



EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL

All Members of the Council are
HEREBY SUMMONED
to attend an Extraordinary Meeting of Council
to be held on:

Wednesday, 26 October 2022 at 7.00 pm
Hackney Town Hall,
Mare Street, London E8 1EA

Live stream link: https://youtu.be/xPctMck__c

Back up link: <https://youtu.be/wHTn68UyzeM>

Mark Carroll
Chief Executive
18 October 2022
www.hackney.gov.uk

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

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2022

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Speaker's Announcements

3 Declarations of Interest

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

4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 13 - 34)

To consider the minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 September 2022. Enclosed.

5 Deputation

At July's Full Council meeting, Councillor Garbett asked about the plans for 55 Morning Lane following the end of the Option Agreement. In this deputation we will focus on a different aspect of planning for the site: the need for transparency, openness and accountability. After a failed and poorly-constructed Option Agreement there has been a breakdown of trust between Hackney Council and local residents about the future of the site. Essential to addressing this is to be open about what has happened up to now.

We demand that our Council make public: the un-redacted Option Agreement, any checks that were done on Hackney Walk before entering into an agreement with them, and all the pre-application exchanges between the Council and Hackney Walk. As well as rebuilding trust, this will enable residents to engage fully with the process and to hold our Council to account.

We also demand that our Council make public and discuss at the Full Council meeting the reports that informed the Option Agreement including any viability studies or other reasoning that contributed to the decision to set a target of 20% affordable housing on the site.

Deputation leader: Heather Mendick

Councillor introduction: Cllr Clare Joseph

6 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, 19 October). If you wish to submit a question you can do so by emailing governance@hackney.gov.uk or via the Council's website.

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

7 Questions from Members of the Council

7.1 From Cllr Binnie-Lubbock to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport

Residents are worried about the felling of mature trees on Council land, which does not need to go through usual planning processes, even in a conservation area. Has an assessment been made on the possible impact to Hackney's mature tree targets as a result of this, also including the recent heatwave and vandalism?

7.2 From Cllr Suso-Runge to the Cabinet Member for Finance, Insourcing and Customer Service

According to the Institute for Fiscal Studies, the Government's unfunded tax cuts as part of their recent 'mini-budget' could result in £18bn of cuts to public services in the coming financial year. What assessment has the Council made of the potential impact of these cuts on the people of Hackney?

7.3 From Cllr Garbett to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport

Will the CO2 emissions from the Edmonton incinerator be included in the Climate Action Plan (CAP) and the 2030 net-zero target?

7.4 From Cllr Gordon to the Cabinet Member for Families, Parks and Leisure

Hackney's poverty strategy calculates that 48% of our children are living in poverty after the cost of housing is taken into account. What is the Council doing to mitigate the impact of the cost of living crisis on children already experiencing poverty or in danger of falling into poverty?

7.5 From Cllr Binnie-Lubbock to the Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Young People and Children's Social Care

Are there residents with children who have school lunch arrears; if so, how many and what debt collection methods are used in those situations?

7.6 From Cllr Wrout to the Mayor

Can the Mayor provide an update on the Council's recovery of its systems since the criminal cyberattack on the borough in October 2020?

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

How is the Council supporting staff in the Libraries Service through the ongoing restructuring of the service, and what improvements can residents expect from the service under the new structure?

7.8 From Cllr Turbet-Delof to the Cabinet Member for Health, Adult Social Care, Voluntary Sector and Culture

There are an estimated 1.6 million people on mental health NHS services waiting lists. The announced government cuts not only affect those already living on the brink of poverty, hardship and destitution, it also affects their emotional well-being, undoubtedly increasing the already existing waiting list. What steps is the Council taking to ensure that the mental health of residents across the borough is safeguarded and is a priority of this administration?

8 Elected Mayor's Statement

9 Licensing Committee Annual Report (Report of the Licensing Service) - Report of the Group Director Climate, Homes and Economy. (Pages 35 - 52)

10 Motions

10a Long Covid Motion

Hackney Council notes:

- As of 1 May this year, figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) reveal that two million people living in private households in the UK – or 3.1% of the population – reported they were still experiencing Covid symptoms more than four weeks after their first suspected coronavirus infection.
- About two in five of those with long Covid, or 826,000 people, noted that infection was at least a year ago while one in five, or 376,000 people, said it was at least two years ago. In addition, 71% of those with Long Covid said their symptoms had a negative impact on their day-to-day activities, with 20% saying their ability to undertake such activities had been “limited a lot”.
- As a proportion of the UK population, the prevalence of self-reported long Covid was greatest in people aged 35 to 69 years, females, people living in more deprived areas, those working in social care, teaching and education or health care, and those with another activity-limiting health condition or disability,” the ONS added.
- At present it is not clear what causes Long Covid, but it can be the result of the initial infection sending some people's immune systems into overdrive, meaning they attack not just the virus but their own organs.
- NICE (National Institute for Health & Care Excellence) describes Long Covid as “signs and symptoms that continue or develop after acute Covid-19”. This

definition includes both ongoing symptomatic Covid-19 and post Covid-19 syndrome. Therefore, according to this definition, Long Covid starts from four weeks onwards.

