

London Borough of Hackney
Council
Municipal Year 2019/20
Date of Meeting Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

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 Brian Bell, Cllr Polly Billington, Deputy Mayor Anntoinette Bramble, Cllr Jon Burke, Cllr Sophie Cameron, Cllr Robert Chapman, Cllr Ajay Chauhan, Cllr Feryal Clark, Cllr Mete Coban, Cllr Michael Desmond, Cllr Sade Etti, Cllr Susan Fajana-Thomas, Cllr Humaira Garasia, Cllr Margaret Gordon, Cllr Michelle Gregory, Cllr Katie Hanson, Cllr Ben Hayhurst, Cllr Clare Joseph, Cllr Christopher Kennedy, Klein, Cllr Michael Levy, Cllr Richard Lufkin, Cllr Anna Lynch, Cllr Yvonne Maxwell, Cllr Clayeon McKenzie, Cllr Anthony McMahon, Cllr Guy Nicholson, Cllr Harvey Odze, Cllr Deniz Oguzkanli, Cllr M Can Ozsen, Cllr Sam Pallis, Cllr Benzion Papier, Cllr Sharon Patrick, Cllr James Peters, Cllr Clare Potter, Cllr Steve Race, Cllr Tom Rahilly, Cllr Ian Rathbone, Cllr Rebecca Rennison, Cllr Anna-Joy Rickard, Cllr Caroline Selman, Cllr Nick Sharman, Cllr Gilbert Smyth, Cllr Peter Snell, Cllr Patrick Spence, Cllr Simche Steinberger, Cllr Vincent Stops, Cllr Jessica Webb, Cllr Carole Williams, Cllr Caroline Woodley and Cllr Penny Wrouth

Apologies:

Cllr Sophie Conway, Cllr Ned Hercock and
Cllr Emma Plouviez

Officer Contact:

Tess Merrett, Governance Services

Councillor Kam Adams [Speaker] in the Chair

1 Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Conway, Hercock, Plouviez and Moema.
- 1.2 Apologies for lateness were received from Deputy Mayor Clark and Councillor Pallis.

2 Speaker's Announcements

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

- 2.1 The Speaker outlined some of his recent highlights which included the Speaker's quiz night, presiding over 12 citizenship ceremonies, being the first Speaker to host a Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month reception and also being the first Speaker to host a Diwali reception. The Speaker was looking forward to taking part in Remembrance Sunday and lighting the Hackney Town Hall Christmas tree, lighting the Hanukah Menorah and taking part in the London New Year's Day Parade. The Speaker was also looking forward to hosting future citizenship ceremonies.
- 2.2 The Speaker announced with great sadness that former Councillor Geoff Taylor had passed away. The Speaker wished to pass on his condolences to Geoff's family and friends.

Mayor Glanville

- 2.3 The Mayor welcomed Geoff's widow, Elizabeth and family and friends to the meeting. The Mayor said that he and his fellow Councillors had had an opportunity to pay tribute to Geoff at his funeral a couple of weeks ago where they had learnt a lot about his incredible life. Elizabeth had recounted to the Mayor a story from her and Geoff's courting days when they had sat on a bench on Well Street Common and Geoff said to her that he could live in Hackney all his life. Despite his declining health Geoff had continued with his Council work for as long as he could but it was at St Joseph's Hospice that he had sadly passed away.

Geoff had welcomed the new intake of Councillors in 2006 and he had guided them through their first steps, whether it was sitting on the Scrutiny Commissions or working as frontline Councillors. Geoff was always available to talk. He was a father figure to so many and he had an unwavering commitment to public service representing the Victoria ward for 16 years, from 2002 to 2018. Former Hackney Mayor Jules Pipe had spoken of how Geoff could always be counted on and the huge contribution he had made in turning Hackney around and it was that record that should be celebrated. Geoff had a deep sense of Hackney's past. He was a passionate historian believing in tradition, the Hackney Town Hall and the churches in the borough.

Geoff also lived in the present with a firm belief in looking to the future. Geoff made sure the focus was on the next generation in Hackney and during his time as Speaker, he had chosen charities that worked with young people in Hackney. When Geoff had been a Governor of Orchard School he had drawn on his former role as a teacher to focus on young people. Geoff led various Scrutiny reviews on education, championing youth work and making sure that education continued to improve in the borough. Geoff was gentle and quiet, but he was a great orator and debater in the Council Chamber, whether talking fondly about Hackney, the evils of austerity or welfare reform, he did so with passion. Geoff had been the Cabinet Member for Finance, chaired on the Scrutiny Committee, as well as chairing various Planning Committees, the Pensions Committee, Audit Committee, Corporate Procurement Committee (CPC) and the London Development Committee (CDC). Geoff had left behind an incredible legacy. Geoff had no ego and he would be surprised that the Council were paying tribute to him in this way. Geoff was diligent with his case work and he embodied the virtues and values which underpin everything that Hackney holds dear. He was a social democrat and a European with a belief in

debate and compromise and the power of politics to do good. Geoff was a dedicated and honest public servant, who gave his all to the causes in the borough that he loved.

Councillor Katie Hanson

- 2.4 Councillor Hanson said Geoff had been a true polymath and although she had known him for many years, it was only recently she discovered his amazing array of talents. As a former teacher, Geoff was a passionate advocate for young people in Hackney. He wanted them to have the best education. Councillor Hanson and Geoff had campaigned to get a new school in the Victoria ward and they had felt so proud standing at the entrance when the school had opened five years ago, as the children came up the steps in their brand new school uniforms. Today Geoff's godson attends the very same school and wore his school uniform when he spoke at Geoff's funeral. This was a great tribute to the work that Geoff had done.

Councillor Penny Wrout

- 2.5 Councillor Wrout remembered when she first met Geoff as part of a group of parents who were concerned about the future of the land on Victoria Park Road where a hospital had stood and which was about to be sold off. The parents were anxious that there would be no secondary school for children in the area, so they went and saw Geoff. He was very sympathetic and along with Councillor Hanson, he had helped the parents group, on how best to lobby politicians. The result was the Victoria Road Osborne Academy now very much part of the Victoria Ward and the parents had Geoff to thank for that. When Councillor Wrout joined the Labour Party a few years later Geoff enthusiastically welcomed her and they had many interesting discussions despite not always agreeing. A couple of years later when there was a by election in the Victoria Ward Geoff had encouraged Councillor Wrout to go for it. She said it would be difficult to find anybody with a bad word to say about Geoff. He was a kind, thoughtful, intelligent and pragmatic politician with a lovely smile who was a true public servant who would be sorely missed. Councillors would try to follow in his footsteps and despite his passing he was still doing the Council a service by being a fabulous role model.

