

MINUTES OF MEETING, Full Council HELD ON Monday, 27th March 2023, 7.30pm – 10.10pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Anna Abela, Gina Adamou (Mayor), Adje, Peray Ahmet, Arkell, Dawn Barnes, Nicola Bartlett, John Bevan, Barbara Blake, Mark Blake, Zena Brabazon, Cathy Brennan, Lester Buxton, Dana Carlin, Luke Cawley-Harrison, Seema Chandwani, Lotte Collett, Pippa Connor, Culverwell, Lucia das Neves, Isidoros Diakides, Dogan, Sarah Elliott, Scott Emery, Ruth Gordon, Makbule Gunes, Mike Hakata, Hymas, Emine Ibrahim, Thayahlan Iyngkaran, Sue Jameson, Cressida Johnson, Mary Mason, Khaled Moyeed, Sean O'Donovan, Felicia Opoku, Ajda Ovat, Sheila Peacock, Reg Rice, Rossetti, Michelle Simmons-Safo, Anne Stennett, Elin Weston, Matt White, Sarah Williams and Alexandra Worrell

59. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Mayor referred to the notice of filming at meetings and attendees noted this information.

60. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence was received from the following Councillors:

Cllr Dunstall
Cllr Davies
Cllr da Costa
Cllr Ali
Cllr Amin
Cllr Wallace
Cllr Isilar - Gosling
Cllr Say
Cllr Mahbub

Later apologies from Cllr Jogee.

61. TO ASK THE MAYOR TO CONSIDER THE ADMISSION OF ANY LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 100B OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

The Mayor accepted the following items as late business.

Item 7.1 – Draft Council Calendar of meetings 2023/24, this was to allow further consultation and comment on proposed meeting dates.

Item 10a- The Standards Committee report was late to allow finalisation and consultation on the report. There is a need to agree the changes to the committee structure and Constitution before the start of the next municipal year. In addition, there is a need to agree Member's Allowance Scheme for 2023/24 prior to the 31st of March and to agree the extension of the appointment of independent Members to the Standards Committee at an ordinary meeting of the Council, prior to the 30th of June 2023.

Item 13 Questions and Written Answers - The reason for lateness was that notice of questions was not requested until eight clear days before the meeting, following which the matters raised have to be researched and replies prepared to be given at the meeting.

Item 14 – Motions - The amendments to motions were not requested until 10am on the day of the council meeting and we have received an amendment to Motion E, which had been published and distributed today as a supplementary pack.

62. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest put forward.

63. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 13TH OF FEBRUARY 2023 AND 2ND OF MARCH 2023

RESOLVED

To approve and sign the minutes of the Full Council meetings held on the 13th of February 2023 and 2nd of March 2023 as a correct record.

64. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS AS THE MAYOR MAY LAY BEFORE THE COUNCIL

The Mayor had emailed her communications to Members prior to the meeting, and began this item with a one-minute silence to pay the Council's respects to the late Conservative Councillor, William McDougall, who had served as a Council Member for Highgate ward between 1998 to 2002.

Members and attendees stood in a one-minute silence as a mark of respect.

The Mayor had invited the Haringey Athletics Team to the meeting. This included the team coaches, young people and parents who were present at the meeting. The team had won both the London Youth Games and the Jubilee Trophy.

The Mayor described the Haringey Athletics as a fantastic club, which really showed the best of Haringey and what the borough's young people can achieve. Speaking on behalf of the Council, she was incredibly proud of what they had achieved.

The Mayor, on behalf of the Council, congratulated the Team for all their successes and thanked coaches and staff who had helped the young people to achieve this.

In addition, the Mayor was also pleased to announce that the Haringey Athletics Girls Cricket Team had won the London Youth Games Girls Cricket competition, defeating Redbridge, Lambeth, Ealing and Bromley.

The Deputy Mayor called out the names of all the team members, to come forward to the top table to receive a certificate from the Mayor and the Leader of the Council.

The Mayor led the Council in a round of applause to congratulate the team for their achievements.

65. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Chief Executive referred to item 7.1 and asked the Council to note the changes to the political composition set out at paragraph 4.2. The report requested that the resultant changes to Council body memberships as detailed in paragraphs 4.7 to 4.10 be agreed.

Item 7.2 was an outline of the schedule of meetings for the municipal year 2023/24 for approval. This was in the supplementary pack and contained at pages 1 to 12.

The Chief Whip MOVED the recommendations and it was:

RESOLVED

1. To note the changes to the political composition set out at paragraph 4.2.
2. That the resultant changes to Council body memberships as detailed in paragraph 4.7 to 4.10 be agreed.
3. That the attached schedule of meetings for 2023/24 be agreed, subject to any minor variations to meeting dates that may be required in the course of the Municipal Year 2023/2024.

66. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER AND HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES

The Monitoring Officer advised that following the Budget and level of Council Tax for 2023/24, approved by Full Council on the 2nd of March 2023, the published report had, unfortunately, contained one small rounding error of one penny for one Council Tax band.

