Hackney

London Borough of Hackney – Decisions taken by the Council on Wednesday, 27 January 2016

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Part A – Items considered in public

4	Minutes of the previous meeting - 25 November 2015	RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 November 2015 be approved, as amended.
9	Report from Cabinet: Calculation of Council Tax Base and Local Business Rates Income 2016/17	 RESOLVED: i) That in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by Hackney Council as its Council Tax Base for 2016/17 shall be 66,624 Band D equivalent properties adjusted for non-collection. This represents an estimated collection rate of 95%. ii) That in accordance with The Non-Domestic Rating (Rates Retention) Regulations 2013 Hackney's non-domestic rating income for 2016/17 is £81,328,917, subject to completion of NDR1. This comprises three elements. £40,664,459 representing 50% of the amount at 3.4 which is payable in agreed instalments to Central Government £16,265,783 representing 20% of the amount at 3.4 which is payable in agreed instalments to the Greater London Authority £24,398,675 representing 30% of the amount at 3.4 which is retained by Hackney Council and included as part of its resources when calculating the 2016/17 Council Tax requirement. For: Mayor Pipe and ClIrs Adams, Adejare, Bell, Bramble, Buitekant, Burke, Cameron, Chapman, Coban, Demirci, Desmond, Ebbutt, Etti, Fajana-Thomas, Glanville, Gordon, Gregory, Hanson, Hayhurst, Hercock, Kennedy, Linden, Lufkin, McKenzie, McShane, Mulready, Nicholson, Oguzkanli, Ozsen, Patrick, Peters, Plouviez, Potter, Rathbone, Rennison,

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		 Sales, Selman, Sharman, Snell, Stops, Taylor, Thomson, Webb and Williams (45) Abstentions: Cllr Odze (1) Against: (0) Not Present: Cllrs Akhoon, Brett, Bunt, Jacobson, Levy, Muir, Munn, Papier, Rahilly, Rickard, Sharer and Steinberger (12)
10	Report from Corporate Committee: Senior Manager Pay Policy Statement 2016/17	RESOLVED that the Pay Policy Statement for 2016/17 be approved.
11	Report of the Corporate Director Director Legal, HR and Regulatory Services: Hackney Homes Transition - Changes to Hackney Council's Constitution	RESOLVED that the changes to Hackney Council's Constitution, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be agreed.
12	Report of the Corporate Director Legal, HR and Regulatory Services: Changes to the Council's Constitution	 RESOLVED that: i) the establishment of an independent statutory Channel Panel be approved and that its terms of reference and a change to the Proper Officer Functions, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be agreed. ii) the revised Planning Sub-Committee terms of reference, as attached at Appendix 2 to the report, be approved.

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		 iii) the revised Contract Standing Orders, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report, be approved. iv) an amendment to the Access to Information Procedure Rules, as detailed in paragraph 3.7 of the report, be approved. For: Many Against: 1 (Cllr Steinberger) Abstentions: 0
13	Report of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission and Executive Response: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)	RESOLVED that the Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission report and executive response on the Investigation of Female Genital Mutilation be noted.
14	Motion	 The motion was proposed by Cllr Selman and seconded by Cllr Potter. RESOLVED that: 'This Council notes: The Housing and Planning Bill currently being debated in Parliament, will (if it receives Royal Assent) have significant, far reaching and adverse implications for local residents, the supply of truly affordable housing and the Council, specifically: A requirement for the Council to sell 'high-value' council homes on the open market; The imposition of a levy or 'housing tax' on the Council to fund Housing

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	Association right to buy tenant discounts, which could be anywhere in England;
	 A requirement that the Council charges market or near market rents where households renting from the Council have an annual income of £40,000 or more;
	 A new restriction on the Council to offer 5 year or shorter tenancies for new tenants;
	• The introduction of 'starter homes' as new form of 'affordable' housing tenure.
	The Council has been involved in providing detailed evidence to the Housing & Planning Bill Committee, submitting amendments and suggested new clauses to the Bill, receiving evidence from a range of concerned organisations through its Living in Hackney Scrutiny review, with the objective of highlighting the adverse impact this Bill will have on Hackney through the loss of social rented and truly affordable accommodation in the borough.
	The Bill in its current form will
	 undermine the Council's ability to comply with its statutory homeless obligations resulting in families staying longer in temporary accommodation.
	 place further pressure on the Council's overall temporary accommodation budget.
	 result in additional Council expenditure to administer and enforce the Government's pay to stay proposals.

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 result in 'starter homes' being built in place of social housing which will be unaffordable to Hackney families and young people on ordinary incomes. further reduce the supply of affordable housing by undermining section 106
requirements on private developers to provide affordable homes.undermine and put at risk the Councils housing regeneration programme.
 provide no guarantee that the truly affordable social rented, homes the Council is forced to sell will be replaced like-for-like in Hackney.
 undermine local democracy and decision making by taking 32 new wide and open-ended powers for the Secretary of State over councils,
 including the power to override locally agreed plans,
o to mandate rent levels for social tenants,
 to impose a housing levy on stock-holding councils, violating the terms of the housing revenue account self-financing deal Councils agreed with the government.
Whilst the Bill takes forward some of the measures the Council has been recommending in its private rented sector 10 Steps campaign, it does not address the affordability, poor conditions and insecurity issues in the private rented sector in Hackney– and as such will do nothing to help arrest the recent rise in homelessness.

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This Council resolves:
• To make clear its opposition to the Housing and Planning Bill and continue to warn the Government and others of the impact of the Housing & Planning Bill on Hackney particularly with respect to the likely damage of housing tax or levy, the extension of right-to-buy and the 'starter homes' requirement on the local availability of affordable homes.
• To ask the Cabinet Member for Housing to write to the Secretary of State with the Council's concerns about the Bill;
 To ask the Cabinet Member for Housing to write to Hackney's Members of Parliament with the Council's concerns about the Bill;
 To continue to support Living in Hackney's work to scrutinise the impact of the forced sales of Council homes and the expansion of right to buy;
 To continue with the Hackney Estate Regeneration Programme and other housing schemes to build new truly affordable housing for rent and to buy in Hackney;
 To work with Housing Associations that share Hackney's commitment to truly affordable homes through the Better Homes Partnership to ensure resources that can be used to build truly affordable homes stay in Hackney;
• To continue to ensure the Council's concerns about the Bill, are widely known by publishing information on the council's website, organising a meeting to brief Hackney Homes tenants and leaseholders, as well as using the local press to

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		explain the impact.'
		For: Many Against: 2 Abstentions: 0
15	Appointments to Committees (standing item)	RESOLVED that the appointment of Anne Canning (Director of Education at the Hackney Learning Trust) to the Health and Wellbeing Board in their interim capacity as the Council's statutory officer for Children's Services, be agreed.