Councillor Simche Steinberger

- 2.6 Councillor Steinberger spoke about how he was greatly saddened by Geoff's passing and he echoed everything that Mayor Glanville and Geoff's colleagues in Victoria Ward had said. Councillor Steinberger said that Geoff had been an unbelievable Councillor and he used to refer to him as Mr Hackney. Geoff was a man who always cared whatever he did and he was a loved man. They had worked together on Scrutiny and although Geoff spoke quietly he always added value to the meetings and had much to say. After working on Scrutiny Geoff had been promoted to probably the most difficult job as Cabinet Member for Finance. Councillor Steinberger believed that this was one of the best decisions the Mayor had made. Councillor Steinberger said that when he and Geoff spoke outside meetings there was always something he could learn from Geoff and when Councillor Steinberger looked across now at the Labour benches, there was no comparison as there was no one like Geoff and it would be hard

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

to replace him. Councillor Steinberger said that had he known when the funeral was he would have done everything he could to have attended. Councillor Steinberger said how people would remember Geoff for everything he had done in Hackney for years to come. The Council had lost a great man and a huge asset. Councillor Steinberger wanted on behalf of his fellow Conservative Councillors to give their condolences and they wished Elizabeth only happiness.

Former councillor and Freeman of the Borough Saleem Siddiqui

2.7 Mr Saleem Siddiqui, Freeman of the Borough, spoke of his decade and half long friendship with Geoff. Mr Siddiqui recalled how Geoff, following his election in 2002, had been an active councillor, always looking after his constituents. As a historian, Geoff had written a book on the borough of Hackney which would stand as a testament to the area in which he lived. During a time of change in the Council when there had been huge pressure on resources, Geoff ensured that the Council could retain their advisor on Religious Education. Mr Siddiqui remembered how Geoff always spoke to time in meetings yet managed to say all that needed to be said within the allocated time. Geoff always had a broad smile and you always knew when he was in the room. Mr Siddiqui concluded by saying that Geoff would be sadly missed as an asset to the Hackney people.

2.8 The Speaker announced with sadness that former Councillor Lois Radice had passed away. The Speaker gave his condolences to her family and friends.

2.9 Mayor Glanville echoed the Speaker's comments about Lois. He said that Lois had passed at her home surrounded by her family and on behalf of the Council, he wanted to extend his condolences to Lois's family and friends. Lois was elected in a by election in the Clissold Ward in 1988 and would later serve in the Brownswood Ward until the mid-1990s. Lois served on the Education Committee between 1989 and 1993, Vice-Chair from 1989 to 1990 and then Chair from 1990 to 1991. Lois was a committed education union activist involved in the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education. Mayor Glanville spoke of how Lois was a vocal member of the Hackney North and Stoke Newington Constituency Labour Party, she had offered loyal support to Diane Abbott MP and strongly encouraged women to put themselves forward for various roles in the party. Lois was known by her close friends as a principled and pragmatic socialist. She had most recently held positions as the Hackney North and Stoke Newington Older People's Co-ordinator and as Chair of the Local Campaign Forum. Lois was hugely respected and had never stopped standing up for the community, the Labour Party and older people.

Councillor Sharon Patrick

2.10 Councillor Patrick spoke about how she and Councillor Desmond served with Lois. Lois had been a dedicated Councillor and had become involved with the Council's Education Committee at the time Hackney became an Education Authority. Councillor Patrick remembered, during the late eighties, both young and naive, she and Lois had been swept up in those times. Councillor Patrick spoke about how education was Lois's passion, it was what she believed in and Lois had a belief that the children of Hackney should have a decent future and

equal opportunities. She would have been happy if Hackney's children received schooling up to the educational standards of Eton. Lois would be remembered as a dedicated Councillor and for promoting the role of women in the Council and the Labour Party. She would be missed as a Councillor, a member of the Labour Party and as a comrade.

The council chamber stood for a minute's silence.

3 Declarations of Interest

- 3.1 Councillor Race declared an interest at agenda item 10.
- 3.2 Councillor Billington declared an interest at agenda item 10.
- 3.3 Councillor Lynch declared an interest at agenda item 7.
- 3.4 Councillor Hayhurst declared an interest at agenda item 10.
- 3.5 Councillor Hanson declared an interest at agenda item 10.
- 3.6 Councillor Snell declared an interest at agenda item 10.
- 3.7 Deputy Mayor Clark declared an interest at agenda item 10.
- 3.8 Councillor Lufkin declared an interest at agenda item 10.
- 3.9 Councillor Gordon declared an interest at agenda items 6, 10 and 11.
- 3.10 Councillor Webb declared an interest at agenda item 10.

4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- 4.1 The Speaker put the minutes of the previous Council meeting, held on the 26th June 2019, to Council for approval. Councillor Steinberger raised a point of order in relation to the minutes. The Speaker reminded Councillor Steinberger that the 26th June Council meeting had been recorded and that the minutes of that meeting had been sent to him and he had not commented on them. Councillor Steinberger replied that the Speaker had perhaps not read the 26th June Council meeting minutes because of what he had found in them. Councillor Steinberger commented that the 26th June Council meeting minutes were not worthwhile submitting. Councillor Steinberger cited page 17 of the 26th June Council meeting minutes as an example. The Speaker in response asked Councillor Steinberger to clarify if his comment was on the accuracy of the minutes. Councillor Steinberger replied that it was on the accuracy. The Speaker re-iterated that the 26th June Council meeting minutes had been sent to Councillor Steinberger and that the meeting had been recorded. The Speaker recommended to Councillor Steinberger that he contact Governance Services with his comments on the 26th June Council meeting minutes. Councillor Steinberger replied by asking for clarification on when he was sent the 26th June Council meeting minutes, as he did not remember receiving them. The Speaker responded by recommending to Councillor Steinberger that he discuss the matter outside of the Council Chamber. Councillor Steinberger

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

- replied that he wanted to speak about accuracy as he felt that the minutes of the June Council meeting did not make sense. The Speaker asked Councillor Steinberger to briefly highlight those areas in the 26th June Council meeting minutes.
- 4.2 Councillor Steinberger highlighted, on page 17 of the 26th June council meeting minutes, in the second paragraph, the following:
- “He [*Councillor Steinberger*] said residents and shopkeepers had been ruined”.
- Councillor Steinberger asked for clarification on what was meant by this sentence as he had not said this and that he did not know where these minutes had come from. Councillor Steinberger added that if he was to look at Council meeting minutes then he wanted accurate ones.
- 4.3 The Speaker replied by reminding Councillor Steinberger that the 26th June Council meeting had been recorded. Councillor Steinberger replied that the Council may have to look at getting a new recording machine if Council meeting minutes were to be recorded like that.
- 4.4 The Speaker thanked Councillor Steinberger for the points that he had raised on the 26th June Council meeting minutes.
- 4.5 Councillor Billington highlighted an omission on page 20, the sixth line, of the 26th June Council meeting minutes and said the word "low" should be inserted before the word carbon in the minutes.
- 4.6 Councillor Steinberger raised a point of order, querying why the Speaker had not said to Councillor Billington what he had said to him earlier on about the 26th June Council meeting minutes. The Speaker replied that the 26th June 2019 Council meeting had been recorded. The Speaker thanked Councillor Billington for her amendment to the minutes.
- 4.7 The minutes of the previous Council meeting, subject to one amendment, were put to Council and were APPROVED. Councillor Odze raised a point of order, he did not agree to the 26th June Council minutes and asked for his objection to be recorded in the Council minutes. Councillor Steinberger added that he too did not agree to the Council meeting minutes. The Speaker thanked Councillor Odze and Councillor Steinberger and he confirmed that their comments, as requested, would be recorded in the Council meeting minutes.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26TH June 2019 be APPROVED as a correct record, subject to one amendment above listed above.

