

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL****HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2018****THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5
CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG****1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Councillor Kyrsten Perry.
- Councillor John Pierce
- Councillor Abdal Ullah

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The Speaker of the Council reported that he had received a tabled list (as set out at the end of this item) of Non Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (Other Interests) in relation to Agenda Item 12.1 regarding school cuts.

Councillor Dan Tomlinson declared an Interest that must be registered (Other Interests) in relation to Agenda Item 12.1 regarding school cuts. This was on the basis that he was a Member of the GMB union.

Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman declared an Interest that must be registered (Other Interests) in relation to Agenda Item 12.1 regarding school cuts. This was on the basis that he was a member of the University and College Union.

Councillor Amina Ali declared an Interest that must be registered (Other Interests) in agenda item 9.13, a Member Question regarding Three Colt Street. This was on the basis that she lived in the area.

Councillor Muhammad Harun declared an Interest that must be registered (Other Interests) in agenda item 5.3, Petition requesting that Tower Hamlets Council welcome child refugees. This was on the basis that he was a human rights lawyer and he regularly represented asylum seekers.

List of 'other interest that must be registered' - Agenda item 12.1 Motion regarding school cuts.

Name of Member	Register of Interest
Mayor John Biggs	Member of GMB
Councillor Faroque Ahmed	Member of GMB
Councillor Sabina Akhtar	Member of GMB
Councillor Sufia Alam	Unite Trade union
Councillor Amina Ali	Unite Union Unite Community

Councillor Shah Ameen	Member of the GMB
Councillor Ruhul Amin	Unite Union
Councillor Asma Begum	Member of GMB
Councillor Rachel Blake	Member of GMB (note – the web record says ‘Sponsorship’ but Cllr Blake has confirmed she has not to date been sponsored by the GMB.)
Councillor Kevin Brady	Community Union
Councillor Mufeedah Bustin	Member of GMB
Councillor Kahar Chowdhury	Unite
Councillor Shad Chowdhury	Unite
Councillor Dipa Das	Unite
Councillor David Edgar	Unite
Councillor Marc Francis	Member of GMB
Councillor Ehtasham Haque	Unite
Councillor Muhammad Harun	GMB Union
Councillor Danny Hassell	Unison
Councillor Asma Islam	Member of GMB
Councillor Sirajul Islam	Member of Unison LEA Governor, John Scurr Primary School
Councillor Denise Jones	Member of Unite (the Union) Mulberry Schools Trust-Trustee
Councillor Rabina Khan	Member of GMB
Councillor Tarik Khan	Unite the Union CWU
Councillor James King	Unite
Councillor Gabriela Salva Macallan	Unite the Union
Councillor Eve McQuillan	Unite
Councillor Ayas Miah	GMB
Councillor Puru Miah	TSSA Union Unite
Councillor Abdul Mukit	Unison
Councillor Victoria Obaze	GMB Union Sir John Cass Secondary School Governor
Councillor Mohammed Pappu	Unite
Councillor John Pierce	Unite
Councillor Helal Uddin	GMB
Councillor Abdal Ullah	GMB
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	GMB
Councillor Bex White	Member of Unite Community
Councillor Val Whitehead	Prospect

3. MINUTES

DECISION:

1. That the unrestricted minutes of the ordinary Council Meeting held on 18th July 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and the Speaker be authorised to sign them accordingly.

(Action by: Matthew Mannion, Committee Services Manager, Democratic Services)

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

There were no announcements.

5. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS

5.1 Petition regarding Glyphosate/Roundup

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

DECISION:

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

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

5.2 Petition regarding a People's Vote on the final Brexit deal

John Shore and others addressed the meeting on behalf of the petitioners and responded to questions from Members. Councillor Amina Ali, Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit responded to the matters raised in the petition.

DECISION:

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

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

5.3 Petition asking Tower Hamlets Council to please welcome child refugees

Melanie Tuff and others addressed the meeting on behalf of the petitioners and responded to questions from Members. Mayor John Biggs then responded to the matters raised in the petition.

DECISION:

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

(**Action by:** Debbie Jones, Corporate Director, Children's)

5.4 Petition regarding the provision of proper basketball facility in Millwall Park

Local residents addressed the meeting on behalf of the petitioners and responded to questions from Members. Councillor Amina Ali, Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit responded to the matters raised in the petition.