- Long Covid symptoms are plentiful, and more are being seen as related to Covid 19 infection.
- At a local level Hackney Council celebrates the Post Covid Specialist Assessment Clinic and The Covid Rehabilitation (CoRe) service provided by Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, including the work of respiratory consultants Professor Karalasingam Rajakulasingam and Dr Santino Capocci.
- Hackney Council will continue to highlight the needs and support our school children experiencing long Covid symptoms and issue guidance when available from the government to schools and educational settings on the many pupils living with Long Covid, and support for them.

Hackney Council therefore resolves to:

- Working with our health partner organisations to ensure that support for those experiencing Long Covid is a central part of the next City and Hackney Long Term Conditions Strategy.
- Recommend to the Head of the Paid Service that the Council's employment policies and procedures be reviewed to ensure that those with Long Covid symptoms are supported.
- Consider the key recommendations of the Long Covid publication by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Coronavirus.

Proposed by: Cllr Anna Lynch

Seconded by: Cllr Anya Sizer

10b Fair Votes Motion

Hackney Council notes:

- Research has found that electoral systems impact participation in politics, for example there is a positive correlation between Proportional Representation (PR) and women elected to legislatures.
- Under PR, MPs and Parliaments better reflect the age, gender and protected characteristics of local communities and the nation.
- The introduction of PR for local elections in Scotland has led to an increase in turnout, which was 44.8% at the last elections, held in 2022. In contrast turnout in Hackney in 2022 was 34.29% (this varies by ward with the lowest turnout in Hoxton at 24%).
- The Labour Party in government successfully implemented Proportional Representation to a number of elections, introducing PR into the London

Assembly, in devolved government for Scotland and Wales and the Supplementary vote for the Mayoral elections.

- The Labour Party's conference in 2022 passed a motion calling on the Party to make a commitment to introduce a Proportional Representation electoral system for general elections.
- 370 Constituency Labour Parties (CLPs) – about 60% of the total number – have now formally passed policy in favour of PR.
- The Green Party has long supported a fairer voting system and PR for national and local elections to ensure seats in parliament better reflect the share of votes cast, as well as supporting extending the right to vote to those aged 16 and up.
- With the Welsh Senedd reviewing legislation on Single Transferable Vote for local councils, England looks likely to be the only part of the UK without any form of PR at the local level.
- According to polling, the majority of voters in the United Kingdom support the use of PR for elections in the United Kingdom.
- The last Labour Government put together the Jenkins Commission, which recommended the adoption of the AV+ voting system. This system is similar to how we vote for the London Assembly, giving voters local representatives and regional list members.
- PR would end minority rule. In 2019, 43.6% of the vote produced a government with 56.2% of the seats and 100% of the power. PR also prevents 'wrong winner' elections such as occurred in 1951 and February 1974.
- The current Conservative government, elected by less than 30% of the electorate under the First Past the Post voting system, led by a Prime Minister selected by just 81,326 Conservative Party members, is enacting an extreme policy platform that was not in its manifesto and does not therefore have any democratic mandate.
- In June 2022, Unison, Prospect and the University and College Union (UCU) voted to embrace more proportional general elections. The list of trade unions that back electoral reform is long and growing; it currently includes Unite the Union, Fire Brigades Union and Musicians' Union.

Hackney Council recognises that:

- That there are many reasons people are disillusioned with politics and that disproportionate electoral systems could have contributed to dangerous levels of distrust and disillusionment with our democratic process along with other factors such as politicians and institutions failing to focus on issues that matter most to people's daily lives.
- That it is essential that faith is restored in our democratic system and that the public see national and local government as fairly reflecting their views and their votes.

- That the First Past the Post voting system could be a significant barrier to restoring this faith.
- That the current Conservative Government introduced another barrier to Hackney's communities engaging in democracy by introducing voter ID requirements and removing the use of the supplementary vote in England and Wales in the Elections Act 2022.
- That this Council lobbied against the Elections Act, its introduction of voter ID and the removal of the supplementary vote for directly elected Mayors.
- Voter ID is also a significant barrier to Hackney residents engaging in democracy, particularly among poorer and more diverse communities that may not have valid ID such as a passport and drivers licence. 24% of the electorate hold neither a passport or photographic driving licence and Hackney Council estimates that 47% of households in Hackney have no driving licence holder. Democracy must be inclusive and accessible to work.
- That a system of Proportional Representation in which seats match votes and all votes count equally could help to rebuild public trust by ensuring that all political views are represented in Parliament and at local councils in proportion to their level of public support.
- That no voting system is perfect and some forms of Proportional Representation lack the vital local link between elected representatives and their constituents.

Hackney Council therefore resolves to:

- To make representations to Hackney's MPs asking them to lobby for change to our outdated electoral systems and support Proportional Representation.
- To write to the Secretary of State for Levelling-Up, Housing and Communities and the Home Secretary, to call for a national review of voting systems in England, change our outdated electoral laws to enable Proportional Representation to be used for general elections and condemning the introduction of voter ID and removal of the supplementary vote for Mayoral elections.
- To use proportional systems in non-statutory elections managed by Hackney Council, where this is supported by the relevant body.
- To consult the Hackney Youth Parliament on their choice of voting systems for Youth Council elections.

Proposer: Cllr Zoë Garbett

Seconded: Cllr Alastair Binnie-Lubbock

Dates of Future Meetings

The next meeting of Full Council will be held on **23 November at 6.30pm** and will begin with the Mayor's Civic Awards.

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

- 23 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.