5 Deputation

- 5.1 Councillor Steinberger introduced the deputation from West Bank Residents which was about their concerns over the cycle lane there. Local residents, bikers and shopkeepers were asking the Mayor and the Council to remove the cycle lane in West Bank immediately because it was detrimental to the residents in the community and the shops on Dunsmure Road. They considered the impact was severe on the established Jewish Community who

needed to access the shops. Moreover, it was dangerous and confusing to the thousands of school children in the surrounding area of Stamford Hill who crossed West Bank on their way to school daily.

5.2 Ms Linda Kelly, a spokesperson for her fellow local residents, began by reminding Council of Councillor Etti's question to the Mayor at the 26 June Council meeting about promotion of the values of tolerance and inclusion. Councillor Selman had said at the time that Hackney was a welcoming and diverse place to live and that its diversity was valued. Ms Kelly said the exception to this was in respect of the Haredi community in Stamford Hill and the collateral damage of this exception was the West Bank and the surrounding areas. If the Council wished to promote diversity and cultural awareness for all its constituents, then the officers who had put forward the programme for the Cycling Safety and Integration (CSI) route, under delegated powers, should have undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA), despite their claim an EIA was not necessary because officers understood the needs of the community in that area. Because an EIA had not been undertaken and the lack of consultation, people visiting family and friends in the West Bank area could not find parking spaces. Neighbours were vying for car park spaces and putting dustbins out to reserve spaces which had led to ill feeling. Ms Kelly said that delivery vans with groceries for people who were housebound and/or elderly were getting parking tickets because of the cycle lane. The cycle lane also affected mothers with babies who wanted to park in the area as they were having to park half way down the road and then carry their shopping back along with their children and prams. Ms Kelly said that she and her fellow residents had asked Mayor Glanville to come down to the area and engage with his constituents. They had also asked the Chief Executive Officer to engage but he had been on leave. Ms Kelly stated that the cycle route would never have been implemented if the the Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) mentioned in the report had been pushed through. Such a CPZ would have broken the community. Ms Kelly was of the view that when the introduction of a CPZ failed the Cabinet Lead Member had resurrected the cycle route. Ms Kelly said that if as, Hackney Council claimed, it was a Council thoughtful of its people, from all backgrounds and all cultures, then it would have known that the local Haredi community had to have access to specialist shops. Ms Kelly acknowledged the reasons for why people needed to cycle, everyone agreed it was healthy and that it was a way of reducing carbon emissions but there were issues with the location of the cycle route, in a residential street that had been converted from a two way street into a one way street. Ms Kelly explained that local residents should have had time to come forward and raise their concerns.

5.3 Mr Abraham Getter, a shop owner in the area, said he and his fellow shop owners considered the cycle route was causing loss of trade.

The Speaker opened the floor for questions to the deputation.

5.4 Mayor Glanville thanked Ms Kelly and Mr Getter for coming to the Council meeting and submitting their deputation. The Mayor asked if anyone present wished to comment on the disgraceful behaviour that had occurred to disrupt the cycle route which was endangering the lives of pedestrians and cyclists. He also asked what the local business community had been doing to promote road safety and to reduce car use in the community. The Council wanted

- reductions in air pollution across the borough but the Stamford Hill area did not appear to conform to this aspiration?
- 5.5 Ms Kelly replied that she did not know who was responsible for the behaviour the Mayor was referring to but it had been happening ever since the cycle route had been in place. Ms Kelly stated that no one from the local Stamford Hill Haredi community would behave in such a way as they were law abiding citizens. Ms Kelly said that in terms of plans to reduce air pollution, it was about educating people to not use their car and to walk instead. She saw walking as the healthiest thing to do. Ms Kelly added that if someone wanted to go on a bicycle, then they should go on a bicycle but the cycle route was on a residential street and people needed to use their cars.
- 5.6 Councillor Stops asked whether it was a good use of Police time to issue parking tickets and if not the Police, who instead should be managing parking in the Stamford Hill area?
- 5.7 Ms Kelly said that she and her fellow residents wanted to live side by side with cyclists and to let them enjoy the roads. Ms Kelly suggested that a solution would be to put up a sign which indicated no parking between 06:30 and 10:00 hours nor between 16:00 and 18:00 hours so that cyclists could use the route at these designated times. If such a sign were installed the Police would not need to manage the parking as cameras could be installed. Councillor Stops replied that the deputation's suggestion appeared to be in support of the introduction of parking controls. Ms Kelly said that it was about two types of people living side by side with one another.
- 5.8 Councillor Odze thanked Ms Kelly for speaking and bringing the deputation to Council. Referring to the solution that Ms Kelly had suggested, Councillor Odze asked Ms Kelly to elaborate on whether the proposal, of turning the street into a one way road rather than a two way road was appropriate given Council officers had opposed one way streets in every other situation where they had been put forward. Ms Kelly replied that the street in question was a street used by families and by delivery people. She said it had always been a two way street and she asked who would benefit from turning it into a one way street? Ms Kelly stated that cyclists did not even use the cycle route, adding that some were seen going down the middle of the road. Ms Kelly said that when cyclists were challenged by the residents on this behaviour the residents would be screamed at.
- 5.9 Councillor Papier said that during the consultation period he had tried to get the various parties together to find a way forward but he felt he had been ignored. Councillor Papier asked Ms Kelly whether she felt the consultation process had been fair. Ms Kelly replied that in 2018 Hackney Council officers had acted under delegated powers relying on the 661 responses received even though there were streets full of people in the area. Ms Kelly said that they had been told by certain Councillors that consultation would take place with streets on the far East and West Bank areas but this had not happened. Ms Kelly added that the responses received by the Council showed a majority of 61% saying no to the proposal.
- 5.10 The Speaker asked Ms Kelly whether she thought the process had been fair. Ms Kelly replied that the process had absolutely not been fair.

- 5.11 The Speaker invited the Cabinet Member for Energy, Waste, Transport and Public Realm to reply. Ms Kelly said that she and her fellow residents would not stay to listen to the Cabinet Member of Energy, Waste, Transport and Public Realm's response and would leave the Council Chamber.
- 5.12 On hearing that Ms Kelly and the residents were leaving the Council Chamber, Deputy Mayor Clark asked them why they had made the deputation if they were not prepared to hear the answer?

Ms Kelly and her fellow residents left the Council Chamber.

