



Annual Meeting of the

Tower Hamlets Council

Agenda

Wednesday, 30 September 2020 at 7.00 p.m.

VENUE

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

Democratic Services Contact:

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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 **ONLINE 'VIRTUAL' MEETING -**
[HTTPS://TOWERHAMLETS.PUBLIC-I.TV/CORE/PORTAL/HOME](https://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home) at 7.00 p.m. on
WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

Will Tuckley
Chief Executive



Public Information

Viewing Council Meetings

Except where any exempt/restricted documents are being discussed, the public are welcome to view this meeting through the Council's webcast system.

Physical Attendance at the Town Hall is not possible at this time.

Meeting Webcast

The meeting is being webcast for viewing through the Council's webcast system.

<http://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

Electronic agendas reports and minutes.

Copies of agendas, reports and minutes for council meetings can also be found on our website from day of publication.

To access this, click www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee and search for the relevant committee and meeting date.

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users

London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Council

Wednesday, 30 September 2020

7.00 p.m.

PAGE
NUMBER

1. ELECTION OF SPEAKER

To elect a Councillor to serve as Speaker of the Council for the municipal year 2020/21 or until a successor is appointed, whichever is the sooner.

2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

To elect a Councillor to serve as Deputy Speaker of the Council for the municipal year 2020/21 or until a successor is appointed, whichever is the sooner.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

4. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER INTERESTS

9 - 10

Members are reminded to consider the categories of interest, identified in the Code of Conduct for Members to determine; whether they have an interest in any agenda item and any action they should take. For further details, see the attached note from the Monitoring Officer.

Members are also reminded to declare the nature of the interest at the earliest opportunity and the agenda item it relates to. Please note that ultimately it is the Members' responsibility to identify any interests and also update their register of interests form as required by the Code.

If in doubt as to the nature of an interest, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting by contacting the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services.



5.	MINUTES	11 - 36
	To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 11 th March 2020	
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12.	VIRTUAL COMMITTEE MEETING PROCEDURES	95 - 112
13.	TO RECEIVE PETITIONS	113 - 122
	The attached report presents the received petitions to be discussed.	
14.	MAYOR'S REPORT	
	The Council's Constitution provides for the Elected Mayor to give a report at each Ordinary Council Meeting.	
15.	REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES	
15 .1	The Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Board	123 - 150
16.	TO NOTE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL	151 - 154
	Written questions have been received from Members of the Council. Written answers will be provided to all questions and posted to the agenda page of the website.	



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Public Information – ‘Accessing and Participating in Remote’ Meetings

In line with recent Government legislation, the Annual Council meeting will be held as a ‘remote meeting’ through the Microsoft Teams app. This guidance provides details about how the meeting will work. The meeting will follow as far as possible the standard procedures for Council meeting except where they conflict with the Council Procedure Rules – Virtual Meeting Addendum’

Full Council is made up of the Mayor and the 45 Councillors. This Annual Council meeting will consider the following:

- To Elect a new Speaker/ Deputy Speaker of the Council
- Announcements from the Chief Executive of the Council
- Mayor's Cabinet and Executive arrangements
- Establishment and Appointment of Council's Committees in accordance with the proportionality rules.
- Appointments to Committee and Sub – Committees.
- Petitions for debate and presentation.
- Confirmation of Committee Calendar of Meetings.
- Any reports requiring a Council decision. Reports are written by Council officers and usually include a recommended course of action.

How can I watch the meeting?

Except when an exempt item is under discussion, the meeting will be broadcast live for public viewing via our Webcasting portal <https://towerhamlets.public-tv/core/portal/home>. Details of the broadcasting arrangements will be published on the agenda front sheet. The meeting will also be available for viewing after the meeting. Physical Attendance at the Town Hall is not possible at this time.

If during the meeting a technical error occurs with the live webcast stream which cannot be resolved within a reasonable period of time, then the meeting will be closed and the remaining business will be deferred to a subsequent meeting of the Council on a date to be determined, and notified through the publication of the agenda on the Council's web site.

Publication of Agenda papers and meeting start time.

Electronic copies of the Council agenda will be published on the Council's Website on the relevant Committee pages at least five clear working days before the meeting. In the event of a technical difficulty, the meeting arrangements may need to be altered at short notice (such as a delay in the start time). Where possible any changes will be publicised on the website.

To view meeting papers and to be alerted when agendas have been published visit: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee

Council documents are also available on ‘Mod.Gov’ iPad, Android and Windows tablet apps downloadable for free from their respective app stores.

Election of Speaker of the Council.

The role of the Speaker, alongside performing civic duties, is to Chair the Council meetings, to control proceedings and ensure Members have a fair chance to contribute

The process for electing a new Speaker at the Council meeting is as follows:

- The current Speaker of the Council will address the meeting on their term of office. Councillors may then thank the outgoing Speaker.
- The Council will elect a new Speaker of the Council.
- Speaker's transfer of Office ceremony.
- The new Speaker will address the Council meeting.

Procedure at the virtual meetings.

The Speaker will then set out the expected meeting etiquette for a virtual Council meeting, including the following:

- When speaking for the first time, participants should state their full name before making a comment.
- Participants may speak at the invitation of the Chair.
- The arrangements for Members to speak at the meeting.
- All participants microphones must be muted when not speaking.
- Where necessary, participants may switch off their cameras when not speaking to save bandwidth.
- Participants **must alert** the Democratic Services Officer if they experience technical difficulties, particularly a loss of connection, or if they need to leave the meeting, as soon as possible.

Order of business

Members may change the order of business at the meeting in exceptional circumstances. In addition, Members may adjourn the meeting for a period of time or extend the time limit for the meeting (by up to half hour beyond the three-hour limit). To change the order of business, a Member will need to formally move a motion seeking approval for the requested change.

Voting

The items requiring a decision will normally be determined by the Speaker confirming that Members agree with the recommendation. Where necessary, the Speaker may conduct a roll call vote on the recommendation. Democratic Services will read out the name of each Councillor present and will asked them to confirm whether they are favour, against or wish to abstain.

Decisions and Minutes

The draft minutes will be published on the website around 10 working days after the meeting.

Agenda Item 4

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AT MEETINGS– NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Code of Conduct for Members at Part C, Section 31 of the Council's Constitution

(i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)

You have a DPI in any item of business on the agenda where it relates to the categories listed in **Appendix A** to this guidance. Please note that a DPI includes: (i) Your own relevant interests; (ii) Those of your spouse or civil partner; (iii) A person with whom the Member is living as husband/wife/civil partners. Other individuals, e.g. Children, siblings and flatmates do not need to be considered. Failure to disclose or register a DPI (within 28 days) is a criminal offence.

Members with a DPI, (unless granted a dispensation) must not seek to improperly influence the decision, must declare the nature of the interest and leave the meeting room (including the public gallery) during the consideration and decision on the item – unless exercising their right to address the Committee.

DPI Dispensations and Sensitive Interests. In certain circumstances, Members may make a request to the Monitoring Officer for a dispensation or for an interest to be treated as sensitive.

(ii) Non - DPI Interests that the Council has decided should be registered – (Non - DPIs)

You will have 'Non DPI Interest' in any item on the agenda, where it relates to (i) the offer of gifts or hospitality, (with an estimated value of at least £25) (ii) Council Appointments or nominations to bodies (iii) Membership of any body exercising a function of a public nature, a charitable purpose or aimed at influencing public opinion.

Members must declare the nature of the interest, but may stay in the meeting room and participate in the consideration of the matter and vote on it **unless:**

- A reasonable person would think that your interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair your judgement of the public interest. **If so, you must withdraw and take no part in the consideration or discussion of the matter.**

(iii) Declarations of Interests not included in the Register of Members' Interest.

Occasions may arise where a matter under consideration would, or would be likely to, **affect the wellbeing of you, your family, or close associate(s) more than it would anyone else living in the local area** but which is not required to be included in the Register of Members' Interests. In such matters, Members must consider the information set out in paragraph (ii) above regarding Non DPI - interests and apply the test, set out in this paragraph.

Guidance on Predetermination and Bias

Member's attention is drawn to the guidance on predetermination and bias, particularly the need to consider the merits of the case with an open mind, as set out in the Planning and Licensing Codes of Conduct, (Part C, Section 34 and 35 of the Constitution). For further advice on the possibility of bias or predetermination, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting.

Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992 - Declarations which restrict Members in Council Tax arrears, for at least a two months from voting

In such circumstances the member may not vote on any reports and motions with respect to the matter.

Further Advice contact: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer,
Tel: 0207 364 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	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. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	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— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
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	Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (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.

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

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

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

Members Present:

Mayor John Biggs	Councillor James King
Councillor Faroque Ahmed	Councillor Eve McQuillan
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	Councillor Ayas Miah
Councillor Sabina Akhtar	Councillor Puru Miah
Councillor Amina Ali	Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE
Councillor Shah Ameen	Councillor Victoria Obaze
Councillor Asma Begum	Councillor Mohammed Pappu
Councillor Rachel Blake	Councillor Kyrsten Perry
Councillor Kevin Brady	Councillor John Pierce
Councillor Kahar 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 Helal Uddin
Councillor Danny Hassell	Councillor Abdal Ullah
Councillor Mohammed Ahab Hossain	Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman
Councillor Asma Islam	Councillor Val Whitehead
Councillor Sirajul Islam	Councillor Bex White
Councillor Rabina Khan	Councillor Andrew Wood
Councillor Tarik Khan	

During the meeting, the Council agreed to vary the order of business to consider an Urgent Motion (item 13.1), regarding the Covid-19 virus following the consideration of the Petitions (item 5). To aid clarity, the Minutes are presented in the order that the items originally appeared on the agenda.

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

The Speaker of the Council provided an update of her activities since the previous Council meeting. Looking forward to International Women's Day, she reported that she was pleased to have attended a number of events to celebrate women and their achievements.

She also reported that she had attended a number of other important events. These included:

- Commemoration events. This included the Mayor of London's Holocaust Memorial Day Ceremony at City Hall and the Martyr's Day Event in Altab Ali Park.

- Visiting a local school to discuss knife crime.
- A visit to the Federal Capital Territory of Abuja in Nigeria, at the invitation of by His Royal Highness, Esu Bwari.
- A visit to the Nigerian High Commission in London.
- Citizenship ceremonies, community events and civic receptions.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

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

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

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

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

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

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

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

This was on the basis that:

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

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

1. That the unrestricted minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 15 January 2020 and the Budget Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19 February 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and the Speaker be authorised to sign them accordingly.

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

The Chief Executive provided an update on the following:

- That Jennifer Peters, the new Divisional Director of Planning and Building Control, started with the Council on 24th February 2020.
- That progress had been made with the recruitment of a new Corporate Director for Children and Culture.
- The Borough had 4 confirmed cases of Covid-19, (as at 10 March 2020). As a result of this, Tower Hamlets had evoked the multi-agency pre pandemic plan that was managed by the local resilience forum.
- In relation to strike action, the Council were monitoring the situation with Veolia Waste Services dispute. The Council was also taking forward pre planning preparations for the industrial action by Unison and the NEU.
- That the Council's Staff Conference would take place on 19th March 2020 and would be addressing climate change.
- He also congregated staff on receiving nominations for a number LGC Awards.

5. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS

5.1 Petition regarding Waste collection in the Limehouse ward.

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

He outlined the Council's intention to bring the waste collection service back in house from 1st April 2020 and to carry out a review of the waste collection rounds within the first 6 months of this taking place to ensure they were made as efficient as possible. He also expressed a commitment to continue to work with staff with a view to bringing forward improvement to the services in the short term.

He offered to meet with the Petitioners to give further consideration to their concerns.

RESOLVED:

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

5.2 Petition regarding Bartlett Park Football Changing Rooms.

Terry Mcgrenera addressed the meeting on behalf of the petitioners, and responded to questions from Members. Councillor Sabina Akhtar, Cabinet

Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit, then responded to the matters raised in the petition. She advised that there had been consultation on the proposals in line with the requirements. The proposals had full planning permission, to provide fit for purposes sports facilities. The facilities may be used for a range of sports activities and met Sports England requirements. The plans formed part of a wider programme of improvements to the Bartlett Park.

She expressed a willingness to meet with the petitioners to further discuss this matters raised in the Petition.

RESOLVED:

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

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

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

She thanked the students for attending the meeting.

She confirmed that the Council appreciated the importance of addressing air pollution issues. In view of this, it actively engaged in ongoing activities to implement the following initiatives:

- the new Liveable Street Programme to facilitate walking and cycling in the Borough.
- the provision of new electric vehicle charging points.
- working to ensure that the Government invested in new infrastructure to improve air quality in hot spots.

She also encouraged the students to stay engaged with the Council and to continue to hold them to account.

RESOLVED:

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

5.4 Petition regarding Keep Clear Boxes at Cornwall Street.

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

He advised of the potential solutions available to the Council to address the issues. For example, working with relevant partners, the Council may paint white keep clear signs on the road, and similar ideas may provide a straightforward and effective solution. Alternatively, the Council could look to install a keep clear yellow box on the street. However this option may take longer to implement in view of the statutory requirements. He expressed a desire to keep in touch with progress with the issue.

RESOLVED:

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

Procedural Motion

Councillor Peter Golds **moved** and Mayor John Biggs **seconded**, a procedural motion “that under Council Procedure Rule 11.2, an urgent motion regarding the Covid – 19 Virus to be considered as the next item of business”. The procedural motion was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT

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

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

7. ADMINISTRATION MOTION DEBATE- REGARDING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY.

7 – Administration Motion regarding the Climate Emergency

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

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

Added text underlined & in bold
Deleted text scored out.

This Council notes:

1. That the Deputy Mayor Cllr Rachel Blake declared a climate emergency in Tower Hamlets in March 2019 as reported in minutes of the meeting, and Full Council supported that declaration through a resolution in July 2019;
2. That the impacts of the climate emergency are clear for everyone

- to see, from the devastating fires in Australia and California, to the recent widespread flooding in the UK;
3. 40% of residents in Tower Hamlets live in areas that breach EU and government guidance on safe levels of air pollution;
 4. Our ambition to become a zero-carbon council by 2025;
 5. That Mayor of London Sadiq Khan has promised to deliver a green new deal for London with a target for the capital to be carbon-neutral by 2030 in advance of his campaign to be re-elected.

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

1. Since the Climate Emergency declaration last year we have produced a Net Zero Carbon Roadmap that has baselined the Council's emissions and produced an action plan of projects with the aim of the council becoming net zero carbon by 2025;
2. That at the July 2019 Full Council meeting, members resolved that a Tower Hamlets Climate Emergency Annual Report should be produced every year, and that none has yet been produced as of March 2020:
3. The council's electricity supply has been switched to a 100% renewable tariff; at least a decade after it was possible to do so:
4. The street-light upgrade to LEDs has continued and is close to completion, but has chosen not to take the opportunity to add vehicle recharging points to the base of the new streetlights next to parking spots as other Councils including Hackney have done;
5. That we roll out LED lighting in all Council run facilities where possible; including switching off lights in the Town Hall when staff leave.
6. We are also working with other London Boroughs through London Councils, the London Environment Coordinators Forum (LECF), Association of Local Energy Officers (ALEO) and London Boroughs Energy Group (LBEG) to see how Boroughs can work together on projects to address the Climate Emergency and working together to make representations to Government around what support we need to be able to tackle the climate emergency;
7. We are currently carrying out a study to identify suitable roof space for solar panels, since there are none on any LBTH owned /run buildings except Watney Market Idea Store despite previous government provided substantial incentives to install solar panels:
8. The £15m Liveable Streets programme, which aims to make it easier, safer and more convenient to get around by foot, bike and public transport, and which has chosen not to take the opportunity to consult the community on where to install new road side electric vehicle charging points; we have just 42 electric vehicle charging points well below that of neighbouring Hackney.
9. We are taking innovative action at a local level, for example London's first 'recycled' road was laid on Canrobert Street in

- Bethnal Green where approximately 100 recycled tyres were mixed into a new road surface;
10. Tower Hamlets Council has been awarded £350,000 from the Mayor of London's Local Enterprise Panel to help businesses tackle air pollution in the borough. The funding will enable the council to help small businesses reduce harmful emissions that contribute to poor air quality in Tower Hamlets;
 11. The loss of £14.3 million of the value of our reserves through inflation in the last three years because we did not have a plan to spend some of that money for example to mitigate climate change e.g. buying solar farms;
 12. The launch of school and play streets;
 13. To commit not to build new schools or expand them next to major roads when Environmental Health officers confirm that even at the height of the air intakes feeding fresh air into the school that pollution is high and that windows on the ground and 1st floor should not be capable of being opened;
 14. To commit not to build new schools or expand them, which might force pupils to have to wait outside or play in areas with poor air quality like next to major roads;
 15. Our Air Quality Action Plan which outlines the action the council will take to improve air quality in Tower Hamlets;
 16. The council is on track to plant more than 2,200 trees this year, taking the total number of trees delivered in the past two years to more than 5,000. We have recently been awarded £320k from the Greater London Authority which will be used towards new highways tree pits; a realistic number compared to the 2 million trees Sadiq Khan promised in his 2016 London Mayoral campaign, which have not yet materialised.
 17. Commit to no net loss of trees on any re-development especially on publicly owned land;
 18. Commit to growing green walls/parks/tree barriers/installing planters next to all major roads in the Borough especially where residential properties are next to main roads which will help absorb pollutants and particulate matter;
 19. Not to spend £120k on a metal A12 Acoustic Barrier but trial a plant based barrier to reduce noise instead;
 20. Commit to introducing more greenery whether at ground level, on vertical walls (as at Arnhem Wharf school) or hanging from street lights (as in Belgravia) which will help absorb pollutants and particulate matter (as well as make the Borough a more attractive place);
 21. Commit to install new accessible bicycle parking spots across the borough including at our new Town Hall site in Whitechapel as well as at Mulberry Place;
 22. Our anti-idling campaign continues, with a minimum of one site visit/anti-idling action undertaken every week and LBTH remains part of the pan-London scheme; despite the fact that not one single fine has so far been issued.
 23. We are reviewing the waste fleet of vehicles, after recently installing new diesel fuel storage tanks at the transport depot on

- Silvocea Way and spending £10 million on new fossil fuelled refuse vehicles despite the City of London first trialling new electric refuse vehicles in May 2018;
24. That of the 109 refuse vehicles the council operates 97 are diesel vehicles.
 25. That the council should review the whole of its own vehicle fleet, to speed up the use of electric, hydrogen or hybrid vehicles, to install electric vehicle chargers on Council properties;
 26. That recycling rates have fallen in recent years; the percentage of household waste sent for recycling in Tower Hamlets is 28% against a London average of 33%.
 27. The failure to get developers to deliver on site energy generation options except for a few dock based heat exchangers;
 28. To substantially expand the network of permanent air quality monitoring stations which can provide real time online data from the current four to having some kind of online sensor outside every school so that should air quality deteriorate that appropriate actions can be taken by school staff;
 29. We are installing two electric vehicle charging points to facilitate zero emissions ice cream vans; while continuing to lack electric vehicle charging points in LBTH owned / run facilities unlike Brent Council; just £150,000 has been budgeted for more electric vehicle charging points for 2020/21. This is not enough. Much more money needs to be invested as this is also an income earner for the council and adequate funds should be invested.
 30. To commit to having electric vehicle charging points on every street by 2022 following the example of Hackney Council as set out in November 2019;
 31. That we will look to encourage or set up ourselves last mile depots where deliveries can be made by truck but that onward transport can be done by cargo bikes or electric bikes/vehicles as is done in places like Hamburg by UPS.
 32. We are working with partners and projects including Citizens UK, Sustrans, Low Emission Neighbourhoods, Zero Emission Neighbourhoods to help our communities reduce air pollution;
 33. That we will stop allowing new homes to be built so close to major roads especially when they are not air conditioned forcing residents into an invidious choice between opening their windows (assuming they can).
 34. We will write to the Port of London Authority to thank them for installing air quality monitors on the Isle of Dogs to monitor cruise ships moored at Greenwich, where we failed to take any action, despite local residents asking for air quality from these ships to be measured.
 35. We will write to Greenwich Council to make our opposition to cruise ships being moored without an onshore power supply at Greenwich Pier known.
 36. We will greatly expand our CCTV network to proactively use it to deter vehicles that fly-tip, causing damage to our environment. We will use this evidence to prosecute those who flytip or dump

abandoned vehicles. We currently only have 360 CCTV cameras. All our neighbouring boroughs have more, Hackney 2,500, Newham 1100, Lewisham, 504, Southwark 464.

