

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING Havering Town Hall, Romford 20 May 2015 (7.48pm – 8.45pm)

Present: The Mayor (Councillor Brian Eagling) in the Chair.

- Councillors June Alexander, Clarence Barrett, Robert Benham, Wendy Brice-Thompson, Michael Deon Burton, Joshua Chapman, John Crowder, Philippa Crowder, Keith Darvill, Meg Davis, Osman Dervish, Ian De Wulverton, Nic Dodin, Alex Donald, David Durant, Gillian Ford, Jason Frost, Jody Ganly, John Glanville, David Johnson, Linda Hawthorn, Steven Kelly, Phil Martin, Barbara Matthews, Robby Misir, Ray Morgon, Barry Mugglestone, John Mylod, Stephanie Nunn, Ron Ower, Garry Pain, Dilip Patel, Viddy Persaud, Roger Ramsey, Keith Roberts, Patricia Rumble, Carol Smith, Frederick Thompson, Linda Trew, Jeffrey Tucker, Linda Van den Hende, Melvin Wallace, Lawrence Webb. Roger Westwood, Damian White, Michael White, Reg Whitney, Julie Wilkes, Graham Williamson, Darren Wise and John Wood.
- *- part of meeting. Councillor Linda Trew took the Chair at the start of the meeting.

Approximately fifty Members' guests and members of the public were present. One representative of the press was also present.

Apologies were received for the absence of Councillors Ray Best and Philip Hyde.

The meeting closed with the singing of the national anthem.

1 MAYORALTY 2015/16 (agenda Item 1)

Motion on behalf of the East Havering Residents' Group

That Councillor Brian Eagling be elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2015/16.

Motion on behalf of the Residents' Group

That Councillor Barbara Matthews be elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2015/16.

Following proposing speeches by the candidates' respective Group Leaders, Councillor Bran Eagling was **ELECTED** as Mayor for the Municipal Year 2015/16 by 28 votes to 15 (see division 1).

Councillor Brian Eagling, having made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Mayor as required by the Local Government Act 1972, then took the Chair and thanked the Council for the honour conferred upon him. The Mayor indicated that his consort would be **Bunny Eagling**.

The Cabinet Member for Culture & Community Engagement and other Members expressed the thanks of the Council to Councillor Linda Trew for her services during 2014/15. Councillor Trew suitably replied.

2 **DEPUTY MAYOR – Appointment**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, the Mayor signified in writing his appointment of **Councillor Philippa Crowder** as Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year and to carry out the duties of the Mayor in case of the Mayor's illness or absence.

Councillor Crowder made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office accordingly. The Mayor indicated that the Deputy Mayor's Consort for the year would be **Councillor John Crowder**.

3 MINUTES (agenda item 2)

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25 March 2015 were before the Council for approval.

It was **AGREED**, without division, that the minutes be signed as a correct record.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25 March 2015, be signed as a correct record.

4 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS (agenda item 3)

The Members present named in minutes 1 and 7 (the Mayoralty and various Committee Chairmanships) who were candidates for offices attracting a Special Responsibility Allowance, each declared a personal interest under the Members' Code of Conduct as, if elected, they would benefit from the Members' Allowance Scheme 2015-16.

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

The Mayor congratulated Paul Freedman MBE – a local charity campaigner who had been the oldest runner to compete in the London Marathon. A civic award would be presented to Mr Freedman at a later date.

6 **APPOINTING THE COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL (agenda item 5)**

There was before the Council a report of the Monitoring Officer concerning the appointment of the Committees of the Council, and advising on political balance issues.

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

- (1) That, so far as necessary to enable any changes proposed and agreed during this meeting to be carried in to effect, Council Procedure Rule 20.2 (proposals to amend the Constitution to be referred to Governance Committee without discussion) be suspended.
- (2) That, subject to the Council's consideration of any motion or amendment to this report relating to changes in the Committee structure, the Committees listed in Appendix 1 of the report be appointed for the 2015/16 Municipal Year and that:
 - (a) As required by statute, two voting co-optees representing the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church and three parent governor co-optees selected in accordance with the appropriate Regulations, be appointed to the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee.
 - (b) The other non-elected member "appointments" and invitations to attend shown in the Appendix (and particularly its annexes) of the report be confirmed.

