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## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING Council Chamber - Town Hall 22 March 2023 (7.30 - 10.20 pm)

**Present:** The Mayor (Councillor Trevor McKeever) in the Chair

**Councillors** Councillors Mandy Anderson, Robert Benham, Ray Best, Patricia Brown, Joshua Chapman, John Crowder, Philippa Crowder, Keith Darvill, 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, Gerry O'Sullivan, Dilip Patel, Nisha Patel, Viddy Persaud, Keith Prince, Philip Ruck, Timothy Ryan, Carol Smith, Christine Smith, Matthew Stanton, Natasha Summers, David Taylor, Katharine Tumilty, John Tyler, Christine Vickery, Bryan Vincent, Frankie Walker, Damian White, Michael White, Reg Whitney, Julie Wilkes, Christopher Wilkins, Graham Williamson, Darren Wise and John Wood

Approximately 12 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.

Father Roderick Hingley, of the Church of St Alban, Protomartyr, Romford opened the meeting with prayers.

The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Osman Dervish, Brian Eagling, Sarah Edwards, James Glass, Linda Hawthorn, Robby Misir and Susan Ospreay.

### 73 **MINUTES (agenda item 3)**

Councillor Goode made a point of information that he had been incorrectly advised that there were no longer any Group Leaders meetings. Rather, due to an oversight, Councillor Goode had not been invited to several such

meetings. Councillor Goode also requested that future points of clarification such as this be included in the meeting minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2023 were otherwise agreed as a correct record.

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

There were no disclosures of interest.

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

A former Leader's badge was presented by the Mayor to Councillor Damian White.

The Mayor passed on his condolences on the recent passing away of Mr Ken Bryant – Havering's last Yeoman Warder. The Mayor also reported that his forthcoming civic dinner was now sold out.

The Leader of the Council stated that Robert South – Director of Children's Services would shortly be leaving Havering. The Leader thanked Mr South for his service to the Council and wished him luck in his new role. This was greeted with warm applause from all sides of the Chamber.

76 **PETITIONS (agenda item 6)**

The following petitions were received:

From Councillor Taylor requesting the reinstatement of CCTV in the Rotunda Block.

From Councillor Holt requesting a school crossing patrol in Brentwood Road, near Frances Bardsley School.

From Councillor Holt requesting a school crossing patrol in Globe Road, Hornchurch, near Hylands Primary School.

From Councillor Holt opposing expansion of the ULEZ to Havering.

The subject matter of the petition due to be presented by Councillor Philippa Crowder – the improvement of sightlines in Heath Drive had now been resolved and Councillor Crowder passed on her thanks to Highways officers for their assistance with this.

The petition due to be presented by Councillor Dilip Patel was held over to a future meeting due to the petition organiser being unwell.

77 **PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2023/24 (agenda item 7)**

A report of the Chief Executive detailed the Council's Pay Policy for the forthcoming year. The report was **AGREED** without division and it was **RESOLVED**:

**That the Pay policy Statement 2023/24 be approved.**

**78 DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS 2023/24 (agenda item 8)**

A report of the Chief Executive gave dates of Council meetings for the forthcoming municipal year.

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

- 1. That the Council fixes the date of its meetings for the Municipal Year 2023/24 and, on a provisional basis, the balance of 2024, as shown in the report.**
- 2. Changes to the date of meetings of Council be determined by the Mayor, following consultation with Group Leaders;**

**79 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RULES - EXCEPTIONS TO THE CALL-IN (REQUISITION) PROCEDURE (agenda item 9)**

A report of the Chief Executive listed recent Executive Decisions where exemption from call-in was granted and the reasons for this.

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

**That the report be noted.**

**80 ROMFORD MARKET CHARTER RIGHTS - RESPONSE TO WHOLESALE MARKET RELOCATION PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION (agenda item 10)**

A report of the Chief Executive sought Council's agreement to support work to oppose plans by the City of London Corporation to move three wholesale markets to the Barking area, potentially posing a risk to the sustainability of Romford Market and its traders.

