7 Administration Motion regarding the Climate Emergency**

Councillor Rachel Blake **moved** and Councillor Amina Ali **seconded** the motion as printed in the agenda.

Councillor Andrew Wood **moved** and Councillor Peter Golds **seconded** the following amendment to the motion to be debated.

Added text underlined & in bold
Deleted text scored out.

This Council notes:

1. That the Deputy Mayor Cllr Rachel Blake declared a climate emergency in Tower Hamlets in March 2019 as reported in minutes of the meeting, and Full Council supported that declaration through a resolution in July 2019;
2. That the impacts of the climate emergency are clear for everyone to see, from the devastating fires in Australia and California, to the recent widespread flooding in the UK;
3. 40% of residents in Tower Hamlets live in areas that breach EU and government guidance on safe levels of air pollution;
4. Our ambition to become a zero-carbon council by 2025;
5. That Mayor of London Sadiq Khan has promised to deliver a green new deal for London with a target for the capital to be carbon-neutral by 2030 in advance of his campaign to be re-elected.

This Council further notes the ongoing work locally to tackle the emergency and improve air quality:

1. Since the Climate Emergency declaration last year we have produced a Net Zero Carbon Roadmap that has baselined the Council's emissions and produced an action plan of projects with the aim of the council becoming net zero carbon by 2025;
2. That at the July 2019 Full Council meeting, members resolved that a Tower Hamlets Climate Emergency Annual Report should be produced every year, and that none has yet been produced as of March 2020:
3. The council's electricity supply has been switched to a 100% renewable tariff; at least a decade after it was possible to do so:
4. The street-light upgrade to LEDs has continued and is close to completion, but has chosen not to take the opportunity to add vehicle recharging points to the base of the new streetlights next to parking spots as other Councils including Hackney have done;
5. That we roll out LED lighting in all Council run facilities where possible; including switching off lights in the Town Hall when staff leave.
6. We are also working with other London Boroughs through London Councils, the London Environment Coordinators Forum (LECF), Association of Local Energy Officers (ALEO) and London Boroughs Energy Group (LBEG) to see how Boroughs can work together on projects to address the Climate Emergency and working together to make representations to Government around what support we need to be able to tackle the climate emergency;
7. We are currently carrying out a study to identify suitable roof space for solar panels, since there are none on any LBTH owned /run buildings except Watney Market Idea Store despite previous government provided substantial incentives

- to install solar panels:
8. The £15m Liveable Streets programme, which aims to make it easier, safer and more convenient to get around by foot, bike and public transport, and which has chosen not to take the opportunity to consult the community on where to install new road side electric vehicle charging points; we have just 42 electric vehicle charging points well below that of neighbouring Hackney.
 9. We are taking innovative action at a local level, for example London's first 'recycled' road was laid on Canrobert Street in Bethnal Green where approximately 100 recycled tyres were mixed into a new road surface;
 10. Tower Hamlets Council has been awarded £350,000 from the Mayor of London's Local Enterprise Panel to help businesses tackle air pollution in the borough. The funding will enable the council to help small businesses reduce harmful emissions that contribute to poor air quality in Tower Hamlets;
 11. The loss of £14.3 million of the value of our reserves through inflation in the last three years because we did not have a plan to spend some of that money for example to mitigate climate change e.g. buying solar farms;
 12. The launch of school and play streets;
 13. To commit not to build new schools or expand them next to major roads when Environmental Health officers confirm that even at the height of the air intakes feeding fresh air into the school that pollution is high and that windows on the ground and 1st floor should not be capable of being opened;
 14. To commit not to build new schools or expand them, which might force pupils to have to wait outside or play in areas with poor air quality like next to major roads;
 15. Our Air Quality Action Plan which outlines the action the council will take to improve air quality in Tower Hamlets;
 16. The council is on track to plant more than 2,200 trees this year, taking the total number of trees delivered in the past two years to more than 5,000. We have recently been awarded £320k from the Greater London Authority which will be used towards new highways tree pits; a realistic number compared to the 2 million trees Sadiq Khan promised in his 2016 London Mayoral campaign, which have not yet materialised.
 17. Commit to no net loss of trees on any re-development especially on publicly owned land;
 18. Commit to growing green walls/parks/tree barriers/installing planters next to all major roads in the Borough especially where residential properties are next to main roads which will help absorb pollutants and particulate matter;
 19. Not to spend £120k on a metal A12 Acoustic Barrier but trial a plant based barrier to reduce noise instead;
 20. Commit to introducing more greenery whether at ground level, on vertical walls (as at Arnhem Wharf school) or hanging from street lights (as in Belgravia) which will help absorb pollutants and particulate matter (as well as make the Borough a more

