



Meeting of the

TOWER HAMLETS COUNCIL

Wednesday, 30th July 2014 at 7.30 p.m.

A G E N D A

VENUE

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

Democratic Services Contact:

John S Williams, Service Head, Democratic Services

Tel: 020 7364 4204, E-mail: johns.williams@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Directorate of Law, Probity and
Governance

Democratic Services
Tower Hamlets Town Hall
Mulberry Place
5 Clove Crescent
London E14 2BG

Tel **020 7364 4204**
Fax **020 7364 3232**

www.towerhamlets.gov.uk

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

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets to be held in **THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG** at 7.30 p.m. on **WEDNESDAY, 30TH JULY 2014**

Stephen Halsey
Head of Paid Service

Public Information

Attendance at meetings.

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

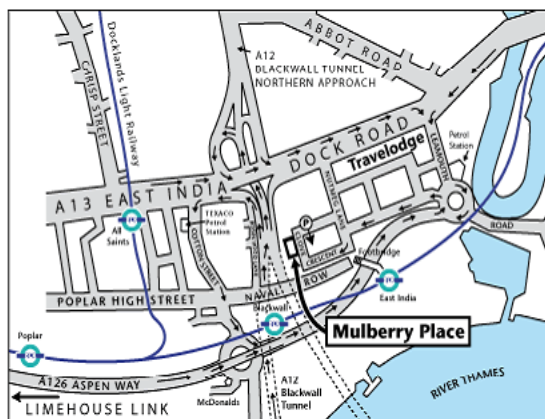
Audio/Visual recording of meetings.

No photography or recording without advanced permission.

Mobile telephones

Please switch your mobile telephone on to silent mode whilst in the meeting.

Access information for the Town Hall, Mulberry Place.



Bus: Routes: 15, 277, 108, D6, D7, D8 all stop near the Town Hall.

Docklands Light Railway: Nearest stations are East India: Head across the bridge and then through the complex to the Town Hall, Mulberry Place

Blackwall station: Across the bus station then turn right to the back of the Town Hall complex, through the gates and archway to the Town Hall.

Tube: The closest tube stations are Canning Town and Canary Wharf

Car Parking: There is limited visitor pay and display parking at the Town Hall (free from 6pm)

If you are viewing this on line: (http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/content_pages/contact_us.aspx)

Meeting access/special requirements.

The Town Hall is accessible to people with special needs. There are accessible toilets, lifts to venues. Disabled parking bays and an induction loop system for people with hearing difficulties are available. Documents can be made available in large print, Braille or audio version. For further information, contact the Officers shown on the front of the agenda



Fire alarm

If the fire alarm sounds please leave the building immediately by the nearest available fire exit without deviating to collect belongings. Fire wardens will direct you to the exits and to the fire assembly point. If you are unable to use the stairs, a member of staff will direct you to a safe area. The meeting will reconvene if it is safe to do so, otherwise it will stand adjourned.

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.

Agendas are available at the Town Hall, Libraries, Idea Centres and One Stop Shops and on the Mod.Gov, iPad and Android apps.



QR code for smart phone users

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 30TH JULY 2014

7.30 p.m.

	PAGE NUMBER
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
To receive any apologies for absence.	
2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS	1 - 4
To note any declarations of interest made by Members, including those restricting Members from voting on the questions detailed in Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992. See attached note from the Monitoring Officer.	
3. MINUTES	5 - 10
To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11 June 2014.	
4. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE COUNCIL	
Including the results of the Council's recent Investors in People (IiP) assessment and presentation of the IiP Silver Award.	
5. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS	11 - 14
The Council Procedure Rules provide for a maximum of three petitions to be presented at an Ordinary Meeting of the Council.	
The deadline for receipt of petitions for this Council meeting is noon on Thursday 24 July 2014. However at the time of agenda despatch, the maximum number of petitions has already been received as set out in the attached report.	

- 6. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** **15 - 18**
- The questions which have been received from members of the public for this Council meeting are set out in the attached report. A maximum period of 20 minutes is allocated to this agenda item.
- 7. MAYOR'S REPORT**
- The Council's Constitution provides for the Elected Mayor to give a report at each Ordinary Council Meeting.
- A maximum of five minutes is allowed for the Elected Mayor's report, following which the Speaker of the Council will invite the respective political group leaders to respond for up to one minute each if they wish.
- 8. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL** **19 - 24**
- The questions which have been received from Councillors to be put at this Council meeting are set out in the attached report. A maximum period of 30 minutes is allocated to this agenda item.
- 9. REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES**
- There is no business to transact under this agenda item.
- 10. TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND QUESTIONS ON JOINT ARRANGEMENTS/EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (IF ANY)**
- There is no business to transact under this agenda item.
- 11. OTHER BUSINESS**
- 11 .1 Appointment of a Co-opted Member to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee** **25 - 28**
- To appoint a Co-opted Member representing the Muslim community to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The report of the Service Head, Democratic Services is attached.

11 .2 Review of proportionality and allocation of places on committees 29 - 32

To review proportionality and the allocation of places on the committees and panels of the Council, following the election of councillors on 3rd July 2014 to represent Blackwall and Cubitt Town Ward. The report of the Service Head, Democratic Services is attached.

12. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL 33 - 48

The motions submitted by Councillors for debate at this meeting are set out in the attached report.

Agenda Item 2

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS - NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Members' Code of Conduct at Part 5.1 of the Council's Constitution.

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

Interests and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs)

You have an interest in any business of the authority where that business relates to or is likely to affect any of the persons, bodies or matters listed in section 4.1 (a) of the Code of Conduct; and might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of yourself, a member of your family or a person with whom you have a close association, to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward affected.

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

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

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

Effect of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest on participation at meetings

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

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

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

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

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

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

Further advice

For further advice please contact:-

John Williams, Service Head, Democratic Services, 020 7364 4204

APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

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

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

This page is intentionally left blank

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT 7.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2014

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

Members Present:

Mayor Lutfur Rahman	Councillor Clare Harrisson
Councillor Khaless Uddin Ahmed	Councillor Danny Hassell
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	Councillor Sirajul Islam
Councillor Suluk Ahmed	Councillor Denise Jones
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	Councillor Aminur Khan
Councillor Mahbub Alam	Councillor Rabina Khan
Councillor Shah Alam	Councillor Shiria Khatun
Councillor Amina Ali	Councillor Abjol Miah
Councillor Shahed Ali	Councillor Ayas Miah
Councillor Abdul Asad	Councillor Harun Miah
Councillor Craig Aston	Councillor Md. Maium Miah
Councillor Asma Begum	Councillor Mohammed Mufti Miah
Councillor Rachel Blake	Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE
Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury	Councillor Muhammad Ansar Mustaquim
Councillor Alibor Choudhury	Councillor Joshua Peck
Councillor Andrew Cregan	Councillor John Pierce
Councillor Julia Dockerill	Councillor Oliur Rahman
Councillor David Edgar	Councillor Gulam Robbani
Councillor Marc Francis	Councillor Rachael Saunders
Councillor Amy Whitelock Gibbs	Councillor Helal Uddin
Councillor Peter Golds	Councillor Andrew Wood
Councillor Shafiqul Haque	

The meeting commenced at 7.34 p.m.

