



COUNCIL

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

Wednesday, 23 November 2022
at 6.30 pm
Hackney Town Hall,
Mare Street, E8 1EA

Live stream link: <https://youtu.be/OJjqN-uKoo8>

Backup link: <https://youtu.be/wHTn68UyzeM>

Mark Carroll
Chief Executive
15 November 2022
www.hackney.gov.uk

Contact :Natalie Williams
Governance Officer
governance@hackney.gov.uk

MEETING OF COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2022

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1 The Mayor's Civic Awards

Following nominations, three individuals and three organisations will be recognised for their contribution to the lives of Hackney residents.

2 Apologies for Absence

3 Deputy Speaker's Announcements

4 Declarations of Interest

Members are invited to consider the guidance which accompanies this agenda and make declarations as appropriate.

5 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 17 - 50)

To consider the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council on 26 October 2022

6 Petition

Hackney Council should urgently reconsider their plans for motorcycle and scooter parking charges, or risk devastating impacts to the lives and livelihoods of riders and those who rely on them.

We are extremely concerned about the effects that these changes will have on riders who live and work in Hackney. We believe that the proposals will be detrimental to the economy and life of Hackney. These changes are disproportionate, unjustified and not evidence based.

Our concerns include:

1. Damage to the economy of Hackney and the livelihoods of those who work in Hackney

The proposed parking charges will make it impossible for many riders to work or visit businesses in Hackney. This includes commuters, delivery riders and

couriers, but also volunteer riders who provide vital support to the NHS, such as Blood Bikers or the Bike Shed Community Response.

Around half of all motorcycle journeys are for commuting, however the proposals will make it impossible for most who commute into Hackney by motorcycle or scooter to continue to do so. For riders who are able to continue to commute the £6 an hour costs could add up to £13,800 over a year.

It's a mistake to assume that in all cases walking, cycling or public transport offer a viable alternative. Many riders tell us that as a result of these charges they would be forced to give up working in Hackney, or move to live in another borough. This will impact not only these individuals but the economy of Hackney.

2. The proposals are disproportionate and unfair to riders

The evidence presented by the Council doesn't support the changes. Charging motorcycles and scooters the same amount as cars fails to meet the Council's duties of fairness and proportionality. It fails to account for the amount of space motorcycles take up, the fact that motorcycles do not cause congestion, or the lower levels of pollution they produce.

With the increasing popularity of new micro-mobility modes it makes no sense to treat motorcycles and scooters as equivalent to cars, when in reality they are more similar to other 2-wheeled modes. An electric motorcycle for example has similar impacts to an e-scooter or cargo bike, but their riders are penalised under these proposals just for having a licence and number plate.

3. Lack of appropriate consultation or evidence

Many riders who would be affected by these new charges have not been aware of the consultations about them. We are extremely concerned that the changes will go ahead without reasonable engagement with those who it will affect the most. In addition, the Council's evidence base used to support these charges is flawed, and shows a fundamental misunderstanding of motorcycles' overall behaviour and impact. For example it relies on the false belief that motorcycles and scooters are worse for air quality than cars, based on unreliable research which compares 30 year old motorcycles and scooters without catalytic converters with 20 year old cars with catalytic converters.

Hackney Council should reconsider their plans in light of the facts about motorcycle and scooter use

Motorcycling is a transport mode relied on by a diverse range of people, including nurses, doctors, couriers, delivery riders, business owners and volunteers. Those who use motorcycles and scooters, due to the nature or

length of their journey, often cannot reasonably use other means of transport. For many, a motorcycle or scooter is the only affordable option for their travel needs.

On a per km basis motorcycles and scooters produce significantly lower emissions than cars of CO2 and key pollutants such as NOx, PM10 and PM2.5. Motorcycles and scooters also do not contribute to congestion, and therefore their use has the effect overall of reducing emissions from other vehicles. The fact that 8 motorcycles can park in a single car bay frees up kerbside space for other uses, further easing congestion, or allowing it to be converted to space for walking, cycling or leisure.

