



# COUNCIL

All Members of the Council are  
**HEREBY SUMMONED**  
to attend a meeting of the Council to  
be held on

Wednesday, 27th February, 2019

at 7.00 pm

in the Council Chamber, Hackney Town Hall,  
Mare Street, London E8 1EA

**Tim Shields**  
**Chief Executive**

Contact: Tess Merrett  
Governance Services  
Tel: 020 8356 3432  
[governance@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:governance@hackney.gov.uk)

The press and public are welcome to attend this meeting

## MEETING INFORMATION

### Future Meetings

AGM 22 May 2019

### Contact for Information

Tess Merrett, Governance Services

Tel: 020 8356 3432

[governance@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:governance@hackney.gov.uk)

### Location

Hackney Town Hall is on Mare Street, bordered by Wilton Way and Reading Lane. For directions please go to <http://www.hackney.gov.uk/contact-us>

### Facilities

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in the Assembly Halls, rooms 101, 102 & 103 and the Council Chamber. Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER	AGENDA ITEM	INDICATIVE TIMINGS:
1 – 4	Preliminaries	5 minutes
5	Petition for Debate	20 minutes
6	Deputation	15 minutes
7	Question from Member of the Public	30 minutes
8	Questions from Members of the Council	30 minutes
9	Elected Mayor's Statement	20 minutes
10	Budget and Council Tax Report	30 minutes
11	Audit Committee Annual Report	5 minutes
12	Motion	15 minutes
13	Draft Programme of Meetings for 2019/2020	5 minutes

## Council Agenda

### 1 Apologies for Absence

### 2 Speaker's Announcements

### 3 Declarations of Interest

This is the time for Members to declare any disclosable pecuniary or other non-pecuniary interests they may have in any matter being considered at this meeting having regard to the guidance attached to the agenda.

### 4 Minutes of the previous meeting

(Pages 1 -  
30)

### 5 Petitions for debate - No to road closures which increase traffic on Church Street

No to road closures that increase traffic on Church St

To: Hackney Council We're calling on Hackney Council to scrap road closures put forward under its Walford Road Scheme and consider other solutions that would have less harmful impacts on Stoke Newington Church Street and neighbouring roads.

Why is this important?

Hackney Council now admits its proposed road closures in the Walford Rd area could increase traffic on Stoke Newington Church Street by up to 21.8% (2,080 extra vehicles per day). That's far higher than the 5-7% "worst case" scenario stated in their consultation. Church St is a lovely road at the centre of the N16 community where people live, work and go to school. It already suffers from heavy traffic; many homes there are illegally polluted. The street is home to two schools, both of which have worrying levels of pollution, and it's home to nurseries. In places the buildings are higher than the street is wide, so pollution can get trapped. The pavements are narrow and, in addition to worsening air quality and adding to congestion, extra vehicles could lead to more accidents. The road simply can't cope with more traffic.

### 6 Deputation

#### Regent Estate Freeholders' Service Charge Deputation

Freeholders of Brownlow Road who are being incorrectly charged for works to tenants' properties want this sorted out. Freeholders would like the council to refund the last ten years of service charges during which time they have been charging us for things which we should not be paying for.

The deputation will be introduced by Councillor Harvey Odze

The deputation spokesperson is Mr Tony Burton

## **7 Questions from Members of the Public**

### **7.1 Question from Alastair Binnie-Lubbock to the Chair of the Pensions Committee**

Reports from firms like MSCI show you can divest from the top 200 oil, coal and gas companies whilst maintaining the same, or better returns. Why would Hackney choose to continue investment in these companies that aggravate climate change, commit human rights abuses worldwide and put profits before people?

### **7.2 Question from Trish Roberts to the Chair of the Pensions Committee**

"Hackney committed to decarbonising 50% of its fossil fuel investments in 2016. In light of the UNFCCC report on 12 years of action left to prevent the worst climate change, Labour Green New deal, councils passing climate emergency motions and Southwark, Lambeth and Islington Council divesting, when will Hackney divest?"

### **7.3 Question from Beatrix Pitel to the Chair of the Pensions Committee**

What is the rationale for decarbonising but not divesting from fossil fuels 50% of your investments?