This Council believes:

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

This Council resolves:

1. To call on the Government to recognise the seriousness of the climate emergency and take a more active role in tackling it;
2. To support the next Mayor of London in his or her efforts to transform London into a carbon- neutral city and examine what Tower Hamlets Council can do to support that aim;
3. To introduce climate impact assessments;
4. To continue to deliver our Air Quality Action Plan;
5. To deliver the Net Zero Carbon Roadmap;
6. To be much more pro-active and to focus on delivery rather than virtue signalling through motions;
7. To stop building over green areas and sites of biodiversity. Limehouse Triangle gained planning permission at the 5th attempt last year, just weeks after the council declared a climate emergency. Tower Hamlets ranks as the third worse borough in London for available green space;
8. To make better use of our extensive resources to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change, poor air quality and other damage to our environment;
9. To begin to replace the council's stock of vehicles with green electric/hybrid vehicles. Out of 206 vehicles in the council fleet 183 are powered by diesel;
10. We will write to Greenwich Council to explore ways Tower Hamlets Council can help facilitate the instillation of on shore power supplies for cruise ship that moor at Greenwich in the future;
11. Not to build new schools next to major roads.

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

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

RESOLVED:

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.

8. OPPOSITION MOTION DEBATE - REGARDING CAR PARKING**8. Opposition Motion for Debate from the Conservative Group - regarding Car Parking**

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

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

9. REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES**9.1 Report of General Purposes Committee, Pay Policy 2020/21**

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

RESOLVED:

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

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

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

RESOLVED:

1. That the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Members' Allowances Scheme 2020 be adopted as set out at Appendix A to the report
2. Agree that the Members Allowances Budget be adjusted as necessary to cover the costs following the uprating of the local government pay award as set out at 3.4 of the report.

3. Agree that the Mayor writes to the Secretary of State on behalf of the Council requesting that Maternity, Paternity, Adoption and Sickness leave for Members be brought into line with the Statutory Regulations.

10.2 Committee Calendar 2020/21

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

RESOLVED:

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

11. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

The following questions and in each case supplementary questions were put (except where indicated) and were responded to by the Mayor or relevant Executive Member.

11.1 Question from Councillor Asma Islam:

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

Response of Mayor John Biggs:

There were 33 new Council homes in the development, comprising a mixture of 1-3 bedroom units with landscaping works. A number of Councillors visited the new development last week. All of the homes were at social rents with 85% at London Affordable Rent and 15% at Tower Hamlets Living Rent. The development also comprised 3 wheelchair assessable units, which represents 10% of the development.

No supplementary question was asked.

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?

Response of Councillor David Edgar, Cabinet Member for the Environment:

I can assure you that the Civil Enforcement Team carried out a range of measures to manage parking infringement on the Isle of Dogs. The Enforcement Officers undertake patrols and issues fines where necessary. Steps had also been taken to increase the number of patrols and introduce new parking restrictions on Manchester Road as part of the parking development work programme. Further measures included: the installation of double yellow lines and loading bays around the Emerald Gardens development on Westferry Road. Further consideration could be given to the introduction of yellow lines on Island Point development on Westferry Road. This would require further investigation. The work can be carried out in the next few months.

Supplementary question from Councillor Peter Golds:

Can you provide further reassurances about the action to deal with the concerns raised by residents about illegal parking, particularly at Island Point and Manchester Road?

Councillor David Edgar's response to supplementary question:

I am happy to discuss with Councillor Golds the issues he is concerned about, with a view to moving on changes that would help residents.

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?

Response of Councillor Asma Begum, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities:

The Safer Neighbourhood Team, worked closely with partners in the area to address anti-social behaviour issues. They have developed a multi - agency action plan to prevent and reduce such issues. It should also be noted that the Lansbury Ward Panel would have a role in overseeing the implementation of the plan, and that it would be considered by the Panel.

No supplementary question was asked.

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?

Response of Mayor John Biggs:

The Council currently has no plans at present to redevelop the Tiller Road Leisure Centre. However, as a part of the re-procurement of the Council's Leisure Management Contract, it was intended to carry out a review of longer term options for the Leisure Centres, over the next few months

Supplementary question from Councillor Andrew Wood:

I am aware of a number of progressive joint projects involving Local Authorities working with developers to build new Leisure Centres, (such as by Greenwich and Camden Councils). Will the Mayor look at these ideas?

Mayor John Biggs response to supplementary question:

I am willing to look at different options, particularly if they were cost effective.

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?

Response of Mayor John Biggs:

I have attended a number of public meetings on the estate to look at the concerns around such issues as the impact from the night time economy, ASB, parking issues and housing management. The Council had carried out a number of initiatives to address these issues, such as changing parking hours to address ASB. I look forward to a further meeting to look at how these measures are addressing this issues and how the Liveable Street initiative can help improve the neighbourhood.

Supplementary question from Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE:

Many residents now live in fear especially after the recent incidents of serious crime on the estate. Residents are terrified and very concerned. My question is what reassurances can you provide to those people affected?

Mayor John Biggs response to supplementary question:

I can reassure you that the Council is very conscious of the wider ranging issues with crime and ASB in the. We will be responding to any urgent issues before the next Boundary Estate public meeting, scheduled to take place in May.

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?

Response of Councillor Amina Ali, Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing:

The situation is very fluid and Adult Social Care Services are keeping abreast of the latest Government advice. We note that the virus is likely to result in mild symptoms for many, and that it will particularly affect the vulnerable groups in the community. The number of cases are likely rise and will have a significant impact on the Adults Social Care Service. The service is well informed of the prevention measures, due to experience with dealing with the winter flue. Staff were regularly updated.

We await a further update on the National Guidance measures and will continue to focus on preventative measures

Supplementary question from Councillor Val Whitehead:

Have you any advice for people in insecure employment that may need to take time off?

Councillor Amina Ali's response to supplementary question:

As noted in the Mayor's earlier report, the Council and the Trade Unions are concerned about this. We await for any emergency government legislation and we are monitoring the situation very closely. Should these measures not progress quickly, the Council looks forward to working with other Local Council's, if necessary, to work with the Government to help those on zero hour contracts.

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?

Response of Councillor Danny Hassell, Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People

In view of the concerns from parents, the Council commissioned an external review of the process. The Independent Reviewer met with the school leaders and submitted their findings to the Regional School Commissioner. We remained concerned about two areas in particular around: former Head Teacher's potential conflict of interest in the process, and the failure to fully establish reasons for the decision to join the University Schools Trust.

No supplementary question was asked.

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?

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

In Tower Hamlets, this programme is called 'Supporting Stronger Families', and this provides help to families with a range of problems and provided payments by results. The totals for recent years are as follows:

- 2015/16 - 8 payments,
- 2016/17 - 77
- 2017/18 - 522
- 2018/19 - 664
- 2019/20 - 984.

Supplementary question from Councillor Kyrsten Perry:

Can you provided an update on the future of the 'Troubled Families' programme?

Councillor Danny Hassell's, response to supplementary question:

This is a National programme and funding was due to end this year. However, due to the delays in the Government Comprehensive Spending Review, the long term future of the programme remains unclear.

The Government had confirmed its intention to extend the programme for a year, the coming financial year. The Council needed much more certainty from the Government on the longer term future of the 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?

Response of Councillor Asma Begum, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities:

The community was shocked to hear about this terrible incident. It should be noted that ensuring the safety of our mosques and other places of worships continues to be a priority for the Council. The Council were working hard with the Police and community to ensure appropriate action was taken. The Community Safety team provided support to places of worship with gaining access to the Government's Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme for safety improvements and assistance and to secure additional external funding. There was also ongoing work to improve the protected security at the London Central Mosque

Supplementary question from Councillor Shah Ameen:

Can you provide assurances regarding the work with Mosques and other faith buildings to take forward these measures?

Councillor Asma Begum's response to supplementary question:

I note the impact of the devastating terrorist attacks, particular the tragic event in New Zealand. The Council had a Designing Out Crime Officer that had engaged with all places of worship to provide help with apply for the funding. The Mayor and the Cabinet Member undertook to attend any public meetings about these issues, to look at these issues.

11.12 Question from Councillor Dipa Das:

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

Response of Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman, Cabinet Member for Work and Economic Growth:

The Council carries out a lot of work to support young people into employment. The WorkPath team worked hard to identify opportunities for residents. In the previous two years, 38% of those helped into employment were under the age of 25. The Council's Careers team also provided advice to school children at age 11 and 12 to help plan their future. Last year, the number of young people in employment, education and training rose from 95.1% to 96.6%. The Council had met the targets for the Mayor's apprenticeship scheme. The Council would continue to work hard to help young people secure employment opportunities.

No supplementary question was asked.

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?

Response of Councillor Asma Begum, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities:

The Council's assessment process sets out measures to ensure that due regard is given to the equalities issues, including the social economic impact. Our Guidance is published on the Council's Website. I can also provide you with a specific example in relation to the equalities impact assessment for the proposals to close Raines School. The decisions around the school uniform grant complied with the relevant requirements

Supplementary question from Councillor Puru Miah:

Should the Council follow the Scotland government in respect of its approach to carrying out Socio-Economic inequalities assessments?

Councillor Asma Begum's response to supplementary question:

I am happy to discuss this with the Councillor further.

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?

Response of Mayor John Biggs:

This is a recurrent issue - in this area and the Bethnal Green area as well. Whilst the Council had no direct powers in relation to water issues, and our responsibilities were complicated, the Council worked with the Greater London Authority and Thames Water to develop an integrated water management delivery plan. The Council may also work with landlords to supply pumps and consult Thames Water on all strategic planning applications.

Supplementary question from Councillor Mohammed Pappu:

The residents most affected by these problems are normally the disabled and those with special needs and residents with difficulty in paying bills. What support can the Council provide to mitigate this?

Mayor John Biggs response to supplementary question:

I am happy to work with landlords, management agents, individual households and in particular, social landlords where residents with disabilities, and those experience difficulties in paying their bills, are often in occupation. The Council can't solve these problems ourselves but I am happy to continue to work with the residents to work to address these problems.

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?

Response of Councillor Asma Begum, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities:

The Council is committed to ensuring gender equality at the Council and in the wider Borough. The Council had invested in a number of gender equality programmes including initiatives regarding: reducing violence against women, supporting access to work and access to childcare. An example of the work included supporting an introduction into construction. The Council had also funded a series of event to mark International Women's Day to raise aspirations of local women and girls.

Supplementary question from Councillor Rabina Khan:

Can the Mayor provide confirmation regarding pay equality for employee's carrying out the same role?

Councillor Asma Begum response to supplementary question.

I am happy to meet with you to give you a detailed response.

Questions 11.5, 11.7 were not put due to the absence of the questioner. A written response would be provided to these questions. (Note the written responses are included in Appendix A to these minutes)

12. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**12.1 Motion regarding NJC Pay.**

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

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

RESOLVED:

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.

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

13. URGENT MOTION

13.1 Urgent Motion regarding the Covid-19 Virus

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

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

The motion was unanimously **agreed**.

RESOLVED:

This Council notes:

1. Widespread concern about the Covid-19 virus;
2. The coronavirus outbreak has been labelled a pandemic by the World Health Organization;

3. That four cases have been reported in Tower Hamlets as at the 10th March;
4. Panic buying of essentials over the last weekend;
5. That we are currently in the containment phase of the response;
6. That the NHS advice is;

DO

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- always wash your hands when you get home or into work
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin straight away and wash your hands afterwards
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell

DON'T

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

This Council resolves:

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

Health plans as soon as possible and also review the Communications plan to be used at each stage of the response.

The meeting ended at 10.10 p.m.

Speaker of the Council

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

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?

Response from Cllr Danny Hassell, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People:

Thank you for this question. This is a matter which has received national coverage recently and as corporate parents we should be taking a particular interest in.

Protecting our young people is a top priority for the council that is why this year we have once again invested in placement funding in our children's services to keep our community's most vulnerable children safe and ensure we can continue to have child in good quality placements.

We currently have 310 children in our care. I can confirm that currently we do not have any young people in un-regulated placements.

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?

Response from Cllr Sirajul Islam, Deputy Mayor for Housing:

THH is currently consulting residents on the proposal to introduce Traffic Management Orders on all LBTH owned housing estates following agreement by the Cabinet in September 2018. This will re-introduce powers to issue a Penalty Charge Notice to all who illegally park on LBTH estates including double yellow lines. This project has begun in Wapping, Shadwell and Whitechapel and will move eastward in a 2 year programme. These changes are necessary as the Government no longer recognises the use of contract law on housing land, the method of parking enforcement currently used by LBTH and many other Local Authorities

To licence a vehicle on an LBTH estate, a resident must have a car with a valid insurance, MOT and Vehicle Ownership documents. It will therefore be much more difficult for a resident to sublet a vehicle space to a non-resident without owning a vehicle.

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Agenda Item 7

Non-Executive Report of the: Council Wednesday, 30 September 2020	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Open (Unrestricted)
Mayor's Cabinet and Executive Arrangements	

Originating Officer(s)	David Courcoux, Head of the Mayor's Office
Wards affected	All wards

SUMMARY

As set out in the Council's Constitution Council Procedure Rules at Part B, Section 26, the Council's Annual General Meeting will receive a report noting the Executive Mayor's Cabinet Appointments and other arrangements in respect of Executive Decision Making.

The Executive Procedure Rules at Part B Section 29 of the Council's Constitution provide for the Mayor to delegate specific executive functions to:-

- the Executive as a whole (the Cabinet);
- a committee of the Executive or an individual member of the Executive;
- an officer;
- an area committee;
- a ward councillor (only in accordance with s.236 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007);
- joint arrangements; or
- another local authority.

The Mayor may amend or revoke any delegation of an executive function at any time.

The Executive Scheme of Delegation must contain the following information in so far as it relates to executive functions:

- (a) The extent of any authority delegated to any individual Executive Member or ward councillor including details of the limitation on their authority;
- (b) The terms of reference and constitution of such Executive Committees as the Mayor appoints and the names of Executive Members appointed to them;

- (c) The nature and extent of any delegation of executive functions to area Committees, any other authority or any joint arrangements and the names of those Executive Members appointed to any joint Committee for the coming year; and
- (d) The nature and extent of any delegation of executive functions to officers not already specified in Part B of the Constitution, with details of any limitation on that delegation and the title of the officer to whom the delegation is made.

In accordance with the above requirements the Executive Scheme of Delegation agreed by the Mayor to apply with effect from 30th September 2020 is set out below.

Recommendations:

That Council agrees:

- a) To note the Mayor's Executive Decision-Making Scheme

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Mayor is required to present his Executive Decision-Making Scheme to Council at each Annual General Meeting.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 None.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 The details of the Executive Decision Making Structure is set out in the Appendix to this report.

5. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 5.1 There are no direct financial considerations arising from this report.

6. LEGAL COMMENTS

- 6.1 The legal position is set out in the main body of the report.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Executive Procedure Rules and Executive Scheme of Delegation (Parts A and B)

Appendix 2 – Terms of Reference for Cabinet, King George's Field Charity Board and the Grants Determination (cabinet) Sub-Committee

29 Executive Procedure Rules**CONTENTS**

Rule	Subject
1	How Does the Executive Operate?
2	How are Executive Meetings Conducted?
3	The Mayor's Executive Scheme of Delegation

1. HOW DOES THE EXECUTIVE OPERATE?**1.1 Who May Make Executive Decisions?**

In law, functions which are the responsibility of the Executive may be exercised by

- (a) The Mayor
- (b) The Executive as a whole (the Cabinet) ;
- (c) A Committee of the Executive;
- (d) An individual Member of the Executive;
- (e) The Chief Executive, a Chief Officer or an officer;
- (f) An area Committee; or a ward councillor in accordance with Section 236 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007;
- (g) joint arrangements; or
- (h) another local authority;

subject to the Mayor or this Constitution giving delegated authority to the person/meeting listed to discharge the particular function.

The arrangements for the discharge of executive functions at Tower Hamlets are set out in the executive arrangements adopted by the Council (as set out in Part A, Section 8 of this Constitution) and the Executive Scheme of Delegation at Rule 3 of these Rules.

Currently decisions on executive functions are taken by the Mayor, either at the Cabinet meeting or separately, unless the Mayor has delegated either a function as set out in those parts of the Constitution or a specific executive decision.

1.2 The Executive Scheme of Delegation and Executive Functions

At the Annual Meeting of the Council the Mayor will present to the Council a written record of delegations made by the Mayor ('The Executive Scheme of Delegation') for inclusion in the Council's Constitution. The document presented by the Mayor must contain the following information in so far as it relates to executive functions:

- (a) The extent of any authority delegated to any individual Executive Member or ward Councillor including details of the limitation on their authority.
- (b) The terms of reference and constitution of such Executive Committees as the Mayor appoints and the names of Executive Members appointed to them.
- (c) The nature and extent of any delegation of executive functions to area Committees, any other authority or any joint arrangements and the names of those Executive Members appointed to any joint Committee for the coming year.
- (d) The nature and extent of any delegation of executive functions to officers not already specified in Part B of this Constitution, with details of any limitation on that delegation and the title of the officer to whom the delegation is made.

