

COUNCIL, 10 July 2019

MOTIONS

A. IMPACT OF PARKING CHARGES ON TOWN CENTRES

Motion on behalf of the Residents' Group

In light of the Administration's decision to negatively affect the health of our Town Centres by the large jump in parking charges, removal of free parking including evenings, overnight and on Sundays, this council calls for there to be an immediate assessment on the likely impact this will have on the vibrancy of our valued Town Centres, together with ways that this can be mitigated.

Amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group

This Council notes that vibrancy of town centres is determined by a range of factors, including external environmental improvements, and welcomes the commitment of the Administration to bring forward plans to support our town centres as a destination of choice.

B. CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY IN HAVERING

Motion on behalf of the Upminster and Cranham Residents' Group

This Council notes:

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's warning that we have 12 years to make the necessary changes to limit a rise in global temperatures by 1.5c. Failure to act will see a marked increase in sea levels and flooding, extreme and abrupt changes to weather patterns, crop failures, extinctions of plant, insect and animal species and global economic disruption and crisis. This will detrimentally impact on the well-being of the people of Havering and billions of people around the world.

At the Global Climate Talks in Poland last December the UK, along with over 200 nations, agreed action on Climate Change with a much greater role strongly implied for Local and Regional Authorities like Havering in assisting Governments to achieve their carbon emission savings.

In the words of Sir David Attenborough:

"Right now, we are facing a man-made disaster of global scale. Our greatest threat in thousands of years - **Climate Change**. If we don't take action, the collapse of our civilisations and the extinction of much of the natural world is on the horizon. The world's people have spoken. Their message is clear. Time is running out.'

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The Council therefore resolves to:

1. Declare a Climate Emergency and publicise this to the people of Havering to raise awareness, and support the public to take effective action.
2. Request Cabinet initiate a full Environmental Audit of Havering Council to measure its carbon footprint, identify hotspots and work toward being carbon neutral in line with the latest targets set and agreed by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; with Cabinet to report to the first meeting of the working party, referred to at 4. below, on the scope of the environmental audit.
3. Significantly improve our recycling rate to reach the target of 55% by 2025, and ask that the Cabinet implement a range of short term measures to improve recycling rates, in advance of a full review of the waste collection and disposal service.
4. Set up a Councillor Working Party including the appropriate Cabinet Lead with a remit to:
 - a) Commission and oversee the Environmental Audit;
 - b) Consult expert opinion in the field, as appropriate;
 - c) Identify practical measures to reduce emissions and the Council's carbon footprint;
 - d) Encourage action in the wider community, businesses and other key organisations e.g. NHS and Educational Institutions;
 - e) Report to Full Council within six months with an action plan to address the emergency and incorporating proposals on the investment implications of this proposed activity.
5. Consider Environmental Impact as part of any new policy.
6. Seek to collaborate with other Local and Regional Authorities on emission reduction projects as appropriate and to request that the Leader of the Council write to the Minister of State for Climate Change and Industry, requesting that national policy is urgently developed to reflect the seriousness of the current emergency and to release funds to local authorities that would allow them to take the necessary measures at the local level.

Amendment on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

Council agrees calls to declare "a climate emergency" are misplaced because man-made climate change is an elementary scam requiring only a basic understanding of carbon dioxide to understand.

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Carbon dioxide is essential to life on earth as Humans/Animals cannot even breathe without it and its the food plants breath to make them grow. Carbon dioxide is a tiny fraction of the atmosphere **0.038%** and the man made emissions are a tiny fraction of natural and variable carbon dioxide, making any man made emissions irrelevant as easily eclipsed by natural variations.

Thus to believe a tiny fraction of man-made carbon dioxide emissions determines climate is a religious rather than scientific conviction, particularly as there are many things that determine climate including the sun, moon, gulf stream, oceans, volcanoes, clouds, water vapour and other greenhouse gases.

This matters locally because the recycling agenda promoted by climate change legislation has made waste disposal so expensive its resulted in a worldwide epidemic of fly-tipping, including plastics, which undermines the environment and costs all councils, including Havering, many £millions to clear.

C. CCTV COVERAGE IN THE SOUTH OF THE BOROUGH

Motion on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

Growing investment in the south of the borough as outlined in June 12th Cabinet report shows the need and opportunity to improve CCTV coverage in the area as part of a package of measures to improve public safety to the residents of Havering. Thus Council calls on the Executive to extend CCTV coverage in the south of the borough, including main routes in and out of London Bid and Rainham Village Conservation Area.

D. CLIMATE CHANGE IN HAVERING

Motion on behalf of the Labour Group

This Council acknowledges public concerns relating to:-

- 1) the impact of Climate Change;
- 2) the reduction in air quality; and,
- 3j the need to improve significantly recycling of waste products

and therefore calls upon the Executive to review its policies to ensure that Havering leads the way on environmental protection.

E. SUPPORT TO POLICE WORK

Motion on behalf of the Conservative Group

This Council welcomes the recent steps taken by the administration to support the work of the police within Havering through the future introduction of section 92 police officers; and the acquired option to purchase of the Hornchurch Police station; both of which will deter crime across the Borough.

Amendment on behalf of the Residents' Group

This Council welcomes steps to support the work of the police within Havering including the possible introduction of section 92 police officers and the potential option to purchase Hornchurch Police station. This council looks forward though to being regularly updated with progress reports on both schemes to demonstrate the effectiveness and value for money of these initiatives.

Amendment on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

Few doubt the need for more 'bobbies on the beat', but **Council agrees** they should be funded by Government and GLA [precept](#) not by council-tax payers, particularly in Havering which is already penalised with poor staffing levels and funding compared to inner-London boroughs.

Locally the Council Leader has announced plans to purchase Hornchurch Police Station for an undisclosed sum and employ 5 Metropolitan police officers for 3 years for over £900,000! Even before contracts are signed he has been advertising these plans in conservative leaflets with headlines saying the council is keeping "Hornchurch Police Station open" and supporting "bobbies on the beat" to protect the public! This sounds worthy, but **Council agrees** the headlines aren't entirely honest. After the Mayor ordered the closure of Hornchurch Police Station and all Safer Neighbourhood Team bases, it does make sense for the council to step in to keep Hornchurch open as a **base** for police operating in the south of the borough, because of the delays in travel time if operating from Romford. However the conservative leaflets are misleading because it will mostly be operating as a **police base** rather than a **police station** open to the public.

Also employing 5 police officers seems worthy too, but will they be "bobbies on the beat" **or more likely deployed elsewhere** and will they be good value for money once all the extraction days, holidays and illnesses have been factored in. This matters because during a period of cuts priorities matter and **Council agrees** its odd the Council Leader has suddenly found over £900,000 **after** the February budget meeting in which he declared there was no money to keep Chafford leisure centre open, **despite all the health and social benefits of doing so.**

Nevertheless this Council welcomes steps to support the work of the police within Havering including the proposed option to purchase Hornchurch Police Station and introduction of section 92 Police Officers **as long as** Members are provided with

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regular updates and progress reports on both schemes to demonstrate the merit, effectiveness and value for money of these initiatives.