



COUNCIL MEETING

7.30 pm Wednesday, 15 January 2025
At Council Chamber - Town Hall

Members of the Council of the London Borough of Havering are advised that a meeting of the Council is scheduled to take place on the date and time shown above. The business to be dealt with is listed below.

Gavin Milnthorpe
Monitoring Officer

For information about the meeting please contact:
Anthony Clements tel: 01708 433065
anthony.clements@oneSource.co.uk

Please would all Members and officers attending ensure they sit in their allocated seats as this will enable correct identification of participants on the meeting webcast.



Webcast

Please note that this meeting will be webcast.

Members of the public who do not wish to appear in the webcast will be able to sit in the balcony, which is not in camera range.

Under the Committee Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution the Chairman of the meeting may exercise the powers conferred upon the Mayor in relation to the conduct of full Council meetings. As such, should any member of the public interrupt proceedings, the Chairman will warn the person concerned. If they continue to interrupt, the Chairman will order their removal from the meeting room and may adjourn the meeting while this takes place.

Excessive noise and talking should also be kept to a minimum whilst the meeting is in progress in order that the scheduled business may proceed as planned.

Protocol for members of the public wishing to report on meetings of the London Borough of Havering

Members of the public are entitled to report on meetings of Council, Committees and Cabinet, except in circumstances where the public have been excluded as permitted by law.

Reporting means:-

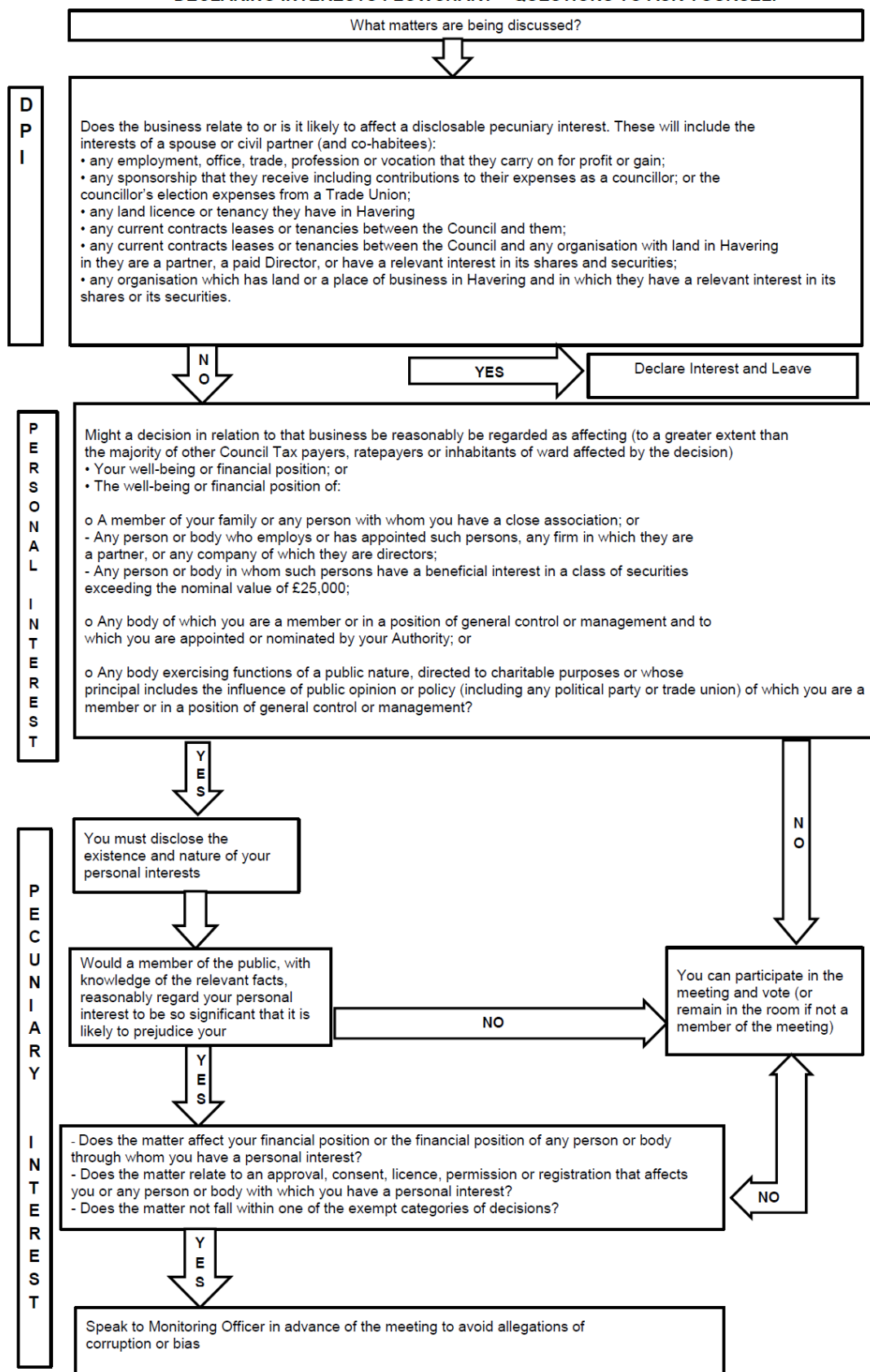
- filming, photographing or making an audio recording of the proceedings of the meeting;
- using any other means for enabling persons not present to see or hear proceedings at a meeting as it takes place or later; or
- reporting or providing commentary on proceedings at a meeting, orally or in writing, so that the report or commentary is available as the meeting takes place or later if the person is not present.

Anyone present at a meeting as it takes place is not permitted to carry out an oral commentary or report. This is to prevent the business of the meeting being disrupted.

Anyone attending a meeting is asked to advise Democratic Services staff on 01708 433076 that they wish to report on the meeting and how they wish to do so. This is to enable employees to guide anyone choosing to report on proceedings to an appropriate place from which to be able to report effectively.

Members of the public are asked to remain seated throughout the meeting as standing up and walking around could distract from the business in hand.

DECLARING INTERESTS FLOWCHART – QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF



AGENDA

1 PRAYERS

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies have been received from Councillors Jacqueline Williams and Darren Wise.

To receive any other apologies for absence.

3 MINUTES (Pages 7 - 34)

To sign as a true record the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 20 November 2024 and of the Extraordinary meeting held on 4 December 2024 (attached).

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members are invited to disclose any interest in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting.

Members may still disclose any interest in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter.

5 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR, BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL OR BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

To receive announcements.

Note: The award of Freedom of the Borough is due to be presented to Mr Ken Hay.

6 PETITIONS

Notice of intention to present a petition has been received from Councillors Philippa Crowder, Stephanie Nunn, Barry Mugglestone and Judith Holt.

To receive any other petition presented pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 23.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS (Pages 35 - 38)

NOTE: The deadline for amendments is midnight, Monday 13 January 2025.

- A. To consider the report of the Chief Executive on Overview and Scrutiny Rules – Exception to the Call-In (Requisition) Procedure (attached):
- B. **To consider any other report or motion presented pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 2(h).**

8 ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEMBER CHAMPIONS (Pages 39 - 50)

To receive the Annual Report of the Member Champion for Young People (report and question on report on behalf of Conservative Group attached).

9 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS (Pages 51 - 54)

Attached.

10 MOTIONS FOR DEBATE (Pages 55 - 58)

Attached.