- 5.13 Councillor Burke thanked Ms Kelly and Mr Getter for bringing the deputation to Council.
- 5.14 Councillor Burke reminded Council of the point made earlier in the deputation about the use of parking controls and the use of enforcement cameras. It was put to the Conservative councillors that they would surely be aware that the Council was not allowed to enforce parking controls by the use of cameras as that power had been taken away from local authorities by the then Local Government Secretary of State Eric Pickles. The Council had supported the idea that barriers be removed for cyclists, because they created a dangerous situation. Councillor Burke said that when the Council had put out parking cones a few months ago they had been thrown into the neighbouring nature reserve and more dangerously on to railway tracks. Councillor Burke said the aggression of drivers along that particular route did not surprise him as parking violations and dangerous driving in the Stamford Hill area were widespread placing pedestrians, including children, at the greatest risk. The increase in dangerous driving and parking violations in the area were not as a result of the introduction of the cycle lane and Councillor Burke referred to a message on Twitter, from the Local Stamford Hill Police, from the 8th January 2018, which stated that:

"Believe it or not Stamford Hill Parking spaces will not be missed by local residents as the majority of vehicles parked there are either abandoned, storage areas for local garages or non-residents parking there and getting on the tube to elsewhere"

Councillor Burke said that there were two causes of parking stress in the Stamford Hill area. Firstly, the unjustifiably large number of high polluting car journeys that took place in the area and secondly, the Seven Sisters ward in the neighbouring borough of Haringey had recently agreed on the introduction of a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ). This had exacerbated the parking problem as large numbers of people commuting into central London were now parking in the Stamford Hill area which had no CPZ zone in order to use public transport. The Haringey CPZ had also displaced a lot of business vehicles which were now being parked in the Stamford Hill area. Councillor Burke said he was being contacted by residents in Stamford Hill on a daily basis asking him to do something about the situation. Councillor Burke considered the solution simple namely the introduction of a CPZ. If residents wanted to be able to park, they should fully support the introduction of a CPZ. Councillor Burke said that no one cared more about the health and safety of cyclists and pedestrians, many

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

of whom were children in the area, than Hackney Council. Councillor Burke said the Council would also be seeking to introduce a ban on loading and looking at expediting the introduction of two new school streets in the area; one at Homely Primary School and one at St Thomas Attlee.

Councillor Burke concluded that at the request of local residents, he would be looking at, the parking strategy for the area, ahead of what was hoped would be the introduction of very much needed parking controls.

- 5.15 Councillor Odze and Councillor Klein voiced their displeasure at the proposals put forward by Councillor Burke. The Speaker thanked Councillor Klein for his comments and thanked the deputation for attending as well as thanking those who had also spoken.
- 5.16 Councillor Odze commented that the local residents had left the Council Chamber because they did not want listen to Corbynite anti-Semitism.
- 5.17 Councillor Rathbone responded in the strongest terms by condemning Councillor Odze's last statement.
- 5.18 Councillor Hanson asked the Speaker, to ask Councillor Odze to repeat what he had said. She added that she would like to ask Councillor Odze to withdraw his last statement.
- 5.19 Councillor Odze replied that he would not withdraw his last statement.
- 5.20 The Speaker asked Councillor Hanson to tell him what had been said as he had not heard it. Councillor Hanson agreed although she was reluctant to repeat the remark. Councillor Hanson said Councillor Odze had said that the deputation had left because they did not wish to listen to anti-Semitism.
- 5.21 The Speaker asked Councillor Odze to withdraw his last statement. Councillor Odze replied that he would not and that he stood by his last statement. The Speaker thanked Councillor Odze and recommended that the meeting continue.
- 5.22 Deputy Mayor Clark stated that the deputation was about road safety and a cycle lane and that it was disgraceful that Members of the opposition had turned this into an issue about racism. Deputy Mayor Clark called on Councillor Odze to withdraw his last statement.
- 5.23 The Speaker, replying to Deputy Mayor Clark, understood her point and noted it, however, he could not force Councillor Odze to withdraw his last statement and recommended that the meeting continue.
- 5.24 Councillor Burke said that if Councillor Odze did not withdraw his last statement which was slanderous then he was placing himself at risk of a letter from Councillor Burke's solicitors
- 5.25 Councillor Odze was not discouraged by this.
- 5.26 The Speaker thanked Councillor Burke for his comments.

- 5.27 Councillor Rathbone raised a point of order asking if a member of the Council performed in a way that was against the constitutional rules should they not be excluded from the chamber? The Speaker replied that they must have committed a disturbance in order for them to be removed. The Speaker thanked Councillor Rathbone for his comments.
- 5.28 Councillor Gregory proposed that the matter be referred to Hackney Council's Standards Committee and Councillor Rathbone seconded the proposal. The Speaker replied that that was not the correct process for referring a matter to the Standards Committee and he recommended that the Council meeting should continue.
- 5.29 Councillor Etti reminded Council members that there was no place for this kind of language. In Hackney, diversity was celebrated and Councillor Etti was sincerely disappointed about what had been said. The Council had to continue in its work as a good role model and it was recommended that an apology should be given for comments made earlier during the deputation after the Council meeting.

6 Questions from Members of the Public

6.1 Question from Auréliane Fröhlich to the Cabinet Member for Energy, Waste, Transport and Public Realm:

Given that Tower Hamlets has committed to net zero carbon by 2025 target and Islington to net zero by 2030, will Hackney be revisiting its existing 2040 net zero target?

Response:

Councillor Burke replied that the Council sought to base its targets on the latest science, as reported by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and would adjust its targets as indicated by further scientific advice from the IPCC. The summary for policy makers of the IPCC 2018 Special Report (Global Warming of 1.5C) indicated that to adhere to a model pathway, with no or limited overshoots of global warming of 1.5 degrees, would require a 45% reduction in emissions from 2010 levels by 2030 and the achievement of net zero within the 2045-55 range. The IPCC had acknowledged that sub-global goals may need to vary to support goals around sustainable development, the eradication of poverty and reducing inequalities and this had been acknowledged by Hackney Council. Councillor Burke added that Hackney Council had set a more ambitious target than that set out in the IPCC model pathway. Hackney Council's existing established policy positions and a local population were generally supportive of climate action. The Council was mindful of the limitations that result from both national legislation and policy and from the scope of its powers and resources and the Council was focused on targets that were achievable in the current context, whilst also setting itself a significant challenge. The Council would stretch its targets as context changes enable it.

There was no supplementary question.

Councillor Odze raised a point of order under section 10.5.3 of the Council procedural rules, stating that the Monitoring Officer may reject a question from the member of the public if it was substantially the same as question, motion or

deputation which had been put to a meeting of Full Council in the past six months. Councillor Odze highlighted that the next two questions were not only substantially the same as the question just asked but were also substantially the same as motions put to Full Council in the last six months. The Speaker thanked Councillor Odze for raising that point of order and he recommended that it was raised with Governance Services and the Monitoring Officer after the meeting. The Speaker asked for the meeting to continue and for the next question.

6.2 Question from Mali Smith to Chair of the Pensions Committee:

After the Labour Conference, where the Green New Deal motion was passed committing Labour to decarbonise by 2030, what are Hackney Labour Councillors doing to implement a Green New Deal in Hackney, in relation to financial commitments, carbon emissions and investments?