The report was **AGREED** by 47 votes to 0 with 1 abstention (see division 1) and it was **RESOLVED**:

**That being satisfied that the City of London (Markets) Bill as currently drafted conflicts with the London Borough of Havering's market rights to protect the continued commercial viability of Romford Market pursuant to the Royal Charter of the Liberty of Havering, by failing to provide that the markets proposed for relocation to the site at Dagenham Dock may only operate for the supply of goods on a wholesale basis, the Council is accordingly satisfied that it is expedient to:**

1. Oppose the said Bill in Parliament pursuant to its powers under section 239 of the Local Government Act 1972, and
2. Insofar as may be necessary to ratify its Petition to oppose the said Bill as already lodged in Parliament in order to comply with the Parliamentary timetable;

And the Council does accordingly resolve to oppose the said Bill in Parliament and insofar as may be necessary to ratify its Petition to oppose the said Bill.

81 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS (agenda item 11)**

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

82 **INDEPENDENT STRATEGIC GROWTH REVIEW (agenda item 12A)**

**Motion on behalf of the Conservative Group**

Council calls on this Administration to commission an independent Strategic Economic Growth Review of Havering to identify sectors/businesses of potential growth and to recommend locally available options to support/promote expansion of the private sector.

**Amendment on behalf of the Havering Residents Association Group**

This Council recognises that the Inclusive Economic Growth Strategy adopted by the previous Administration only 28 months ago in November 2020 acts as the strategic backdrop against which all economic growth policies and projects are assessed. Like all strategies the Inclusive Economic Growth Strategy is kept under review and will be refreshed in due course.

Following debate, the amendment by the Havering Residents Association Group was **AGREED** by 29 votes to 17 with 2 abstentions (see division 2) and **AGREED** as the substantive motion without division.

**RESOLVED:**

**This Council recognises that the Inclusive Economic Growth Strategy adopted by the previous Administration only 28 months ago in November 2020 acts as the strategic backdrop against which all economic growth policies and projects are assessed. Like all strategies the Inclusive Economic Growth Strategy is kept under review and will be refreshed in due course.**

**83 RESIDENT REPAIR BOARD (agenda item 12B)****Motion on behalf of the Conservative Group**

Havering Council commits to establishing a Resident Repair Board, empowering residents to scrutinise the work of council contractors and to make recommendations to relevant committee directors.

**Amendment on behalf of the Havering Residents Association Group**

This Council welcomes scrutiny of the work carried out by contractors and others. There is an established mechanism for raising suggestions through to the Overview and Scrutiny Board to Cabinet. This provides additional forms of scrutiny within the established Governance system.

We know that when tenants are fully involved in decisions relating to the repair and maintenance of their homes, the outcomes are significantly better. This is a priority in our asset management strategy. Therefore, this Administration will work to encourage tenant's involvement in how we can work collaboratively to improve our repairs and property maintenance services, developing our existing Resident Participation Panel.

Council notes that in addition, this Administration has recently agreed changes to its corporate complaints policy that will see much greater oversight from Cabinet Members, ensuring any lessons learnt from complaints are actively taken forward. Thus creating continuous improvement in performance, including that of Council Contractors.

Following debate, the amendment on behalf of the Havering Residents Association Group was **AGREED** by 27 votes to 20 with 1 abstention (see division 3) and **AGREED** as the substantive motion without division.

**RESOLVED:**

**This Council welcomes scrutiny of the work carried out by contractors and others. There is an established mechanism for raising suggestions through to the Overview and Scrutiny Board to Cabinet. This provides additional forms of scrutiny within the established Governance system.**

**We know that when tenants are fully involved in decisions relating to the repair and maintenance of their homes, the outcomes are significantly better. This is a priority in our asset management strategy. Therefore, this Administration will work to encourage tenant's involvement in how we can work collaboratively to improve our repairs and property maintenance services, developing our existing Resident Participation Panel.**

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**oversight from Cabinet Members, ensuring any lessons learnt from complaints are actively taken forward. Thus creating continuous improvement in performance, including that of Council Contractors.**

84 **MOBILE CAMERAS (agenda item 12C)**

**Motion on behalf of the Conservative Group**

This council, in light of recent events, calls upon the Administration to invest in more mobile cameras to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour across the Borough.

**Amendment on behalf of the Havering Residents Association Group**

This Council agrees that safety and security of its residents is a top priority as evidenced in the recent budget consultation process and welcomes the recent Administration's Cabinet decision, to roll out the first of three phases to upgrade improved CCTV both fixed and mobile across the borough.

A composite motion in the wording of the Conservative Group motion and the Havering Residents Association amendment was agreed for consideration by Council.

The composite motion, in the wording of the motion by the Conservative Group and the amendment by the Havering Residents Association Group was **AGREED** by 48 votes to 0 with 0 amendments (see division 4) and **AGREED** as the substantive motion, without division.

