

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL

HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2019

**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 Sufia Alam
- Councillor Sabina Akhtar
- Councillor Ehtasham Haque
- Councillor John Pierce.

Apologies for lateness were also received on behalf of Councillor Marc Francis

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor Gabriella Salva Macallan declared an Interest (that was not required to be included in the Register of Members' Interests) in Agenda item 4.1, a Petition regarding the Community Language Service. This was on the grounds that one of the supporters present was a close family relative.

Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 4.1, a Petition on the Community Language Service. He also declared an Interest that must be registered (Other Interests) in agenda item 5, Budget and Council Tax 2019/20 regarding the proposals on the Community Language Service. This was on the basis that his wife was an employee of the LBTH Community language service.

Councillor Abdal Ullah declared an Interest that must be registered (Other Interests) in respect of the Community Language Service. This was on the basis that he served on a Committee for a community language provider.

Members declaring Disclosable Pecuniary Interests would be required to leave the room for the duration of the relevant agenda items.

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

Please see the minutes.

4. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS

4.1 Petition calling on the Council to Keep the Community Language Service publicly funded for a multilingual and multicultural Tower Hamlets.

Apsana Begum 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, Resources/Corporate Director, Children and Culture for a written response within 28 days.

(Action by: Neville Murton, Corporate Director, Resources/Debbie Jones, Corporate Director, Children and Culture)

5. BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX 2019/20

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

Councillor Rabina Khan **proposed** and Councillor Andrew Wood **seconded** an additional amendment without notice on the subject of providing resources for safeguarding against radicalism. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.5, the Speaker adjourned the meeting at 7.40 p.m. so that officers' advice could be sought on whether Councillor Rabina Khan's proposed amendment could be accepted for debate. The meeting reconvened at 7.50pm.

Following the adjournment, the Monitoring Officer advised that the proposed amendment was in order. The Speaker then put the proposal that the amendment be accepted for debate to the vote. This proposal was **defeated**.

Councillor Puru Miah withdrew his amendment at the beginning of the debate.

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

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

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

DECISIONS

General Fund Revenue Budget and Council Tax Requirement 2019-20

That Council: -

1. Agree a General Fund revenue budget of £342.560m and a total Council Tax Requirement for Tower Hamlets in 2019-20 of £100.331m as set out in the table below.

Service	Total	Savings		Growth		Adjustments		Total
	2018-19	Approved	New	Approved	New	Approved	New	2019-20
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Health, Adults & Community	105,862	(2,275)	(100)	2,939	121	(2,045)	-	104,503
Public Health	35,049	(411)	-	(730)	216	-	-	34,124
Children's Services	101,122	(3,036)	(481)	(414)	5,978	(4,391)	-	98,779
Place	70,086	(1,706)	(1,040)	709	3,379	(557)	-	70,872
Governance	14,227	-	(50)	-	300	-	-	14,477
Resources	16,052	(4,247)	-	-	-	(200)	-	11,605
Net Service Costs	342,399	(11,674)	(1,671)	2,504	9,994	(7,193)	-	334,360
Other Net Costs								
Capital Charges	5,339	-	-	-	1,500	-	-	6,839
Levies	1,862	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,862
Pensions	12,790	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,790
Corporate Contingency	3,150	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,150
Other Corporate Costs	(24,826)	(1,500)	-	(195)	39	(474)	-	(26,955)
Total Other Net Costs	(1,685)	(1,500)	-	(195)	1,539	(474)	-	(2,314)
Inflation	3,015	-	-	6,500	1,000	-	-	10,515
Total Financing Requirement	343,730	(13,174)	(1,671)	8,809	12,533	(7,667)	-	342,560
Funding								
Revenue Support Grant	(43,795)	-	-	-	10,514	-	-	(33,281)
Retained Business Rates	(137,295)	101,821	-	-	(104,081)	-	-	(139,555)
Business Rates (London Pilot)	(8,000)	-	-	-	4,000	-	-	(4,000)
Council Tax	(93,777)	-	(6,554)	-	-	-	-	(100,331)
Collection Fund Surplus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Council Tax	(1,500)	-	-	-	1,500	-	-	-
- Retained Business Rates	11,357	-	-	-	(11,357)	-	-	-
Core Grants								
- Public Health Grant	(35,049)	-	-	730	195	-	-	(34,124)
- NHB	(3,923)	(5,000)	-	5,741	-	-	-	(3,182)
- Strategic School Improvement Fund	(200)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(200)
- Improved Better Care Fund	(7,711)	-	(5,066)	-	-	-	-	(12,777)
- Additional Improved Better Care Fund Grant (New)	(4,196)	-	-	-	-	2,122	-	(2,074)
- Adult Social Care Support Grant	(916)	-	-	-	(3,084)	-	-	(4,000)
- Local Lead Flood	(34)	(2)	-	-	-	-	-	(36)
- Levy Returned	(1,684)	-	-	-	1,684	-	-	-
Reserves								
- Earmarked (Corporate)	(13,121)	-	-	-	-	5,545	-	(7,576)
- General Fund (Smoothing)	-	-	(1,000)	-	-	-	-	(1,000)
Total Financing	(339,843)	96,819	(12,620)	6,471	(100,630)	7,667	-	(342,137)