The Mayor may amend or revoke any delegation of an Executive function at any time.

The Executive Scheme of Delegation shall be included at Rule 3 of these Rules.

Within five working days of agreeing any change to the Executive Scheme of Delegation, a Cabinet appointment or portfolio, the Mayor shall present a written record of the change that they have agreed, together with the reasons for that change, to the Monitoring Officer.

Whenever the Monitoring Officer receives notification from the Mayor of any change(s) to the Executive Scheme of Delegation, Cabinet appointment(s) or portfolio(s), the Monitoring Officer will inform all Councillors of the change(s) made and any reasons given by the Mayor.

1.3 Sub-Delegation of Executive Functions

- (a) Where the Mayor, the Executive, a Committee of the Executive or an individual Member of the Executive is responsible for an executive function, they may delegate further to an area Committee, joint arrangements or an officer.

- (b) Unless the Mayor directs otherwise, if the Mayor delegates functions to the Executive then the Executive may delegate further to a Committee of the Executive or an officer.
- (c) Unless the Mayor directs otherwise, a Committee of the Executive to whom functions have been delegated may delegate further to an officer.
- (d) Even where executive functions have been delegated, that fact does not prevent the discharge of delegated functions by the person or body who delegated them.

1.4 The Council's Scheme of Delegation and Executive Functions

- (a) Subject to (b) below, the Council's Scheme of Delegation will be subject to adoption by the Council and may only be amended by the Council. It will contain the details required in Part A, Section 8.
- (b) The Mayor may amend the Scheme of Delegation of executive functions at any time during the year. To do so, the Mayor must give written notice to the Monitoring Officer and the person, body or Committee concerned. The notice must set out the extent of the amendment to the Scheme of Delegation, and whether it entails the withdrawal of delegation from any person, body or Committee or the Executive as a whole. The Monitoring Officer will inform all Councillors of the change(s) made and any reasons given by the Mayor.
- (c) Where the Mayor seeks to withdraw or amend delegations to a Committee, notice will be deemed to be served on that Committee when it has been served on its Chair.

1.5 Interests

- (a) Where a Member of the Executive has a disclosable pecuniary interest this should be dealt with as set out in the Council's Code of Conduct for Members at Part C Section 31 of this Constitution.
- (b) If every Member of the Executive has either a registerable or non-registerable interest and either interest might appear to a fair and informed observer that there was a real possibility of the Members' judgement being or likely to be impaired by the interest then this also should be dealt with as set out in the Council's Code of Conduct for Members in Part C Section 31 of this Constitution.
- (c) Where a Member of the Executive has either a registerable or non-registerable interest and either interest might appear to a fair and informed observer that there was a real possibility of the Member's judgement being or likely to be impaired by the interest then this should be dealt with as set out in the Council's Code of Conduct for Members at Part C Section 31 of this Constitution.
- (d) If the exercise of an executive function has been delegated to a Committee of the Executive, an individual Member, the Chief

Executive, a Chief Officer or an officer, and should a disclosable pecuniary interest arise, then the function will be exercised in the first instance by the person or body by whom the delegation was made or otherwise as set out in the Council's Code of Conduct for Members at Part C Section 31 of this Constitution.

- (e) If the exercise of an executive function has been delegated to a Committee of the Executive, an individual Member, the Chief Executive, a Chief Officer or an officer, and should either a registerable or non-registerable interest and either interest might appear to a fair and informed observer that there was a real possibility of that person's judgement being or likely to be impaired by the interest arise, then the function will be exercised in the first instance by the person or body by whom the delegation was made or otherwise as set out in the Council's Code of Conduct for Members at Part C Section 31 of this Constitution.

1.6 Meetings of the Cabinet

- (a) Meetings of the Cabinet will be determined by the Mayor or Chief Executive. The Cabinet shall normally meet at the Council's main offices or at another location as appropriate. Where necessary the Cabinet, like other Council committees may meet remotely using a publicly accessible online platform.
- (b) Meetings of the Cabinet will be subject to the Access to Information Procedure Rules and any other relevant procedure rules in this Constitution.

1.7 Quorum

The quorum for a meeting of the Executive shall be three Members

1.8 How are Decisions to be taken by the Executive?

- (a) Executive decisions which are the responsibility of the Cabinet as a whole will be taken at a meeting convened in accordance with the Access to Information Rules in Part B of the Constitution.
- (b) Where executive decisions are delegated to a Committee of the Executive, the rules applying to executive decisions taken by them shall be the same as those applying to those taken by the Executive as a whole.

2. HOW ARE EXECUTIVE MEETINGS CONDUCTED?

2.1 Who Presides?

If the Mayor is present they will preside. In their absence, then the Deputy Mayor shall preside. In the absence of both the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor, then a person appointed by those present shall preside.

2.2 Who may Attend?

- (a) Meetings of the Cabinet will normally be open to the public unless confidential or exempt information is to be discussed.
- (b) Subject to the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part B Section 27 of this Constitution, meetings may occasionally be private.

2.3 What Business?

At each meeting of the Cabinet the following business will be conducted:

- (a) consideration of the minutes of the last meeting;
- (b) declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest, if any;
- (c) matters set out in the agenda for the meeting, and which shall indicate which are key decisions and which are not, in accordance with the Access to Information Procedure Rules set out in Part B Section 27 of this Constitution.
- (d) consideration of reports from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- (e) matters referred to the Executive (whether by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or by the Council) for reconsideration by the Executive in accordance with the provisions contained in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules or the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules set out in Part B Section 28 of this Constitution;

The Mayor or other person presiding at a meeting of the Cabinet may at their discretion allow persons other than Cabinet members to contribute to the meeting. This may include an informal 'question time' to the Mayor and/or Cabinet Members.

2.4 Community Engagement/ Consultation

All reports to the Executive from any Member of the Executive or an officer on proposals relating to the Budget and Policy Framework must contain details of the nature and extent of community engagement or consultation with stakeholders, Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the outcome of that consultation. Reports about other matters will set out the details and outcome of consultation as appropriate. The level of community engagement or consultation required will be appropriate to the nature of the matter under consideration having due regard to the Council's Community Engagement Strategy.

2.5 Who can put Items on the Executive Agenda?

The Mayor and Chief Executive may put on the agenda of any Cabinet meeting any Executive matter which they wish, whether or not authority has been delegated to the Cabinet, a Committee of it, any Member, the Chief

Executive, a Chief Officer or officer in respect of that matter. The Corporate Director, Governance will comply with their requests in this respect.

The Monitoring Officer and/or the Chief Finance Officer may include an item for consideration on the agenda of a Cabinet meeting and may require the Chief Executive to call such a meeting in pursuance of their statutory duties. In other circumstances, where any two (2) of the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer are of the opinion that a meeting of the Cabinet needs to be called to consider a matter that requires a decision, they may jointly call a meeting and include an item on the agenda of that meeting or of a Cabinet meeting which has already been called. If there is no meeting of the Cabinet soon enough to deal with the issue in question, then the person(s) entitled to include an item on the agenda may also require that a meeting be convened at which the matter will be considered.

2.6 Application of Council Procedure Rules

Rules 5 – 9, 16.1 to 16.3 and 17 to 24 of the Council Procedure Rules (Part B Section 26 of this Constitution) shall also apply to meetings of the Cabinet.

2.7 Public Engagement at Cabinet

Whilst the main focus of Cabinet is as a decision-making body, there is an opportunity for the public to contribute through making submissions that specifically relate to the reports that are set out on the agenda. Members of the public may therefore make written submissions in any form (for example; Petitions, letters, written questions) and which to be submitted to the Clerk to Cabinet (whose details are on the agenda front sheet) by 5 pm the day before the meeting. The consideration of such written submissions will be at the discretion of whosoever presides at the meeting.

3. THE MAYOR'S EXECUTIVE SCHEME OF DELEGATION

With effect from 3 June 2020

PART A - EXECUTIVE SCHEME OF DELEGATION

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this Executive Scheme of Delegation is to:-

- (a) be clear about who can make which executive decisions including Key Decisions;
- (b) facilitate the smooth running of Council business;
- (c) ensure that the Mayor is able to provide effective strategic leadership for the overall policy direction of the Council and to promote partnership working with other agencies; and that officers take responsibility for operational matters and policy implementation.

2. THE CONSTITUTION

2.1 Once presented by the Mayor to the Annual Council Meeting or to the Monitoring Officer, this Executive Scheme of Delegation will form part of the Council's Constitution and will be appended to it. Its provisions apply alongside the Council Procedure Rules (Section 26) and Access to Information Procedure Rules (Section 27) provisions included in the Constitution.

3. AMENDMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE SCHEME OF DELEGATION

3.1 This Scheme of Delegation remains in force for the term of office of the Mayor unless and until it is amended or revoked by the Mayor in accordance with Rule 1.2 of the Executive Procedure Rules.

4. NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

4.1 No delegated power in this Executive Scheme of Delegation applies to any decision that relates to a matter that is not an Executive function either by law or by the allocation of local choice functions under the Council's Constitution.

5. THE COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

5.1 The Executive shall consist of ten (10) people, namely the Mayor and nine (9) Cabinet Members (Councillors) as set out below:-

Name	Portfolio
Deputy Mayor for Housing (Statutory Deputy Mayor)	Cllr Sirajul Islam
Deputy Mayor for Adults, Health and Wellbeing	Cllr Rachel Blake
Deputy Mayor for Community Safety, Youth and Equalities	Cllr Asma Begum
Children and Schools	Cllr Danny Hassel
Culture, Arts and Brexit	Cllr Sabina Akhtar
Work and Economic Growth	Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman
Resources and the Voluntary Sector	Cllr Candida Ronald
Environment and Public Realm	Cllr Asma Islam (job share) ^ Cllr Dan Tomlinson (job share)*
Planning and Social Inclusion	Cllr Mufeedah Bustin (job share)* Cllr Eve McQuillan (job share)^

* Official Cabinet Member from 3rd June 2020 to 6th December 2020

^ Official Cabinet Member from 7th December to 19th May 2021 (or until a new schedule of delegations is agreed by the Mayor)

5.2 Where Cabinet roles are held by job share Cabinet Members one of the two councillors for the portfolio will be appointed as the official Cabinet Member who will retain official responsibility for the whole portfolio for the first six months. Following this, the second Cabinet Member will take up the official role for the second six-month period.

5.3 Given that the Mayor has not delegated decision making powers, job share Cabinet Members will have day to day advisory responsibility for distinct areas of the portfolio. These responsibilities will be published on the council's website.

5.4 Special Responsibility Allowances for both job share Cabinet Members will be paid monthly with each receiving the equivalent of half a Cabinet Member SRA.

5.5 For the purposes of the Constitution, both job share Cabinet Members will be treated as if they were members of the executive. For example, they would not be able to serve on O&S during the six months there were not the 'official' Cabinet Member.

5.6 The Council has the power to appoint Mayoral Advisors to give specific focus to cross cutting themes and mayoral priorities supporting and advising the Mayor and Cabinet on specific issues. Mayoral Advisors are not members of the Executive.

6. DELEGATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE

6.1 The Mayor has not delegated any decision-making powers to the Executive acting collectively.

6.2 The Mayor may, in accordance with Rule 1.2 of the Executive Procedure Rules, appoint such committees of the Executive as he considers appropriate from time to time and he appoints the following at this time:

- King George's Fields Charity Board
- The Grants Determination Sub-Committee

6.3 Subject to the Mayor's prerogative to make decisions on all matters relating to all his statutory powers, the Mayor delegates to each Cabinet Member individually the power to make decisions on matters within their portfolio after consultation with the Mayor and subject to the Mayor raising no objection to the proposed decision. Any such decision by a cabinet member will be subject to a written report and the same procedure as applies to mayoral executive decisions.

6.4 In accordance with section 14(6) of the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended), any arrangements made by the Mayor for the discharge of an executive function by an executive member, committee or officer are not to prevent the Mayor from exercising that function.

7. DELEGATIONS TO OFFICERS

7.1 The Mayor has delegated to officers decision making powers in relation to Executive functions as set out at Parts B and D of the Council's Constitution.

8. OTHER DELEGATIONS

8.1 The Mayor has not delegated any powers to any area committee, or to any ward Councillor in accordance with section 236 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

8.2 The Mayor has delegated powers to joint arrangements with other local authorities as set out in Part A, Section 12 and Part B Section 21 of the Council's Constitution

8.3 Subject to paragraph 8.2 above, the Mayor has not delegated any powers to any other local authority.

9. PROCESS FOR EXECUTIVE DECISION MAKING BY THE MAYOR OR A CABINET MEMBER

- 9.1 The process for taking individual executive decisions, including Key Decisions, is set out in Part D Section 53.

Procedure for Executive Decision Making by the Mayor or a Cabinet Member

1. Where an Executive decision, including a Key Decision, falls to be made and either:-
 - (a) authority to make that decision has not been delegated by the Mayor under this Executive Scheme of Delegation; or
 - (b) authority has been delegated but the person or body with delegated powers declines to exercise those powers; or
 - (c) authority has been delegated but the Mayor nevertheless decides to take the decision himself,

the decision shall be made by the Mayor individually, after consultation with the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Finance Officer and such other Corporate Director(s), the Head of Paid Service or Cabinet Member(s) as required.
2. Executive decisions (including Key Decisions) to be taken by the Mayor in accordance with paragraph 1 above shall either be taken:-
 - (a) at a formal meeting of the Executive, notice of which has been given in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules (Section 29) of the Constitution and to which the Access to Information Rules (Section 27) of the Constitution shall apply; or
 - (b) in accordance with the procedure at paragraph 5 below.
3. In the case of a decision taken at a formal meeting of the Executive, the Mayor will take the decision having received written and oral advice from appropriate officers and consulted those members of the Executive present. In the event that a meeting of the Executive is not quorate, the Mayor may still take any necessary decisions having consulted any Executive members present. All Mayoral decisions taken at a formal meeting of the Executive shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
4. The Cabinet Meeting is not authorised to exercise the Mayor's powers in the absence of the Mayor. If the Mayor is unable to act for any reason, and only in those circumstances, the Deputy Mayor is authorised to exercise the Mayor's powers.
5. The Mayor may at his discretion make a decision in relation to an Executive function, including a Key Decision, alone and outside the context of a meeting of the Executive. In relation to any decision made by the Mayor under this provision:-

- (a) The decision may only be made following consideration by the Mayor of a full report by the relevant officer(s) containing all relevant information, options and recommendations in the same format as would be required if the decision were to be taken at a meeting of the Executive;
- (b) The provisions of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in relation to call-in, including the rules regarding urgent decisions, shall apply;
- (c) In the case of a Key Decision as defined in Section 3 of the Constitution, the provisions of the Access to Information Procedure Rules in relation to prior publication on the Forward Plan shall apply; and
- (d) The decision shall not be made until the Mayor has confirmed his agreement by signing a Mayoral Decision Proforma (example attached) which has first been completed with all relevant information and signed by the relevant Chief Officers.


6. All Mayoral decisions taken in accordance with paragraph 5 above shall be:-

- (a) Recorded in a log held by the Head of Democratic Services and available for public inspection; and
- (b) Published on the Council's website;

save that no information that in the opinion of the Corporate Director, Governance is 'exempt' or 'confidential' as defined in the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules (Section 27) shall be published, included in the decision notice or available for public inspection.

7. Any decision taken by an individual Cabinet Member in relation to any matter delegated to them in accordance with paragraph 6 of the Mayor's Executive Scheme of Delegation shall:-

- (a) be subject to the same process and rules as a Mayoral decision in accordance with paragraphs 5 and 6 above; and
- (b) not be made until the Mayor has confirmed in writing that he has no objection to the decision.

Individual Mayoral Decision Proforma	 TOWER HAMLETS
Decision Log No: (To be inserted by Democratic Services)	
Report of: [Insert name and title of corporate director]	Classification: [Unrestricted or Exempt]
[Insert title here]	

Is this a Key Decision?	Yes / No (Report author to delete as applicable)
Decision Notice Publication Date:	(Report author to state date of decision notice – either individual notice or within the Forward Plan)
General Exception or Urgency Notice published?	Yes (give details) / Not required (Report author to delete as applicable)
Restrictions:	(If restricted state which of the exempt/confidential criteria applies)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

(To be completed by Chief Officer seeking the decision)

.....
.....
.....

Full details of the decision sought, including reasons for the recommendations and (where applicable) each of the options put forward; other options considered; background information; the comments of the Chief Finance Officer; the concurrent report of the Corporate Director, Governance; implications for Equalities; Risk Assessment; Background Documents; and other relevant matters are set out in the attached report.

DECISION

(Proposed decision to be entered here)

.....
.....

APPROVALS

1. (If applicable) Corporate Director proposing the decision or their deputy

I approve the attached report and proposed decision above for submission to the Mayor. I confirm that the Mayor and/or Lead Member have agreed to this decision being taken using this process.

Signed Date

2. Chief Finance Officer or their deputy

I have been consulted on the content of the attached report which includes my comments.

Signed Date

3. Monitoring Officer or their deputy

I have been consulted on the content of the attached report which includes my comments.

(For Key Decision only – delete as applicable)

I confirm that this decision:-

(a) has been published in advance on the Council’s Forward Plan OR

(b) is urgent and subject to the ‘General Exception’ or ‘Special Urgency’ provision at paragraph 18 or 19 respectively of the Access to Information Procedure Rules.

Signed Date

4. (If the proposed decision relates to matters for which the Head of Paid Service has responsibility) Head of Paid Service

I have been consulted on the content of the attached report which includes my comments where necessary.

Signed Date

5. Mayor

I agree the decision proposed at above for the reasons set out in paragraph of the attached report.

Signed Date

4 Cabinet

Summary Description: The Cabinet is forum for the Mayor, in consultation with the Cabinet Members, to take decisions related to	
Membership: The Mayor and at least 2 and not more than 9 other Executive Councillors appointed by the Mayor.	
Functions	Delegation of Functions
1. To discharge all functions not specified as the responsibility of the full Council or of any other Committee, where the Mayor has delegated his powers to the Cabinet as set out in the Executive Scheme of Delegation.	Chief Officers and other officers authorised by them have the delegated authority as set out in Section 18 and 24.
2. In relation to any Executive function for which the Mayor has not delegated his powers to the Cabinet, to advise the Mayor on the discharge of that function.	No delegations
3. To refer to the Standards Advisory Committee for consideration any report which contains implications for the Council's ethical framework	No delegations
Quorum: 3 Members of the Cabinet	
Additional Information:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution Section 29 Executive Procedure Rules 	

The Cabinet may establish Sub-Committees to discharge functions on its behalf but any Cabinet Sub-Committee may only include Cabinet Members.