**RESOLVED:**

**This council, in light of recent events, calls upon the Administration to invest in more mobile cameras to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour across the Borough.**

**This Council agrees that safety and security of its residents is a top priority as evidenced in the recent budget consultation process and welcomes the recent Administration's Cabinet decision, to roll out the first of three phases to upgrade improved CCTV both fixed and mobile across the borough.**

85 **DECLARATION OF CLIMATE EMERGENCY (agenda item 12D)**

**Motion on behalf of the Labour Group**

This Council resolves to declare a Climate Change Emergency.

This Council notes that:

Climate Change is being caused by human activity emitting greenhouse gases. According to the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

(‘IPCC’) urgent and unprecedented changes are needed to keep global warming to a maximum of 1.5 degrees centigrade.

There has been a dramatic change in the climate as a result of carbon emissions generated by human activity including: -burning of fossil fuels (like petrol, diesel and gas) for energy; deforestation; farming; and, the manufacture of cement, metals and chemicals.

Over the past 100 years, human activity has significantly increased the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. This has enhanced the ‘greenhouse effect’ heating the atmosphere and oceans, destabilising the climate and endangering people and the planet. Pollution levels have reached epidemic proportions with 9,500 Londoners (50,000 people countrywide) a year dying of pollution related causes. A loss of biodiversity has seen 25% of mammals, 41% of amphibians and 13% of birdlife under threat.

The world has already warmed 1 degree centigrade since records began (higher over land where people live) with the 10 highest years recorded occurring since 2005, (NASA published 2019) with the 5 warmest years in the last five years. In the UK the seven hottest years ever recorded in the UK have all occurred since 2003 (Meteorological Office)

Climate Change has impacted on Havering with increased number of flooding events and recently wildfires endangering life and damaging property. .

The Council approved its Climate Change Action Plan on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and resolves to revise and update it annually in view of the emergency which exists and which has recently been emphasised by the United Nations General Secretary (26/10/2022) and by the Joint Committee on National Security Strategy which stated that “the UKs critical infrastructure is exposed due to ‘extreme weakness’ in it, in view of climate change.

The UN’s IPCC reports state that we must take radical action to keep climate change within safe levels. Beyond this, catastrophic and irreversible change is expected. Yet as of 2023 the amount of greenhouse gases we are emitting continues to rise. The action planned in the UK to date is not enough to meet its climate commitments. The Council’s Climate Change Action Plan (as revised from time to time) sets an ambitious target to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2040. Given the recent reports, science and events in Havering the Council believes now is the time to declare a climate emergency.

(No amendments received).

The motion on behalf of the Labour Group was **AGREED** by 42 votes to 6 (see division 5) and **AGREED** as the substantive motion, without division.

**RESOLVED:**

**This Council resolves to declare a Climate Change Emergency.**

**This Council notes that:**

**Climate Change is being caused by human activity emitting greenhouse gases. According to the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ('IPCC') urgent and unprecedented changes are needed to keep global warming to a maximum of 1.5 degrees centigrade.**

**There has been a dramatic change in the climate as a result of carbon emissions generated by human activity including:-burning of fossil fuels (like petrol, diesel and gas) for energy; deforestation; farming; and, the manufacture of cement, metals and chemicals.**

**Over the past 100 years, human activity has significantly increased the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. This has enhanced the 'greenhouse effect' heating the atmosphere and oceans, destabilising the climate and endangering people and the planet. Pollution levels have reached epidemic proportions with 9,500 Londoners (50,000 people countrywide) a year dying of pollution related causes. A loss of biodiversity has seen 25% of mammals, 41% of amphibians and 13% of birdlife under threat.**

**The world has already warmed 1 degree centigrade since records began (higher over land where people live) with the 10 highest years recorded occurring since 2005, (NASA published 2019) with the 5 warmest years in the last five years. In the UK the seven hottest years ever recorded in the UK have all occurred since 2003 (Meteorological Office)**

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planned in the UK to date is not enough to meet its climate commitments. The Council's Climate Change Action Plan (as revised from time to time) sets an ambitious target to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2040. Given the recent reports, science and events in Havering the Council believes now is the time to declare a climate emergency.

86 **VOTING RECORD**

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

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**Mayor**

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## Appendix 1

FULL COUNCIL, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023

### MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

#### Pay & Display Machines

1) **To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)**  
**From Councillor Jason Frost**

Could the Cabinet Member for the Environment confirm when the P&D machines will be replaced in Rex Close Car Park?