The Speaker of the Council, Lesley Pavitt, in the Chair

1. ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The Speaker of the Council, Lesley Pavitt, addressed the meeting about her year in office.

Before commencing her address, the Speaker invited Commander John Ludgate, Deputy Lord Lieutenant, to speak on the subject of the 70th commemoration ceremony of the D-Day landings, which took place on 6th June 1944.

The Speaker then reported to the Council on the many wonderful events she had attended during the year and the many examples of good work in the borough she had witnessed. In relation to the Borough's senior citizens, she reported she had particularly enjoyed visiting their events, social clubs and tea dances.

Former Councillor Pavitt explained that she had been to a wide range of events with too many highlights to mention them all. Examples included, seeing the work of the carers centre providing support to carers in the community, visiting Ability Bow and seeing the inspirational gym performances of their disabled visitors, and many wonderful sports events, concerts and the civic awards ceremony. She thanked all the Councillors who had supported the various events throughout the year.

The Speaker also reported on her attendance at Citizenship Ceremonies where it had been a pleasure to meet the new citizens. She recommended these events as something all Councillors should attend at least once a year.

Reporting on her work for her two charities, Magic Me and Cardboard Citizens, she stated that she had enjoyed offering support to their work over the year, in particular at the Speaker's Ball. In total she had raised over £25,000 for her charities. She thanked everyone who had helped including Canary Wharf Group for their support for the Speaker's Ball.

Former Councillor Pavitt further reported on her visits outside of the Borough and links with other civic leaders throughout London. In particular, she had enjoyed inviting all the civic leaders for a tour of the Borough and she thanked Councillor Peter Golds for acting as tour guide.

Finally, she thanked all those who had supported her through her year, in particular Patricia Attawia and everyone in Member Support and her drivers.

The respective political group leaders and Mayor Rahman in turn each responded to the Speaker's address and recorded their thanks to her for the dignified and fair way in which she had discharged her duties over the past year.

The Speaker then called for nominations to serve as Speaker of the Tower Hamlets Council for the coming year.

It was **moved** by Councillor Rachael Saunders, **seconded** by Councillor John Pierce, and:

RESOLVED

That Councillor M. A. Mukit MBE be elected to serve as Speaker of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Council until the Annual Council Meeting in May 2015.

Councillors Rachael Saunders and John Pierce then came forward to witness the Speaker of the Council signing the statutory declaration of acceptance of office.

The Speaker of the Council, Councillor M. A. Mukit MBE, in the Chair

The incoming speaker thanked Former Councillor Lesley Pavitt for her hard work over the last year and thanked those who had supported his nomination as Speaker. He said it was an honour to be the Speaker, a role with a long history but still so important to our community today. As Speaker he would make it his role to ensure that everyone had a voice and could help shape the community.

He stated that he looked forward to working with Councillors on all sides and that he would be firm but fair in Council meetings. In particular he called on all Councillors and visitors to avoid interrupting the meeting and to show respect to all participants.

He reported that he would be working to raise funds for the Tower Hamlets Food Bank, a very worthy organisation that worked to ensure families did not go hungry.

Finally, Councillor Mukit reported that his wife and daughter would be his official consorts for the year.

2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

The Speaker sought nominations to serve as Deputy Speaker of the Council for the forthcoming municipal year. It was **moved** by Councillor Shiria Khatun, **seconded** by Councillor Danny Hassell, and:

RESOLVED

That Councillor Khales Uddin Ahmed be elected to serve as Deputy Speaker of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Council until the Annual Council meeting in May 2015.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

4. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

5. MINUTES**RESOLVED**

That the unrestricted minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 March 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and the Speaker be authorised to sign them accordingly.

6. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE COUNCIL

There were no announcements.

7. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP, REVIEW OF PROPORTIONALITY AND ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS

The Council considered the tabled report of the Service Head, Democratic Services, setting out the review of proportionality and proposing the establishment of the Council's committees for 2014/15.

RESOLVED

1. That the Membership of the Authority and review of proportionality as set out in the tabled report of the Service Head, Democratic Services be noted.
2. That committees and panels be established for the Municipal Year 2014/15, and places be allocated on those committees and panels, as set out in Paragraph 4.2 of the report.

8. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND PANELS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council considered the tabled report of the Service Head, Democratic Services, setting out the nominations to committees and panels of the Council as notified by the political groups.

RESOLVED

1. That the Committee Chairs for 2014/15 be appointed as listed in Appendix A to the tabled report of the Service Head, Democratic Services.
2. That the members and deputy members be appointed to the committees and panels of the Council and other bodies for the municipal year 2014/15 as set out in Appendix B to the tabled report of the Service Head, Democratic Services.

3. That in relation to any unfilled places within the seats allocated to a particular political group, the Council note that the Director of Law, Probity and Governance has delegated authority subsequently to agree the appointments to those places in accordance with nominations from the relevant political group.

9. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

The Council considered the report of the Service Head, Democratic Services along with tabled amendments to the meeting dates.

RESOLVED

That, subject to the tabled amendments, the proposed calendar of meetings for the municipal year 2014/15 be approved.

10. APPOINTMENT OF POLITICAL ADVISORS

The Council considered the report of the Service Head, Democratic Services concerning the appointment of political advisors to support the political groups represented on the Council.

Councillor Rachael Saunders **moved**, and Councillor Shiria Khatun **seconded**, a set of amended recommendations to the report. After discussion the amended recommendations were put to the vote and were **agreed**. Accordingly it was:-

RESOLVED

1. That the Council agree to re-establish for the duration of the current administration, posts of political assistant (known as Political Advisors) to those political groups that qualify for such a post in accordance with Section 9 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
2. That this should be on the basis of 1 FTE post for each of the Labour Group and the Tower Hamlets First Group.
3. That, should the Conservative Group increase in size to at least 5 Councillors, a 0.5 FTE post be then allocated to that group.

11. MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBERSHIP AND EXECUTIVE SCHEME OF DELEGATION

A report was tabled setting out the Mayor's Executive Scheme of Delegation including the Executive appointments made by the Mayor.