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING
Council Chamber - Town Hall
20 November 2024 (7.30 - 10.47 pm)**

Present: The Mayor (Councillor Gerry O'Sullivan) in the Chair

Councillors Councillors Ray Best, Patricia Brown, Joshua Chapman, John Crowder, Philippa Crowder, Keith Darvill, Osman Dervish, Brian Eagling, Sarah Edwards, Gillian Ford, Oscar Ford, Jason Frost, Laurance Garrard, David Godwin, Martin Goode, Judith Holt, Jane Keane, Jacqueline McArdle, Paul McGeary, Trevor McKeever, Paul Middleton, Robby Misir, Ray Morgon, Barry Mugglestone, Stephanie Nunn, Sue Ospreay, Dilip Patel, Nisha Patel, Viddy Persaud, Keith Prince, Philip Ruck, Timothy Ryan, Carol Smith, Christine Smith, Natasha Summers, David Taylor, John Tyler, Christine Vickery, Bryan Vincent, Michael White, Reg Whitney, Julie Wilkes, Christopher Wilkins, Graham Williamson, Jacqueline Williams, Darren Wise and John Wood

Approximately six Members' guests and members of the public and a representative of the press were also present.

The Mayor advised Members and the public of action to be taken in the event of emergency evacuation of the Town Hall becoming necessary.

The Mayor's Official Chaplain – Reverend Ken Wylie of St Andrew's Church, Hornchurch opened the meeting with prayers.

The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

44 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (agenda item 2)

Apologies were received from Councillors Mandy Anderson, Robert Benham, James Glass, Matthew Stanton, Katharine Tumilty and Frankie Walker.

45 MINUTES (agenda item 3)

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 4 September 2024 were agreed as a correct record.

46 **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS (agenda item 4)**

There were no disclosures of interest.

47 **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR, BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL OR BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (agenda item 5)**

A minute's silence was held in memory of former Councillor Pamela Craig who had passed away recently. Tributes were paid by Members from all sides of the Chamber. Condolences were also passed to the Committee Services Manager who was absent from the meeting due to the recent death of his mother.

The Mayor made an appeal on behalf of the Jo Cox Civility Commission – a charity established in 2016 in memory of a murdered MP that sought to tackle and eliminate the abuse and intimidation of elected officials. Donations to the charity from Members would be accepted at the next meeting of Council.

48 **PETITIONS (agenda item 6)**

The following petitions were received:

From Councillor Philippa Crowder re the need for road repairs and resurfacing in Millbrook Gardens.

From Councillor Robby Misir against development on the Risebridge Green Belt.

From Councillor Laurance Garrard re a request to make Great Nelmes Chase one way at the junction with Wingletye Lane.

From Councillor Keith Prince against the increase in the population of Romford proposed in the Romford Masterplan.

From Councillor Viddy Persaud re a revised Controlled Parking Zone in Cotleigh, Honiton and Stockland Roads.

From Councillor Judith Holt re the provision of residents' parking spaces in Carlisle Road, Romford.

From Councillor Sarah Edwards re the introduction of waiting restrictions and of parking for residents, carers and families by Randall Court, Rainham.

49 **RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS (agenda item 7)**Report of Governance Committee – Polling Station and Polling Review

A report of the Governance Committee gave details of a review of Polling Districts and Polling Places that had been recently undertaken in line with the Council's legal requirements.

The report was **AGREED** without division and it was **RESOLVED**:

That the following decisions of Governance Committee are approved:

That the changes to the Polling Place for Polling District EL4 (Elm Park Ward) as shown in the report of Governance Committee are endorsed.

That the redrawing of the boundary for Polling District UP2 (Upminster ward) is endorsed.

That all other Polling Districts and Polling Places remain unchanged.

Report of Director of Starting Well – Havering's Integrated Starting Well Plan (2024-2027): Happy, Healthy Lives

A report of the Director of Starting Well presented for approval the Council's Integrated Starting Well Plan which articulated the Council's vision and priorities for children and young people. Questions on the report submitted by the Conservative Group together with responses given at the meeting by the Lead Member for Children and Young People are shown below:

1. The report outlines responses from the Youth Census, in which young people report on their own health. What steps are being taken to ensure that the self-reporting by our youth is in line with the reality?

Response:

The questions used in the Youth Census were produced with young people and academically verified. The confidential nature of the surveys meant there is likely to be less response bias. The survey responses are used to identify areas for further exploration.

2. The report indicates that 40% of those aged 10-11 are obese or overweight. Does the Cabinet Member support the Government suggestion (September 2024) that they may give councils power to limit the opening of fast food restaurants near schools?

Response:

The Cabinet Member supported the existing planning provision re fast food restaurants opening near schools and Government assistance to strengthen their not being permitted within 400m of schools. Action was however needed by a range of stakeholders. The Cabinet Member wanted the Government to act on areas such as advertising, salt and sugar content of foods.

3. 38% of respondents stated that they needed volunteering opportunities to help them reach their goals. Could the Cabinet Member please outline what support the Council is providing, to the local voluntary sector, to ensure that these much needed opportunities remain available, despite cuts to services?

Response:

A grant of £56k was still paid to the Havering Volunteer Centre. This would be reviewed before any savings decision was made. Work experience was being provided with local colleges as well as the Duke of Edinburgh Awards and opportunities with Starting Well.

4. The report highlights that St Edward's Ward is the 7th highest in London for violent crime committed by youth, and that around half of all Havering's crime is committed by youth. Can the Cabinet Member confirm whether Havering has produced measurable targets for the reduction of youth crime and, if it has, please provide examples of the work being undertaken to achieve them?

Response:

The St Edward's Ward statistics also include young people affected by violent crime. The Council wished to engage with young people and create better role models. Some funding had been received from Government to divert young people at peak times for anti-social behaviour in Romford town centre.

The report was **AGREED** without division and it was **RESOLVED**:

That the Integrated Starting Well Plan (2024-27): *Happy Healthy Lives* shown at Appendix 1 to the report to Council be approved and adopted.

50 ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEMBER CHAMPIONS (agenda item 8)

As the Member Champion for Young People was unable to be present at the meeting, it was agreed to defer their annual report and the question on it received from the Conservative Group, to the next meeting of Council.

51 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS (agenda item 9)

Thirteen questions were asked and responded to. A summary, including of the supplementary questions and answers given, is attached as appendix 1 to these minutes.

52 MOTIONS FOR DEBATE (agenda item 10)

A. WITHDRAWAL OF THE WINTER FUEL ALLOWANCE

Motion on behalf of the Conservative Group

This Council condemns the Government's decision to withdraw the Winter Fuel Allowance for those not in receipt of Pension Credit and/or other supplementary benefits.

(Received 7/10/24, 1806)

Amendment on behalf of the Havering Residents' Association Group

This Council is disappointed with the Government's decision to withdraw the Winter Fuel Allowance for those not in receipt of Pension Credit and/or other supplementary benefits and calls upon the Government to provide all councils with the appropriate level of funding to support those most in need.

(Received 11/11/24, 1853)

Following debate, the amendment by the Havering Residents' Association Group was **CARRIED** by 25 votes to 18 with 5 abstentions (see division 1) and **AGREED** as the substantive motion by 43 votes to 0 with 5 abstentions (see division 2). It was **RESOLVED**:

This Council is disappointed with the Government's decision to withdraw the Winter Fuel Allowance for those not in receipt of Pension Credit and/or other supplementary benefits and calls upon the

Government to provide all councils with the appropriate level of funding to support those most in need.

B. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN PARKS

Motion on behalf of the Conservative Group

Chamber recognises Havering has reached unacceptable levels of antisocial behaviour in our parks. Council calls on the Administration to produce a detailed plan to reduce levels of antisocial behaviour and to resume the overnight locking of parks, and to present this proposal at the meeting of Council.