This had been amended on the bills sent out to residents, using the decision-making process set out at paragraph 3.5. However, the decision needed to be ratified by Full Council at this meeting.

The Mayor called on the Cabinet Member for Finance and Local Investment,

and Cllr Williams MOVED that the recommendation in the report be agreed, and it was:

RESOLVED

To ratify that the aggregate 2023/24 Council Tax amount for Band C properties is £1,770.95.

67. TWELFTH ANNUAL CARBON REPORT (2022)

The Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Environment, and Transport and Deputy Leader of the Council MOVED the report, as set out in the Council pack, and its recommendations and it was:

RESOLVED

1. That the Twelfth Annual Carbon Report (2022) is published.
2. That councillors and the Council continue to support carbon reduction and lead action in their community, promoting the importance of reducing carbon emissions whilst increasing prosperity.
3. That the future projects outlined in the Annual Carbon Report and that have been agreed through the HCCAP continue to be delivered, where funding is available or has already been agreed, and that further opportunities to reduce carbon emissions are identified and pursued.

Following the meeting it was identified by Officers that:

Section 2.3 of the report states “Since 2015, the Council emissions that it directly controls have reduced by 62%. Haringey has invested millions in the energy efficiency of its maintained schools, the switch to LED lighting borough wide, the partial decarbonisation of its fleet, and the adoption of renewable energy production.

The main Annual Carbon Report states in section 8.1 “From the baseline level of 12,840 tCO₂ in 2014/15 there has been a 69% reduction in annual emissions, totalling 4,004 tCO₂ in 2021/22.”

The correct figure is 69% and has been published.

68. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING BODIES

The Mayor called on the Chair of Standards Committee, Cllr Opoku, to introduce the Standards Committee report on Constitutional and Committee Changes 2023/2024, Approval of the Member’s Allowance Scheme 2023/24 and Extension of Appointment of Independent Person on Standards Committee.

The Chair of the Standards Committee outlined that the report came forward following consideration of report items arising from the Standards Committee meetings held on

4 October 2022, 24 January 2023 and 21 March 2023 and asked the Full Council to consider the following:

To approve changes to the Council's committee structure and resultant changes to the Constitution. This related to:

The deletion of:

- Corporate Committee
- Staffing and Remuneration Committee

The establishment of:

- Audit Committee
- General Purposes Committee
- Appointments Panel
- Disciplinary, Grievance and Dismissal Panel

This was to take effect from the 2023/24 Municipal year.

To approve an update to Part 5 Section D of the Constitution, Decision Making protocol, to include consideration of climate change mitigation in decision making reports.

To revoke the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2022/23 as of 31 March 2023 and to approve a new Members' Allowances Scheme for the Municipal year 2023/24 to take effect from 1 April 2023.

To approve the continued appointment of the Independent Persons under section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 until June 2024.

The Chair of the Standards Committee MOVED the recommendations and it was:

RESOLVED:

1. To agree the deletion of the Corporate Committee and Staffing Remuneration Committee from the Council's Committee Structure, with effect from the Annual General Meeting of the Council in May 2023.
2. To agree the establishment of an Audit Committee as an Ordinary Committee of the Council and to take effect from the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2023.
3. To agree the establishment of a General Purposes Committee as an Ordinary Committee of the Council and to take effect on from the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2023.
4. To agree the establishment of an Appointments Panel to take effect from the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2023.

5. To agree the establishment of a Disciplinary Grievance and Dismissal Panel to take effect from the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2023.
6. To agree the subsequent administrative changes to the Member Allowance Scheme with the Chair of General Purposes Committee allocated the SRA banding 1B for the Staffing and Remuneration Chair, noting that this position will also be listed as the Vice Chair of the Appointments Panel and the Disciplinary, Grievance and Dismissal Panel; the Audit Committee Chair would be allocated the SRA 1B for the Corporate Committee Chair.
7. To agree to update part 5 Section D of the Constitution to include consideration of climate change mitigation in decision making reports. This will be in line with the adopted policy position, set out in the Council's Climate Change Action Plan, and will require all key decision-making reports, to consider and report on whether or how the proposals delivers Climate Change Mitigation (reducing carbon and energy impacts) and Climate Change Adaptation (minimising the risks and impacts in a changing climate).
8. To agree the subsequent changes to the Council's Constitution set out Appendices 1.1 to 4.
9. To provide delegation to the Council's Monitoring Officer to update the subsequent required administrative and technical amendments (grammatical, formatting, and consistency) necessary to finalise the revised constitution for publication. To note that these will be reported up to the Annual Council meeting in May as part of the Monitoring Officer report and shown in track changes.
10. To revoke the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2022/23 as of 31 March 2023.
11. To approve the new Members' Allowances Scheme for the municipal year 2023/24, as set out in Appendix 8.
12. To approve the extended appointment of Lisa Klein as Independent Person, and Stephen Ross as secondary Independent Person under s28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 for a further period of 1 year commencing on 1st July 2023 and ending on 30 of June 2024;
13. To approve the allowance to be paid to the Independent Person, and Secondary Independent person at £1250.00 and £250.00 per annum respectively.