Not all trips can be replaced by walking, cycling or public transport. For those that can't, motorcycles and scooters are the best alternative to cars. Instead of seeking to unfairly punish riders. Hackney should follow the example of other Councils in recognising the value of incentivising motorcycles and scooters over car use, as a means to meet their air quality and climate change

A copy of the petition can be viewed at:

<https://www.change.org/p/stop-plans-for-new-motorcycle-and-scooter-parking-charges-in-hackney-savehackneymc>

Lead petitioner: Ben Pearson

7 Questions from Members of the Public

The deadline for questions from members of the public is 12 noon, four clear working days before the meeting (Wednesday, 16 November). If you wish to submit a question you can do so by emailing governance@hackney.gov.uk or via the Council's website: <https://hackney.gov.uk/menu#get-involved-council-decisions>

A supplementary agenda setting out any public questions received after the publication of the main agenda will be circulated shortly after this deadline.

8 Questions from Members of the Council

8.1 From Cllr Garbett to the Mayoral Adviser for Older People and Carers

Hackney has the largest amount of unclaimed pension credit in London. What has the Council done in the past to address this and what are you doing to address this now?

8.2 From Cllr Troughton to the Mayor

One in four Hackney residents rely on buses as their main means of transport including many in King's Park, where there are already very high levels of deprivation, that depend heavily on the 236 and 242. With the Government failing to invest in sustainable and affordable public transport, Transport for London's proposals would leave many King's Park residents even more isolated and poorer. Can the Mayor please update us on his campaign to save our buses, so we can report back to the thousand or more residents who signed the petition calling for a sustainable and affordable way to travel?

8.3 From Cllr Binnie-Lubbock to the Mayoral Adviser for Private Rented Sector and Housing Affordability

Many residents who are private renters are reporting real difficulties with the cost of living and in particular private rent increases. Can the Mayor's Advisor for Private Renting and Affordability share with the Council the work she has been doing in recent months to address these concerns?

8.4 From Cllr Patrick to the Cabinet Member for Finance, Insourcing and Customer Service

Hackney residents are struggling with the rising cost of living — mortgage payments, rent, food, and household bills are all rising. What is the Council doing to support residents in light of the financial crisis and what support is it receiving from central government in order to help?

8.5 From Cllr Walker to Cabinet Member for Housing Services and Resident participation

The Council's draft Resident Engagement Strategy (2022-25) has pledged to create a residents-first culture at the heart of our housing service. Following consultation, how will the strategy ensure resident voice and participation across different tenures to drive improvements and ensure that poverty, social isolation and poor health are tackled head-on?

8.6 From Cllr Desmond to the Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Delivery, Inclusive Economy & Regeneration

Hackney Downs Councillors have been campaigning to protect Kidzmania children's soft play centre, which is threatened by development by Peabody Housing Association. How can the Council help protect this popular centre and persuade Peabody to adapt their plans to ensure it survives and prospers?

8.7 From Cllr Ogundemuren to the Cabinet Member for Employment, Human Resources and Equalities

Given the cost of living crisis, public sector workers need a pay rise. Can the Cabinet Member give an update on the 2022 / 2023 pay claim made by the unions and when does she expect staff to see an increase?

8.8 From Cllr Oguzkanli to the Cabinet Member for Health, Adult Social Care, Voluntary Sector and Culture

Can the Cabinet Member give assurances that the Council will work with partners and stakeholders to make sure that the future of St Leonard's hospital remains a fully comprehensive health service aimed at providing much-needed health services in Hackney?

9 Elected Mayor's Statement

10 Strategic Plan: Enclosed (Pages 51 - 99)
Group Director: Chief Executive

11 Pensions Committee Annual Report: Enclosed (Pages 101 - 117)
Group Director: Finance and Corporate Resources

12 Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report: Enclosed (Pages 119 - 182)
Group Director: Chief Executive

13 Motions

13a Cash Welcome Here (Cashwelcomehere#)

Hackney Council notes:

Since the pandemic, shops and services increasingly only accept cards as a method of payment. According to Which, around 1 in 5 consumers have been stopped from making cash payments.

So far this financial year, 1 in 3 payments made at the Council's Self Service Payment Centre were cash payments. A record £3.32 billion in cash deposits and withdrawals were handled at Post Office's branches in July 2022, and they report that personal cash withdrawals are up 20% since last year.

Going cash-free excludes many people.

1. People on lower incomes often rely on cash and avoid cards as they may be waiting for payday, trying not to bounce a direct debit or worrying

about going into an overdraft — average overdraft rates have recently increased from 12.34% to 27%. Cash is more easily ring fenced.

