



Meeting of the

TOWER HAMLETS COUNCIL

Wednesday, 11 March 2020 at 7.00 p.m.

A G E N D A

VENUE

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

Democratic Services Contact:

Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services

Tel: 020 7364 4651, E-mail: matthew.mannion@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Directorate of Governance

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

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets to be held in **THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG** at **7.00 p.m.** on **WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2020**

Will Tuckley
Chief Executive

Public Information

Attendance at meetings.

The public are welcome to attend meetings of the Council. However seating is limited and offered on a first come first served basis and meetings tend to reach full capacity.

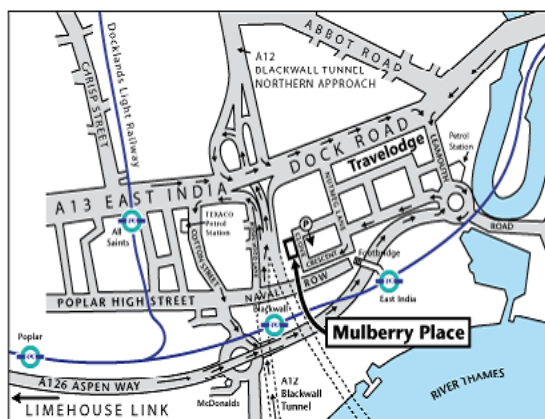
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LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2020

7.00 p.m.

	PAGE NUMBER
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
To receive any apologies for absence.	
2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS	7 - 10
To note any declarations of interest made by Members, including those restricting Members from voting on the questions detailed in Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992. See attached note from the Monitoring Officer.	
3. MINUTES	11 - 50
To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15 January 2020.• Budget Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19 February 2020.	
4. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE COUNCIL OR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE	
5. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS	51 - 52
The Council Procedure Rules provide for a maximum of four petitions to be discussed at an Ordinary Meeting of the Council.	
The attached report presents the received petitions to be discussed. Should any additional petitions be received they will be listed to be noted but not discussed.	
6. MAYOR'S REPORT	
The Council's Constitution provides for the Elected Mayor to give a report at each Ordinary Council Meeting.	
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.	

7.	ADMINISTRATION MOTION DEBATE- REGARDING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY.	53 - 56
	<p>To debate a Motion submitted by the Administration in accordance with Rules 11 and 13 of the Council’s Constitution. The debate will last for a maximum of 30 minutes.</p>	
8.	OPPOSITION MOTION DEBATE - REGARDING CAR PARKING	57 - 60
	<p>To debate a Motion submitted by the Opposition Group in accordance with Rules 11 and 13 of the Council’s Constitution. The debate will last for a maximum of 30 minutes.</p>	
9.	REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES	
9 .1	Report of General Purposes Committee, Pay Policy 2020/21	61 - 80
	<p>To consider the report of the General Purposes Committee setting out the Pay Policy for 2020/21.</p>	
10.	OTHER BUSINESS	
10 .1	Members Allowances Scheme 2020/21	81 - 94
10 .2	Committee Calendar 2020/21	95 - 104
11.	TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL	105 - 108
	<p>The questions which have been received from Councillors to be put at this Council meeting are set out in the attached report. A maximum period of 30 minutes is allocated to this agenda item.</p>	
12.	TO CONSIDER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL	109 - 114
	<p>The motions submitted by Councillors for debate at this meeting are set out in the attached report.</p>	

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Agenda Item 2

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS - NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

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

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

Interests and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs)

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

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

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

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

Effect of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest on participation at meetings

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

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

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

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

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

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

Further advice

For further advice please contact:-

Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer. Tel 020 7364 4800

APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

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

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

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LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 15 JANUARY 2020

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

Members Present:

Mayor John Biggs	Councillor James King
Councillor Faroque Ahmed	Councillor Eve McQuillan
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	Councillor Ayas Miah
Councillor Sabina Akhtar	Councillor Harun Miah
Councillor Sufia Alam	Councillor Puru Miah
Councillor Amina Ali	Councillor Victoria Obaze
Councillor Shah Ameen	Councillor Mohammed Pappu
Councillor Rachel Blake	Councillor Kyrsten Perry
Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	Councillor John Pierce
Councillor Shad Chowdhury	Councillor Leema Qureshi
Councillor Dipa Das	Councillor Zenith Rahman
Councillor David Edgar	Councillor Candida Ronald
Councillor Peter Golds	Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan
Councillor Ehtasham Haque	Councillor Dan Tomlinson
Councillor Danny Hassell	Councillor Helal Uddin
Councillor Mohammed Ahab Hossain	Councillor Abdal Ullah
Councillor Asma Islam	Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman
Councillor Sirajul Islam	Councillor Val Whitehead
Councillor Denise Jones	Councillor Bex White
Councillor Rabina Khan	Councillor Andrew Wood
Councillor Tarik Khan	

**THE SPEAKER OF THE COUNCIL, COUNCILLOR VICTORIA OBAZE IN
THE CHAIR**

The Speaker of the Council brought the Council up to date with some of her activities since the previous Council meeting.

She advised that she was very pleased to have hosted and attended a variety of events. This included:

- A variety of awards ceremonies since the last Council meeting from food, horticulture and sports to community involvement – a perfect snapshot of Tower Hamlets (i) the Asian Curry Awards in November; (ii) the 2019 Community Champions in Canary Wharf; (iii) Tower Hamlets in Bloom (iv) Tower Hamlets Homes Community Awards; and (v) the Youth League cup final at Mile End;
- A Commendation Ceremony at the Tower of London to honour Police Officers, staff and members of the public across the borough for outstanding work, dedication to duty and acts of courage;

- Carol services at (i) All Saints in Poplar, (ii) the Town Hall with staff who made a donation to the Speakers charity; and (iii) Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest, which included the unveiling ceremony for the new Roe Wing;
- Christmas celebrations at the Canary Wharf community Christmas Reception;
- The Council staff bake-off to judge all the cakes entered;
- The Speaker's the Annual Charity Ball on 4th December, 2019 held at the East Wintergarden in Canary Wharf where over 200 people came together to support the fundraising on behalf of the Alzheimer's Society, BPCA and Providence Row. This event was sponsored by the Canary Wharf Group, Ballymore and Mulalley as well as the wonderful performers who did a great job and are all linked to Tower Hamlets; the Sir John Cass and Redcoat School Steel Orchestra, IMD Legion, Adanta Dance and the James Uglow Lion Group;
- Music performances from THAMES the Tower Hamlets Arts and Music Education Service, at their Music Centre Concert;
- The performance of the London International Choral Festival on the 2nd January, 2020;
- Attending a Dementia Friends refresher which is something all Members of the Council are urged to support as it is of growing importance in our society which is why the Speaker had chosen the Alzheimer's Society's Dementia Project as one of her charities this year;
- Attending the Swanlea School and Raines Foundation, to speak with the students about knife crime. This resulted in a very interesting and lively discussion with a number of very useful ideas to take forward.

In addition to the above it was noted that the Speaker continues to attend citizenship ceremonies at the Borough's Register Office and to support community events across Tower Hamlets.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Councillor Asma Begum;
- Councillor Mufeedah Bustin;
- Councillor Kevin Brady;
- Councillor Marc Francis; and.
- Councillor Abdul Mukit M.B.E.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Following a request from a large number of Members who had interests in agenda item 12.1 (Motion regarding NJC Pay) the Monitoring Officer agreed to grant a dispensation to Councillors as an increase in NJC Pay could have an impact on the allowances of all Members in respect of the Item, under Section C, Paragraph 32 of the Code of Conduct for Members.

As a result of this, Councillors with a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in this item did not need to declare this and would be able to stay in the meeting room, participate in the discussion and vote on the item.

There were no declarations of interest received at the meeting.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

1. That the unrestricted minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 13 November, 2019 be confirmed as a correct record the Speaker be authorised to sign them accordingly.

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

The Chief Executive:

Reported that Jenny Peters would shortly be taking up her appointment to the post of Divisional Director of Planning and Building Control and expressed his thanks to David Williams who had been acting in the role.

Placed on record his thanks to Theresa Heaney Interim Director Customer Programme for covering since Shazia Hussain had moved to Brent.

Was pleased to report the following success stories:

- Djamila Aggabi had won the 2019 Practice Educator of the Year; and
- Communications Team for winning the LGcommunications - Public Sector Excellence Award.

Finally thanked those members of staff who had worked the 2019 General Election.

5. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS

5.1 Free Speech on Palestine

Sybil Cock addressed the meeting on behalf of the petitioners, and responded to questions from Members. Mayor John Biggs then responded to the matters raised in the petition. Whilst he understood the passion the topic raised he stated he did not consider it appropriate to add a caveat to the internationally recognised IHRA definition. In respect of events in parks he had asked for a review of the events in parks policy to ensure it was appropriately balanced.

DECISION

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

5.2 Wapping Bus Gate

Gina Hayden 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. He acknowledged the mixed views on the changes but highlighted how the bus gate had cut rat-running and improved air quality and safety.

DECISION

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

5.3 Stop the Burdett Road Entrapment

It was noted that the petitioner Sumaia Begum was not present. The petition was therefore referred to the Corporate Director, that the petition be referred to the Corporate Director, Place for a written response within 28 days.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT

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

- Councillor Andrew Wood, Leader of the Conservative Group, responded briefly to the Mayor's report; and
- The Mayor responded briefly.

7. ADMINISTRATION MOTION DEBATE - UNIVERSAL CREDIT

Councillor Rachel Blake **moved** and Councillor Dipa Das **seconded** the motion as set out in the agenda

Accordingly, it was **RESOLVED** that:

This Council notes:

1. That Universal Credit (UC) has fundamentally failed as a social security system and has caused hardship wherever it is rolled out;
2. Councils are not recognised partners for Universal Credit in the way they are for Housing Benefit and receive no funding to check Universal Credit claims as they are managed by Department for Work and Pensions (DWP);
3. New figures and case studies from Tower Hamlets Council which highlight just how flawed the Universal Credit system is:
 - a. Over 700 errors flagged to the DWP by this council alone since April 2018 – these errors resulted in £335k in overpayments and £215k in underpayments;

- b. In many cases council staff have had to refer the DWP to their own regulations;
 - c. In February 2019 LBTH Housing Benefit assessors identified an obvious contrived tenancy between family members and notified the DWP that UC housing element should not be paid. The council issued four notifications to DWP before they stopped the payment which resulted in a £18k overpayment;
 - d. A lone parent placed in temporary accommodation had claimed UC, but the DWP did not understand its own rules (which the DWP had changed) and argued that the council should be paying Housing Benefit. The case took from January to September to resolve and eventually the DWP acknowledged their mistake and awarded £15k UC.
4. The Council commissioned the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) to research the experiences of Tower Hamlets' families with children in receipt of universal credit. A qualitative research study between October 2018 and July 2019 found:
 - a. 79% of responses included some negative sentiment about universal credit;
 - b. The transition to Universal Credit has been problematic, and that claimants found making and managing claims using the online system difficult;
 - c. Claimants often had problems with Universal Credit payments, finding they varied and were often miscalculated or unexpectedly stopped;
 - d. Stakeholders highlighted the monthly payment system, Advance Payment Arrangements and deductions as problematic for claimants;
 - e. Claimants and stakeholders had negative experiences of Job Centre Plus (JCP) and interactions with the DWP. "A lack of support, training and awareness among JCP staff seems to have resulted in an absence of dignity for claimants, while stakeholders complained of poor communications with the DWP";
 - f. Many claimants were struggling to get by with the amount of universal credit they received, and were in debt and arrears as a result of being on universal credit. This is exacerbated by the system of payment in arrears and the five-week wait at the start of claims;
 - g. Universal credit was seen to have had a negative impact on children.
5. That Tower Hamlets Council has established a multi-million pound Tackling Poverty Fund and is working in partnership with CPAG to understand the impact of Universal Credit in Tower Hamlets and to deliver welfare advice in a local food bank which delivered £230k in income maximisation for residents in its first 5 months.

This Council believes that:

- I. That social security should lift people out of poverty, but Universal Credit is leaving people in debt and arrears, forcing many people to turn to food banks to survive;
- II. Social security should support people rather than driving them into poverty;
- III. That Universal Credit is not fit for purpose and is having a severely detrimental impact on residents in Tower Hamlets;
- IV. That Universal Credit should be scrapped and replaced with a new social security system that will support our residents rather than drive them into poverty.

This Council would:

1. Support calls for Universal Credit to be scrapped and replaced;
2. Campaign for emergency mitigation to be introduced, including scrapping the two-child limit and the benefit cap;
3. Ask the Cabinet Member to update members on how the Council is responding to the recommendations set out in Child Poverty Action Group report.

Item 7 ADMINISTRATION MOTION FOR DEBATE – Universal Credit	
1. Councillor Faroque Ahmed	For
2. Councillor Rajib Ahmed	For
3. Councillor Sabina Akhtar	For
4. Councillor Sufia Alam	For
5. Councillor Amina Ali	For
6. Councillor Shah Ameen	For
7. Mayor John Biggs	For
8. Councillor Rachel Blake	For
9. Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	For
10. Councillor Shad Chowdhury	For
11. Councillor Dipa Das	For
12. Councillor David Edgar	For
13. Councillor Peter Golds	Against
14. Councillor Ehtasham Haque	For
15. Councillor Danny Hassell	For
16. Councillor Mohammed Ahbab Hossain	For
17. Councillor Asma Islam	For
18. Councillor Sirajul Islam	For
19. Councillor Denise Jones	For
20. Councillor Rabina Khan	For
21. Councillor Tarik Khan	For
22. Councillor James King	For
23. Councillor Eve McQuillan	For
24. Councillor Ayas Miah	For
25. Councillor Harun Miah	For
26. Councillor Puru Miah	For

27. Councillor Victoria Obaze	For
28. Councillor Mohammed Pappu	For
29. Councillor Kyrsten Perry	For
30. Councillor Zenith Rahman	For
31. Councillor Candida Ronald	For
32. Councillor Leema Qureshi	For
33. Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan	For
34. Councillor Dan Tomlinson	For
35. Councillor Helal Uddin	For
36. Councillor Abdal Ullah	For
37. Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	For
38. Councillor Val Whitehead	For
39. Councillor Bex White	For
40. Councillor Andrew Wood	Against
Carried	

8. OPPOSITION MOTION DEBATE - QUEENS SPEECH AND MANIFESTO COMMITMENTS

Councillor Andrew Wood **moved** and Councillor Peter Golds **seconded** the motion as set out in the agenda

Councillor Mayor John Biggs **moved** and Councillor Sabina Akhtar **seconded** the following amendment to the motion to be debated as tabled:

Added text underlined

Deleted text scored out.

This Council notes:

- The election on the 12th December 2019 of a new majority Conservative government.
- A Queens Speech on the 19th December 2019 containing a large number of proposed Bills, some of direct relevance and interest to Tower Hamlets Council.
- That the government was elected with a new manifesto containing a number of sections of direct relevance and interest to Tower Hamlets Council ~~as noted below.~~
- The increase in the Public Works Loan Board interest rate from 1.82% to 2.82% in October 2019.

This Council further notes:

Voters in both constituencies in Tower Hamlets voted overwhelmingly for Labour Members of Parliament to represent them.

That the new Conservative manifesto & Queens Speech contains a number of sections directly relevant to Tower Hamlets. Some examples (but not limited to) include measures relating to Right to Buy, social housing, development infrastructure, Brexit and electric vehicle infrastructure:

~~“We will maintain our commitment to a Right to Buy for all council tenants. We will also maintain the voluntary Right to Buy scheme agreed with housing associations. Following the successful voluntary pilot scheme in the Midlands, we will evaluate new pilot areas in order to spread the dream of home ownership to even more people.”~~

For example we in Tower Hamlets could ask to be one of the new pilot areas in order to ensure that the new voluntary scheme works in London.

~~“As Boris Johnson has promised, we will bring forward a Social Housing White Paper which will set out further measures to empower tenants and support the continued supply of social homes. This will include measures to provide greater redress, better regulation and improve the quality of social housing.”~~

We in Tower Hamlets need to be influencing this White Paper given both the large stock of existing as well as the large number of new build social homes we have which bring with them unique issues.

~~“Infrastructure first. We will amend planning rules so that the infrastructure – roads, schools, GP surgeries – comes before people move into new homes”~~

Given that Tower Hamlets is the most important deliverer of new homes in the country (exemplified by a record 10th year of New Homes Bonus receipts) this is a critically important for us to ensure that those new planning rules work for us here in Tower Hamlets.

~~“In particular, we will make the UK the leading global hub for life sciences after Brexit.”~~

We should work with the government to make the Life Sciences centre in Whitechapel the leading centre in London if not the country.

~~“We will invest £1 billion in completing a fast-charging network to ensure that everyone is within 30 miles of a rapid electric vehicle charging station.”~~

With more than 40,000 vehicles registered in Tower Hamlets it is clear that we need to substantially expand the charging network as a new generation of electric vehicles arrive so we should be aggressively bidding for a share of this money.

There are many more similar examples in the manifesto and Queens Speech which we need to explore.

This Council resolves:

Following the election of a new majority Conservative government Tower Hamlets ~~to set up a new working group (modelled on the Tower Hamlets Brexit Commission)~~ should continue to work with other London Boroughs, the GLA and London MPs through existing bodies such as London Councils and the LGA to protect and promote Tower Hamlets and secure the interests of London as an integral part of one nation.

