

London Borough of Hackney
Council
Municipal Year 2017/2018
Date of Meeting Wednesday, 25th October, 2017

Minutes of the proceedings of
Council held at Hackney Town
Hall, Mare Street,
London E8 1EA

**Councillors in
Attendance:**

Mayor Philip Glanville, Cllr Kam Adams, Cllr Soraya Adejare, Cllr Dawood Akhoun, Cllr Brian Bell, Deputy Mayor Anntoinette Bramble, Cllr Will Brett, Cllr Laura Bunt, Cllr Jon Burke, Cllr Robert Chapman, Cllr Mete Coban, Cllr Sophie Conway, Cllr Feryal Demirci, Cllr Michael Desmond, Cllr Tom Ebbutt, Cllr Sade Etti, Cllr Margaret Gordon, Cllr Michelle Gregory, Cllr Katie Hanson, Cllr Ben Hayhurst, Cllr Ned Hercock, Cllr Abraham Jacobson, Cllr Christopher Kennedy, Cllr Yvonne Maxwell, Cllr Clayeon McKenzie, Cllr Jonathan McShane, Cllr Sem Moema, Cllr Sally Mulready, Cllr Ann Munn, Cllr Guy Nicholson, Cllr Harvey Odze, Cllr Deniz Oguzkanli, Cllr M Can Ozsen, Cllr Benzion Papier, Cllr Sharon Patrick, Cllr Emma Plouviez, Cllr Tom Rahilly, Cllr Ian Rathbone, Cllr Rebecca Rennison, Cllr Anna-Joy Rickard, Cllr Rosemary Sales, Cllr Caroline Selman, Cllr Ian Sharer, Cllr Nick Sharman, Cllr Peter Snell, Cllr Simche Steinberger, Cllr Vincent Stops, Cllr Geoff Taylor, Cllr Jessica Webb and Cllr Carole Williams

Apologies:

Cllr Sophie Cameron, Cllr Susan Fajana-Thomas, Cllr Michael Levy, Cllr Richard Lufkin, Cllr Patrick Moule, Cllr James Peters and Cllr Clare Potter

Officer Contact:

Emma Perry, Governance Services

Councillor Soraya Adejare [Speaker] in the Chair

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Speaker's Announcements

2.1 The Speaker announced, with sadness, the death of past Mayor and Councillor, Abdul Mulla. She introduced Saleem Siddiqui, former Councillor and Mayor of Hackney, who wished to say a few words in tribute. Saleem told Council that Abdul was born in India and had moved to Britain in 1986, becoming a Councillor in 1998, stepping down from this position in 2006. During that time he had served on many of the Council's Committees, including Policy and Resources, Scrutiny Panels, always serving to the best of his abilities. He went on to become Speaker in 2003. Saleem told Council that a large part of Abdul's legacy was his work with Transport for London and the opening of a small school in the Leabridge Ward.

2.2 Councillor Ian Rathbone paid tribute to Abdul, his friend, who he described as a quiet man of honesty and integrity and a very loving family man, referring to the fact that the Mullahs' had their own cricket team. He had cared about children and young people, encouraging them to speak out. Councillor Rathbone told Council that Abdul had come to Britain to make a new life he found work as a Bus conductor and later as a Bus Driver. Abdul had lived a good life helping many people, considering it a great honour to be a Councillor.

2.3 The Mayor extended his sympathies to Abdul's family and told Council that Abdul had come from India to make a new life in Britain with 3 pounds in his pocket and had worked hard for his community, a service that was of great importance to him. He and Abdul had shared a love of Dallas. Abdul was survived by his wife, children and grandchildren.

2.4 Councillor Simche Steinberger told Council that he had first met Abdul during a by-election in the Leabridge Ward. He referred to Abdul as a person for everyone who cared for his community. Councillor Steinberger sent his condolences to Abdul's family and wished them health and happiness.

2.5 Councillor Ian Sharer told Council that Abdul had been a credit to the Borough of Hackney and that during his time as speaker he had spent much time with the Jewish Community.

2.6 Councillor Sharon Patrick told Council that she had had the pleasure of serving with Abdul and expressed her sorrow at his death and informing Council of his passion for his family, public service and cricket.

3 Declarations of Interest

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4 Minutes of the previous meeting

4.1 **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26th July 2017 be approved, subject to the following amendment:

Fourth line at paragraph 7.10 – insert the word '6,000' before 'pupils'.

5 Questions from Members of the Public

5.1 Mr David Robinson to the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, Transport and Parks:

Dunsmure Road, Stamford Hill, suffers from severe problems due to dangerous driving and illegal and anti-social parking which endanger pedestrians and cyclist. This is a particular problem when large numbers of children are walking to the two primary schools and to the independent Jewish schools there. What is the Council doing to make the road safe?