(Received 7/10/24, 1806)

Amendment on behalf of the Havering Residents' Association Group

This Council recognises some level of antisocial behaviour in our parks. The Council calls on the Administration to produce details of ongoing work to combat and further reduce levels of antisocial behaviour in our parks and to present this report at the meeting of Council.

(Received 11/11/24, 1853)

Amendment on behalf of the Labour Group

The Council recognises Havering has antisocial behaviour in parks, despite most residents respect for and enjoyment of our social green spaces. Council calls on the Administration to produce a detailed plan of action that is to be implemented to prevent and reduce levels of antisocial behaviour and present this at the appropriate overview and scrutiny meeting.

(Received 11/11/24, 2253)

During debate, a procedural motion to suspend Council Procedure Rule 9 in order to conclude the business of the meeting, was **AGREED** without division.

Following debate, the amendment by the Havering Residents' Association Group was **AGREED** by 24 votes to 19 with 5 abstentions (see division 3) and **AGREED** as the substantive motion, without division. It was **RESOLVED**:

This Council recognises some level of antisocial behaviour in our parks. The Council calls on the Administration to produce details of

ongoing work to combat and further reduce levels of antisocial behaviour in our parks and to present this report at the meeting of Council.

C. REFUGE ACCOMMODATION

Motion on behalf of the Labour Group

This Council condemns violence against women and children and recognises the particular challenges of finding emergency refuge accommodation for mothers with boys over the age of 12 years old. This Council calls upon the Administration to work with refuge organisations to find solutions to the lack of available refuge places.

(Received 5/11/24, 1548)

Amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group

This Council condemns all domestic violence and recognises the particular challenges of finding emergency refuge accommodation for mothers with boys over the age of 12 years old. This Council calls upon the Administration to work with refuge organisations to find solutions to the lack of available refuge places.

(Received 11/11/24, 1948)

It was **AGREED** that this motion be withdrawn and resubmitted to the next Council meeting.

53 VOTING RECORD

The record of voting decisions is attached as appendix 2 to these minutes.

Mayor

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Havering

LONDON BOROUGH

FULL COUNCIL, Wednesday 20th November 2024

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Appendix 1

Winter Fuel Allowance

**1) To the Cabinet Member for Adults & Wellbeing (Councillor Gillian Ford)
From Councillor Judith Holt**

What plans does the Council have to support those who will lose out following the Government's cutting of the Winter Fuel Allowances?

Answer

People who are in receipt of Pension Credits will continue to receive the Winter Fuel Allowance (WFA). Therefore, as part of our normal winter help and support, the Household Support Fund (HSF) is funding an officer (through our partner the CAB) to specifically target and encourage people to sign up for pension credits. Furthermore, the Emergency Assistance Scheme (EAS) has always been able to help residents pay for fuel bills. As part of the winter marketing plan we will be targeting those households affected by the loss of the winter fuel allowance to apply for financial help through the EAS. Residents can apply for help through the EAS repeatedly, whereas the WFA is a one off payment. The EAS is also made up of other pots of money so anyone applying will automatically be applying for multiple sources of help, through one application.

At a wider level we have written a marketing strategy, in conjunction with the NHS' 'Winter Wellness' campaign, which will target any household who needs help. We have built on the work we started last year.

A supplementary question asked how information on the help available would be communicated to residents. The Cabinet Member replied that the information was included in the Living newsletter and would also be shown within a booklet on healthy living that was currently being produced.

Housing Repairs Covered by Warranty

**2) To the Cabinet Member for Housing & Property (Councillor Paul McGeary)
From Councillor Matt Stanton**

Will the Cabinet Member for Housing confirm what proportion of repair requests made at New Green have been found to be defects under warranty?

Answer

Thank you for your question.

There is, of course, a difference between a contractual defect and a repair.

Every new building will have some defects. These are usually addressed, as they become apparent, by the contractor in the contract defects liability period.

New Green is still within its defects liability period.

We have asked the Employers Agent to confirm the number of defects that have been reported to date.

Prior to the end of the defects liability period, New Green will be subject to a final defects inspection, the findings of which will be presented in a report to the contractor for attention, as appropriate.

A supplementary question asked what were the Cabinet Member's expectations regarding the percentage of faults at completion. The Cabinet Member responded that there were some issues with door locks that were currently being addressed. A written response on the condition at time of completion would be provided.

Development on Council Owned Parks

**3) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)
From Councillor John Tyler**

Do the Administration have any current plans (whether published or not) to sell, otherwise dispose of, or build homes or commercial buildings, on land within any council owned public parks, gardens or similar?

Answer

There are no current plans to dispose or develop upon any park land. However, we would consider opportunities to maximise the use and income for existing facilities.

Local authorities are required to review their assets frequently and the recent Capitalisation Order to mitigate the Council's financial position serves to raise expectations that such reviews are taking place.

A supplementary question asked why the Cabinet Member had recently stated to representatives of local bowls clubs that the Council may have to consider selling Havering's parks for housing. The Cabinet Member denied ever making such a remark.

Chippenham Road and Kings Lynn Drive Development

**4) To the Cabinet Member for Housing & Property (Councillor Paul McGeary)
From Councillor Nisha Patel**

In the light of plans being submitted for 138 new affordable homes on land off Chippenham Road and Kings Lynn Drive in Harold Hill, can the Cabinet Member for Housing & Property provide their assurance that, should planning permission be granted, it is Havering residents who will be given priority to get onto the housing ladder?

Answer

Thank you for your question.

The Council has adopted a Housing Allocations Scheme, and lettings will be made in this context.

I am working with officers, in accordance with this Scheme, to develop the details of a local lettings policy in relation to the proposed development in terms of helping to create a more sustainable community and improving tenancy sustainment.

In any event, and has been the case in relation to other Council regeneration schemes, eligible residents who were relocated away from the site to enable the proposed new development at Chippenham Road, will have a right to return, once the development has been completed.

A supplementary question asked if surplus housing stock would be offered first to Havering residents and what was the timescale for affordable housing. The Cabinet Member confirmed that residents would have the right of return once the development was completed. The timescale for completion of this development could be shared.

Protocol for Recording Text Messages

5) To the Cabinet Member for Housing & Property (Councillor Paul McGeary) From Councillor Jane Keane

Will the Cabinet Member for Housing prepare a protocol to be followed by housing officers for keeping records of text messages within the Housing Department including such messages received from tenants and leaseholders?

Answer

The Council already has a Mobile Device Policy as well as policies concerning Freedom of Information and Access to Information. Those documents, when read together, do oblige staff to properly record and store relevant information. However, when looking at the mobile devices policy I note that it is due for a review in September 2025 and it may be the case that it could be improved and updated.

This is however, something that affects the whole Council, rather than just the Housing Department.

Given this, the appropriate course of action would be to refer this to the Deputy Director Legal/Monitoring Officer, for consideration with my support.

In a supplementary question, the Councillor confirmed that she supported the referral of this matter to the Monitoring Officer.

Community Infrastructure Levy

**6) To the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor Graham Williamson)
From Councillor John Tyler**

What is the current breakdown of allocated and unallocated Community Infrastructure Levy money, which has been paid, or is due to be paid regarding developments already under construction?

Answer

Since Havering CIL was introduced in 2019, a total of £8.205 million has been collected. Of this, £1.146 million has been spent, £3.513 million has been allocated to projects and £3.076 million is currently unallocated.

It is not possible to accurately forecast CIL which is due to be paid because the trigger point for payment is 90 days from commencement on site. Commencement can take place up to three years after planning permission is granted. However, I can advise that CIL to the value of £485,846.06 is now due for payment at this time.

A supplementary question asked how much CIL funding was currently available to spend in Cranham. The Cabinet Member responded that, whilst the CIL was borough-wide, some ward priorities could also be funded and he would investigate this.