5. King George's Fields Charity Board

Summary Description:

The original charity was set up following the grant of moneys from a national appeal to perpetuate the memory of the late King George V. The foundation made grants for the laying out of the playing fields and it was agreed that they would be preserved in perpetuity as a memorial to King George V.

The current King George's Field Charity Board is child of the original arrangements and trustee. Currently the work is split into two charities, King George's Field Mile End and King George's Field Tredegar Square. Both are dealt with by the Board.

This covers a number of pieces of land including Stepney Green Park, Whitehorse Road Open Space, Tredegar Square and most of Mile End Park including Mile End Park Leisure Centre and Mile End Stadium.

This includes 10 shop units situated beneath the 'Green Bridge' at Mile End.

Membership: All Members of the Cabinet

Functions

Delegation of Functions

1. To administer the affairs of the King George's Field, Mile End charity, registered number 1077859 and the King George's Field – Stepney (Tredegar Square, Bow) charity, registered number 1088999 and discharge all duties of the Council as sole trustee of these charities.

No delegations

2. To administer the affairs and discharge the duties of trustee of such other charities controlled by the Council as the Executive might authorise.


No delegations

Quorum: 3 Members of the Board

6. Grants Determination Sub-Committee

Summary Description: A Cabinet Sub-Committee established to consider matters relating to grants.	
Membership: Three Members of the Cabinet (Executive Councillors or the Mayor) as appointed by the Mayor. All other Executive Members can substitute where necessary.	
Functions	Delegation of Functions
1. To determine all applications for grant funding received by the Council.	No delegations
2. To determine all applications for corporate match funding received by the Council.	No delegations
3. The Sub-Committee may delegate decision making to individual officers, provided that the extent of this delegation is made clear and that it is minuted properly	No delegations
4. Where decision making has been delegated, to receive a report advising as to the exercise of a discretion at the next Sub-Committee meeting following the exercise of such discretion.	No delegations
5. To receive quarterly update reports against defined parameters in order for the Council to demonstrate either: that delivery is in line with the application and, therefore, the grant achieved its purpose; or to provide clear delineation where outcomes were not achieved and the reasons for such failure are apparent. Such Monitoring should therefore include measuring performance against the expected outcomes.	No delegations
6. To determine criteria under which grant applications will be considered.	No delegations
Quorum: 3 Members of the Committee	

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Non-Executive Report of the: Council Wednesday, 30 September 2020	
Report of: Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Open (Unrestricted)
Proportionality and Allocation of Places on Committees of the Council 2020/21	

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

Executive Summary

This report reviews proportionality as required by section 15 of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 ('The 1989 Act'); recommends the establishment of committees and sub-committees as set out in the Council's Constitution; and proposes the allocation of places on those Committees between the political groups represented on the Authority.

The nominations from the groups for membership of those Committees and Sub-Committees in accordance with the allocation of places; and certain other bodies not covered by the proportionality rules, will follow at Agenda Item 8.

Part B, Section 26 of the constitution states that the Annual Council Meeting will establish an Overview & Scrutiny Committee and such other Committees/ Sub-Committees as it considers appropriate to deal with matters which are neither Executive Functions nor reserved to the Council. The Committees, Sub-Committees and other bodies appointed by the Council are listed at Part B, Sections 19-21 of the constitution.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to agree:

1. The review of proportionality as at Section 3 of this report and the allocation of seats on Committees and Panels for the Municipal Year 2020/21 as set out at paragraph 3.6.
2. To establish the Committees set out for the municipal year 2020/21, and for places to be allocated on those Committees, as set out at Paragraph 3.6.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 This report establishes the Council's Non-Executive Committees and reviews the proportionality as required by Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 ('The 1989 Act').

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 Council could determine a different arrangement of Committees to perform the required decision making and scrutiny functions.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 Section 15(1) of the 1989 Act requires the Council at, or as soon as practicable after, the Annual Meeting to carry out a review to determine the allocation to the political groups of seats on the Committees/ Panels of the Council. The principles which must be adopted are:
- (i) that in relation to each body covered by the Act, all seats are not allocated to the same political group;
 - (ii) that the majority of seats on each body must go to the political group with the majority on the Council (if any);
 - (iii) that subject to (i) and (ii) the number of seats on the total of all the ordinary Committees/ Panels of the authority allocated to each group bears the same proportion as that group's proportion of the seats on the full Council; and
 - (iv) that subject to the above three principles, the number of seats on each ordinary Committee of the authority allocated to each political group bears the same proportion as that group's proportion of the seats on the full Council.
- 3.2 Once the political groups have been allocated their places in accordance with the above rules, the Council may appoint ungrouped members to any remaining positions.
- 3.3 Neither the Cabinet, any executive sub-groups of the Cabinet, nor the Tower Hamlets Health and Wellbeing Board, are covered by the requirement for proportionality.

3.4 The political composition of the Council is as follows:

GROUP	SEATS (on Council)	PROPORTION ON COUNCIL	ENTITLEMENT (to seats on Committees)
Labour	41	91.11%	63.78 (64)
Conservative	2	4.44%	3.11 (3)
Ungrouped	2	0*	3 (remainder)
	45		70

* Ungrouped Councillors are not included in the proportionality calculation. As two Councillors are required to form a group the Liberal Democrat and Aspire Councillors are included in the 'ungrouped' designation above.

Allocation of Places on Committees

3.5 According to the above calculation the Labour Group would be entitled to 64 seats on these Committees, with the Conservative Group receiving 3 and a remainder of three which would be available for the ungrouped Councillors. However, as set out in Paragraph 3.1(i) above, no group can be allocated all the seats on a specific Committee. The allocations have been adjusted to meet that rule. The Labour Group has been allocated 62 seats and the two seats left over have been allocated to the Conservative Group as the other political group in the proportionality calculations.

3.6 Applying the above principles, the proposed allocation of places on the Committees established by the Council for the municipal year 2020/21 and covered by the requirement for proportionality, are listed below. The allocations for the remainder of the municipal year or until the next review of proportionality, whichever is the sooner, is as follows:

Committee	Total	Labour	Conservative	Ungrouped
Overview and Scrutiny Committee (plus 6 co-optees)	11	10	1	
Audit Committee	8	7	1	
Development Committee	7	6	0	1
Strategic Development Committee	8	7	0	1
General Purposes Committee	9	8	1	
Licensing Committee	15	14	1	
Pensions Committee	7	6	1	
Standards (Advisory) Committee (plus 5 Co-optees)	5	4	0	1
TOTALS	70	62	5	3

- 3.7 This will result in the allocation of all committee places amongst the political groups in accordance with the rules set out in the 1989 Act.
- 3.8 It is for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to agree arrangements for its own sub-committees and it is due to formally set out its sub-committee arrangements at its upcoming committee meeting. However, for a sub-committee with the current 6 Members, allocation of places would be as follows:

Committee	Total	Labour	Conservative
Scrutiny Sub-Committee	6	5	1

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The purpose of the report is to ensure all political groups receive an appropriate allocation of Non-Executive Committee seats.

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 None specific to this report.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 There are no direct financial considerations arising from this report.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 The legal considerations are set out in the main body of the report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None.

Appendices

- None.

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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<p>Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p>Council</p> <p>Wednesday, 30 September 2020</p>	 <p>TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer</p>	<p>Classification: Open (Unrestricted)</p>
<p>Appointments to Committees and Sub-Committees of the Council</p>	

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

Summary

A report at Item 8 of the Annual Council agenda recommends the establishment of Committees and Sub-Committee of the Council as set out in the Constitution; and the allocation of places on those committees and sub-committees in accordance with the proportionality rules.

The attached appendices set out the positions that are open to nomination from the political groups for (a) members of committees and sub-committees and (b) chairs of the Council committees in accordance with the places allocated. Any nominations received before the before the meeting will be tabled or appointments can be proposed at the meeting.

The report also presents one appointment to a Non-Executive outside body for agreement.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to:

1. Appoint members and substitute members to the committees and sub-committees of the Council and other bodies for the municipal year 2020/21 as set out at Appendix 1 attached or any further nominations made at the meeting.
2. Appoint the Chairs of Committees for 2020/21 from amongst the nominations listed at Appendix 2 attached or any further nominations made at the meeting.
3. Agree that in relation to any unfilled places within the seats allocated to a particular political group, the Council note that the Corporate Director, Governance has delegated authority subsequently to agree the appointments to those places in accordance with nominations from the relevant political group.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Council is required to appoint Councillors as Members to the various Committees listed in line with proportionality rules.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 There are no alternative options.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

- 3.1 Following the Council's decision to agree the establishment of committees and sub-committees of the Council as set out at Agenda Item 8; and the allocation of places on those committees and sub-committees in accordance with the proportionality rules, it is for Council to subsequently agree the appointment of Members to those Committees.
- 3.2 This report presents the proposed appointments for the political groups on the Council. Note that any appointments received after publication of the agenda will be circulated at the meeting for agreement. Each political group can also allocate up to three substitutes on each Committee where they have a place allocated.
- 3.3 Following the allocation to a political group by the Council, or a committee, of a seat or seats on a committee or sub-committee respectively, regulation 15 of the relevant Regulations provides that the political group has a period of three weeks from the date that notice is given to express its wishes in relation to the appointment to such a seat or seats. If the group fails to express its wishes within the prescribed period, the Council or committee may make such appointment to that seat or seats as they think fit. Further, the group to which a seat has been allocated is entitled to express a wish that the seat be filled by a member of a different political party or an ungrouped Councillor. However, that seat remains, in law, allocated to the first group and that group therefore retains the right to terminate the appointment.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 No implications arising from this report.

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 No implications arising from this report.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

6.1 There are no specific financial comments arising from this report.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 This report complies with statutory requirements regarding the establishment and appointment of committees and sub-committees. There are no other immediate legal implications arising from this report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- Agenda Item 8 – Proportionality and Establishment of Committees

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Nominations of Members to Committees (information to be tabled)
- Appendix 2 – Nominations of Chairs to Committees (information to be tabled)

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

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LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS 2020-2021

NOMINATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

AUDIT COMMITTEE (Eight members of the Council)		
<i>Labour Group (7)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (0)</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	N/A

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (Seven members of the Council)		
<i>Labour Group (6)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (0)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (1)</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	N/A

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (Eight members of the Council)		
<i>Labour Group (7)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (0)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (1)</i>
Substitutes:-	N/A	

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
(Nine members of the Council)

<i>Labour Group (8)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (0)</i>
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Substitutes:-

Substitutes:-

N/A

LICENSING COMMITTEE
(Fifteen members of the Council) (No substitutes permitted)

<i>Labour Group (14)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (0)</i>
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Substitutes:-

Substitutes:-

N/A

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

(Eleven members of the Council plus six co-opted members)

(NB Scrutiny Lead Members and Chairs of Sub-Committees to be appointed by the O&S Committee)

<i>Labour Group (10)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (1)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (0)</i>	<i>Co-Opted Members (for information – to be appointed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee)</i>
Substitutes:-	Substitutes:-	N/A	Neil Cunningham Ahmed Hussain Fatiha Kassouri (Parent Governors) Joanna Hannan (Representative of Diocese of Westminster) Dr Phillip Rice (Church of England Representative) Khoyrul Shaheed (Muslim Faith Community)

PENSIONS COMMITTEE
(Seven members of the Council)

Labour Group (6)

Conservative Group (1)

Ungrouped (0)

Substitutes:-

Substitutes:-

N/A

PENSIONS BOARD
(One Councillor to work alongside six other members of the Board)

Labour Group

Conservative Group

Ungrouped

STANDARDS (ADVISORY) COMMITTEE

(Five Members of the Council (who may not include the Mayor or more than one other Cabinet Member) - plus up to five co-opted members, one of whom shall chair the Committee)

<i>Labour Group (4)</i>	<i>Conservative Group (0)</i>	<i>Ungrouped (1)</i>	<i>Co-opted Members</i>
Substitutes:-	N/A	<i>(Substitutes not applicable)</i>	<i>John Pulford MBE, Nafisa Adam, Michael Houston Fiona Browne Vacancy Independent Persons: Elizabeth Hall Rachel Tiffin</i>

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

(The Executive, Councillors, Local Authority Officers, Healthwatch and NHS Commissioners. In addition, non-voting co-opted members including NHS Providers and the Young Mayor amongst others.)

Ex-officio Elected Members

Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing (Chair)

Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Cabinet Member for Housing

Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector

Non-Executive Majority Group Councillor

Non-Executive Councillor nominee

Non-executive largest minority group councillor nominated by Council

ADOPTION AND FOSTERING PANELS

(To comprise two Social Workers, one elected Member, three Independent Persons and to include one man and one woman, up to a maximum of ten persons – meetings held during the day)

Two appointments from any political group to be nominated to the Central List. The Members will be added to the Central List once they have completed the required training and observation exercises.

<i>Labour Group</i>	<i>Conservative Group</i>	<i>Ungrouped</i>

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

(Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, other Councillor(s), the Corporate Director, Governance (and other non-Councillor Members as appropriate)

<i>Labour Group</i>	<i>Conservative Group</i>	<i>Ungrouped</i>

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APPENDIX 2

Appointment of Committee Chairs


Section 10 of the Council's Constitution states that 'the Council will appoint a Member to serve as Chair of each Committee that it appoints under this Section. If the Council does not, the Committee may appoint a Chair from amongst the Members appointed to the Committee by the Council. Each Committee may appoint a Vice-Chair from amongst its Members.

In accordance with the above, the Council is requested to appoint the Chairs of the committees listed below, to serve for the municipal year 2020/21 or until either (i) they resign the position, (ii) are no longer a member of the Council or the Committee concerned or (iii) a successor is appointed, whichever is the sooner.

Any nominations received in advance of the Council meeting shall be tabled. Any nominations received at the meeting will be reported verbally.

Committee	Nominations received for Chair
Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
Development Committee	
Strategic Development Committee	
General Purposes Committee	
Audit Committee	
Pensions Committee	
Licensing Committee	

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Non-Executive Report of the: Council Wednesday, 30 September 2020	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Open (Unrestricted)
Committee Calendar 2020/21	

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

Executive Summary

This report proposes a calendar of Council, committee and other meetings for the forthcoming municipal year 2020/21.

The Calendar of Meetings was agreed at the Council meeting held on 11 March 2020. However, there have been a number of changes since that date and so the calendar is now presented for further agreement.

It is important to note that in the current pandemic situation, meeting dates and times may change throughout the year and so Members should check the website for the latest information.

The calendar of meetings is presented at Appendix A 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 A including amended standard start times where appropriate.
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.
3. To note that the Constitution provides for the Monitoring Officer to agree to cancel, amend a meeting or arrange new meetings where required, subject to the requirements of the Council Procedure Rules.
4. To note that the Council procedure rules agreed in relation to the operation of 'virtual' or 'remote' committee meetings (Section 26A of the

Constitution) allow for these meeting locations and arrangements, including start time, to be adjusted as required including after the agenda has been published.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Council is required to give public notice of its meetings in order to fulfil its legal obligations under the Access to Information Rules set out in the Constitution and to meet its obligations under the Local Government Act 1972.
- 1.2 The calendar will assist the Council to meet its legal requirements by setting out in a schedule, the meetings it intends to hold which all may easily refer to. It also aids transparent governance by enabling the work at meetings to be planned in advance. Hence the practice of presenting this report has evolved and is maintained.
- 1.3 Council is also asked to delegate to the Corporate Director for 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 to ensure that there supporting arrangements to allow the Council to continue to be able to deliver its meetings efficiently.

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 THE REPORT

- 3.1 The draft calendar is presented at Appendix A to the report. In general, it follows the same pattern of meetings set in previous years in terms of frequency of meetings.
- 3.2 It is proposed that Cabinet and other Executive meetings will continue to take place on Wednesdays.
- 3.3 Mirroring the arrangements in previous years an additional Cabinet meeting is scheduled for the beginning of January 2021 to consider the draft budget proposals before submission to the special budget Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) meeting later that month.
- 3.4 OSC will operate reciprocal arrangements and the Committee will meet on a Monday before the date of the Cabinet meeting except where Bank Holidays fall on this day. On these dates, the OSC meeting will take place on the day before Cabinet. This arrangement will support the role of OSC in providing Pre-Scrutiny of Executive decisions by giving OSC Members longer to review the Cabinet papers before their own meeting takes place.

- 3.5 To accommodate Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Partners, the Health and Wellbeing Board will continue to meet on a Tuesday.
- 3.6 As in previous years efforts have been made to avoid holding meetings during school holidays. However, it is necessary for some meetings to be held especially in relation to regulatory matters.
- 3.7 Wherever possible we have also sought to minimise the impact of meetings on Members where these clash with certain religious holidays and other events. In most cases, committee meetings are listed at 5.30pm during Ramadan to allow the meetings to conclude before the breaking of the fast.
- 3.8 Where meetings are held virtually, discussions have taken place with Chairs and Members of those Committees which have resulted in altered start times for a number of meetings. These arrangements will continue to be reviewed as the year progresses and it may be necessary to make further amendments at various times.
- 3.9 The attached Committee Calendar presents the 'standard' start times for meetings but these may well vary at present due to the above discussions.
- 3.10 The Member Learning and Development dates have also been listed in the Calendar and where possible are listed when no Committee meetings are planned to encourage attendance. Each training session will be offered on two dates, one scheduled during the evening and the other during the afternoon. In keeping with the approach taken following the local elections in 2018, the development programme has been focussed to ensure that Members are able to receive appropriate support.
- 3.11 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.
- 3.12 The Council's Constitution also provides a general power for the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chief Executive, meeting Chair and other Members as appropriate, to cancel or vary the time of any meetings where necessary.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 In collating this schedule of meetings, consideration has been given where possible to avoiding school holidays, known religious holidays and other dates which could inhibit attendance or participation by one or more section(s) of the borough's community. Certain meetings, such as the Health and Wellbeing Board will also take place at external venues where this is useful to encourage attendance and improve accessibility.

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 None specific to this report.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 The Recommendations of the Report seek Council's approval of the proposed calendar of meetings for the municipal year 2020/21 as set out in Appendix A, and the delegation to the Corporate Director, Governance of authority to agree forthcoming dates for any new Committees or Panels that are set up subsequent to this report being presented to Council.

7.2 Additionally, Council is also requested to note the requirements in the Constitution that enable the Monitoring Officer to agree to cancel, amend a meeting or arrange new meetings where required, subject to the requirements of the Council Procedure Rules the variation of those rules in respect of the holding of 'virtual' or 'remote' committee meetings.