Response from Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, transport and Parks:

Councillor Demirci stated that the Council was taking steps to address the serious traffic and road safety issues in the Dunsmure Road area through enforcement,

education and engagement with residents and schools, and through making improvement to the public realm. Councillor Demirci outlined the actions being taken.

In tackling the illegal and anti-social parking issues in Dunsmure Road and Stamford Hill, Hackney Parking Services had worked in collaboration with Streetscene to introduce CCTV enforcement of School Keep Clear markings as an intensification of the CEO enforcement. On 19 June 2017, Parking Services had commenced CCTV enforcement of vehicles parking and stopping outside five schools in the N16 area, including Sir Thomas Abney near Dunsmure Road and Bethune Road. The CCTV cameras were to be rotated on a regular basis to other schools in the borough where similar parking issues had been identified.

With regard to Schools and Road Safety Education Hackney Streetscene officers had undertaken a number of road safety initiatives with Sir Thomas Abney and Holmleigh School. Sir Thomas Abney School had 2 school crossing patrol officers. In June this year the school participated in a 'Share the Road' event where both the school and community could share any concerns. The scheme also supported School Crossing Patrol officers and promoted the message to respect all road users. Officers from the Council's Safer Transport Team attended the event and engaged with drivers in the area about wearing seat belts and the use of mobile phone whilst driving.

This school had participated both in the Council's Junior Road Safety officer scheme and the School Keep Clear programme, proactive in providing cycling skills from nursery level through to year 6 and last year the school took part in the Council's 'Bike Around the Borough' event. Sir Thomas Abney also participated in the Council's 'Smarter Travel programmes' and was awarded silver accreditation in September 2016.

Officers also engaged with Holmleigh School, which was on the Council's priority list and was scheduled for CCTV cameras to enforce school keep clear marking with the next tranche starting January 2018. Residents in Dunsmure and Holmleigh Roads had been supported by local Police Community Support Officers in tackling inconsiderate parking in the area.

With regard to Environment Streetscene, Councillor Demirci stated that the Council was currently developing a scheme to help tackle issues of concern in the area, especially around the shopping parade area on Dunsmure Road between West Bank and Cranwich Road. The objectives were to improve road safety by helping to better regulate parking and slow vehicles passing through the immediate area, while also widening the available footway space for pedestrians where possible. The possibility of planting additional trees, on any widened footway, to green the area and mitigate against the effects of pollution was being investigated as part of the designs.

The Cycle Superhighway 1 route passed through that part of Dunsmure Road and any proposals would take this into consideration. It was anticipated that consultation on a scheme would take place in November.

In a supplementary question, Mr Robinson asked if traffic calming measures such as a zebra crossing could be introduced to make the road safe. Councillor Demirci responded that officers would review the area to ascertain if it would be feasible to introduce a new pedestrian crossing on this road. She asked Mr Robinson to let her know of any suggested areas to place the zebra crossing.

5.2 Mr Christopher Sills to the Mayor

In the spring of 2006, when I was member of the Council, I raised the question of the disused underground toilets in Stamford Hill. As the situation appears to be unchanged, please could you tell me when the problem is going to be solved?

Response from Mayor Glanville:

Mayor Glanville explained that whilst the Council operated these disused toilets up to 1997, the registered ownership did not rest with the Council but with the owner of the adjoining Sainsbury store and offices. The Council could not force the registered owner to act in any particular way, so had been in discussion with them since 2015 in an effort to achieve a permanent solution for the site.

In 2015, the Council made arrangements for the rainwater in these flooded toilets to be pumped out and cleaned but as the original pump no longer worked and required replacement they have unfortunately again flooded with rainwater.

The Council remains in continuing dialogue with the registered owners, who had submitted a planning application (which was yet to be determined) for development of these toilets for retail use including building a kiosk at surface level. In the interim officers were again investigating what arrangements could be made for them to be further pumped out.

In response to a supplementary question, Mayor Glanville stated that the Council was liaising with the owners to find a long term solution for this site.

6 Questions from Members of the Council

6.1 Question from Councillor Abraham Jacobson to the Mayor

We welcome the Mayor's "Hackney Loves You" campaign in offering support & solidarity to the 41,500 EU nationals in Hackney. What actions are being taken for implementation?

6.2 Question from Councillor Etti to the Mayor

What is the council doing to support EU citizens in Hackney that make such a big contribution to sustaining our public services, businesses and communities?

Response

The Mayor stated that the 'Hackney Loves You' campaign was launched to show support, solidarity, and appreciation to the borough's 41,500 citizens from other EU countries. This was important as the UK entered into negotiations in which those citizens were being used as bargaining chips, with the Government refusing to give guarantees about their future. It was even more important when the police figures released last week showed there had been a 29% increase in recorded hate crime since the EU referendum, with 80% of that being racially motivated.

The campaign had been met very positively by residents, and people were wearing I Love Hackney EU badges as a visible symbol of Hackney's support for its EU citizens.