Response:

Councillor Chapman replied that Hackney's Labour Council takes climate change extremely seriously, it was probably the greatest risk facing all of us and requires urgent action. The Council's declaration of a climate emergency helps demonstrate the strength of their commitment.

The role of the Pensions Committee in the Council was a highly specific one - its legal and fiduciary duty was to ensure that the Pension Fund's liabilities - the pensions that it owes its members - were paid when they fall due. Whilst the Pensions Committee was able to take other factors into account in making investment decisions, its first priority had always been to the financial health of the Fund.

Councillor Chapman explained that this meant that the Pensions Committee must think about climate change in terms of the financial risk it poses to the Fund. Action could be taken to address the risk of climate change but decisions could not be based on moral or political grounds alone. Whatever was done it had to ensure there was strong returns produced for current and future pensioners, the Council budget and other stakeholders.

The Council had therefore set a carbon reduction target, which would help reduce the financial risks to the Fund posed by fossil fuels, including stranded assets. The council's target was to reduce the Fund's exposure to fossil fuel reserves by 50% over 6 years (2023), which aimed to align it with the level implied by the two degrees scenario set out in the international Paris Agreement on climate change. This represented the Council's first steps towards a fossil fuel-free fund and the Council would continue to review this as the world transitions to a low carbon economy.

Councillor Chapman said that he knew of no other council pension fund in London that has taken as bold a stance on addressing fossil fuels risk. The Pensions Committee had set out the current target to be realistic and clearly measurable, and the actions taken to help achieve it were comparable to those taken by funds who have made complete fossil fuel divestment pledges.

These actions had included investing £150m in the MSCI World Low Carbon Target equity index and a further £190m in the London CIV's global sustainable

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

equity strategy, managed by RBC. The strategy aimed to invest in companies with long term, sustainable revenues, with a strong focus on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors. The Pensions Committee had also made further reductions in the Fund's exposure to fossil fuel assets through reducing its exposure to the FTSE AllShare UK equity index, which represents its most significant exposure to carbon risk.

The Council was also exploring investments which could help make a positive contribution by providing alternatives to fossil fuels. The Pensions Committee had already allocated £25m to a low carbon property fund which works to develop office buildings and re-let these as energy efficient workplaces, and it was hoped to identify further opportunities in the future, such as renewable infrastructure.

The Council had just begun a formal review of its climate change risk policy and targets as part of a wider triennial investment strategy review. The first stage of this work was an interim review of the Fund's carbon footprint now that the Pensions Committee had reached the halfway point of its six year target. The Committee would hold a special meeting on the 20th November. Also, over the next few months the Pensions Committee would consider what changes it should make and how it could incorporate these into the wider strategy.

Supplementary Question:

The Hackney North and Stoke Newington constituencies had made a commitment to fully divest from carbon, how can Council continue to operate its current policy when its own local parties had made a commitment to divest as soon as possible?

Response:

Councillor Chapman replied by referring to some of his answer to the previous question asked. The role of the Pensions Committee was a highly specific one and its legal and fiduciary duties ensured that the Hackney Pension Fund's liabilities would be met and pensions paid to scheme members when due. While other factors could be taken into account when making investment decisions, the Committee's first priority had always been the financial health of the Fund. The Council was under no illusion that the climate emergency was a serious issue and was taken very seriously and its risk to the pensions fund.

6.3 Question from Bénédicte Couvreur to Cabinet Member for Energy, Waste, Transport and Public Realm:

What measures are Hackney Council taking to support the demands of the Youth Strikers: namely implementing a Green New Deal, reforming the education system to teach about the climate crisis; communicating the severity of the ecological crisis and the necessity to act now to the general public?

Response:

Councillor Burke replied by acknowledging the brave actions of the young climate strikers across and the borough and the UK. Their action

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

was hugely inspiring which had contributed in a small way to a political atmosphere in which politicians were having children fill the void where their conscience had previously existed. It was hoped that this would be embraced by the Conservative members of Hackney Council who it was hoped would take considerably more seriously. Councillor Burke spoke of having some reservations and concerns about the potentially expansionary nature of the Green New Deal. The concept itself was fully supported by Hackney Council, which requires de-carbonisation, Council had a unique role in creating a microcosm of a low carbon society with good sustainable low carbon jobs and low carbon and low traffic streets. However, Councillor Burke explained that regarding funding and the education system, the Council's powers in this area were fairly limited. Notwithstanding this Councillor Burke explained that the Waste Service, which the Councillor was responsible for, had put £60k a year directly into interventions into schools on a wide variety of environmental issues. The Councillor was currently in the process of ensuring that programme was fit for the climate emergency motion expected this year. The Council had had a long standing commitment to communicating the seriousness of climate change to the public. Councillor Burke explained that he worked very closely with Mayor Glanville and those Council Officers leading on this work to create a Green Charter which would soon be on advertising hoarding across the borough to convey in the strongest terms possible the message that the Council was trying to inform the public of. The Green Charter stated that the UK was facing a climate emergency, the Charter would tell the truth and lead the fight against man made climate change and would set out a number of priorities including 1) hosting an annual citizens assembly to update the public on the Council's progress in halving carbon emissions by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2040; 2) delivery of a budget and strategy building on the publicly owned energy company and other energy efficiency programmes; 3) creation of a green infrastructure; 4) delivery of programmes that promote walking, cycling, use of public transport and discourage non-essential car use and ownership 5) reduce the testing of carbon of Hackney's built in environment and promote the use of low carbon materials; and 6) creation of a refuse system that discourages resource depletion and waste and promotes recycling and sharing in a circular economy; 7) investment in high quality sustainable public services with gold standard libraries, schools, parks and leisure centres and contribute to high living standards that prevent the need for high levels of unsustainable consumption; 8) campaign and lobby government to tackle the climate emergency; 9) use the Council's purchasing power to use de-carbonisation plans to help create a local economy founded on skilled secure and sustainable employment; and 10) serve, educate and lead Hackney's children and young people about the climate emergency. These priorities demonstrated the level of commitment and seriousness in which Hackney Council took the issue of climate change.

Supplementary question:

Given that the youth strikers demand the phasing out of fossil fuels, how can the council square the circle when the council is still investing them?

Response:

Councillor Burke replied that this was very important and serious question and he echoed the comments from the Pensions Committee Chair made earlier on. For the Council this would be a long journey, one that was longer path than they would have liked, nevertheless the path to de-carbonise the Hackney Council Pension fund would only be limited by the powers available to the Council. The Council would continue to pursue a risk based de-carbonisation strategy that sought to bring the pensions fund in compliance with the IPCC 1.5 degree report. There was confidence that the current swell of enthusiasm would put these measures eventually into place.