2. Older people often struggle to use cards and fear associated scams.
3. Children learn the value of money by using coins and notes.
4. Staff in many cash-free businesses interviewed by Victoria Councillors confirmed that cash machines often fail, and then cash is temporarily accepted.
5. Staff often receive a smaller share of tips on cards.
6. Between 1.3 and 2 million UK adults do not have a bank account. This figure includes refugees and homeless people without the documents to get a bank account. A cash-free society could be devastating for them.
7. People leaving abusive partners often need to hide money away, leaving no trace.

As more shops go cash-free, the options dwindle for those who need to use cash. No one has voted for this and it has not appeared in any manifesto.

The government has promised to protect access to cash in the Financial Services and Markets Bill, but not to mandate cash acceptance.

Hackney Council therefore commits to:

- Establishing Hackney as a #cashwelcomehere borough, supporting the campaign started in Victoria Ward, and promoting an inclusive economy by encouraging local businesses and ensuring that council-run facilities accept cash and other payment methods.
- Lobbying the Government to include a mandate for businesses to accept cash in the Financial Services and Markets Bill.

Proposer: Cllr Clare Joseph

Seconder: Cllr Penny Wrout

13b Climate and Ecology Bill

Hackney Council notes:

- That in June 2019, Hackney Council declared a climate emergency and committed to become a net zero carbon borough by 2040 and is developing a climate action plan to achieve this.

Hackney Council also notes:

- The work of Hackney Council to reduce carbon emissions, reverse biodiversity decline and tackle toxic air pollution

- That in 2022, Hackney has again been a Healthy Streets Scorecard leader with 70% of suitable streets covered by a Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN), the top score, and School Street schemes at 45% of all schools covered, the highest total number
- That there is a Bill before Parliament—the Climate and Ecology Bill according to which the Government must develop an emergency strategy to limit global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees celsius above pre-industrial levels
- That less than 5% of Hackney's carbon emissions are from the Council's corporate operations and buildings
- That the Council cannot tackle the climate emergency alone and the Conservative Government needs to step up with a plan to reach net-zero carbon emissions much sooner than the current target of 2050
- The lack of ambition shown by the Conservative Government since 2010 in tackling the climate emergency
- That many other London councils have joined the UK100 network of highly ambitious local government leaders and it is the Hackney Council's intention to bring forward its net zero target to 2030 so it can join the UK100 network.

Hackney Council further notes:

- The Climate and Ecology Bill requires that the UK to play its fair and proper role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with limiting global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees C above pre-industrial temperatures; and
 - ensures that all the UK's consumption emissions are accounted for;
 - protects and restores biodiverse habitats along overseas supply chains;
 - restores and regenerates the UK's depleted soils, wildlife habitats and species populations to healthy and robust states, maximising their capacity to absorb CO2 and their resistance to climate heating and flooding;
 - sets up an independent Citizens' Assembly, representative of the UK's population, to engage with Parliament and Government on these issues

Therefore, Hackney Council resolves to:

- Support the Climate and Ecology Bill;
- Write to Diane Abbott MP and Meg Hillier MP letting them know that this motion has been passed — urging Meg Hillier MP to sign up to support the Bill, and thanking Diane Abbott MP for already doing so; and
- Write to Zero Hour, the organisers of the cross-party campaign for the Bill, expressing the Council's support.

Further, Hackney Council pledges to:

- Continue to assess our largest impacts on the climate and ecology, prioritise where action needs to be taken and measure and monitor progress towards clear targets
- Reduce our emissions at source and limit the use of carbon offsets as part of the global effort to avoid the worst impacts of the climate crisis;
- Work with residents and our local business, voluntary, community & faith organisations, groups and public sector bodies to cut the emissions generated by non-Council sources in the borough, promoting and incentivising efforts to reduce their carbon footprint
- Engage residents with a genuine climate assembly, made up of a representative group with real power to steer the council's climate environmental work and with areas of devolved decision making responsibility.
- Write to the Secretary of State for Education to ask for their support for a Nature Premium to guarantee regular time in nature for all children and young people, with additional funding and support to level up those with the least access to nature as advocated for by the Institute for Outdoor Learning.