#### Answer

Thank you for the question.

Members will appreciate the council's current stock of parking ticket machines are a number of years old which is affecting their performance and reliability.

Whilst officers are doing their best to keep the machines in service, some parts can be hard to source, and a full replacement is required.

The Council is currently carrying out a tender to procure a contract to provide and install new Pay & Display machines. It is anticipated that the installation of new machines will be completed by late summer 2023.

I can also advise members that we are taking the opportunity to modernise the stock and gain efficiencies that new technology brings, providing customers choice to customers to pay using machines and through the parking app.

A supplementary question asked what people should do if they use the parking app but still receive a parking fine. The Cabinet Member responded that people should challenge a Penalty Charge Notice and/or contact their ward Councillors if they felt the ticket was unjust.

## **Low Traffic Neighbourhood Schemes**

### **2) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone) From Councillor Darren Wise**

Will the Cabinet Member confirm whether there are currently any Low Traffic Neighbourhood schemes within the Borough or whether there are any plans to do so or have they been ruled out altogether?

#### **Answer**

As I understand it the previous administration was opposed to Low Traffic Neighbourhood Schemes and none were brought in by my predecessor.

A Low Traffic Neighbourhood is an area (usually residential) where motor traffic is reduced. This is achieved by restrictions to prevent through traffic and rat running. Whilst there are benefits to doing this, I do recognise it is a difficult balance to achieve quiet side roads, which many local residents would appreciate, whilst at the same time not making our main roads even more busy and congested. This would slow traffic on these roads and would be bad for residents, buses and businesses alike.

I, and the administration, remain concerned about the lack of real alternatives to the car in the borough.

Our residents deserve better than the current public transport offering being put forward by the Mayor, and I will continue to lobby the Mayor and Transport for London to invest in the public transport infrastructure that is so badly needed.

I'll continue to work with officers to see how we can continue to improve our road and transport network in best possible way – seeking to balance all the above aspirations.

I can confirm the Administration has no plans to introduce Low Traffic Neighbourhoods in Havering.

(No supplementary question asked on the specific subject matter).

## **Section 215 Notices**

### **3) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone) From Councillor Jason Frost**

How many Section 215 Notices have been issued in the past year?

#### **Answer**

Two S215 notices have been issued since 1 April 2022.

**Council, 22 March 2023**

A supplementary question asked for further details of the two cases. The Cabinet Member replied that both cases had not been complied with and other options were now being considered.

**Penalty Charge Notices**

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

Can the cabinet member please confirm how many PCN's have been issued over the last 2 Quarters of 2022, providing both the total numbers issued per quarter as well as the total amount of funds collected?

**Answer**

I thank Cllr Goode for his question.

The numbers are as follows:

Quarter 2 (July to September 2022) - 24,878 PCNS issued, £991,921 income collected.

Quarter 3 (October to December 2022) - 27,663 PCNS issued, £1,083,878 income collected.

I can also advise members that surplus income received (after costs of delivering the service are met) is ringfenced only to support the delivery of highway, traffic and parking services.

A supplementary question asked if the employment of more enforcement officers would result in a higher number of PCNs being issued and what would be the level of the increase. The Cabinet Member responded that it was likely that more PCNs would be issued but he would that all new enforcement officers would be trained properly. The Cabinet Member wished to ensure that a good service was delivered to ensure correct parking and a safer borough.

## **CCTV Cameras in Havering**

**5) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)  
From Councillor David Taylor**

Can the cabinet member provide a statement on the number of working and non-working CCTV cameras across Havering, with an indication as to which areas are most impacted?

### **Answer**

26 / 76 across the Town Centres are currently not working across Public Realm Town Centres

In HRA areas, 120 Cameras that can be accessed from the control room are working.

141 either cannot be accessed (as are recording on-site and have not been audited recently) or are known not to be working as of the last audit.

The current technology is reaching the end of its working life, which is why the Cabinet at its 8<sup>th</sup> March meeting agreed to invest in and replace the Town Centre Cameras and Control room, along with review of the HRA cameras and wider review of CCTV coverage.

A supplementary question asked if all 141 inaccessible cameras would be replaced. In response, the Cabinet Member stated he would assess the best options for residents. The best technology available would be used and it was hoped to involve all Members in a consultation.