That ~~this group~~ the council should seek to constructively engage with the new governments legislative agenda in order to ensure that the voice of Tower Hamlets specifically and other London Boroughs more generally are heard in the legislative process ~~to ensure that those new Acts of Parliament work effectively here.~~ and to actively campaign against any new measures or laws which would be detrimental to residents in Tower Hamlets.

That as a first step that we write to Sajid Javid and Robert Jenrick seeking a change to the Public Works Loan Board interest rate policy. We should request that borrowing to invest in building much needed new Council homes and new infrastructure should be charged at a lower interest rate than borrowing to buy commercial properties to generate a financial return for local authorities.

Following debate, the amendment to the motion was put to the vote and was **carried**:

Item 8 Amendment to Motion on Queens Speech by Labour Group	
1. Councillor Faroque Ahmed	For
2. Councillor Rajib Ahmed	For
3. Councillor Sabina Akhtar	For
4. Councillor Sufia Alam	For
5. Councillor Amina Ali	For
6. Councillor Shah Ameen	For
7. Mayor John Biggs	For
8. Councillor Rachel Blake	For
9. Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	For
10. Councillor Shad Chowdhury	For
11. Councillor Dipa Das	For
12. Councillor David Edgar	For
13. Councillor Peter Golds	Against
14. Councillor Ehtasham Haque	For
15. Councillor Danny Hassell	For
16. Councillor Mohammed Ahbab Hossain	For
17. Councillor Asma Islam	For
18. Councillor Sirajul Islam	For
19. Councillor Denise Jones	For
20. Councillor Rabina Khan	Against
21. Councillor Tarik Khan	For

22. Councillor James King	For
23. Councillor Eve McQuillan	For
24. Councillor Ayas Miah	For
25. Councillor Harun Miah	For
26. Councillor Puru Miah	For
27. Councillor Victoria Obaze	For
28. Councillor Mohammed Pappu	For
29. Councillor Kyrsten Perry	For
30. Councillor Zenith Rahman	For
31. Councillor Candida Ronald	For
32. Councillor Leema Qureshi	For
33. Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan	For
34. Councillor Dan Tomlinson	For
35. Councillor Helal Uddin	For
36. Councillor Abdal Ullah	For
37. Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	For
38. Councillor Val Whitehead	For
39. Councillor Bex White	For
40. Councillor Andrew Wood	Against
Carried	

Then the motion as amended was put to the vote and it was **RESOLVED**:

- The election on the 12th December 2019 of a new majority Conservative government.
- A Queens Speech on the 19th December 2019 containing a large number of proposed Bills, some of direct relevance and interest to Tower Hamlets Council.
- That the government was elected with a new manifesto containing a number of sections of direct relevance and interest to Tower Hamlets Council.
- The increase in the Public Works Loan Board interest rate from 1.82% to 2.82% in October 2019.

This Council further notes:

Voters in both constituencies in Tower Hamlets voted overwhelmingly for Labour Members of Parliament to represent them.

That the new Conservative manifesto & Queens Speech contains a number of sections directly relevant to Tower Hamlets. Some examples (but not limited to) include measures relating to Right to Buy, social housing, development infrastructure, Brexit and electric vehicle infrastructure

This Council resolves:

Following the election of a new majority Conservative government Tower Hamlets should continue to work with other London Boroughs, the GLA and

London MPs through existing bodies such as London Councils and the LGA to protect and promote Tower Hamlets and secure the interests of London as an integral part of one nation.

That the council should seek to constructively engage with the new governments legislative agenda in order to ensure that the voice of Tower Hamlets specifically and other London Boroughs more generally are heard in the legislative process and to actively campaign against any new measures or laws which would be detrimental to residents in Tower Hamlets.

That as a first step that we write to Sajid Javid and Robert Jenrick seeking a change to the Public Works Loan Board interest rate policy. We should request that borrowing to invest in building much needed new Council homes and new infrastructure should be charged at a lower interest rate than borrowing to buy commercial properties to generate a financial return for local authorities.

Item 8 Motion on Queens Speech as amended by Labour Group	
41. Councillor Faroque Ahmed	For
42. Councillor Rajib Ahmed	For
43. Councillor Sabina Akhtar	For
44. Councillor Sufia Alam	For
45. Councillor Amina Ali	For
46. Councillor Shah Ameen	For
47. Mayor John Biggs	For
48. Councillor Rachel Blake	For
49. Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	For
50. Councillor Shad Chowdhury	For
51. Councillor Dipa Das	For
52. Councillor David Edgar	For
53. Councillor Peter Golds	Against
54. Councillor Ehtasham Haque	For
55. Councillor Danny Hassell	For
56. Councillor Mohammed Ahbab Hossain	For
57. Councillor Asma Islam	For
58. Councillor Sirajul Islam	For
59. Councillor Denise Jones	For
60. Councillor Rabina Khan	For
61. Councillor Tarik Khan	For
62. Councillor James King	For
63. Councillor Eve McQuillan	For
64. Councillor Ayas Miah	For
65. Councillor Harun Miah	For
66. Councillor Puru Miah	For
67. Councillor Victoria Obaze	For
68. Councillor Mohammed Pappu	For
69. Councillor Kyrsten Perry	For
70. Councillor Zenith Rahman	For

71. Councillor Candida Ronald	For
72. Councillor Leema Qureshi	For
73. Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan	For
74. Councillor Dan Tomlinson	For
75. Councillor Helal Uddin	For
76. Councillor Abdal Ullah	For
77. Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	For
78. Councillor Val Whitehead	For
79. Councillor Bex White	For
80. Councillor Andrew Wood	Against
Carried	

9. 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.

9.1 **Question from Councillor Dipa Das** Can the Mayor update members on the pledge to welcome 10 unaccompanied child refugees to our borough, under the Dubs scheme?

The response of Mayor John Biggs:

- I am pleased to say that all 10 young people that we pledged to accommodate via the Dubs arrangements have arrived and are being actively supported.
- The young people have a range of complex needs and trauma from their life within an active war-zone.
- Despite these challenges most have settled well and are engaged in education and training with a view to obtaining employment in the coming months.
- The Government provides only a fraction of the cost to host unaccompanied refugees. We estimate that the shortfall is over £2,500 a week and so my budget proposals include a growth bid to meet this.
- Despite the squeeze on the Council's budget I'm proud we are doing the right thing continuing the legacy of the East End welcoming refugees.
- In contrast last week the government voted to water down their commitments. Children should not be bargaining chips in any EU negotiations: child refugees should be with their families and the UK government should be fighting for them.
- We will continue to lobby government through London councils to properly fund this scheme in the future.

No supplementary question was asked.

9.2 Question from Councillor Peter Golds Will the Mayor comment on how the Council will use the recently announced £5.1 million homeless grant from the Government?

- The response of Councillor Sirajul Islam Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing: This funding is to support the implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act and the new responsibilities that fall on councils as a result of the Act as well as to tackle rough sleeping. This funding is used for various purposes including staffing, homelessness prevention initiatives and securing temporary accommodation. This includes the conversion of empty/redundant buildings for use as temporary accommodation.

Supplementary question from Councillor Peter Golds: (i) In 2018/2019 the Council used £140m from reserves to buy new properties please can we be provided with the details on the outcome of that expenditure; and (ii) Can we also be provided with details of what the £5.1 million Homeless Grant from Government will be spent on.

Response of Councillor Sirajul Islam: I will undertake to provide you with that information.

9.3 Question from Councillor Sufia Alam How is the Council preparing for any forthcoming inspection of Youth Justice Services?

The response of Councillor Danny Hassell Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People:

- We are committed to ensuring that the work of the Youth Offending Team ensures that young people leave the service with improved circumstances and aspirations, in line with our ambition to give 'Every Chance for Every Child'.
- Since the new inspection framework was introduced in 2018 by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation in 2018, the Youth Justice Service has done a lot of work to prepare for inspection, in line with the current guidelines.
- This work has been aided by the Youth Justice Management Board and the scrutiny of the independent Chair in driving improvements forward.
- In a recent example of this performance monitoring work, the Youth Justice Service looked into the health needs of children in partnership with Public Health and highlighted areas where we can improve our health offer. There have also been other deep dives on children looked after, school attendance and exclusions and further are planned later this year.
- The service has worked hard to adapt to the new inspection framework and we should be pleased with their efforts.

Supplementary question from Councillor Sufia Alam: How is the Youth Justice Management Board working to support the Youth Offending Team?

The Board under the new independent Chair has been driving improvements forward with spotlight sessions to focus on specific areas; looking at the impact of services upon young people's lives and how more can be done to support them. This will help to develop the plans to improve services and assist Board Members when they visit the front line providers.

- 9.4 Question from Councillor Andrew Wood** Has the Council been involved in or signed off on the large salary increases granted by Veolia to staff before they transfer to Tower Hamlets Council from the 1st April 2020?

The response of Councillor David Edgar Cabinet Member for Environment:

- The Council has not been involved in or signed off any salary increase to Veolia staff in advance of the transfer to Tower Hamlets Council. The latest pay round for Veolia staff was agreed in winter 2019 and covers pay from 1 April last year.
- Under TUPE, Veolia staff will transfer into the Council on 29th March this year. They will transfer at their current pay point and in line with their contract of employment. From that point they will receive the same annual increments as other LBTH staff for the 2020-21 financial year.

Supplementary question from Councillor Andrew Wood: Did Veolia not discuss the pay increase with the Council?

The response from Councillor David Edgar: The pay negotiations are between Veolia and the TU representing the workforce. It is therefore not appropriate for LBTH to be involved.

- 9.5 Question from Councillor Kyrsten Perry** What steps are we taking as a Council to tackle the climate emergency?

The response of Councillor Rachel Blake Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Air Quality:

- Since 2009 the Council has been monitoring its carbon emissions and has committed to achieving a 60% carbon dioxide emissions reduction from our own operations by March 2021. By March 2019, we had already achieved 58% reduction in carbon emission and are well on track to exceed our target;
- Yet, with this achievement, there is still more work to be done and further dialogue needed on a national and local level;
- As a result, the Council declared a climate emergency and set a very ambitious target to become net zero carbon by 2025 from our own operations;
- We are developing a Zero Carbon Roadmap and a progress report to Cabinet is scheduled for the first half of 2020 which will help us achieve our goal.

- Additionally, we have established a Carbon Fund which has delivered a number of projects helping schools, small businesses and residential homes become more energy efficient and reduce carbon emissions.
- The Carbon Fund has received £3.8m to help fund our efforts to reduce carbon emissions in our borough.

No supplementary question was asked.

- 9.6 Question from Councillor Shah Ameen** Can we have an update from the cabinet member on the two recent fatal incidents in Whitechapel ward and what the police and the council are doing to improve confidence amongst residents?

No supplementary question was asked.

The response of Mayor John Biggs:

I was shocked and saddened to learn of these two incidents. In both cases, police have made arrests and charged suspects with murder.

I would like to reassure Members and the community that we have been working closely with the police to do all we can to respond to these awful incidents.

- The police have brought in extra officers to mount additional patrols and provide a visible police presence in the area.
- The council has provided dedicated THEO patrols, deployed our Rapid Response Team and our CCTV suite was used in the murder investigation.
- I attended a public meeting at Toynbee Hall along with the police, housing providers and ward councillors to listen to residents and provide reassurance that we are responding.
- On the 19th December, 2019 the Council and police conducted operation 'Continuum Plus' in Whitechapel to target ASB and organised crime.

No supplementary question was asked.

- 9.7 Question from Councillor Leema Qureshi** What progress has been made against the commitment to plant 1,000 trees across the Borough?

- The Council is committed to delivering a cleaner, greener Tower Hamlets and planting 1,000 trees across the borough is one of the Mayor's pledges to achieve that;
- We are making good progress with the first phase of tree planting of 300 trees being completed this month. For year one, the Poplar and Bow area have been targeted with 150 trees on scheduled to be planted in each area; and
- The remaining trees will be planted in the Autumn/Winter 2020 and

2021. We will provide updates on the progress as we continue to improve our public spaces.

No supplementary question was asked.

- 9.8 Question from Councillor Mohammed Pappu** When will the identified changes that are urgently needed regarding parking around City Island & Orchard place be implemented?

The response of Mayor John Biggs:

- Officers are progressing with the introduction of 14 new parking spaces on the slip road onto the Lower Lea crossing and Orchard place beside the 339 bus stop;
- The potential for further additional spaces is limited but will be explored for creation when construction of new developments in the area is completed.
- The legal Traffic Management Order procedures will commence within the next couple of weeks and, following the necessary works, the new parking bays are expected to be operational in April/May.

Supplementary question from Councillor Mohammed Pappu: This has been an issue for residents since they moved into their properties. I would therefore like to extend an invitation to the Mayor to come and discuss this issue with the residents.

The response of Mayor John Biggs:

- I would welcome the opportunity and come and met with resident to discuss this matter.

- 9.9 Question Councillor Denise Jones** With continued austerity for local government, what level of savings is Tower Hamlets required to make over the coming years and is there any indication from the new Conservative Government that this situation will improve any time soon?

The Response of Councillor Candida Ronald Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector:

- Throughout a decade of austerity, we have seen our budgets cut year after year and the Council has had to make £190 million in savings since 2010.
- Tower Hamlets has seen a huge increase in demand for key services driven by rapid population growth and changing demographics and this is forecast to continue with the equivalent of 14 new residents every day for the next ten years. The Government is also expected to bring forward the so-called 'Fair Funding' review which could take money away from areas of high deprivation like Tower Hamlets and redirect it.
- These challenges combined with reduced funding mean that the squeeze on local government looks set to continue, and Tower

Hamlets Council still has to save an extra £39 million by 2023.

- Next month we'll debate our new budget proposals. We've worked hard to produce a budget that protects key frontline services that residents rely on – however each year this is becoming harder as demand grows and government cuts continue.

Supplementary question from Councillor Denise Jones: Has Councillor Peter Golds and Councillor Andrew Wood approached the Mayor to discuss making a joint approach to the Government regarding an end to austerity.

The Response of Councillor Candida Ronald: Whilst I am not aware of any approach from those Members we are on regular dialogue through London Councils with local authorities regardless of their political persuasion.

- 9.10 Question Councillor Puru Miah** Can the Mayor please give an update on the implementation in the Council of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) Islamophobia definition, passed by the Council in March?

The response of Mayor John Biggs:

- It is entirely right that the Council does all it can to challenge and address discrimination and inequality faced by any and all of our faith communities. Since the adoption of the Islamophobia definition last year Cabinet has also received and agreed a refreshed Equality Policy reaffirming the Councils commitment to equality including setting out clearly the responsibility of officers and members.
- Members of staff will have seen the Council's adoption of both the Islamophobia and anti-Semitism definitions and plans are in place in coming weeks to reiterate the text of the definitions and our wider equalities duties through our internal communications channels. This is in addition to incorporating them into the training offer for members and officers.

Supplementary question from Councillor Puru Miah: Is the Mayor aware that it is considered to be Islamophobia to criticise the "right of a people to self-determination"?

The response of Mayor John Biggs: I would be happy to sit down with the Member to discuss the implications of the definition to the Borough.

- 9.11 Question from Councillor Val Whitehead** What action will the Mayor and lead Member take to ensure Clarion Housing improve their contact centre and repair service which is causing severe detriment to our Bow residents?

The response of Councillor Sirajul Islam Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing:

- Clarion's performance in this area continues to be of concern, particularly with regards to repairs and responsiveness to residents and members complaints.
- Meetings have taken place with Clarion's Head of Housing and an

Action Plan has been devised which highlights key areas for significant improvement with repairs and complaint being two key components however there is clearly still a lot of work to be done.

- All of the Bow councillors have fought on behalf of residents to get Clarion to up their game and the Mayor and I remain committed to working alongside you to stand up for our residents and insist they are given the service they deserve.

No supplementary question was asked.

- 9.12 Question from Councillor Dan Tomlinson** How are discussions with Transport for London progressing with respect to the construction of new pedestrian crossings over the A12 at Bromley-by-Bow? This scheme has been consulted on, developer contributions are available for it, and yet there has been little sign of progress over the past year.

The response of Mayor John Biggs:

- You are entirely right, the Bromley-by-Bow A12 improvements have been a long time coming, despite TfL and the LLDC beginning development work back in 2010.
- Public consultation took place in April 2017 and progress has been frustratingly slow.
- TfL report that they have completed their detailed engineering design work and I am advised that a preferred option was agreed in December. This would result in the delivery of a grade junction on the A12 to provide direct access to the development area off Hancock Road. This would also allow for new pedestrian crossings across the A12 as well as the potential for an east – west bus route crossing the A12.
- While the design work is complete there remain a number of issues regarding land ownership on the site which still need to be resolved by the LLDC before a schedule for works can be agreed. I will be writing to the LLDC later this week to urge them to expedite this.

No supplementary question was asked.

- 9.13 Question from Councillor John Pierce** What actions has the Mayor of Tower Hamlets taken to tackle anti-social behaviour in the Boundary Estate?

The response of Mayor John Biggs:

- As you know, tackling crime and ASB are key mayoral priorities and the council has invested over £3 million to fund additional police officers. We are also enhancing our THEO and ASBs teams to help bring offenders to justice.
- On the Boundary Estate, resident's main concerns of ASB relate to the Shoreditch night-time economy. One of the issues we have is revellers parking on the estate, playing loud music and drinking before and after

using clubs and bars in Hackney. Unfortunately, this also attracts drug dealing activity.