Romford Town Centre

**7) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)
From Councillor Viddy Persaud**

Could the Cabinet Member for the Environment please give an explanation as to why Romford Town Centre continues to be blighted by fly tipping, overflowing bins, graffiti and street beggars/bedding contributing to an overall impression of deliberate neglect on the part of the Administration?

Answer

FCC have staff permanently stationed in Romford Town Centre 7 days a week. Their performance on fly-tip reports shows that over 99% are being removed on time. In Romford Town Centre, depending on the location, the targets are as little as 2 hours.

Where fly-tipping, overflowing bins or graffiti are found they can also be reported via the My Havering webpage to assist the Council in addressing them promptly.

We are aware of the impact that littering and fly-tipping has on our communities and the overall cleanliness of our borough. This is why we have recently launched our new campaign Where We Live. It aims to empower communities to take pride in their neighbourhoods by actively taking part in community clean-ups, litter picks, reporting fly-tipping and helping us to make Havering a cleaner and safer place to be.

Homelessness and begging are national problems and are not exclusive to Romford.

A number of rough sleeping referrals are made to Street link every month however, many rough sleepers also have complex needs or do not always want to take up an offer of accommodation. Therefore, getting them into stable, permanent accommodation and supporting them to stay there isn't straightforward.

The Council is also publishing regular communications around the work we are doing to help rough sleepers off the street, advice on how residents can give as an alternative to begging and how they can inform us of rough sleepers they see on our streets.

Where people carry out anti-social behaviour in the Town Centre (including rough sleepers), a stepped enforcement approach is taken against them. This includes the use of Community Protection Warnings and Notices which can also have positive requirements to engage with housing offers.

Discarded bedding is frequently removed but is easily replaced with packaging from local businesses and so can be a challenge to keep clear.

A supplementary question asked why the Council could not keep other parts of the Town Centre to the standards of cleanliness seen in the Liberty, Mercury and Brewery.

Botulism at Harrow Lodge Park

8) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone) From Councillor Trevor McKeever

Will the Cabinet Member for the Environment report to Full Council on the work that is being undertaken to prevent the deaths of water birds in Harrow Lodge Park from botulism?

Answer

The Council completed an improvement project in 2022 on the lake, removing significant volumes of silt which contains the botulism bacteria. Given the nature of the watercourse, there will always be silt present however, this is now much lower. Therefore, it is likely that there will continue to be incidents where wildfowl unfortunately contract botulism, although this will be in much smaller numbers than before the improvements.

The lake also currently has two aeration units to improve the oxygen levels which aids the overall quality of the water. We are currently in the process of procuring

additional splash fountains, which also assist aeration, using external funding. These are expected to be installed by the spring of next year.

A supplementary question asked if the Cabinet Member could confirm when the two aeration pumps in Harrow Lodge Park would be repaired. The Cabinet Member replied that he would check on this and advise the Member separately.

Warm Spaces

9) To the Cabinet Member for Adults & Wellbeing (Councillor Gillian Ford) From Councillor David Taylor

Can the Administration please outline what plans are in place for the provision of warm spaces over winter, recognising their invaluable role in supporting our most vulnerable residents?

Answer

The Havering Based Partnership Ageing Well fund has provided a £80k grant to continue the Warm Places from 1st June 2024 – 31st March 2025. There are currently 10 funded Warm Places in place within the Harold Hill, Harold Wood, Rainham, Sth. Hornchurch, Elm Park, Upminster and Romford areas. Each Warm Place is managed by a voluntary or faith organisation, providing at each location hot refreshments, a range of activities/talks/demonstrations/information and advice stations; free lunch or breakfast is provided at some venues. The list of venues has been placed on the Council's website. <https://www.havering.gov.uk/warmspaces>

Our libraries are also still providing a Warm Place for people to go into.

Warm Places is just one initiative as part of our wider Havering Helps cost of living offer – which also includes – financial help for food, fuel bills and white goods through the Emergency Assistance Scheme; School Holiday Meal scheme; Energy Doctors and budgeting advice. Our full offer of support can be found online at: www.havering.gov.uk/haveringhelps

The Leader and Deputy Leader have also recently enjoyed a useful visit to one of Havering's Warm Places.

A supplementary question asked if the Cabinet Member would commit to producing a social value report on warm spaces. The Cabinet Member agreed to look at this with officers.

Public Services in Noak Hill

**10) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)
From Councillor Pat Brown**

Will the Cabinet Member for the Environment explain why the relevant Council Services relating to the request for traffic calming measures and condition of kerbs and green verges which is attracting fly-tipping in Noak Hill, were not addressed when requested to do so following a meeting with residents on 7th October 2022, a meeting with senior officers on 23rd June 2023, a further meeting with residents on 15th September 2023 and numerous follow up emails?

Answer

Officers have attended several resident meetings to provide advice relating to the issues described in the question. Subsequently a Validation form was submitted to the Council and assessed by Officers. The assessment investigations carried out included both speed and collision surveys to ascertain the extent of issues and determine a suitable course of action. It should be noted that this request did not ask Officers to investigate the issues relating to fly tipping.

The surveys indicated that speeds were generally within the posted speed limit and that although some collisions had occurred the relative numbers were not high in context with other sites around the borough. Officers have still explored whether or not a capital bid may be successful but unfortunately due to the evidence gathered – we can now confirm that this would not meet the trigger levels required for funding prioritisation.

With regards to Highway Maintenance issues Officers did advise residents and members how to report these at the residents' meetings.

I can further advise that four repair orders have been carried out in the area in the last year in response to requests raised. Additionally Chequers Road was resurfaced this year and Church Road was resurfaced in 2018/19 as part of the Council's resurfacing programme.

I encourage all members to report flytipping via the Council's online reporting form so appropriate action can be taken.

A supplementary question asked if all the information given by the Cabinet Member could be sent to Councillor Brown.

New Homes

**11) To the Cabinet Member for Housing & Property (Councillor Paul McGeary)
From Councillor Joshua Chapman**

Could the Cabinet Member for Housing & Property please confirm how many new homes the Council is planning to deliver over the next financial year?

Answer

Between now and 2025/2026 delivery may include the following:

- 7 homes recently acquired from Notting Hill/Genesis in Rainham/Beam Park
- 47 new homes on the Quarles development in Harold Hill (in two phases, the first in late 2025)
- 50 new units in the Rainham/Beam Park area
- 18 modular units at Waterloo/Queen Street
- 74 units at the Family Welcome Centre in Harold Hill,
- 50 homes acquired by the purchase of street properties (ad-hoc buy backs)

This suggests that approximately 246 units should be delivered between now and 2026.

A supplementary question asked what were the current void turnaround times. The Cabinet Member responded that this was monitored but did vary and this would be provided in writing.

Bus Route 347

**12) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)
From Councillor Keith Prince AM**

What lobbying has the Cabinet Member for the Environment undertaken with regards to the withdrawal of the 347-bus route since the most recent announcement by the Mayor of London?

Answer

The Council made its position very clear when Transport for London (TfL) first proposed the withdrawal of the 347 route last year, that we strongly object to the route being withdrawn given the significant impact it would have on local residents, particularly in the Upminster Park Estate, St Mary's Lane and Clay Tye Road.

We've also made it clear to TfL that it does not represent the improved connectivity that the Mayor publicly promised for an outer London Borough such as Havering.

Since the Council was made aware of the Mayor's decision, my officers have continued to push for mitigation measures to be put in place prior to the service being withdrawn, so that residents are able to safely access alternative bus services nearby.

We've made it clear that this should include improved connectivity between the Cathedrals Estate and Front Lane and that access to alternative bus stops needs to be improved.