Mayor Glanville had been invited to meet a social work team from the Council who worked in family support and mental health, supporting some of Hackney's most

vulnerable residents. The team included members from Ireland, Germany, and Greece; an example of the invaluable contribution made by EU citizens to our community and how much we relied on their skills to deliver public services.

He stressed that we are all aware of how we depend on EU citizens for the delivery of our public services, particularly in the NHS and the care sector; they make a huge contribution to the borough's SME sector, as entrepreneurs, as highly skilled workers, in creative and tech industries, retail and hospitality. The Council was also engaging local businesses through the Hackney Business Network to make them aware of the campaign and contribute to it.

The campaign celebrates the contribution of EU nationals in the UK, and to make it clear that they are welcome and valued in Hackney and London. We have used every opportunity to raise these issues through London Councils, Central London Forward, as well as businesses, organisations and other bodies where these issues can be raised. We are working across local government as we try to mitigate the impact of the Brexit process on our communities. He also set out how he had written to the Secretary of State and Shadow Brexit Ministers.

In response to a supplementary question from Councillor Jacobson, the Mayor responded that the Labour party had shown clear leadership on Brexit, EU Citizens, focusing on jobs and the economy and that it had been debated and discussed at the Labour party conference.

6.3 Question from Councillor Ian Sharer to Cabinet Member for Housing

What updated action is Hackney Council doing for fire safety in residential blocks in the Borough?

Response

Councillor Clayeon McKenzie reaffirmed that the Council was committed to taking all appropriate steps to ensure the fire safety of Hackney residents. The Council had been working with residents, contractors and the London Fire Brigade to minimise fire risks in the homes the Council owned as well as taking action where the Council had regulatory and enforcement powers, with respect to other residential homes in the borough.

Whilst the Council was taking action on a range of fronts to improve fire safety and raise standards, the Council was making recommendations that would lead to a better regulatory and enforcement regime. Action, leadership, financial support and flexibility was required from the Government regrettably, thus far there has been scant evidence of any meaningful action or leadership from the Government on this issue. He outlined the three strands of the Council's approach on fire safety

Firstly, national policy changes to improve fire safety. The Council has made two very detailed submissions, the first to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry and more recently a detailed 29 point submission to the Hackitt review of building regulations.

Secondly, with regard to Council owned homes, 1,800 new fire risk assessments had been completed and unlike the majority of social landlords the Council had published the Fire Risk Assessments on the Council's website in order to increase transparency and provide reassurance to tenants. As at 13th October, the Council had published

759 FRAs and by the end of October approximately 1, 800 new updated FRAs would be ready to be published on the Council's website. Our independent specialist (CladTech Associates) had completed a detailed review of all cladding used on estates.

Finally, in relation to other residential properties in the borough, the Council was continuing to work very closely with all landlords across the borough and the LFB with respect to fire safety issues. The Council was regularly meeting with Registered Social Housing providers on fire safety and was being updated with the fire safety work they are undertaking.

With respect to the private rented sector the responsibilities for fire safety regulation lie jointly with the Council and the London Fire Brigade (LFB).

Consultation was continuing on additional licensing schemes which would widen the scope of licensing to encompass all Homes of Multiple Occupancies covering more than 4,000 HMOs. In addition enforcement action was continuing with respect to larger HMOs of three or more storeys.

In response to a supplementary question, Councillor McKenzie advised that no immediate action had been identified from the risk assessments.

6.4 Question from Councillor Dawood Akhoon to the Mayor

The 393 bus on Cazenove Road is often full at off peak times denying the disabled and those with babies access. Can the mayor make representation to TfL to increase the frequency and capacity of the service?

Response

The Mayor explained that the 393 bus route was operated by single decker buses and buses operated every 12 minutes during most of the day and every 15-20 mins in the evenings.

The route was unsuitable for double decker buses because the route goes down narrow roads in both Islington and Hackney.

Frequencies on the route had improved over the years to meet increasing demand and the last increase had been in 2014. The Council had previously discussed with TfL frequency improvements to the service but these were not taken up as TfL considered the level of service to be adequate. The figures for the 393 ridership was down from 3,104,268 trips last year to 3,038,296.

Members would also have the opportunity to raise the issue directly with TfL at a Public Transport Liaison Meeting which was currently being organised with Councillor Demirci and which all Members would be invited. This meeting was likely to take place later this year.

6.5 Question from Councillor Adams to the Cabinet Member for Employment, Skills and Human Resources

Could the Cabinet member for Employment, Skills and Human Resources share with members the latest progress in delivering the Mayor's employment and training agenda?

Response

Councillor Carole Williams stated that Council had significantly broadened its employment and skills offer, with the aim of providing high quality opportunities for residents to meet their own individual aspirations. The Council was committed to ensuring that we make the most of our relationships with businesses and our role as a major employer to create opportunities, with a focus on the most disadvantaged. In September 2017 Hackney Ways into Work was re-named 'Hackney Works' and a significant change in the Council's provision, moving to a broader employment support and job brokerage offer.