(3) Those Committees be appointed with:

(a) the membership sizes and

(b) the political balance

indicated in Appendix 2 to these minutes.

7 APPOINTING THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES (agenda item 6)

Under Council Procedure Rule 11.10 (b) the consent of Council was **GRANTED**, without division, to the amending of the Conservative Group nomination for Vice-Chair of the Regulatory Services Committee from Councillor Ray Best to Councillor Melvin Wallace.

Motion on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

Committee	Chairman Councillor	Vice-Chairman Councillor
Adjudication and Review (2 Vice- Chairmen)		1. 2.
Audit		
Governance		
Highways Advisory		
Licensing (3 Vice-Chairmen)		 Keith Roberts . .
Pensions		
Regulatory Services		
Rainham and Wennington and South Hornchurch Working Party (No Vice- Chairmen)	Michael Deon Burton	
Overview and Scrutiny Board		

Children and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee		
Crime & Disorder Sub- Committee	David Durant	
Environment Overview		
and Scrutiny Sub-		
Committee		
Health Overview and		
Scrutiny Sub-		
Committee		
Individuals Overview		
and Scrutiny Sub-		
Committee		
Towns and		
Communities Overview		
and Scrutiny Sub-		
Committee		

Appointments	

Motion on behalf of the East Havering Residents' Group

Committee	Chairman Councillor	Vice-Chairman Councillor
Adjudication and Review (2 Vice-Chairmen) Audit		1. 2.
Governance		
Highways Advisory		Cllr Darren Wise
Licensing (3 Vice-Chairmen)	Cllr Linda Van den Hende	1. 2. 3.
Pensions		
Regulatory Services		

Rainham & Wennington and South Hornchurch Working Party (No Vice- Chairman) Overview and Scrutiny Board	Cllr Gillian Ford	
Children & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Sub-Committee Crime & Disorder Sub- Committee	Cllr Gillian Ford	
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee		Cllr Alex Donald
Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub- Committee		
Individuals Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee		
Towns and Communities Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee		Cllr Linda Hawthorn

Appointments	Cllr Clarence Barrett

Motion on behalf of the Conservative Group

Committee	Chairman Councillor	Vice-Chairman Councillor
Adjudication and Review (2 Vice- Chairmen)	Garry Pain	1.Roger Westwood 2.
Audit	Viddy Persaud	
Governance	Joshua Chapman	Melvin Wallace
Highways Advisory	Jason Frost	
Licensing (3 Vice-Chairmen)		 Frederick Thompson Linda Trew .

Pensions	John Crowder	
Pensions	John Crowder	
Regulatory Services	Robby Misir	Melvin Wallace
Rainham and		
Wennington and South		
Hornchurch Working		
Party (No Vice- Chairmen)		
Overview and Scrutiny		
Board		
Children and Learning		Carol Smith
Overview and Scrutiny		
Sub-Committee Crime & Disorder Sub-		
Committee		
Environment Overview		
and Scrutiny Sub-		
Committee		Dilla Datal
Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub-		Dilip Patel
Committee		
Individuals Overview		
and Scrutiny Sub-		
Committee Towns and		
Communities Overview		
and Scrutiny Sub-		
Committee		

Appointments	Roger Ramsey	

Motion on behalf of the UK Independence Party Group

Committee	Chairman Councillor	Vice-Chairman Councillor
Adjudication and		1.
Review		2.
(2 Vice-Chairmen)		

Audit		
Governance		
Highways Advisory		
Licensing (3 Vice-Chairmen)		1. 2. 3.
Pensions		Cllr David Johnson
Regulatory Services		
Rainham and Wennington and South Hornchurch Working Party (No Vice- Chairman)		
Overview and Scrutiny Board		Cllr Lawrence Webb
Children & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Sub-Committee		
Crime & Disorder Sub- Committee	Cllr lan de Wulverton	
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee		
Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub- Committee		
Individuals Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee		Cllr Phillip Hyde
Towns and Communities Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee	Cllr Lawrence Webb	