The Council has made it clear that given the service withdrawal is a Mayoral decision, we fully expect TfL to pay for measures that minimise the impact, and not Havering. I and my Officers will continue to make the case for this.

A supplementary question asked what meetings the Cabinet Member had held with Transport for London, the Mayor of London or the Deputy Mayor for Transport. The Cabinet Member responded that, with the Leader, he had met with the TfL Director of Buses and the local TfL representative. An extension of the Superloop route into Havering was also being pursued and the Cabinet Member asked for the Assembly Member's assistance with this.

Rainham Marshes

13) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone) From Councillor Jackie McArdle

Could the Administration please explain why residents' reports of illegal encampments, the regular dumping of rubbish and highly obstructive parking in and around the Rainham Marshes Nature Reserve continues to be ignored by the responsible departments within Havering Council?

Answer

The Enforcement Team has no record of illegal traveller encampments at this location. All illegal encampments, as defined by the borough wide Injunction that the Council successfully secured, have been moved on within 24 - 48hours in the last three or so years.

There have been reports of rough sleepers in tents, which the Park Rangers and the Enforcement Team have attended. The teams have applied a stepped approach to this, which involves initially engaging with the rough sleepers and liaising with the homeless outreach team.

Officers are also unaware of any allegations involving obstructive parking at this location. If Councillor McArdle is able to share further details with me of her concerns, I would be happy to pick this up with Officers further.

A supplementary question asked if enforcement officers would attend in Rainham and Wennington more regularly and how many enforcement fines had been levied in that area. The Cabinet Member responded that the enforcement team prioritised the areas in which they would operate.

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Council 20th November 2024

Voting record

Appendix 2

<i>DIVISION NUMBER:</i>	1	2	3
The Mayor (Councillor Gerry O'Sullivan)	✓	✓	✓
The Deputy Mayor [Concillor Sue Ospreay]	✓	✓	✓
<u>CONSERVATIVE GROUP (17)</u>			
Cllr Robert Benham	A	A	A
Cllr Ray Best	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Joshua Chapman	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Osman Dervish	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Jason Frost	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Judith Holt	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Jackie McArdle	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Dilip Patel	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Nisha Patel	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Viddy Persaud	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Keith Prince	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Timothy Ryan	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Carol Smith	✗	✓	✗
Cllr David Taylor	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Christine Vickery	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Damian White	A	A	A
Cllr Michael White	✗	✓	✗
<u>HAVERING RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION GROUP (23 + 2)</u>			
Cllr John Crowder	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Philippa Crowder	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Sarah Edwards	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Gillian Ford	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Oscar Ford	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Laurance Garrard	✓	✓	✓
Cllr James Glass	A	A	A
Cllr David Godwin	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Paul McGeary	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Paul Middleton	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Robby Misir	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Raymond Morgon	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Barry Mugglestone	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Stephanie Nunn	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Christine Smith	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Natasha Summers	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Bryan Vincent	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Reg Whitney	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Julie Wilkes	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Christopher Wilkins	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Jacqueline Williams	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Graham Williamson	✓	✓	✓
Cllr John Wood	✓	✓	✓
<u>LABOUR GROUP (8)</u>			
Cllr Mandy Anderson	A	A	A
Cllr Pat Brown	O	O	O
Cllr Keith Darvill	O	O	O
Cllr Jane Keane	O	O	O
Cllr Trevor McKeever	O	O	O
Cllr Matthew Stanton	A	A	A
Cllr Katharine Tumilty	A	A	A
Cllr Frankie Walker	A	A	A
<u>EAST HAVERING RESIDENTS' GROUP (3)</u>			
Cllr Brian Eagling	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Martin Goode	✗	✓	✗
Cllr Darren Wise	✗	✓	✗
<u>RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INDEPENDENT GROUP (2)</u>			
Councillor Philip Ruck	O	O	✗
CouncillorJohn Tyler	✓	✓	O
<i>TOTALS</i>			
✓ = YES	25	43	24
✗ = NO	18	0	19
O = ABSTAIN/NO VOTE	5	5	5
ID =INTEREST DISCLOSED/NO VOTE	0	0	0
A = ABSENT FROM MEETING	7	7	7
	55	55	55

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING Council Chamber - Town Hall 4 December 2024 (7.30 - 8.40 pm)

Present: The Mayor (Councillor Gerry O'Sullivan) in the Chair

Councillors Councillors Mandy Anderson, Robert Benham, Ray Best, Patricia Brown, John Crowder, Philippa Crowder, Keith Darvill, Brian Eagling, Sarah Edwards, Gillian Ford, Oscar Ford, Jason Frost, Laurance Garrard, David Godwin, Martin Goode, Judith Holt, Jane Keane, Jacqueline McArdle, Paul McGeary, Trevor McKeever, Paul Middleton, Ray Morgon, Barry Mugglestone, Stephanie Nunn, Sue Ospreay, Dilip Patel, Viddy Persaud, Keith Prince, Philip Ruck, Timothy Ryan, Carol Smith, Christine Smith, Matthew Stanton, Natasha Summers, David Taylor, John Tyler, Christine Vickery, Bryan Vincent, Michael White, Reg Whitney, Julie Wilkes, Christopher Wilkins, Graham Williamson and John Wood

Approximately 40 Members' guests and members of the public were also present.

The Mayor advised Members and the public of action to be taken in the event of emergency evacuation of the Town Hall becoming necessary.

The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

1 **PRAYERS (agenda item 1)**

The Mayor's Official Chaplain – Reverend Ken Wylie of St Andrew's Church, Hornchurch, opened the meeting with prayers.

2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (agenda item 2)**

Apologies were received from Councillors Joshua Chapman, James Glass, Robby Misir, Nisha Patel, Katharine Tumilty, Frankie Walker, Jacqueline Williams and Darren Wise.

3 **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS (agenda item 3)**

There were no disclosures of interest.

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR, BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL OR BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (agenda item 4)

Members contributed to an appeal on behalf of the Jo Cox Civility Commission which sought to tackle and eliminate the abuse and intimidation of elected representatives.

The Mayor reviewed recent events in which he had participated including the London Civic Mayors Service at Westminster Abbey, his own Civic Service at St Andrews Church, Hornchurch and a recent quiz night. He had also welcomed His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester on a recent visit to Havering.

The Leader of the Council expressed his support for the Jo Cox Civility Commission and also thanked his fellow Group Leaders for their support in arranging the Honorary Awards presentation that evening.

5 HONORARY AWARDS (agenda item 5)

The following proposals were before the Council:

Award of Freedom of the Borough:

Ken Hay (D-Day veteran) (Nominated by Councillor Gillian Ford, seconded by Councillor Jacqueline Williams)

Lesley Blowers (Manager, Mardyke Youth and Community Centre) (Nominated by Councillor Trevor McKeever, seconded by Councillor Matt Stanton)

Mark Bryant (Former Deputy Lieutenant) (Nominated by Councillor Stephanie Nunn, seconded by Councillor Barry Mugglestone)

Father Hingley (Former Mayor's Chaplain) (Nominated by Councillor Judith Holt, seconded by Councillor Martin Goode)

Brock Whiston (Paralympic Swimming Gold Medallist) (Nominated by Councillor Jason Frost, seconded by Councillor Ray Morgon)

Award of Freedom of the Borough – Long Service to the Council:

Former Councillor John Mylod

Former Councillor Ron Ower

Councillor Reg Whitney

Councillor Michael White

(All nominated by Councillor Ray Morgon and seconded by Councillor John Tyler)

Award of Alderman / woman:

Former Councillor Wendy Brice-Thompson

Former Councillor Jeffrey Tucker

(All nominated by Councillor Ray Morgon and seconded by Councillor Keith Prince)

The proposal that Ken Hay be awarded Freedom of the Borough was **AGREED** unanimously by 45 votes to 0 (see division 1) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That Ken Hay receive the Freedom of the Borough.