Hackney Works would provide a high quality offer that was distinct from the Government's statutory provision. This means residents receiving a tailored, personalised, employment service

The Council launched its Corporate Apprenticeship programme target of 100 apprentices being employed by the Council in 18/19 aiming to create apprenticeships across all Council directorates, and at a range of different levels.

In September 2017 the Council relaunched the Hackney 100 programme with the aim for all 100 paid placements to have commenced by May 2018.

6.6 Question from Councillor Coban to the Mayoral Adviser for Private Renting and Housing Affordability

What are the benefits of the additional and selective licensing schemes for Hackneys 30,000 privately rented households as proposed in current consultation.

Response

Councillor Sem Moema told Council that Hackney had been campaigning for better standards in the Private Renting Sector. She reported to Council that 11% of these properties contained serious hazards and a large number were in multiple occupancy. A half of the occupants had an income of £30,000 per year.

In order to ensure the safety of tenants the Council was currently consulting on introducing a borough-wide additional licensing scheme for all HMOs, also consulting on a selective licensing scheme for all privately rented non-HMO homes in the three wards most affected by poor conditions, Brownswood, Cazenove and Stoke Newington. This would mean that all privately rented homes in these three wards would need to be licensed.

Councillor Mete Coban complimented those involved on the work carried out in this area. Councillor Jacobson asked about the timescale for implementation of the licensing schemes. Councillor Moema responded that consultation would be completed in December following which properties would be assessed with a review and implementation in the spring.

6.7 Question from Councillor Stops to the Cabinet Members for Neighbourhoods, Transport and Parks

“The Mayor of London, in his draft transport strategy, says that he will work with London boroughs to develop roads pricing. This is an opportunity to lead the world in tackling urban congestion. Can I be assured that Hackney will take up this invitation and thereby address the numerous negative impacts associated with congestion in this borough?”

Response

Councillor Feryal Demirci told Council that Hackney’s 2015 Transport Strategy committed the Council to investigating options for developing new technology to manage demand on the road network, such as road user charging. The draft Mayor’s Transport Strategy contained proposals to reduce car and van traffic to 20% of total trips by 2041 as part of a ‘Healthy Streets’ approach and therefore saw a new generation of road user charging as potentially playing a key role in achieving this.

The Council was already implementing a large number of measures which were managing the supply and demand for road space including the use of emission based pricing for parking permits and reallocation of road space, including:

- Management and pricing of parking through permit parking in CPZs
- Limiting the supply of off-street car parking in new car-free developments
- Encouraging car sharing and car clubs through allocation of parking spaces
- Encouraging cycling through reallocation of car parking spaces to cycle parking
- Linking parking permit prices to vehicle emissions levels

However, congestion was still a problem in the Borough and road pricing schemes involving parking charges only affected car trips which began or ended in Hackney. Congestion was worsening despite a 15% fall in the amount of traffic on Hackney’s roads since 2008 and 19% fall in traffic since 2001. It was also known that congestion had increased despite an absolute fall in the number of cars owned by Hackney residents, which, stood at 34 %.

In response to the draft Mayor’s Transport Strategy, the Council welcomed the proposals for boroughs to implement road pricing to ease congestion and improve air quality.

6.8 Council Question from Cllr Snell to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Business and Investment

“How many residents and businesses responded to consultation about the future of the Dalston Quarter and how will the Council ensure it listens to those views in building upon the local success of organisations like the Arcola Theatre, Café Otto and the Eastern Curve Garden?”

Response

Councillor Guy Nicholson told Council that a total of 2,136 individual responses had been received from the consultation on the future of the Dalston quarter, providing approximately 10,000 comments. He thanked those who had spent much time on organising and carrying out the consultation. There was clear message arising to keep cultural activities in the area, including the Arcola Theatre and the gallery. Crossrail

would arrive in Dalston in the future with an impact on the Kingsland Road Shopping Centre. A Plan for the Town Centre would be reported to Council.

(Due to time constraints questions 6.9 to 6.10 were not taken at the meeting and the Speaker advised that members would receive a written response. These responses are attached as Appendix 1).

7 Elected Mayor's Statement

7.1 The Mayor paid tribute to Councillor Geoff Taylor who had stepped down from his role as Cabinet Member for Finance due to ill-health, reminding Council that he had led the Council's response to austerity and welfare reform and was a great source of institutional knowledge on financial matters, and so much more. He looked forward to continuing to work with Councillor Geoff Taylor as he recovered. The Mayor went on to formally welcome Councillor Rebecca Rennison into Cabinet and thanked her for taking on the extra responsibilities.