DECISION:

1. That the petition be referred to the Acting Corporate Director, Place/ Corporate Director Health, Adults and Community, for a written response within 28 days.

(**Action by:** Ann Sutcliffe, Acting Corporate Director, Place/Denise Radley Corporate Director Health, Adults and Community).

6. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor presented his report to the Council. Councillor Andrew Wood, Leader of the Conservative Group, then responded briefly to the Mayor's report.

7. ADMINISTRATION MOTION DEBATE

7 – Administration Motion regarding Brexit

Councillor Amina Ali **moved** and Mayor John Biggs **seconded** the motion as printed in the agenda.

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

DECISION:

This Council notes that it is now over two years since the Brexit vote and the Government still has no satisfactory Brexit plan. Since the vote we have gone from the top of the G7 for economic growth to the bottom. For communities up

and down the country, jobs and businesses are under threat and it is absolutely right for local authorities to be making a stand on their behalf.

This Council also notes that the Tower Hamlets Labour manifesto 2018 included a pledge to *“campaign for a referendum on the final terms of any Brexit deal, so that local people are able to express their view on the future of this country.”*

This Council further notes:

- Communities in Tower Hamlets have benefited from significant EU funding in recent years through the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund. The borough currently receives £2.6 million towards initiatives to improve the local economy, development, infrastructure, employment and training.
- More than one in seven residents in our borough, some 41,000 people, are from the remaining 27 EU states. They play a valued role in one of the country’s most diverse and inclusive communities.
- The uncertainty and potential impact of Brexit on our businesses. In Canary Wharf, each day 120,000 people work in 37 office buildings alongside 300 shops, cafes and restaurants. Further, Brexit will hit many small businesses, with almost 99% of the 16,800 firms based here employing fewer than 250 people.

This Council believes that the white paper confirms the government intends to leave the customs union and lose access to the single market for services, which account for 80% of the UK economy. As a result, the Withdrawal Agreement will fail to meet Labour’s six tests, specifically the test that any deal must deliver the “exact same benefits” we have as full members of the EU.

This Council also notes that the Mayor has established a Brexit Commission, chaired by Cllr Amina Ali, to lead local preparations for the UK’s departure from the European Union.

This Council calls on the Government to abandon any plans for a hard Brexit and to give the British people a People’s Vote on the final Brexit deal, along with the opportunity to vote on keeping the many benefits Britons enjoy by staying in the European Union.

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

8. OPPOSITION MOTION DEBATE

8 – Opposition Motion by the Conservative Group regarding anti-social behaviour & crime in Tower Hamlets

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

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

Added text underlined.

Deleted text scored out.

The Council notes:

The results of the 2018 Tower Hamlets Annual Residents' Survey show that the top concern for residents was crime with 41% concerned. Only 48% rated Policing as excellent, very good or good, the lowest rating of the subjects surveyed. 60% felt drug use or drug dealing issue was a big problem.

It is clear that residents are deeply concerned about the impact of ASB and drug dealing on their neighbourhoods.

The key issue facing residents in many instances is a lack of police resources to investigate and arrest those who are carrying out these offences and until the Government start to properly fund our police service the impact on the ground will be limited despite any progress to make it harder for the perpetrators.

The council is however committed to doing all we can to tackle ~~We have four core problems as regards~~ ASB and the issues that affect people's quality of life. This includes addressing:

1. Reporting difficulties leading to frustration from residents and probably under reporting
2. The use of NOX canisters and the limited means the Police have to control their use
3. The distribution of CCTV cameras with heavy concentrations in some areas and few elsewhere
4. There being different processes and contact methods for different issues which affect residents, a noticeable example being the 7 different steps in the Councils 'Who do I call Crime & ASB reporting in TH' flowchart or the flowchart used by Limehouse SNT mapping all of the different contact methods.
5. That the council requires a 1-page flowchart (with links to other information) to document the information indicates that there is a communication problem.

Given the major reductions in Police numbers and funding we need to find ways of using the resources we have more effectively, and holding the Conservative Government to account for their reckless approach to community safety.

According to a National Audit Office (NAO) report published this month, the Home Office does not know whether the police system in England and Wales is "financially sustainable", and highlights that across England and Wales:

- There has been a 19% reduction in real-terms funding to Police and Crime Commissioners from 2010/11 to 2018/19;
- There has been an 18% reduction in the size of the total police workforce between March 2010 and March 2018.