7.3 As advised at paragraph 1.1 of the Report the Council is required to give public notice of its meetings in accordance with the statutory requirements set out in the Access to Information Rules set out in the Constitution and the Local Government Act 1972.

7.4 Council will note the insertion of section 26A in the Constitution. This amendment enables the holding of remote Council meetings in accordance with the Local Authorities Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020. These Regulations came into force on the 4 April 2020 for a specified period until the end of May 2021.

7.5 Council will further note paragraph 4.1 of the Report, which sets out the Council's consideration of the equalities impact of the Recommendations in satisfaction of its Public Equality Duty.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None

Appendices

- Appendix A – 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:

N/A

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CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE 2020/21 MUNICIPAL YEAR

Committee Calendar 2020/21

Committee	MEETING DAY/TIME/	OCT 20	NOV 20	DEC 20	JAN 21	FEB 21	MAR 21	APR 21	MAY 21	No. of Mtgs
Council	7.00pm Wednesday		18		20	24 (B)	4 (RB)**, 17		19 (AGM)	6
Cabinet (monthly)	5.30 pm Wednesday	28	25	16**	6, 27		3, 24	28*		8
Grants Determination Sub Committee (every 8 weeks)	5.30pm Wednesday			3 (11am)	13		10	21*		4
Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Monthly)	6.30 pm Mondays	26	23	14**	11(B), 25	1 (RB)	1, 22	26*		9
Children and Education Scrutiny Sub Committee (5 a year)	6.30pm Monday			15**		9		6		4 ^a
Health and Adults Scrutiny Sub Committee (5 a year)	6.30pm Tuesday			1		8		29*		4 ^a
Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Sub Committee (every 2 months)	6.30pm Tuesday		3			10		15*		4 ^a
Development Committee (monthly)	6.30 pm Thursday	8	5	10**	21	11	11**	8	6*	8
Strategic Development Committee (every 5/6 weeks)	6.30 pm Wednesday	14	19		19	8	23	20*		6
Licensing Committee (quarterly)	6.30 pm Thursday			17**			18			2
Licensing Sub Committee (fortnightly)	6.30 pm Tuesday	13, 20	10, 24	1	12, 26	2, 23	2, 16, 30	13*, 27*	4*, 18**	16
Audit Committee (Quarterly)	6.30 pm Thursday		12		28			7		3
General Purposes Committee (5 meetings per year)	6.30 pm Tuesday	6		8		22			5*	4
Standards (Advisory) Committee (quarterly)	6.00 pm Thursday	15				4		22*		3
Pensions Board (quarterly)	10.00am		16				22			2
Pensions Committee (quarterly)	6.30pm		19				25			2
King George's Field Charity Board (quarterly)	5.30 pm Wednesday			9			31			2

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE 2020/21 MUNICIPAL YEAR

Committee	MEETING DAY/TIME/	OCT 20	NOV 20	DEC 20	JAN 21	FEB 21	MAR 21	APR 21	MAY 21	No. of Mtgs
Health and Wellbeing Board (every 2 months)	5.00pm Tuesday		17			2		6		3
Freedom of the Borough	Ad hoc if required									TBA
Training & Development (Provisional Dates Set-aside)	6.30pm-8.30pm 2.30pm-4.30pm	27, 29	10, 12		12,14	9, 11	23, 25	20, 21		6 6

Note – Dates and times of meetings may need to change, please check the website for details throughout the year.

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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

a – One further round of Scrutiny Sub-Committee meetings may be scheduled after deferral in September (this may also result in changes to dates of existing, planned meetings)

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:

- **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:

- **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**
 - Autumn 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

Non-Executive Report of the: Council Wednesday, 30 September 2020	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Open (Unrestricted)
Use of Urgency Procedures in Executive Decision Making (May 2019 to September 2020)	

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

Executive Summary

As set out in the constitution, a report must be presented to the Annual Meeting of Council setting out when Special Urgency provisions have been applied to Executive Key Decisions.

Council is asked to note the report.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to:

1. Note the report on the use of special urgency provisions in relation to Executive Key Decisions be noted.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Constitution sets out that this report must be presented to the Annual Council meeting.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 Not applicable to a noting report.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

General and Special Urgency

- 3.1 In normal circumstances the Council is required to publish on its website a public notice at least 28 clear days before an Executive Key Decision is taken by the Mayor in Cabinet, at a Cabinet Sub-Committee or as an Individual Mayoral Decision.

- 3.2 On occasion, due to reasons of urgency, it is not possible to provide this level of notice and the constitution provides procedures which must be followed in those cases:
- 5.2.1 **General Urgency** – Between 5 and 28 days’ notice can be provided – the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee must be notified of the item and the reasons for urgency.
- 5.2.2 **Special Urgency** – Less than 5 days’ notice – the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee must agree that the issue is so urgent that longer notice cannot be given.
- 3.3 In both of the above situations, the reasons for urgency are published on the website alongside the decision documentation.
- 3.4 This report informs Council of those occasions during the previous municipal year where the Special Urgency provisions had to be implemented and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee was asked to agree to a decision being taken through that process.
- 3.5 The two occasions where the Special Urgency Provisions were applied were as follows:

Report Title	Date of Decision	Reasons for Urgency provided at time of decision
The Council’s financial response to the Corona virus (COVID-19)	9 April 2020 (as an Individual Mayoral Decision)	The Council's plans to provide a financial response to Coronavirus have been drafted urgently and could not have been anticipated in advance. Any delay to the implementation of the Council's response would be unacceptable during time of an international emergency and would seriously undermine the social and financial recovery of the Borough and its residents.
THH Major Works Contracts Variations	29 July 2020 (Mayor in Cabinet)	Urgent need to regularise and authorise capital expenditure to vary the contracts in line with the additional costs. The contracts are in place and operating, THH need the revised contract values approved in order to pay the contractors, failure to do so would render the council being in breach of the contract, and therefore bring the council in disrepute. As the contracts are being delivered, failure to honour contractual payment will lead to unfinished works and leave the

		residents with unfinished works. This will adversely affect residents' expectations/satisfaction and the image of the Council.
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Call in and Urgency

- 3.6 When an Executive Decision is taken by the Mayor in Cabinet, at a Cabinet Sub-Committee or as an Individual Mayoral Decision, it is eligible to be called in if so requested by Councillors in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitution. On occasion, due to reasons of urgency, decisions are published which cannot be called in. The reasons for urgency must be agreed by the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the matter reported to Council, together with the reasons for urgency.
- 3.7 This report informs Council of those occasions during the previous municipal year where an executive decision was taken which, due to reasons of urgency, was exempt from call in.
- 3.8 The two occasions where the Call-In and Urgency Provisions were applied were as follows:

Report Title	Date of Decision	Reasons for Urgency provided at time of decision
The Council's financial response to the Corona virus (COVID-19)	9 April 2020 (as an Individual Mayoral Decision)	The Council's plans to provide a financial response to Coronavirus have been drafted urgently and could not have been anticipated in advance. Any delay to the implementation of the Council's response would be unacceptable during time of an international emergency and would seriously undermine the social and financial recovery of the Borough and its residents.
MHCLG Rough Sleeping Initiatives 2020/21	5 March 2020 (as an Individual Mayoral Decision)	MHCLG have informed the Council that it requires a signed Memorandum of Understanding by Friday 6 March 2020 to ensure grant funding can be in place for 1 April 2020. This requires approval for existing contracts with providers to be varied. Failing to meet this deadline will jeopardise receipt of funding by the Council in April 2020 meaning the Council will be unable to provide assurance to our commissioned services that services

		<p>and roles will continue throughout 2020/21. St Mungo's and Providence Row have a number of rough sleeping related services which are all at serious risk of terminating if we do not receive funding to pay them. The MHCLG year on year funding and late notification of awards have created very tight and somewhat unrealistic deadlines. However, it is not the wish of the council to see our rough sleeping population experience the consequences of these tight funding timeframes. Until we can inform our providers that they will receive MHCLG RSI 2020/21 funding they are unable to continue staff employment contracts beyond 31 March 2020. Their staff are already looking for other jobs given they have little job certainty.</p>
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4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This is a noting report, the intention of which is to ensure transparency of decision making. Equalities Implications in relation to each decision will have been set out in the reports concerned.

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 None specific to this report. Implications in relation to each decision will have been set out in the reports concerned.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 None specific to this report. Financial Implications in relation to each decision will have been set out in the reports concerned.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 This report is a requirement of the Council Procedure Rules as set out in Part B, Section 27 of the Council's Constitution.
-

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None.

Appendices

- None.

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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<p>Noting Report Cover Sheet:</p> <p>Council</p> <p>30 September 2020</p>	 <p>TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Cover Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>Virtual Committee Meeting Procedures</p>	

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

Summary

At its meeting of 16 June 2020, the General Purposes Committee considered a report proposing an addendum to the Council’s Procedure Rules (Constitution Part B, Section 26) to govern the management of ‘Virtual’ or online Council and Committee meetings.

The Committee agreed the addendum and it was subsequently added to the Constitution.

Council is asked to review the attached General Purposes Committee report and endorse the actions of the Committee in adding this addendum to the Council Procedure Rules.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to:

1. Endorse the actions of the General Purposes Committee in agreeing the addendum to the Council Procedure Rules for inclusion in the Constitution.

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<p>Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p>General Purposes Committee</p> <p>Tuesday, 16 June 2020</p>	 <p>TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer</p>	<p>Classification: Open (Unrestricted)</p>
<p>Virtual Committee Meetings</p>	

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

Executive Summary

This report provides the General Purposes Committee with an update on the Council's response to the requirement to operate Council meetings 'virtually' through online meeting tools during the current pandemic crisis.

The report also asks the Committee to agree a set of Virtual Meeting procedures for the Council's constitution.

Recommendations:

The General Purposes Committee is recommended to:

1. Endorse the Council's response to the requirement to hold Committee meetings 'virtually'.
2. Agree the proposed Virtual Meetings procedures set out at Appendix 1 to this report for inclusion in the Council's Constitution.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 Sound Council governance arrangements must continue and decision-making meet constitutional requirements to ensure good governance even in pandemic periods.
- 1.2 The General Purposes Committee has responsibility for oversight of the Council's Constitution and, in the absence of a meeting of Council, is the appropriate body to consider these amendments to the Constitution.
- 1.3 Formal Member endorsement of the Council's new procedures is important in providing confidence in the Council's decision-making arrangements.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 Members can propose amendments to the procedures set out. They could also decide not to agree any procedures, however that is not recommended as clear procedures are seen as important in providing confidence in how the Council operates its formal decision-making bodies.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 Despite operating in a pandemic setting, the Council's formal decision-making and delegation rules and procedures still apply. Procedures in place must meet existing governance requirements or else governance changes must be formally agreed and published.
- 3.2 Physical committee meetings are not currently possible and so the government enacted a new Statutory Instrument (The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus)(Flexibility of Local Authority and Policy and Crime Panel Meetings)(England and Wales) Regulations 2020) (referred to as 'the regulations' in this report) (see below) to allow meetings to take place virtually.
- 3.3 The Regulations set out specific requirements for virtual meetings (for example that the public must be able to view a live stream of the meeting) and also state that they override any existing Council Standing Orders which would conflict with the new requirements.

Experience of Virtual Meetings

- 3.4 When the pandemic initially hit the Council decided the appropriate course of action was to pause all meetings and formal Member-level decision making until such time as it could be conducted effectively.
- 3.5 The exception was decisions which were required urgently, usually in response to the pandemic which the Mayor took as Individual Mayoral Decisions, webcast for transparency.
- 3.6 Following publication of the above mentioned regulations allowing virtual meetings to take place, the Council worked to test and introduce virtual meetings software solutions. These were first operated for a Licensing Sub-Committee on 28 April 2020 and rolled out from there.
- 3.7 The Council has now successfully held a number of virtual Committee meetings including for:
- Audit Committee
 - Cabinet
 - Development Committee
 - Licensing Sub-Committee
 - Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- Strategic Development Committee

- 3.8 These included a wide range of officers, Members and public participants. The support of Members in particular has been extremely valuable in testing and feedback for the new ways of working.
- 3.9 There have been challenges to face in making these changes but feedback from participants has been that they have been able to follow the discussions, participate as required and consider that their decision-making has been sound.
- 3.10 The intention through June and July is to operate a full range of meetings to allow decision making and scrutiny to continue in an effective and efficient manner. However, where a meeting has a light agenda, consideration will be given in consultation with officers and Members to postponing the meeting until such time as it proves necessary.
- 3.11 It is also proposed that the Council's Annual Meeting will be postponed until at least September so that at least some Members will be able to be physically present and so to better manage a meeting with a large number of participants. This also will allow the new Speaker to be inducted with due ceremony.
- 3.12 The intention at present is that all meetings up to the end of July will be held virtually or partly virtually.

Procedures

- 3.13 The regulation changes were written in such a way as to automatically override any Council Procedure Rules that would unnecessarily restrict the operation of virtual meetings whilst also setting out clear minimum requirements for such meetings. Legally therefore, decision making taken on that basis is entirely sound.
- 3.14 However, best practice would indicate that the Council should adopt procedure rules into its constitution to govern how it intends to operate such meetings. This report therefore proposes draft procedure rules for consideration and agreement. These are set out at Appendix 1.
- 3.15 A significant change to the constitution such as this would normally be presented to Council for agreement, but in the absence of Council, the General Purposes Committee is asked to use its powers to agree to the adoption of the procedure rules and for their inclusion in the Constitution.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Access to decision making committee meetings is an important aspect of the Council's governance and democratic engagement. Many Members of the public will benefit from the new ability to engage with meetings without having to physically attend at the Town Hall.

- 4.2 To date all participants have been able to participate to date but officers are aware that some residents may find it challenging to participate in virtual meetings especially if they do not have the necessary equipment or are not confident using online software.
- 4.3 A variety of options are available and will be used to support residents including offering test meetings to check connections, looking at audio access via home telephones, and the ability to submit written statements amongst others.

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 Having agreed procedures for holding virtual meetings reduces the risk of challenge to the Council's decision making and also supports the best value requirements in terms of having prompt and transparent decision making.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

6.1 There are no specific financial implications from the endorsement of the proposed Virtual Meetings procedures.

6.2 Any increased cost due to the increase in webcasting Council meetings will be managed within the existing budget resource.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 The [Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels \(Coronavirus\) \(Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings\) \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2020](#) came into force on 4th April 2020 as a result of the lockdown to ensure council business could be continued. Reg.5(1) ensures that meeting locations includes electronic, digital and virtual locations. The set of procedure rules for virtual meetings follows *Reg.5(6)* of these regulations, allowing a local authority to make any rules governing remote attendance of meetings. There is no single model for virtual meetings prescribed by legislation. However any procedure rules agreed must still strike a fair balance

between openness and orderly conduct. *S.100A Local Government Act 1972* still applies (local authority meetings to be open to the public).

- 7.2 Under Reg.5(3) of the new Regulations, participants of a meeting must be heard. It is advisable that they are seen. However this is not essential (in the event the participant has technical issues).
- 7.3 In terms of the *Equality Act 2010*, consideration must be given to ensure that the procedure rules for virtual meetings do not negatively impact those with protected characteristics (particular consideration to age and disability) and do not make it more difficult to attend a meeting virtually.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Proposed Virtual Committee Meeting Procedure Rules

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

26a Council Procedure Rules – ‘Virtual Meeting’ Addendum

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Rule	Subject
25	Introduction
26	Circulation of Papers and Access to Information
27	Executive Decision Making
28	Meeting Participation and Attendance
29	At the meeting
30	Voting
31	Technical and other issues
32	Standards and Code of Conduct

Introduction

- 25.1 The [Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels \(Coronavirus\) \(Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings\) \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2020](#) make provision for remote attendance at, and remote access to, council meetings **held on or before 7 May 2021**.
- 25.2 The regulations enable the council to hold meetings without all, or any, of the members being physically present in a room. This allows for remote meetings through electronic, digital, virtual locations, live webcast, live interactive streaming, video and telephone conferencing or a combination of the above.
- 25.3 The ‘place’ at which the meeting is held may be a council building, or where the organiser of the meeting is located, or an electronic, digital or virtual location, a web address, or a conference call telephone number.
- 25.4 In order for members to be able to attend meetings of the council remotely, they need not be physically present, but must be able to hear and be heard (and, where possible, see and be seen by) other councillors and members of the public attending remotely or in person.
- 25.5 The procedure rules in this Constitution apply to remote meetings in the same way as they do for other meetings of the council except where they conflict, in which case this procedure rule takes precedence over other procedure rules in relation to the governance of remote meetings.
- 25.6 Where there is conflict with previous Regulations or with the Council’s Procedure Rules, the new Regulations take precedence.

Circulation of Papers and Access to Information

- 26.1 Standard Access to Information rules set out in Section 27 of the Constitution apply to ‘virtual’ meetings including around publication of agendas and reports and access to meetings, except that:

- 26.2 Meeting locations/arrangements may need to be altered after the agenda has been published including but not limited to; use of different online meetings tools, delays to meeting start times, changes of location for any 'physical' or 'virtual' element of the meeting.
- 26.3 Paper copies of agendas and notices will not be provided at the Town Hall. Electronic papers will be made available on the Council's website.
- 26.4 Physical access may not be possible to meetings and details of web viewing will be provided as an alternative.
- 26.5 Where possible, any late changes made to meeting details will be advertised on the Council's website including (where relevant) being published as part of an updated agenda. However, Council Procedure Rule 8.2 is disapplied to allow meetings to begin a short time after their published start time in the event of technical or other difficulties.
- 26.6 Urgency procedures as set out in the Constitution (for example to set up Committee meetings with less than 5 days' notice) still apply.

Calendar of Meetings

- 26.7 Where changes are required to agreed meeting dates these must be agreed by the Monitoring Officer (or other relevant officer) under delegated authority.
- 26.8 Expected meeting start times may vary from those set out in the Calendar of Meetings but the revised start time will be published.

Executive Decision Making

- 27.1 Existing requirements in relation to Executive Decisions, including to;
- To publish a Forward Plan of Key Decisions,
 - To adhere to urgency provisions of notification/approval processes with the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny,
 - To operate the Call-in Process,

remain in force.

Meeting Participation and Attendance

- 28.1 Virtual meetings will usually only involve:
- 28.2 The Councillors, Co-optees and Independent members serving on the Committee;
- 28.3 The Council officers supporting the Committee; and
- 28.4 Other Councillors or members of the public (including applicants) who have the Chair's explicit advance permission to speak.