7.2 The Mayor referred to the difficulties around Brexit and 'Universal Credit' on which he had written to the Secretary of State outlining concerns. He said that the evidence was damning and that he wished the Government would listen to those London Boroughs that had experienced the difficulties arising from Universal Credit. The Smith Institute had undertaken work with Croydon and Southwark and 36% were in rental difficulties, 40% in debt. Hackney Council collects 96% rents. Sutton collected 93% before Universal Credit, since its introduction the collection rate had fallen to 44% from those households affected. The Mayor told Council that 44,000 Hackney residents relied on some aspect of Housing Benefit.

7.3 The Mayor told Council that in his first Council meeting he had outlined an ambitious agenda to build a Hackney that worked for everyone and that this meant a lot to him. He had said that he would seek to build on the work of Jules Pipe and try to address the growing inequality in the Borough and open up more of the opportunities available to local people. He told Council that the Borough has created 84 Council apprentices and will deliver 100 by May 2018. He had met 28 apprentices at a recent induction event, all of whom had varied roles at Hackney Council. Further, all were paid the London Living Wage. He confirmed that the Council's commitment to creating and sustaining opportunities went much further than new apprenticeships and the Hackney 100. Only that month the Council and Councillor Williams had promoted Ada Lovelace Day and encouraged more young women into STEM. Young Hackney and Councillor Bramble led on a careers fair for young men and especially young black men, building on the work of the Young Black Men programme.

7.4 The Mayor told Council that he and the Speaker had, during the previous week, attended the ESOL Graduation and Awards at the Hackney Empire. He believed that this was one of the Council's most important activities. The Greater London Authority had recognised that Hackney Council was one of only two boroughs who commissioned a full co-ordination service – mapping provision, reducing waiting lists and ensuring more people could access these courses – as well as linking it into wider council services. At the awards, over 180 Hackney residents graduated ESOL courses run by Hackney Council's Adult Learning Service. During the previous year they provided 25 ESOL classes in 23 community settings across the borough by working in partnership with Children Centres, Schools, Community Centres and Museums. Classes were available from Entry 1 to Level 1 and some combined ESOL with maths,

photography and local history. Students from 78 different countries participated in classes last year; the youngest was 19 and the oldest was 83 years old. One of the students who was presented with the award for Learner of the Year spoke about how attending an ESOL class had helped her in a difficult period of her life and how improving her English gave her the confidence to train as a beautician.

7.5 The Mayor told Council that he hoped that the Government had now started to listen and change course, reversing the seven year cuts to social housing. The Council had not waited for the Government and continued to invest in Colville, Kings Crescent, Bridge House and new homes in Clapton which will be 100 % affordable. And we are now in contract at Tower Court and St Leonards and this week have made an offer to Government in advance of the Budget for a plan to develop a further 2,000 new homes if the Council is given the same freedoms enjoyed by Housing Associations.

7.6 The Mayor told Council about current campaigning on Europe, Universal Credit, Grenfell and Housing. The Council opposed the pay cap, but had been clear that any settlement nationally must be reflected in the resources received.

7.7 In regard to Brexit Councillor Steinberger told Council that pressure was being exerted on the Prime Minister to ensure the protection of all European residents and expressed concern at the lack of action. His party did not support universal credit and asked to be involved in any measures against it. He went on to tell Council that Hackney had employed those people who had been used in Kensington and Chelsea. A report back had been made on Grenfell but that there had been no accurate figures.

7.8 Councillor Sharer expressed concern at what he described as the terror campaign around Brexit and the use of false information in confusing people. He said that he would be happy to be involved in any work campaigning against the roll out of Universal Credit and affordable housing and asked for information on any action to be taken at an earlier stage.

8 Report from Cabinet: Children and Families Service 2016-17 Full Year Report to Members

8.1 Deputy Mayor Bramble introduced the Children's and Families Service 2016-17 report and highlighted the developments and achievements during the period from April 2016 to March 2017, which included:

- Hackney Children and Families Service overall effectiveness was judged as 'good' during Ofsted's July 2016 inspection.
- The Children and Families Service was officially renamed April 2017 from 'Children and Young Families Service' to Domestic Abuse intervention Service as part of the Early Help and Prevention Service.
- Leadership changes with Mayor Glanville replacing Jules Pipe following the September 2016 by-election
- Hackney's bid to the Department for Education to implement a contextual framework to work with vulnerable adolescents was successful. The Project sought to introduce systematic change that would radically how the council works with young children

Wednesday, 25th October, 2017

- Hackney GCSE results for looked after children continue to be exceptional. Hackney achieved the third best result in the Country for GCSEs with English and Maths at 34.8% compared to national average of 17.5 %.
- 10% of Hackney's care leavers are in higher education in 2016, compared to 7% nationally
- Recruitment of foster carers continued to be a priority for Children's Social Care

