

COUNCIL, 15 DECEMBER 2020

MOTIONS

A. FIRST DO NO HARM

Motion on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

This Council calls upon the Executive to contact the Prime Minister to lift restrictions and support the full re-opening of all hospitals, doctors surgeries, mental health units and all other medical centres in order to continue to support all those in need of further treatment, operations, mental health support and other health services, that have been withdrawn due to the Government's Coronavirus Lockdown Restrictions.

Amendment on behalf of the Labour Group

This Council welcomes the lifting of lockdown restrictions and calls upon the Executive to contact the Prime Minister to ensure that the National Health Service and Public Health Authorities are properly funded to cope with the impact of the pandemic as well as delivering the high level of service it committed to deliver in its 2019 manifesto

Amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group

This Council welcomes the steps taken to safeguard local residents against increased exposure to Covid-19; it notes that Havering has had some of the highest rates of infections across all age categories and that the local hospital trust is running at capacity; and calls upon the Administration to write to the Prime Minister to request additional resources are released to Havering and the wider East London Boroughs, to support the continued suppression of the virus whilst the national vaccine roll out is undertaken.

B. PUBLIC NOTICE OBLIGATION

Motion on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

Local newspapers act as a valuable part of our democratic system, but just like democracy itself cannot be taken for granted and need support to flourish. Many

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print editions have gone on-line and the Romford Recorder can only survive with guaranteed income mostly through advertising.

However the Government's "Planning for the Future" consultation (ended 29th Oct) proposed removing the obligation of councils to advertise Public Notices in local papers. If this happened it would harm local papers and undermine the coverage and transparency they provide about planning matters and local affairs.

To avoid this the IRG called on the Executive to respond to the government's "Planning for the Future" consultation in favour of retaining the obligation of local authorities to advertise Public Notices in local papers in the interests of local democracy.

Instead the Administration's submission supported the removal of the Public Notice obligation. and Council strongly disagrees with the Executive decision to support the removal of the Public Notice obligation.

Amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group

This Council welcomes the Administration's submission to the planning for the Future consultation and awaits the response from the Government.

C. LOWER THAMES CROSSING

Motion on behalf of the Upminster and Cranham Residents' Associations Group

Following on from several consultations regarding the Lower Thames Crossing and the responses from this Council (March 2016 and this year) Highways England submitted a Planning Application for a 14.5mile road, including a 2.4 mile tunnel, connecting the M2 near Rochester and the M25 by North Ockendon.

We have been advised that following feedback from the Planning Inspectorate that the Application has been withdrawn and a new one will be submitted.

Therefore we ask that this Council calls upon the Leader to reiterate its concerns to the Government and our Members of Parliament in respect of the following:

- Adverse impact on residential amenity for homes in Havering in terms of noise, disturbance and vibration
- Loss of homes in the North Ockendon area
- Impact on conservation areas and heritage assets in the locality

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- Adverse impact of ongoing works and siting of works compounds.
- Should the Crossing go ahead as planned, that Havering residents are eligible to a toll discount scheme (on the same basis as received by residents of Thurrock and Dartford for the Dartford Crossing).

Amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group

This Council welcomes the withdrawal of the Lower Thames Crossing planning application following the objections raised by the Administration as part of the public consultation; notes that the previous scheme failed to adequately address the projected increases in noise and air pollution that would result across Havering from increased traffic movements; notes the unwillingness from Highway England to include sufficient upgrades of the strategic highway network as part of the overall design; notes the unwillingness from Highways England to offer Havering residents a user discount, and calls upon the Administration to take all necessary steps to engage with Highway England, to ensure that these issues are addressed.

D. ORCHARD VILLAGE

Motion on behalf of the Labour Group

This Council call upon the Government to increase funding for the safe removal and replacement of the external building cladding at Orchard Village and other residential blocks irrespective of the height of the buildings in order that shared owners and leaseholders are relieved of the substantial costs involved. Clarion Housing Association is urged to bring forward a programme to make all necessary safety works at Orchard Village.

Amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group

This Council welcomes the £1billion made available by the Government for this financial year to support the remediation of unsafe non-ACM cladding systems on residential buildings 18 metres and above in height, in both the private and social housing sectors. This Council also notes the Government's publication of the draft Building Safety Bill which lays out the framework and enabling powers to implement a new approach to building safety regulation. Clarion Housing Association is therefore urged to bring forward a programme to carry out all necessary safety works at Orchard Village.