RESOLVED

That the Mayor's Executive Scheme of Delegation be noted.

The meeting ended at 8.07 p.m.

Speaker of the Council

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 30TH JULY 2014

PETITIONS

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

SUMMARY

1. The Council's Constitution provides for up to three petitions to be received at each Council Meeting. These are taken in order of receipt. This report sets out the valid petitions submitted for presentation at the Council meeting on Wednesday 30th July 2014.
2. The deadline for receipt of petitions for this meeting is noon on Thursday 24th July. However, at the time of agenda despatch the maximum number of petitions has already been received as set out overleaf.
3. The texts of the petitions received for presentation to this meeting are set out in the attached report. In each case the petitioners may address the meeting for no more than three minutes. Members may then question the petitioners for a further four minutes. Finally, the relevant Cabinet Member or Chair of Committee may respond to the petition for up to three minutes.
4. Any outstanding issues will be referred to the relevant Corporate Director for attention who will respond to those outstanding issues in writing within 28 days.
5. 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.

5.1 Saturation Zone Policy in the Brick Lane area (Petition from Mr Jon Shapiro, Spitalfields Regeneration and others)

“SPIRE (SPitalfields REgeneration) was set up in November 2012 to enable local residents to address ASB issues in Brick Lane on a more co-ordinated basis. SPIRE’s “Working Group” includes representatives from all major local amenity groups including:

- Spitalfields Community Group (SCG) – Membership 200+ local residents
- Spitalfields Society (Spit Soc) – Membership 100+ local residents
- St. George Residents Association (SGRA) – which represents 183 flats
- The Exchange Building in Commercial Street – which represents 100 flats
- The Market Residents – which represents 32 flats in Old Spitalfields Market
- Woodseer Street – whose residents live with continual night- time ASB.

Thus SPIRE represents 600+ local households in the Brick Lane area.

SPIRE welcomed the introduction of the Brick Lane area Saturation Zone (or Cumulative Impact Zone – CIZ) on 1st November 2013 and would like to thank all LBTH Councillors and Staff who were involved in creating the CIZ.

However, SPIRE is very concerned that some License Hearing decisions in the first three months of the operation of the CIZ, appeared to ignore some provisions of the Saturation Policy. We hope that any such decisions were merely “learning-curve” anomalies in the early days of the Saturation Policy and will not re-occur.

Please would all members of the Licensing Committee pay full attention to the Brick Lane area Saturation Zone Policy when hearing License Applications and License Reviews regarding premises in CIZ.”

5.2 Tenants’ Rights (Petition from Mrs Eileen Short, Tower Hamlets Benefit Justice and others)

“We demand Tower Hamlets Council inform all tenants of their right to

- Claim Discretionary Housing Payments
- Exemptions (disabled people, pre-1996 claims etc)
- Appeal grounds for Bedroom Tax (including room size, room not used as bedroom, separated parents etc.) and instructs all local landlords to do the same. Landlords must check whether any of these grounds applies, and whether any repairs are outstanding, before taking legal action for eviction
- Tower Hamlets Council and local landlords should not evict tenants in arrears due to the Bedroom Tax and benefit cuts. Instead we call on all Councillors to join us to publicly demand repeal of the Bedroom Tax.”

5.3 Petition to protect Lincoln Estate and surrounding residents and traders from violence and abuse (Petition from Ms Syeda Choudhury and others)

“We the undersigned are appalled at the increasing numbers of incidents of violence and abuse against the residents in Lincoln Estate. We residents repeatedly informed Police, Harca and council but there wasn't a noticeable action around, as a result a young boy was stabbed and seriously injured on 9th June 2014.

We believe that resident have the right to be safe at their neighbourhood free from the fear of violence and abuse and treated with respect they deserve. We call on the Tower Hamlets Council, Metropolitan Police Authority and Poplar Harca to work together to resolve this problem forever. “

This page is intentionally left blank

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 30TH JULY 2014

**QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

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

SUMMARY

1. Set out overleaf are the questions submitted by members of the public, for response by the Mayor or appropriate Cabinet Member at the Council Meeting on 30th July 2014.
2. The Council's Constitution sets a maximum time limit of twenty minutes for this item.
3. A questioner who has put a question in person may also put one brief supplementary question without notice to the Member who has replied to his or her original question. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. Supplementary questions and Members' responses to written and supplementary questions are each limited to two minutes.
4. Any question which cannot be dealt with during the twenty minutes allocated for public questions, either because of lack of time or because of non-attendance of the questioner or the Member to whom it was put, will be dealt with by way of a written answer.
5. Unless the Speaker of Council decides otherwise, no discussion will take place on any question, but any Member of the Council may move, without discussion, that the matter raised by a question be referred for consideration by the Cabinet or the appropriate Committee or Sub-Committee.

QUESTIONS

Eight public questions have been submitted as set out below:-

6.1 Question from Mr Muhammad Haque:

What motivated candidates at 22 May 2014 to seek election to Tower Hamlets and what are the ethical, democratic, accountable actions that current councillors on Tower Hamlets Council are more content about and what actions they are not content about and what are the councillors doing to make all their actions accountable, ethical, transparent and relevant to and representative of the daily lives, needs, expectations of ordinary people of ALL BACKGROUNDS in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets?

6.2 Question from Mr John Wright:

All developments have to put to council a Construction Management Plan (CMP). The CMP sets out the rules that protect existing residents against the damaging effects of the development construction. The former council failed to consult with residents regarding the CMP for the large Telfords development on the Glamis Estate. This has caused great distress to residents, resulting in the site being closed down twice already, without a brick being laid. It is perfectly obvious that Telfords have absolutely no regard for the welfare of residents. Apparently Telfords have now entered to council a new CMP. Will our new council carefully monitor and enforce all CMPs to protect its residents and also that this council protects the residents already of as previously – the developers?

6.3 Question from Mr Raihan Islam:

The parking transfer scheme has many strings attached with the idea of car free zones and confuses many of the locals. In some cases even the officers from the One Stop parking shop have given misleading advice, perhaps because there are strings attached to the car free zones which creates confusion. Can the council make clear if residents who have three bedrooms and over are allowed permits in car free zones. Also to minus any conditions attached to it?

6.4 Question from Mr Ashok Kumar:

Can the Council provide an update on the Erik Pickles-instigated government inspection?

6.5 Question from Mr Gary Reddin:

What is the Mayor doing to save our Doctors surgeries?