- Following a public meeting with residents in September, the council has taken swift action including:
 - Changing parking restrictions dissuade revellers from using the estate.
 - Repairing the lighting at Arnold Circus and other parks. Further work is taking place to prevent ongoing vandalism.
 - The Liveable Streets programme will improve the public realm and will design-out crime, making it harder for drug dealers to use local streets and estates.
 - The area also significantly benefits from the council-funded police who target those involved in the sale and supply of drugs.

No supplementary question was asked.

- 9.14 Question from Councillor James King** Can I have an update on the process and funding thereof of the structural repair of Malting and Brewster Houses?

The response of Councillor Sirajul Islam Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing:

- We have a duty of care to residents at Malting and Brewster Houses to ensure their safety. We have shared information with residents through the process so they are aware of the structural issues with the blocks which we are seeking to resolve.
- The decision on the structural repair was deferred at Cabinet in June 2019 subject to further discussion with residents.
- Following this it was agreed to do further work to validate the structural works and the arising costs for both Malting and Brewster Houses.
- The Council has employed Arup and Potter Rappers to independently validate the structural works and the costs as they are experts in their field with experience on other similar projects. We will continue to work with tenants and leaseholders to ensure any costs are as fair as possible.
- The final reports are anticipated in January 2020 and will then go to Cabinet for a final decision.

Supplementary question from Councillor James King: Whilst I appreciate work with tenants and leaseholders it has now been six months since the decision to defer the structural repairs. This has been a cause of uncertainty for both tenants and leaseholders. Therefore, what is being done to ensure the timeline for this project is adhered to?

The response of Councillor Sirajul Islam: We have had to take a proper review of the works required and we will you provide you with an update in January on Malting and Brewster Houses.

- 9.15 Question from Councillor Marc Francis** Will the Lead Member for Housing Services explain the rationale for the proposal to scrap Band 3 of the Choice Based Lettings scheme effectively denying those 8,000 households the chance of a move to social housing in Tower Hamlets unless they become disabled, homeless or overcrowded?

Written response to be provided.

- 9.16 Question from Councillor Asma Islam** The Conservative Party's general election manifesto promised to 'continue the roll-out of Universal Credit' – does the Mayor think this is the right thing to do given the impact of universal credit on residents in Tower Hamlets?

Written response to be provided.

- 9.17 Question from Councillor Kahar Chowdhury** A study from the IPPR has found that social security payments are now at their lowest level since the launch of the welfare state, and the Trussell Trust reveals that the demand for food banks has risen by 3,772% over the last decade. What steps is the council taking to mitigate some of the worst impacts of austerity in Tower Hamlets?

The response of Councillor Rachel Blake Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Air Quality:

- The need for food banks is a national disgrace and should not be a feature of society in 2020.
- They are a symbol of a decade of austerity are impacting on the most vulnerable in society.
- The Government's benefit changes through its introduction of Universal Credit, the benefit cap and measures like the bedroom tax have chipped away of the welfare safety net.
- I'm proud that as a council we have set aside £6.6 million to a flagship Tackling Poverty Fund.
- It provides crisis grants which many councils have cut to help residents in desperate need.
- It also funds an outreach team to work with residents moving to Universal Credit – this team has so far assisted over 900 residents to claim a projected £1.2 million p/a.
- It has also funded new research on the policy changes which has led to work identifying unclaimed benefits - such a recent pension credit campaign which led to an extra £150k p/a being claimed by residents.
- LBTH is working to deliver council homes and get residents into employment and training also plays a key role in helping residents.
- We will continue to lobby government to stop its damaging austerity policies.

Supplementary question from Councillor Kahar Chowdhury: My thanks to Councillor Blake for being proactive and providing a much needed safety net for many of the most vulnerable residents. However, these residents want to be able to (i) maximise their income; (ii) secure their situation financially; and no longer be dependent on food banks etc. Therefore what is being done to help on the most vulnerable in the community?

The response of Councillor Rachel Blake: We have been mapping out where some of the most vulnerable residents how maybe eligible for additional benefits. It is through this proactive approach that we are working to ensure that all residents who are eligible to claim are maximising their income.

9.18 Question from Councillor Rabina Khan the Community Language Service campaign held another meeting in December 2019 raising concerns that the service may not be running as promised by the Mayor? Will the service be running as previously?

Response from Councillor Sabina Akhtar Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit:

- The Council is facing increasingly difficult decisions as a result of reductions in funding. As a result we have to explore new ways of services being delivered.
- We value community language provision in Tower Hamlets which is why we have worked closely with parents, pupils, tutors and community groups to explore options for providing the service.
- At last month's Cabinet Meeting a paper was presented outlining four options. Instead of closing the service as many other councils have decided to do, the Mayor listened to representations and agreed that while the council cannot afford to continue direct funding of the CLS, we will provide funding, training and free venue space in the Council's award winning Idea Stores for community organisations who want to continue the CLS classes they currently run.

As the time had expired for this item no supplementary question was asked.

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

10.1 Report of Cabinet: Adoption of the Tower Hamlets Local Plan 2031: Managing Growth and Sharing the Benefits

The Council considered a report that recommended the adoption the Local Plan recommendations as set out in the main report.

RESOLVED

1. To note that the Local Plan has been subject to further amendments (following its submission to the Inspector in February 2018) as part of the independent public examination, as described in:
 - a. the Inspector's Final Report (see appendix 1), and;
 - b. schedule of main and additional modifications (see appendix 2).
2. To agree the recommendation stated in the Inspector's Final Report.
3. To adopt the Local Plan, including the modifications recommended by the Inspector and the additional minor modifications proposed by officers, in accordance with Section 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act.
4. To authorise the Corporate Director of Place to prepare and publish an Adoption Statement and the final Integrated Impact Assessment Report, in accordance with S26 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
5. To authorise the Corporate Director of Place in consultation with the Mayor and Lead Member for Planning, Air Quality and Tackling Poverty to make typographical amendments to the plan prior to its publication to improve cross-referencing (e.g. paragraph numbering, page re-numbering) and typographical errors.
6. To agree to revoke the Council's current adopted Core Strategy (2010) and Managing Development Document (2013). It is recommended that the current adopted Plans are revoked following the statutory six week legal challenge period of the Local Plan adoption.
7. To note that Cabinet has agreed to revoke the following Council's supplementary/Interim planning documents, subject to adoption of the Local Plan by the full Council (see appendix 3 for a full SPD review). The following documents will be removed as planning policy guidance to ensure an effective and efficient development management process. It will be revoked following the statutory six week legal challenge period of the Local Plan adoption.
 - a. Wood Wharf Masterplan (2003)
 - b. Aldgate Masterplan (2007)
 - c. Former Whitechapel Masterplan (2007)
 - d. Bishopsgate Goods Yard (2009)
 - e. Bromley-by-Bow Masterplan (2012)
 - f. Whitechapel Vision Masterplan (2013)
 - g. South Quay Masterplan (2015)
 - h. Millennium Quarter Public Realm Guidance Manual (2008)

10.2 Report of Cabinet: Adoption of the Tower Hamlets Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule

The Council considered a report that recommended the adoption of a new schedule subsequent to three separate public consultations and examination in public. The newly proposed Charging Schedule aims to increase the rates that the Council currently charges.

DECISION

1. To formally adopt the new CIL Charging Schedule in accordance with the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010, Regulation 25.

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

10.3 Report of the General Purposes Committee: Delegation of Role to London Councils' Transport and Environment Committee (LC TEC)

Council considered a report that advised Members of two new items being adopted by London Councils and sought Council's approval to both. The first related to establishing a London wide partnership to assist boroughs in the management and delivery of Electric Vehicle Charging Points (for residential and car club use) and the second to the development of a London wide by-law to control Dockless Cycle Hire Schemes.

DECISION

1. To approve the delegation of authority to London Councils to enable them to better support the boroughs in managing and delivering the provision of Electric Charge Points as set out in 3.5 of the main report;
2. To approve in principle the development of a new London-wide bylaw to control the operation of Dockless Cycle Hire Schemes within the Borough; and
3. To authorise the Divisional Director, Public Realm to sign authorisation forms for both the above matters.

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

10.4 Report of the General Purposes Committee: Polling districts and polling places review 2019

The Council noted that (i) this report sets out recommendations for changes to polling districts and polling places as a result of the statutory review of polling districts and polling places undertaken in 2019; (ii) it also set out a small number of recommendations arising from the review but that do not fall within the scope of a statutory review; (iii) the report also incorporated comments on draft recommendations made by the General Purpose Committee on 10 December 2019.

DECISION

1. Agreed the proposed changes to polling district boundaries within the wards of Canary Warf, Island Gardens, Spitalfields & Banglatown, and St Katharines & Wapping as set out in paragraphs 3.27 to 3.31 of the report;
2. Subject to the availability of the venues, agreed the proposed changes to polling places in the wards of Canary Warf, Spitalfields & Banglatown and Bow West as set out in paragraphs 3.32 to 3.34 of the report;
3. Requested that the Electoral Registration Officer, on conclusion of the review, to make the necessary amendments to the polling districts and any consequential amendments arising from the review, to take effect from publication of the revised register on 1 December 2020;
4. Noted the other recommendations arising from the review.

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

10.5 Report of the Audit Committee: Treasury Management Mid-year Report for 2019/20

The Council considered a report that updates members on both the borrowing and investment decisions made by the Corporate Director, Resources under delegated authority in the context of prevailing economic conditions and considers the Council's Treasury Management performance.

DECISION

1. Contents of the treasury management activities and performance against targets for half year ending 30 September 2019; and
2. Council's investments as set out in Appendix 1 to the main report. The balance outstanding as at 30 September 2019 was £307.250m

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

11. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

There were no other items of business for consideration.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other items of business for consideration.

13. URGENT MOTION FOR DEBATE - WESTFERRY PRINTWORKS

Accordingly, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that:

The Council **noted**:

1. That the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government has gone against the views of the Council, many local

- residents and the Planning Inspectorate and granted planning permission for redevelopment of the Westferry Printworks site;
2. That the proposed development was initially refused by Tower Hamlets Strategic Development Committee in March 2016. This was then overturned by the then Mayor of London in April 2016;
 3. In 2018, the developer submitted a new application more than doubling the amount of housing, increasing further the density and heights of buildings and reducing the amount of open space, with no significant change in the proportion of affordable housing. The developer appealed before the Council was able to make a decision. However the SDC agreed clear and robust planning reasons for refusal. A public inquiry took place last year. The Secretary of State has however now granted planning permission, against the recommendation of his appointed inspector, who broadly supported the Council's case and despite clear opposition of the Council, Mayor of London and local residents;
 4. That the Secretary of State's decision comes only 24 hours before tonight's meeting where the Council will vote on the new Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) charging schedule. By doing this the new development avoids the CIL liability and hence the Secretary of State has deprived the Council of an estimated £30m-£50m in CIL contributions.

Therefore this Council believes that:

- I. Developments on the Isle of Dogs – which has seen decades of intensive development – must be sensitive to ensure developments strike a balance between realising opportunities for growth and respecting local context;
- II. The plans for the site are unacceptable due to their height and density as well as the low level of affordable housing;
- III. The decision by the Secretary of State to grant planning permission goes against the considerable views and professional opinions that were presented in opposition to the permission being granted;
- IV. Decisions of this magnitude should not be taken by the Government behind closed doors and this decision completely disregards local democracy.

This Council:

Condemns the unilateral decision taken by the Secretary of State and to ask Council officers to examine what options are available to the Council to challenge this decision, including the option of a judicial review.

Item 13 Urgent Motion - Westferry Printworks	
Councillor Faroque Ahmed	For
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	For
Councillor Sabina Akhtar	For
Councillor Sufia Alam	For
Councillor Amina Ali	For

Councillor Shah Ameen	For
Mayor John Biggs	For
Councillor Rachel Blake	For
Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	For
Councillor Shad Chowdhury	For
Councillor Dipa Das	For
Councillor David Edgar	For
Councillor Peter Golds	For
Councillor Ehtasham Haque	For
Councillor Danny Hassell	For
Councillor Mohammed Ahbab Hossain	For
Councillor Asma Islam	For
Councillor Sirajul Islam	For
Councillor Denise Jones	For
Councillor Rabina Khan	For
Councillor James King	For
Councillor Eve McQuillan	For
Councillor Ayas Miah	For
Councillor Puru Miah	For
Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE	For
Councillor Victoria Obaze	For
Councillor Kyrsten Perry	For
Councillor Zenith Rahman	For
Councillor Candida Ronald	For
Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan	For
Councillor Dan Tomlinson	For
Councillor Helal Uddin	For
Councillor Abdal Ullah	For
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	For
Councillor Val Whitehead	For
Councillor Bex White	For
Councillor Andrew Wood	For
Carried	

**The meeting ended at 10.00 p.m.
Speaker of the Council**

**APPENDIX A – WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE QUESTIONS THAT WERE NOT
PUT AT THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
(15 January, 2020)**

9.15 Question from Councillor Marc Francis

Will the Lead Member for Housing Services explain the rationale for the proposal to scrap Band 3 of the Choice Based Lettings scheme effectively denying those 8,000 households the chance of a move to social housing in Tower Hamlets unless they become disabled, homeless or overcrowded?

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

The consultation is on 5 proposals to make the Allocations Scheme work best for residents one of which was to change the criteria for Band 3 – there was not a suggestion to scrap it.

However with 20,000 people on the housing register and only 1,329 lets last year there are many in band 3 who are unlikely to be successful. There has also been a 40% drop in total lets compared to 2015/16.

The real scandal here is that central government has failed to tackle the housing crisis - something we are taking action on locally. This includes our ambitious plans to have 2,000 new council homes in delivery by 2022 and we continue to have some of the highest numbers of new affordable homes in the country.

However the Mayor has heard residents' concerns about potential changes to Band 3 and while we continue to want to hear resident views on the proposal will not agree any changes going ahead without considerably more thought on its impact. This means that the proposal on Band 3 will not now go ahead in their current form.

9.16 Question from Councillor Asma Islam

The Conservative Party's general election manifesto promised to 'continue the roll-out of Universal Credit' – does the Mayor think this is the right thing to do given the impact of universal credit on residents in Tower Hamlets?

Response of Councillor Rachel Blake, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Planning, Air Quality and Tackling Poverty:

I've called for Universal Credit to be scrapped. Its roll out has led to hardship for our residents.

Here in Tower Hamlets we have flagged 700 errors to the Department of Work and Pensions since April 2018 – these errors resulted in £335k in overpayments and £215k in underpayments.

The continuing errors show it's not fit for purpose. It's impossible for our residents to budget when they are being regularly underpaid or suddenly hit with bill for overpayments.

Trussell Trust the food bank network carried out research which found when Universal Credit goes live in an area, there is a demonstrable increase in demand in their foodbanks. On average, 12 months after roll-out, food banks see a 52% increase in demand, compared to 13% in areas with Universal Credit for 3 months or less.

The Mayor's Tackling Poverty Fund helps advise residents hit by Universal Credit and we're also working with the Child Poverty Action Group to understand exactly how Universal Credit is hitting the borough and what needs to change for a fair system.

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2020

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

Members Present:

Mayor John Biggs	Councillor Tarik Khan
Councillor Faroque Ahmed	Councillor James King
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	Councillor Eve McQuillan
Councillor Sabina Akhtar	Councillor Ayas Miah
Councillor Sufia Alam	Councillor Harun Miah
Councillor Amina Ali	Councillor Puru Miah
Councillor Shah Ameen	Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE
Councillor Asma Begum	Councillor Victoria Obaze
Councillor Rachel Blake	Councillor Mohammed Pappu
Councillor Kevin Brady	Councillor Kyrsten Perry
Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	Councillor John Pierce
Councillor Shad Chowdhury	Councillor Leema Qureshi
Councillor Dipa Das	Councillor Zenith Rahman
Councillor David Edgar	Councillor Candida Ronald
Councillor Marc Francis	Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan
Councillor Peter Golds	Councillor Dan Tomlinson
Councillor Ehtasham Haque	Councillor Helal Uddin
Councillor Danny Hassell	Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman
Councillor Asma Islam	Councillor Val Whitehead
Councillor Sirajul Islam	Councillor Bex White
Councillor Denise Jones	Councillor Andrew Wood
Councillor Rabina Khan	

The Speaker of the Council, Councillor Victoria Obaze in the Chair

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Councillor Mufeedah Bustin
- Councillor Mohammed Ahabab Hossain and
- Councillor Abdal Ullah.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The Divisional Director Legal Services advised that the Standards (Advisory) Committee on 30 January 2020 agreed a general dispensation to all Councillors in respect of matters relating to the Council Tax. Members did not therefore have to declare a DPI in respect of this matter.

Councillor Kahar Chowdhury declared a Non Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in agenda item 5, Budget and Council Tax 2020/21, in relation to any budget proposals that affected care services. This was on the basis of his wife's employment in the care sector.

Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in agenda items 4.1, and 4.2, Petitions regarding the Community Language Service. This was on the basis that his wife was an employee of the LBTH Community language service. He left the meeting for the consideration of these items.

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

In respect of International Mother Language Day, the Speaker paid tribute to the memories of the martyrs of the Language Movement who were killed as they sought to protect their mother language.

4. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS

The Speaker agreed to vary the order of business for hearing these Petitions. To aid clarity, the minutes are presented in the order that the items originally appeared on the agenda and follow the standard minute format.

4.1 Petition Debate regarding the Community Language Service

Cyras Kabir and others addressed the meeting on behalf of the petitioners and responded to questions from Members. Following this, the Council debated the matters raised in the Petition and the Mayor John Biggs responded to the issues raised.