In Tower Hamlets, we have lost about 200 police officers since 2010 and three police stations in recent years (Limehouse, Brick Lane and Isle of Dogs) have been closed as a direct result of Government cuts to police budgets.

Further, three-quarters of PCSOs in the borough were axed between 2010 and 2017.

The main method for reporting ASB is the 101 service but this has fundamental problems:-

- It can be difficult to get through especially at night
- It is one dimensional and cannot easily be use it to share locations, video or photographs.
- It does not record other quality of life issues, in particular noise
- It's lack of integration frequently results in SNT teams requiring residents to report issues twice:
 - Firstly on 101 to get a CAD reference
 - Secondly, to the SNT via email or their own phone perhaps using WhatsApp to share photos

However all of these problems are eclipsed by the Conservative Government's complete disregard for community safety as evidenced by their dangerous cuts to policing budgets, leaving boroughs like Tower Hamlets with hundreds of fewer police officers on the street.

Council notes that the Metropolitan Police has recognised the issues with 101, and the council will offer any support it can to help make improvements.

Official Government advice is to report anti-social behaviour through 999 in an emergency, or through 101 in a non-emergency or through your Safer Neighbourhood Team.

The council also has an online reporting tool which is publicised on the council's homepage.

The council is also partnered with OWL (Online Watch Link) which provides the public with the latest local crime alerts sent by email, telephone or SMS.

~~Tower Hamlets is disproportionately dependent on the 101 service unlike our neighbours who usually provide other methods for reporting ASB.~~

~~Examples are:-~~

- ~~• Newham residents are able to call their Enforcement and Safety Team on a 24 hour number. There is also an online reporting tool.~~
- ~~• Greenwich residents are able to report non-urgent incidents to the Anti-Social Behaviour Team by email and phone number.~~
- ~~• Southwark residents have access to an Antisocial Behaviour Unit contactable by telephone or email~~
- ~~• Hackney residents have an ASB team for streets, public spaces and parks contactable by phone and email~~

~~Other London Boroughs also have online reporting forms prominently displayed when residents undertake an internet search on the boroughs name and ASB.~~

~~Tower Hamlets by contrast provides no central email address or phone number to call and only has an online reporting form at the very bottom of a long web page.~~

~~This may explain why the Borough Commander's report for 2016 showed Tower Hamlets had the worst rates of ASB in East London.~~

Given the Government's major underresourcing of the police and the consequent difficulty that residents face in trying to report ASB, this Council therefore proposes to ask the Cabinet Member for Community Safety to review the options which are currently available to residents, and to examine the effectiveness in other boroughs of the following in meeting the challenge:

1. The establishment of a 247 phone service together with a central email address for all ASB and quality of life related issues
2. This service to be fully integrated, dealing with noise and other related issues to ensure that residents only need to know just one number/one email
3. The Police agree that ASB reported to the Council is included in any allocation of resources to ensure that residents do not have to also call 101 in order to secure the allocation of Police resources to their area
4. The development of an online tool + app allowing residents to report a range of issues online. This could be based on the 'MyStreet' App rolled out in Sunderland this year. Other possibilities are the FiFiLi app, OWL. The council could simply buy the license for 'My Street' which would be the equivalent of an online One Stop Shop for quality of life issues. As with FiFiLi this would have the ability to tag precise locations on a map and to share photographs.

~~These solutions will:~~

~~Ensure that residents have the ability to share precise locations, videos, pictures across multiple platforms but that it would all go to same place.~~

~~That easily obtained software solutions which are now available will help integrate and share this data with partners~~

The Council notes:

~~That the Labour manifesto for 2014 pledged “A 24hr noise and ASB hotline to help tackle rising crime — Nuisance noise doesn’t sleep, that’s why Labour will introduce a 24h hotline to report noise and anti-social behaviour at weekends to ensure people’s complaints are addressed.”~~

~~By instituting proposals outlined above will reduce pressure on the 101 service, allow the collection of more data, reduce the frustration residents feel as they have multiple methods for reporting issues and provide the council and partners with more intelligence as where to focus necessary activities.~~

The Council resolves to follow the example of Labour controlled Lambeth Council and:

Ask the Cabinet Member for Community Safety to consider the effectiveness of implementing a its Public Space Protection Order for Novel Psychoactive Substances, which allows Police Officers, PCSO’s and THEO’s to issue fines up to £1,000 per incident Borough wide. The order prohibits the “ingestion, inhalation, injection, smoking, possession or otherwise use of intoxicating substances” in public spaces. The order also provides powers to stop the selling or supply of intoxicating substances.

