

**AMENDMENT TO MOTION D**

The Council acknowledges

- local businesses are struggling in tough economic circumstances
- the increase in VAT from 17.5% to 20% has cost households with children around £600 a year in areas like Muswell Hill and forced up prices in local town centres
- households' disposable incomes in the second quarter of 2012 were over 13 per cent lower than before the recession started in 2008

The Council notes

- the council's continuing efforts to work with local businesses to encourage activity on our high streets in tough economic times
- the council's decision to freeze car parking fees across Haringey since 2010
- the council's work to develop loyalty schemes in Haringey's local town centres
- the London Councils report from October 2012 that concluded that parking schemes where spaces 'turn over' frequently can help to increase the number of visitors coming to town centres and help business

The Council resolves

- to work closely with town centre businesses to further develop loyalty schemes that suit their needs
- to explore the option of free parking in our car parks and parking bays on 24<sup>th</sup> December
- to write to the Chancellor and Lynne Featherstone MP demanding that the Government look into the impact of the VAT rise on local businesses. Ask that the Government consider a temporary cut in VAT in order to stimulate economic growth and generate more activity on Haringey's high streets

Proposer: Cllr Nilgun Canver

Seconder: Cllr Gideon Bull