The Mayor gave assurances that the Council valued the Community Language service and welcomed the feedback on the proposals. He urged the community to support the next phase in the development of the service.

RESOLVED:

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

4.2 Petition for presentation regarding the Community Language Service

Mohammad Abu Hussain and others addressed the meeting on behalf of the petitioners, and responded to questions from Members. Mayor John Biggs responded to the issues raised in the Petition as summarised at Petition 4.1 above.

RESOLVED:

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

5. BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX 2020/21

Mayor John Biggs **moved**, the budget proposals of the Mayor and Executive as set out in the agenda pack. Councillor Candida Ronald **seconded** the proposals.

Councillor Peter Golds then **moved** and Councillor Andrew Wood **seconded** an amendment as set out in the supplementary agenda.

Councillor Rabina Khan then **moved** and Councillor Harun Miah **seconded** an amendment as set out in the supplementary agenda.

Following debate, the amendment proposed by Councillor Peter Golds was put to a recorded vote and was **defeated**.

The amendment proposed by Councillor Rabina Khan was put to a recorded vote and was **defeated**.

The substantive budget proposals were then put to a recorded vote and were **agreed**.

RESOLVED:

General Fund Revenue Budget and Council Tax Requirement 2020-21

1. Approve the Council Tax Resolution, detailed in Appendix A to this motion attached to the minutes.
2. Agree a General Fund revenue budget of £354.496m and a total Council Tax Requirement for Tower Hamlets in 2020-21 of £108.438m as set out in the table below.

	2019-20	Savings		Growth		One Off Adjustments		2020-21
	Total	Approved	New	Approved	New	Approved	New	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Services								
Health, Adults & Community	106,726	(1,190)	(132)	3,499	2,388	(2,804)	-	108,487
Public Health	34,124	-	-	-	921	-	-	35,045
Children & Culture	98,329	(1,500)	(44)	(2,032)	10,596	(120)	-	105,229
Place	68,382	(3,380)	379	(1,578)	1,464	(1,716)	-	63,551
Governance	15,377	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,377
Resources	15,307	(2,120)	(80)	-	1,285	(300)	-	14,092
Net Service Costs	338,245	(8,190)	123	(111)	16,654	(4,939)	-	341,781
Corporate Costs								
Capital Charges	6,839	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,839
Levies	1,892	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,892
Pensions	12,790	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,790
Corporate Contingency	3,150	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,150
Other Corporate Costs	(25,324)	(6,400)	3,725	-	2,841	-	-	(25,158)
Net Corporate Costs	(653)	(6,400)	3,725	-	2,841	-	-	(487)
Inflation	4,969	-	-	7,500	-	733	-	13,202
Total Funding Requirement	342,560	(14,590)	3,848	7,389	19,495	(4,206)	-	354,496
Revenue Support Grant	(33,281)	-	-	-	(542)	-	-	(33,823)
Retained Business Rates	(139,555)	-	-	-	(2,791)	-	-	(142,346)
Business Rates (London Pilot)	(4,000)	-	-	-	2,561	-	-	(1,439)
BR Collection Fund Deficit		-	-	-	-	-	17,920	17,920
Collection Fund funding (Reserves)		-	-	-	-	(17,920)	-	(17,920)
Council Tax	(100,331)	-	-	-	(8,106)	-	-	(108,438)
Core Grants								
-Public Health Grant	(34,124)	-	-	-	(921)	-	-	(35,045)
-New Homes Bonus	(3,182)	-	-	-	(2,800)	-	-	(5,982)
-Improved Better Care Fund	(16,351)	-	-	-	35	-	-	(16,316)
-Social Care Support Grant	(2,500)	-	-	-	(6,867)	-	-	(9,367)
Core Grants	(56,393)	-	-	-	(10,317)	-	-	(66,710)
Total Funding	(333,561)	-	-	-	(19,195)	-	-	(352,756)
General Fund Reserve Drawdown	(8,999)							(1,740)

3. Agree a Council Tax for Tower Hamlets in 2020-21 of £1,060.35 at Band D resulting in a Council Tax for all other band taxpayers, before any discounts, and excluding the GLA precept, as set out in the table below:

This incorporates a 1.99% general increase on the previous year and a 2% increase in respect of the Adult Social Care 'Precept'.

BAND	PROPERTY VALUE		RATIO TO BAND D	LBTH COUNCIL TAX FOR EACH BAND £
	FROM £	TO £		
A	0	40,000	6/9	706.90
B	40,001	52,000	7/9	824.72
C	52,001	68,000	8/9	942.53
D	68,001	88,000	9/9	1060.35
E	88,001	120,000	11/9	1295.98
F	120,001	160,000	13/9	1531.62
G	160,001	320,000	15/9	1767.25
H	320,001	and over	18/9	2120.70

4. Agree that for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets in 2020-21:

- (a) The Council Tax for Band D taxpayers, before any discounts, and including the GLA precept, shall be **£1,392.42** as shown below:

BAND D	
LBTH	£1,060.35
GLA	£332.07
Total	£1,392.42

- (b) The Council Tax for taxpayers in all other bands, before any discounts, and including the GLA precept, shall be as detailed in the table below:

BAND	PROPERTY VALUE		RATIO TO BAND D	LBTH £	GLA £	TOTAL COUNCIL TAX £
	FROM £	TO £				
A	0	40,000	6/9	706.90	221.38	928.28
B	40,001	52,000	7/9	824.72	258.28	1,082.99
C	52,001	68,000	8/9	942.53	295.17	1,237.70
D	68,001	88,000	9/9	1060.35	332.07	1,392.42
E	88,001	120,000	11/9	1295.98	405.86	1,701.85
F	120,001	160,000	13/9	1531.62	479.66	2,011.28
G	160,001	320,000	15/9	1767.25	553.45	2,320.70
H	320,001	and over	18/9	2120.70	664.14	2,784.84

5. Approve the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, the Annual Investment Strategy and the Capital Strategy (which incorporates the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement) as presented to Audit Committee on 30 January 2020.
6. Approve the General Fund Capital and Revenue Budgets and Medium Term Financial Plan 2020-2023 as agreed by the Mayor in Cabinet on 29 January 2020 and summarised in the tables below.

Summary of Medium Term Financial Plan 2019-2023	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Net Service Costs	343,730	342,560	354,496	347,449
Growth				
- Previously approved by Full Council	6,176	(5,050)	1,108	-
- New	-	14,673	(1,236)	3,235
Inflation				
- Previously approved by Full Council	7,500	8,233	6,500	-
- New	-	-	-	6,500
Savings				
- Previously approved by Full Council	(14,845)	(14,590)	(8,159)	-
- Write back of previously approved Savings by Full Council	-	4,822	69	74
- New	-	3,848	(5,329)	(7,172)
Total Funding Requirement	342,560	354,496	347,449	350,086
Revenue Support Grant	(33,281)	(33,823)	(34,501)	(35,191)
Retained Business Rates	(139,555)	(142,346)	(126,346)	(126,346)
Business Rates (London Pilot)	(4,000)	(1,439)	-	-
Council Tax	(100,331)	(108,438)	(116,148)	(124,406)
Core Grants	(56,393)	(66,710)	(57,744)	(58,459)
Total Funding	(333,561)	(352,756)	(334,739)	(344,402)
Budget Gap (excluding use of Reserves)	8,999	1,740	12,710	5,684
General Fund Reserve Contribution / Drawdown (+/-)	(8,999)	(1,740)	-	-
Unfunded Gap Before Additional Savings	-	-	12,710	5,684
Additional Savings to be identified			(12,710)	(5,684)
Expected Budget Gap	-	-	-	-

Detailed Analysis of Medium Term Financial Plan by Service Area 2019-20 to 2022-23

	2019-20	Savings		Growth		One Off Adjustments		2020-21	Savings		Growth		One Off Adjustments		2021-22	Savings		Growth		2022-23	
	Total	Approved	New	Approved	New	Approved	New	Total	Approved	New	Approved	New	Approved	New	Total	Approved	New	Approved	New	Total	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Funding Requirement																					
Services																					
Health, Adults & Community	106,726	(1,190)	(132)	3,499	2,388	(2,804)	-	108,487	(1,700)	(791)	4,375	-	(477)	-	109,895	-	(550)	-	4,770	114,115	
Public Health	34,124	-	-	-	921	-	-	35,045	-	-	-	701	-	-	35,746	-	-	-	715	36,461	
Children & Culture	98,329	(1,500)	(44)	(2,032)	10,596	(120)	-	105,229	(300)	(2,168)	1,604	(400)	(2,031)	-	101,934	-	(1,327)	-	(2,250)	98,357	
Place	68,382	(3,380)	379	(1,578)	1,464	(1,716)	-	63,551	(329)	(1,135)	374	-	(2,522)	-	59,939	-	(525)	-	-	59,414	
Governance	15,377	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,377	-	(140)	-	330	(100)	-	15,467	-	(200)	-	-	15,267	
Resources	15,307	(2,120)	(80)	-	1,285	(300)	-	14,092	(200)	(650)	-	-	(115)	-	13,127	-	(200)	-	-	12,927	
Net Service Costs	338,245	(8,190)	123	(111)	16,654	(4,939)	-	341,781	(2,529)	(4,884)	6,353	631	(5,245)	-	336,108	-	(2,802)	-	3,235	336,541	
Corporate Costs																					
Capital Charges	6,839	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,839	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,839	-	-	-	-	6,839	
Levies	1,892	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,892	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,892	-	-	-	-	1,892	
Pensions	12,790	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,790	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,790	-	-	-	-	12,790	
Corporate Contingency	3,150	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,150	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,150	-	-	-	-	3,150	
Other Corporate Costs	(25,324)	(6,400)	3,725	-	2,841	-	-	(25,158)	(5,630)	(445)	-	(1,798)	-	-	(33,031)	-	(4,370)	-	74	(37,327)	
Net Corporate Costs	(653)	(6,400)	3,725	-	2,841	-	-	(487)	(5,630)	(445)	-	(1,798)	-	-	(8,360)	-	(4,370)	-	74	(12,656)	
Inflation	4,969	-	-	7,500	-	733	-	13,202	-	-	6,500	-	-	-	19,702	-	-	-	6,500	26,202	
Total Funding Requirement	342,560	(14,590)	3,848	7,389	19,495	(4,206)	-	354,496	(8,159)	(5,329)	12,853	(1,167)	(5,245)	-	347,449	-	(7,172)	-	9,809	350,086	
Funding																					
Revenue Support Grant	(33,281)	-	-	(542)	-	-	-	(33,823)	-	-	-	(678)	-	-	(34,501)	-	-	-	(690)	(35,191)	
Retained Business Rates	(139,555)	-	-	(2,791)	-	-	-	(142,346)	-	16,000	-	-	-	-	(126,346)	-	-	-	-	(126,346)	
Business Rates (London Pilot)	(4,000)	-	-	-	2,561	-	-	(1,439)	-	-	-	1,439	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BR Collection Fund Deficit	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,920	17,920	-	-	-	-	-	(17,920)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BR Collection Fund Deficit funding from Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	(17,920)	(17,920)	-	-	-	-	-	17,920	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Council Tax	(100,331)	-	-	-	(8,106)	-	-	(108,438)	-	-	-	(7,710)	-	-	(116,148)	-	-	-	(8,258)	(124,406)	
Core Grants																					
-Public Health Grant	(34,124)	-	-	(921)	-	-	-	(35,045)	-	-	-	(701)	-	-	(35,746)	-	(715)	-	-	(36,461)	
-New Homes Bonus	(3,182)	-	-	(2,800)	-	-	-	(5,982)	-	-	-	2,800	-	-	(3,182)	-	-	-	-	(3,182)	
-Improved Better Care Fund	(16,351)	-	-	-	35	-	-	(16,316)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(16,316)	-	-	-	-	(16,316)	
-Social Care Support Grant	(2,500)	-	-	(6,867)	-	-	-	(9,367)	-	-	-	6,867	-	-	(2,500)	-	-	-	-	(2,500)	
-School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant	(200)	-	-	-	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
-Local Lead Flood	(36)	-	-	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Core Grants	(56,393)	-	-	(10,317)	-	-	-	(66,710)	-	-	-	8,966	-	-	(57,744)	-	(715)	-	-	(58,459)	
Total Funding	(333,561)	-	-	(19,195)	-	-	-	(352,756)	-	16,000	-	2,017	-	-	(334,739)	-	(715)	-	(8,948)	(344,402)	
Budget Gap (excluding use of Reserves)	8,999							1,740							12,710					5,684	
General Fund Reserve Contribution / Drawdown (+/-)	(8,999)							(1,740)													

APPENDIX A

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS
COUNCIL 19TH FEBRUARY 2020 COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION**

1. That the revenue estimates for 2020-21 be approved.
2. That it be noted that, at its meeting on 8th January 2020, Cabinet agreed 102,266 as its Council Tax base for the year 2020-21 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the “Act”)]
3. That the following amounts be now calculated by the council for the year 2020-21 in accordance with Section 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended and the Local Authorities (Alteration of Requisite Calculations) (England) Regulations 2011:

- (a) £1,247,483,325 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of The Act. [Gross Expenditure]
- (b) £1,139,045,572 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of The Act. [Gross Income]
- (c) £108,437,753 Being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of The Act, as its council tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of The Act). [Council Tax Requirement]
- (d) £1,060.35 Being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (2 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of The Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year. [Council Tax]

(e)

VALUATION BAND	LBTH £
A	706.90
B	824.72
C	942.53
D	1060.35
E	1295.98
F	1531.62
G	1767.25
H	2120.70

Being the amount given by multiplying the amount at 3(d) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of The Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of The Act, as the amount to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS
COUNCIL 19TH FEBRUARY 2020 COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION**

4. That it be noted that for the year 2020-21 the Greater London Authority has stated the following provisional amounts in precepts issued to the council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

VALUATION BAND	GLA £
A	221.38
B	258.28
C	295.17
D	332.07
E	405.86
F	479.66
G	553.45
H	664.14

Please note that the GLA precepts will be formally approved on 24 February 2020.

5. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(d) and 4 above, the council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2020-21 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

VALUATION BAND	TOTAL COUNCIL TAX £
A	928.28
B	1,082.99
C	1,237.70
D	1,392.42
E	1,701.85
F	2,011.28
G	2,320.70
H	2,784.84

6. That the council hereby determines in accordance with Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2020-21 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved by the Secretary of State under Section 52ZC of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. As the billing authority, the council has not been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2020-21 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.


Conservative Group Amendment to Budget Motion	
Councillor Faroque Ahmed	Against
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	Against
Councillor Sabina Akhtar	Against
Councillor Sufia Alam	Against
Councillor Amina Ali	Against
Councillor Shah Ameen	Against
Councillor Asma Begum	Against
Mayor John Biggs	Against
Councillor Rachel Blake	Against
Councillor Kevin Brady	Against
Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	Against
Councillor Shad Chowdhury	Against
Councillor Dipa Das	Against
Councillor David Edgar	Against
Councillor Marc Francis	Against
Councillor Peter Golds	For
Councillor Ehtasham Haque	Against
Councillor Danny Hassell	Against
Councillor Asma Islam	Against
Councillor Sirajul Islam	Against
Councillor Denise Jones	Against
Councillor Rabina Khan	Against
Councillor Tarik Khan	Against
Councillor James King	Against
Councillor Eve McQuillan	Against
Councillor Ayas Miah	Against
Councillor Harun Miah	Against
Councillor Puru Miah	Against
Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE	Against
Councillor Victoria Obaze	Against
Councillor Mohammed Pappu	Against
Councillor Kyrsten Perry	Against
Councillor John Pierce	Against
Councillor Leema Qureshi	Against
Councillor Zenith Rahman	Against
Councillor Candida Ronald	Against
Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan	Against
Councillor Dan Tomlinson	Against
Councillor Helal Uddin	Against
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	Against
Councillor Val Whitehead	Against
Councillor Bex White	Against
Councillor Andrew Wood	For
Rejected	

Councillor Rabina Khan's Amendment to Budget Motion	
Councillor Faroque Ahmed	Against
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	Against
Councillor Sabina Akhtar	Against
Councillor Sufia Alam	Against
Councillor Amina Ali	Against
Councillor Shah Ameen	Against
Councillor Asma Begum	Against
Mayor John Biggs	Against
Councillor Rachel Blake	Against
Councillor Kevin Brady	Against
Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	Against
Councillor Shad Chowdhury	Against
Councillor Dipa Das	Against
Councillor David Edgar	Against
Councillor Marc Francis	Against
Councillor Peter Golds	Against
Councillor Ehtasham Haque	Against
Councillor Danny Hassell	Against
Councillor Asma Islam	Against
Councillor Sirajul Islam	Against
Councillor Denise Jones	Against
Councillor Rabina Khan	For
Councillor Tarik Khan	Against
Councillor James King	Against
Councillor Eve McQuillan	Against
Councillor Ayas Miah	Against
Councillor Harun Miah	For
Councillor Puru Miah	Against
Councillor Victoria Obaze	Against
Councillor Mohammed Pappu	Against
Councillor Kyrsten Perry	Against
Councillor John Pierce	Against
Councillor Leema Qureshi	Against
Councillor Zenith Rahman	Against
Councillor Candida Ronald	Against
Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan	Against
Councillor Dan Tomlinson	Against
Councillor Helal Uddin	Against
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	Against
Councillor Val Whitehead	Against
Councillor Bex White	Against
Councillor Andrew Wood	Against
Rejected	