69. HARINGEY DEBATE - UNDERSTANDING AND TACKLING MENTAL HEALTH WELLBEING IN HARINGEY COMMUNITIES

The Mayor opened the debate on understanding and tackling mental Health and wellbeing in Haringey Communities. The Mayor described that, over her 30 years as a Councillor, she had seen the devastating impacts mental health problems can have on our community.

The Mayor stated that:

- The covid pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis had impacted many people everywhere, at a worrying time, when resources and services in the NHS were much reduced, these impacts had left people without the vital support they needed.
- In Haringey alone nearly 54,000 people have been affected by mental health problems and this was why she had chosen Mind in Haringey as her Mayoral Charity to provide them the platform to aid their work in the community. Since their establishment in 1974, they had provided care and assistance by listening, respecting, and reassuring countless residents who have been impacted by mental health problems.
- Over those years, Mind in Haringey have provided various crucial services including Black Thrive, Generation Girls and the Haringey Wellbeing Network and have been champions at challenging the stigma of mental health issues and spreading awareness of the difficulties people face.
- However, Mind in Haringey provided the compassion and caring dedication to people facing problems, which lead to real improvements and impacts felt by individuals across the borough's community.
- Mental Health problems would always be a terrible issue that can cause pain and worry for people and families at any time, and having the support and guidance from Mind in Haringey was a lifeline the Council and community were extremely lucky to have.

The Mayor thanked Mind in Haringey for their dedication and time for this vital service, especially, Lynette Charles, their Chief Executive, and Deborah King.

The Mayor invited Lynette Charles and Deborah King to make their presentations and would introduce Anil Doner, a member of the community from Daymer, to also speak from a community perspective on understanding and tackling mental Health and wellbeing in Haringey Communities.

Lynette Charles, Chief Executive of Mind in Haringey, thanked the Mayor for her kind words of introduction and her continued support. She also thanked Council officers for getting involved in the organisation's provision of mental health, first aid training.

Councillors had received a presentation outlining the work of Mind in Haringey and which contained key statistics and information on the current mental health issues being experienced in the borough. Lynette and Deborah continued to make the following points in their presentation:

- Context for provision outlined with a borough population of 264,000 people. Haringey was the fourth most deprived borough in London with significant health inequalities.

- 64% of communities were non-white, and it was not straightforward always to address some of those mental health inequalities.
- Mental health need was growing. Colleagues in Public Health reported that severe mental illness in Haringey affected 1.4% of the population, and this meant about 4400 people, at any given time, in this borough, have severe mental illness.
- With regards to common mental health issues like depression and anxiety, around 24000 to 45,000 people in the borough were experiencing these mental health issues. Mind were hearing a lot about how much of the borough's population were experiencing social isolation and loneliness.
- Cost of living crisis was having a major impact on the mental health of the population in Haringey and this reflected the facts of a deprived borough. Important to note that, as a borough, with a large population from diverse communities, this connected with the well-known evidence that people living in poverty or experiencing financial stress were more likely to develop mental health. It was likely that poverty and financial stress would rise over the next few years, no matter what the Council and partners collectively tried to do together. This was unlikely to change in the coming year and Mind in Haringey appreciated some of the issues that the Council was facing and recognised that it was unlikely to create new services in our borough.
- Mind were seeing an increase in people going without the basic living essentials such as food and a warm home and were working with the council on this issue.
- Expect that the effects of the cost of living crisis on public mental health services will be on a scale similar to the pandemic, and this needed a similar joined up working approach with partners in the borough as operated in the Covid pandemic.

The presentation continued to focus on two of the services provided by Mind that seek to address the health inequalities that some in the borough were experiencing.

- The mental well-being program working with five grassroots organisations, serving populations such as the Turkish community, Afro Caribbean Community, refugees and migrants, the homeless community and the Polish and Eastern European community. Mind were working with those grassroots organisations who really knew their own communities and could help guide on the type of support needed. This project was being funded for another year.
- Black Thrive in Haringey considers the diversity of the borough's population in Haringey and supporting the black community in Haringey. This service works on dismantling some of the systematic racism that exists in society. Mind in Haringey were trying to work with the Black community to address some of this and to reinforce that they can trust Mind in Haringey and the Council to try to address some of those issues.

Mind in Haringey concluded by reflecting that considering that, everyone will have a mental health journey in his or her life and it was everyone's business. They described this as a shared responsibility to ourselves, to our friends, to our family and our communities. It was important to ensure that the Council and partners gave hope to people when considering mental health.

Anil Doner, a representative of Daymer, highlighted the mental health situation for the Turkish and Kurdish young people who had volunteered and supported fundraising and aid for the earthquake victims in Turkey. Anil reflected that most of the younger volunteers were on a day-to-day basis, in their communities, criticised for not helping in the community or losing their culture and identity. However, hundreds and even thousands of Turkish and Kurdish youth came forward over 10 community sites across north London help and support activities.