6.6 Question from Ms Jackie Applebee, GP:

What steps are being taken by the council to ensure the survival of vital GP services in Tower Hamlets? Could they determine from NHS England, or if necessary the Secretary of State, what is being done in detail to support GP practices in Tower Hamlets that have identified themselves as being at risk of closure or severe service reduction due to cuts in funding either through the withdrawal of MPIG from GMS practices or the withdrawal of monies to PMS and APMS practices?

6.7 Question from Mr Michael James:

How will this council deal with unjust private landlords and protect victimised tenants from eviction?

6.8 Question from Mr. Glenn McMahon, Tower Hamlets Renters Group:

Can the Council please update us on what action is being taken to enforce better conditions in the private rented sector? We are particularly concerned about the reports of serious disrepair and threats of retaliatory evictions at Chapman House, Bigland Street, E1.

This page is intentionally left blank

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 30TH JULY 2014

**QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY
MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

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

SUMMARY

1. Set out overleaf are the questions submitted by Members of the Council for response by the Speaker, the Mayor or the relevant Committee/Sub-Committee Chair at the Council meeting on Wednesday 30th July 2014.
2. Questions are limited to one per Member per meeting, plus one supplementary question unless the Member has indicated that only a written reply is required and in these circumstances a supplementary question is not permitted.
3. Oral responses are time limited to one minute. Supplementary questions and responses are also time limited to one minute each.
4. There is a time limit of thirty minutes for consideration of Members' questions with no extension of time allowed and any question not answered within this time will be dealt with by way of a written response. The Speaker will decide the time allocated to each question.
5. Members must confine their contributions to questions and answers and not make statements or attempt to debate.

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

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

8.1 Question from Councillor John Pierce

Why has the Mayor of Tower Hamlets not continued funding for the ASB dog patrols in Weavers Ward after the successful pilot which led to a reduction of unwelcome guests in blocks heavily affected by anti-social behaviour?

8.2 Question from Councillor Mufti Miah

Tower Hamlets has been named by the department for education among the top 10 boroughs in the country for the proportion of students who go to university. Will the Mayor join me in congratulating our young people for their remarkable achievement?

8.3 Question from Councillor Chris Chapman

Will the Mayor inform the council as to when he last met officials of One Housing?

8.4 Question from Councillor Helal Uddin

I assume the administration is aware of the recent congregation of youths around the Devons Road area. Can the Lead Member brief us on what action is being taken by the council to prevent further incidents?

8.5 Question from Councillor Mahbub Alam

Can the Lead Member provide an update on progress with protecting our GP surgeries that are under threat from the Tory government's cuts?

8.6 Question from Councillor Andrew Wood

Will the Mayor update the council as to what steps will be taken to implement the Openness of Local Bodies Regulations 2014 when they come into law, and will he follow local best practice on press access in copying Hackney, Newham, Lewisham & Greenwich Boroughs in providing a permanent table for the press?

8.7 Question from Councillor Denise Jones

Does the Mayor intend to press ahead with the sale of Old Flo despite LB Bromley's contest of ownership and if so when does he expect this to go ahead?

8.8 Question from Councillor Maium Miah

Will the Speaker of the Council outline his principal engagements for the coming month?

8.9 Question from Councillor Julia Dockerill

On 13 June a young gay couple were subject to a violent attack on Whitechapel Road, only moments away from Altab Ali Park, a public space which symbolises this borough's unity and determination to stamp out any intolerance and violence shown towards our neighbours. I welcome the Mayor of Tower Hamlets' wholehearted condemnation of this homophobic attack and statement that 'we take a zero-tolerance approach to homophobia'. Can he please reiterate these sentiments in this Chamber; update us on the work of the Hate Incidents Panel following the referral of this case to them; and advise us on the work he is doing to promote tolerance towards people of every sexuality within our community?

8.10 Question from Councillor Rachel Blake

Following the motion passed by the Council in April last year, will the Mayor update us on what progress he has made to formally investigate the conditions attached to the sale agreement of the old bath houses by Tower Hamlets Council and to recognise the Women's Library as a community asset for women's and community use?

8.11 Question from Councillor Abjol Miah

Will the Cabinet Member for Development outline the timetable and progress with the Whitechapel Vision?

8.12 Question from Councillor Peter Golds

Will the Mayor give details as to the disposal of the land, 111-113 Mellish Street, E14?

8.13 Question from Councillor Amina Ali

The council will be aware that the drug Khat has recently been made illegal. What has the Mayor done to link up with health professionals and police to support people coming off Khat?

8.14 Question from Councillor Ansar Mustaqim

Will the Mayor continue to support families through the Temporary Accommodation Fund even though the current government is cutting benefits for the most vulnerable in our society?

8.15 Question from Councillor Craig Aston

Will the Mayor give details as to the disposal of the Limehouse Library site at 638 Commercial Road?

8.16 Question from Councillor Marc Francis

How many pensioners and disabled residents have had their homes redecorated under the council's Tenant Decoration Scheme in a) 2013/14 and b) 2014/15?

8.17 Question from Councillor Shah Alam

What is the council's plan for centenary commemoration of WW1 in the borough?

8.18 Question from Councillor Joshua Peck

What is the vacancy rate in each of the borough's district and local town centres and how does the lead member intend to reduce these?

8.19 Question from Councillor Harun Miah

A few weeks ago the Mayor attended the People's Assembly March against Austerity to protest at this Tory-led government's attack on the poor and the most vulnerable in our community. What are being done to protect our residents from the brunt of these vicious cuts?

8.20 Question from Councillor Amy Whitelock-Gibbs

What assessment has the Lead Member made of road safety in the borough and how regularly is this reviewed for each ward? Is the Lead Member satisfied that current measures – such as speed limits, traffic calming and enforcement of speeding – are sufficient to protect residents, cyclists and drivers from accidents?

8.21 Question from Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury

The Tour de France cycling ride through our borough was an amazing spectacle that brought back memories of the London Olympics. How is the Mayor supporting cyclists and budding athletes in the borough?

8.22 Question from Councillor Danny Hassell

What is the current wait for an Occupational Therapy assessment ahead of Decent Homes work?

8.23 Question from Councillor Suluk Ahmed

Tower Hamlets has become one of the first councils in London to be an accredited London Living Wage employer, how will this benefit our residents and staff?

8.24 Question from Councillor Asma Begum

Is the Lead Member for Housing happy with the current performance of Registered Housing Providers in the borough?

