

COUNCIL, 24 MARCH 2021

MOTIONS

A. PLANNING CALL-IN PROCEDURE

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

This Council requests Governance Committee review the current Planning Call in procedure, with a view to enabling call-ins for applications which are recommended for refusal. To allow such call-ins would be a return to pre-2018 arrangements where ward members were able to contribute to planning decisions.

Amendment by the Conservative Group

Following the changes to Havering Council's planning system, as a result of a review by the Planning Advisory Service in 2017, this Council requests that a further review is commissioned to establish whether any amendment(s) are warranted. The outcome of this review will be reported to Governance Committee.

B. RAINHAM CREEK, BRIDGE ROAD, RAINHAM

Motion on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

That Council calls upon the Executive to take action to clean up the Rainham Creek next to the Angel Public House, Bridge Road, Rainham.

Amendment by the Conservative Group

The Council requests that the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee undertakes a review of Rainham Creek and the surrounding area and brings forward a set of recommendation to a future Cabinet meeting.

C. NHS TEST, TRACK AND TRACE

Motion on behalf of the Labour Group

This council has rightly acknowledged the major success of the NHS and local health and community networks in their management and oversight of the covid vaccine programme.

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This success is in sharp contrast to the test, track and trace system which has been largely managed and overseen by private companies and consultants, with SERCO misleadingly badged as NHS. The test, track and trace system is still not operating to an acceptable level despite costs to public funds to date in excess of £22bn.

It is time to learn lessons from the success of the vaccine roll-out programme. This has shown how much more successful the established contact networks of the NHS, local public health, local government, community networks and GPs can be in working closely together with the local populations within their localities. This Council recognises that in addition to a successful vaccine programme, the pathway to an effective control of the current pandemic requires, inter alia, a viable and reliable test, track and trace system. The past 12 months have demonstrated that the present providers have been, and continue to be, incapable of delivering this.

Accordingly, this council resolves to make representation to the government to urgently transfer the responsibility for test, track and trace to where it should have originally been placed, namely with the NHHS and local health and community based organisations.

Amendment by the Conservative Group

In readiness for the devolution of the test and trace system to Local Councils, this Council requests the Administration bring forward a report to Cabinet on how to maintain and improve the system across the Borough.

D. GOVERNMENT PLANNING PROPOSALS

Motion on behalf of the Labour Group

This Council expresses concern at the Government's Planning proposals to increase the new housing delivery targets for metropolitan areas including Havering which will result in a 35% increase in the current target to 1,600 new homes a year. This Council also wishes to place on record its opposition on the effective removal of its ability to determine planning applications as a "Growth" area. The Council therefore requests that the three Members of Parliament representing constituencies in the Borough take note of its position and oppose the measures when they come before Parliament.

Amendment of behalf of the Conservative Group

This Council welcomes the infrastructure led approach to housing development across Havering, which will see quality developments being brought forward; is dismayed at the approach of the Mayor of London who had sought to increase Havering's housing targets to 1875; and welcomes the steps taken by the Administration to establish an outer London design code to protect and maintain the characteristics of suburban London.

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Amendment on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

This Council expresses concern at the Government's Planning proposals to increase the new housing delivery targets for 20 metropolitan areas, which in Havering's case will result in a 120% increase of our current target to 2,666 new homes a year! This Council also wishes to place on record its opposition on the effective removal of its ability to determine planning applications within any "Growth" areas.

The Council therefore requests that the three Members of Parliament representing constituencies in the Borough take note of its position and oppose the measures when they come before Parliament.