2. Agree a Council Tax for Tower Hamlets in 2019-20 of £1,019.67 at Band D resulting in a Council Tax for all other band taxpayers, before any discounts, and excluding the GLA precept, as set out in the table below:-

This incorporates a 2.4% general increase on the previous year and a 1% increase in respect of the Adult Social Care 'Precept' announced by the government in the 2017 budget.

BAND	PROPERTY VALUE		RATIO TO BAND D	LBTH COUNCIL TAX FOR EACH BAND £
	FROM £	TO £		
A	0	40,000	6/9	679.78
B	40,001	52,000	7/9	793.08
C	52,001	68,000	8/9	906.37
D	68,001	88,000	9/9	1,019.67
E	88,001	120,000	11/9	1,246.26
F	120,001	160,000	13/9	1,472.86
G	160,001	320,000	15/9	1,699.45
H	320,001	and over	18/9	2,039.34

3. Agree that for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets in 2019-20:-
- (a) The Council Tax for Band D taxpayers, before any discounts, and including the GLA precept, shall be **£1,340.18** as shown below: -.

£
(Band D, No Discounts)

LBTH	1,019.67
GLA	320.51
Total	1,340.18

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

BAND	PROPERTY VALUE		RATIO TO BAND D	LBTH £	GLA £	TOTAL £
	FROM £	TO £				
A	0	40,000	6/9	679.78	213.67	893.45
B	40,001	52,000	7/9	793.08	249.29	1,042.37
C	52,001	68,000	8/9	906.37	284.90	1,191.27
D	68,001	88,000	9/9	1,019.67	320.51	1,340.18
E	88,001	120,000	11/9	1,246.26	391.73	1,637.99
F	120,001	160,000	13/9	1,472.86	462.96	1,935.82
G	160,001	320,000	15/9	1,699.45	534.18	2,233.63
H	320,001	and over	18/9	2,039.34	641.02	2,680.36

- 4 Approve the statutory calculations of this Authority's Council Tax Requirement in 2019-20, detailed in Appendix A to the Council report, undertaken by the Corporate Director Resources (Chief Financial Officer) in accordance with the requirements of Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- 5 Approve the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, the Annual Investment Strategy and the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement as presented to Audit Committee on 31 January 2019.
- 6 Approve the General Fund Capital and Revenue Budgets and Medium Term Financial Plan 2019-2022 as amended following final settlement announcement as agreed by the Mayor in Cabinet on 30 January as set out in the report of the Mayor in Cabinet and summarised in the tables below.

Summary of Medium Term Financial Plan 2018-2022

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Net Service Costs	345,913	343,730	342,560	331,154
Growth				
- Previously Approved by Full Council	(1,416)	(5,358)	38	(5,445)
- New	6,796	11,533	(4,354)	6,353
Savings				
- Previously Approved by Full Council	(13,560)	(13,174)	(9,030)	-
- Written off- Previously Approved by Full Council	1,256	-	-	-
- New	(1,758)	(1,671)	(5,560)	(8,159)
Inflation	6,500	7,500	7,500	6,500
Total Funding Requirement	343,730	342,560	331,154	330,403
Revenue Support Grant	(43,795)	(33,281)	(30,498)	(27,953)
Retained Business Rates	(137,295)	(139,555)	(139,555)	(139,555)
Business Rates (London Pilot)	(8,000)	(4,000)	-	-
Council Tax	(93,777)	(100,331)	(105,821)	(111,612)
Collection Fund Surplus				
- Council Tax	(1,500)	-	-	-
- Retained Business Rates	11,357	-	-	-
Core Grants	(53,712)	(56,393)	(50,283)	(50,283)
Earmarked Reserves	(13,121)	(8,576)	(6,445)	(1,000)
Total Funding	(339,843)	(342,137)	(332,603)	(330,403)
Budget Gap (excludes use of Reserves)	3,887	423	(1,449)	-
Budgeted GF Reserve Contribution/ Drawdown (+/-)	(3,887)	(423)	1,449	-
UNFUNDED GAP	-	-	-	-
	31/03/2019	31/03/2020	31/03/2021	31/03/2022
Balance on General Fund Reserves (£000s)	29,371	28,948	30,397	30,397