Mr Hay was unable to attend the meeting and his award would be presented at a later date.

The proposal that Lesley Blowers receive the Freedom of the Borough was **AGREED** unanimously by 45 voted to 0 (see division 2) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That Lesley Blowers receive the Freedom of the Borough.

The proposal that Mark Bryant receive the Freedom of the Borough was **AGREED** unanimously by 45 votes to 0 (see division 3) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That Mark Bryant receive the Freedom of the Borough.

The proposal that Father Hingley receive the Freedom of the Borough was **AGREED** unanimously by 45 votes to 0 (see division 4) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That Father Hingley receive the Freedom of the Borough.

The proposal that Brock Whiston receive the Freedom of the Borough was **AGREED** unanimously by 45 votes to 0 (see division 5) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That Brock Whiston receive the Freedom of the Borough.

The proposal that former Councillor John Mylod receive the Freedom of the Borough was **AGREED** by 40 votes to 1 with 4 abstentions (see division 6) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That former Councillor John Mylod receive the Freedom of the Borough.

Former Councillor Mylod was unable to attend the meeting and his award would be presented at a later date.

The proposal that former Councillor Ron Ower receive the Freedom of the Borough was **AGREED** by 44 votes to 0 with 1 abstention (see division 7) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That former Councillor Ron Ower receive the Freedom of the Borough.

The proposal that Councillor Reg Whitney receive the Freedom of the Borough was **AGREED** by 44 votes to 0 with 1 abstention (see division 8) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That Councillor Reg Whitney receive the Freedom of the Borough.

The proposal that Councillor Michael White receive the Freedom of the Borough was **AGREED** by 44 votes to 0 with 1 abstention (see division 9) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That Councillor Michael White receive the Freedom of the Borough.

The proposal that former Councillor Wendy Brice-Thompson receive the award of Alderwoman of the London Borough of Havering was **AGREED** by 44 votes to 0 with 1 abstention (see division 10) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That former Councillor Wendy Brice-Thompson receive the award of Alderwoman of the London Borough of Havering.

The proposal that former Councillor Jeffrey Tucker receive the award of Alderman of the London Borough of Havering was **AGREED** by 42 votes to 2 with 1 abstention (see division 11) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That former Councillor Jeffrey Tucker receive the award of Alderman of the London Borough of Havering.

All recipients received their awards and congratulations from the Mayor and were greeted by warm applause from all sides of the Chamber.

6 **VOTING RECORD**

The record of voting decisions is attached as appendix 1 to these minutes.

Mayor

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Minute Item 6

Extraordinary Council 4th December 2024

Voting record

Appendix 1

DIVISION NUMBER:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
The Mayor (Councillor Gerry O'Sullivan)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Deputy Mayor [Councillor Sue Osprey]	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CONSERVATIVE GROUP (17)											
Cllr Robert Benham	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Ray Best	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Joshua Chapman	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Osman Dervish	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Jason Frost	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Judith Holt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Jackie McArdle	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Dilip Patel	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Nisha Patel	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Viddy Persaud	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Keith Prince	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Timothy Ryan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Carol Smith	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr David Taylor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Christine Vickery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Damian White	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Michael White	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
HAVERING RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION GROUP (23 + 2)											
Cllr John Crowder	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Philippa Crowder	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Sarah Edwards	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Cllr Gillian Ford	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Oscar Ford	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Laurance Garrard	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr James Glass	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr David Godwin	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Paul McGeary	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Paul Middleton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	O	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Robby Misir	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Raymond Morgon	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Barry Mugglestone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	O	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Stephanie Nunn	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	O	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Christine Smith	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Natasha Summers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Bryan Vincent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Reg Whitney	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Julie Wilkes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Cllr Christopher Wilkins	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Jacqueline Williams	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Graham Williamson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr John Wood	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LABOUR GROUP (8)											
Cllr Mandy Anderson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Pat Brown	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	O	O	O	O	O	O
Cllr Keith Darvill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Jane Keane	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Trevor McKeever	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Matthew Stanton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Katharine Tumilty	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Frankie Walker	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
EAST HAVERING RESIDENTS' GROUP (3)											
Cllr Brian Eagling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Martin Goode	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Darren Wise	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INDEPENDENT GROUP (2)											
Councillor Philip Ruck	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Councillor John Tyler	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TOTALS											
✓ = YES	45	45	45	45	45	40	44	44	44	44	42
✗ = NO	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
O = ABSTAIN/NO VOTE	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	1	1	1	1
ID = INTEREST DISCLOSED/NO VOTE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A = ABSENT FROM MEETING	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55

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COUNCIL, 15 JANUARY 2025

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

SUBJECT: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RULES – EXCEPTION TO THE CALL-IN (REQUISITION) PROCEDURE

SUMMARY

Under paragraph 18e of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Leader of the Council is required to submit reports to Council on decisions taken by himself, Cabinet or individual Cabinet members, or key decisions made by a member of staff in the circumstances set out in Rule 18 (exemption to the call-in (requisition) procedure) within the previous 3 months.

This report details Key Decisions that have been taken in the circumstances set out in Rule 18 (exemption to the call-in (requisition) procedure) for the six month period covering **1st June 2024 to 31st December 2024**.

- 1) Swimming Pool Support Fund - Acceptance of Grants
(Decision made on 13 August 2024)
- 2) Household Support Fund
(Decision made on 1 November 2024)
- 3) Central Park Leisure Centre Solar Award of Contract
(Decision made on 13 December 2024)

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the report be noted.

REPORT DETAIL

1. Rule 18 of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules provides that:

(b) The call-in procedure shall not apply where a decision being taken by Cabinet or an individual Cabinet member, or a key decision made by a member of staff is urgent. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public interests. The record of the decision and notice by which it is made shall state whether in the opinion of the decision making person or body, the decision is an urgent one, and therefore not subject to call-in.

(c) The decision making person or body can only take an urgent decision under (a) above and avoid the call-in procedures after obtaining agreement from the Chairman of the Board that the decision be treated as urgent.

Swimming Pool Support Fund - Acceptance of Grants

2. On behalf of Cabinet, the Strategic Director of People, sought agreement from the Chairman of the Board to exempt from call-in a key decision concerning an application for £700,000 grant funding from Sport England.
- 2.1 The Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Board, Councillor Laurance Garrard, gave his agreement to the exemption from call-in for the following reason:
- 2.2 Officers were advised on 8th August 2024 of the need to sign grant adherence agreements with Sports and Leisure Management Ltd. (SLM) by 15th August, otherwise the Council risked losing £700,000 of funding. In order not to prejudice the Council's interests, call-in was waived to allow the decision to be made in time to sign all agreements

Household Support Fund

3. On behalf of Cabinet, the Strategic Director of People, sought agreement from the Chairman of the Board to exempt from call-in a key decision concerning the acceptance and distribution of the Household Support Fund from the Department for Work and Pensions.