This page is intentionally left blank

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 30th JULY 2014

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBER

REPORT OF THE SERVICE HEAD, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Council has appointed an Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) to perform the functions set out in Part Two, Article Six of the Constitution (OSC Terms of Reference). The Committee is empowered to include non voting co-opted members from the community. The Council has opted that a member of the Muslim Community form part of the Committee in this capacity. The Council's Constitution states that such appointments must be approved by Council.
- 1.2 Co-optee appointments to OSC must be periodically renewed, although there is no condition that restricts the number of times a co-opted member may be reappointed. The Council has canvassed and received a nomination from the East London Mosque to fill the position of Non-voting Co-opted Member (representing the Muslim community).

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Council approve the appointment of Mr Shaynul Khan as Non-voting Co-opted Member of Overview and Scrutiny Committee representing the Muslim Community in the borough for the remainder of the administration (May 2018).

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council is required by section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000 to have an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to have executive arrangements that ensure the committee has specified powers. Consistent with this obligation, Article 6 of the Council's Constitution provides that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants and may make reports and recommendations to the Full

Council or the Executive in connection with the discharge of any functions. The Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules which are set out in the Council's Constitution provide detail as to how the Committee carries out its work.

- 3.2 Section 9FA of the Local Government Act 2000 specifies that an overview and scrutiny committee of a local authority (or any sub-committee of such a committee) may include persons who are not members of the authority. Pursuant to Schedule A1 to the Local Government Act 2000 the Council must have specified categories of co-opted members on its overview and scrutiny committee who will be entitled to vote on education matters. Otherwise, it is for the Council to determine what co-opted members the Committee will have and what voting rights will be given to co-opted members of the Committee.
- 3.3 Rule 4 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules provides that the Committee must include specified co-opted members, in accordance with the legislative requirement. As permitted within the discretion given by the Local Government Act 2000, the Council has determined that the Committee may also include a Muslim representative in a non-voting capacity.
- 3.4 During the last administration Mr Mushfique Uddin was the appointed Muslim community representative and his term of office concluded at the time local government elections 2014. He has not expressed an interest in continuing in this role and latterly has not attended Overview and Scrutiny meetings. Therefore an alternative nomination has been sought for this role for the remainder of the newly inaugurated administration.

4. NOMINATION

- 4.1 To canvass for applications, East London Mosque has been contacted and Mr Shaynul Khan submitted as nominee.
- 4.2 A summary of his qualifications and work since graduation was submitted in support of his nomination. This advised that:
 - Mr Khan has been focussed on supporting charities and organisations delivering services to the grass root communities
 - At the East London Mosque, Mr Khan is primarily responsible for the organisations strategic development, fundraising and its 35 projects and services
 - He also is the Chair of the Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Service.
- 4.3 Council is asked to consider the appointment of this nominee as a non-voting Co-opted Member of Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the administration

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

5.1 The legal position regarding co-opted members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is set out in the body of the report.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

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

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972 SECTION 100D (AS AMENDED)

LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Brief description of background papers:

Name and telephone number of holder and address where open to inspection

• None

• Not applicable

This page is intentionally left blank

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 30th JULY 2014

REVIEW OF PROPORTIONALITY AND ALLOCATION OF PLACES ON COMMITTEES AND PANELS OF THE COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE SERVICE HEAD, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 Following the delayed election in Blackwall and Cubitt Town Ward held on 3 July 2014, it is necessary to update the Council's allocation of places on Committees and other bodies covered by the proportionality requirements in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 ('The 1989 Act').
- 1.2 The allocations are set out overleaf. The result of the election increases the proportion of seats held by the Labour and Conservative Groups. However, no single group has the 23 seats necessary to form an overall majority on Council and committee seats are therefore allocated on a purely proportional basis.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the review of proportionality at paragraph 3 overleaf be noted and the Council agree the allocation of seats on committees and panels established for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2014/15 as set out at paragraph 4.2.
- 2.2 That Members and deputies be appointed to serve on those committees and panels in accordance with nominations from the political groups to be notified to the Service Head, Democratic Services.

3. REVIEW OF PROPORTIONALITY

- 3.1 Section 15(1) of the 1989 Act requires the Council at, or as soon as practicable after, a change in the political composition 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 where a political group has a majority of seats on the Council, the majority of seats on each body must go to that political group;
- (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/panel of the authority allocated to each political group bears the same proportion as that group's proportion of the seats on the full Council.

3.3 In accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, Councillors Dave Chesterton and Candidate Ronald have given notice of joining the Labour Group on the Council whilst Councillor Chris Chapman has given notice of joining the Conservative Group on the Council. Therefore the composition of the Council is as follows:-

Group	seats	%
Labour	22	48.9%
Tower Hamlets First	18	40.0%
Conservative	5	11.1%
Total	45	

4. ALLOCATION OF PLACES ON COMMITTEES

4.1 The Council has established the committees and panels listed below for the municipal year 2014/15. These provide for a total of 91 committee/panel seats, which will be allocated to the political groups in proportion to their numbers on the full Council as follows:-

Labour:	45 places
Tower Hamlets First:	36 places
Conservative:	10 places

4.2 Applying the principles at paragraph 3.2 above as closely as is reasonably practicable the proposed allocation of places on the committees and panels covered by the requirement for proportionality for the remainder of the municipal year 2014/15 (or until the next review of proportionality, whichever is sooner) is as follows:-

Committee/panel	Total	Labour	Tower Hamlets First	Conser-vative
Overview & Scrutiny Committee (plus 6 co-optees)	9	5	3	1
Health Scrutiny Panel	7	4	2	1
Appeals Committee	9	5	3	1
Audit Committee	7	3	3	1
Development Committee	7	3	3	1
Strategic Development Committee	9	4	4	1
General Purposes Committee	7	3	3	1
Human Resources Committee	7	3	3	1
Licensing Committee	15	8	6	1
Pensions Committee	7	4	3	-
Standards Advisory Committee (plus 7 co-optees)	7	3	3	1

4.3 Each political group has been invited to submit nominations for the places allocated to that group.

4.4 Neither the Cabinet and any executive sub-groups of the Cabinet; nor the Tower Hamlets Health and Wellbeing Board, are covered by the requirement for proportionality.