7 Questions from Members of the Council

Question from Councillor Clare Potter to the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Policy, and the Voluntary Sector

Earlier this month on the 8th October, 170 households across housing tenures, were directly impacted by severe flooding in Brownswood, with over half affected to a devastating extent; their homes uninhabitable, placed in emergency accommodation, and the work to put their homes right, predicted to take months with all the disruption to lives that this incurs. As the aftermath continues to unfold can the Cabinet Member responsible for emergency planning as part of her brief, update the council on the cause of the flood, overall impact to local residents, work the council is carrying out to safeguard the most vulnerable residents, and her assessment of whether Thames water have responded fairly and effectively to residents who have been directly impacted?

Response:

Councillor Selman replied by detailing the cause of the flood and the overall impact to local residents. The initial incident had occurred on 8th October when a Thames Water main (915 mm high pressure pipe) in Queens Drive near Parkwood Primary School, burst at about 0800 hrs. There had been 170 properties affected, 60% of which were severely damaged and may take up to 6 months to bring them back to a habitable state. There were 750 metres of road that had been flooded and cellars and ground floor properties were affected by water. Four electricity substations were affected and 1150 homes had no water for a while. Councillor Selman pointed out that anecdotally it had a much wider impact. There had been 188 claims received by Thames Water from properties and businesses so far. Councillor Selman cited one business, Fink's Salt and Sweet, which had to close due to the flooding. Businesses rates relief has been granted by the Council and Thames Water rehoused 76 people into alternative accommodation e.g. hotels on the day of flood. There were 39 Council properties affected with the residents of 14 of them placed in Temporary Accommodation. Some lifts at Kings Crescent were out of action because of the flooding, engineers were on site and some residents with special needs/disabilities had been identified and the appropriate action had been taken.

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

Thames Water had rehoused all households that were displaced unless residents had made their own arrangements. The number of private rented residents that had been rehoused by Thames Water on the day of the flood was 43. Hackney Council was in the process of confirming with Thames Water a definitive list of all private rented sector households affected. A needs assessment was in the process of being carried out by Council officers to ascertain any specific help households require including Council tax relief. The Council's additional surveying resource had also been brought in to support Thames Water and this resource would be recharged back to Thames Water.

The Council had initiated various measures in support of the emergency services and Thames Water in response to floods in the Queens Drive area. This included the setting up a rest centre for anyone affected by the floods, providing food, water, housing advice and somewhere to sleep, which remained open through the night on 8 October. The Council had also supported Thames Water in arranging alternative accommodation for local residents. The Council had mobilised children's and adult social care staff to check in some of the most vulnerable residents and Council housing service staff had evacuated Council blocks and supported Council tenants and leaseholders. Council waste teams had been sent to the area to support Thames Water with the clean-up operation. The Council had maintained an ongoing presence in the area in the days following the flood to answer concerns from residents and Council staff were supporting Thames Water to set up its mobile information office on site in the days after the flood. The Council was providing support to businesses affected by the floods and action was also being taken on Council Tax; as properties were identified stop codes were being added to accounts to prevent any recovery action. The Council would be assessing cases with a view to giving consideration to applying Section 13A relief to properties left unoccupied as a result of the flood. Consideration would also be given to the impact on or Council Tax due from in relation to which people were decanted to. The Council would also be taking action on Non Domestic Rates; properties which were identified and which have had to cease trading / operating would be considered for an initial 3 month empty rate free period. Contact was to be made with the Valuation Office Agency to establish if a claim would be accepted for a temporary reduction in rateable value for a period.

On the issue of whether Thames Water had responded fairly and effectively to residents directly affected, following this incident Mayor Glanville and Councillor Selman had written on three occasions to Thames Water to express their concerns about their initial response, the location of alternative accommodation, the support available to private renters, the compensation and practical support available to affected residents and also to secure assurances that lessons had been learned. Councillor Selman added that she was content to provide Councillors with copies of these letters.

Councillor Selman and the Mayor had met with senior representatives from Thames Water alongside Islington Council and Jeremy Corbyn MP and Diane Abbott MP, the local MPs, to raise these concerns at the very highest levels. Councillor Selman had also met with Thames Water last week, alongside officers, to discuss Thames Water's Hackney-wide assets, the risks they may pose and coordination of any future emergency response. While discussions had been constructive, the Council remains extremely concerned that to date Thames Water had yet to agree to provide the names and addresses of the affected residents, as well as their forwarding addresses in order to enable the Council to provide further assistance. Both Councillor Selman and the Mayor would continue to raise this matter with Thames Water.

There was no supplementary question.

Question from Councillor James Peters to the Mayor

Can the Mayor explain how the sudden increase of 1% in interest on loans from the Government's Public Works Loan Board will affect this Council's ambitious plans for building new council homes to deal with the terrible housing crisis that Hackney is facing.

Response:

The Mayor said that, alongside the Spending Review, the government had introduced an immediate 1% rate raise for Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) borrowing rates. This was an unexpected announcement, representing a massive blow to the future of social housing building schemes. Many of these schemes had to rely on PWLB loans to fund the building of new homes, and projects already on the edge of viability could be affected by rate changes, which could then have negative impacts on tenure mix. Refinancing would now cost local councils millions, and the cost the country hundreds of new social houses. The rate rise would add about £70m to financing costs for all new loans to English councils.

The current government's mismanagement had resulted in councils being unable to respond to the housing crisis with the one solution that would solve it – Councils building more genuinely affordable homes for social rent. The Mayor saw this as another example of why a Labour government was needed. A Labour government would recognise that social housing was a social justice issue where everyone deserved an affordable and decent home. Labour would fund 100,000 new social homes a year directly delivered by local councils.

The Mayor said that part of the strength of the Council's innovative cross-subsidy model meant relying less on government borrowing. The Council had also made sure that it prudently managed the finances of its housing schemes. The Council had forecast increased interest rates in excess of the 1% rise recently announced, meaning in a worst case scenario building could continue.

All of the Council's current borrowing from the PWLB was at fixed rates, and interest costs accounted for less than 5% of the cost of Council programmes, meaning Council schemes at their current tenure mixes were secure. The Council would still build hundreds of council homes for social rent, as well as maximise other genuinely affordable options such as living rent and shared ownership. The bigger risk to the future of house building in Hackney was not the cost of loans, but the potential cost of Brexit. Current construction markets were at risk, particularly from a no deal Brexit – tender contract prices would be significantly impacted by the price of materials, as well as the availability of labour. The Mayor saw this as another reason why the Council must make sure a no deal Brexit was not an option and that Labour in the coming General Election must seek to deliver a people's vote on the final deal.

There was no supplementary question.

Question from Councillor Sade Etti to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing Needs

Can the Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing Needs update us on the work of the domestic abuse intervention service and in particular the launch of the safe & together model in Hackney?