The young people Anil had spoken to, all had families affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria and had lost a family member. Due to the severity of the earthquake, the communities had not had time yet to actually mourn and particularly young people to psychologically register the enormity and tragedy.

The common cultural issue was suppression of emotions, as it was not yet culturally accepted to talk about mental health or mention family members with mental health issues as a stigma attached.

Anil reflected that it was seven weeks since the day of the earthquake happened. He outlined that there were still young people at some of the centres trying to volunteer and he reflected that this may be an actual coping mechanism and there would need to be support to these young people.

Anil called on the councillors to visit the local community centres, Daymer, Cem Evi –, Alevi Federation, and the Kurdish Community Centre in Green Lanes, speak to the community leaders there, and just get their advice and opinions. He drew attention to the much-reduced attendance at local cultural community centres and this was worrying as this may lead them to negative activities and or those that are not beneficial to society as a whole.

Anil Doner concluded by speaking about the Council having the power to help the committees and reaching out to the Kurdish and Turkish community and offering their support further.

The Mayor agreed with the observations of the speakers and recognised the mental health perceptions put forward as common issue to ethnic minority communities.

The Mayor opened the debate with Councillors raising the following key issues:

Cllr Cawley- Harrison spoke about achieving real equality for mental health in in public health government funding referring to the draft mental health bill, which was currently progressing through Parliament. Currently local authorities, charities, communities did not have the adequate support and resources to make the transformative changes that were needed. Expand mental health support services to get people the

appropriate care they need in the community and reduce existing strain on ambulances and the A&E departments.

Cllr Cawley-Harrison spoke about ensuring frontline services, professionals within schools, universities, community support settings all received better training on mental health and this was added a requirement at the same importance given to First aid training.

Cllr Cawley-Harrison concluded that the Council, understanding its own employee's mental health needs, can better offer mental health support to residents. He called on the Council to sign up to, the mental health at work commitment, joining other Councils who had already committed, and were declaring publicly that mental health at work is a priority for the Council.

Cllr Barbara Blake spoke about the importance of relationships and of deep listening to residents. This was considering a more human person centred welfare state, which embraced the social solidarity, belonging and gave everyone a secure safety net. She felt that local government could start to deliver this by removing self-limiting silo services so staff can work alongside communities in high trust environments, developing participation and power sharing.

Cllr Blake referred to the Olive Morris Court project and supporting the mental health of residents that lived in close proximity to it. Cllr Blake concluded that a partnership approach focused on the rights of communities would go a long way to tackling and understanding mental health well-being in Haringey.

Cllr Connor thanked Mind in Haringey for their positive work in the borough, reflecting that mental health affected everyone and it was essential for Council to work together with health partners to ensure communities received the support needed.

Cllr Connor highlighted the co-design approach with the community, which involved working collaboratively with community members to develop and implement initiatives that met their needs and address their concerns. This would help ensure it was embedded across all service designs and provision.

Cllr Connor continued to outline that through this co-design and co-production process, the Council could address any barriers to accessing mental health services or identify support that may be specific to certain communities. Therefore, it was important to build trust and engagement with community members, leading to greater uptake of mental health services and initiatives by involving individuals with lived experience. This would further help foster a sense of ownership and empowerment with the community as they would feel more invested in any initiatives, leading to greater buy-in and therefore support to deliver these crucial services.

Cllr Connor further referenced data collection analysis to enable monitoring, and evaluation of services, aiding collaboration with the mental health professionals and having regular reviews to gain assurance that initiatives were meeting the needs of the communities and achieving the desired outcomes. Cllr Connor hoped the Council would continue to support embedding co design in mental health related service provision.

Councillor Mason focused on trauma as a specific aspect of mental health for this debate. She outlined that trauma was a frightening, dangerous or violent event that poses a threat to life or bodily integrity, and which can last throughout a lifetime. The adverse childhood experiences, such as domestic abuse, sexual abuse, living with alcoholic parents or any other event, which creates trauma for the child, has a higher chance of a negative impact throughout their lives. This led to increased risk of psychiatric symptoms throughout life. Leading to people self-medicating with drugs, alcohol, self-medicating with a range of different forms of behaviour, all of which society looked down on or made them feel that they were not welcomed in society.

Cllr Mason summarised that it was important as a council to ensure that self-blame was diminished and minimised for children and survivors of trauma. There was a need for trauma therapy for children and for adults who have experienced trauma. Taking forward trauma, informed practice and trauma informed care throughout all council and partner services was crucial so that there was an understanding of why some people might act or work in different ways.

Cllr Mason concluded that, as council and partners, there was a need to ensure listening and understanding of this key area of mental health. Furthermore, there was a need to make sure there were services available to help victims or survivors respond to traumatic events.

Cllr Lyngkaran spoke about the complexity of mental health cases, the difficulty in accessing care, and poor communication. He began considering this debate with a wider focus with considering budgets as moral documents that related to what kind of society we aspired to be. He spoke about the impacts of austerity on services and daily lives of residents with an increase in poverty and access to foodbanks increased. He highlighted the neglect of the most vulnerable following a combination of harsh austerity and lack of support. He summarised that the use of GDPR was also no longer suitable as its premise placed people as units of production.