Appointments	

Motion on behalf of the Residents' Group

Committee	Chairman Councillor	Vice-Chairman Councillor
Adjudication and Review (2 Vice-Chairmen)		1.Cllr John Mylod 2.
Audit		Cllr Julie Wilkes
Governance		
Highways Advisory		
Licensing (3 Vice-Chairmen)		1. 2. 3.
Pensions		
Regulatory Services		
Rainham and Wennington and South Hornchurch Working Party (No Vice- Chairman)		
Overview and Scrutiny Board		
Children & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Sub-Committee		
Crime & Disorder Sub- Committee		
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee	Cllr Barbara Matthews	
Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub- Committee	Cllr Nic Dodin	
Individuals Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee	Cllr June Alexander	

Towns and Communities Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee		
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Appointments	

The motions above, except insofar as concerning the appointment of the Chairman of the Sub-Committee specifically referred to below, were then **AGREED** without division.

It was accordingly **RESOLVED**:

Committee	Chairman Councillor	Vice-Chairman Councillor
Adjudication and Review (2 Vice-Chairmen)	Garry Pain (Cons)	 Roger Westwood (Cons) John Mylod (RG)
Audit	Viddy Persaud (Cons)	Julie Wilkes (RG)
Governance	Joshua Chapman (Cons)	Melvin Wallace (Cons)
Highways Advisory	Jason Frost (Cons)	Darren Wise (EHRG)
Licensing (3 Vice-Chairmen)	Linda van den Hende (EHRG)	 Keith Roberts (IRG) Fredrick Thompson (Cons) Linda Trew (Cons)
Pensions	John Crowder (Cons)	David Johnson (UKIP)
Regulatory Services	Robby Misir (Cons)	Melvin Wallace (Cons)
Rainham & Wennington and South Hornchurch Working Party (No Vice- Chairman)	Michael Deon Burton (IRG)	

Overview and Scrutiny Board	Gillian Ford (EHRG)	Lawrence Webb (UKIP)
Children & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Sub-Committee	Gillian Ford (EHRG)	Carol Smith (Cons)
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee	Barbara Matthews (RG)	Alex Donald (EHRG)
Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub- Committee	Nic Dodin (RG)	Dilip Patel (Cons)
Individuals Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee	June Alexander (RG)	Philip Hyde (UKIP)
Towns and Communities Overview & Scrutiny Sub- Committee	Lawrence Webb (UKIP)	Linda Hawthorn (EHRG)

Appointments	Roger Ramsey (Cons)	Clarence Barrett (EHRG)

The Independent Residents' Group and United Kingdom Independence Party Group nominations for the Chairman of the Crime and Disorder Sub-Committee were then put to the vote as follows:

Chairman, Crime & Disorder Sub-Committee

Nomination by:	Councillor	Votes cast
		(see division 2)
Independent Residents' Group	David Durant	15
United Kingdom Independence Group	lan de Wulverton	34

Councillor Ian de Wulverton was declared **ELECTED**.

It was **AGREED** without division that Councillor David Durant be elected as Vice-Chair of the Crime & Disorder Sub-Committee.

8 **APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBER CHAMPIONS (agenda item 7)**

Motion on behalf of the East Havering Residents' Group

That the following be appointed Champions as indicated:

For the Armed Forces -

For the Equalities and Diversity -

For the Historic Environment – Councillor Linda Hawthorn

For the Over 50's - Councillor Linda Van den Hende

For the Voluntary Sector Compact -

For Younger Persons -

Motion on behalf of the Conservative Group

That the following be appointed Champions as indicated:

For the Armed Forces – Councillor John Crowder

For the Equalities and Diversity -

For the Historic Environment -

For the Over 50's -

For the Voluntary Sector Compact - Councillor Viddy Persaud

For Younger Persons – Councillor Joshua Chapman

Motion on behalf of the Residents' Group

That the following be appointed Champions as indicated:

For the Armed Forces – Councillor Barry Mugglestone

For Equalities and Diversity – Councillor Stephanie Nunn

For the Historic Environment -

For the Over 50s -

For the Voluntary Sector Compact -

For Younger Persons –

The motions above, except insofar as concerning the Member Champion for the armed forces, were **AGREED** without division.