Proposer: Cllr. Alastair Binnie-Lubbock

Seconder: Cllr. Zoë Garbett

13c Fireworks and Sky Lanterns

Hackney Council notes:

- Fireworks can be a source of significant problems, fear and distress for many animals. They can cause psychological distress and injuries as animals attempt to run away or hide from the noise.
- The noise generated by fireworks has been found to be the most common cause for fear responses in dogs. The loud and sudden noise can also be a trigger for PTSD-related symptoms in humans. The debris can also pose a hazard to other animals.
- The short-lived nature of firework noise can make it difficult for the police or local authority officers to pinpoint locations and take action.
- Fireworks can be a risk to public safety when lit in small garden spaces in which people of all ages including children can be injured and there is a risk to fire safety for private and public property.
- In October 2022, fireworks were let off into a large crowd of people at Stratford shopping centre. Over the years, there have been a number of incidents involving fireworks in Hackney including a two year old sustaining burns.

- Fireworks and sparklers are only permissible for purchase from registered sellers for private use on selected dates of the year including: 15th October to 10th November, between 26th to 31st December, 3 days before Diwali and 3 days before Chinese New Year. It is possible to purchase fireworks outside of the dates above but only from retailers with a specific licence.
- An estimated 200,000 sky lanterns are released every year in the UK. As the popularity of sky lanterns increases, so too does the risk to animals and the environment.
- Sky lanterns are a danger to animals, a fire risk, an aviation hazard and a litter nuisance. When ingested, sharp parts can cause internal bleeding in animals. Animals can become entangled in fallen lantern frames and suffer from injury or stress trying to free themselves, and sometimes starve to death from being trapped.
- In Wales, sky lantern releases are banned on council-owned land and property. In other countries, sky lantern release is considered environmentally irresponsible and classed as a crime. In England, although almost 200 councils have voluntarily banned sky lanterns on council-owned land, it remains legal to release paper lanterns.

Hackney Council therefore resolves:

- To require the advertisement of all public firework displays within the local authority boundaries well in advance of the event.
- To actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people and measures to mitigate the risks. (As examples of possibilities: a public campaign of Rocket 'o'Clock having people fire them at the same time so the impact is shorter. It could even be a campaign on sharing food rather than sharing fireworks (The council may have other ideas and is not expected to use these examples if a better resolution is found)
- To encourage local firework suppliers to stock 'quieter' fireworks (less than 70 dB) for public and private display.
- To only use 'quieter' fireworks (less than 70 dB) in all council funded firework displays.
- To not issue special licences to retailers that allow them to sell fireworks outside the following dates: 15th October to 10th November, between 26th to 31st December, 3 days before Diwali and 3 days before Chinese New Year.
- To ban the release of sky lanterns on Hackney Council owned land and discourage their release anywhere in Hackney.

Hackney Council further resolves to write to the UK Government and urge it:

- To introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 70dB for those sold to the public for private display.

- To ban the release of sky lanterns on public and private land, in line with the Civil Aviation Authority to ensure public safety around airports.

Proposer: Cllr. Zoë Garbett

Seconded: Cllr. Alastair Binnie-Lubbock

Dates of Future Meetings

Members are requested to note the dates of Full Council meetings for 2022/23. All meetings of Full Council will commence at 7.00pm and are scheduled as follows:

- 25 January 2023
- 1 March 2023
- 17 May 2023 (Annual Meeting)

Public Attendance

Following the lifting of all Covid-19 restrictions by the Government and the Council updating its assessment of access to its buildings, the Town Hall is now open to the public and members of the public may attend meetings of the Council.

We recognise, however, that you may find it more convenient to observe the meeting via the live-stream facility, the link for which appears on the agenda front sheet.

We would ask that if you have either tested positive for Covid-19 or have any symptoms that you do not attend the meeting, but rather use the livestream facility. If this applies and you are attending the meeting to ask a question, make a deputation or present a petition then you may contact the Officer named at the beginning of the Agenda and they will be able to make arrangements for the Chair of the meeting to ask the question, make the deputation or present the petition on your behalf.

The Council will continue to ensure that access to our meetings is in line with any Covid-19 restrictions that may be in force from time to time and also in line with public health advice. The latest general advice can be found here - <https://hackney.gov.uk/coronavirus-support>

Rights of Press and Public to Report on Meetings

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 give the public the right to film, record audio, take photographs, and use social media and the internet at meetings to report on any meetings that are open to the public.