8.2 Deputy Mayor Bramble outlined the priorities for the Children and Families Service in 2017/18 as follows:

- Continue to invest in the workforce across the Children and Families Service, recruiting people of the highest calibre, supporting their development and progression, and promoting leadership at all levels
- Focus on safeguarding adolescents in different contexts outside the home, including in their peer group relationships, school environments and the community
- Ensure that we have the right placements to ensure stability for our more complex adolescents
- Ensure that our care leavers are well supported in all aspects of their lives, that there are clear plans in place to support each young person's progression and independence, and that we have an appropriate range of creative, dynamic and high quality resources in place to support our care leavers
- Continue to deliver a comprehensive range of integrated targeted early help interventions through our Family Support services and Young Hackney to ensure that young people can access the support they need when they need it
- Continue our drive to recruit and retain more in-house foster carers
- To monitor, manage and understand the increasing demand for services
- Developing our understanding of the community with which we work, ensuring that our interventions are well-targeted to respond to need and building on strengths and resources available
- Ensure that issues relating to identity, diversity, inequality and discrimination are considered and addressed in all aspects of work,

8.3 Councillor Christopher Kennedy welcomed the report and in particular contextual safeguarding. He referred to a recent radio show on which it was highlighted that children in care were criminalised and emphasised that they were victims and not perpetrators and should be treated as such. Councillor Odze expressed that he could not support this voluntary adoption until the issue of Orthodox Jewish adoption had been addressed.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

9 Report of the Pensions Committee: Annual Report 2016-17

9.1 Councillor Robert Chapman introduced the Pensions Committee Annual report outlining the key activities and achievements in 2016/17 and demonstrating how the Committee had fulfilled its role effectively in its capacity as quasi-trustee of the Council's Pension Fund. He referred to another successful year for the Fund with £1.39 billion worth of assets. The Committee had approved a target for the Fund to reduce its exposure to fossil fuel investments. Councillor Chapman thanked all concerned, including the Pensions Committee, Pensions Board and Councillor Taylor for his good advice on pension matters.

9.2 Councillor Abraham Jacobson raised concerns around investment in tobacco companies and the health risks associated with tobacco and suggested that Hackney Council should divest from these stocks. Councillor Chapman stated that he understood these concerns however, it was emphasised that members had an obligation to ensure the long term solvency of the Pension Fund.

9.3 Councillor John Burke referred to the fact that fossil fuels were having a profound effect on the world's weather with an increase in temperatures and expressed concern about the future of our children. It was necessary to take action now to mitigate against climate change for future generations.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

10 Report of the Group Director of Children, Adults and Community Health: Report of Local Government Ombudsman - Judgement on Adult Social Care

10.1 Councillor McShane introduced the report and advised that the Local Government Ombudsman's recommendations as set out in the report had been implemented by the Council.

10.2 Councillor Odze referred to the personal information contained within the appendix, which remained unanonymised. Suki Binjal, the Interim Director of Legal and Governance stated that the information had now been anonymised and requested that members return any unanonymised papers to officers.

RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted.

11 Report of Chief Executive: Section 85 Local Government Act 1972 - Resolution to Extend Six Month Rule

11.1 The Speaker advised that Councillors Geoff Taylor and Dawood Akhoon were present at the meeting and the report was withdrawn.

RESOLVED that the report be withdrawn.

12 Report of The Living In Hackney Scrutiny Commission : Review into Air Quality

12.1 Councillor Sharon Patrick introduced the report and commended it to Council. She thanked members of the Scrutiny Committee and its Scrutiny Officer for their contribution on the report. Councillor Patrick highlighted the recommendations within the report as follow:

- Support for the Mayor of London's proposal to introduce T-Charge (Emissions Surcharge).
- The Council to lobby the Mayor of London to extend the ULEZ London wide
- How parking controls/schemes had been used to bring air pollution reduction benefits
- The School Streets project - which enforces road closures during drop off and pick up times

- Working in partnership with other boroughs on the Fringe Neighbourhoods of the Future to encourage a shift to electric vehicles to prioritise low emission vehicles.

12.2 Councillor Demirci paid tribute to the Chair and Committee members on their work and welcomed the findings within report. She stated that tackling air pollution was a national issue, which was affecting people's health and had been a contributing factor in many diseases including heart disease, strokes and dementia. In particular, there was evidence to link pollution from diesel vehicles to deaths and urged that the central government take measures to ban diesel vehicles. In addition, the Mayor of London should also be lobbied to extend the T- Charge to cover all of London.

12.3 Councillor Stops highlighted that the London Borough of Hackney had one of the worst levels of air pollution in Europe. The Council had taken measures to reduce pollution levels including implementing more parking control schemes but more action was necessary on promoting road pricing. He stated that the Council could not rely solely on the outcome of consultation exercises on proposed parking control schemes as they attracted a low response rate and did not reflect local residents' views. He indicated that if there was overwhelming support from local residents for the implementation of a scheme then the Council should take this into consideration.

12.3 Councillor Odze commented that implementing parking control schemes that did not receive local support during a consultation process would be undemocratic. He believed that climate change could not be attributed entirely to fossil fuel and had taken place prior to the industrial revolution.