- 28.5 Note - It will not usually be possible to arrange for additional speaking or participation rights for those making a late request and previous deadlines for registering to speak may be brought forward where this is necessary. Revised deadlines will be published. In particular, it is unlikely that new requests to participate can be accepted during, or shortly before, a meeting.
- 28.6 Where a meeting currently allows public participation, this will extend to virtual meetings. The exact arrangements may vary from previous practice. Each Committee may publish its own public engagement protocols and these will be set out in the agenda. The Committee must provide reasonable adjustments to allow public participation and make allowances for those who are not able to access digital meetings.
- 28.7 Where a member of the public sets out in advance of the meeting that they are not able to participate through audio or video tools they will be offered the opportunity of making a written submission. It may also be possible for them to be represented by their Ward Councillor.
- 28.8 Members will be counted as 'present' for attendance purposes if they can hear all other participants and they can be heard by all other participants.
- 28.9 Where a Member declares a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest they must leave the virtual meeting completely for the duration of the item concerned. Members must also refrain from using the chat function or communicating with the meeting participants during the relevant items.

Admission of the Press and Public

- 28.10 All meetings which would normally be open to the public will be broadcast for public access.
- 28.11 This will be through any suitable means but will normally be through the Council's existing webcasting portal.
- 28.12 Paragraph 26.1 sets out how meetings will be publicised.

At the meeting

- 29.1 All participants are expected to log in to the meeting in advance of the start time as required by the Democratic Services Officer.
- 29.2 The meeting only begins when the Chair formally opens the meeting.
- 29.3 The Chair will introduce themselves and every participant (for the benefit of other attendees and those watching from home) and set out expected meeting etiquette, including that:
- a) All participants microphones must be muted when not speaking.
 - b) Where necessary participants may switch off their cameras when not speaking to save bandwidth.
 - c) How to indicate a wish to speak.

- d) Only speak when invited to do so by the Chair.
- e) When speaking state their full name before making a comment
- f) If referring to a specific page of the agenda pack, mention the page number.

29.4 In terms of general meeting protocols, the Chair must set these out (for example in terms of public participation) and in particular should explain how these vary from existing protocols.

29.5 At some meetings the 'Chat' function may prove useful to participants. However, this does not form part of the formal record of the meeting and is not, on its own, a method for taking decisions.

Voting

30.1 Before a vote takes place the Chair will set out the recommendations/decisions being voted on.

30.2 The Chair will then conduct a roll-call vote whereby they read out each Member's name and they indicate their vote (for, against, abstain).

30.3 Other voting methods may be used at the Chair's discretion including using a 'show of hands' vote where all Members can be visible on screen at the same time.

30.4 The Democratic Services Officer will record the votes and confirm the vote result to the Chair.

30.5 A Chair's casting vote is available if required.

Technical and Other Issues

31.1 Virtual meetings rely on stable ICT infrastructure linked to every participant.

31.2 Should a participant experience technical difficulties they must alert the Chair/Democratic Services Officer as quickly as possible.

31.3 The Chair and Democratic Services Officer must also monitor the attendance of key participants.

31.4 Where it becomes apparent a key participant (as defined in paragraph 31.6) is no longer connected the meeting will be adjourned until such time as they are able to re-connect.

31.5 Where re-connection is not possible the Chair will determine whether it is possible to continue with the item/meeting and where necessary defer an item to later or adjourn a meeting to a future date.

31.6 A key participant is defined as a participant whose continuing contribution to the meeting is vital to allow a decision to be made. For example, an applicant or objector at a Strategic Development Committee meeting before they have made their submission.

- 31.7 Normal quoracy rules apply to virtual meetings and if disconnections cause Member attendance to drop below quorum levels then the Chair will also adjourn the meeting.
- 31.8 Where the live webcast stream for public viewing is interrupted, a meeting must be temporarily adjourned whilst this is fixed, or adjourned to another date if this is not possible.
- 31.9 Should a participant need to leave the meeting for any reason this must be made clear to those participating. Where possible the meeting will continue and the participant may re-join at a later time.
- 31.10 The Chair, following consultation with the Democratic Services Officer, may adjourn a virtual meeting for any reason should they consider that it is not appropriate to proceed.

Standards and Code of Conduct

- 32.1 The provisions of the Member and Officers' Code of Conduct apply to virtual meetings of the Council in the same way as they do to physical meetings of the Council.

26a Council Procedure Rules – ‘Virtual Meeting’ Addendum

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- 31.10 The Chair, following consultation with the Democratic Services Officer, may adjourn a virtual meeting for any reason should they consider that it is not appropriate to proceed.

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Non-Executive Report of the: Council 30 September 2020	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance	Classification: Unrestricted
Petitions to Council	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of 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 30 September 2020. The text of the petition received for presentation to this meeting is set out in the attached report.
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. For Petitions listed as to be heard:
 - 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 Petitions 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 FOR DEBATE

There are two petitions for debate. Details of these are set out in the separate report

PETITIONS TO BE HEARD

13.1 Petition regarding Locate & reinvest money from sale of estate land submitted by Tarling West.

Tower Hamlets sold off part of our estate to TFL without consultation. We paid for its upkeep for years and LBTH sold it for £130,000.00 with £0.00 reinvested back in to our estate. To this day, no one can tell us where the money went and LBTH has violated the terms of sale and existing covenants to allow inappropriate planning permissions. We want the permissions revoked by the land is vacant and the money made available for reinvestment in to our estate.

13.2 Petition regarding Provide all households in Tower Hamlets with food waste recycling service submitted by Bethany Penman

We the undersigned petition the council to provide food waste recycling service to all households. Currently only 30,000 of the over 125,000 households in Tower Hamlets are provided with food waste recycling services (1). This limited availability of food waste recycling is fundamentally damaging to the environment. Food waste accounts for over 40% of household waste for an average household in the borough (2). Currently the only option for those without food waste recycling is to put food waste in the standard black collection bins for landfill. Food waste in landfill rots and releases harmful methane gas, which is 25x more potent than carbon dioxide. This significantly contributes to climate change (3). This is an avoidable scenario. Food waste, when recycled, can be converted into renewable energy and natural farm fertiliser. Anaerobic digesters are used to break down the food waste, which converts it into biogas for energy production (4). Any left over residue from this process is used as a naturally occurring fertilise

13.3 Petition regarding Re-Open Old ford road submitted by Mohammad Mohib

The initial reason for closure was to aid social distancing and an alternative route for cycling. As Victoria Park has now permitted cycling and the COVID-19 restrictions being relaxed the closure is no longer necessary.

The closure has lead to an influx of traffic in to the surrounding areas. Stand still traffic on Roman road backing up to Bethnal green, Tredegar road, St Stephens road. This is currently with a reduced level of commuters. The


closure improves cycle safety, social distancing and pollution levels for 800 metres this inturn negatively impacts the surrounding areas by a concentration of pollution and traffic on routes which are more frequent with pedestrians and cyclists. As further restrictions are lifted and the number of road users increase the situation will exacerbated .

Alternative solutions should be considered with an aim to increase the safety of vulnerable road users throughout towerhamlets. The closure of Old ford road merely reduces safety in the surrounding area.

PETITIONS TO BE NOTED

None.

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<p style="text-align: center;">Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Council</p> <p style="text-align: center;">30 September 2020</p>	
<p>Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>Petition Debate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petition requesting that the Local Council stop using the Blunt instrument of road closures to stop Rat running through Tower Hamlets • Petition regarding Parking change to mini zones from 1st September 	

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Council's Petition Scheme provides that where a petition includes the names, addresses and signatures of at least 2,000 persons who live, work or study in the borough, the petitioners may request that a debate be held about the petition at the full Council meeting. This is additional to and distinct from the provision in the Council's Constitution that a petition with at least 30 signatures may be presented to (but not debated by) the Council. The relevant extract from the Petition Scheme is attached at Appendix A.

2. PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING PETITIONS FOR DEBATE

2.1 The standard format for a Petition Debate for debate is as follows.

- The petitioners to present their petition for a maximum of three minutes.
- Questions and answers for four minutes.
- Debate for 15 minutes. All speeches are limited to a maximum of three minutes
- The Speaker will invite the Mayor or (at the Mayor's discretion) a Cabinet Member to respond to the matters raised
- If no motion is moved during the debate, the petition will stand referred to the relevant Corporate Director for a written response.
- If a motion is moved during the debate, the motion will be put to the vote. The petition will stand referred to the relevant Corporate Director for a written response.

3. MOTIONS ON THE PETITION

- 3.1 During his or her speech any Member may move a motion for the Council's consideration relevant to matters in the petition (this does not require the suspension of standing orders). It is requested that Motions relating to the petition be submitted to Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting to allow full circulation.
- 3.2 Following the petition debate, any motions moved will be put to the vote.
- 3.3 In relation to executive functions, the Council does not have powers to override any executive decision of the Mayor or substitute its own decision. The Council may however pass a motion expressing a view on the matter or referring the matter to the Mayor, calling on him to take some action, or consider or reconsider a decision, with recommendations to inform that consideration. Officers will advise on the constitutional validity of any motion that may be moved

4. CONTENT OF THE PETITION

- 4.1 Two petitions containing over 2,000 signatures has been received for consideration at the Council meeting.

The text of these petitions are below:

Petition regarding to set up to get the Local Council to stop using the Blunt instrument of road closures to stop Rat running through Tower Hamlets submitted by Carlton Boulter

This petition is set up to get the Local Council to stop using the Blunt instrument of road closures to stop Rat running through Tower Hamlets, whereby this also affects all the Local Business and non cyclists. We Residents want the council to think smarter, use tech to stop Rat runners, Use existing techniques to charge "Out of towners" fees to use our roads, Encourage local Electric vehicle use by locals, Build more Electric vehicle infrastructure, all "Smarter" thinking ideas rather than forced st closures. We do not accept the heavily weighted Cycling lobby effect on the current proposals and want the current consultancy company to be dismissed and have a real locally led feedback of forums, set up democratically and led by locals for locals. We need smarter and fit for purpose solutions. not Draconian closures.

We want the council to extend the consultation period by minimum 3 months. We want a non partisan oversight team to undertake real democratic consultation. We would like the council to dismiss the current consultants which we feel are biased and have no vision. We want the council to understand and use tech and existing measures to resolve the serious matter around stopping rat runners, not inflict CLOSE culture on our arteries which adversely affects residents.

We want to enhance the local area by stopping rat runners, and encouraging locals to switch to E – Vehicles whilst keeping the local arteries open for all.

Petition regarding Parking change to mini zones from 1st September

We the undersigned petition the council to Delay the implementation of the changes due to start 1st September that will limit all-day parking to individual mini-zones until: 1. After a proper campaign of publicity including social media and writing to all permit owners (with maps of the mini-zones to make clear the change), not just making a change to the website; 2. Members of our working-class communities have disproportionately been affected by Covid-19. Members who live in the Borough in large intergenerational family networks, older members in these households being reliant on support from family members, who's the only access to that help is via the family car. Nearly 70 years ago Lord Michael Young in his seminal work, "Family and Kinship in East London", wrote about these social relationships, networks of dependence and mutual support that were central to the people's resilience in facing the adversity of insecure and low paid employment. Therefore, in light of this reliance, changes in parking to be implemented post-Covid-19 epidemic.

3. An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) to be commissioned by the Council and published before any implementation of changes, in particular with a focus on socio-economic inequalities. The changes in parking constitute a reduction in public services, therefore an EqIA is mandated by law. And the EqIA should form part of any discussion in regard to the mitigation of the proposed parking changes.

4. This change has been discussed at a public meeting at Tower Hamlets Council allowing Councillors and residents to ask questions before implementation;

5. There has been a full consultation about parking issues more generally in Tower Hamlets, including but not limited to:

- The hours of operation in particular whether they should be extended
- The boundaries of parking zones given new residential areas
- This proposed change to restricting all day parking to mini-zones
- Whether parking permits should be issued based on need rather than address
- How we encourage electric vehicle car charging
- Car club parking
- Taxi stands & where taxis and private hire vehicles can wait for trade
- Car-free development rules
- How to access under utilised private car parks next to roads packed with cars
- How long temporary COVID parking permits should be made available for
- Whether HMOs should be car free or not

APPENDICES ATTACHED

Appendix A – Extract from the Council’s Petition Scheme.

APPENDIX A – EXTRACT FROM THE COUNCIL’S PETITION SCHEME:

5. PRESENTATION OF A PETITION TO ELECTED COUNCILLORS

Subject to your petition containing sufficient signatures as set out below, you may request to present the petition to a meeting of elected councillors. There are a number of ways in which this can be done.

Debate at a Council Meeting


If your petition includes the names, addresses and signatures of at least 2,000 persons who live, work or study in the borough you may request that a debate be held about the petition at the full Council meeting. The Council will endeavour to consider your petition at its next meeting, although on some occasions this may not be possible and consideration will then take place at the following meeting. We will tell you the date of the meeting at which the debate will take place once this is confirmed.

At the meeting, the petition organiser or another signatory to the petition will be given three minutes to present the petition. The person who presents the petition must live, work or study within the borough. The petition will then be debated by Councillors for a maximum of 15 minutes. Following the debate, the Council will decide how to respond to the petition at this meeting. They may decide to take the action the petition requests, not to take the action requested for reasons put forward in the debate, or to commission further investigation into the matter, for example by a relevant committee.

Where the issue is one on which the Council’s Executive (Cabinet) are required to make the final decision, the Council will decide whether to make recommendations to inform that decision. As the petition organiser, you will receive written confirmation of this decision, which will also be published on our website.

In the event that two or more petitions which are substantially the same are received from different petition organisers, the Chief Executive may aggregate the number of valid signatures in each petition for the purpose of determining whether the threshold to trigger a Council debate of the matters raised has been reached if that is the wish of the petition organisers.

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<p>Council</p> <p>30 September 2020</p>	
<p>Report of: James Thomas, Director of Children and Culture</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2019 – 2020</p>	

Lead Member	Councillor Danny Hassell, Cabinet Member for Children and Schools
Originating Officer(s)	Richard Baldwin, Divisional Director Children’s Social Care
Wards affected	All wards

Executive Summary

The Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2019 to 2020 sets out the purpose of the board, how it functions in Tower Hamlets, what has been achieved over the last year and future priorities and challenges. The report includes sections focused on engagement with young people, including their views on key issues and challenges ahead, and the work we do with Foster Carers.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to

1. Note the contents of the Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2019-20

1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 Not applicable as this is a noting report.

2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 N/A

3 DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 The Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) demonstrates our continuing commitment to the corporate parenting principles and shows how

we deliver on them across many partnerships and services. The board meets on a quarterly basis and has representation from Councillors, young people, foster-carers, partner organisations and senior managers from across the Council.

- 3.2 Alongside the Children in Care Council (CiCC), the board provides a forum where children and young people in the care of the council have direct access to senior leaders and decision makers to share their views and raise and address issues.
- 3.3 The board is able to take a strategic approach to the experiences of children looked after and care leavers and work with partners to continually develop and strengthen practice in relation to our corporate parenting responsibilities.
- 3.4 The CPB Annual Report 2019 – 2020 provides information on a wide range of achievement including:
 - Training for all members of the board
 - Workshop for the CPB led by the CiCC – followed by development of an action plan
 - Changes to the Housing “bidding” process to respond to concerns raised by care leavers (new revised protocol will be launched in September 2020)
 - Improvements to facilities at Kitkat Terrace for Care Leavers
 - Annual awards ceremony for Foster Carers
 - Participation in the ‘Fostering Potential (Educational Champions) Programme
 - The Virtual School Awards
 - Virtual School enrichment offer ‘Give it a Go’
 - Education and training opportunities for Care Leavers, including apprenticeships and a supported employment programme
 - Recruitment to a permanent CAMHS post in the Edge of Care Team
 - Establishment of the Health of Children Looked After and Care Leavers Steering Group
- 3.5 The report includes reflections on recent months and the Covid 19 emergency as well as providing an overview of recent work and plans for the future. This includes:
 - Development of a longer term, sustained response to the Pandemic
 - Further use of ‘Practice Weeks’ as an opportunity to build the importance of corporate parenting within Tower Hamlets
 - Review of the CiCC with a focus on broadening the membership
 - Service development work between the CAMHS in Social Care Team and the CiCC
 - Training via the Virtual School on trauma awareness and returning to school as Covid 19 restrictions are lifted.
 - Recruitment of the next Through Care Service cohort for the Supported Employment Programme in Autumn 2020.
 - Participation of the Fostering Service in a research-based project led by the Fostering Network with the Thomas Coram Research Unit.

- Contributing to the 'Mockingbird in Lockdown' film by the Tower Hamlets Mockingbird family (part of the Fostering Network programme)

3.6 The report also includes a section focused on engagement with young people, including how the Children in Care Council (CiCC) works with the CPB, plans for the future of the CiCC and key issues for the 2020 and onwards from the perspective of the young people.

3.7 As we face the challenges of the next year the Corporate Parenting Board is committed to developing understanding across the entire council of the role that everyone plays in supporting children looked after and care leavers and ensuring they have access to the opportunities that all children should get.

4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5 The Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) is committed to delivering on the corporate parenting principles for all children in care and care leavers. This report provides information about how the board does this through its activities, engagement and plans for the future.

6 OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 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.

6.2 There are no further specific statutory implications.

7 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

7.1 There are no direct financial implications.

8 COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

8.1 Section 1 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 sets out the corporate parenting principles which all local authorities must have regard to, when carrying out their functions in relation to children looked after by them, or children who were recently looked after by them. The statutory corporate parenting principles are set out in the Annual Report.

8.2 Although there is no statutory requirement for a local authority to establish a Corporate Parenting Board, statutory guidance ('Applying Corporate

Parenting Principles to Looked-After Children and Care-Leavers', February 2018) indicates that the establishment of a Corporate Parenting Board or Panel is best practice to co-ordinate the implementation of the corporate parenting principles.

- 8.3 There is no statutory requirement to prepare a Corporate Parenting Annual Report, but Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 gives a power to a local authority to do anything incidental to the discharge of any of its functions.
- 8.4 The proposals set out in this report comply with the above legislation and guidance.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- Final Draft Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2019-20

Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

Tracy Stanley, Strategy & Policy Officer - Children and Culture

**EVERY
CHANCE**
for **EVERY
CHILD**

Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board
Draft Annual Report 2019 / 2020

Chair's Foreword

I am pleased to present the Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2019 to 2020. This document outlines the purpose of the board, how it functions in Tower Hamlets, what has been achieved over the last year and future priorities and challenges.

Being a good corporate parent means making sure that the children in our care and care leavers benefit from the same chances that every child deserves, and that we are always thinking about what more we can do to help them to realise their full potential and aspirations.

The Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) works to ensure that these children are a priority for everyone, that they have the care, support and nurturing they need and that they can successfully meet the challenges they face.