### **7.4 Question from Dr Heather Mendrick to the Lead Member for Employment, Skills and Human Resources**

Following recent reports in our local press regarding allegations of bullying, discrimination, intimidation and victimisation in the Hackney Call Centre, what is being done to address these allegations and ensure justice is served, including attempts to resolve outstanding issues quickly?

### **7.5 Question from Christopher Sills to the Lead Member for Finance and Housing Needs**

Too many people become homeless in Hackney and are sleeping rough. Would you consider helping them solve their problems by allowing them to use public buildings as accommodation addresses and where lack of English is part of the problem encourage them to learn English

## **8 Questions from Members of the Council**

### **8.1 Question from Cllr Klein to the Councillor Selman**

In the year November 2017 to November 2018 the Council collected £414,758 late night levy from licensees selling

alcohol between midnight and 06:00. Of this more than quarter of a million pounds came from four wards, with more than 60% of this being collected from Licensees in Hoxton East and Shoreditch. More than £300,000 of this total remained unspent at the end of the year, whilst only £56,068 was spent on Council Enforcement Officer Patrols.

In light of these facts what is going to be done to ensure that the vast majority of this surplus as well as ongoing income will be spent on enhanced Police and Council Enforcement Officer Patrols in order to protect residents and licensees in those areas and to enhance the experience of Hackney for all concerned?

**8.2 Question from Cllr Odze to the Cabinet member for Housing Services:**

Why has it taken nearly 3 years for the Stamford Hill Neighbourhood Panel to receive an answer, that including the job description in a Communal Repairs Report is not possible because of the difficulties in redacting personal data, is this yet another example of the Council wasting money on software systems that are not fit for purpose?

**8.3 Question from Cllr Odze to the Deputy Mayor Demirci:**

What is the Council doing to ensure that the service it provides to vulnerable residents over the age of 55, who come under the remit of it's Housing with Care scheme, is par excellence, specifically, including the additional cost of the retrofit of proper controls over and above what would have been the cost if they had been in place originally, to ensure that the service is taken out of special measures and gains an outstanding rating from the CQC?

**8.4 Question from Cllr Stops to Deputy Mayor Demirci**

Deputy Mayor Demirci will know that so far we have only seen the concept drawings of the 10 million pounds Highway scheme in Hackney Central announced by Transport for London in November 2017. Can she share with us how the council is involving residents in developing this scheme in line with our manifesto commitment in May 2018?

**8.5 Question from Cllr Moema to Cabinet Member for Energy Sustainability and Community Services**

In the light of the International Panel on Climate Change report indicating we only have until 2030 to act to avoid the worst climate change, could the Cabinet Member for sustainability update us on the council's progress to meet its manifesto commitments on climate?

## **8.6 Question from Cllr Sharman to the Mayor**

In light of the suggestion that deprivation would be removed as a factor in distributing local authority funding, can the Mayor tell us what the likely implications are for Hackney of the emerging Fair Funding proposals?

## **8.7 Question from Cllr Adejare to Cabinet Member for Family, Early Years and Play**

What progress is being made on our manifesto promises of being a child friendly borough, so that every child in Hackney gets a good start in life.

## **8.8 Question from Cllr Race to Deputy Mayor Demirci**

Residents in Hoxton East are concerned about the implications of the East London Health Community Partnership estate plans, that have been announced without any prior consultation nor any engagement with Hackney residents. Does Hackney Council share my concerns, and can the Cabinet member provide an update on how these plans will impact health services in Hackney, especially the services at St Leonards site in my ward?

## **8.9 Question from Cllr Coban to the Lead Member for Employment, Skills and Human Resources**

What is the Council doing about promoting diversity and inclusion as an employer, especially by creating pathways to leadership for council employees?

## **8.10 Question from Cllr Smyth to Cabinet Member for Energy, Sustainability and Community Services**

Can the Cabinet member for Energy, Sustainability and Community Services please update members on what's being done by the council to work towards a clean energy system?