Cllr Lyngkaran spoke about having an NHS that was fit for the 21st century that elevated mental health to be on par with physical health. The Council had increased its spending on adult and child services, but much more needed to be done to support services and increase awareness.

Cllr Bartlett spoke from personal experience of depression and the need to place active listening and responding to the individual at the heart of Council and partner public sector organisation support services. She recognised that services were stretched but there was a need to ensure that the Council and partners were mindful of the manner and impact of their contact with residents, especially those who were vulnerable and did not have a support network to respond. Cllr Bartlett spoke about the basic differences we could all make which were listening to someone when they confide and speak to us about their worries and challenges as this can lead to further speaking more openly about mental health. This could have a real impact and limit the escalations of mental health conditions and call on emergency services and more specialised hard to access mental support services.

Cllr Bartlett concluded by commending the work being completed on Canning Crescent s which would hopefully begin to provide mental health support services as soon as possible and reflected that everyone had responsibility for supporting people have good mental health through being mindful in our everyday contact with individuals.

Cllr Abela spoke about the link between poverty and mental health being unequivocal. The level of income also affected access to services, and she highlighted that there was 1.6 million people on the waiting list for mental health treatment in the UK. She spoke about how the Council were responding to this in some way and referred to a meeting between Councillors and Council officers with senior NHS colleagues to discuss the enhanced package of support that is now available for adolescents in Haringey as they make the delicate transition from children to adults.

Cllr Abela continued to speak about the designing local services with an understanding of what living with a mental health condition is like and ensuring that navigation of service provisions was as good as possible.

Cllr das Neves, Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care, and Wellbeing responded to the debate, thanking Lynette Charles and Deborah King and Anil Doner for sharing their experiences and providing key information about the mental health situation in communities.

Cllr das Neves advised that mental health was a priority in Haringey, and it was known that severe mental health illness rates were higher in Haringey than the London average. The Council recognised that these issues were difficult before the pandemic and were serious about making change. The Cabinet Member had recently brought together services that support people in the borough, at all levels, and begun the work of identifying gaps and understanding what residents need more have, or even less of.

Cllr das Neves referred to additional factors affecting Haringey such as the chronic government underfunding of mental health services, a difficult benefit system and pressures on people due to inequality and racism. However, the borough had some valuable services such Black Thrive provided by Mind in Haringey, studio 306, the Clarendon Recovery College, the Tottenham talking and well-being network and The Suicide Prevention group. These services meet people where they are and work with them to develop and respond to their needs.

Cllr das Neves further referred to the recent mental health day events in the borough and emphasised the need to lead on this challenge where possible to make sure nobody feels alone and that everybody can find a place in this borough to talk about their mental health experience when they need it.

The Mayor thanked participants in the debate and particular the guest speakers. The Mayor hoped that Members would continue to support Mind in Haringey, as they were a key partner in support to residents.

70. TO CONSIDER REQUESTS TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS AND/OR PETITIONS AND, IF APPROVED, TO RECEIVE THEM

The Mayor invited deputation Party from the Living Streets to come forward and make their representations. They were asking the Council to support and continue, at pace, implementing the walking and Cycling Action Plan.

The deputation party raised the following points:

- The change in the perception of safety and independence of children over the decades and a recent local incident with a car causing damage to a building.
- Traffic and accidents involving pedestrians, especially on minor roads in areas like Muswell Hill. Traffic filtering had been helpful in addressing this, but more was needed.
- For the Council to continue implementing traffic filtering, despite opposition and to introduce 24-hour bus lanes. Timed crossings should also be reviewed to allow more time for vulnerable groups to cross the road safely.
- Appreciated the Council's work in reducing car traffic, and promoting walking, cycling, and scootering.
- The urgency of responding to climate emergency.
- The LTNs introduced last summer had brought positive change to the area, including less traffic, noise, and more enjoyable walks and cycling to school, but concerns remained about access to streets and boundary roads.

The deputation urged the Council to focus on improving crossings, removing unnecessary parking on main roads, and making junctions safer while working with local communities and businesses for safer and healthier streets. More crossings were also needed, as traffic lights took too long to change.

In response to the questions from the Councillors: Hymas and Emery, the deputation party provided the following responses:

- Highlighted their participation in consultations with the Council regarding the LTN's implemented in their area. Due to Covid, most of the consultations were undertaken remotely, but they also attended in-person events at local community centres and parks. The St Ann's group, which consisted of about 100 residents, contributed significantly to the consultations. Whilst it has been some time since the consultations had taken place, the changes had now been implemented and were making a positive difference.
- The deputation agreed the importance of driving change and felt that setting deadlines was important to encourage progress of LTN implementation. They emphasised the need for specific targets with clear deadlines to avoid deferment to ensure progress was made in a timely manner.

The Cabinet Members for Climate Action, Environment, and Transport and Deputy Leader of the Council thanked the deputation for highlighting the importance of traffic management schemes for safety, climate, and the sociability of streets.