- 3.1 The Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Board, Councillor Laurance Garrard, gave his agreement to the exemption from call-in for the following reason:
- 3.2 The Department for Work & Pensions published guidance for Local Authorities on the 27th September, with the requirement to submit spending plans by the 1st November. The Council was awarded just over £1.6 million, in part to support residents who are no longer eligible for the winter fuel allowance. Since accepting the funding was in the Council's best interests, call-in was waived so that the delivery plan could be submitted on time and meet the 1st November deadline

Central Park Leisure Centre Solar Award of Contract

- 4. On behalf of Cabinet, the Strategic Director of People, sought agreement from the Chairman of the Board to exempt from call-in a key decision concerning the award of a contract for the car port and solar panel scheme at Central Leisure Centre
- 4.1 The Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Board, Councillor Laurance Garrard, gave his agreement to the exemption from call-in for the following reason:
- 4.2 The Council successfully secured £700k grant funding towards a total project cost of £823k. It was a condition of the grant that the money had to be spent by the end of March 2025, otherwise it would be lost. There was an urgent need for the contract to be awarded to allow orders to be placed for the fabrication of the car ports and for PV panels. Any delay would have meant the project could not have started on 6 January 2025 and work would therefore not have been completed before end of March. Since it was in the Council's interest for the contract to be awarded expeditiously, call in was waived so that £700k grant funding would not be withdrawn.

Financial Implications and Risks:

While there were financial implications around the decisions described in this report, there are none directly associated with this report.

Legal Implications and Risks:

There are no immediate legal implications directly associated with this report.

Human Resource Implications and Risks:

There are none directly associated with this report.

Equalities and Social Inclusion Implications and Risks:

There are none directly associated with this report.

Staff Contact:
Designation
Email:

Gavin Milnthorpe
Monitoring Officer
Gavin.milnthorpe@havering.gov.uk

Background paper List

None



Havering
L O N D O N B O R O U G H

COUNCIL CHAMPION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

ANNUAL REPORT

COUNCILLOR FRANKIE WALKER
2023-2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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COUNCILLOR INTRODUCTION

Councillor Introduction



I have had the privilege of being Member Champion for young people for two years. I have met with young people across the borough to hear their views on how to ensure they can learn, work, live and thrive in Havering.

During my meetings with young people they have raised several issues including mental health support, the stigma around free school meals, employment and training support and many other issues. For the first time, we saw a Children and Young person's budget which received over 300 responses. This clearly demonstrates that young people are also keen to share their views on how we deliver and provide services in the Council.

Whilst the consultation is a step in the right direction, there is still a lot more work to be done by us all to ensure that we do policy with young people and not to them. The 2021 Census highlighted that Havering 'now has a higher proportion of children aged 0-17 (22.3%) than 80% of local authorities in England'. We need to provide the right environment for all children and young people to reach their full potential and to do so we need to include them in policy and decision making. It is not just a role reserved for the Member Champion for young people but for all members.

We have incredible, talented and driven young people in Havering which needs to be celebrated more. It is often the case that the good work done by young people in the borough is overlooked and we need to change this. We must give our young people the recognition they deserve and ensure that they are celebrated in Havering.

Thank you to the young people and staff that have given me their time and helped me in my role as member champion.

Councillor Frankie Walker 2023-2024

CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE POLICY

Champion for Children and Young People Policy

My priorities as a Member Champion for Young People is to make sure young people are heart of decision making and to strengthen the relationship between young people and Councillors to achieve the best outcomes for them in the borough. This supports Havering's strategic priority of starting well and living well as by listening and taking action to make changes on recommendations put forward by young people, I am working to creating an environment that enables young people to have the best start and thrive in the borough.

I aim to facilitate open conversations with decision makers and young people through organised meetings, scrutiny committees and with group leaders. Alongside, representing the views and issues that matter to children and young people in the Council chamber.

During my term, I have spoken with Council staff, young people and parents about matters that are important to children and young people. In the people's overview and scrutiny sub-committee role I ensured that we included issues that impacted young people in our scrutiny work. One issue where I actively requested for timely scrutiny was on Home to School transport. It was vital we had enough time as committee to ask questions and put forward recommendations before a final decision was made. I also called for Ofsted's review of our children services to be added to our scrutiny as I believed it was important that the Council took steps to address the concerns raised during Ofsted's report so that wellbeing of children and young people in Havering to get the right support. I also sit on the corporate parenting panel and work cross party to prioritise safeguarding and wellbeing of children and young people across the borough. Overall, I integrate my role as a Member Champion for young people in all aspects of my Council work by identifying opportunities to involve young people in policy discussion and by advocating on their behalf in the chamber and beyond.

Community Engagement

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

One of my ambitions as a Member Champion was to regularly engage with young people in borough and provide a space for them to share their views and issues that matter to them. In the committee and Council meetings, I highlight the issues that are impact children and young people across the borough and try to ensure that they are considered in discussions.

Youth Council/ Members of Youth Parliament

During my terms, I have met regularly with Youth Council to find out about the issues that young people are facing in the borough. The following concerns were raised during our meetings:

- Stigma around free school meals
- Quality of school meals
- Poor lighting in parks
- Lack of spaces for young people
- Discrimination

I will be taking up these issues to see how we can address these issues as a council. I believe that my role is not just about championing the voices of young people in the chamber but ensure they are in rooms with decision makers. During my term for 2024-2025 young people will be meeting with group leaders across all parties and groups to put forward their questions and concerns. This was supposed to take place last term however due to the Mayoral and GLA elections this was put on hold. I will provide an update in my next report of outcomes and actions that come as a result of this meeting.

I also attended the Youth Parliament results night and met the five candidates alongside their family and friends. 6,800 votes were cast in the borough and 50% of secondary schools took part alongside youth centres and groups. Every young person put forward important pledges such as tackling crime and preparation for adult life. A

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

huge congratulations to Philia Lekaj and Elsie Orwell. I look forward to working with these new members and Youth Council on their pledges.

There are number of groups and organisations championing and supporting young people in the borough, this is not an exhaustive list but I hope to engage/ increase engagement with some of these groups and organisations during my next term.

- Revellers
- GRL Academy
- Say it Louder Forum
- Goodfellas
- Go Girls
- CIC youth club
- Sycamore Trust

EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY

I have promoted Equality and Diversity by championing the voices of young people in decision making and policy discussions. Age is a protected characteristic and as a Council we should consider the impact decisions on services can have on children and young people.

To further Equality and Diversity, I recommend the following:

1. Bi-annual full council meetings with a segment dedicated for children and young people to ask questions to cabinet members on areas of interest.
2. Commit to retaining the children and young people's budget consultation
3. To include children in care as a protected characteristic

Events

Cocoon Visit

Alongside the Director of Children Services, I attended the Cocoon which is a safe space for young adults who are care experienced. We discussed what they would like to see from Councillors and some of the issues they have faced which includes:

- Cost of transport
- Access to mental health services
- Employment support

As a corporate parent, I will be looking at ways we can support our children in care in relation to the issues they have raised above.

GRL Academy

I was invited to speak to young people at GRL academy where I shared my journey as a councillor. We also had a discussion about women that inspire us and our individual strengths. I also had the opportunity to ask about their concerns such as the cost of ULEZ and mental health support.

Drapers Infant School Music Festival

I attended Draper's infant schools first ever music school festival. This was a fantastic event that brought the children together to sing and dance in a fun and welcoming setting.

London Borough of Culture Bid

I attended the Havering London Borough of Culture's bid meeting representing young people and putting forward ideas on how we would engage with children and young people across the borough.

Romford Autism Hub

In my role as Member Champion for young people, I arranged for Romford's Autism Hub to attend the People's overview and scrutiny subcommittee meeting. Alongside this, the group were able to have a tour of the town hall.

CLOSING MESSAGE

Closing Message

It has been a pleasure meeting young people and staff across the borough exploring ways we can support children and young people as well as providing a space for me to learn about their experiences. I look forward to commencing my third term as Member Champion and continuing these important conversations to achieve the best outcomes.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Council, 20 November 2024

Question submitted on behalf of the Conservative Group

Agenda item 8: Report of the Member Champion for Younger People

Following the recommendation that Council have a dedicated session to allow Havering's youth to ask questions of Cabinet, would the Member Champion agree that it would be beneficial to also have similar sessions in the overview and scrutiny sub-committees, providing our youth the chance to provide feedback to the committees on various reports?

