

12.2 Amendment to Motion regarding Access to GPs

Proposed by Councillor Maium Talukdar
Seconded by Councillor Kibria Choudhury

Additions in red and underlined.

Deletions in red and struckthrough

This Council notes that:

- Primary care is in crisis, with people across Tower Hamlets and the rest of the UK struggling to access GP services and dental treatment.
- New figures from NHS England show that 18% of people in the NHS North East London Integrated Care Board, covering Tower Hamlets, could not get an appointment to see or speak to a GP or nurse the last time they tried.
- The Government has failed to remain on track to deliver 6000 additional GPs by 2024-25.
- Our doctors and nurses across the NHS in Tower Hamlets work hard for residents while grappling with the biggest staffing crisis in its history in the face of Government inaction.
- That social and domiciliary care in this Borough have declined over the past seven years, following on from a series of cuts, underfunding and poor policy decisions.

This Council believes:

- That everyone should be able to get an appointment to see a doctor when they need to and has the right to receive dental treatment when they need it.
- That preventative measures and initiatives, such as a good, effective social and domiciliary care service, will also push down the demand on GPs and appointment spaces.

This Council, therefore, resolves to:

- Forward a copy of this motion to the new Secretary of State for Health and Social Care and call on her to urgently bring forward a plan to fix the crisis in primary care, to meet the Government's GP target and ensure everyone who needs an NHS dentist can access one.
- Request the local Members of Parliament support this motion and raise this important issue in Parliament.
- Work with the local NHS trust to ensure Tower Hamlets residents have full access to their GP and dentists.

- Support the Mayor in his pledge to invest in the provision of care for vulnerable members of society, including children and adults, to enhance preventative measures against demand for appointments and on GPs.
- Support the Mayor in his pledge to look after Tower Hamlets' care workers to make sure they are adequately rewarded, and supported, for their work for the most vulnerable members of our community.

12.3 Amendment to Motion on Local Electricity Bills

Proposed by Councillor Saied Ahmed
 Seconded by Councillor Musthak Ahmed

Additions in red and underlined.
 Deletions in red and struckthrough

This Council notes:

1. The efforts that ~~this council has made under the previous administration~~ the current administration has made to improve the previous administration's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote renewable energy, including:
 - ~~i. Declaring a climate emergency in March 2019;~~
 - ~~ii. Launched the Net Zero Carbon (NZC) Partnership Action Plan in November 2021 to become a net zero carbon council by 2025 and a net zero carbon borough by 2045 or sooner;~~
 - ~~iii. Planted hundreds of street trees;~~
 - ~~iv. Approved 400 new electric vehicle charging points across the borough;~~
 - ~~v. In 2021, Tower Hamlets Council was named the greenest local authority in the country.~~
 - i. The development of a Mayor's Greener Future for Tower Hamlets policy programme, including the creation of four interconnected bodies to deliver this plan including:
 - a. The Mayor's Energy Fund to help the poorest and most vulnerable with their energy bills
 - b. The Mayor's Advisory Board on Climate Change to develop a cohesive strategy that tackles the threats of the climate emergency
 - c. The Mayor's Waste Management Taskforce to tackle the appalling levels of dirt and waste on the Borough's streets left to this Administration
 - d. The Keep Our Borough Moving Taskforce to ensure that people can move cleanly and quickly around Tower Hamlets.

- ii. Committing to reducing the Council's shift towards net-zero as soon as possible, without punishing the working and most vulnerable people of Tower Hamlets;
 - iii. Committing to plant a greater number of trees compared to existing levels;
 - iv. Increasing the number of charging points for electric vehicles
 - v. Installing green heating systems on our estates, including the use of solar panels, wind turbines and heat and power schemes
- ~~2. That very large financial setup and running costs involved in selling locally generated renewable electricity to local customers result in it being impossible for local renewable electricity generators to do so.~~
- ~~3. That making these financial costs proportionate to the scale of a renewable electricity supplier's operation would enable and empower new local businesses, or councils, to be providers of locally generated renewable electricity directly to local customers.~~
- ~~4. That revenues received by new local renewable electricity providers could be used to help improve the local economy, local services and facilities and to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions.~~
2. That the Mayor has committed £28million worth of subsidization for 850 businesses across the Borough with help for their energy bills.
3. That the Mayor has already held several meetings with businesses, residents and stakeholders to continue this support.
4. That the Mayor has already pledged to use Section 106 money from the Council's *Carbon Fund* to ensure that schools, businesses and homes receive as much new, green technology to keep energy prices down.