RESOLVED

That the Commission's report and the Executive's response to the report be noted.

13 Report of Governance and Resources Scrutiny Commission: Devolution - the Prospect for Hackney

13.1 Councillor Anna- Joy Rickard introduced the report and commended it to Council. It was highlighted that this report served two purposes, what devolution means for London and specifically for Hackney.

13.2 Councillor Rickard highlighted the key areas within the report including encouraging the Council to have a holistic plan, the devolution of health that was already in the pilot stage, the skills and employment was imminent and sub regional partnerships. These services would provide opportunities for the London Borough of Hackney to be confident and assertive in seeking the best solutions for localised joined-up and person-centred services in these areas. Since the report had been produced the Adult Education Budget had been set to be devolved in 2019/20 to the GLA for London.

13.4 Councillor McShane welcomed the findings of the report. He stated that although the issue of the accountability structures for the devolved areas remained unresolved the Council would ensure robust mechanisms were in place for accountability. He explained that the devolved health and social care area had been approached by looking at the specific local needs of the community and being held accountable for delivery of the service. Devolution provided the opportunity to deliver

better services and this could be achieved by designing services based on the needs of specific local areas and making local government accountable through the local decision making process.

13.5 Councillor Sharman commended the report. He stated that the UK suffered from a centralised system of governance and that he was a passionate supporter of devolution and localised governance. He expressed concern at the current government's approach to devolution, which had been shambolic, inconsistent and slow. Devolution would require the Council to design and develop services responding to the needs of local areas and require those responsible for services to form cross team partnerships and sharing of information. The other issue of devolution was ensuring that structures were in place for an accountable body to scrutinise and hold local government to account for those devolved services and requested that the Executive review its position on the proposed local Public Accounts Committees as there was a need to have open scrutiny of how public services operated. Councillor Sharman believed that the country was still far from having proper locally accountable and democratic delivery of those devolved central government services and asked that the Council continue to pressure the central government on this issue.

RESOLVED

That the Commission's report and the Executive's response to the report be noted.

14 Motion

a Campaign for more police funding - Motion

14.1 Councillor Snell proposed and introduced the motion:

It was stated that since 2010 Hackney had lost around 200 police officers approximately a quarter of the police whilst the population had increased by over a third in the past 15 years. The population had been projected to increase by a further 10% by 2024. Hackney's late night economy had placed a huge strain on police resources and the police needed sufficient officers to deliver partnership working which had been essential in responding to the crime and anti-social behaviour in the borough in particular Dalston Square and Ashwin Street. In order to deliver action plans the police had to redeploy officers leaving other areas short, which undermined immediate response to incidents and longer term crime prevention and community engagement. In addition, as officers' numbers were reduced there had been less capacity to build relationships, which allowed the police to respond to concerns and prevent crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Mayor of London's commitment to increase Ward police teams from one to two PCs had been welcomed but stressed that if the central government did not properly fund the Metropolitan Police, London risked losing a further 4,000 officers, which would result in the lowest level of officers since 2003.

The Council should work with the Mayor of London to demand proper funding from central government for police services and revive community engagement and preventative programmes so that Hackney could continue to be the most improved borough for community safety.

Wednesday, 25th October, 2017

14.2 Councillor Stops seconded the motion and stated that his constituents considered policing a priority. Policing in the Borough had been successful in reducing crime and anti- social behaviour and keeping communities safe. In addition, people needed to have continued access to police officers based at local police stations. Hackney had been well represented by the police and any cuts to police funding would have a detrimental impact on resources and policing in the Borough.

14.3 Councillor Selman expressed her support for the motion and stated that since 2010 police funding cuts made by the central government had had consequences on the falling crime rates in Hackney. In 2015 and March 2017 Hackney Council had issued a clear warning that reductions in police numbers would undermine Hackney's long-term downward trend in crime. There were growing concerns among residents and businesses that the cuts would adversely impact on the resources needed to cut crime and keep the borough's communities safe. Hackney had experienced one of the steepest falls in crime rates in the country between 2002/3 and 2014/15 through strong and effective partnership working between the police, the Council and the wider community. The Council had committed to continuing to take the necessary measures to continue responding to crime and anti-social behaviour and address the underlying causes but the government had to act now, to properly fund the police service and ensure they had the tools they needed to keep communities safe.

14.4 Councillor Sharer expressed support for the motion stating that crime rates in Hackney had fallen and additional funding was necessary to ensure that the police had the resources to tackle and continue responding to crime.

14.5 Councillor Steinberger supported the motion in principle but queried whether any of the additional funding would be actually spent on supporting the police.

14.6 Councillor Odze expressed support for the motion and stressed that the underfunding of the police service had been inherited from the former Labour government and indicated that any additional funding should be spent properly.