- attractive place);
21. Commit to install new accessible bicycle parking spots across the borough including at our new Town Hall site in Whitechapel as well as at Mulberry Place;
 22. Our anti-idling campaign continues, with a minimum of one site visit/anti-idling action undertaken every week and LBTH remains part of the pan-London scheme; despite the fact that not one single fine has so far been issued.
 23. We are reviewing the waste fleet of vehicles, after recently installing new diesel fuel storage tanks at the transport depot on Silvocea Way and spending £10 million on new fossil fuelled refuse vehicles despite the City of London first trialling new electric refuse vehicles in May 2018;
 24. That of the 109 refuse vehicles the council operates 97 are diesel vehicles.
 25. That the council should review the whole of its own vehicle fleet, to speed up the use of electric, hydrogen or hybrid vehicles, to install electric vehicle chargers on Council properties;
 26. That recycling rates have fallen in recent years; the percentage of household waste sent for recycling in Tower Hamlets is 28% against a London average of 33%.
 27. The failure to get developers to deliver on site energy generation options except for a few dock based heat exchangers;
 28. To substantially expand the network of permanent air quality monitoring stations which can provide real time online data from the current four to having some kind of online sensor outside every school so that should air quality deteriorate that appropriate actions can be taken by school staff;
 29. We are installing two electric vehicle charging points to facilitate zero emissions ice cream vans; while continuing to lack electric vehicle charging points in LBTH owned / run facilities unlike Brent Council; just £150,000 has been budgeted for more electric vehicle charging points for 2020/21. This is not enough. Much more money needs to be invested as this is also an income earner for the council and adequate funds should be invested.
 30. To commit to having electric vehicle charging points on every street by 2022 following the example of Hackney Council as set out in November 2019;
 31. That we will look to encourage or set up ourselves last mile depots where deliveries can be made by truck but that onward transport can be done by cargo bikes or electric bikes/vehicles as is done in places like Hamburg by UPS.
 32. We are working with partners and projects including Citizens UK, Sustrans, Low Emission Neighbourhoods, Zero Emission Neighbourhoods to help our communities reduce air pollution;
 33. That we will stop allowing new homes to be built so close to major roads especially when they are not air conditioned forcing residents into an invidious choice between opening their windows (assuming they can).
 34. We will write to the Port of London Authority to thank them for

installing air quality monitors on the Isle of Dogs to monitor cruise ships moored at Greenwich, where we failed to take any action, despite local residents asking for air quality from these ships to be measured.

35. We will write to Greenwich Council to make our opposition to cruise ships being moored without an onshore power supply at Greenwich Pier known.
36. We will greatly expand our CCTV network to proactively use it to deter vehicles that fly-tip, causing damage to our environment. We will use this evidence to prosecute those who flytip or dump abandoned vehicles. We currently only have 360 CCTV cameras. All our neighbouring boroughs have more, Hackney 2,500, Newham 1100, Lewisham, 504, Southwark 464.

This Council believes:

1. That sustained and ambitious action is needed at a local, national and international level in order to tackle the climate emergency;
2. The climate emergency affect everybody but has a particular impact on those less able to adapt ~~is also a social justice issue, with the worst affected by the crisis and poor air quality the lowest contributors to the changing climate;~~
3. We should stop displacement activity, blaming others for their weaknesses in order to divert attention from our own failings, when we have our own house in order we can then spend time on chastising others for their inaction;
4. ~~That the Conservative Government is not taking the emergency seriously enough, with the former President of the COP26 UN Climate talks condemning the Prime Minister's inaction;~~
5. ~~That the Government's Brexit negotiating position threatens to severely weaken our own environmental protections and ambitions;~~

This Council resolves:

1. To call on the Government to recognise the seriousness of the climate emergency and take a more active role in tackling it;
2. To support the next Mayor of London in his or her efforts to transform London into a carbon- neutral city and examine what Tower Hamlets Council can do to support that aim;
3. To introduce climate impact assessments;
4. To continue to deliver our Air Quality Action Plan;
5. To deliver the Net Zero Carbon Roadmap;
6. To be much more pro-active and to focus on delivery rather than virtue signalling through motions;
7. To stop building over green areas and sites of biodiversity. Limehouse Triangle gained planning permission at the 5th attempt last year, just weeks after the council declared a climate emergency. Tower Hamlets ranks as the third worse borough in London for available green space;
8. To make better use of our extensive resources to mitigate the