It was accordingly **RESOLVED**:

That the following Member Champions be appointed as indicated:

For the Equalities and Diversity - Councillor Stephanie Nunn

For the Historic Environment – Councillor Linda Hawthorn

For the Over 50's – Councillor Linda Van den Hende

For the Voluntary Sector Compact – Councillor Viddy Persaud

For Younger Persons – Councillor Joshua Chapman

The Conservative Group and Residents' Group nominations were then put to the vote as follows:

Member Champion for the Armed Forces

Nomination by:	Councillor	Votes cast (see division
		3)
Conservative Group	John Crowder	29
Residents' Group	Barry Mugglestone	23

Councillor John Crowder was declared **ELECTED**.

9 **STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (agenda item 8)**

The text of the statement given by the Leader of the Council is shown at appendix 3 to these minutes.

10 VOTING RECORD

The records of voting divisions are attached as **appendices 1 and 4**.

Mayor 10 June 2015

VOTING RECORD

DIVISION NUMBER:	1
The Mayor [CIIr. Linda Trew]	0
The Deputy Mayor [Cllr. Barbara Matthews]	×
CONSERVATIVE GROUP	
Cllr Roger Ramsey	✓
Cllr Robert Benham	~
Cllr Ray Best	A
Cllr Wendy Brice-Thompson Cllr Joshua Chapman	
Cllr John Crowder	~
Cllr Phillipa Crowder	~
Cllr Meg Davis	~
Cllr Osman Dervish Cllr Jason Frost	
Clir Steven Kelly	· ·
Cllr Robby Misir	~
Cllr Garry Pain	~
Cllr Dilip Patel	·
Cllr Viddy Persaud Cllr Carol Smith	✓ ✓
Clir Carol Smith Clir Frederick Thompson	· ·
Cllr Melvin Wallace	~
Cllr Roger Westwood	~
Cllr Damian White	✓
Cllr Michael White	✓
RESIDENTS' GROUP	
Cllr Ray Morgon	×
Cllr June Alexander	×
Cllr Nic Dodin	X
Cllr Jody Ganly	×
Cllr Barry Mugglestone Cllr John Mylod	×
Cllr Stephanie Nunn	×
Cllr Reg Whitney	×
Cllr Julie Wilkes	×
Cllr John Wood	×
EAST HAVERING RESIDENTS' GROUP	
Cllr Clarence Barrett	
	~
Cllr Alex Donald	✓ ✓
Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling	 ✓ ✓<
Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford	· ·
Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford Cllr Linda Hawthorn	· ·
Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford	V V V V V V V V
Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford Cllr Linda Hawthorn Cllr Ron Ower Cllr Linda Van den Hende	V V V V V V V V V V V V
Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford Cllr Linda Hawthorn Cllr Ron Ower Cllr Linda Van den Hende	
Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford Cllr Linda Hawthorn Cllr Ron Ower Cllr Linda Van den Hende Cllr Darren Wise	
Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford Cllr Linda Hawthorn Cllr Ron Ower	
Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford Cllr Linda Hawthorn Cllr Ron Ower Cllr Linda Van den Hende Cllr Darren Wise UK Independence Party Cllr Lawrence Webb Cllr Lawrence Webb Cllr Ian De Wulverton	
Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford Cllr Linda Hawthorn Cllr Ron Ower Cllr Linda Van den Hende Cllr Darren Wise UK Independence Party Cllr Lawrence Webb Cllr Lawrence Webb Cllr Ian De Wulverton Cllr John Glanville	
Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford Cllr Linda Hawthorn Cllr Ron Ower Cllr Linda Van den Hende Cllr Darren Wise UK Independence Party Cllr Lawrence Webb Cllr Lawrence Webb Cllr Ian De Wulverton Cllr John Glanville Cllr Phillip Hyde	
Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford Cllr Linda Hawthorn Cllr Ron Ower Cllr Linda Van den Hende Cllr Darren Wise UK Independence Party Cllr Lawrence Webb Cllr Lawrence Webb Cllr Ian De Wulverton Cllr John Glanville Cllr Phillip Hyde Cllr David Johnson	 * *<
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Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford Cllr Linda Hawthorn Cllr Ron Ower Cllr Linda Van den Hende Cllr Darren Wise UK Independence Party Cllr Darren Wise Cllr Lawrence Webb Cllr Ian De Wulverton Cllr John Glanville Cllr Phillip Hyde Cllr David Johnson Cllr Phil Martin Cllr Phil Martin Cllr Patricia Rumble INDEPENDENT LOCAL RESIDENTS' GROUP	
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Cllr Alex Donald Cllr Brian Eagling Cllr Gillian Ford Cllr Linda Hawthorn Cllr Linda Hawthorn Cllr Ron Ower Cllr Linda Van den Hende Cllr Darren Wise UK Independence Party Cllr Darren Wise UK Independence Party Cllr Lawrence Webb Cllr Lawrence Webb Cllr Ian De Wulverton Cllr John Glanville Cllr Phillip Hyde Cllr David Johnson Cllr Phil Martin Cllr Patricia Rumble INDEPENDENT LOCAL RESIDENTS' GROUP Cllr Jeffrey Tucker Cllr Michael Deon Burton Cllr David Durant	
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ANNUAL COUNCIL, 20 MAY 2015