## **CCTV Service Charge**

**6) To the Cabinet Member for Housing (Councillor Paul McGeary)  
From Councillor Joshua Chapman**

Can the cabinet member provide a statement on refunding residents who have been paying for CCTV, in the service charge, whilst the service was down?

### **Answer**

We will provide a refund to residents on housing land if the full CCTV function for that area was not working for a continual period of 12 weeks. If some cameras are down on the full network, or are fixed during that 12 week period no refunds will be issued.

Residents and Leaseholders will have to wait until the end of the financial year for the adjustment to be made, when the correct amounts if applicable will be refunded.

From April 2023 residents and leaseholders on housing land will not be charged for CCTV.

**Council, 22 March 2023**

The Council will also be investing £3.5 million in the next financial year to upgrade and improve CCTV across the borough.

A supplementary question asked if the Cabinet Member agreed that CCTV on housing estates was important to resident safety and if he would commit to there not being any CCTV reductions on housing estates. The Cabinet Member responded that he would assess the technology available and find the best solution for residents.

**Waterloo Estate development**

**7) To the Cabinet Member for Development and Regeneration (Councillor Graham Williamson)  
From Councillor David Taylor**

Can the cabinet member provide an update on the Waterloo Estate development, including site progress?

**Answer**

A hybrid planning application for the proposed Waterloo & Queen Street redevelopment (PA No. 0761.20 - detailed for Phase 1, outline for other phases), was approved on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

Phase 1 which was approved in detail, does not have any external cladding, has sprinklers in all homes, and has appropriate alarm and smoke control measures. It has been designed to be a safe building. The JV Team continue to monitor the emerging policy and regulatory position concerning building and fire safety.

Demolition of the existing buildings on the site has been completed.

Work to build a wider entrance to Queen Street at the junction with London Road, to ease the movement of construction traffic, will be undertaken when the S278 Highways Agreement has been approved.

As set out in the report to Cabinet on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023, Phase 1 at WQS is the next scheme that is scheduled to commence under the 12 Estates Regeneration Programme.

The JV Team are currently in the process of working through the Pre Construction Services Agreement (PCSA), which will inform the construction budget. The PCSA should be completed in June 2023.

In the meantime work on meanwhile uses, particularly on the implementation of a community garden, which has been designed with local residents, has moved forward. It is hoped that work to build this will commence on site in April 2023. Local residents will manage the community garden once it has been completed.

Officers update local Ward Councillors on progress, on a quarterly basis.

A supplementary question asked if the Cabinet Member felt that new building safety legislation that may require two staircases in high rise blocks may mean a delay construction the submitting of planning applications. The Cabinet Member responded that he was aware of this requirement and whilst, he was confident of gaining sign-off from the London Fire Brigade for new developments, this could not be guaranteed.

### **Temporary Accommodation**

**8) To the Cabinet Member for Housing (Councillor Paul McGeary)  
From Councillor Joshua Chapman**

Will the cabinet member provide a statement on the numbers of individuals in temporary accommodation, including the cost to the council in each of the last 4 years?

### **Answer**

The number of individuals in temporary accommodation over the last 4 years has seen a small decrease of 20 from 1093 to 1073 with the gross cost of providing it averaging £12.5 million per year. There had however recently been an upturn in the demand for accommodation due to the cost of living crisis.

The council receives rental income from its tenants who are largely benefit dependent, however, this does not meet the full cost of accommodation meaning the council pays around £3m to £5m each year to make up the shortfall.

A supplementary question asked the Cabinet Member for his view on housing the homeless in hotels and how many homeless people were currently housed in hotels. The Cabinet Member responded that he could supply the exact figure. He did not like the use of hotels for this purpose and preferred to use bought back properties etc.

### **Fly tipping Update**

**9) To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)  
From Councillor Joshua Chapman**

Will the cabinet member provide an update on the numbers of fly tipping across Havering over the last year?

### **Answer**

They were 10,082 incidents of fly tipping reported by the public over the period from April 2022 to March 2023. This was a slight increase by 353 fly tips noted from the same period the year before.

The Councils Street Cleansing crews will also proactively monitor and clear fly tipped waste whilst carrying out their normal duties. Urbaser, the Councils new waste and

**Council, 22 March 2023**

cleansing contractor are proposing to use up to date technology and recording systems to improve reporting and clearing of fly tips.

The Council continues to enforce against those that illegally fly tip waste where evidence can be secured. So far there have been 639 Fixed Penalty notices issued for waste related offences since April 2022.