## **8.11 Question from Cllr Patrick to Deputy Mayor Demirci**

Could Cllr Demirci update the Council on the preparation to spend Sport England monies and how has the local community being involved in drawing up spending plans.

## **9 Elected Mayor's Statement**

## **10 Budget and Council Tax Report 2019/2020**

(Pages 31  
- 240)

## **11 Audit Committee Annual Report**

(Pages  
241 - 252)

## 12 Motion - Support the Abolition of Section 21 'No Fault Evictions'

### Support the Abolition of Section 21 'no fault evictions'

This motion calls on the Council to lobby the Government to scrap Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988, known as 'no fault' evictions, as part of a wider Better Renting campaign to improve awareness and standards in the Private Rented Sector. Section 21 enabled private-sector landlords to evict their tenants with two months' notice, without the need to give a reason.

Most of England's 11 million renters are on tenancies with fixed terms of six months or a year. There are nearly 34,000 privately renting households in Hackney -- all at risk from their tenancies ending through Section 21 notices.

The Hackney Labour 2018 -- 2022 *Building a Fairer, Safer and more Sustainable Hackney*, included a pledge to support Hackney's private renters by improving information about their rights, as well as campaign for further powers to regulate the sector. This is being achieved through the Council's *Better Renting* campaign.

Research<sup>1</sup> published by the campaign group Generation Rent shows that Section 21 evictions are now the single biggest cause of homelessness in England.

In Hackney, the number of homeless applications has increased significantly in the current year, as have the numbers placed in temporary accommodation and who are rough sleeping.

The loss of private rented accommodation is a leading cause of homelessness in Hackney, driving residents to seek support from the Council, including through Temporary Accommodation. The number of residents now in Temporary Accommodation is 3,100, costing the Council £13 million per year.

In 2017, the Scottish government made tenancies indefinite and banned no-fault evictions under the terms of the Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016. Landlords can still regain possession of their property, but must make a justifiable and evidenced case through the courts according to grounds that are set out in law.

This motion calls on the Council to note and agree that:

- mass homelessness is a national disgrace, and removing its leading causes should be a priority for the Government;
- 'no fault' evictions, where tenants can be forced to leave their home for no good reason, is a disgrace;
- alongside the good work of the Council in tackling

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.generationrent.org/here\\_s\\_another\\_reason\\_to\\_booo\\_rising\\_house\\_prices](https://www.generationrent.org/here_s_another_reason_to_booo_rising_house_prices)

homelessness and raising awareness of the rights of private tenants through the Better Renting campaign, the Government abolishing Section 21 no-fault evictions would help to make renting more secure for all tenants in the private rented sector.

This motion calls on the Mayor to write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, asking them to abolish Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988.

This motion calls on the Mayor to support Generation Rent's Unfair Evictions Campaign, and work with them and the Mayoral Adviser for Private Renting & Housing Affordability through the Better Renting campaign.

Proposer: Councillor Sem Moema  
Seconder: Councillor Caroline Woodley

### 13 Draft Programme of Meetings for 2019/2020

(Pages  
253 - 262)

## RIGHTS OF PRESS AND PUBLIC TO REPORT ON MEETINGS

Where a meeting of the Council and its committees are open to the public, the press and public are welcome to report on meetings of the Council and its committees, through any audio, visual or written methods and may use digital and social media providing they do not disturb the conduct of the meeting and providing that the person reporting or providing the commentary is present at the meeting.

Those wishing to film, photograph or audio record a meeting are asked to notify the Council's Monitoring Officer by noon on the day of the meeting, if possible, or any time prior to the start of the meeting or notify the Chair at the start of the meeting.

The Monitoring Officer, or the Chair of the meeting, may designate a set area from which all recording must take place at a meeting.

The Council will endeavour to provide reasonable space and seating to view, hear and record the meeting. If those intending to record a meeting require any other reasonable facilities, notice should be given to the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting and will only be provided if practicable to do so.

The Chair shall have discretion to regulate the behaviour of all those present recording a meeting in the interests of the efficient conduct of the meeting. Anyone acting in a disruptive manner may be required by the Chair to cease recording or may be excluded from the meeting. Disruptive behaviour may include: moving from any designated recording area; causing excessive noise; intrusive lighting; interrupting the meeting; or filming members of the public who have asked not to be filmed.