The Cabinet Member responded as follows:

- Noted the decreasing confidence of parents to let their children play outside, which these schemes can address.
- Highlighted anecdotal evidence of reduced traffic on boundary roads due to filtered roads in St Ann's.
- Mentioned priority bus lanes, safe crossings, removing pavement parking, safer junctions, and indicative timeframes for implementation.
- Explained the funding model used by the Conservative government and the need for prioritisation.
- Assured continuation and expansion of the active travel program and priority for safe protected cycle lanes.
- Mentioned ongoing feasibility studies and the growing schools' streets programme, with 15 new school streets to be implemented soon.
- Noted that the Council expressed agreement with the aims and ambitions of making the borough safer and greener for all.

The Mayor thanked the deputation for attending and making their representations.

The Mayor invited deputation 2 to make their representations. The deputation party was making representations in relation to Haringey Cycling Campaign, asking the Council to take stronger action to rapidly achieve Vision Zero of fatal and serious road injuries.

The deputation raised the following points:

- Vision Zero aimed to eliminate road casualties and the Mayor of London was committed to achieving Vision Zero by 2041. It was noted that this design for safer streets was already achieved in the cities of Helsinki and Stockholm. That these cities primary mode of transport was cycling which provided a quiet, green, and nature-filled route, with opportunities to connect with people.
- That cycling offers freedom to run errands and can provide recovery as a mobility aid.
- That cycling is reliable, quick, and stress-free, but Haringey lacks adequate cyclist protection.
- Concerns over safety on certain dangerous roads and junctions in Haringey.
- Pedal Me recommended as faster, efficient, and convenient cycle taxi service that uses cycle lanes.

The deputation called for safe cycling options for non-driving Haringey residents and children seeking independence. They urged the Council to take forward safe, connected cycle routes to encourage active travel, cleaner air, safer streets, and equity for all.

In response to the questions from Councillors Bevan and Cawley-Harrison, the deputation provided the following responses:

- They did not have information to hand about delivery drivers casualty statistics but acknowledged the risks and suggested ways to minimise danger.
- They believed motor vehicles were the biggest danger on the roads.

A deputation party member continued to share an experience about her cycling with her son to a theatre production in Piccadilly. While the other mums praised their bravery, she felt sadness instead of pride as the other mothers expressed their safety concerns. She believed that biking with children should not be considered brave and that all children should have access to safe cycling infrastructure. Building segregated cycle lanes could significantly reduce car traffic and air pollution.

The Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Resident Services responded as follows:

- Vision Zero is a road safety model used in Europe and recently adopted by the Mayor of London to eliminate road deaths and serious accidents on roads by 2041.
- Personal experience of road safety accident and her objective was to improve road safety in the borough.
- The Safe Systems Approach had five elements: safe behaviours, safe speed, safe streets, safe vehicles, and post-condition response.
- Haringey Council had committed £8 million in road danger reduction last year, which included working with TFL to reduce speed on the Roundway and Seven Sisters Road, introducing new zebra crossings, and enforcing HGV in Haringey and Alexandra wards.
- That the Council was also implementing three more HGV exclusion zones across the borough and taking forward late-night parking enforcement to remove dangerous vehicles from pavements. They had further assessed the 30 worst junctions and corridors in Haringey and compiling actions connected with this.
- The Council was also working with local communities, including mosques, synagogues, and trade unions, to promote behavioural change and raise standards and training.
- The government's recent intervention to stop the trial to reduce speed was seen as a setback for road safety efforts.

The Cabinet Member thanked various groups such as street campaigners, disabled groups and trade unions for their shared ambition to make roads safer.

71. TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, IF ANY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE NOS. 9 & 10

The Mayor invited Jim Edwards to put forward his public question. He asked that, in light of the Council's support of plant-based diets as a way to reduce Scope 3 emissions, if it would be willing to only serve plant-based foods at future meetings and council-catered events. Given the overwhelming evidence highlighting the impact of animal agriculture on the environment, the questioner believed that this is the only rational step forward for Haringey.

The Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Environment, and Transport and Deputy Leader of the Council responded as follows:

As part of the Climate Action Plan, considering moving to a plant based or reduced meat in the diet when taking forward catering was an issue under consideration. These conversations were about how the Council can help facilitate and work with partners, in terms of moving to a plant based plant based diet, was just starting. This would be one of the work streams of the Climate Action Plan unit, which was being newly established, and an update could be provided in the next few months.

The Council continued to RECEIVE the response to written questions.

Oral questions one to six were then asked and responded to.

72. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE NO. 13

Cllr Barnes proposed Motion E on Housing repairs, outlining that most Councillors casework related to housing, specifically poor quality of housing, and repairs not being completed to a decent standard. There was frequent correspondence about long awaited repairs and poor communication between tenants and Council as a social landlord. Cllr Barnes highlighted the need to consider the impact of poor housing on the mental health of residents and noted that between 17 and 31% of Haringey social homes were failing to meet the decent home standard and 33% of residents were unhappy with their homes.