- negative impacts of climate change, poor air quality and other damage to our environment;
9. To begin to replace the council's stock of vehicles with green electric/hybrid vehicles. Out of 206 vehicles in the council fleet 183 are powered by diesel;
 10. We will write to Greenwich Council to explore ways Tower Hamlets Council can help facilitate the instillation of on shore power supplies for cruise ship that moor at Greenwich in the future;
 11. Not to build new schools next to major roads.

Following debate, the amendment was put to a vote and was **defeated**.

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

DECISION:

This Council notes:

1. That the Mayor declared a climate emergency in Tower Hamlets in March 2019, and Full Council supported that declaration through a resolution in July 2019;
2. That the impacts of the climate emergency are clear for everyone to see, from the devastating fires in Australia and California, to the recent widespread flooding in the UK;
3. 40% of residents in Tower Hamlets live in areas that breach EU and government guidance on safe levels of air pollution;
4. Our ambition to become a zero carbon council by 2025;
5. That Mayor of London Sadiq Khan has promised to deliver a green new deal for London with a target for the capital to be carbon-neutral by 2030.

This Council further notes the ongoing work locally to tackle the emergency and improve air quality:

1. Since the Climate Emergency declaration last year we have produced a Net Zero Carbon Roadmap that has baselined the Council's emissions and produced an action plan of projects with the aim of the council becoming net zero carbon by 2025;
2. That at the July 2019 Full Council meeting, members resolved that a Tower Hamlets Climate Emergency Annual Report should be produced every year;
3. The council's electricity supply has been switched to a 100% renewable tariff;
4. The street-light upgrade to LEDs has continued and is close to completion;
5. We are also working with other London Boroughs through London Councils, the London Environment Coordinators Forum (LECF), Association of Local Energy Officers (ALEO) and London Boroughs Energy Group (LBEG) to see how Boroughs can work together on projects to address the Climate Emergency and working together to

- make representations to Government around what support we need to be able to tackle the climate emergency;
6. We are currently carrying out a study to identify suitable roof space for solar panels;
 7. The £15m Liveable Streets programme, which aims to make it easier, safer and more convenient to get around by foot, bike and public transport;
 8. We are taking innovative action at a local level, for example London's first 'recycled' road was laid on Canrobert Street in Bethnal Green where approximately 100 recycled tyres were mixed into a new road surface;
 9. Tower Hamlets Council has been awarded £350,000 from the Mayor of London's Local Enterprise Panel to help businesses tackle air pollution in the borough. The funding will enable the council to help small businesses reduce harmful emissions that contribute to poor air quality in Tower Hamlets;
 10. The launch of school and play streets;
 11. Our Air Quality Action Plan which outlines the action the council will take to improve air quality in Tower Hamlets;
 12. The council is on track to plant more than 2,200 trees this year, taking the total number of trees delivered in the past two years to more than 5,000. We have recently been awarded £320k from the Greater London Authority which will be used towards new highways tree pits;
 13. Our anti-idling campaign continues, with a minimum of one site visit/anti-idling action undertaken every week and LBTH remains part of the pan-London scheme;
 14. We are reviewing the waste fleet of vehicles;
 15. We are installing two electric vehicle charging points to facilitate zero emissions ice cream vans;
 16. We are working with partners and projects including Citizens UK, Sustrans, Low Emission Neighbourhoods, Zero Emission Neighbourhoods to help our communities reduce air pollution.

This Council believes:

1. That sustained and ambitious action is needed at a local, national and international level in order to tackle the climate emergency;
2. The climate emergency is also a social justice issue, with the worst affected by the crisis and poor air quality the lowest contributors to the changing climate;
3. That the Conservative Government is not taking the emergency seriously enough, with the former President of the COP26 UN Climate talks condemning the Prime Minister's inaction;
4. That the Government's Brexit negotiating position threatens to severely weaken our own environmental protections and ambitions;

This Council resolves:

1. To call on the Government to recognise the seriousness of the climate emergency and take a more active role in tackling it;
2. To support the Mayor of London in his efforts to transform London into a carbon-neutral city and examine what Tower Hamlets Council can do to support that aim;
3. To introduce climate impact assessments;
4. To continue to deliver our Air Quality Action Plan;
5. To deliver the Net Zero Carbon Roadmap.