Substantive Budget Motion (Motion)	
Councillor Faroque Ahmed	For
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	For
Councillor Sabina Akhtar	For
Councillor Sufia Alam	For
Councillor Amina Ali	For
Councillor Shah Ameen	For
Councillor Asma Begum	For
Mayor John Biggs	For
Councillor Rachel Blake	For
Councillor Kevin Brady	For
Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	For
Councillor Shad Chowdhury	For
Councillor Dipa Das	For
Councillor David Edgar	For
Councillor Marc Francis	For
Councillor Peter Golds	Against
Councillor Ehtasham Haque	For
Councillor Danny Hassell	For
Councillor Asma Islam	For
Councillor Sirajul Islam	For
Councillor Denise Jones	For
Councillor Rabina Khan	Abstain
Councillor Tarik Khan	For
Councillor James King	For
Councillor Eve McQuillan	For
Councillor Ayas Miah	For
Councillor Harun Miah	Against
Councillor Puru Miah	For
Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE	For
Councillor Victoria Obaze	For
Councillor Mohammed Pappu	For
Councillor Kyrsten Perry	For
Councillor John Pierce	For
Councillor Leema Qureshi	For
Councillor Zenith Rahman	For
Councillor Candida Ronald	For
Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan	For
Councillor Dan Tomlinson	For
Councillor Helal Uddin	For
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	For
Councillor Val Whitehead	For
Councillor Bex White	For
Councillor Andrew Wood	Against
Carried	

The meeting ended at 9.40 p.m.
Speaker of the Council

Agenda Item 5

Non-Executive Report of the: Council 11 March 2020	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance	Classification: Unrestricted
Petitions to Council for presentation.	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services Zoe Folley, Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards

SUMMARY

1. This report sets out details of the valid petitions submitted for presentation at the Council meeting on Wednesday 11th March 2020.
2. The Council's Constitution provides for up to four petitions to be heard at each ordinary Council meeting. These are taken in order of receipt, except that petitions for debate (those in excess of 2,000 signatures) will take precedence. Should more than four petitions be received, all remaining petitions will be listed to be formally noted by Council.
3. Four petitions have been received for presentation at the meeting and the following process applies to these petitions:
 - a. Petitioners may address the meeting for no more than 3 minutes.
 - b. Members may then question the petitioners for a further 4 minutes.
 - c. Finally, the Speaker will invite the Mayor or (at the Mayor's discretion) the relevant Lead Member or Committee Chair to respond to the petition for up to 2 minutes. The petition will then be referred to the relevant Corporate Director for attention who will provide a written response within 28 days of the date of the meeting.
4. Members, other than a Cabinet Member or Committee Chair responding at the end of the item, should confine their contributions to questions and not make statements or attempt to debate.
5. For Petition listed as to be noted, petitioners may not address the meeting. The Speaker will state where they will go for a full response.
6. Responses to all petitions will be sent to the lead petitioner and displayed on the Council's website.

PETITIONS TO BE HEARD

5.1 Petition regarding Waste collection in Limehouse ward submitted by Edward Stollery and others.

We the undersigned petition the council to review the waste collection rounds in Limehouse and reorder them to minimise missed collections once the service comes in house.

5.2 Petition regarding Bartlett Park Football Changing Rooms submitted by Wayne Murphy and others

A Petition to inform Councillors about Bartlett Park and in particular the proposal to build football changing rooms which are not 'fit for purpose'

5.3 Petition requesting Tower Hamlets Council to take urgent action on air pollution submitted by Arthur Shearlaw and others

We're students in Tower Hamlets and we want something to be done about toxic air pollution.

Children in Tower Hamlets typically have a 10% less lung capacity than other children, due to air pollution. The borough also has the fifth worst air pollution rates in London.

40% of people in Tower Hamlets live in areas with unacceptable air quality, and 38 schools are in areas where pollution exceeds the legal limit.

Between 28,000-36,000 people die every year in the UK due to air pollution. Air pollution causes health conditions – including lung cancer, heart disease, dementia, strokes, respiratory diseases like emphysema - and has long-term effects on the nervous systems. This shows that urgent action is needed.


What we want the Council to do more.

5.4 Petition regarding Put (long overdue) Keep clear box at entrance of Cornwall street (junction with Cannon Street road) E1 submitted by Mohammad Rakib and others.

We the undersigned petition the council to Install a Keep Clear box at the entrance of Cornwall Street (THH) *junction with Cannon Street road (LBTH) E1.

PETITIONS TO BE NOTED

There are none.

Non-Executive Report of the: COUNCIL 11 March 2020	
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Motion for debate submitted by the Administration	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards

SUMMARY

1. Council Procedure Rule 11 allows for time at each Ordinary Council meeting for the discussion of one specific Motion submitted by the Administration. The debate will follow the rules of debate at Council Procedure Rule 13 and will last no more than 30 minutes.
2. The motion submitted is listed overleaf. The Administration Motion is submitted by the Labour Group.
3. Motions must be about matters for which the Council or its partners has a direct responsibility. 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; or which proposes that a decision of the Council taken in the previous six months be rescinded; unless notice of the motion is given signed by at least twenty Members.
4. Notice of any proposed amendments to the Motions must be given to the Monitoring Officer by Noon the day before the meeting.

MOTION

Set out overleaf is the motion that has been submitted.

7 – Administration Motion regarding the Climate Emergency.

Proposer: Councillor Rachel Blake

Seconder: Councillor Asma Islam

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.

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Non-Executive Report of the: COUNCIL 11 March 2020	
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Motion for debate submitted by an Opposition Group	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards

SUMMARY

1. Council Procedure Rule 11 allows for time at each Ordinary Council meeting for the discussion of one Motion submitted by an Opposition Group. The debate will follow the rules of debate at Council Procedure Rule 13 and will last no more than 30 minutes.
2. The motion submitted is listed overleaf. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11, submission of the Opposition Motion for Debate will alternate in sequence between the opposition groups. This Opposition Motion is submitted by the Conservative Group.
3. Motions must be about matters for which the Council or its partners has a direct responsibility. 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; or which proposes that a decision of the Council taken in the previous six months be rescinded; unless notice of the motion is given signed by at least twenty Members.
4. Notice of any proposed amendments to the Motions must be given to the Monitoring Officer by Noon the day before the meeting.

MOTION

Set out overleaf is the motion that has been submitted.

8 – Opposition Motion by the Conservative Group – regarding Car Parking

Proposer: Councillor Peter Golds

Seconder: Councillor Andrew Wood

This Council notes:

- The percentage of households with a vehicle range from 32% in Spitalfields & Banglatown ward to 54% in St Katharines & Wapping ward according to the 2011 census
- 44,114 vehicles registered in 2018 in Tower Hamlets
- The reduction in bus capacity by TfL in inner London
- In the most recent Tower Hamlets Council Residents Survey only 5% of residents cycle regularly. In the London Travel Demand Survey 4% of residents main mode of transport is cycling.
- That the ban on selling new petrol, diesel or hybrid cars in the UK will be brought forward from 2040 to 2035
- Car free does not mean car free – it is clear that when new affordable homes open up that a large number of vehicles start parking on local streets after 5.30pm without LBTH permits – as was exemplified at Island Point recently
- That parking pressure is more intense at weekends then during the middle of the week day again suggesting that many residents do in fact own vehicles
- Struggle for parking means residents arriving late at night having to walk long distances from a free parking place to their home
- That even blue badge holders are not guaranteed a parking space nearby nor in underground car parks in their development
- That a new private parking space can cost between £30,000 and £50,000 to acquire
- The loss of parking spaces
- The loss or impending loss of a large number of petrol stations locally

This Council further notes:

That there are resident in Tower Hamlets who do have a legitimate need to use vehicles, they include but are not limited to:

- Disabled with blue badges
- The elderly with limited mobility
- The infirm or ill
- That illness includes mental health
- Those responsible for the elderly or infirm
- Parents whose journeys too schools are not well served by direct public transport links
- Those who need vehicles for employment;
 - Private hire/taxi
 - To carry tools & other work equipment
 - Those whose employment starts or ends at a time when the public transport network is not fully functional
 - Those whose employment maybe in a place not well served by public transport
 - Those who may have to fill appointments across Tower Hamlets during a short period of time
- Those carrying heavy loads

- Furthermore it should be noted
 - Some residents may have family or other responsibilities who live outside of the Borough perhaps in more car dependent locations
 - The convenience of vehicles for a wide variety of tasks especially those related to parenting
- That some of the negative external impacts of vehicle use – noise and pollution can be greatly reduced through the adoption of electric vehicles

This Council believes:

That while we should be encouraging greater use of public transport and to encourage more walking and cycling that it should make clearer its responsibilities to those residents for whom public transport is not always an option.


That it needs to avoid giving the impression that only fit and healthy office workers able to cycle are able to live in Tower Hamlets.

That all residents will be supported and valued and that while we want to encourage more use of public transport, walking and cycling that we do not want to demonise those who are more vehicle dependent nor to force them out of Tower Hamlets by making their lives so difficult.

This Council therefore recommends:

- Extending the controlled parking hours from 5.30pm to 7.30pm in those areas undergoing significant development or having problems with access to street parking at night
- Compensate LBTH permit holders in those areas with twelve free parking permits for visitors who would normally visit between 5.30pm and 7.30pm
- That for those living in a car free development the number of vouchers be doubled from 30 to 60 a year as partial compensation for this change
- That it surveys residents of car free blocks to better understand their need for cars – why they continue to need cars, where do those cars go between 8.30am and 5.30pm?
- That it considers changing parking rules from one based on legacy address to one based on need
- That it explores options for residents in need being able to rent spaces in private underground car parks in their own development, many of which are not full due to their own restrictions on access
- That it encourages the faster uptake of electric vehicles in Tower Hamlets not least in our own vehicle fleet
- That future transport strategies make clear how we deal with those residents who do need access to vehicles

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Decision Report Cover Sheet: Council 11 March 2020	 TOWER HAMLETS
Cover Report of: Neville Murton, Corporate Director Resources	Classification: Unrestricted
Pay Policy Statement 2020/21	

Originating Officer(s)	Neville Murton, Corporate Director Resources Amanda Harcus, Divisional Director HR and Organisational Development
Wards affected	All Wards

Summary

Under the Localism Act 2011, the Pay Policy Statement 2020/21 was presented to General Purposes Committee on 25 February 2020 where it was agreed by the Committee. It is now presented to Council for final approval.

The Report and Appendices are attached to this Cover Sheet.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to:

1. Agree the Pay Policy Statement 2019/20 and related recommendations as set out in the General Purposes Committee report.

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Non-Executive Report of the: GP Committee 25 February 2020	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Neville Murton, Corporate Director Resources	Classification: Unrestricted
Localism Act 2011 – Pay Policy Statement 2019/20	

Originating Officer(s)	Amanda Harcus, Divisional Director HR and Organisational Development
Wards affected	All wards

Summary

Under Section 38(1) of the Localism Act 2011, the Full Council is required to adopt a pay policy statement for each financial year.

A statement for 2020/21 (draft attached as Appendix 1) should be approved and adopted by 31 March 2020, to enable it to be published as soon as is practical in the new financial year. The council's first pay policy statement was in 2012/13 and subsequent pay policy statements were agreed for each of the subsequent years, with the latest being for 2019/20.

The Local Government Transparency Code 2015 includes guidance on the calculation of the pay multiple, which forms part of the pay policy statement. No further supplementary guidance has been published in relation to the 2020/21 pay policy statement.

Should guidance or an updated Code be published after the 2020/21 pay policy has been considered by the GP Committee and/or Full Council, which requires minor amendments, it is proposed that GP Committee delegate the authority to make minor amendments to the Chief Executive following consultation with the Divisional Director of HR and Organisational Development, Chair of the GP Committee and Monitoring Officer. Should any fundamental changes be required, the pay policy statement will be sent back to GP Committee for further consideration.

The 2020/21 proposed pay policy statement has to be approved by GP Committee and adopted by LBTH by the end of March 2020. At the meeting of Full Council, the statement will be considered for adoption, this will be held on 18 March 2020.

The pay policy statement sets out the council's current policies and practice in relation to pay for all parts of the Council's directly employed workforce

(including some elements that cover agency workers), with the exception of school based employees. Any changes to the way in which staff are remunerated would need to be dealt with as outlined in section 5 – Legal comments.

Recommendations:

GP Committee is recommended to:-

Consider the draft 2020/21 pay policy statement, proposing any changes and, subject to such changes, recommend policy for adoption by Full Council on March 18 2020.

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.

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.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Localism Act 2011 received Royal Assent on 15 November 2011. Additionally, the 'Code of Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on Data Transparency' was published in September 2011, under Section 2 of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980. The Code sets out key principles for local authorities in creating greater transparency through the publication of data. Supplementary guidance, 'Openness and Accountability in Local Pay: Guidance under Section 40 of the Localism Act', was published on 20 February 2013.
- 1.2 The Act's intention is to bring together the strands of increasing accountability, transparency and fairness, with regards to pay.
- 1.3 The provisions of the legislation required Local Authorities to adopt and publish a pay policy statement for 2011/12 and then for each subsequent financial year. Statements must be approved by Full Council and have regard to the guidance published by the Secretary of State. Authorities will be constrained by their policy statement when making determination on senior officer pay, although the statement may be amended at any time by further resolution of Full Council.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 As the publication of a pay policy statement and the nature of its content is a legislative requirement, there are no alternative options.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

- 3.1 The pay policy statement must set out the authority's policies for the financial year relating to remuneration of its officers. It must include:
- A policy on the level and elements of remuneration for each Chief Officer
 - A policy on the remuneration of lowest paid employees (together with a definition of 'lowest paid employees' and reasons for adopting that definition)
 - A policy on the relationship between the remuneration of chief officers and the remainder of the workforce
 - A policy on other specific aspects of chief officers' remuneration (remuneration on recruitment, increases and additions to remuneration, use of PRP and bonuses, and the approach to termination payments).
- 3.2 Additionally, the council must have regard to other statutory guidance or recommendations, e.g. relating to pay multiples, it should be noted that, the statutory guidance emphasises that each LA has the autonomy to take its own decisions on pay and pay policies.
- 3.3 The draft 2020/21 pay policy statement takes into account Local Government Association (LGA)/Association of Local Authority Chief Executives (ALACE) guidance issued to local authority Chief Executives 'Localism Act: Pay Policy Statement Guidance for Local Authority Chief Executives'. The statement details the council's current arrangements; using the definitions contained in the Act and associated guidance. The pay policy statement should also set out the council's position in relation to appointments to posts with salary packages over £100,000 and redundancy packages over the same amount.
- 3.4 The Localism Act defines senior executives, and in this statement they are the Chief Executive, Corporate Directors, the Monitoring Officer and Divisional Directors.
- 3.5 The draft 2020/21 pay policy statement refers to information already published by the council in relation to senior salary data, to meet with the requirements of the Government's transparency agenda. In addition, the Local Government Transparency Code 2015, also covers the way in which the pay multiple included in the pay policy should be calculated. Should any minor changes to the 2020/21 pay policy statement be required as a result of the publication of an updated Code, these amendments could be made by the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Divisional Director HR and Organisational Development, Chair of the GP Committee and Monitoring Officer. Should any

fundamental changes be required, the pay policy statement will be sent back to the GP Committee for consideration.

Pay Multiple

- 3.6 There is a requirement to publish a ratio, or pay multiple. There are a variety of ways to approach this and the Hutton Review of Fair Pay in the Public Sector (2011) supported the publication of the ratio of the council's highest paid employee (the Chief Executive) to that of its median earner (i.e. the mid-point between the highest and lowest salaries). This multiple is quoted in the draft 2020/21 pay policy statement. The ratio last year was 1:5.97 and this year it is 1:5.82.
- 3.7 Since the 2014/15 pay policy statement, an additional ratio demonstrating the relationship between the council's highest paid employee (total salary package) and the lowest salary of the non-schools workforce is included. This ratio last year was 1:12.91 and this year is 1:13.65. This allows greater comparison with other boroughs that provide this ratio. Comparison of ratios is not possible until after 01 April 2020 when pay policies are published. We will bring back a further report to GP Committee to show comparisons and any changes in our ratios from the implementation of Tower Rewards.
- 3.8 The Local Government Transparency Code 2015, states that the pay multiple is defined as the ratio between the highest paid taxable earnings for the given year (including base salary, variable pay, bonuses, allowances and the cash value of any benefits-in-kind) and the median earnings figure of the whole of the authority's workforce. If this definition is applied, the ratio is 1:6.03. (Please note that the ratio figures will be updated in April 2020, when a full tax year can be taken into consideration, to ensure they are accurate and up to date).
- 3.9 For clarity, apprentices and schools' staff are not included in the pay multiple calculations. Apprentices are excluded due to the fact the multiples apply to employees only. Schools must publish their own pay policy, which is different to the Council's policy, and therefore their staff would be covered by these. The Pay Policy is clear that the pay multiples only apply to the non-schools workforce.

London Living Wage

- 3.10 The council is an accredited Living Wage Employer. This means that we adhere to the Living Wage Foundations accreditation statement, which states that "Employees based in London Boroughs (shall be paid) not less than the London Living Wage; and increase the amount which it pays to affected employees by the same amount as any increase to the London Living Wage, within 6 months of the date on which any increase in the London Living Wage is officially announced."