APPENDIX 2: RECOMMENDED SEAT ALLOCATION

Having regard to the principles of political balance and of seat allocation referred to in Appendix 1, the following allocation of seats is recommended on the basis that, taking all factors into account, it shows a "reasonably practicable" allocation of seats and is therefore the default position.

		CONSERVATIVE	RESIDENTS	EHRG
Governance	13	5	3	2
Licensing Regulatory Services Highways Advisory	11 11 11	5 5 5	3 2 2	1 2 2
Adjudication	10	4	2	2
Pensions	7	3	2	1
Audit	6	2	1	1
Rainham & Sth HX WP	6	2	1	1
O&S Board Children's Crime & Disorder Towns & Communities Environment Health Individuals	16 9 6 9 7 6 6	7 4 2 4 2 2 3	3 2 1 2 2 1 1	2 1 1 1 1 1
Total seats allocated	134	55	28	20

• Committee seats are allocated, and each Committee is balanced, as "reasonably practicably" as possible

LEADER'S SPEECH TO ANNUAL COUNCIL – 20TH May 2015

Councillor Roger Ramsey

Mr Mayor, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen.

I would like to start this evening with congratulations.

Congratulations to Havering's three Members of Parliament, who were all returned to represent their constituencies in Westminster – Andrew Rosindell here in Romford, Dame Angela Watkinson in Hornchurch & Upminster and Jon Cruddas in Dagenham & Rainham.

And of course, I would like to congratulate you Mr Mayor on your elevation to First Citizen of this Borough. I hope you enjoy your year of office and I'm sure you will carry out your duties with aplomb over the forthcoming twelve months.

With the congratulations over, there are now some people to thank.

I would like to thank colleagues on all sides of the chamber for their support through the budget process. It's been a challenging time for all concerned, but the process has been made slightly easier thanks to the mature way in which all groups have responded to the budget deliberations.

I think we have all recognised that none of us want to be in the position of making cuts in services or of making large numbers of our staff redundant. Unfortunately, such measures are sometimes unavoidable and so need to be handled sensibly and sensitively.