The Council encourages residents to report incidents of potential fly tipping so they can be removed in a timely manner and be fully investigated.

A supplementary question asked how the Cabinet Member planned to continue to drive down flytipping. The Cabinet Member responded that he aimed to identify and fine flytippers, particularly those that were business related. A CCTV review was being undertaken and more use could be made of mobile cameras. It was also important to educate people to ensure that they used licensed waste collectors.

**SLM Leisure Contract**

**10) To the Cabinet Member for Corporate, Culture & Leisure Services  
Councillor Paul Middleton)  
From Councillor Damian White**

Will the cabinet member provide an update on the SLM Leisure contract, the projected costs and support (both financial and managerial) to them from the council and the income to be received by the council?

**Answer**

The SLM Leisure contract is progressing well. The new Rainham Leisure Centre is on track to open in the summer. This fantastic new facility is attracting national attention for its method of construction and the associated cost savings this brings. A number of authorities, including from Ireland, have visited the centre to see how these cost savings are achieved. Further planned development of the centres have given us refreshed and extended wet side changing rooms at Central Park Leisure Centre which has been funded by SLM.

The Centres are on track to achieve over 2 million visits in this financial year, contributing to resident's health and wellbeing.

The support to SLM, by way of a reduced management fee is ongoing, for this financial year and next – 2023/24 as a result of the pandemic, before returning to the contract position in 2024/25. There is still a significant management fee being paid to the Council for this and next financial years.

The Council continue to work in partnership with SLM to deliver the best service possible to residents. There are no direct costs associated with that other than officer time.

**Council, 22 March 2023**

The Leisure Contract financial information is exempt and therefore I am unable to provide the detail.

A supplementary question asked if the Cabinet Member would meet with Councillor White to discuss how the recently announced £65m government funding for leisure services would be used in Havering. The Cabinet Member agreed to this suggestion.

**Climate Change Action**

**11) To the Cabinet Member for Climate Change (Councillor Keith Darvill)  
From Councillor Damian White**

Will the cabinet member please provide a statement on the climate change action plan and any timetable for changes that may be brought forward?

**Answer**

Thank you for this question as it provides an opportunity to update you on the action I have been taking and the timescale for a review of the HCCAP. Since being appointed to the Cabinet position I have met monthly with officers across the Council to evaluate what they are doing. I have ensured, where possible, that actions have been stretched and incorporated in regional plans so that we have a more coordinated approach.

Some of the key initiatives are:

- Promoting grants for local residents to take energy efficiency measures
- Investment in the Council Housing stock
- Successful bid to develop a carbon zero demonstrator centre
- Anti-idling actions
- Established a vibrant Green Forum
- Recruited 44 Climate Change Champions
- Developed baseline data to inform strategic decisions.
- Applying for grants to build our capacity to develop climate actions

The existing plan comes to an end shortly and many of the actions will roll on. Workshops are scheduled to create additional actions and ensure that Havering is on track to be carbon neutral by 2040 or sooner. An annual report, giving an update on actions delivered in the last 12 months and outlining new actions, will be brought to Cabinet on 5/7/2023 and to Council on 12/7/2023.

The IPCC report published had made clear the urgency of the action needing to be taken by the Council. Climate change had led to the recent incidents of flooding and wildfires in the borough and had seen the insurance premiums for local residents increase.

A supplementary question asked if the Cabinet Member would meet with Councillor White to discuss the formation of a steering group to feed into the climate change action plan. The Cabinet Member agreed, adding that he wanted to involve Members in the delivery of the action plan.

**Adult Social Services Department**

**12) To the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health (Councillor Gillian Ford)  
From Councillor Jason Frost**

Will the cabinet member provide a statement on the reintroduction of a grading system for the Adult Social Services Department, outlining the steps taken to be ready for any inspection and the impact that this will have upon the service?

**Answer**

CQC Assurance of adult social care and local government was confirmed in the Health & Social Care Act 2022, and is due to be implemented by CQC from April 2023. CQC assurance of adult social care departments was stepped down in 2010 by the then coalition government, however assurance has continued throughout this period of NHS and social care providers. It is of note CQC Assurance of ICB areas will also commence, although that is unlikely to be until 2024. The CQC published its interim guidance for their approach to local authority assessments on 28/2/2023, and is available for any elected member to review – the web link can be supplied. This can be found on the CQC website, entitled ‘Our Approach to Assessing Local Authorities’.