5. CONSERVATIVE GROUP APPOINTMENT

5.1 The Council is advised that following the election of councillors to represent Blackwall & Cubitt Town Ward on 3rd July 2014, the Conservative Group has notified the appointment of Councillor Chris Chapman as that group's Deputy Leader ('specified representative' for the purposes of Regulation 8(5) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

6. LEGAL COMMENTS

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

7. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

7.1 There are no direct financial considerations arising from this report.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972 SECTION 100D (AS AMENDED)

LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Brief description of background papers:	Name and telephone number of holder and address where open to inspection
--	---

- None

This page is intentionally left blank

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 30TH JULY 2014

**MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY
MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

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

SUMMARY

1. Ten motions have been submitted by Members of the Council under Council Procedure Rule 13 for debate at the Council meeting on Wednesday 30th July 2014.
2. The motions submitted are listed overleaf. In accordance with the protocol agreed by the Council on 21st May 2008, the motions are listed by turns, one from each group, continuing in rotation until all motions submitted are included. The rotation starts with any group(s) whose motion(s) were not reached at the previous meeting.
3. Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility or which affect the Borough. A motion may not be moved which is substantially the same as a motion which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the previous six months; or which proposes that a decision of the Council taken in the previous six months be rescinded; unless notice of the motion is given signed by at least twenty Members.
4. There is no specific duration set for this agenda item and consideration of the attached motions may continue until the time limit for the meeting is reached. The guillotine procedure at Council Procedure Rule 9.2 does not apply to motions on notice and any of the attached motions which have not been put to the vote when the time limit for the meeting is reached will be deemed to have fallen. A motion which is not put to the vote at the current meeting may be resubmitted for the next meeting but is not automatically carried forward.

MOTIONS

Set out overleaf are the motions that have been submitted.

12.1 Motion regarding Space for Cycling Campaign

Proposer: Councillor Rachel Blake

Seconder: Councillor Amy Whitelock-Gibbs

This Council Notes:

- That 40 of the 42 councillors elected on 22nd May had signed up to support the London Cycling Campaign's 'Space for Cycling' initiative.
- That the 'Space for Cycling' campaign called upon candidates to commit to supporting a number of local measures if they were elected.
- That the measures, identified by local residents and promoted by the Space for Cycling campaign listed by ward are:
 - o **Bethnal Green:** Protected Space for cycling on Mile End Road
 - o **Weavers:** Make Columbia Road Market a Liveable Town centre with cycle and pedestrian access to, and through the area.
 - o **Spitalfields:** Allow two way cycling on Brick Lane.
 - o **St Peter's:** Protected space for cycling on Cambridge Heath road with a safe junction at Bethnal Green.
 - o **Bow West:** Protected Space for cycling on Bow Road
 - o **Bow East:** Remove through traffic from Tredegar Road and the surrounding area
 - o **Whitechapel:** Remove through motor traffic from Vallance Road, New Road and Cannon Street Road
 - o **Stepney Green:** Safe cycle access to Sir John Cass Redcoat School and Stepney City Farm
 - o **St Dunstons:** Safe cycle access to schools around Ben Jonson Road
 - o **Shadwell:** Protected Space for Cycling on Cable Street
 - o **St Katherine's and Wapping:** Allow 24-hour access on the Greenway through King Edwards Park
 - o **Limehouse:** Protected Space for cycling on Horseferry Road (E14)
 - o **Mile End:** Protected space for cycling on Burdett Road
 - o **Bromley North:** Protected Space for cycling at Bow Roundabout
 - o **Bromley South:** Install protected space for cyclists along both Devons Road and Devas Street

- **Lansbury:** Safe and convenient route from all of Lansbury ward to Lea River Park
 - **Poplar:** Provide a safe, inviting and clear route for Cycle superhighway S3 in Bromley South centre
 - **Canary Wharf:** Reinstall the riverside path at West Ferry Circus and create a cycle crossing across South Dock.
 - **Blackwall and Cubitt Town:** Protected Space for cycling on Manchester Road and Preston's Road
 - **Island Gardens:** Protected Space for cycling on Manchester Road and Preston's Road
- The motion previously passed by Council on the LCC Safer Lorries campaign included an ask that the Council “strongly encourage contractors used by the Council to meet its Safer Lorries conditions.

This Council believes:

- That all of the councillors who signed up to the Space for Cycling Campaign should now work with the campaigners to further develop the feasibility of the commitments and then deliver the changes needed to make cycling in the borough safer.
- That while the pledges are an incredibly welcome development some will be more challenging than others and there is potential for officers, councillors and cyclists to develop the plans and, in some limited cases, propose alternative actions which would achieve the aims in a different, potentially more effective manner.
- That the number of councillors who made these commitments, and the support the electorate gave them, shows a clear mandate for action to improve cycling infrastructure.

This Council therefore resolves:

- To call on the Mayor and relevant Cabinet Member, following consultation with ward councillors, to bring a plan to the September Council meeting detailing the budget feasibility and impact of each of the specific ward based asks set out above and that this plan should include potential options for implementation.
- Following the aforementioned report from the Mayor, that councillors should consult with residents and cycling campaigners in their wards to prioritise and agree a course of action to best deliver the strategic aims of each pledge.
- To welcome the Labour GLA campaign to improve the safety of the Cycle Superhighways and in particular their lobbying work on the Bow Roundabout.
- To call on Boris Johnson to immediately look at further steps to protect cyclists using CS2 along the full length of Mile End Road and Bow Road, and the Bow Roundabout.

12.2 Motion regarding Save Our Surgeries

Proposer: Councillor Mahbub Alam

Secunder: Councillor Abdul Asad

This Council notes:

- In 2014 the government changed the funding formula for GP surgeries without due consideration of the impact these changes have on areas with high levels of deprivation, such as Tower Hamlets, with complex health needs.
- This change threatened many practices with bankruptcy so the government introduced the 'minimum practice income guarantee' (MPIG) to stop them falling below their previous level of income.
- The government is now taking away the MPIG and many practices are threatened with bankruptcy again.

This Council believes:

- The survival of GP practices in Tower Hamlets, and their ability to deliver the high quality services for patients, in particular to improve services for those with complexity needs, requires appropriate and sufficient funding.
- Withdrawals of MPIG will disproportionality affect all patients living in areas with high levels of deprivation such as Tower Hamlets.
- This withdrawal of MPIG will open the door for more GP surgeries to be run by large private firms on the cheap leading to deterioration in the standard of care that patients receive.

This Council agrees:

- That the Mayor continues to work with the Save Our Surgeries Campaign, local GP practices, health workers and patients to lobby NHS England and the Secretary of State to provide long term appropriate and sufficient funding for surgeries.
- That the Council and the Mayor continues to do all they can do to support and protect the interests of resident and patients and the health sector in Tower Hamlets.

12.3 Motion regarding transparency within local council meetings

Proposer: Councillor Chris Chapman

Seconder: Councillor Andrew Wood

This council notes:

- The Government's commitment to transparency within local council meetings.
- That in keeping with this commitment, draft legislation in the form of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, has been laid before Parliament.

This council further notes:

That the Mayor has previously made positive statements in regard to transparency, such as seeking the "highest standards of probity and transparency" and proclaiming "this council has nothing to hide".