By attending a public meeting of the Council, Executive, any committee or sub-committee, any Panel or Commission, or any Board you are agreeing to these guidelines as a whole and in particular the stipulations listed below:

- Anyone planning to record meetings of the Council and its public meetings through any audio, visual or written methods they find appropriate can do so providing they do not disturb the conduct of the meeting;
- You are welcome to attend a public meeting to report proceedings, either in 'real time' or after conclusion of the meeting, on a blog, social networking site, news forum or other online media;
- You may use a laptop, tablet device, smartphone or portable camera to record a written or audio transcript of proceedings during the meeting;
- Facilities within the Town Hall and Council Chamber are limited and recording equipment must be of a reasonable size and nature to be easily accommodated.
- You are asked to contact the Officer whose name appears at the beginning of this Agenda if you have any large or complex recording equipment to see whether this can be accommodated within the existing facilities;
- You must not interrupt proceedings and digital equipment must be set to 'silent' mode;
- You should focus any recording equipment on 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 to respect the wishes of those who do not want to be filmed and photographed may result in the Chair instructing you to cease reporting or recording and you may potentially be excluded from the meeting if you fail to comply;

- Any person whose behaviour threatens to disrupt orderly conduct will be asked to leave;
- Be aware that libellous comments against the council, individual Councillors or officers could result in legal action being taken against you;
- The recorded images must not be edited in a way in which there is a clear aim to distort the truth or misrepresent those taking part in the proceedings;
- Personal attacks of any kind or offensive comments that target or disparage any ethnic, racial, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability status could also result in legal action being taken against you.

Failure to comply with the above requirements may result in the support and assistance of the Council in the recording of proceedings being withdrawn. The Council regards violation of any of the points above as a risk to the orderly conduct of a meeting. The Council therefore reserves the right to exclude any person from the current meeting and refuse entry to any further council meetings, where a breach of these requirements occurs. The Chair of the meeting will ensure that the meeting runs in an effective manner and has the power to ensure that the meeting is not disturbed through the use of flash photography, intrusive camera equipment or the person recording the meeting moving around the room.

Advice to Members on Declaring Interests

If you require advice on declarations of interests, this can be obtained from:

- The Monitoring Officer;
- The Deputy Monitoring Officer; or
- The legal adviser to the meeting.

It is recommended that any advice be sought in advance of, rather than at, the meeting.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs)

You will have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (*DPI) if it:

- Relates to your employment, sponsorship, contracts as well as wider financial interests and assets including land, property, licenses and corporate tenancies.
- Relates to an interest which you have registered in that part of the Register of Interests form relating to DPIs as being an interest of you, your spouse or civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse or civil partner.
- Relates to an interest which should be registered in that part of the Register of Interests form relating to DPIs, but you have not yet done so.

If you are present at any meeting of the Council and you have a DPI relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you **must**:

- Not seek to improperly influence decision-making on that matter;
- Make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of the DPI at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent; and
- Leave the room whilst the matter is under consideration

You **must not**:

- Participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business; or
- Participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

If you have obtained a dispensation from the Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee prior to the matter being considered, then you should make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of the DPI and that you have obtained a dispensation. The dispensation granted will explain the extent to which you are able to participate.

Other Registrable Interests

You will have an 'Other Registrable Interest' (ORI) in a matter if it

- Relates to appointments made by the authority to any outside bodies, membership of: charities, trade unions,, lobbying or campaign groups, voluntary organisations in the borough or governorships at any educational institution within the borough.
- Relates to an interest which you have registered in that part of the Register of Interests form relating to ORIs as being an interest of you, your spouse or civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse or civil partner; or
- Relates to an interest which should be registered in that part of the Register of Interests form relating to ORIs, but you have not yet done so.

Where a matter arises at any meeting of the Council which affects a body or organisation you have named in that part of the Register of Interests Form relating to ORIs, **you must** make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of the DPI at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. **You may** speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting but otherwise must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.

Disclosure of Other Interests

Where a matter arises at any meeting of the Council which **directly relates** to your financial interest or well-being or a financial interest or well-being of a relative or close associate, you **must** disclose the interest. **You may** speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.

Where a matter arises at any meeting of the Council which **affects** your financial interest or well-being, or a financial interest or well-being of a relative or close associate to a greater extent than it affects the financial interest or wellbeing of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision and a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest, you **must** declare the interest. You **may** only speak on the matter if members of the public are able to speak. Otherwise you must not take part in any discussion or voting on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.

In all cases, where the Monitoring Officer has agreed that the interest in question is a **sensitive interest**, you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest itself.