All those visually recording a meeting are requested to only focus on recording councillors, officers and the public who are directly involved in the conduct of the meeting. The Chair of the meeting will ask any members of the public present if they



have objections to being visually recorded. Those visually recording a meeting are asked to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed or photographed. Failure by someone recording a meeting to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed and photographed may result in the Chair instructing them to cease recording or in their exclusion from the meeting.

If a meeting passes a motion to exclude the press and public then in order to consider confidential or exempt information, all recording must cease and all recording equipment must be removed from the meeting room. The press and public are not permitted to use any means which might enable them to see or hear the proceedings whilst they are excluded from a meeting and confidential or exempt information is under consideration.

Providing oral commentary during a meeting is not permitted.

## **ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS**

Hackney Council's Code of Conduct applies to **all** Members of the Council, the Mayor and co-opted Members.

This note is intended to provide general guidance for Members on declaring interests. However, you may need to obtain specific advice on whether you have an interest in a particular matter. If you need advice, you can contact:

- The Director of Legal;
- The Legal Adviser to the committee; or
- Governance Services.

If at all possible, you should try to identify any potential interest you may have before the meeting so that you and the person you ask for advice can fully consider all the circumstances before reaching a conclusion on what action you should take.

### **1. Do you have a disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter on the agenda or which is being considered at the meeting?**

You will have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter if it:

- i. relates to an interest that you have already registered in Parts A and C of the Register of Pecuniary Interests of you or your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner;
- ii. relates to an interest that should be registered in Parts A and C of the Register of Pecuniary Interests of your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner, but you have not yet done so; or
- iii. affects your well-being or financial position or that of your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner.

### **2. If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest in an item on the agenda you must:**

- i. Declare the existence and nature of the interest (in relation to the relevant agenda item) as soon as it becomes apparent to you (subject to the rules regarding sensitive interests).
- ii. You must leave the room when the item in which you have an interest is being discussed. You cannot stay in the meeting room or public gallery whilst discussion of the item takes place and you cannot vote on the matter. In addition, you must not seek to improperly influence the decision.
- iii. If you have, however, obtained dispensation from the Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee you may remain in the room and participate in the meeting. If dispensation has been granted it will stipulate the extent of your involvement, such as whether you can only be present to make representations, provide evidence or whether you are able to fully participate and vote on the matter in which you have a pecuniary interest.

### **3. Do you have any other non-pecuniary interest on any matter on the agenda which is being considered at the meeting?**

You will have 'other non-pecuniary interest' in a matter if:

- i. It relates to an external body that you have been appointed to as a Member or in another capacity; or
- ii. It relates to an organisation or individual which you have actively engaged in supporting.

### **4. If you have other non-pecuniary interest in an item on the agenda you must:**

- i. Declare the existence and nature of the interest (in relation to the relevant agenda item) as soon as it becomes apparent to you.
- ii. You may remain in the room, participate in any discussion or vote provided that contractual, financial, consent, permission or licence matters are not under consideration relating to the item in which you have an interest.
- iii. If you have an interest in a contractual, financial, consent, permission or licence matter under consideration, you must leave the room unless you have obtained a dispensation from the Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee. You cannot stay in the room or public gallery whilst discussion of the item takes place and you cannot vote on the matter. In addition, you must not seek to improperly influence the decision. Where members of the public are allowed to make representations, or to give evidence or answer questions about the matter you may, with the permission of the meeting, speak on a matter then leave the room. Once you have finished making your representation, you must leave the room whilst the matter is being discussed.
- iv. If you have been granted dispensation, in accordance with the Council's dispensation procedure you may remain in the room. If dispensation has been granted it will stipulate the extent of your involvement, such as whether you can only be present to make representations, provide evidence or whether you are able to fully participate and vote on the matter in which you have a non pecuniary interest.

## Further Information

Advice can be obtained from Suki Binjal, Director of Legal, on 020 8356 6234 or email [suki.binjal@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:suki.binjal@hackney.gov.uk)



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