- 3.11 The London Living Wage (LLW) increases annually and the latest rise was announced on 11 November 2019. The LLW rate increased from £10.55 to £10.75 per hour.
- 3.12 The council has 6 months in which to apply the new LLW rates, i.e. by end of May 2020.
- 3.13 The lowest paid staff in the council are currently paid on spinal column point 1, which equates to £11.63 per hour, which is already above the new LLW rate of £10.75 per hour.

Changes to the Pay Policy

- 3.14 The following changes have been proposed for the Pay Policy 2020/21 to reflect what will be in place in April 2020 and after a revised grading structure has been implemented:-
- Section 2.2 now reads:- “The **Lowest Paid Employees** are defined as employees paid on Spinal Column Point 1 of the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services pay scales. This definition has been adopted as it is the lowest level of remuneration attached to a post in this Authority (see section 6 below)”.

Sections 3.5 and 3.6 now read: - “The Council uses the national pay spine up to grade LPO8 (Grade O when a revised grading structure is implemented in April 2020) and determines the appropriate grade for each job in accordance with the Greater London Provincial Council (GLPC) job evaluation scheme”.

Above LPO8, local grades are in place as follows:

- LPO9 - evaluated under a local variation to the GLPC job evaluation scheme (Grade P when a revised grading structure is implemented in April 2020)
- Above LPO9 - evaluated under the Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Officers job evaluation scheme
- Section 9.4 has had an additional sentence added to reflect the payment of Market Supplements so now reads:- “The Council’s Divisional Director HR and Organisational Development, also has the ability to agree the payment of market supplements for recruitment and retention purposes, where there is a strong business case and appropriate criteria are met. (Details are set out in the Council’s Market Supplement Policy)”.

Public Sector Exit Payment Cap

- 3.15 There has still been no implementation of the Public Sector Exit Cap Regulations that were first published in 2016, however there has been further government consultation on this issue. Section 12.4.3 was previously added to the Pay Policy 2019/20 to cover this eventuality and remains for the Pay Policy 2020/21.

Redundancy/severance packages over £100,000

- 3.16 The 2018/19 Pay Policy introduced the following paragraph 12.2, in relation to redundancy/severance packages

A severance package for any member of staff of £100,000 or more (including an employee's right to contractual redundancy/severance and pension/pension lump sum payments) will be subject to the approval of General Purposes Committee and noting by Full Council.

- 3.17 Given the requirement for Full Council to note such packages, appendix 2 provides a list of all the redundancy/severance packages that have been agreed since 1 April 2019 to the present.

Re-engagement following redundancy

- 3.18 The wording of section 12.4 has been changed to reflect the fact that the policy on the re-employment of people following redundancy has changed. Previously the policy was that there must be a break of 1 year for those who were compulsorily redundant and a break of 2 years for those who were voluntarily redundant.

- 3.19 The policy has changed to the following:-

“Any member of staff who has left the Council by reason of redundancy or early retirement and received a redundancy/severance payment is required to have a gap before reemployment. The gap should be at least 2 years after the date of termination for all staff who left due to compulsory redundancy or voluntary redundancy before they can return, either as a directly employed member of staff, an agency worker or a consultant. This does not prevent them from working in Tower Hamlets Schools during this period.”

Returning Officer Fees

- 3.20 The wording of this paragraph has been changed to say “The Chief Executive receives fee payments pursuant to his appointment as Returning Officer at elections.”

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 4.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from the recommendations within this report.
- 4.2 The costs of meeting the Council's Pay Policy will need to be contained within existing staffing budgets agreed through the Annual Budget and MTFS process. The annual Employees budget is around £160m.

5. **LEGAL COMMENTS**

- 5.1 The main legal considerations regarding the pay policy requirements are set out in the body of the report.
- 5.2 Any changes to pay scales or pay awards are dealt with through collective bargaining and will not require contractual amendments as these are already accounted for in current terms and conditions however any changes to the way in which staff are remunerated would need to be dealt with by consultation and an agreed contract variation or the offer of new contractual terms through re-engagement following the Council's agreed employment processes.
- 5.3 When formulating its annual Pay Statement, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who don't (the public sector duty).

6. **ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1 It should be noted that the statement describes existing policies and practice rather than proposing new ones. Should there be amendments, further advice on the impact will be given.

7. **BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 This report sets out the council's pay policy for 2020/21, which is required by law. It ensures that employees receive an appropriate salary for the work they undertake and that the council's approach to pay is set out clearly.

8. **SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT**

- 8.1 There are no implications.

9. **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The draft statement describes existing policies and practice. Any risks, e.g. from proposing changes in the future to pay and benefits, would be assessed at the time.

10. **CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 There are no implications.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report(s)

None

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Draft Pay Policy Statement 2020/21

Appendix 2 – Redundancy/severance packages over £100,000

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

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

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

Localism Act 2011

LGA / ALACE - ‘Localism Act: Pay Policy Statement Guidance for Local Authority Chief Executives’

DCLG - Openness and Accountability in Local Pay: guidance under section 40 of the Localism Act

DCLG - ‘Openness and accountability in local pay: Guidance under section 40 of the Localism Act 2011’ Supplementary Guidance

Communities and Local Government - The Code of Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on Data Transparency

Officer contact details for documents:

- Amanda Harcus, Divisional Director HR and Organisational Development 020 7364 4922

**London Borough of Tower Hamlets
Pay Policy statement 2020/2021**

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Sections 38 to 43 of the Localism Act 2011 require the Council to produce a policy statement that covers a number of matters concerning the pay of the Authority's staff, principally its Chief Officers and the Authority's lowest paid employees. This pay policy statement meets the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and takes account of the guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in February 2012 and the supplementary guidance issued in February 2013 both entitled "Openness and accountability in local pay: Guidance under section 40 of the Localism Act" together with the Local Government Transparency Code 2015 where applicable. It also takes into account the 'Use of severance agreements and 'off payroll' arrangements Guidance for local authorities" published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) in March 2015.
- 1.2 This pay policy statement does not apply to employees of schools maintained by the Council and is not required to do so. This pay policy statement is required to be approved by a resolution of the Full Council before it comes into force. Once approved by Full Council, this policy statement will come into immediate effect, superseding the 2019/2020 pay policy statement.

2 Definitions

- 2.1 All the posts below are collectively referred to as **Chief Officer** in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Local Government and Housing Act 1989
- **Head of the Paid Service**, which is the post of Chief Executive
 - **Statutory Chief Officers**, which are:-
 - Corporate Director, Children's and Culture
 - Corporate Director, Health, Adults and Community who is the Council's designated Director of Adults Social Services
 - Corporate Director, Resources who is the Council's Chief Finance Officer under section 151 Local Government and Housing Act 1989
 - Corporate Director, Governance who is the Authority's Monitoring Officer under section 5 Local Government and Housing Act 1989
 - Director of Public Health

- **Non-statutory Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers**, which are:-

- The Corporate Director, Place as well as Divisional Directors and Heads of Service in each Directorate that report to a Chief Officer.

2.2 The **Lowest Paid Employees** are defined as employees paid on Spinal Column Point 1 of the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services pay scales. This definition has been adopted as it is the lowest level of remuneration attached to a post in this Authority (see section 6 below).

3 Pay and grading structure

3.1 The majority of employees' pay and conditions of service are agreed nationally either via the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services, or the Joint National Council (JNC) for Chief Officers, with regional or local variations.

3.2 The Council also employs some staff on Soulbury conditions of service, some on conditions determined by the Joint National Council for Youth and Community Workers, some staff covered by the School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document and some staff on locally agreed terms and conditions for Lecturers and Tutors.

3.3 There are also a number of staff who are protected by the provisions of TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006) following transfers into the organisation and have retained their existing terms and conditions.

3.4 It is the practice of the Council to seek the views of local trade unions on pay related matters, recognising that elements are settled within a national framework.

3.5 The Council uses the national pay spine up to grade LPO8 (Grade O when a revised grading structure is implemented in April 2020) and determines the appropriate grade for each job in accordance with the Greater London Provincial Council (GLPC) job evaluation scheme.

3.6 Above LPO8, local grades are in place as follows:

- LPO9 - evaluated under a local variation to the GLPC job evaluation scheme (Grade P when a revised grading structure is implemented in April 2020)
- Above LPO9 - evaluated under the Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Officers job evaluation scheme

3.7 The Council signed a Single Status agreement in April 2008 with trade unions. This brought former manual grades into the GLPC job evaluation scheme, and replaced spot points with narrow grade bands.

One of the key aims of the agreement was to eliminate potential pay inequality from previous pay structures and ensure that new pay structures are free from discrimination.

- 3.8 New and changed jobs are evaluated using the relevant job evaluation scheme, with the appropriate grade being determined using a range of factors.
- 3.9 The scale point on which an individual is appointed to the post is normally the lowest of the grade but will depend on skills and experience.

4 Head of Paid Service, Statutory Chief Officer, Non Statutory Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Officer remuneration

4.1 Pay for the Head of Paid Service; Corporate Director, Children's and Culture; Corporate Director, Health, Adults and Community; Corporate Director, Resources; and Corporate Director, Governance and Corporate Director, Place is made up of 3 elements:

- Basic pay (defined by a locally agreed grade)
- London weighting allowance
- Travel allowance payment

4.2 The Chief Executive receives fee payments pursuant to his appointment as Returning Officer at elections.

4.3 Divisional Directors; other non-statutory Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers receive basic pay (defined by a locally agreed grade).

4.4 Chief Officer salary data is published on the Council's website as part of the Government's transparency agenda. For details, please see [ADD UPDATED LINK](#).

5 Salary packages

5.1 All salary packages for posts at Chief Officer level are in line with locally agreed pay scales.

5.2 All salary packages for posts at Chief Officer level of £100,000 or more will be subject to General Purposes Committee approving the structure and grade for posts at Chief Officer level – and noting by Full Council.

6 Lowest paid employees

6.1 The Council's lowest paid London based employees are those who are paid on the lowest scale point, which is above the level of London Living Wage.

- 6.2 The Council's lowest paid non London based employees are those who are paid on the lowest scale point, which is above the level of National Living Wage.
- 6.3 The Council's Apprentices are paid at least the London Living Wage rate.
- 6.4 The Council will implement the increase to the London Living Wage on 01 April 2020 and as the London Living Wage rises in future years, the council will continue to increase pay levels for the lowest paid staff to ensure that they are paid the nearest scale point above the London Living Wage.

7 National pay bargaining

- 7.1 Annual pay increases across the Council's grades are set through the process of national pay bargaining which the Council subscribes to.
- 7.2 The Council contributes to the negotiation process by providing an employer view through the annual Local Government Employers' regional pay briefings. The employers' side then negotiate with trade unions at a national level.
- 7.3 National pay rates are set using a number of factors, including:
- The sector's ability to pay
 - Movement in market rates
 - Inflation levels
 - Other pay awards
 - The Government's policy position regarding public sector pay

8 Incremental progression

- 8.1 Incremental progression is on an annual basis for those staff who are not at the top of their grade. In exceptional circumstances an increment may be withheld due to poor performance. Chief Officers have to demonstrate satisfactory performance through a formal annual appraisal before being awarded incremental progression.

9 Additional payments and allowances

- 9.1 A range of allowances and payments are paid as appropriate to the nature and requirement of specific posts, groups of posts and working patterns. These include car and travel allowances, overtime, standby, weekend and night work, shift and call-out payments.
- 9.2 Acting up (where there is a vacant post within a structure and a person takes on the full duties of that post on a temporary basis) and honoraria (where a person takes on additional duties of a higher graded post but

not all of them) payments are made to individual staff as appropriate using clear criteria, and where a clear business need is identified.

- 9.3 The Council has a staff relocation package, available to new entrants to the Council's employment, but subject to tight eligibility criteria.
- 9.4 The Council's Divisional Director HR and Organisational Development, also has the ability to agree the payment of market supplements for recruitment and retention purposes, where there is a strong business case and appropriate criteria are met. (Details are set out in the Council's Market Supplement Policy).
- 9.5 The Council does not operate a performance related pay scheme or bonus scheme.
- 9.6 Where a negotiated settlement is appropriate in circumstances which do not amount to a dismissal, it will be approved by the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer and input from the Divisional Director HR and Organisational Development.

10 Pensions

- 10.1 All employees (with the exceptions set out below) of the Council up to 75 years of age and who have a contract of more than 3 months' duration are entitled to join the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). Decisions on delegated provisions are agreed by the Pensions Committee. The LGPS is a contributory scheme, whereby the employee contributes from their salary. The level of contribution is determined by whole time salary and contribution levels are set by Government who then advise the employer.
- 10.2 All employees of the Council from 18 to 75 years of age and who are employed on Teacher, Youth Work or Tutor/Lecturer terms and conditions are entitled to join the Teachers' Pension Scheme. The Teachers' Pension Scheme is a contributory scheme, whereby the employee contributes from their salary and contribution levels are set by Government.

11 Non-permanent workforce resources

- 11.1 To ensure flexibility in delivering services, the Council supplements its employee workforce with workers who are not Council employees or on the Council payroll. This non-permanent resource includes consultants and interims, procured through approved third party providers or the Council's agency contract.
- 11.2 In managing its non-permanent workforce resource, the Council seeks to ensure that: the Council and the wider public sector achieve value for money; tax and national insurance liabilities are managed

appropriately; and contractual relationships between the Council, workers and third parties are properly reflected. In this regard, it is the Council's policy not to engage directly with self-employed individuals, or wholly owned one person limited companies in all but the rarest of exceptions. Where such arrangements are used, the Council seeks to limit them to a maximum duration of 24 months.

- 11.3 Where it is necessary to engage a worker, it will usually be on a rate that is comparable with the grade for the post, where there is a clear comparator. Where more senior workers are engaged, the remuneration paid to the individual will generally fall within the following rates. The higher rates of pay, compared to those paid to directly employed staff, are in recompense of interims and consultants not receiving all of the same terms and conditions of employment, most notably regarding leave, pension, redundancy and notice.

Grade of post	Day rate range (payable to the individual)
Head of Service (LP09)	£400-525
Divisional Director	£525-775
Corporate Director	£775-900
Chief Executive	£1200-1500

12 Compensation for loss of office

12.1 *Financial terms for redundancy*

The Council has guidance linked to its policy for Handling Organisational Change which sets out the terms for redundancy and early termination of staff (subject to qualifying criteria), which apply to all staff. In certain circumstances, individuals may also qualify for early release of their pension.

12.2 *Redundancy/severance packages*

A severance package for any member of staff of £100,000 or more (including an employee's right to contractual redundancy/severance and pension/pension lump sum payments) will be subject to the approval of General Purposes Committee and noting by Full Council.

12.3 *Ill health*

Where termination of employment arises from ill health, payments will be made in accordance with the contract of employment. In certain circumstances, individuals may also qualify for early release of their pension.

12.4 *Re-employment or re-engagement following redundancy/early retirement/receipt of compensation for loss of office*

Any member of staff who has left the Council by reason of redundancy or early retirement and received a redundancy/severance payment is required to have a gap before reemployment. The gap should be at least 2 years after the date of termination for all staff who left due to compulsory redundancy or voluntary redundancy before they can return, either as a directly employed member of staff, an agency worker or a consultant. This does not prevent them from working in Tower Hamlets Schools during this period.

12.4.1 To allow for exceptional circumstances, when it might be necessary to reemploy or re-engage someone sooner than set out above, a Director, in conjunction with the Divisional Director HR and Organisational Development, and after consultation with the Chair of the General Purposes Committee, has authority to waive the 2 year requirement (as appropriate), provided there is justification.

12.4.2 If the Repayment of Public Sector Exit Payments Regulations 2016 come into force, any employee or office holder who earns above the threshold set out in the Regulations, will be required to repay in full or part, to the employer who made the payment, any exit payment they receive should they return to any part of the public sector (see the Regulations for a full list), either on or off payroll, within 12 months. This requirement can only be waived in exceptional circumstances and by a decision of Full Council.

12.4.3 If the Public Sector Exit Payment Regulations 2016 come into force, they will introduce a £95k cap on the total value of exit payments. This cap will include all forms of exit payment available to employees on leaving employment, for example cash lump sums, such as redundancy payments, the cost to the employer of funding early access to unreduced pensions ('pension strain'), severance payments, ex gratia payments and other non-financial benefits, such as additional paid leave. This requirement can only be waived in exceptional circumstances and by a decision of Full Council.

13 Pay multiples / comparisons

13.1 The Council's pay and grading structures reflect a wide range of job requirements and levels of responsibility across the organisation, with pay and grading being determined by the Council's job evaluation schemes.

13.2 The pay ratio demonstrating the relationship between the Council's highest paid employee (total salary package) and the median (mid-

point between the highest and lowest) salary position of the non-schools workforce is 1:5.82.

13.3 The pay ratio demonstrating the relationship between the Council's highest paid employee (total salary package) and the lowest salary of the non-schools workforce is 1:13.65.

13.4 The Council will have regard to its pay ratios and keep them under review, seeking to balance the following:

- Ensuring appropriate reward mechanisms which value knowledge, skills and experience at a senior level, and ensure that the Council can recruit and retain the best talent
- Addressing its commitment to matching the London Living Wage for our lowest paid staff, and encouraging the developmental progression for staff in the lowest graded roles.

14 Equality issues

14.1 The policy elements described in this report derive from national terms and conditions and bargaining, or local discretion. The Council has a keen regard for equality issues and should any changes be made to the pay policy in the future, proposals would go through an Equality Analysis. One of the key aims of Single Status agreement was to eliminate potential pay inequality from previous pay structures and ensure that new pay structures are free from discrimination.