This Council resolves to:

1. To support the Local Electricity Bill, supported by 306 MPs which, if made law, would establish a Right to Local Supply which would promote local renewable electricity supply companies and co-operatives by making the setup and running costs of selling renewable electricity to local customers proportionate to the size of the supply operation.
- ~~2. Inform the local media of this decision.~~
- ~~3. Instruct the Mayor to write to the borough's Members of Parliament local MPs, asking them to support the Bill.~~
- ~~4. Instruct the Mayor to write to the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, Power for People, (at 8 Delancey Passage, Camden, London NW1 7NN) expressing its support.~~

2. Support the Mayor and his administration to continue to liaise and work with key stakeholders, including other elected representatives, businesses, residents and third sector organisations to ensure that existing support continues and is built upon.
3. Call on all members support the Mayor and his administration in delivering these changes and savings.

12.5 Motion on Road Safety

Proposed by Councillor Kabir Hussain
Seconded by Councillor Suluk Ahmed

Red and underlined – additions
Red and strikethrough - deletions

This council notes that:

- There have been a recent spate in road traffic accidents across Tower Hamlets, including:
 - In St Katherine's & Wapping on 29 February 2022 – a motorcyclist was left with life changing injuries.
 - In Whitechapel in May 2022 – in which a cyclist was rushed to hospital after having been hit by a lorry.
 - In Limehouse on 22 August 2022 – a man was left with life threatening injuries.
 - In Shadwell, a man died on 11 September 2022 after being hit by a lorry.
 - On Mile End Road on 9 October 2022 – in which a teenager was seriously hurt.
 - Along Bow Road on 21 October 2022 – in which a several pedestrians were injured.
 - In Bow West, along Old Ford Road, a young man was left with life changing injuries after a crash in August 2022.
 - Also along Old Ford Road, two crashes in 2022 left neighbours with serious property damage which is still being repaired.
 - Outside Olga Primary School, a child was hit by a car in October 2022, and is mercifully unharmed but the experience was very traumatic for all witnesses.
- A number of campaign groups have highlighted the need for road safety improvements in the last few months. This, however, does not equate to the continued closure of roads around the Borough, nor the restriction of traffic to move around more freely.
- Traffic speed limits in all areas of the borough are consistently flouted and there are few areas where speed cameras enforce the speed limits on drivers.

This is following seven years of under-investment by the previous administration.

- ~~— That the most vulnerable road users and those going about their lives should be protected from poor driving behaviour.~~
- That all road users – from drivers, to cyclists and pedestrians – should be aware of their surroundings and follow the highway code.

This council acknowledges that:

- ~~— Railings and other protective infrastructure for vulnerable road users is not sufficient to genuinely ensure pedestrian safety.~~
- ~~— The removal of Chisenhale School Street and other school streets risks the safety of children and their carers when attending schools in the borough.~~
- ~~— The regular serious accidents make people across the borough feel unsafe around roads, discouraging residents from choosing healthier modes of transport~~
- Congestion, oversaturation of traffic on main roads and diversion of traffic onto smaller roads is not helping the safe moving of traffic around the Borough.
- The directing of traffic onto roads where large numbers of children do not have the luxury of a road closure is putting thousands of young and vulnerable lives at risk.
- There is a need to safely accommodate all road users and all forms of transport, rather than penalising specific groups for car use.

This council resolves to:

- ~~— Request the Mayor of Tower Hamlets to set up a comprehensive programme to improve safety for road users which echoes the Highway Code's hierarchy of road users which acknowledges the risks of vehicle transport and gives priority for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians.~~
- Work with the Highways team, TfL and the Mayor of London to ensure that roads are safe for all road users.
- Increase the number of speed cameras and other speed enforcement infrastructure ~~by 100%.~~
- Encourage and support local groups to engage in speed watch with local police teams.
- Examine all School Street schemes on a piecemeal, case by case basis to ensure that their imposition is not in fact contributing to such dangers by saturating certain roads with more traffic, thus increasing risk.
- ~~— Make all school street schemes which are currently under experimental traffic orders across the borough permanent.~~
- ~~— Request the Mayor of Tower Hamlets to write to the Mayor of London to request speed enforcement cameras along all TfL roads in the borough.~~
- ~~— Instruct the Highways Team to research methods of reducing traffic speeds in residential areas, such as planting schemes, continuous pavements etc. and present their findings to the administration.~~