Cllr Barnes felt that residents deserved an apology for the poor repairs service they received and had a right to expect a better repairs service with key timelines for repairs met and responses to correspondence relating to their repairs received in good time.

Cllr Emery seconded the motion, referring to some ward resident's repairs service experiences where there was lack of co-ordination, support and updates provided by the Council for their repairs. Cllr Emery anticipated that all councillors had similar repairs cases that they could refer to and there was a responsibility, as a Council, to ensure that residents received a much better repairs service.

The Chief Whip MOVED that in light of the time, [9.51pm] to invoke Council standing order 25.1 and suspend Council standing order 8.1 to allow the meeting to consider both motions at item 14. The Chief Whip stressed that this item be completed as quickly as possible.

Cllr Emery, the Opposition Chief Whip seconded this procedural motion and the Council AGREED to complete item 14 and both motions E and F.

The Mayor had received an amendment to Motion E and called on Cllr Carlin, Cabinet Member for Housing Services, Private Renters, and Planning.

The Cabinet Member for Housing Services, Private Renters, and Planning responded as follows:

- The need for housing services to improve was well known and the administration had been open about this.

- There was a Housing Services Improvement Board chaired by the Chief Executive, which underlined the importance given by the administration to improve housing services.
- Housing Improvement Plan being considered at Cabinet in April 2023, including key actions to improve repairs services.
- Compiling a repairs charter with residents

The amendment reflected the measures that had already been taken and will be taken to improve the repairs service, since it had come in-house from Homes for Haringey in 2021.

Cllr Johnson seconded the amendment to the motion, stating that housing and good quality housing services were essential, and she was pleased that the Council had introduced the Housing Improvement Board and were putting forward the Housing Improvement Plan.

The Chief Whip MOVED that the question be put, to proceed to the vote and this was seconded by Cllr Emery, the Opposition Chief Whip, and the Council AGREED this procedural motion.

In accordance with CSO 15.13(c) Cllr Barnes was asked to provide a short right of reply. Cllr Barnes reflected that previous Labour administrations had provided the same communications with recognising that the repairs service was not good enough and the plans to resolve this, but no change had been seen. Although the repairs charter on creating, setting standards and expectations for the Council was very welcome. Cllr Barnes contended that unless the Council bureaucracies were penalised for failures, she felt that it was unlikely to have improvements. Cllr Barnes stated that an apology to residents, as outlined as an action in the original motion, was a small step in the right direction.

There was a vote on the amendment to the motion with 41 in favour of the amendment, five against and no abstentions.

The amendment to the motion was AGREED.

There was a vote on the motion as amended, 41 in favour, 5 against and no abstentions.

The motion as amended was AGREED.

Motion E – Housing Repairs

Cllr Dana Carlin

Cllr Cressida Johnson

Council Notes:

- All our tenants should expect to live in a warm, safe and well-maintained home. We owe it to everyone to provide the highest quality service we can to ensure we can achieve this. Homes for Haringey was brought in house on 1 June 2022, in order to bring the service more directly under political control and to improve services.
- The Council subsequently commissioned two independent reviews which revealed that there were a number of areas where the housing service being provided to our tenants and leaseholders fell well below our expected standard. This was why we took the decision to refer ourselves to the Regulator for Social Housing, to bring independent oversight and transparency to the process of improving our services.
- In addition, the Housing Ombudsman has launched an investigation into Haringey's poor performance over damp and mould complaints, to assess whether this is indicative of wider failings in the organisation.
- A cross-party Housing Services Improvement Board, chaired by the Chief Executive, has been set up and a Housing Services Improvement Plan will be brought to Cabinet for approval in April.

Council believes that:

- The Regulator for Social Housing's judgement in March was an expected response to our decision to refer ourselves to the Regulator and brings useful oversight and guidance to our determination to improve Housing Services and the homes in which our tenants and leaseholders live.
- The Council's acknowledgement in December 2022 that a significant level of improvement is still needed in the housing repairs service was a necessary first step to improving the service;
- The Council's welcome focus on building new council homes must not come at the cost of maintaining the current stock;
- The Council must make sufficient provision for the maintenance of new and existing council homes, to ensure longevity of these properties and satisfied tenants;
- The Council's current performance when it comes to repairs is not good enough, and greater investment in both repairs and staffing levels is needed;
- Properly maintained council stock and improving the repairs service must be a top priority for the Council;

Bringing the housing service in-house has brought more political control to the service but will not improve services for residents in and of itself. A cross-party Housing Services Improvement Board, chaired by the Chief Executive, has been set up. This will monitor an Improvement Plan, which will come to Cabinet for approval in April 2023.

Council resolves to:

- Work with tenants and leaseholders to co-produce a Repairs' Charter, which will include repair priorities, standards and expectations;
- Ensure that repairs and major works are a key priority in the Improvement Plan

- Replicate the reporting procedures of Homes for Haringey, with public reports being sent to the Housing Scrutiny Committee or the Corporate Committee as appropriate, in addition to the work of the recently convened Housing Services Improvement Board.