My thanks are of course extended to our staff. Council staff continue to work tirelessly on behalf of our residents, even with the insecurity that funding cuts bring to their workplace. Their commitment continues to improve lives and make the Borough a place to be proud of and we should recognise that.

And it's worth reflecting on the fact that, while we may have made our decisions in February, the impact of those decisions is only now starting to reverberate through the organisation - and the wider Borough.

The changes to services that we agreed three months ago will be implemented in the main, this year and next. Further consultations will be needed, for instance on the youth service - starting in the next week, and changes to staff structures will be an ongoing reality in this place for many months to come.

We in this chamber should not allow ourselves to think that making the tough decisions was the hard part. We must continue to explain to local people why tough

decisions were needed, how we reached those decisions and what we are doing to protect the services that are most important to our Borough and its residents.

Over the years, we have become accustomed to Leader's speeches at Annual Council summarising achievements and making promises. I am aware that this speech is somewhat different in tone. I certainly don't wish to appear downcast on a civic occasion such as this, but I do want to be realistic – and I do want to be honest.

Because we're not out of the woods yet.

In February, when we considered the budget, the bulk of the savings plans we set in place covered the first two years of the four year cycle.

We were satisfied that those savings plans would go a long way to closing the overall funding gap that we were projecting for the entire four year period.

We started with a \pounds 60 million pound gap. That was the combined effect of Government funding cuts, the rising costs of caring for an ageing population – together with new responsibilities such as the Care Act and further inflationary pressures on our budget.

We challenged the assumptions that lay behind that figure. We looked at the pressures of demographic change in particular and it looked like demand would not be as challenging as first thought.

So we reduced the projected gap from \pounds 60 million to \pounds 45 million – making it clear that there were significant risks that the projection could change again – and we set to work on our proposals.

The decisions we took – including both savings and an unfortunate but necessary increase in the Council Tax, reduced the gap considerably.

But we knew that there would be further gap to close in the second half of the four year term - which we hoped would not be too challenging, based on what we knew then.

Our belief now is that the final gap for us to close will be larger than anticipated.

That's due to a number of factors.

The first is demographic change here in Havering. We already had London's largest proportion of older people - and the growing pressure of our ageing population certainly isn't going away. But we now also have one of London's fastest growing populations of children – which wasn't expected.

With more families moving to Havering, we have rapidly increasing pressure on schools and children's services – in effect meaning we're now being squeezed at both ends of the age spectrum in a way we haven't seen before. That means we

need to look again at how much provision there is in the budget to cover this growing and changing population.

The other issue – and one which is yet to become fully clear – is how the new Government will deal with local authority funding in the forthcoming special budget this July.

As the Government tries to restore balance to Britain's public finances it seems clear that reductions in funding will not be any easier. In fact they could well be worse that previously expected. That will make our challenge in the short term somewhat more pressing.

But we're well used to challenges in Havering – and we generally meet those challenges head on, and effectively.

Unlike many councils, we have agreed, and are now implementing, a robust plan. We have been bold and truly transformative. We have adopted new technology and embraced new partnerships that are now the model for other councils to follow. We have not shied away from difficult decisions, or ploughed ahead with only dwindling reserves keeping services afloat.

Those councils that have done that, hoping the winds of change would blow through Parliament, are now left in the doldrums – facing the reality of tens of millions of pounds of cuts to make, in a painfully short period of time.

But our fast start does not mean we can rest on our laurels here. We must now begin the work of finding new ways to further reduce our costs. Once again, we need to look for efficiencies and for the truly transformational changes that can make a huge difference. And here I give an assurance and make a plea:

As we did last year, we in the Administration will once again share what we know with all Members of this Council. We will consult and where we can, collaborate with other groups to find solutions. That is my assurance.

So here is my plea:

If you have questions, raise them; if you have ideas, share them; and if you have proposals, make them.

Whatever our political differences, we can all agree that the people of this borough would be best served by a collegiate council, pooling its expertise to reduce costs without savaging services.

We as an Administration will take all suggestions seriously, because these are serious times.