Detailed Analysis of the Medium Term Financial Plan by Service Area 2018-19 to 2021-22

Service	Total	Savings		Growth		Adjustments		Total	Savings		Growth		Adjustments		Total	Savings		Growth		Adjustments		Total
	2018-19 £'000	Approved £'000	New £'000	Approved £'000	New £'000	Approved £'000	New £'000	2019-20 £'000	Approved £'000	New £'000	Approved £'000	New £'000	Approved £'000	New £'000	2020-21 £'000	Approved £'000	New £'000	Approved £'000	New £'000	Approved £'000	New £'000	2021-22 £'000
Health, Adults & Community	105,862	(2,275)	(100)	2,939	121	(2,045)	-	104,503	(1,000)	(190)	3,499	-	(2,071)	-	104,741	-	(1,700)	-	4,375	(477)	-	106,940
Public Health	35,049	(411)	-	(730)	216	-	-	34,124	-	-	-	-	-	-	34,124	-	-	-	-	-	-	34,124
Children's Services	101,122	(3,036)	(481)	(414)	5,978	(4,391)	-	98,779	(650)	(1,150)	-	(2,032)	(120)	-	94,827	-	(300)	-	1,604	(2,231)	-	93,900
Place	70,086	(1,706)	(1,040)	709	3,379	(557)	-	70,872	(580)	(2,500)	744	(2,322)	(1,715)	-	64,499	-	(329)	-	374	(2,522)	-	62,021
Governance	14,227	-	(50)	-	300	-	-	14,477	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,477	-	-	-	-	(100)	-	14,377
Resources	16,052	(4,247)	-	-	-	(200)	-	11,605	(1,900)	(220)	-	-	(300)	-	9,185	-	(200)	-	-	(115)	-	8,870
Net Service Costs	342,399	(11,674)	(1,671)	2,504	9,994	(7,193)	-	334,360	(4,130)	(4,060)	4,243	(4,354)	(4,205)	-	321,853	-	(2,529)	-	6,353	(5,445)	-	320,232
Other Net Costs																						
Capital Charges	5,339	-	-	-	1,500	-	-	6,839	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,839	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,839
Levies	1,862	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,862	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,862	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,862
Pensions	12,790	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,790	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,790	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,790
Corporate Contingency	3,150	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,150	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,150	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,150
Other Corporate Costs	(24,826)	(1,500)	-	(195)	39	(474)	-	(26,955)	(4,900)	(1,500)	-	-	-	(33,355)	-	(5,630)	-	-	-	-	-	(38,985)
Total Other Net Costs	(1,685)	(1,500)	-	(195)	1,539	(474)	-	(2,314)	(4,900)	(1,500)	-	-	-	(8,714)	-	(5,630)	-	-	-	-	-	(14,344)
Inflation	3,015	-	-	6,500	1,000	-	-	10,515	-	-	6,500	1,000	-	-	18,015	-	-	-	6,500	-	-	24,515
Total Financing Requirement	343,730	(13,174)	(1,671)	8,809	12,533	(7,667)	-	342,560	(9,030)	(5,560)	10,743	(3,354)	(4,205)	-	331,154	-	(8,159)	-	12,853	(5,445)	-	330,403
Funding																						
Revenue Support Grant	(43,795)	-	-	-	10,514	-	-	(33,281)	-	2,783	-	-	-	-	(30,498)	-	2,545	-	-	-	-	(27,953)
Retained Business Rates	(137,295)	101,821	-	-	(104,081)	-	-	(139,555)	-	-	-	-	-	(139,555)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(139,555)
Business Rates (London Pilot)	(8,000)	-	-	-	4,000	-	-	(4,000)	-	-	4,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Council Tax	(93,777)	-	(6,554)	-	-	-	-	(100,331)	-	(5,490)	-	-	-	-	(105,821)	-	(5,791)	-	-	-	-	(111,612)
Collection Fund Surplus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Council Tax	(1,500)	-	-	-	1,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Retained Business Rates	11,357	-	-	-	(11,357)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Core Grants																						
- Public Health Grant	(35,049)	-	-	730	195	-	-	(34,124)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(34,124)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(34,124)
- NHB	(3,923)	(5,000)	-	5,741	-	-	-	(3,182)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,182)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,182)
- Strategic School Improvement Fund	(200)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(200)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(200)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(200)
- Improved Better Care Fund	(7,711)	-	(5,066)	-	-	-	-	(12,777)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(12,777)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(12,777)
- Additional Improved Better Care Fund Grant (New)	(4,196)	-	-	-	-	2,122	-	(2,074)	-	-	-	-	2,074	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Adult Social Care Support Grant	(916)	-	-	-	(3,084)	-	-	(4,000)	-	-	4,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Local Lead Flood	(34)	(2)	-	-	-	-	-	(36)	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Levy Returned	(1,684)	-	-	-	1,684	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves																						
- Earmarked (Corporate)	(13,121)	-	-	-	-	5,545	-	(7,576)	-	-	-	-	2,131	-	(5,445)	-	-	-	-	5,445	0	(0)
- General Fund (Smoothing)	-	-	(1,000)	-	-	-	-	(1,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,000)
Total Financing	(339,843)	96,819	(12,620)	6,471	(100,630)	7,667	-	(342,137)	-	(2,671)	-	8,000	4,205	-	(332,603)	-	(3,245)	-	-	5,445	0	(330,403)