A lot of work has been carried out to develop and strengthen the board. This includes training, seminars and workshop sessions that have helped to make sure that CPB members understand their role and responsibilities and have an in-depth knowledge of key issues affecting children and young people.

It is of paramount importance that we listen to our children and young people. The board actively seeks out and welcomes the challenge of young people 'telling it as it is' so that officers and

Members can learn from hearing about their experiences and this can then inform and steer the work of the board.

An essential element of what the board does is advocating for young people, taking their views and concerns and working across all council services, with partners and at a regional and national level to ensure their voice is heard.

We know that the year ahead will include many challenges but by working together with our partners and listening closely to children in care and care leavers we will continue to improve outcomes for our young people.



**Councillor Danny Hassell,
Chair of the Corporate
Parenting Board**

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Children looked after and care leavers in Tower Hamlets

Children Looked After

307 children were looked after by the local authority (end of Mar 2020)

There were 37 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (USAC) (end of Mar 2020)

CLA long term placement stability 72% (end of Mar 2020)

Average no. of placement moves 1.6 (end of Mar 2020)

Accommodation

91% of care leavers were in suitable accommodation (at end of Mar 2020)

Care Leavers

At 31st March 2020 the Through Care Service was working with a cohort of 411 young people (between the ages of 14 – 25)

Health

79% of Children Looked After had an annual health check within 12 months (end Mar 2020)

83% of Children Looked After had an annual dental check within 12 months (end Mar 2020)

Education, training and employment

56% of pupils making expected progress (end of Mar 2020)

93% of pupils had a personal education plan meeting during the term (end of Mar 2020)

99% of care leavers had a pathway plan (end of Mar 2020)

67% of care leavers were in employment, education or training (end of Mar 2020)

Governance

Legal Context

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 (Section 1) sets out seven corporate parenting principles which local authorities must have regard to for looked after children or care leavers. Statutory guidance for local authorities 'Applying corporate parenting principles to looked-after children and care leavers' was published in February 2018. The guidance highlights that the critical question for local authorities as the 'corporate parent' should be 'would this be good enough for my child'?

The principles

In order to thrive, children and young people have certain key needs that good parents generally meet. The corporate parenting principles set out seven principles that local authorities must have regard to when exercising their functions in relation to looked after children and young people, as follows:

1. To act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and well-being, of those children and young people
2. To encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings
3. To take into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people

4. To help those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners
5. To promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people
6. For those children and young people to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work; and
7. To prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living.

The Board

The Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) demonstrates our continuing commitment to the corporate parenting principles and shows how we deliver on them across many partnerships and services. The board meets on a quarterly basis and has representation from Councillors, young people, foster-carers, partner organisations and senior managers from across the Council. The diagram on page 7 sets out the membership of the board and a full list is provided at Appendix A. Appendix B provides an overview of the topics covered in CPB meetings during 2019/20.

Alongside the Children in Care Council, the board provides a forum where children and young people in the care of the council have direct access to senior leaders and decision makers to share their views and raise and address issues.

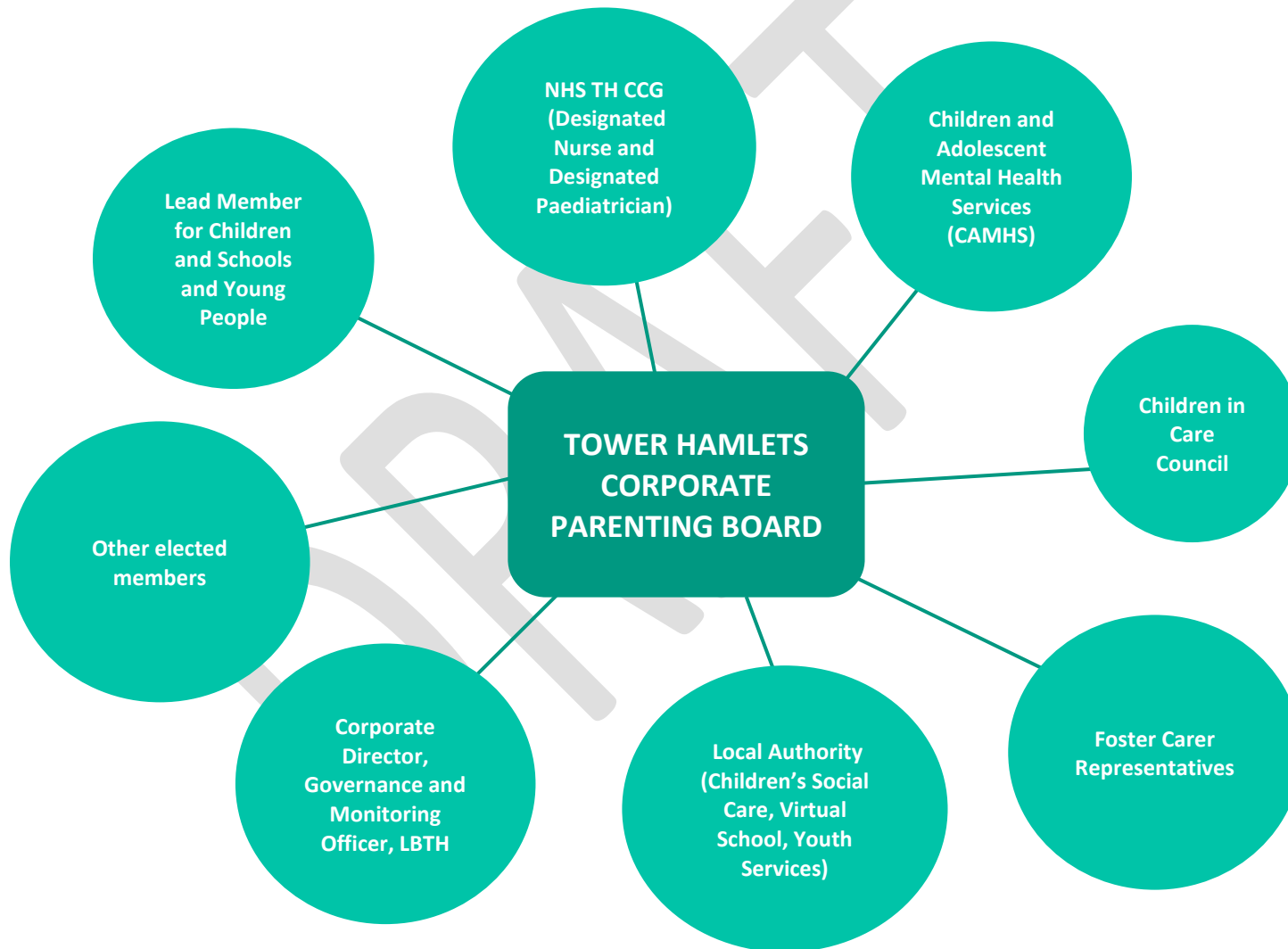
The board aims to take a strategic approach to the experiences of children looked after and care leavers and work with partners to continually develop and strengthen practice in relation to our corporate parenting responsibilities.

Training for all members of the board in Spring 2019 was designed to ensure that all members of the board have an in-depth knowledge and understanding of key issues to support them in discharging their duties. The sessions included information and guidance on the work of the Through Care Service, Personal Education Plans (PEPs), educational attainment and progress data, and performance data which is presented to the board.

Planning workshops were held in October 2019 to develop ideas for the future based on the themes within the Tower Hamlets Children and Families Strategy 2019- 2024. Work plan priorities were agreed around the themes 'Aspiration to Action', 'Healthy Families' and 'Safe and Secure.

Covid-19 - in compiling this report we are very aware that the final few weeks of the scope of this Annual report included the initial stages of the national lockdown. This lockdown had a profound impact on many children in care and care leavers. Through-out the period of lockdown and into the current "recovery" phase. The council has sought to ensure that all support for young people is maintained either through continued home-visits or through virtual/online contact. We have also ensured that the work and agenda of the CPB has been maintained throughout this period.

Membership of the Tower Hamlets Corporate Parenting Board



Engagement with Young People

The Tower Hamlets Children in Care Council (CiCC) aims to reflect the views of children looked after and care leavers. It gives children and young people the chance to shape and influence the parenting that they receive at every level and gives them an opportunity to have a say about the things that really matter in their lives. This helps to inform the overall strategy for cared for children and young people in Tower Hamlets.

The CiCC promotes a direct link between children looked after and care leavers with senior managers and elected members within the Local Authority on issues affecting them.

The LBTH Youth Service took over the support of the CiCC in July 2019. The CiCC is also supported on a day-to-day basis by dedicated young people's coordinator who is employed on an apprenticeship.

In late 2019 a meeting was held with the CiCC, the Chair of the CPB and Senior Managers to explore issues raised by the young people in more detail and develop an action plan. The work carried out through the action plan is reflected throughout this report.

Some key issues have been highlighted in 2019/20 through the work of the CiCC. These are summarised below:

- Mental Health – young people have consistently emphasised the importance of mental health services and support, and that

services must meet the needs of all age groups including those over 18. As can be seen later in this report (page 15) a focus group is to be held which will explore these issues further. This focus on mental and emotional health has become even more important because of the Covid-19. The efforts of all staff and carers to ensure regular conversations with our young people has been vital in maintaining positive mental health. However, we are aware that ensuring this is maintained as we move out of the pandemic stage will be of the utmost importance for 20/21.

- Care and Young People's Rights – young people have highlighted that there is a need to ensure everyone is fully aware of what their rights are and that there is greater consistency for the information that is provided.
- Housing - the increased pressures for care leavers when moving from dependent or semi-independent living alongside the restrictions of housing processes have been identified by young people as leading to a range of issues. At the October meeting concerns were raised by young people present in relation to their concerns about the limited number of opportunities and short time-scales they had to make decisions about properties that they were being offered to make "bids" on. They were concerned that this pressure could mean they make the wrong decisions on opting to take or not accept properties. Therefore, it was agreed that this would be raised with colleagues in the Housing department. As a result of this challenge, changes have

been made to the Housing “bidding” process which will allow care-leavers an extended period to consider offers and make decisions on properties that they are offered. The new revised protocol will be launched in September 2020.

- Higher Education – alongside recognition of the excellent support for care leavers to go to university young people have highlighted the need for more support for those wanting to pursue alternatives, such attending college or doing an apprenticeship.

There is further information about the CiCC’s priorities and plans for 2020/21 on page 13 onwards.

DRAFT

Role of Foster Carers

The exceptional contribution that Foster Carers make in caring for young people in Tower Hamlets was reflected in the Ofsted Inspection Report for June 2019. The report noted that Foster carers “feel highly valued, they receive good support and extensive training focused on meeting the needs of children. An excellent Foster Carers Association contributes to national guidance, for example guidance for caring for Muslim children, and is integral to the positive development of the service”.

The Corporate Parenting Board benefits from the membership of two Foster Carer Representatives who are also members of the Tower Hamlets Foster Carers Association (THFCA). They bring their considerable experience and expertise to the board and help ensure that the voice of foster carers informs all discussions, actions and planning for the future.

The Tower Hamlets Foster Carers Association provides a voice for Foster Carers and works closely with the council to ensure their views, experiences and issues are heard and addressed. The FCA holds an Annual General Meeting and members facilitate a Preparation Group, support groups, attend the London FCA Forum, act as mentors, promote the role of Foster Carers and help as Ambassadors in the recruitment of new carers.

The THFCA also holds a range of events and activities which bring together foster carers and families, helping them to make some special memories and offer support to each other. Events in 2019/20 included:

- Residential trip for foster carers and children in August 2019
- ‘Picnic in the park’ at the end of August 2019.
- ‘Fun Day’ for all carers and children, with social workers also attending.
- Pantomime in January 2019

The Fostering Potential (Educational Champions) programme aims to raise the educational outcomes of fostered children by increasing foster carers’ knowledge and confidence in their role as ‘first educators’. Tower Hamlets is one of seven local authorities taking part in this innovative programme led by the Fostering Network which enables Education Champions to work closely with foster carers to increase their skills and confidence in their role as educators. The work is being supported by a national virtual network, resources and a series of free webinars. This scheme will also be featured in our recruitment materials.

Key Achievements 2019/20

- Children’s Services Ofsted Inspection Rating of ‘Good’** in June 2019. This outcome represented an improvement of two grades in the space of just over two years. The Ofsted inspection report noted that since the early inspection of 2017 “leaders and managers have had a relentless focus to improve practice to deliver good experiences and progress for children and their families. At all levels, there is effective management oversight and a direct understanding of the quality of significantly improved frontline practice.”
- Council Tax Care Leavers Discount Scheme** - the Council continues to ensure that all Care-leavers who live in the Borough do not pay Council tax. We continue to explore ways in which to ensure that those care-leavers living outside of the Borough can access the same type of support and assistance.
- Changes to Housing Protocol** as highlighted earlier in this report, challenges to the Housing ‘Bidding’ process that were raised by young people at the October 2019 meeting were followed up and have resulted in changes to the housing ‘Bidding’ process which have resulted in Care-leavers being given greater amounts of time to consider housing/accommodation offers.
- Improvements to facilities for young people (Kitcat Terrace)** have included upgrades to computers and installation of washer / dryers.
- Children in Care Council (CiCC) workshop at the CPB** – in Oct 2019 members of the CiCC prepared and delivered an activity at CPB which highlighted the challenges that they face, particularly when it comes to budgeting, travel costs and rent. During the meeting, each CPB member then went on to pledge one thing that they would do to support the CiCC.
- The CiCC tested a care leavers app** that can help local authorities promote their local offer. The group looked at various local authority designs and provided recommendations on a Tower Hamlets app could include. This work will continue during 2020/21.
- The Young People’s Coordinator Apprentice** was seconded to the Youth Service enabling the role to focus on participation and the voice of young people as well as ensuring that YPCA has the opportunity to learn about the importance of young people’s role in decision-making and in influencing change.
- The ‘My BNK’ Money House Programme** – provided a ‘simulated living programme’ delivered in real flats which helps young people to develop money management and tenancy management skills. In Tower Hamlets we have made it compulsory for all young people to attend the five day programme as part of our assessment of readiness to be nominated for permanent accommodation.

- **The Virtual School Awards in October 2019** were a celebration of the children’s achievements and the efforts of all the students. A range of awards were presented and the event supported by organisations which help to provide learning and enrichment opportunities for the children including West Ham United Foundation and the Jack Petchey Foundation.
- **Enrichment offer ‘Give it a Go’** seeks to embed the concept of the Virtual School as a supportive community. The offer has been delivered alongside the West Ham Foundation who have a commitment to support LAC through their organisation and the club. ‘Give it a Go’ Juniors enables access to activities for the youngest students so that they also benefit from these opportunities at an early stage.
- **A Photography Project display** promoted the work of young people and the messages they wanted to convey to users of, and visitors to, Mulberry Place and highlights our corporate care responsibility.
- **Gorsefield Summer School** has provided an aspirational offer based on life skills, relaxation and the learning journey. Spending time with fellow children in care is a valuable experience for the children as they realise they are not alone.
- **Careers Young Workpath** has continued to provide information, advice and guidance to help young people reach their goals for the future. The service assists young people aged 13 to 19 and up to age 25 if they have a special educational need or disability (SEND). The service works predominantly with young people who may need extra support including those who have SEND, physical or mental health issues, are in or leaving care and are ‘not in education, employment or training’.
- **A study support programme with UEL** has ensured children are able to see the option of further education as ‘normal’ and learn about the support a young person in care would receive and the access routes for this.
- **The Mayors Fund Growth Bid** – education and training opportunities for care leavers who are at risk of or ‘Not in Education, Employment or Training’ (NEET). Projects have included:
 - Summer Internship Programme - for care leavers who are attending university to engage in practical work experience and increase employability on graduation
 - Traineeships - with work experience aimed at helping young people to get the appropriate skills and experience to become ‘work ready’

- Apprenticeships – Youth participation and health and social care apprenticeships aimed at NEET care leavers to develop the skills, experience and attributes that employers are looking for and support their transition into sustainable employment.
- Bespoke programmes - aimed at the specific interests of some young people
- Tutorial support - aimed at young people who are at risk of becoming NEET through discontinuing their studies
- Residential trip - a trip to Wales delivering an activity based programme developing team working skills and confidence building
- **A Conference on the new Restorative Social Work Model for Foster Carers** was held in March 2019.
- **An Awards ceremony for Foster Carers** in Nov 2019 with over 200 attendees.
- **Improving timeliness of statutory health assessments** - the CCG worked with the Local Authority and Bart's Health NHS Trust (BHT) to significantly improve completion in target timescales of Initial Health Assessments (IHA) in 2019/20.
- **Reviewing safeguarding and CLA documentation.** This work has been underway with the focus being to standardised safeguarding processes across NELCA, provide assurance to the wider system and retain local safeguarding knowledge and expertise. A range of policies, procedures and strategies have been reviewed or developed with remaining requirements set out in future work plans.
- **The Health of Children Looked After and Care Leavers Steering Group** was established in Autumn 2019. The group has developed a workplan, an integrated data dashboard and is liaising with the CiCC to take forward actions focused on engagement of children and young people.
- **The Children and Adolescents Mental Health Service (CAMHS) in Social Care Team** undertook consultations in relation to 128 children or sibling groups (for children and young people subject to a Children Looked After Plan). This led to an offer of face to face assessment and intervention work or advice to the Social Worker within the screening consultation and help with an onward referral if appropriate.
- The team also took 133 referrals for child and young people subject to either a Child in Need or Child Protection Plan. Consultations led to direct clinical involvement or advice to the referring Social Worker and the option of further consultation if required.
- **The CAMHS post in the Edge of Care Team** has been recruited to and made a permanent part of the structure. This role helps to upskill the team in evidence-based interventions designed to enable young people on the edge of care to either remain living at home with their parents or extended family members or where possible be supported back home after a period of time in local authority care.

Priorities and Emerging Challenges for 2020/21

Responding to the Covid-19

A huge amount of work has taken place during the period affected by the Covid-19 to ensure that good quality services continue to be delivered despite the emergency situation.

Considerable emphasis was placed on maintaining face to face contact with our vulnerable families where it was safe to do so. We maintained contact with children in need and children on a child protection plan primarily via telephone and video calls. However, for our most vulnerable young people we continued to focus on face to face visits.

Throughout this period of time we have remained in close contact with all of our looked after young people. Again, continuing face to face visits where it was safe to do so and the use of remote options.

Our phone and social media contact with care leavers increased in order to address issues that they raised during the restrictions. Work was carried out at an early stage in order to identify those who were most likely to require additional support, and face to face visits were prioritised. There was additional support available from the CAMHS Support Team and food parcels to assist with healthy regular eating.

We know that the longer term impacts of the emergency will only become fully evident in the coming months, especially as children

return to school. We expect to see an increase in demand in relation to the impact of poverty, trauma and loss and of online exploitation.