The Chief Executive has just launched a summer-long ideas drive for her staff, to encourage members of staff at all levels within the organisation to come up with

ideas and work together with colleagues to develop them, ready to present to Members in the Autumn.

As the elected representatives of our residents, we should do the same. Let's set aside the politics of division and work inclusively in the interests of those residents who put us here.

And, as we do so, let's not forget that there is quite a bit of sunlight amongst the shadows.

Even facing significant financial constraints, there is still much we can do to improve the quality of life for our residents.

When we set the budget, I alluded to our new vision and said we would set out to deliver our residents' most keenly-felt priorities - a clean borough, where local people are safe and where residents are proud to live.

Both now and in the future, we strive to maintain the resources to ensure that Havering remains clean, safe and proud.

We'll continue to develop new leisure facilities, better parks and cleaner streets.

We'll continue to protect the most vulnerable people who live here – working in close partnership with the health service and the police.

With Crossrail around the corner, we will continue to encourage enterprise and investment in the Borough, making Havering not just a great place to raise a family, but also an ideal place to do business.

And we will continue to capitalise on our enviable position, looking in to the energy of the city and out to the appeal of the countryside.

Mr Mayor, I have no doubt that Havering can and will continue to be a place to live, grow and prosper.

And it is our role and our privilege to cultivate and sustain this community's success through the years to come.

VOTING RECORD

	1	1
DIVISION NUMBER:	2	3
The Mayor [Cllr. Brian Eagling]		
The Deputy Mayor [Cllr. Philippa Crowder]	×	•
CUIR Degar Demons		
Cllr Roger Ramsey	×	
Cllr Robert Benham	×	•
Cllr Ray Best	A	A
Cllr Wendy Brice-Thompson	×	
Cllr Joshua Chapman	×	•
Cllr John Crowder	×	• •
Cllr Meg Davis	×	• •
Cllr Josen Front	×	
Cllr Jason Frost	×	•
Cllr Steven Kelly	×	
Cllr Robby Misir	×	
Cllr Garry Pain	×	
Cllr Dilip Patel	×	✓
Cllr Viddy Persaud	×	✓
Cllr Carol Smith	×	✓
Cllr Frederick Thompson	×	✓
Cllr Linda Trew	×	✓
Cllr Melvin Wallace	×	✓
Cllr Roger Westwood	×	✓ ✓
Cllr Damian White	×	✓
CIIr Michael White	X	✓
RESIDENTS' GROUP		
Cllr Ray Morgon	✓	×
CIIr June Alexander	0	×
Cllr Nic Dodin	✓	×
Cllr Jody Ganly	0	×
CIIr Barbara Matthews	✓	×
CIIr Barry Mugglestone	✓	×
Cllr John Mylod	✓	×
CIIr Stephanie Nunn	✓	×
CIIr Reg Whitney	✓	×
CIIr Julie Wilkes	~	×
Cllr John Wood	✓	×
EAST HAVERING RESIDENTS' GROUP		
CIIr Clarence Barrett	X	~
Cllr Alex Donald	X	~
Cllr Gillian Ford	×	~
CIIr Linda Hawthorn	×	~
Cllr Ron Ower	×	~
CIIr Linda Van den Hende	×	~
Cllr Darren Wise	×	~
UK Independence Party		
CIIr Lawrence Webb	×	×
Cllr Ian De Wulverton	×	×
Cllr John Glanville	×	×
CIIr Phillip Hyde	A	A
Cllr David Johnson	×	×
Cllr Phil Martin	X	×
Cllr Patricia Rumble	X	×
INDEPENDENT LOCAL RESIDENTS' GROUP		
Cllr Jeffrey Tucker	·	×
Clir Michael Deon Burton	· ·	×
Cllr David Durant	✓	X
Cllr Keith Roberts	✓	X
Cllr Graham Williamson	✓	×
<u>Labour</u>		
Cllr Keith Darvill	0	×
TOTALS		
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X = NO O = ABSTAIN/NO VOTE ID =INTEREST DISCLOSED/NO VOTE	3 0	0