APPENDIX A**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS
COUNCIL 20th FEBRUARY 2019
BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX STATUTORY CALCULATIONS****SETTING THE AMOUNT OF COUNCIL TAX FOR THE COUNCIL'S
AREA**

1. That the revenue estimates for 2019-20 be approved.
2. That it be noted that, at its meeting on 9th January 2019, Cabinet calculated 98,396 as its Council Tax base for the year 2019-20 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]
3. That the following amounts be now calculated by the council for the year 2019-20 in accordance with Section 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended and the Local Authorities (Alteration of Requisite Calculations) (England) Regulations 2011:
 - (a) £1,242,828,355 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of The Act. [Gross Expenditure]
 - (b) £1,142,496,906 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of The Act. [Gross Income]
 - (c) £100,331,449 Being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of The Act, as its council tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of The Act). [Council Tax Requirement]
 - (d) £1,019.67 Being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (2 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of The Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year. [Council Tax]

APPENDIX A

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS
COUNCIL 20th FEBRUARY 2019
BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX STATUTORY CALCULATIONS**

(e)	VALUATION BAND	LBTH £
	A	679.78
	B	793.08
	C	906.37
	D	1,019.67
	E	1,246.26
	F	1,472.86
	G	1,699.45
	H	2,039.34

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

4. That it be noted that for the year 2019-20 the Greater London Authority has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

VALUATION BAND	GLA £
A	213.67
B	249.29
C	284.90
D	320.51
E	391.73
F	462.96
G	534.18
H	641.02

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS
COUNCIL 20th FEBRUARY 2019
BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX STATUTORY CALCULATIONS**

5. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(d) and 4 above, the council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2019-20 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

VALUATION BAND	TOTAL COUNCIL TAX £
A	893.45
B	1,042.37
C	1,191.27
D	1,340.18
E	1,637.99
F	1,935.82
G	2,233.63
H	2,680.36

6. That the council hereby determines in accordance with Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2019-20 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved by the Secretary of State under Section 52ZC of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. As the billing authority, the council has not been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2019-20 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

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

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

The Council considered the report of the Corporate Director, Governance, in respect of changes to the proportionality calculations for allocating places on the Council's Committees.

DECISION:

1. That the review of proportionality as at section 3 of the report be noted and the allocation of seats on committees and panels be agreed for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2018/19 as set out at paragraph 3.6 of the report.
2. To note the committees and panels established for the municipal year 2018/19 as listed in paragraph 3.6 as agreed at the Annual Council meeting held on Wednesday 23 May 2018.
3. That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to approve the appointment of Councillors required to fill positions that fall vacant during the municipal year in line with the proportionality arrangements set out in this report.
4. That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to approve the appointment of ungrouped Councillors to any committee places not allocated by the Council to a political group, after consultation with those Councillors and the Speaker of the Council.

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

The meeting ended at 9:30pm