Cllr Worrell moved the Motion F on Standing up for Responsible Tax Conduct, stating the need for the Council to sign up to the Fair Tax Declaration. She outlined the inequality of taxation avoidance by some businesses when this income could be spent on public services. This was in the context of a cost of living crisis where public services were already stretched to the limit and when people really need them.

Cllr Worrell highlighted the importance of challenging tax avoidance using the powers available to Councils and leading by example, as a council, in tax conduct, incentivising responsible tax conduct in dealings with businesses and the contracts awarded together with campaigning for stronger laws, which will better prevent corporations from getting away with this practice.

Cllr Worrell stated that, following the recent contract process for government Covid related provisions, and an increase in profits by energy companies in a cost of living crisis, the public were demanding transparency in how public funds were raised and spent and were demanding that corporations pay their fair share of tax.

Cllr Williams seconded the motion, adding that Officers had carefully considered the requirements of the Fairer Tax Declaration, attached to the motion; to ensure that the Council could sign up to it in good faith and ensuring it could be adhered to. Cllr Williams thanked Finance and Procurement officers for their work on this.

The Chief Whip MOVED that the question be put, to proceed to the vote and this was seconded by Cllr Emery, the Opposition Chief Whip, and the Council AGREED this procedural motion.

In accordance with CSO 15.13(c) Cllr Worrell, urged councillor colleagues to support the motion.

There being no amendments to the Motion, there was a vote on the original motion, and this was unanimously AGREED.

Standing up for Responsible Tax Conduct

Councillor Alex Worrell

Councillor Sarah Williams

Full Council notes that:

1. The pressure on organisations to pay their fair share of tax has never been stronger.
2. Polling from the Institute for Business Ethics finds that “corporate tax avoidance” has, since 2013, been the clear number one concern of the British public when it comes to business conduct¹.
3. Two thirds of people (66%) believe the Government and local councils should at least consider a company’s ethics and how they pay their tax, as well as value for money and quality of service provided, when awarding contracts to companies².
4. Around 17.5% of public contracts in the UK have been won by companies with links to tax havens³.
5. It has been conservatively estimated that losses from multinational profit-shifting (just one form of tax avoidance) could be costing the UK some £17bn per annum in lost corporation tax revenues.
6. The Fair Tax Mark offers a means for business to demonstrate good tax conduct, and has been secured by a wide range of businesses across the UK, including FTSE-listed PLCs, co-operatives, social enterprises and large private businesses.

Full Council believes that:

1. Paying tax is often presented as a burden, but it shouldn’t be.
2. Tax enables us to provide services from education, health and social care, to flood defence, roads, policing and defence. It also helps to counter financial inequalities and rebalance distorted economies.
3. As recipients of significant public funding, local authorities should as far as they are legally able to, play their part in the promotion of exemplary tax conduct; including that contractors pay their proper share of tax..
4. Where councils hold stakes in private enterprises, appropriate influence should be wielded to ensure that such businesses are exemplars of tax transparency.
5. More action is needed, however, as current and proposed new UK procurement law significantly restricts councils’ ability to either penalise poor tax conduct (as exclusion grounds are rarely triggered) or reward good tax conduct, when buying goods or services.

¹ 2022 polling (2022 ICM Omnibus, a nationally representative omnibus survey of c.2,000 adults across GB between 6 and 11 May 2022) commissioned by the Fair Tax Foundation from ICM.

² Research commissioned by the Fair Tax Foundation (from Data). The estimate relates to the period 2014-19, with the definition of ‘tax haven’ formulated based on Tax Justice Network index workings.

³ <https://missingprofits.world/> and supported by researchers from the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Copenhagen.

6. UK cities, counties and towns can and should stand up for responsible tax conduct.

Full Council resolves to:

1. Approve the “Councils for Fair Tax Declaration” which is attached to this motion.
2. Lead by example and demonstrate good practice in our tax conduct, right across our activities.
3. Ensure IR35 is implemented robustly and contract workers pay a fair share of employment taxes.
4. As far as we can, the Council will not make use of offshore vehicles for the purchase of land and property for tax avoidance purposes.
5. As far as we are legally and practically able to, undertake reasonable due diligence to ensure that not-for-profit structures are not being used by parent companies, holding companies or similar, as a device for tax evasion purposes or to unlawfully avoid the payment of business rates.
6. The Council, when undertaking procurement (exceeding the thresholds prescribed in the legislative framework), will as far we are reasonably able to, require tendering organisations to state whether they have met all their obligations relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions, both in the UK and in the country in which the organisation is established (if outside the UK).
7. Promote Fair Tax Mark certification especially for any business in which we have a significant stake and where corporation tax is due.
8. Support Fair Tax Week events in the area and celebrate the tax contribution made by responsible businesses are proud to promote responsible tax conduct and pay their fair share of corporation tax.
9. Support calls for reform of UK procurement law to enable local authorities to revise their procurement policies and discourage poor tax conduct and reward good tax conduct amongst suppliers.

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date