This council believes:

That actions speak louder than words and that the new Mayoral term is an opportunity for the Mayor to ensure that these sentiments become council practice.

This council resolves:

- To reaffirm its desire to see an open and transparent administration, working in the interests of all the people in our diverse borough.
- To consult nearby boroughs on local best practise in regard to press access to council meetings.
- To provide reasonable facilities to the press, including print media, film crews, hyper-local journalists and bloggers. Facilities should include a table with clear views of the council chamber and public areas so that a full report can be taken.
- That a formal report be presented to the next full council meeting, ensuring our standing orders are updated so as to be in line with the new requirements and to remove any ambiguity in relation to this matter.

12.4 Motion regarding Save Our Surgeries – Cuts to the Minimum Practice Income Guarantee

Proposer: Councillor Asma Begum

Seconder: Councillor Rachael Saunders

This Council notes:

- Government changes to the NHS GP funding formula mean that money has been taken out of mitigating the health impacts of poverty is instead being allocated to plug funding gaps in other areas. In total 98 practices in deprived areas are at risk of closure as a result of the cuts to their funding make them financially unviable.
- That existing pressure on GP surgeries, as well as a growing population, means that many families are struggling to register with their most local practice and that appointments at convenient times are regularly hard to get.
- 5 of the surgeries are in Tower Hamlets despite Tower Hamlets facing many serious health inequalities and having the fastest growing population in the country increasing the burden on public services in the borough including GP surgeries.
- This decision was taken by NHS England and Government ministers without giving the local CCG the power to object to the cuts and that 40% of GP surgeries will lose out as a result of the MPIG (Minimum Practice Income Guarantee) redistribution.
- In addition to launching a petition campaign which is supported by the GP practices Labour have also written to Jeremy Hunt, tabled a number of Parliamentary Questions and held a parliamentary debate on the issue.
- When Labour's Shadow Health Secretary Andy Burnham visited the Jubilee Street Practice he pledged his support stating: "It's unbelievable that GPs find themselves in this position" and calling on the Secretary of State to resolve the issue as "a matter of urgency".
- On 3rd June Jim Fitzpatrick MP led a delegation of GPs to meet with Health Minister Earl Howe. In their note of the meeting the CCG said: "Earl Howe acknowledged and accepted our case and expressed a readiness to engage. He gave a commitment to find a solution."
- The Save our Surgeries march by local doctors and supporters on the 5th June protesting the closure of the five surgeries and threatened cuts to others.

This Council believes:

- Without mitigation the MPIG cuts threaten to severely undermine the ability of the local health service to deliver a sufficient level of primary care for residents.
- The poor implementation of the Tory MPIG cuts policy has caused serious distress and anxiety amongst healthcare professionals and patients.
- Local politicians should continue to be at the forefront of building a major campaign alongside GPs, trade unions and local people to highlight these cuts.

- These cuts clearly demonstrate why we need a Labour government to repeal the Health and Social Care Act and to hand back democratic control to elected representatives.

This Council resolves:

- To call on the Department of Health and NHS England to ensure that no GP surgeries are forced to close as a result of the MPIG changes.
- To instruct officers to provide the CCG with all necessary assistance in building the case against these funding changes.
- To mandate the Health Scrutiny Committee to maintain oversight of this situation and to consider hosting further scrutiny sessions on the MPIG cuts if a resolution is not reached.
- To support the Labour Party's pledge to provide GP appointments within 48 hours.

12.5 Motion regarding building of affordable housing

Proposer: Councillor Maium Miah

Secunder: Councillor Oliur Rahman

This Council Notes:

- That Tower Hamlets is delivering more affordable homes than any other local authority nationwide.
- That over 4,000 affordable homes was delivered between 2010 and 2014.
- That this achievement has been recognised by central government in awarding Tower Hamlets the highest allocation nationwide under the 'New Homes Bonus', a revenue funding stream tied to new builds.
- That this figure, as per national policy, includes homes delivered in partnership with RSLs, as well as Council homes.
- The Council has plans in place to deliver 5,500 additional homes over the next 4 years, including over 300 Council homes.
- That earlier this month this Council secured a further £8.2m from government to deliver 48 new affordable homes.
- That on 7th July Gareth Thomas MP publicly criticised the decision to provide this additional funding, which will provide 48 new affordable homes to Tower Hamlets.

This Council Believes:

- That London's acute housing shortage must be tackled urgently.
- That Tower Hamlets is to be congratulated on its unparalleled delivery of new affordable housing aiming to meet this need.
- That it is in recognition of this administrations excellent delivery on affordable housing projects that the Council have been awarded this additional funding opportunity.
- That calls for the funding to be withdrawn from a Council with a strong track record of delivering affordable housing are irresponsible and misguided.

This Council Resolves:

To support the continued building of affordable housing in Tower Hamlets.

12.6 Motion regarding Magna Carta

Proposer: Councillor Peter Golds

Seconder: Councillor Chris Chapman

This Council notes that June 2015 will be the 800th Anniversary of the signing of Magna Carta by King John and that:

- Magna Carta is the world's most enduring symbol of the rule of law and the concept that nobody, Monarch or President, is above the rule of law is a fundamental to the legal codes of some 2 billion people today.
- The fundamentals of Magna Carta are symbolised in Tower Hamlets, with its rich heritage of residents with roots in the Commonwealth, all of whom include parts of Magna Carta in their local constitutions.

The Council further notes:

- In February 2015 the four oldest copies of the original Magna Carta, all dating from 1215, will for the first time ever be displayed together at the British Library and that they will be joined by the original US Declaration of Independence and the original US Bill of Rights.
- That during the year there will be commemorations of this event throughout the country.

The Council resolves to call upon the Mayor to utilise programmes and information from local and national government to ensure that the Borough's residents, particularly those in our schools, are aware of the importance of Magna Carta and the part that it has played over the past 800 years.

12.7 Motion regarding access to Cabinet/Committee/Sub- Committee Papers (including background papers) – Forthcoming meetings

Proposer: Councillor Marc Francis

Seconder: Councillor t.b.c.