Such has been the success in Lambeth that the council is now extending their PSPO for another 3 years having first introduced it in 2015

This, if introduced in Tower Hamlets ~~will~~ could provide the Police and Council with more tools to combat the ~~young men~~ people often in cars who litter our streets as they party.

The council notes that:

The Psychoactive Substances Act came into effect in May 2016 and makes it illegal to sell or import Nitrous Oxide for human consumption (exempting medical supply). However, the use of Nitrous Oxide, as opposed to the import and sale of nitrous oxide remains legal. Equally whilst driving when intoxicated may result in fines or a custodial sentence, Nitrous Oxide is not one of the drugs with a specified limit within the Road Traffic Act.

The legal situation with regard to Nitrous Oxide remains confused ~~which is why the adoption of a targeted Public Space Protection Order while~~ so we must work alongside our local MP’s and Ministers, London Councils and the Local Government Association for an enforceable solution to this ongoing problem.

This council institutes a review of the current CCTV and lighting network.

The Council rightly highlights on its social media the successes the cameras have had in arrests (on average 3 a day). Those areas with little or no CCTV feel left out. ~~Criminals and boy racers know where the holes are in the CCTV~~

~~network i.e. Limehouse Op Naga or Wapping High Street. Temporary cameras can help but the Borough has changed a great deal in the last 15-30 years but that the locations of our CCTV cameras has not followed to the same extent. Given the S106 and CIL resources the council has in the bank, it should also be possible to add new cameras as well. but it is important that we balance the need for surveillance with the right to privacy and ensure that our CCTV complies with the requirements set out in the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice, following our established 4 step evaluation process where CCTV is judged as needed.~~

The council calls upon Cabinet Member for Community Safety to consider the further use of LED bulbs ~~would also~~ to help reduce costs and improve visibility on our streets.

The council notes that Norfolk County Council have recruited local residents as unpaid Police Support Volunteers to help with CCTV monitoring. ~~This would be an opportunity for Tower Hamlets residents to take part in assisting the fight against ASB. and we call on the Cabinet Member for Community Safety to raise this with the Borough Commander.~~

The amendment was put to the vote and **agreed**.

Following debate, the motion as amended was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

DECISION:

The Council notes:

The results of the 2018 Tower Hamlets Annual Residents' Survey show that the top concern for residents was crime with 41% concerned. Only 48% rated Policing as excellent, very good or good, the lowest rating of the subjects surveyed. 60% felt drug use or drug dealing issue was a big problem.

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The council calls upon Cabinet Member for Community Safety to consider the further use of LED bulbs to help reduce costs and improve visibility on our streets.

The council notes that Norfolk County Council have recruited local residents as unpaid Police Support Volunteers to help with CCTV monitoring-and we call on the Cabinet Member for Community Safety to raise this with the Borough Commander

(Action by: Denise Radley, Corporate Director Health, Adults and Community).

9. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

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

9.1 Question from Councillor Val Whitehead about looked after children services.

9.2 Question from Councillor Peter Golds regarding tree planting in the Borough.

9.3 Question from Councillor Muhammad HM Harun regarding the need for additional lighting in Langdon Park. (No supplementary question was asked)

9.4 Question from Councillor Andrew Wood regarding the quality of the Council's communication.

9.5 Question from Councillor Eve McQuillan regarding remedies to fix the CCTV on the Bancroft estate.

9.6 Question from Councillor Kevin Brady about Council action to support local businesses that use the railway arches.

9.7 Question from Councillor Sabina Akhtar regarding the progress of the Local Plan Examination in Public.

9.8 Question from Councillor Puru Miah regarding Council plans to introduce loading bays outside Ghandi Oriental Foodstore, in Mile End Ward.

9.9 Question from Councillor Bex White in respect of the Mayor's Air Quality Fund.

9.10 Question from Councillor Marc Francis regarding the allocation of Personalised Disabled Parking Bays.

Questions 9.11 - 9.15 was not put due to lack of time. A Written response would be provided to the question.