Response:

Councillor Rennison replied that the Domestic Abuse Intervention Service (DAIS) worked with anyone aged 16 or over living in Hackney who was experiencing domestic abuse. The purpose of the DAIS was to reduce and manage risk of domestic abuse through partnership; working with relevant agencies, engaging with victims and (as needed) perpetrators. The types of support on offer to victims of domestic abuse ranged from, but were not exclusive to, information and support on legal and housing rights, support to go to court, help to obtain legal protection, support in separating from an abusive partner and help fleeing from an abusive home, support to remain safely at home through installation of a panic alarm or safety adaptations made to the property under the Sanctuary Scheme. There was also advocacy around finance including liaison with agencies such as the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), linking up with appropriate services such as counselling, mental health services, or alcohol and drug services. Hackney had also maintained its commitment to increase the accountability of perpetrators of domestic abuse through ensuring they were brought to justice through agencies providing an effective criminal justice response. The mechanisms used included the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) which provided help, in changing through programmes, including the behaviour change programme delivered through DAIS.

Domestic and sexual violence, and all other types of violence against women and girls, have had severe long-lasting and wide-ranging social, health and economic impacts. The costs were high to individuals, families, to the Hackney community and to services. Demand for support from DAIS had risen significantly over the past few years. In 2018/19 DAIS received 1,322 referrals, an increase of 13.5% from the 1,165 referrals received in 2017/18. There had been a year on year increase of referrals the service receives with a 61% increase between 2015/16 and 2018/19. Earlier this year, Hackney Council had launched its Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy 2019 - 2022 to tackle violence against women and girls through a public health approach, with centres around primary prevention and early intervention through multi-agency systemic approaches. The four key priorities and objectives of the Strategy were; 1) Recognition, Prevention and Early Intervention; 2) Protection, Support and Addressing the Impact; 3) Whole Systems Partnership Approach; and 4) Perpetrator Accountability and Enabling Change

Councillor Rennison explained that this strategy recognised that children living in homes where there was violence and abuse, were exposed to ongoing trauma which can impact their overall emotional wellbeing, development and life chances. They were at greater risk of developing mental health difficulties, drug and alcohol abuse and are at a higher risk of offending behaviour. Children exposed to violence and abuse are also at risk of developing an unhealthy view of relationships and misogynistic beliefs and behaviour. As part of the implementation of the VAWG Strategy, Hackney's Children and Families Services have entered into a partnership with Waltham Forest Council to adopt the Safe and Together model of intervention with families where domestic abuse was impacting on the safety and welfare of children. This was an approach to working with families affected by domestic abuse, which had amassed a strong evidence-base in improving outcomes for children in the United States, Australia and Scotland. The approach was focused on keeping children 'safe and together' with their non-abusive parent; ensuring that, wherever possible, children were kept with the adult domestic abuse survivor to enhance the safety and wellbeing of children, and that abusive partners were held responsible for their behaviours as parents. The model aimed to help professionals working with families to

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

form alliances with survivors, recognise the protective behaviours they have taken for their children and build on their strengths, rather than holding them responsible for keeping their children safe in situations where they may have limited power to do so. It also aimed to assist practitioners to engage more proactively with perpetrators to hold them to account for the harm that they cause to their children and enable them to change their behaviours.

Hackney Council's partnership launched at a conference on 30th September, where senior leaders from both Local Authorities were joined by guest speakers including Nicole Jacobs, the first Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales, founder of the Safe and Together Institute, David Mandel, and children and family members of domestic abuse victims. The conference was attended by 200 delegates from across the Children and Families Services at both Councils alongside representatives from NHS England, the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), Women's Aid, partnership agencies, including police and health colleagues. The two year project involved the roll out of a comprehensive package of training for children and families staff in the Safe and Together principles and practice. Also 30 social workers and practitioners in the Children and Families Service had received core training in the model so far and plans were in place to train more practitioners over the coming months. An embedded worker from the charity Respect, a leading UK organisation working with domestic violence perpetrators, would support practitioners to put their learning into practice. The expected outcomes for children following implementation of the approach were a reduction in children subject to Child Protection Plans because of domestic abuse and a reduction in the number of children being repeatedly exposed to domestic abuse. There would also be better engagement with perpetrators of domestic abuse to change behaviour and improve parenting and children's voices and experience of domestic abuse featuring strongly in case planning and consideration of recovery interventions. There would also be increased domestic abuse competency across the workforce.

Question from Councillor Katie Hanson to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing Needs

Could the Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing Needs inform us of what the Council is doing to promote rough-sleeping services and help residents who are rough-sleeping in the borough as we approach the winter months?

Response:

Councillor Rennison stated categorically that nobody in Hackney needed to sleep rough. There was a wealth of services provided by the Council and its partners, for example, the members of the Hackney Homelessness Partnership, who supported those facing homelessness. There was also the No Second Night Out resource, based in Hackney Central. This provision focused on helping those who found themselves rough sleeping on the streets of London for the first time. Staff ensured there was a rapid response to new rough sleepers, and would provide an offer that meant they did not have to sleep out for a second night.

The Greenhouse was a one-stop shop for single homeless people, providing free healthcare, including dentistry and eyecare, housing and welfare support, advice for homeless people in Hackney or those who are simply struggling to keep a roof over their head. They would also provide information and assistance in finding their own

accommodation, action to prevent homelessness and access to employment, training and debt advice and links into drug and alcohol support.

Hackney Council's Rough Sleeping (RS) pathway, provided one of the most extensive supported housing and accommodation pathways for rough sleepers in London. This Single Homeless and Rough Sleeper Pathway was accessible to rough sleepers with medium-high support needs who had a local connection to Hackney and recourse to public funds. Service users stayed in the Pathway for up to two years, giving them the time to stabilise and develop the skills and confidence needed to maintain independent living.

These world class services and support were actively promoted by the Council's outreach workers, to ensure that anyone they saw sleeping rough knows where to find the help that they need. However, despite their tireless work the Council knows that a small number of people continue to sleep rough in Hackney. The reasons for this were incredibly complex, ranging from physical and mental health issues, trauma, addiction and many more factors. The Council and its partners successfully bid for the Government's RS Initiative funding 2019/20 which had enabled the creation of a Hackney specific RS Team. The Council had just finalised the recruitment of the new, RS outreach team, to provide specialist support to help address these factors.

Councillor Rennison explained that the Council's brand new outreach team consisted of a Rough Sleeping Co-ordinator (appointed in April 2019), an approved on Street Mental Health Practitioner (appointed in Sept 2019), and a Rough Sleeping Outreach Team Manager (appointed in June 2019). There were also two Rough Sleeping Outreach staff (appointed in September 2019) and three Rough Sleeping Navigators.

This new team would have significantly increased capacity to find rough sleepers and encourage them into provision. Rough Sleepers would be found more rapidly – with all referrals responded to within 24 hours, and there would be increased capacity to work with those entrenched rough sleepers who were difficult to engage.

The new Mental Health Practitioner would ensure that rough sleepers receive quicker assessment and diagnosis of mental health problems while on the streets, and were more rapidly connected into appropriate mental health treatment and support.

For those rough sleepers who were having difficulty building trust with outreach officers and struggled to maintain accommodation, often rapidly returning to the streets, the Council's Navigators would be a single point of contact. Having the ability and time to form long term trusting relationships with the most entrenched rough sleepers, they would provide a personalised 1-2-1 service. Over time supporting the person to engage, or re-engage with services from which they would otherwise be excluded, including encouraging them to return to accommodation which they had abandoned.