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Havering

LONDON BOROUGH

FULL COUNCIL, Wednesday 15th January 2025

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Library Strategies

- 1) **To the Cabinet Member for Adults & Wellbeing (Councillor Gillian Ford)**
From Councillor Keith Prince

Can the Cabinet Member outline which community trusts or voluntary groups they have approached as an alternative to run the libraries they are currently consulting on for closure?

Proposed Food Waste Collection

- 2) **To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)**
From Councillor Trevor McKeever

In view of the Government position that all local authorities should implement food waste collection separate from general waste by the end of March 2026 will the Cabinet Member for the Environment summarize the Borough's implementation proposals and resident's response to the Love Food Hate Waste Campaign?

Repair of Potholes

- 3) **To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)**
From Councillor Brian Eagling

The Government announced funding of £1.6bn for Councils to repair potholes. Can the cabinet member confirm how much of this money has been allocated to Havering and is there a list of potholes broken down by Ward which will receive that funding to repair them.

Alternative Revenue Income for Libraries

- 4) **To the Cabinet Member for Adults & Wellbeing (Councillor Gillian Ford)**
From Councillor Keith Prince

Can the Cabinet Member set out what other commercial activities the Council has explored to generate a revenue income for the libraries they are currently consulting on for closure?

Lift Defects on the New Green Estate

- 5) **To the Cabinet Member for Housing & Property (Councillor Paul McGeary)**
From Councillor Matthew Stanton

Will the Cabinet Member confirm how many lift defects there have been on the New Green development since occupation and whether this number of defects are proportionate to other similar developments with lifts?

Recycling and Fly Tipping in Harold Wood Ward

**6) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)
From Councillor Martin Goode**

Can the cabinet member confirm when the recycling bring banks in Harold Wood will be removed and please advise on actions to be taken by the council to catch the perpetrators of fly tipping on this area.

Condition of Local Authority Housing Stock

**7) To the Cabinet Member for Housing & Property (Councillor Paul McGeary)
From Councillor Joshua Chapman**

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing please outline what proactive steps he is taking to ensure Havering's local authority housing stock remains in good condition?

Boroughs Bed & Breakfast Elimination Plan

**8) To the Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Housing Need (Councillor Natasha Summers)
From Councillor Keith Darvill**

Will the Cabinet Member for Housing Need provide details of how the Council will implement its Bed & Breakfast elimination plan for those in need of temporary accommodation.

Development of Green Spaces

**9) To the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor Graham Williamson)
From Councillor David Taylor**

Can the Administration please confirm whether or not it is considering the disposal for development of green spaces around the Borough which are not formally designated-park land but maybe informally used as such?

Road Safety Measures Proximate to Hylands School

**10) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)
From Councillor Jane Keane**

When will arrangements for the enhanced attendance of Traffic Enforcement Officers be implemented to the roads surrounding Hylands School (including Globe Road, Grange Road and Francombe Gardens) with the purpose of deterring inconsiderate, and in many cases dangerous, parking and thus reducing the increasing risk of accidents and personal injury?

Social Value Impact Report

**11) To the Cabinet Member for Adults & Wellbeing (Councillor Gillian Ford)
From Councillor Jason Frost**

At the November meeting of Full Council, the Administration gave an undertaking to produce a Social Value Impact Report. Can the relevant Cabinet Member please provide an update to members on this?

Traffic Enforcement in Mildmay Road

**12) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)
From Councillor Viddy Persaud**

Would the Cabinet Member for the Environment please explain why the camera enforcing the one-way traffic restriction in Mildmay Road has been removed?

Maintenance of Drains in Wennington

**13) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)
From Councillor Jacqueliën McArdle**

Can the Cabinet Member for the Environment give a commitment to securing a long-term resolution to the historic problem of blocked drains in Wennington caused by a lack of maintenance, not at the street end, but in and around the discharge areas which are located on lands held by private individuals?

Heating Repairs for Local Authority Housing

**14) To the Cabinet Member for Housing & Property (Councillor Paul McGeary)
From Councillor Dilip Patel**

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing confirm what is the average lead time for heating repairs for HRA tenants?

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Council, 15 January 2024 – Motions

A. REFUGE ACCOMMODATION (motion resubmitted from November Council meeting)

Motion on behalf of the Labour Group

This Council condemns violence against women and children and recognises the particular challenges of finding emergency refuge accommodation for mothers with boys over the age of 12 years old. This Council calls upon the Administration to work with refuge organisations to find solutions to the lack of available refuge places.

(Received 5/11/24, 1548)

Amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group

This Council condemns all domestic violence and recognises the particular challenges of finding emergency refuge accommodation for mothers with boys over the age of 12 years old. This Council calls upon the Administration to work with refuge organisations to find solutions to the lack of available refuge places.

(Received 11/11/24, 1948)

Amendment on behalf of the Havering Residents Association Group

This council condemns all domestic violence and recognises the particular challenges of finding emergency refuge accommodation for mothers with boys over the age of 12 years old. This Council calls on the Administration to lobby the Mayor of London and the government, to do more to address gaps in provision across the capital, and nationally to ensure Havering residents have access to refuge care whether in Havering or not.

(Received 5/1/24, 1942)

B. FAST-FOOD OUTLETS

Motion on behalf of the Conservative Group

As the Administration has previously stated that they would consider adopting tougher restrictions on the opening of new fast-food outlets within a certain radius of schools, this Council calls on the Administration to commit to the commissioning of an economic impact assessment in order to understand the implications of such restrictions on the commercial viability of small parades (including a number within the local authority's own property portfolio) ahead of any policy decision.

(Received 23/12/24, 1955)

Amendment on behalf of the Havering Residents Association Group

As the Administration has previously stated that they would consider adopting tougher restrictions on the opening of new fast-food outlets within a certain radius of schools (as part of a whole system approach to a healthy weight alongside other public sector partners), this Council calls on the Administration to commit (in the event that such a decision is actually taken) to the commissioning of an economic impact assessment in order to understand the implications of such restrictions on the commercial viability of small parades (including a number within the local authority's own property portfolio) ahead of any policy decision, but provided that any impact assessments shall take into account all London-wide or national guidance / directions / legislation on the matter.

(Received 6/1/25, 1901)

C. SHOPLIFTING IN HORNCHURCH AND UPMINSTER TOWN CENTRES

Motion on behalf of the Conservative Group

This Council commits to work with the Met Police, Member of Parliament and Assembly Member who are currently collaborating to counter the unacceptable levels of shoplifting in Hornchurch and Upminster Town Centres.

(Received 23/12/24, 1955)

Amendment on behalf of the Havering Residents' Association Group

This Council commits to work with all partners to counter the unacceptable levels of shoplifting in all of Havering's shopping areas.

(Received 6/1/25, 1901)

Amendment on behalf of the Labour Group

This Council commits to working with the Police, elected members, and all other relevant private and public organisations to counter the unacceptable levels of shoplifting in Havering.

(Received, 6/1/25, 2133)

D. ABANDONED SUPERMARKET TROLRIES

Motion on behalf of the Labour Group

This Council recognises the hazards that abandoned supermarket trolleys cause to Havering's residential roadways, in its green spaces and parks, and its rivers and calls upon the Administration to consider adopting powers provided by the Environment Protection Act 1990 (Section 1990 and Schedule 4) to facilitate (at the cost of the relevant retailers) expedited removal of abandoned trolleys within the Borough.

(Received 30/12/24, 2114)

(No amendments received).

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