(**Action by:** Ann Sutcliffe, Corporate Director, Place).

8. OPPOSITION MOTION DEBATE - REGARDING CAR PARKING

8. Opposition Motion for Debate from the Conservative Group - regarding Car Parking

Councillor Peter Golds **moved** and Councillor Andrew Wood **seconded** the motion as printed in the agenda.

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

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

9.1 Report of General Purposes Committee, Pay Policy 2020/21

The Council considered a report of the General Purposes Committee on the Pay Policy Statement 2020-21.

DECISION:

1. That the Pay Policy Statement 2020/21 be agreed.
2. Agree that the proposed changes to the Pay Policy 2020/21 that would be needed to reflect the implementation a revised grading structure are agreed and can be made as set out in this report.
3. Delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Divisional Director HR and Organisational Development, Chair of the GP Committee and Monitoring Officer, any minor changes to the 2020/21 pay policy statement.

(**Action by:** Neville Murton, Corporate Director, Resources)

10. OTHER BUSINESS**10.1 Members Allowances Scheme 2020/21**

The Council considered the report of the Corporate Director, Governance proposing the adoption of the Members' Allowance Scheme for 2020/21.

DECISION:

1. That the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Members' Allowances Scheme 2020 be adopted as set out at Appendix A to the report
2. Agree that the Members Allowances Budget be adjusted as necessary to cover the costs following the uprating of the local government pay award as set out at 3.4 of the report.
3. Agree that the Mayor writes to the Secretary of State on behalf of the Council requesting that Maternity, Paternity, Adoption and Sickness leave for Members be brought into line with the Statutory Regulations.

(Action by: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer)

10.2 Committee Calendar 2020/21

The Council considered the report of the Corporate Director, Governance proposing a Calendar of Meetings for 2020/21

DECISION:

1. Approve the proposed calendar of meetings for the municipal year 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report;
2. To delegate to the Corporate Director, Governance the authority to agree meeting dates for any new Committees or Panels that are set up subsequent to this report being presented to Council, subject to appropriate consultation with Members.

(Action by: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer)

11. 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.

- 11.1. Question from Councillor Asma Islam regarding the number of social homes available in the development Locksley A in Mile End. (No supplementary question was asked)
- 11.2. Question from Councillor Peter Golds regarding parking issues on the Isle of Dogs.
- 11.3. Question from Councillor Bex White requesting an update on actions taken in response to a recent Council petition about Jolly's Green. (No supplementary question was asked).
- 11.4. Question from Councillor Andrew Wood about the development potential of the Tiller Road Leisure Centre.
- 11.6 Question from Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE regarding crime prevention on the Boundary Estate.
- 11.8 Question from Councillor Val Whitehead about the Adult Social Care Service and Covid-19.
- 11.9 Question from Councillor James King regarding the academisation of the Cyril Jackson Primary school. (No supplementary question was asked).
- 11.10. Question from Councillor Kyrsten Perry requesting an update on the Government's 'Troubled Families' programme.
- 11.11. Question from Councillor Shah Ameen regarding the safety of places of worship, following the recent stabbing in London Central Mosque.
- 11.12. Question from Councillor Dipa Das requesting an update on youth employment initiatives. (No supplementary question was asked)
- 11.13. Question from Councillor Puru Miah regarding the inclusion of Socio-Economic inequalities data in Equality Impact Assessments, as laid out in Section 1 of the Equalities Act 2010.
- 11.14. Question from Councillor Mohammed Pappu about the resolution of water pressure issues affecting the Isle of Dogs.
- 11.15. Question from Councillor Rabina Khan regarding gender parity in the workplace, council service delivery and the voluntary sector.

Questions 11.5, 11.7 were not put due to the absence of the questioner. A written response would be provided to these questions. (Note the written responses will follow)

(Action by:—Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services to arrange written responses)

12. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

12.1 Motion regarding NJC Pay.

Councillor Ehtasham Haque **moved** and Councillor Tarik Khan **seconded** the motion as printed in the agenda

Following debate, the motion was **agreed**.