15 Review

15.1 The Pay Policy Statement is reviewed annually and submitted to General Purposes Committee for noting and Council for approval. In the interests of improving accountability and transparency, all appointments made to posts attracting remuneration of £100,000 or more per annum and all severance packages of £100,000 or more during the previous financial year shall be highlighted to Full Council.

15.2 Should changes to the Pay Policy be contemplated that would result in an amended statement being published in the year that it applies, these would be subject to a detailed consultation process before adoption by Full Council.

Directorate	Total cost (including Pension strain)	Date went to GPC Committee
Children and Culture Services x 1	113,474.27	31/07/19
Place x 3	479,069.48	11/12/18 x2; 15/04/19 x1
Resources x 6	842,898.72	11/12/18 x1; 07/05/19 x4; 08/10/19 x1
Grand Total	1,435,442.47	10

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Non-Executive Report of the: Council Wednesday, 11 March 2020	
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Open (Unrestricted)
Members Allowances Scheme 2020/21	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	(All Wards);

Executive Summary

Part 6 of the Council’s Constitution sets out the Scheme of Members’ Allowances. This provides for a Mayor’s Allowance to be paid to the Mayor; a Basic Allowance to all Councillors; Special Responsibility Allowances for specified member roles; Dependents’ Carers’ and Travel/Subsistence Allowances; and an attendance allowance for co-opted members of the Standards Advisory Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

By law the Council must agree the Scheme of Members’ Allowances annually, before the start of the year to which it applies. The proposed Scheme of Members Allowances for 2020/21 is attached at Appendix ‘A’.

The Council also operates a Maternity, Paternity, Adoption and Sickness Pay policy for Members. Councillor Mufeedah Bustin is currently on Maternity Leave. However, due to the relevant regulations, the Council at its meetings on 13 November 2019 was still required to agree to waive the ‘six month’ attendance rule for Councillor Bustin. Council is asked to agree that the Mayor write to the Secretary of State highlighting this issue and asking that this regulation be addressed.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to:

1. Adopt the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Members’ Allowances Scheme 2020/21 as set out at Appendix ‘A’ to this 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.
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.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Council is required to agree a Scheme of Members' Allowances annually.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 None

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 In accordance with Statutory Instrument (SI 1021/2003) the Council is required to agree a Scheme of Members' Allowances on an annual basis. The Scheme may include an annual index-linked adjustment of allowances, but it must be subject to a full review at least every four years, considering the recommendations of an Independent Remuneration Panel.
- 3.2 The London Councils Independent Remuneration Panel issued a report in January 2018. The Council's scheme was reviewed in May 2018 and amendments made considering the Panel's recommendations. This was agreed by Council at their meeting on 23rd May 2018.
- 3.3 The current scheme is included at Part C of the Council's Constitution and it is proposed that this should be re-adopted for 2020/21 as set out at Appendix 'A' to this report.
- 3.4 The basic (for Mayor and councillors), special responsibility and co-optee member allowances are set out at 2019 rates and will be increased in accordance with any local government pay award agreed for April 2020 onwards.
- 3.5 The Dependents' Carers' Allowance amount has been increased in line with the current London living wage.

Maternity, Paternity, Adoption and Sickness Policy

- 3.6 The Council has recently adopted a Maternity, Paternity, Adoption and Sickness Pay policy for Members. Councillor Mufeedah Bustin is the first Councillor to take advantage of this policy and is currently on maternity leave until May 2020.
- 3.7 However, Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires that a Councillor must attend at least one meeting during a period of six months to remain qualified to hold office, unless an exemption is granted by Council.
- 3.8 Therefore, Council were required to receive a report at its meeting on 13

November 2019 requesting such an exemption for Councillor Mufeedah Bustin.

- 3.9 This requirement is not seen as in keeping with the Council's equalities duties to support Members and should be updated in line with modern expectations.
- 3.10 It is proposed that the Mayor undertake to write to the Secretary of State on behalf of all Members setting out their concerns and requesting that the law be brought up to date.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The payment of Members' Allowances helps to ensure that people from all parts of the community within the borough are able to serve as elected members. This promotes effective community leadership and accountability, to the benefit of the whole borough and all its communities.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:
- Best Value Implications,
 - Consultations,
 - Environmental (including air quality),
 - Risk Management,
 - Crime Reduction,
 - Safeguarding.

- 5.2 There are no other statutory implications to be considered.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 There is a specific budget for all member allowances and costs will be contained within this budget.
- 6.2 Allowances will be increased in line with the annual pay settlement funded from council's MTFs inflation allocation.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 ('the Regulations') require the Council to on or before 31st March in each year make a scheme in accordance with the Regulations. The Scheme must make provision for payment of the basic allowance specifying the amount

and also make provision for the following allowances if it intends to make such payments in respect of a year-

- (a) special responsibility allowance;
- (b) dependants' carers' allowance;
- (c) travelling and subsistence allowance; and
- (d) co-optees' allowance.

7.2 The proposed Member Allowances Scheme 2020/21 provides for Maternity, Paternity, Adoption and Sickness Pay which is established practice in a number of other London boroughs. Whilst there is nothing in the Regulations that provides that the Scheme is to include reference to such, the inclusion of Maternity, Paternity, Adoption and Sickness Pay are supported by the Council's general power of competence. Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 gives the Council a general power of competence to do anything that individuals generally may do, subject to specified restrictions and limitations imposed by other statutes. The inclusion of Maternity pay is also consistent with the Council's obligations under the Equalities Act 2010.

7.3 Regulation 17 of the Regulations places a duty on the Council to publish as soon as reasonably practicable after making any amendments to the current Members' Allowance Scheme a notice in one or more newspapers circulating in its area. The Council must also ensure that copies of the Scheme are available for inspection by members of the public at the principal office of the Authority, at all reasonable hours.

7.4 Under s.9BA(5) Local Government Act 2000, a local authority may propose that the Secretary of State make regulations prescribing arrangements specified in the proposal if the authority considers that the conditions in ss.6 are met. Under s9BA(6), these conditions are:

- (a) that the operation by the authority of the proposed arrangements would be an improvement on the arrangements which the authority has in place for the discharge of its functions at the time that the proposal is made to the Secretary of State
- (b) that the operation by the authority of the proposed arrangements would be likely to ensure that the decisions of the authority are taken in an efficient, transparent and accountable way, and
- (c) that the arrangements, if prescribed under this section, would be appropriate for all local authorities, or for any particular description of local authority, to consider.

7.5 As the current relevant regulations still require the Council to waive the 'six month' attendance rule in relation to councillors on maternity leave, this topic would satisfy the above three conditions. The Mayor should therefore be advised to write to the Secretary of State highlighting this issue and ask that the current requirement in this regulation is addressed and if possible, revised.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None.

Appendices

- Appendix A – Members' Allowance Scheme 2020

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

List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report

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

- None

Officer contact details for documents:

N/A

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39 London Borough of Tower Hamlets: Members' Allowances Scheme

This Scheme is made by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets in accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 as amended.

1. This Scheme shall be called The London Borough of Tower Hamlets Members' Allowances Scheme 2020 and it shall come into effect on 1 April 2020. The Scheme shall apply to the Mayor, Councillors and Co-opted Members of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Basic Allowance

2. Subject to paragraph 8, a basic allowance of £11,380 shall be paid to each Councillor for each year. The Basic Allowance shall not be payable to the elected Mayor.
3. The basic allowance of £11,380 shall be payable with effect from 1 April 2020.

Special Responsibility Allowance

4. Subject to paragraphs 5-8, a special responsibility allowance shall be paid for each year to those Members who hold a position of special responsibility as specified in Schedule 1.
5. The amount of each such allowance shall be the amount specified against the respective special responsibility in Schedule 1 and it shall be payable with effect from 1 April 2020.
6. Any special responsibility allowance payable under paragraphs 4 and 5 shall be in addition to the basic allowance payable under paragraph 2 above.
7. Any Member who holds more than one position of special responsibility shall receive only one special responsibility allowance which shall be at the higher level.

Part-Year Entitlement

8. If, in the course of the year, this scheme is amended or a Member's entitlement changes, the relevant basic and/or special responsibility allowance shall be calculated and paid pro-rata during the particular month in which the scheme amendment or entitlement change occurs.

Dependants' Carers' Allowance

9. A maximum of £10.55 per hour shall be paid to those Members who necessarily incur expense in arranging for the care of their children or other

dependants to enable them to undertake any of the activities specified in Schedule 2 to this Scheme.

10. The following conditions shall apply:
- payments shall be claimable for children aged 15 or under or for other dependants where there is medical or social work evidence that care is required;
 - only one weekly payment shall be claimable for the household of each Member, unless the Council's Standards Advisory Committee considers there are special circumstances;
 - the allowance shall be paid as a re-imbusement of incurred expenditure against receipts;
 - the allowance shall not be payable to a member of the claimant's own household;
 - any dispute as to entitlement and any allegation of abuse shall be referred to the Council's Standards Advisory Committee for adjudication.

Indexation

11. The Basic, Special Responsibility, Mayor's, Co-optees and Dependants' Carers' Allowances will be adjusted to reflect any annual pay settlement for local government staff effective 1 April 2020 onwards. The Dependents' Carers' Allowance will also be adjusted to, as a minimum, be in line with the London Living Wage.

Travel and Subsistence Allowance

12. An allowance shall be paid to any Member for travelling and subsistence undertaken outside the Borough in connection with any of the duties specified in Schedule 2.
13. An allowance shall be paid to a co-opted member of a Committee, Sub-Committee or Panel of the Council for travelling and subsistence in connection with any of the duties specified in Schedule 2, irrespective of whether the meeting or duty is inside or outside the Borough.
14. The amounts payable shall be the amounts which are for the time being payable to officers of the Council for travelling and subsistence undertaken in the course of their duties.

Co-optees' Allowance

15. Subject to paragraph 16, a co-opted member of the Standards Advisory Committee, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or any of its Sub-Committees, may claim a co-optee allowance of £128 and a co-opted member who is appointed as Chair of the Standards Advisory Committee may claim a co-optee allowance of £260, for attendance at any meeting of the

Committee or the Panel or attendance at any conference or mandatory training event, where attendance is on behalf of and authorised by the Council.

16. A claim for co-optees' allowance shall be made in writing within two months from the date of attendance at the meeting, conference or training event.
17. Where a member is suspended or partially suspended from his or her responsibilities or duties as a co-opted member under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000, any co-optee's allowance payable to him or her for the period for which he or she is suspended or partially suspended, may be withheld by the Council.

Maternity, Paternity, Adoption and Sickness Pay

18. All Members shall continue to receive their Basic Allowance in full in the case of maternity, paternity, adoption and sickness leave.
19. Members entitled to a Special Responsibility Allowance shall continue to receive their allowance in the case of maternity, paternity, adoption and sickness leave in the same way that the Council's employees enjoy such benefits.
20. If a replacement to cover the period of absence is appointed by Council or the Mayor (or in the case of party group position, the party group) the replacement will be entitled to claim a Special Responsibility Allowance.

Recovery of Allowances Paid

21. Any allowance that has been paid to a Member after he or she has ceased to be a member of the Council, or is for some other reason not entitled to receive the allowance for a specified period, may be recovered.

Claims and Payments

22. Payments shall be made for basic and special responsibility allowances in instalments of one-twelfth of the amounts respectively specified in this Scheme, paid on the last working day of each month.
23. Where a payment of one-twelfth of the amount specified in this Scheme for a basic or special responsibility allowance will result in the Member receiving more than the amount to which he or she is entitled, the payment shall be restricted to such amount as will ensure that no more is paid than the amount to which he or she is entitled.
24. A claim for travelling and subsistence or dependants' carers' allowance;
 - shall be made in writing within two months from the date of the performance of the duty for which the claim is made;
 - shall be accompanied by receipts and/or any relevant evidence of the

costs incurred;

- shall be subject to such validation and accounting procedures as the Council's Corporate Director, Resources may from time to time prescribe.

25. Travelling and subsistence and dependants' carers' allowance shall be paid on the last working day of each month for any claim received not less than 21 days before that date.

Pensions

26. Neither members nor co-opted members of the Council are eligible to join the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Local Government Pension Scheme.

Records of Allowances and Publications

27. The Council shall keep a record of payments made by it under this Scheme, including the name of the recipients of the payment and the amount and nature of each payment.

28. The record of the payments made by the Council under this Scheme shall be available at all reasonable times for inspection at no charge. A copy shall also be supplied to any person who requests it on payment of a reasonable fee.

29. As soon as reasonably practicable after the end of the year to which this Scheme relates, the Council shall make arrangements to publish the total sums paid by it to each recipient for each different allowance.

30. A copy of the Scheme shall be supplied to any person who requests it on payment of a reasonable fee.

Renunciation

31. A member may at any time and for any period, by notice in writing given to the Chief Executive, elect to forego any part of their entitlement to an allowance under this Scheme.

Interpretation

32. In this scheme:
- "Councillor" means an elected member of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets who is a councillor;
 - "Mayor" means the elected Mayor of Tower Hamlets Council;
 - "Member" means any person who is either the Mayor, a Councillor or a co-opted member of Tower Hamlets Council;
 - "Co-opted member" means any person who is not a Councillor but who

sits on a Committee, Sub-Committee or Panel of the Council;

- “Year” means the 12 months ending on 31 March in any year.

Revocation

- 33.** The London Borough of Tower Hamlets Members’ Allowance Scheme 2019 is hereby revoked and replaced with the Tower Hamlets Members’ Allowances Scheme 2020.

SCHEDULE 1

Special Responsibility Allowance

The following are specified as the special responsibilities for which special responsibility allowances are payable and the amounts of those allowances:

	Eff. 1 April 2020
Mayor	£78,030
Deputy Mayors	£31,212
Leader of the Majority Group on the Council	£11,757
Leader of the largest Opposition Group (subject to having at least 10% of the Council)	£11,757
Leader of the largest Opposition Group (if the Group has fewer than 10% of the Council)	£5,202
Leader of any Group (subject to having at least 10% of the Council)	£5,202
Cabinet Members	£20,808
Mayoral Advisors	£7,283
Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee	£11,444
Chair of Scrutiny Sub-Committee (Health, Housing or Grants)	£8,323
Lead Member for Scrutiny	£8,323
Chair of Development Committee	£11,444
Chair of Strategic Development Committee	£11,444
Chair of Licensing Committee	£6,242
Chair of General Purposes Committee	£8,323
Chair of Audit Committee	£6,242
Chair of Pensions Committee	£6,242
Speaker of Council	£10,404
Deputy Speaker of Council	£5,202
Chief Whip (Whip of the Majority Group)	£11,444


SCHEDULE 2

Dependants' Carers' and Travelling and Subsistence Allowances

The duties for which these allowances are payable include:

- the attendance at a meeting of the Council or of any committee or sub-committee of the Council or of any other body to which the Council makes appointments or nominations, or of any committee or sub-committee of such a body;
- the attendance at any other meeting, the holding of which is authorised by the Council, or a committee or sub-committee of the Council, or a joint committee of 270(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, or a sub-committee of such a joint committee, provided that –
 - where the Council is divided into two or more political groups it is a meeting to which members of at least two such groups have been invited; or
 - if the Council is not so divided, it is a meeting to which at least two members of the Council have been invited
- the attendance at a meeting of any association of authorities of which the Council is a member;
- the attendance at a meeting of the Cabinet or a meeting of any of its committees, where the Council is operating executive arrangements;
- the performance of any duty in pursuance of any standing order under section 135 of the Local Government Act 1972 requiring a member or members to be present while tender documents are opened;
- the performance of any duty in connection with the discharge of any function of the Council conferred by or under any enactment and empowering or requiring the Council to inspect or authorise the inspection of premises.
- the performance of any duty in connection with arrangements made by the Council for the attendance of pupils at any school approved for the purposes of section 342 of the Education Act 1996 (approval of non-maintained special schools); and
- the carrying out of any other duty approved by the Council, or any duty of a class so approved, for the purpose of, or in connection with, the discharge of the functions of the Council or any of its committees or sub-committees.

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Non-Executive Report of the: COUNCIL 11 March 2020	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Committee Calendar 2020/21	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services, Rushena Miah, Committee Services Officer
Wards affected	All Wards

Summary

This report proposes a calendar of Council, committee and other meetings for the forthcoming municipal year 2020/21. A period of consultation has taken place with Members and officers and Council are now asked to confirm the proposed meeting dates. The calendar of meetings is presented in Appendix 1 to this report.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to:

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

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 Approval of the annual calendar of meetings is a Council function. Therefore each year Elected Members are asked to consider and approve a schedule of meetings that will enable them to deliver the business of the Council.
- 1.2 To enable the Council to be flexible and reactive to new situations and new demands, the Councils' procedure rules provide that the Monitoring Officer may call additional meetings or cancel scheduled meetings. The Corporate Director for Governance is able 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.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 None are presented although it would be within the powers of Council to vary the proposed Committee meeting dates, times and frequencies as well as to change the overarching Committee structure.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

- 3.1 The draft calendar is presented at Appendix 1 to the report. In general it follows the same pattern of meetings set in previous years in terms of frequency of meetings.
- 3.2 Cabinet and other Executive meetings will continue to take place on Wednesdays. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) will therefore meet on the Monday of the same week as Cabinet. This supports the role of OSC in providing Pre-Scrutiny of Executive decisions by giving OSC Members time to review the Cabinet papers before their own meeting takes place.
- 3.3 Mirroring the arrangements in 2020/21, an additional Cabinet meeting is scheduled for the beginning of January 2020 to consider the draft budget proposals before submission to the special budget OSC meeting later that month.
- 3.4 As in previous years, efforts have been made to avoid holding meetings during school holidays, with particular reference to August. However, it may be necessary for some meetings to be held especially in relation to regulatory matters. Wherever possible we have also sought to minimise the impact of meetings on Members where these clash with certain religious holidays and party conferences. In most cases, Committee meetings are listed at 5.30pm during Ramadan to allow the meetings to conclude before the breaking of the fast.