This Council notes:

- That upon occasion the Council may classify reports and decisions as exempt items where there is a commercial, legal or other sensitivity.
- That paragraph 9.8 of Part 5.4 of the constitution of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets states:

“The rights of Members can be summarised as follows:-

- (i) They generally enjoy the same access rights as members of the public in respect of Part I Cabinet/Committee/Sub-Committee papers, but are not entitled to such papers where they have a personal and prejudicial interest as set out in the Code of Conduct for Members*
 - (ii) Members of the appropriate Cabinet/Committee/Sub-Committees will have a good reason for access to all Part II exempt information on the Cabinet/Committee/Sub-Committee agenda under the “Need to Know” principles set out in Paragraph (e) below.*
 - (iii) Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will have a prima facie “Need to Know” where they require access to Part II Cabinet agenda items as part of their scrutiny function provided the subject matter is within the Committee/Sub-Committee’s terms of reference.*
 - (iv) All other Members who require access to confidential/exempt Cabinet/Committee/Sub-Committee documentation will need to request disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or demonstrate a “Need to Know” by complying with the principles set out below.*
- In effect, this currently means that councillors who are not members of the Executive or the O&S Committee do not have an automatic right to receive Part 2 ‘exempt’ Cabinet reports but need to demonstrate a ‘need to know’ in each case.
 - Additionally, those councillors do not have a right to remain in a closed session of the cabinet unless they can demonstrate a ‘need to know’ concerning the particular agenda item in relation to their council duties.
 - That in addition to their ward based duties backbench councillors have a general duty to hold the executive to account and to ‘call in’ decisions made by the mayor where they have serious concerns.

This Council believes:

- Not having access to exempt reports and decisions prevents councillors from making judgements as to whether to call in a decision or not.
- That these restrictions are provide insufficient freedom for councillors to carry out their role as Elected Members. For example, our constituents are consistently

affected by decisions of the Mayor in Cabinet and under his Executive decision-making powers that do not relate to a single ward.

This Council also believes:

- That as LBTH's scrutiny rules provide for any councillor to sign a call-in, all Members would be able to establish a "need to know" in relation to each decision that is potentially available for call-in and should therefore receive those exempt papers.

This Council therefore resolves:

- To amend to amend paragraph 9.8 of Part 5.4 of the constitution of the London borough of Tower Hamlets by deleting existing sections (iii) and (iv) and inserting the following new section
 - (iii) In the case of all decisions and reports which are subject to potential call in, all members have a prima facie "need to know" where they require access to Part II Cabinet agenda items as part of their scrutiny function.

12.8 Motion regarding pupils getting into higher education

Proposer: Councillor Abjol Miah

Secunder: Councillor Gulam Robbani

The Council notes:

- The recent statistics from the Department of Education show that 68% of students from Tower Hamlets go to Russell Group of universities, the country's top universities.
- That Tower Hamlets is 7th best in the UK – the only Inner London borough to appear in the top 10 table - despite having one of the highest levels of deprivation in London and the highest levels of child poverty in the UK
- That in an academic report by Prof. David Woods, Prof. Chris Husbands and Dr. Chris Brown - 'Transforming Education for all: the Tower Hamlets Story', the authors concluded that 'Tower Hamlets has some of the best urban schools in the world'.
- That these achievements come after over a decade of hard work by the Mayor's and previous administration raising Tower Hamlets from being one of the worst performing boroughs educationally in the UK to one of the best.

The Council believes:

- That Tower Hamlets is proof to other schools across the UK and internationally that a first class education and high levels of educational achievements can be delivered in the areas with high levels of deprivation.
- The hard work of schools, pupils, parents, the local authority and the implementation of policies of investing in young people, such as £320 million in schools. The Mayor's Education Allowance, Higher Education Grant and Free School Meals have secured these outstanding results.

The Council resolves:

- To praise and continue to invest in and support all Tower Hamlets' students.
- To praise the boroughs' schools, parents, teachers, governors and colleges for their commendable work
- To praise the Council officers who have worked hard over many years to support pupils, parents, teachers, governors and schools.
- To continue investing in young people.

12.9 Motion regarding Government cuts increasing poverty and destroying public services

Proposer: Councillor Mufti Miah

Seconder: Councillor Alibor Choudhury

This Council notes:

- That the People's Assembly against Austerity demonstration on June 21 in London attracted over 50,000 people and was addressed by a range of speakers including MP's Diane Abbott, Caroline Lucas and Jeremy Corbyn, Mayor Lutfur Rahman, journalist Owen Jones and comedian Russell Brand.
- That government cuts are driving greater numbers of people into poverty. Latest research shows record levels of poverty with 1 in 3 Britons are going without three or more "basic necessities of life", such as being able to adequately feed and clothe themselves and their children, and to heat and insure their homes.
- That the government exaggerates the size of the welfare bill and extent of benefit fraud. Benefit spending in 2011-12 accounted for 10.4% of GDP, lower than in the mid-1980s (11%) and mid -1990s (12%). In 2011/12 just 0.7% or £1bn of the benefit bill was overpaid due to fraud – compared to £70 billion lost through illegal tax evasion.
- That according to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the majority of those in receipt of benefits are from working families. Low wages, the growth of part time work and the rising cost of living are forcing more people into poverty.
- The warnings of the Local Government Association that councils in England face a funding gap of £5.8 billion between March 2014 and March 2016, putting frontline public services under threat of having their funding cut.
- The Mayor's commitment to protecting residents from the impact of austerity by fighting welfare changes via policies such as the extension of free school meals, Mayor's Education Award and University grant scheme, Energy Co-op and free Homecare.
- That measures the Council has implemented to tackle child poverty are facing huge pressure as a result of the continued austerity.

This Council agrees:

- It is wrong that the poorest in our society and the public sector have been the scapegoated for an economic crisis which is the sole responsibility of bankers, the politicians in thrall to them, and a deregulated financial industry.

This Council resolves:

- To reiterate our commitment to oppose government spending cuts to local government and support the People's Assembly campaign against austerity.

- To make a commitment to fight all welfare changes that contributes to poverty.
- To ensure that our residents affected by welfare reforms have specialist support available.

12.10 Motion calling on landlords to engage with tenants

Proposer: Councillor Harun Miah

Seconder: Councillor Rabina Khan

The Council notes:

- The continuing housing crisis and the growing significance of the private rented sector in the UK and in Tower Hamlets.
- That the Mayor remains committed to increasing the supply of genuinely affordable homes - including council housing - but many Tower Hamlets residents do not have an alternative to private renting.
- That there is an increase in the threat of eviction and the absence of proper engagement with tenants.

The Council believes:

- That we should not accept the increase in eviction, retaliatory evictions or the lack of proper engagement by private landlords with their tenants.
- It is incumbent on the Council to seek the best possible conditions for all our residents including tenants in the private rented sector.

The Council resolves:

- To call on all private landlords to engage with their tenants and the local authority to ensure that all statutory and necessary repairs are carried out.
- To call on all private landlords to establish a regular dialogue with tenants through which they can raise legitimate concerns, without the fear of eviction.
- For the Mayor and the Council to actively explore options for regulating and licensing private landlords in order to ensure the highest possible standards.

This page is intentionally left blank