The continued promotion of “Practice Weeks” within the Children’s Social Care has strengthened the corporate understanding of young people who are fostered. This has ensured that the profile of the responsibilities of all staff, and Councillors as “Corporate Parents” has strengthened and improved. We still have much to do in this respect but the continued importance of the six-monthly Practice Weeks (May and November) each year will assist in building the importance of Corporate parenting within Tower Hamlets.

We will continue to work closely with all partners to respond as we move into the next phase of the emergency and develop a longer term, sustainable response. As well as developing new ways of working, and the ability to be flexible in responding to any further changes, we will continue to carefully monitor ongoing risks and issues and to identify emerging concerns.

Engagement with young people

The structure of the CICC is under review with a focus on ensuring a broader membership to reflect different age groups. The aim is also for different groups to feed into each other and older groups to provide peer training and mentoring to others.

The proposal being explored is to establish the following groups, with some potentially meeting online:

- Juniors – eight to 12-year olds
- Seniors – 14 to 17-year olds
- Elders – 18 to 25-year olds

An information, recruitment and consultation event is being planned which will be delivered with partners including the Become charity, Barnardo's, East London Business Alliance (ELBA), CAMHS, Young Workpath, Prince's Trust and Drive Forward.

In response to the Covid-19 the CiCC has been meeting weekly since the end of April 2020. Additional challenges that they have raised during this period include concerns about mental health and wellbeing, loss of normal routine and feeling isolated. Future plans are being informed by this feedback and below are some highlights of what the CiCC has been doing,

- Lockdown Step Challenge – set up in response to some of the concerns above this has helped a group of 10 young people to increase their activity using fitness watches to engage with each other and monitor progress on the number of steps taken.
- The CiCC magazine for all CLA and care leavers in Tower Hamlets is under development with the first issue due in August 2020. The magazine will include an introduction to the CiCC, a summary of issues covered in meetings, opportunities for young people, profiles of members and details of activities and events.

- A leadership residential that was planned for April 2020 will now be rescheduled. This will provide an opportunity for a group of CiCC members to carry out some team building exercises, review their roles and responsibilities and produce their annual plan.

Education, Training and Employment

- The Virtual School has been focused on the following during spring and summer 2020:
 - Laptops are being provided via the DFE online scheme. The Virtual School has coordinated this for the Virtual School, Children in Need, Children with Disabilities and the Through Care cohort and has successfully negotiated a 25 per cent uplift in the allocation of 2,500 devices.
 - Investment and ramping up of the Virtual School online offer is helping us to meet the demands of the pandemic.
 - The service has had to reconfigure to support carers as home educators.
 - Additional tuition for children is now provided online with Zoom classes taking place, including through the holiday periods
 - All Personal Education Plans have been completed virtually.

- One-hundred staff inside and outside of the borough have been trained by industry specialists on trauma awareness and returning to school as Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.
- Supported Employment Programme (formerly known as the Traineeship)– the first Through Care Service cohort for the redesigned programme concluded in April 2020. Tower Hamlets Workpath continues to support this group of young people to ensure they will have ‘education, training or employment’ activity, or be supported into this, after restrictions are lifted. Planning is underway to start recruiting the next programme cohort in Autumn 2020.
- Element Creative Programme – although this Through Care Service programme was postponed in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions it will be re-book this once restrictions have been lifted.

Foster Carers

- Tower Hamlets Foster Carers participated in a survey focused on sharing experiences of home schooling during the Pandemic, and the transition back to school. The survey is aimed at enabling the Fostering Network policy team to raise key issues that foster carers and children have faced with the Department for Education.
- The Tower Hamlets Mockingbird family (part of the Fostering Network programme) has contributed to the ‘Mockingbird in Lockdown’ film in 2020 and helped to host a programme for a

group of visitors from the Netherlands. The visitors included senior managers in fostering services and foster carers who were interested in starting the programme in their country. The visit created an opportunity for carers to share their experiences, successes and challenges of being pioneers in using this family model of providing support to children and carers.

- The Fostering Service will be taking part in a research-based project led by the Fostering Network with the Thomas Coram Research Unit. The project will involve foster carers, babies and young children and supervising social workers. The aim is to help create approaches for carers to meet the educational and social development needs of children.
- Tower Hamlets has also signed up to use a new approach to training and recruitment from the Cornerstone Partnership. They have pioneered a virtual reality experience for fostering and adoption services which allows parents and carers to experience life from the perspective of the child. This offers a unique way of to understand the impact of attachment and trauma through the eyes of the child.

Kitcat Terrace for young people

- We will continue to develop the functionality of Kitcat Terrace for all young people in the borough. This plan will include discussion on how to make better use of some of the large upstairs in the building and will involve the CiCC in this process.

Health

The Health of Children Looked After and Care Leavers Steering Group is taking forward a wide range of actions including:

- Mapping and assessment of health needs (physical, dental, immunisation and sexual health) for children and young people.
- Ensuring that all children who are in care have regular health assessments.
- Mapping feedback forms for children and young people and developing thorough feedback process across the system
- Review of assessment methods (including Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire, CAMHS emotional wellbeing screening and Moods & Feelings Questionnaire) for mental health and wellbeing.
- Mapping of commissioning intentions across the Local Authority and Clinical Commissioning Groups.
- Development of a Learning & Improvement Framework.

- Increased take up of CLA Emotional Wellbeing Screening due to delivery over the telephone as they are easier to attend.

- A dedicated CAMHS Clinician was recruited to join the Fostering Service in May 2020. The focus of this post is providing specialist clinical support to foster carers and their networks looking after children with complex trauma.
- The CAMHS in Social Care Team has also recently started some service development work with the CiCC. A focus group is being organised which will provide an opportunity for young people to share their experiences to help inform the shaping of services. One of the issues which has already been identified is the impact of service criteria and age on meeting the mental health needs of Care Leavers, which will need to be reviewed by the LA and CCG.

Developing a wider understanding of corporate parenting

We will continue to develop understanding across the entire council of the role that everyone plays in supporting children looked after and care leavers and ensuring they have access to the opportunities that all children should get.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

The CAMHS in Social Care Team has developed enhanced skills in using online media to reach vulnerable children and their carers through events which have shared approaches to providing therapy online.

- Benefits to the new ways of working used during the Covid-19 have included:
 - Greater accessibility to the service for children placed out of borough who do not meet their local CAMHS criteria, through more regular sessions delivered online.

Appendix A: Membership list for the Corporate Parenting Board (including officers who also report to the board)

Name	Job Title / Organisation	Name	Job Title / Organisation
Danny Hassell	Chair of the CPB and Cabinet Member for Children and Schools	Amanda Harcus	Divisional Director, HR and OD, LBTH
David Edgar	Councillor	Lyn Glover	Designated Nurse for CLA, NHS TH CCG
Asma Islam	Councillor	Layla Alnakib	Designated Paediatrician Safeguarding
Asmat Hussain	Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer, LBTH	Annick Batimba	Programme Development Manager, Integrated Youth & Community Services, LBTH
Young People’s Representatives	Children in Care Council	Farhan Hoque	Youth Services, LBTH
Foster Care Representatives		Assia Ali	Through Care Service, LBTH
Richard Baldwin	Divisional Director Children’s Social Care, LBTH	Edosa Obunge	Through Care Service, LBTH
James Thomas	Director of Children and Culture	Peter Cox	CAMHS in Social Care Team Lead, LBTH
Robert Bielby	Service Manager, Children’s Social Care, LBTH	Lissa-Marie Minnis	Children’s Social Care, LBTH
David Cregan	Headteacher Virtual School, LBTH	Vicky Clark	Divisional Director, Growth and Economic Development, LBTH
Lynn Torpey	Designated Nurse for Safeguarding & Looked After Children, Tower Hamlets Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)	Tracy Stanley	Strategy & Policy Officer - Children and Culture, LBTH
		Pam Cummins	Business Support, LBTH

Appendix B – CPB Meetings and Agendas 2019/20

MEETING	KEY AGENDA ITEMS
Standing Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update from Foster Care Representatives • Update from Children in Care Council (CiCC) • Performance Report
April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot of mental health checks for Children Looked After (CLA) • Potential opportunities for young people who are at risk of ‘not in employment, education or training’ (NEET)
July 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficiency Strategy and Action Plan • Annual Adoption Report • The Child Protection Chairs Service Annual Report • Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Service Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Annual Report
Oct 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops – based on the 3 Children & Families Strategy Themes • Virtual School interim results • Potential impact of Brexit on CLA and Care Leavers
Jan 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tower Hamlets Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Safeguarding Children and CLA Annual Report • Actions from meeting with CiCC • Update on Un-regulated Placements and children ‘Placed at a Distance’ • NEET and Apprenticeships Task and Finish Groups • Update on Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) and ‘Dubs’ children
April 2020	<p>*Virtual Meeting due to Covid-19 restrictions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal updates from all attendees, including on - current position for each service area or organisation, any issues or emerging concerns • Update on Children’s Social Care during the Pandemic • Update of Support to Care Leavers during the Pandemic

Appendix C – Children's Social Care Key Performance Indicator Report Extract March 2020

Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current	Period
Overview				
Number of CLA	290	329	307	Snapshot
Number of UASC			37	Snapshot
CLA - rate per 10,000	43.0	48.1	43.3	Snapshot

Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current	Period
Looked After Children				
No of new CLA episodes in period	147	217	151	YTD
No. of CLA exits in period	192	174	172	YTD
% repeat CLA (entries that were re-entries within 2 years)	14.3%	6.5%	6.0%	YTD
Average no. of placement moves	1.6	1.5	1.6	Rolling Year
Max. no of placement moves	9.0	10.0	6.0	Rolling Year
CLA long term placement stability %	62.3%	70.6%	71.6%	Snapshot
% of CLA with a named Social Worker (key worker or personal advisor)	100%	100.0%	100.0%	Snapshot

Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current	Period
Section 6 - Care Leavers				
% care leavers "in touch" (17,18,19,20,21 yr. olds with activity updated within last year)	96.8%	97.9%	95.7%	Snapshot
% care leavers known to be EET	67.6%	71.4%	67.3%	Snapshot

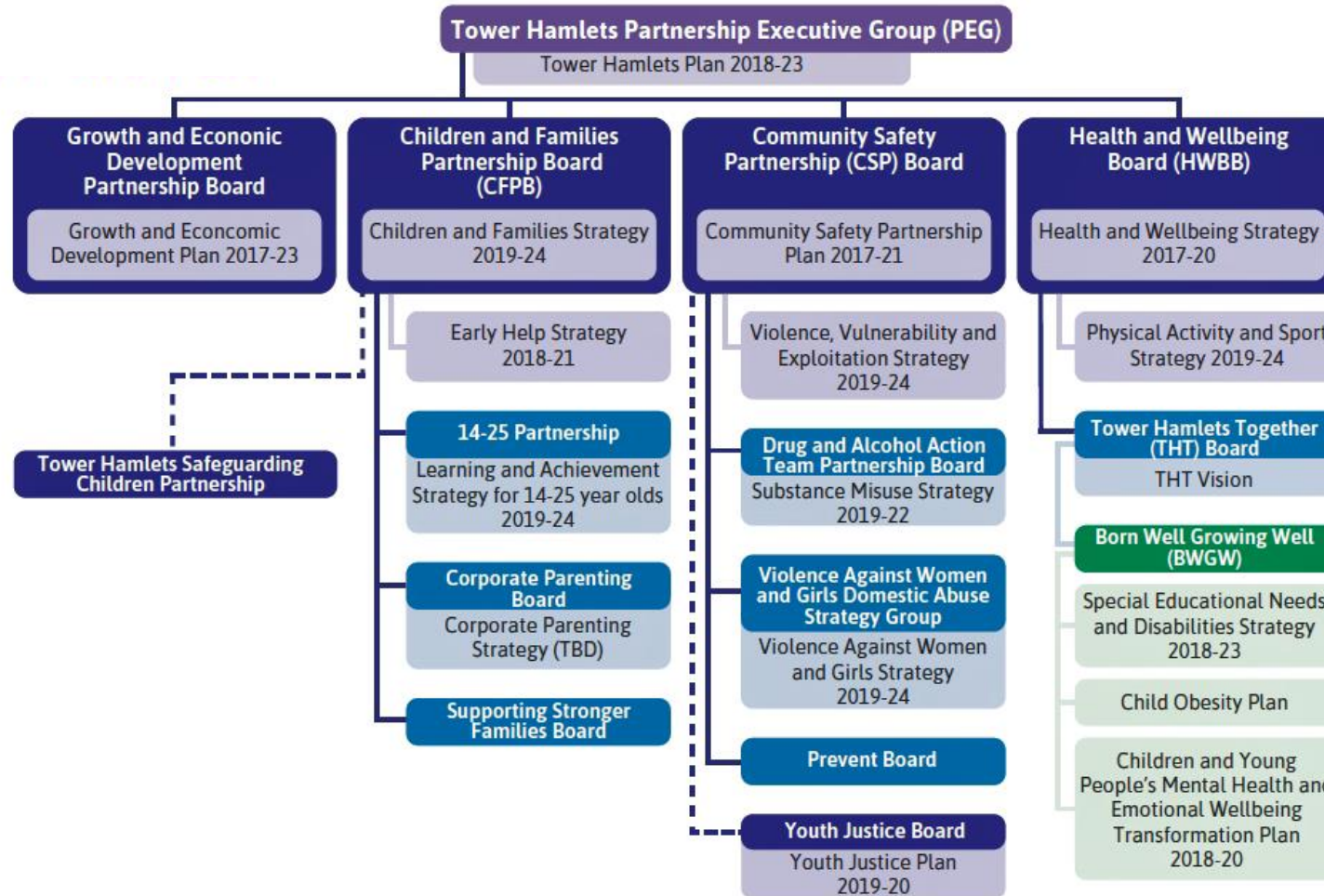
% care leavers known to be in suitable accommodation	91.0%	89.6%	91.4%	Snapshot
% care leavers with a pathway plan	93.5%	94.5%	98.8%	Snapshot
% care leavers with pathway plan updated in last 6 months	66.7%	85.0%	96.7%	Snapshot

Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current	Period
Missing Children				
Number of missing children during period	274	287	276	YTD
Missing from home	129	176	176	YTD
CP	31	18	16	YTD
CIN	73	48	48	YTD
CLA (out of borough)	57	69	73	YTD
CLA (in borough)	41	24	16	YTD

Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current	Period
Fostering and Adoption				
Number of Foster Carer Enquiries	258.0	278	95	YTD
No. of Foster Carer Enquiries leading to Initial Visits	37	56	48	YTD
% Initial visits completed within 5 working days	15.8%	64.3%	75%	YTD
Total Approved Foster Carers (excl. family & friends, staying put, on hold/unavailable)	125	101	97	Snapshot
Foster Carer Vacancy rate	24.0%	23.1%	23.7%	Snapshot
Foster Carer Occupancy rate	76.0%	76.9%	75.3%	Snapshot
No. of children placed with Inhouse Foster Carers	-	132	115	Snapshot
No. of children in Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) Placements	-	85	92	Snapshot
Children in Residential Placements	23	30	30	Snapshot


Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current	Period
Fostering and Adoption (continued)				
Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family	547.0	401.9	376	YTD (3 years)
Average time between court authority to place a child and deciding on a match	112	208	164	YTD
% waiting less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their family (14 months)	77.8%	70.7%	46.2%	Snapshot
Adoptions from care (number adopted and percentage leaving care who are adopted)	4.2%	9.2%	6.4%	YTD
Number of Adoptions and Special Guardianship Orders granted for Looked After Children (S)	30	24	37	YTD
The percentage of black and minority ethnic children leaving care who are adopted	2.7%	6.9%	4.4%	YTD
The percentage of children who ceased to be looked after because of a SGO	11.5%	4.6%	15.1%	YTD
Percentage of CLA placed for adoption within 12 months of agency decision	100.0%	87.5%	90.9%	YTD
Performance Measure	2017/18	2018/19	Current - Autumn 2019/20	Period
Virtual School				
% of pupils making expected progress			56%	Termly
% of pupils where a PEP meeting took place in the term			93%	Termly
% of PEPs which were signed off and RAG rated green			73%	Termly

Appendix D – Tower Hamlets Partnership Structures



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Agenda Item 16

<p>Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p>Council</p> <p>30 September 2020</p>	 <p>TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>Written Member Questions</p>	

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

SUMMARY

Set out overleaf are the questions that were submitted by Members of the Council. Written responses will be provided to these questions.

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

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

17.1 Question from Councillor Leema Qureshi

Can the cabinet member please provide an update on Test and Trace in the borough?

17.2 Question from Councillor Peter Golds

Having cancelled Oktoberfest in Millwall Park this year due to the damage caused last year to the grass playing surface, will the Mayor confirm that following the evidence of violence, disorder and anti social behaviour at last years event from the Met Police, he will not be hiring out Millwall Park to Oktoberfest in future years?

17.3 Question from Councillor Dipa Das

Could the cabinet member update members on the recently launched Tower Hamlets Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Inequalities Commission?

17.4 Question from Councillor Andrew Wood

What future (if any) do St Georges and Tiller road leisure centres have?

17.5 Question from Councillor Val Whitehead

What support has been made available to vulnerable residents throughout the Covid-19 pandemic?

17.6 Question from Councillor Rajib Ahmed

What is the council's best estimate of the economic impact of Covid-19 on the borough, both in terms of the impact on the council's finances and the local economy generally?

17.7 Question from Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan

Will the Mayor reconsider the implementation of the Tower Rewards scheme in light of the strength of opposition from residents, workers and UNISON, as well as the growing national concern around the use of Section 188?

17.8 Question from Councillor Marc Francis

Will the Lead Member for Public Realm Services provide an update on the Mayor's review of the Car Free Zone policy, including dates of the working group's meetings in the past 12 months and an indication when proposals for reform are likely to be brought forward?

17.9 Question from Councillor Kahar Chowdhury

What support has been provided to homeless individuals and families since the beginning of the pandemic and how many have received this support?

17.10 Question from Councillor Kyrsten Perry

How many 'school streets' have been launched and what are the next steps?

17.11 Question from Councillor Rabina Khan

Tower Hamlets Children missed out on school for almost 5 months during Covid-19 lockdown and many could not access education online, unable to study at home due to cramped conditions and did not get the right support. Is the Mayor preparing a strategy to ensure that children educationally disadvantaged by the lockdown do not fall even further behind in their education and are given the support they need to fulfil their potential?

17.12 Question from Councillor Harun Miah

In recent months, the rough sleepers in our borough are increasing in an alarm rate, particularly in and around Shadwell Overground and DLR.

Can the cabinet member tell us what has been done to eradicate this menace?

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