- 3.5 The Member Learning and Development dates have also been listed in the Calendar and have been listed, where possible, when no Committee meetings are planned in order to encourage attendance.
- 3.6 As Members will be aware, any subsequent requests to change dates of meetings of Committees following approval of the Committee Calendar by Council, or to set up Special Meetings of the Committees, are subject to consultation with the Chair(s) of the Committees, relevant members and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer.
- 3.7 Each year changes to the Committee structure may be necessary to enable the Council to discharge its responsibilities. Should it be necessary to revise the meeting structure further, the Calendar of Meetings will be adjusted and a new Calendar will be presented at the AGM (if required). It is also proposed to provide delegated authority to the Corporate Director for Governance to agree any new meeting dates in such circumstances.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The calendar has taken into account religious observances and provided earlier start times for meetings during Ramadan.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:
- Best Value Implications,
 - Consultations,
 - Environmental (including air quality),
 - Risk Management,
 - Crime Reduction,
 - Safeguarding.
 - Data Protection / Privacy Impact Assessment.

- 5.2 There are no other statutory implications.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 The timely consideration of statutory financial reporting to members is critical to ensuring sound financial management and stewardship of public funds. However, there are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations within this report.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Proposed Calendar of Meeting dates

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

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

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

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

Rushena Miah

Rushena.miah@towerhamlets.gov.uk

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE 2020/21 MUNICIPAL YEAR

Committee Calendar 2020/21

	MEETING DAY/TIME/	MAY 20	JUN 20	JUL 20	AUG 20	SEP 20	OCT 20	NOV 20	DEC 20	JAN 21	FEB 21	MAR 21	APR 21	MAY 21	JUN 21	No. of Mtgs
COUNCIL																
Council	7.00pm Wednesday	13 (AGM)		15		16		18		20	24 (B),	4 (RB)**		19 (AGM)		7
CABINET																
Cabinet (monthly)	5.30 pm Wednesday	20	24	29		23	28	25	16**	27		3, 24	28*			11
Grants Determination Sub Committee (every 8 weeks)	5.30pm Wednesday			1		9		4		20		3	21*			6
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY																
Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Monthly)	6.30 pm Mondays	18	22	27		21	26	23	14**	8, 11(B)	22 (RB)	22	26*			11
Children and Education Scrutiny Sub Committee (5 a year)	6.30pm Monday		30			29**			15**		9		5			5
Health and Adults Scrutiny Sub Committee (5 a year)	6.30pm Tuesday		23			7			1		8		29*			5
Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Sub Committee (every 2 months)	6.30pm Tuesday			13		15		3		19			15*			5

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE 2020/21 MUNICIPAL YEAR

	MEETING DAY/TIME/	MAY 20	JUN 20	JUL 20	AUG 20	SEP 20	OCT 20	NOV 20	DEC 20	JAN 21	FEB 21	MAR 21	APR 21	MAY 21	JUN 21	No. of Mtgs
COMMITTEES AND PANELS																
	Development Committee (monthly)	6.30 pm Thursday		11 (2,4 P&D Training)	9	13	10	8	5	10**	21	11	11**	8	6*	12
	Strategic Development Committee (every 5/6 weeks)	6.30 pm Wednesday		17	22		2	14	18		19	8	23	20*		9
Page 100	Licensing Committee (quarterly)	6.30 pm Thursday		21, plus T&D*			1 (SEV) 8 (SEV) 10 (SEV)			17**		18				4 + 2
	Licensing Sub Committee (fortnightly)	6.30 pm Tuesday		9 23	7, 14, 28		1, 15, 29**	13,27	10, 24	1	12, 26	2, 23	2, 16, 30	13*, 27*	6*, 18**	24
	Audit Committee	6.30 pm Thursday			21				12		28			7		4
	General Purposes Committee (5 meetings per year)	6.30 pm Tuesday		16			6		8		23			4*		5
	Appeals Sub Committee (GP) (Monthly-provisional dates)	6.30pm Tuesday		29	21	22		20	17	15	19	9	25	20		10
	Standards (Advisory) Committee (quarterly)	6.00 pm Thursday		18				15				4		22		4
	Pensions Board (quarterly)	10.00am		15				17		16			15			4
	Pensions Committee (quarterly)	6.30pm		18				22		19			18			4

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE 2020/21 MUNICIPAL YEAR

	MEETING DAY/TIME/	MAY 20	JUN 20	JUL 20	AUG 20	SEP 20	OCT 20	NOV 20	DEC 20	JAN 21	FEB 21	MAR 21	APR 21	MAY 21	JUN 21	No. of Mtgs
Corporate Parenting Board	6.30pm (4 a year)			9			8			21			27*			4
King George's Field Charity Board (quarterly)	5.30 pm Wednesday		10			2			9			10**				4
Partnerships																
Health and Wellbeing Board (every 2 months)	5.00pm Tuesday		9			8		17			2		13			5
Other Meetings																
Freedom of the Borough	Ad hoc if required															TBA
MEMBERS																
Training & Development	6.30pm-8.30pm 2.30pm-4.30pm	19*, 21*	23, 25, 30	2		15, 17	27, 29	10, 12		12,14	9, 11	23, 25	20, 21 ■			10 10

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KEY TO SYMBOLS

- ** - Clashes with, or is the day before or day after a religious holiday
- * - Takes place during Ramadan Meeting time will be 5.30pm wherever the normal starting time would be listed later in the evening
- # - Meeting starting time earlier than the normal scheduled time
- ^ - Provisional date
- - Mandatory Ethics & Probity training
- B - Budget meeting
- (RB) - Reserve budget meeting

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE 2020/21 MUNICIPAL YEAR

NOTES:

1. OTHERS

- a. Freedom of the Borough Panel – will meet only as required.
- b. Times of meetings will be no later than 6.30pm except where it has been agreed otherwise, this is indicated in the calendar grid.

2. RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:

- **RAMADAN** – 23 April – 22 May 2020 (subject to confirmation)
- **EID-AL- FITR** – 23 May 2020 (subject to confirmation)
- **SHAVOUT** – 29-30 June 2020
- **EID – UL – ADHA** – 31 July 2020 (subject to confirmation)
- **YOM KIPPUR** – 28 September 2020
- **ROSH HASHANAH** – 19-20 September 2020
- **ASHURA** – 29 August 2020
- **DIWALI** – 14 November 2020
- **CHANUKAH** – 11-18 December 2020
- **PASSOVER 2020** – 28 March 2021 – 3 April 2020
- **EASTER 2020**: - Good Friday 2 April 2021, Easter Monday 5 April 2021
- **RAMADAN** – 13 April 2021 – 12 May 2021 (subject to confirmation), EID AL FITR – 12 May 2021 (subject to confirmation).

3. BANK HOLIDAYS:

- **MAY 2020** – 4, 8 & 25
- **AUGUST 2020** - 31
- **DECEMBER 2020** - 28
- **JANUARY/NEW YEAR 2021** – 1
- **APRIL 2021** – 2, 5
- **MAY 2020** – 3, 31

4. POLITICAL GROUPS:

- Conservative Party Conference – Sun 4- Wed 7 October 2020
- Labour Party Conference – 19 September – 23 September 2020

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE 2020/21 MUNICIPAL YEAR

5. **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS:**

- **2020**
 - Half Term – 25 May – 29 May
 - Summer Holidays – 22 July – 28 August
 - Half Term – 26 October – 30 October
 - Christmas Holidays – 21 December 2019 – 01 January 2020

- **2021**
 - Half Term – 15 February – 19 February
 - Easter Break – 29 March – 9 April
 - Half Term – 31 May – 4 June
 - Summer Holidays – 20 July – 4 September - tbc

6. **MEMBERS:**

- **Training And Development**
 - 2020 Evenings – 19 May, 23 June, 30 June, 15 Sept, 27 Oct, 10 Nov
 - 2021 Evenings – 12 Jan, 9 Feb, 23 March, 20 April (mandatory)

 - 2020 Afternoons – 21 May (Licensing Training Mandatory), 25 June, 2 July, 17 Sept, 29 Oct, 12 Nov
 - 2021 Afternoons – 14 Jan, 11 Feb, 25 March, 21 April

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Non-Executive Report of the: Council 11 March 2020	
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance	Classification: Unrestricted
Questions submitted by Members of the Council	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards

SUMMARY

1. Set out overleaf are the questions that were submitted by Members of the Council for response by the Mayor, the Speaker or the Chair of a Committee or Sub-Committee at the Council meeting on Wednesday 11 March 2020.
2. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.4, questions relating to Executive functions and decisions taken by the Mayor are put to the Mayor unless he delegates such a decision to another Member, who will therefore be responsible for answering the question. In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor will answer questions directed to the Mayor.
3. Questions are limited to one per Member per meeting, plus one supplementary question unless the Member has indicated that only a written reply is required and in these circumstances a supplementary question is not permitted. Oral responses are time limited to one minute. Supplementary questions and responses are also time limited to one minute each.
4. Council Procedure Rule 10.7 provides for an answer to take the form of a written answer circulated to the questioner, a reference to a published work or a direct oral answer.
5. There is a time limit of thirty minutes at the Council meeting for consideration of Members' questions with no extension of time allowed and any questions not put within this time are dealt with by way of written responses.
6. Members must confine their contributions to questions and answers and not make statements or attempt to debate.

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

15 questions have been received from Members of the Council as follows:-

11.1 Question from Councillor Asma Islam

Can the lead member inform us of the number of social homes available in the development Locksley A in Mile End?

11.2 Question from Councillor Peter Golds

Will the Mayor update the council on the management of parking infringement and road safety consequent upon parking infringements on the Isle of Dogs?

11.3 Question from Councillor Bex White

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on actions taken by the Council and its partners in response to the petition from Residents living around Jolly's Green which was brought to Full Council in November?

11.4 Question from Councillor Andrew Wood

Tiller road leisure centre was built in the 1970's, has any consideration been given to re-developing by the Mayor, should One Housing Group residents vote to regenerate the Kedge House area as part of a joint development like that undertaken by Greenwich & Camden Councils?

11.5 Question from Councillor Leema Qureshi

Can the Cabinet member please inform the council how many children in care are currently placed in unregulated placements?

11.6 Question from Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE

Following the public meetings about the Boundary Estate, will the cabinet member update me on what actions the council are taking, particularly around tackling burglary, petty crime and ASB?

11.7 Question from Councillor Mohammed Ahabab Hossain

Residents have raised the issue of drivers from outside the borough illegally renting parking spaces from those who live in the borough but do not own a car. In addition, many yellow lines on estate roads are not always enforced. What can be done to improve these problems for our residents?

11.8 Question from Councillor Val Whitehead

Can the Mayor or Cabinet Member update members on the resilience of our Adult Social Care to Covid-19 and what measures we are taking to protect our vulnerable residents?

11.9 Question from Councillor James King

What action has the council taken against complaints about the academisation process Cyril Jackson Primary school is going through?

11.10 Question from Councillor Kyrsten Perry

Can the Cabinet member please provide an update on the performance of payments by results for the Government's 'Troubled Families' programme?

11.11 Question from Councillor Shah Ameen

Following the recent stabbing in London Central Mosque, what steps are we taking as a council to ensure the safety of our mosques and other places of worship?

11.12 Question from Councillor Dipa Das

Can you please update Members on what we are doing to help young people into work?

11.13 Question from Councillor Puru Miah

Does the Council include Socio-Economic inequalities in its Equality Impact Assessments, as laid out in Section 1 of the Equalities Act 2010?


11.14 Question from Councillor Mohammed Pappu

What is the council doing to resolve the constant water pressure issues that many residents on the Isle of Dogs are facing in their households?

11.15 Question from Councillor Rabina Khan

The Global Gender Report 2020 revealed that gender parity would not be attained in 100 years. How will the Mayor commit to ensure that the council works to address gender parity in the workplace, council service delivery and the voluntary sector?

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Non-Executive Report of the: COUNCIL 11 March 2020	
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Motions submitted by Members of the Council	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards

SUMMARY

1. Three motions have been submitted by Members of the Council under Council Procedure Rule 11 for debate at the Council meeting on Wednesday 11th March 2020

2. The motions submitted are listed overleaf. In accordance with the Council Procedure Rules, the motions alternate between the administration and the other Political Groups, with the Opposition Group motions starting with the largest Political Group not to have that meeting's Opposition Motion Debate slot.

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; or which proposes that a decision of the Council taken in the previous six months be rescinded; unless notice of the 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 motions that have been submitted.

12.1 Motion regarding NJC pay

Proposer: Councillor Ehtasham Haque

Secunder: Councillor Tarik Khan

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.

12.2 Motion regarding Martyn's Law and the Protection of our residents and visitors

Proposed by: Councillor Andrew Wood

Seconded by: Councillor Peter Golds

This Council notes that;

That there have been a number of attacks in London identified as terrorism, these have involved the lethal use of knives and the use of vehicles to knock down, kill and maim vulnerable pedestrians in well visited areas of the city and in a location in the vicinity of a Mosque. Tower Hamlets is a borough with many tourist attractions, many located on streets which have large numbers of pedestrians.

A feature of concern has been crowded places which includes shopping centres, sports stadia, bars, pubs and clubs and residential areas which are easily accessible to the public and attractive to terrorists. Concerns have grown with regard to public security inside venues where people congregate as well as measures to protect our streets. The Shoreditch Triangle which includes, Bishopsgate, Spitalfields and parts of Bethnal Green is already a visitor hotspot with a large night-time economy and is intersected by busy roads.

In February the Government announced a consultation on new counter-terrorism laws to be introduced to ensure public venues and spaces are safer from attack. These changes follow a campaign run by the mother of Martyn Hett who was among 22 people killed in the 2017 Manchester Arena bombing. The changes will be to consider airport-style security checks to be mandatory at major sporting and entertainment venues. No such law currently exists so security remains the decision of individual operators.

That the proposed new law, to be consulted on in the spring, would require venue operators to consider the risk of a terrorist attack and take "proportionate and reasonable measures to prepare for and protect the public from such an attack", according to the Home Office. This could include increased physical security, training, incident response plans and exercises for staff on what to do during an attack

That The City of London continues to invest in security measures which include manned checkpoints, rising street bollards, restricted roads and crash- proof barricades. These precautions follow a warning by MI5 that the "eastern cluster" of towers planned around Bishopsgate is "highly sensitive to the threat of a hostile, vehicle-borne" attack and will replace the previous ring of steel installed to ward of IRA attacks.

That in addition the City of London is seeking S106 funds from developers in order to help fund this work.

That within Tower Hamlets only the Canary Wharf estate and the Tower of London has a similar level of physical protection.

That elsewhere in London concrete or other barriers have been erected to protect pedestrians from vehicle attacks.

The Council further notes;

That in February 1996 the IRA bombed Marsh Wall which killed two and injured and maimed many more, some who died of their wounds years later. This location was deliberately chosen as a less defended target than Canary Wharf estate to the immediate north but one with the same level of publicity value.

That like the City of London Tower Hamlets has emerging clusters of tall towers in Aldgate, Blackwall, Marsh Wall and the areas to the north of Canary Wharf.

That some areas containing high value targets have no public CCTV cameras.

This Council believes that;

The borough needs to review our security measures and have appropriate security measures in place to protect and deter potential attacks.

The Council calls on the Mayor to;

Initiate a full security and safety review of the Borough which will be submitted to Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny and the full council for consideration and final recommendations, and;

1. Consult with the Security Services on the potential threats to Tower Hamlets given its strategic location and national assets
2. Consider adding to future S106 agreements additional funding for additional security measures over and above those funded through CIL
3. Identify in advance likely targets and consider what steps would be required to mitigate the impact of any future attack using vehicles or other methods
4. Publicise such preparation where appropriate, in order to reassure residents and deter potential attackers
5. Implement security measures in the areas adjoining Canary Wharf and other possible targets such as the Whitechapel Road, Brick Lane and East London Mosque.

12.3 Motion regarding The Right to Know

Proposer: Councillor Rabina Khan

The Council Notes:

1. Research by the Fawcett Society has demonstrated the scale of equal pay issues across society, with six in ten women either in the dark on pay, or knowing they're paid less than a male comparator.
2. In the anniversary year of the Equal Pay Act 1970, the charity is calling for women to have the 'Right to Know' the pay of a male comparator, with appropriate safeguards to ensure information is correctly used.

The Council Welcomes:

1. This council has a commitment to fairness and abiding by equality law when it comes to pay and benefits of our staff.
2. We have an opportunity to demonstrate that commitment through pledging transparency to our employees.
3. Council employees can already access pay data through Freedom of Information requests, or by taking a court case if they suspect discrimination - but these are time-consuming, and costly, for both officers and the council.

The Council Resolves:

1. To that end, the council moves that its human resources staff introduce a presumption of transparency on pay data.
2. Where a member of staff approaches the council seeking information about pay in order to determine whether a comparator of the opposite sex, or a different protected characteristic, is paid more than them, the council will be transparent in sharing that information, whilst taking due account of other legal duties.

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