14.7 Councillor Burke welcomed the motion and commended police officers for keeping communities safe and stressed that funding police services should be a priority for central government.

14.8 Councillor Snell stated that London had enjoyed the best rates of crime reduction under the Labour government and reiterated that the proposed government cuts to police funding would undermine policing in Hackney.

RESOLVED:

1. To run a high-profile public campaign calling on Government to properly fund London's police service, in particular through:
 - a. A significant real-terms increase in the Police Grant, so that the front line can be protected and the crime and safety challenges we face can be met.
 - b. Fully funding the National and International Capital Cities (NICC) Grant, to reflect the true – and independently accepted – additional costs that come with policing the capital.
 - c. Guaranteeing there will be no further cuts to the Met as a result of its Police Funding Formula review.

Wednesday, 25th October, 2017

2. To ask the Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Enforcement to write to the Home Secretary and Minister for Policing setting out our concerns.
3. To continue to ensure the Council's concerns about police resourcing are widely known through a range of communications channels and media engagement.
4. To support residents and businesses in making sure that their concerns about police resourcing are being heard by the Government.
5. To continue to do all we can to keep Hackney safe within the resource constraints we and our partners face.

(During the debate Councillor Chapman moved and Members seconded under the Council's Constitution Council Procedure Rule 16.1 (xiv) to extend the meeting beyond 10pm.)

15 Appointment to Outside Bodies

RESOLVED that the Hackney nominations to Outside Bodies be approved, as set out below:

- To agree the re-nomination of Councillor Ben Hayhurst as a Governor of the Homerton NHS Foundation Trust for a further 3 years from 25 October 2017.
- To agree the nomination of Councillor Nick Sharman as the Committee Member from the London Borough of Hackney for the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) Planning Decision Committee until the next AGM on 25 May 2018.
- To agree the nomination of Councillor Jessica Webb as the substitute Committee member from the London Borough of Hackney for the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) Planning Decision Committee until the next AGM on 25 May 2018.

16 Appointments to Committees

RESOLVED to:

- Agree the appointments of Councillor Patrick Moule and Councillor Sophie Conway to the Licensing Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2017/2018.
- Agree the appointment of Councillor Vincent Stops to replace Councillor Will Brett to the Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission
- Agree the appointments of Councillors Richard Lufkin and Katie Hanson to fill two Labour Group vacancies to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission

Duration of the meeting: 7.00 – 10:10 pm

Appendix One

6.9 From Councillor Kennedy to

Many hundreds of Employment opportunities are coming forward in Hackney Wick Ward at Here East and the Canalside building – what is the Council doing to make sure that some of those jobs, across all pay grades, go to Hackney residents?

Response from the Cabinet Member for

6.10 From Councillor Peters to the Cabinet Member for Finance and housing need

How many Hackney residents are living in the Council's 'temporary' homelessness accommodation each night?

Response from Cabinet Member for Finance and housing need

Thank you for your question at Full Council and I apologise for the delay in providing you with a written response. However, as promised please find below a full answer in relation to the number of Hackney residents living in the Council's 'temporary' homelessness accommodation each night.

As you are most probably aware, the number of homeless households accommodated by the Council under Part VII of the Homelessness Act 2002 will vary from night to night dependant on the demand and availability of accommodation.

As of 16 October 2017 there were 2941 households living in temporary accommodation provided by Hackney Council; of which 841 have been placed in accommodation outside the borough.

A more detailed breakdown of temporary accommodation usage is set out below:

Property Type	TA Stage	Total	Out of Borough
Hostel Accommodation	Stage 1	784	
B&B Singles		163	48
B&B Families		154	144
Self-Contained Annexes		849	640
Private Sector Leased	Stage 2	240	8
Housing Association Leased		283	1
Licenses		468	

This is a 7.5% increase in the number of homeless households since October 2016 and a 130% increase on October 2011. The drivers of homelessness in Hackney are complex; Hackney is the 11th most deprived authority in the country, yet at the same time the borough has become an attractive place to live, particularly for younger households looking to take advantage of a burgeoning local economy.

Wednesday, 25th October, 2017

As a consequence, Hackney has some of the most expensive housing in the country with fees having increased by 82% over the past five years, pricing out most first time buyers who are increasingly turning to the private rental market for housing options.

This has had a dual impact; slowing down the turnover and churn of properties available for letting in this sector, whilst driving up rents as landlords target the influx of young professionals willing to pay premium rents. It is therefore no surprise that the private rental market in Hackney is extremely buoyant, with landlords charging on average 30% more for three and four bedrooled properties than they were in 2013, while the average rent charged for a single self-contained flat is over £250.00 per month more than in 2013.

At the same time, the financial help to support families with their housing costs has been cut significantly by central government. The decoupling of the local housing allowance from the rental market has had a significant impact on affordability: since the link was broken the LHA rate has increased by 4%, whilst market rents have increased by between 16% and 50% over the same period, dependent on the size of the property.