(Action by:—Matthew Mannion, Committee Services Manager, Democratic Services to arrange written responses)

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

10.1 Report of Cabinet: Statement of Licensing Policy 2018-2023

The Council considered a report regarding the Statement of Licensing Policy.

DECISION

1. That the Statement of Licensing Policy 2018 – 23 be agreed.

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

11. OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 Localism Act 2011 - Appointment of Independent Person

The Council considered the report on the Appointment of the Independent Person under the Localism Act 2011.

DECISION

1. That the re-appointment of Ms Elizabeth Hall as an Independent Person be agreed for a period of 3 years effective from the date of the Council meeting and concluding on 18 September 2021

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

12. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

12.1 Motion regarding the school cuts.

Councillor Danny Hassell **moved** and Mayor John Biggs **seconded** the motion as printed in the agenda.

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

DECISION:

This Council notes:

1. £2.8bn of funding has been cut from school budgets nationally since 2015, representing a real-terms cut to school funding.
2. These school cuts have directly led to a major reduction in the number of secondary teachers, teaching assistants and support staff, across the country including in Tower Hamlets.
3. There are 15,000 fewer members of staff in secondary schools in England between 14/15 and 16/17, whilst roll numbers have increased by 31,000.
4. In Tower Hamlets, between 14/15 and 16/17:
 - a. 49% of schools have seen a reduction in staffing levels;
 - b. 56% of schools have seen an increase in the pupil to teacher ratio;
 - c. There are nearly 500 more pupils.
5. That schools in Tower Hamlets will receive £448 less in funding per pupil in 2019/20 than they did in 2015/16.
6. That this represents an overall loss of £15.9m between 2015 and 2020.

This Council further notes that:

1. Tower Hamlets has some of the best schools in the country: a result of proper funding from a Labour government and the hard work of teachers, pupils, the Council and parents.

2. There has been a dramatic improvement in the quality of education offered in our schools over the past 20 years. This has not happened by accident but has been a result of partnership and leadership but also crucially of adequate funding.

This Council believes that:

1. The Government is cutting schools funding. As well as damaging everyone it is doing severe damage to social mobility and the quality of education offered in our schools.
2. Schools in Tower Hamlets showcase what can be achieved when schools are properly funded.
3. As staff costs make up the main expenditure for schools, cuts to school budgets inevitably mean fewer members of staff in schools.
4. Our schools should receive the funding they need.

This Council resolves:

1. To support the campaign led by the School Cuts alliance of education unions (including the National Education Union, NAHT, GMB, UNISON, Unite and ASCL), local schools, Mayor John Biggs and local MPs Rushanara Ali and Jim Fitzpatrick against the cuts to education funding.
2. To call on the Government to fully fund the pay increase for teachers that is recommended by the School Teachers' Review Body.

(Action by: Debbie Jones, Corporate Director, Children's).

12.2 Motion regarding the Adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Guidelines on Anti-Semitism

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

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

DECISION:

This Council expresses alarm at the rise in anti-Semitism in recent years across the UK including this borough. This includes incidents when criticism of Israel has been expressed using anti-Semitic tropes.

We therefore welcome the UK Government's announcement on December 11th 2016 that it will sign up to the internationally recognised International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) guidelines on anti-Semitism, which has been passed by the GLA and many London Boroughs including Brent, Hackney, Harrow, Islington and Redbridge and which defines anti-Semitism thus:

"Anti-Semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."

Manifestations might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as anti-Semitic. Anti-Semitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for “why things go wrong.” It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

The guidelines highlight manifestations of anti-Semitism as including:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavour.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic anti-Semitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

Antisemitic acts are criminal when they are so defined by law (for example, denial of the Holocaust or distribution of antisemitic materials in some countries).

Criminal acts are antisemitic when the targets of attacks, whether they are people or property – such as buildings, schools, places of worship and cemeteries – are selected because they are, or are perceived to be, Jewish or linked to Jews.

Antisemitic discrimination is the denial to Jews of opportunities or services available to others and is illegal in many countries.

This Council hereby adopts the above definition of anti-Semitism as set out by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and pledges to combat this pernicious form of racism.

(Action by: Will Tuckley, Chief Executive, Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer)

The meeting ended at 10.00 p.m.