DECISION:

This Council notes

1. Local Government has endured central government funding cuts of nearly 50% since 2010.
2. Between 2010 and 2020, councils will have lost 60p out of every £1 they have received from central government.
3. The 2019 LGA survey of council finances found that 1 in 3 councils fear they will run out of funding to provide even their statutory, legal duties by 2022/23. This number rises to almost two thirds of councils by 2024/2025 or later.
4. The LGA estimates councils will face a funding gap of £8 billion by 2025.
5. Faced with these cuts from central government, the local government workforce has endured years of pay restraint with the majority of pay points losing 22 per cent of their value since 2009/10.
6. At the same time as seeing their pay go down in real terms, workers experience ever increasing workloads and persistent job insecurity. Across the UK, an estimated 876,000 jobs have been lost in local government since June 2010 – a reduction of 30 per cent. Local government has arguably been hit by more severe job losses than any other part of the public sector.
7. There has been a disproportionate impact on women, with women making up more than three quarters of the local government workforce.

This Council believes

1. Our workers are public service super heroes. They keep our communities clean, look after those in need and keep our towns and cities running.
2. Without the professionalism and dedication of our staff, the council services our residents rely on would not be deliverable.
3. Government funding has been cut to the extent that a proper pay rise could result in a reduction in local government services.

4. The government needs to take responsibility and fully fund increases in pay; it should not put the burden on local authorities whose funding been cut to the bone.

This Council resolves to

1. Note the pay claim submitted by GMB, UNISON and Unite on behalf of council and school workers for a £10 per hour minimum wage and a 10 per cent uplift across all other pay points in 2020/21, whilst recognising that local authorities as employers are bound by the results of any national negotiations undertaken by the unions and the NJC.
2. Call on the Local Government Association to make urgent representations to central government to fund the NJC pay claim.
3. Write to the Chancellor and Secretary of State to call for a pay increase for local government workers to be funded with new money from central government.
4. Meet with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim.
5. Encourage all local government workers to join a union.

(Action by: Neville Murton, Corporate Director (Resources))

(Motions 12.2 and 12.3 were not considered due to lack of time).

13. URGENT MOTION

13.1 Urgent Motion regarding the Covid-19 Virus

The Council agreed to suspend Procedure Rule 13.1 to enable the following urgent motion to be debated without notice regarding the Covid-19 Virus

Councillor Peter Golds **moved** and Mayor John Biggs **seconded** the motion as tabled

The motion was unanimously **agreed**.

DECISION:

This Council notes:

1. Widespread concern about the Covid-19 virus;
2. The coronavirus outbreak has been labelled a pandemic by the World Health Organization;
3. That four cases have been reported in Tower Hamlets as at the 10th March;
4. Panic buying of essentials over the last weekend;
5. That we are currently in the containment phase of the response;
6. That the NHS advice is;

DO

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds

- always wash your hands when you get home or into work
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin straight away and wash your hands afterwards
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell

DON'T

- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean

This Council resolves:

1. To more pro-actively inform residents about what it is doing, for example about the cleaning of public facilities likely to be touched by residents and what residents should do in this phase of the virus;
2. To more pro-actively instruct people on how to wash their hands for example and what behaviours to avoid i.e. spitting in public, as well as on keeping your distance from others where possible;
3. To ensure school pupils are educated in what to do as regards the virus and to encourage them pass that information onto their families;
4. To clean areas / items where residents / visitors are likely to touch things for example toilet doors, computers in Ideas stores, entrance doors etc.
5. The council will work more closely with faith communities to help them implement any necessary precautions to ensure they can attend their places of worship in safety if possible. For example this includes the run up to Ramadan and other faith observations;
6. Maintain a constant dialogue with faith communities to ensure the Council can ensure they have the most up-to-date information as this can rapidly change;
7. That LBTH should publicise what it will do should the government decide to move onto the Delay and then Mitigation phase of the crisis;
8. To translate the advice into languages used across Tower Hamlets;
9. To work with local retailers to ensure that they do not run out of essentials;
10. That the Public Health department publicise their and others public bodies responsibilities so that residents are aware of who is responsible for what across government agencies;
11. That the Health & Adults Scrutiny Sub-Committee have a verbal update from appropriate Council officers and review all pre-existing Public Health plans as soon as possible and also review the Communications plan to be used at each stage of the response.

(Action by Denise Radley (Corporate Director, Health, Adults & Community))

The meeting ended at 10.10 p.m.