A single assessment framework has been developed over the past 18 months, primarily when assessing local authorities and integrated care systems, but also providers, with a more tailored approach taking into account their specific context. The single assessment framework is based on a set of quality statements arranged under topic areas, and very much focussing on how services are perceived through the lens of people who have lived experience of services.

It is important to note that this is local authority assurance, not just adult social care, as Care Act duties extend beyond ASC, such as duties around prevention, integration, housing, safe systems, pathways and transitions.

CQC have stated that between April and September 2023, they will focus on reviewing data and published documentary evidence available from council’s, focussing on care provision, integration and continuity, and assessing need; as well as looking at themes and insights on access, commissioning, market shaping, workforce and personalisation. They will also be looking to pilot their assurance approach with 5 local authorities over this period.

Formal assessments will then begin from September with the aim of carrying out 20 assessments until December, and then a rolling programme ongoing from

**Council, 22 March 2023**

early 2024. The government has asked CQC to publish individual ratings of local authorities, with CQC intending to work with LA's and the DHSC around how these ratings and findings will be published.

Work on ASC preparation and readiness is ongoing, with a number of strategies and policies being updated over the last 12 months, delayed because of COVID-19. This includes the Autism strategy agreed by Cabinet in late 2022, updating the market position statement and commissioning plan, carers strategy and dementia strategy, as well as the recent refresh of our Better Living Guidance and planned forthcoming updates to our ASC Care & Support Policy and reviewing our workforce strategy, following some work with the LGA in late 2022.

CQC Assurance will undoubtedly impact on the service in the same way OFSTED does for children's social care, which has unfortunately seen a very tragic incident recently, both in terms of preparation, participating and its outcome. This will be managed when the time comes by both ASC, but also corporately and politically.

(No supplementary question).

**CCTV Camera in Ardleigh Green**

- 13) **To the Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Mugglestone)**  
**From Councillor Christine Vickery**

Will the council reinstate the mobile CCTV camera in Ardleigh Green following the stabbing outside the local college?

**Answer**

After the recent knife crime incident near to college in Ardleigh Green, requests have been made by local ward members to *reinstate* a CCTV camera at the location.

This followed a short-term deployment of a temporary CCTV camera several years ago outside the college, after a significant increase in ASB reports in 2020-21.

The number of deployable cameras possessed by the council is limited and are deployed as part of a tasking process based on prioritising 'pressing need' and where they are deemed to be likely effective.

The data was reviewed, and it was established that the incident at the location was an isolated one and was not linked to the previous deployment of CCTV.

When the crime data was further interrogated, it was established that the ward is currently the second lowest ward for crime in the Borough of Havering and has had 2 knife crime related incidents, one of which was the Ardleigh Green one.

**Council, 22 March 2023**

The council receives far more requests for CCTV than it can fulfil and so it deploys the limited number it has to the highest crime areas via a decision making panel at the enforcement tasking meeting.

All deployable cameras are currently deployed and moving one would mean that the area currently covered would no longer be covered by CCTV which is also a consideration.

Based on the above reasoning, at this stage, the evidence does not support the moving of a re-deployable camera to the location to Ardleigh Green and it does not support a growth bid or business case required to purchase new equipment for the purpose.

We will as a Community Safety Partnership continue to work closely with Police and partners to monitor and review this - and other situations – to ensure this is the most appropriate stance and we will of course review this position if the rationale changes.

All CCTV camera deployments are based on evidence and are deployed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018, the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), the ICO (Information Commissioners Office) and SCC (Surveillance Camera Commissioner) guidelines and Codes of Practice.

Below attached are the CCTV codes of practice we adhere to:

[Amended Surveillance Camera Code of Practice \(accessible version\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk).

A supplementary question asked if the return of cameras in Ardleigh Green could be kept under review as this was favoured by local shopkeepers and residents. The Cabinet Member responded that he was happy to work with Councillor Vickery and had also been in contact with the local Police team.

## **Havering Homeless Emergency Calls**

**14) To the Cabinet Member for Housing (Councillor Paul McGeary)  
From Councillor Joshua Chapman**

Can the council confirm the total number of calls made to Havering Homeless Emergency number and the average wait time for these calls, including the number of calls 'dropped'?

### **Answer**

For the calendar year of 2022, Havering out of hours service received 1,090 calls regarding homelessness. We are not aware of any dropped calls as all out of hours calls come through one number. Therefore, as the team has no contact with the caller before they hang up, they would not know if they are calling about homelessness.

**Council, 22 March 2023**

The average wait time for calls being answered out of hours, was 23 seconds.

A supplementary question asked if a cross-party review of the front door service for vulnerable homeless people could be undertaken. The Cabinet Member stated that he was happy to develop this.

**ULEZ Implementation Cost**

**15) To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Ray Morgon)  
From Councillor David Taylor**

Has Havering council made provision for increased costs due to the implementation of ULEZ and, if so, what is the extra cost to the Council including increased costs from contractors and service providers?

**Answer**

There are no specific provisions set aside within the MTFS for direct financial implications of ULEZ.

Costs through contractors and service providers are difficult to quantify. All will need to be compliant and this would normally be reflected through appropriate contract mechanisms, the Council will specify in new contracts to ensure vehicles are ULEZ compliant.

With regards to the Council's own vehicle fleet, steps have already been taken to mitigate the ULEZ impact, whilst taking a measured approach to capital expenditure on new fleet assets. Eight of the oldest Passenger Transport buses are being renewed due to age and increased maintenance costs, as much as the introduction of ULEZ. Similar steps have been taken for the highways fleet and the refuse fleet will be renewed later this year by the Council's new contract provider. These steps should ensure avoidance of the larger £100 per day fine for vehicles over 3.5 tonnes.

There may be some ULEZ-related costs arising from smaller assets within the council's fleet, particularly the grounds maintenance (e.g. tractors) which are not ULEZ compliant and could incur the £12.50 per day fine.

A supplementary question asked if the Leader of the Council would join in lobbying of the Mayor of London to exempt Council fleets from the ULEZ charge. The Leader of the

**Council, 22 March 2023**

Council responded that he was happy to meet with Councillor Taylor and others regarding this.

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<i>DIVISION NUMBER:</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<b>The Mayor (Councillor Trevor McKeever)</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Deputy Mayor [Cllr. Stephanie Nunn]	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b><u>CONSERVATIVE GROUP (20)</u></b>					
Cllr Robert Benham	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
Cllr Ray Best	✓	✗	✗	✓	0
Cllr Joshua Chapman	✓	0	✗	✓	✓
Cllr John Crowder	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
Cllr Philippa Crowder	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
Cllr Osman Dervish	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Jason Frost	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
Cllr Judith Holt	✓	✗	✗	✓	0
Cllr Robby Misir	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Dilip Patel	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
Cllr Nisha Patel	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
Cllr Viddy Persaud	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
Cllr Keith Prince	✓	✗	✗	✓	0
Cllr Timothy Ryan	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr Carol Smith	✓	✗	✗	✓	0
Cllr Christine Smith	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
Cllr David Taylor	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
Cllr Christine Vickery	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
Cllr Damian White	✓	0	✗	✓	✓
Cllr Michael White	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
<b><u>RESIDENTS' GROUP (21 + 1)</u></b>					
Cllr Sarah Edwards	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Gillian Ford	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Oscar Ford	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Laurance Garrard	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
Cllr James Glass	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr David Goodwin	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
Cllr Linda Hawthorn	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Jackie McArdle	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Paul Middleton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Raymond Morgon	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Barry Mugglestone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Sue Ospreay	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Gerry O'Sullivan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Phillip Ruck	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Natasha Summers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Bryan Vincent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Reg Whitney	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Julie Wilkes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Christopher Wilkins	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Graham Williamson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr John Wood	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b><u>LABOUR GROUP (8 + 1)</u></b>					
Cllr Mandy Anderson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Patricia Brown	0	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Keith Darvill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Jane Keane	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Paul McGeary	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Matthew Stanton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Katharine Tumilty	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr Frankie Walker	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b><u>NORTH HAVERING RESIDENTS' GROUP (3)</u></b>					
Cllr Brian Eagling	A	A	A	A	A
Cllr Martin Goode	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
Cllr Darren Wise	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
<b><u>INDEPENDENT (1)</u></b>					
Councillor John Tyler	✓	✓	0	✓	✓
<b>TOTALS</b>					
✓ = YES	47	29	27	48	42
✗ = NO	0	17	20	0	0
0 = ABSTAIN/NO VOTE	1	2	1	0	6
ID = INTEREST DISCLOSED/NO VOTE	0	0	0	0	0
A = ABSENT FROM MEETING	7	7	7	7	7
	0	0	0	0	0
	55	55	55	55	55

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