The service would be overseen by the Council's Rough Sleeping Coordinator, who would be the strategic and operational lead for rough sleeping services in Hackney. This role would help join up and coordinate services across the statutory and voluntary sector, improving partnership working. It would also ensure that all different paths to

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

tackle rough sleeping were working together as efficiently as possible to drive a reduction in the problem, and ensure the best outcomes for clients.

Councillor Rennison explained that Rough Sleeper counts were now conducted on a bi-monthly basis. These counts formed part of a more detailed statistical record of rough sleeping in the borough that measured incidents, locations, interventions and outcomes so that the Council were more able to identify and plan outreach activity and ensure it was most effective in delivering sustainable outcomes for residents.

The Annual Rough Sleeper count would take place in November. Councillor Rennison explained that as well as outreach the Council knew that many of its residents desperately want to help people they see sleeping rough, so the Council was launching a campaign to give them advice on how they can make a positive difference. With cold nights just around the corner, Talk, Tap, Time, Tell suggested four simple ways in which help could be provided:

Talk: A smile or 'hello' can make a big difference, to help someone feel less invisible and part of the community

Tap: Help financially by donating £3 to Tap London's contactless donation points - money goes to the Mayor of London's rough sleeping fund, which supports local charities. There were donation points at Hackney Town Hall reception and by E8 Cafe in the Hackney Service Centre (HSC).

Time: Find out about local volunteering opportunities at hackney.gov.uk/rough-sleeping

Tell: If someone is seen bedding down outside, let the council's outreach workers know via the Streetlink app (streetlink.org.uk) or direct them to the Greenhouse in Tudor Road, E9, the Council's one stop shop for advice and services for people facing homelessness.

The campaign, in conjunction with Hackney Homelessness Partnership, was launched on 10 October, World Homelessness Day. Members of Council staff, along with members of the Partnership had handed out leaflets and had spoken to commuters at overground stations across the borough and hosted an information stand in the Town Hall Square.

Over the coming weeks and months the Council would be rolling out the campaign, to share this important information across the borough, all the while continuing to lobby Government for the additional funding so desperately needed across the public sector, to support people at the point they needed it, rather than at this late stage.

Question from Councillor Polly Billington to the Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care, Leisure and Parks

Can the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care give an update on progress on rare and less common cancers, in the light of the motion passed by this Council last

year, what changes are planned in the delivery of health services for patients living with rare and less common cancers, and what impact they will have?

Response:

Deputy Mayor Clark replied that there were no health service changes planned as a result of the motion. Cancer services in Hackney were good. The standard of primary care was also good. Where this motion would make the most difference was to make sure rare and less common cancers were on the differential diagnosis for clinicians (which was always really difficult to diagnose with a range of non-specific symptoms). It was also meant to inform carers and health professionals about the range of non-specific ongoing symptoms that were part of living with some of these cancers, e.g. Carcinoid syndrome, etc. There were ongoing conversations with the patient group about some of their everyday health challenges and how health professions tend to put any new symptoms they have down to a rare cancer, particularly if the person's cancer diagnosis was of Neuroendocrine tumours (NET). For others, their GPs simply had not been aware of the range of complications from some of these cancers. The work to date has focused on awareness raising for health professionals, carers and families, to support patients with rare and less common cancers across the entire cancer pathway from diagnosis to living with cancer. It was hoped that raising awareness of rare cancers would impact on all parts of the diagnostic pathway, including earlier diagnosis and better management of ongoing symptoms, as part of cancer survivorship. The impact for patients would be raising awareness of voluntary sector groups that support people with rare cancers and acknowledgement that Hackney Council supports their patient journey. A group had been formed to scope the work, reporting to the City and Hackney Cancer Collaborative, meeting about quarterly. Group members include Councillor Williams, patient representatives, officers, University College London (UCL) Partners, NET Patient Foundation and the UCL Cancer Institute. The work plan consisted of GP/health professional training; producing a short information video; and a patient engagement event. The group had been specifically asked not to promote early diagnosis to patients, but to focus on awareness raising amongst professional groups.

Deputy Mayor Clark highlighted some of the outputs, to date, these included a rare cancer infographic. This infographic had been produced to document rare cancers and to be used with professional groups to gain a better understanding of rare cancers. There was a seminar for GPs on rare cancers in March of this year. This event took place in one of the GP-funded education sessions which ensured a good turnout of GPs. There was excellent feedback from the GPs and health professionals who attended the event. A short video (8-10 minutes long), highlighting the experiences of patients living with a rare or less common cancer was about to be produced. There would be two half days of filming at the end of October. The aims of the video were to;

- 1) Provide C&H patients currently living with a rare or less common cancer with support and useful information;
- 2) Increase awareness among the general public in City and Hackney (C&H) about rare and less common cancers, and the realities of living with a rare or less common cancer;
- 3) Provide a resource for friends and families of those with a rare or less common cancer to increase understanding and support;
- and 4) on a patient engagement event, there was no planned date for this event yet, but the content was being developed. The aims of this event were to;

- 1) Encourage and support sustained action on rare/less common cancers across the local health and care system;
- 2) Provide Hackney patients with support and connections to increase engagement;
- 3) Launch and promote the patient video; and
- 4) Produce a helpful resource for health professionals to use in future.

Deputy Mayor Clark explained that an evaluation of individual components of the work programme was planned, which would contribute to an overall impact evaluation next year.

Question from Councillor Sharon Patrick to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing Needs

In the light of the growing housing crisis in the borough, can the Cabinet Member for Housing Needs explain how many properties the Council has available to let this year and what impact the availability - or otherwise - of properties to let by the Council has on those awaiting decent homes on our waiting lists?

Response:

Councillor Rennison replied that the number of Social Tenancies available in any one year was affected by a number of variables, including the number of tenancies relinquished by existing tenants, new build properties becoming available, numbers of decants required for the regeneration programme. The housing crisis itself had forced social tenants to remain in social housing when they would otherwise have moved into home ownership or other forms of tenancy. It was therefore difficult to predict the supply.

The number of Social Housing Lets in 2018/19 was 640, a reduction from 1132 in 2017/18. It was not anticipated that there would be any increase in this number and if there was a similar reduction in 2019/20 lets could reduce it to below 400.

Councillor Rennison explained that the natural consequence of reduced supply would mean that most residents on the housing register would face longer waiting times and some are unlikely to receive an offer of social housing at all.

Due to be completed in 2020, the Benefits and Housing Needs Service was conducting a review of the Lettings Policy and Choice Based Lettings Scheme which aimed to ensure access to social housing is focussed on meeting the needs of those in greatest need.

The Benefits and Housing Needs Service would continue to encourage applicants to find settled accommodation in the private rented sector which still provided the quickest route into settled accommodation. The Council had secured funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to increase the supply of affordable Private Rented Sector (PRS) accommodation for residents who must remain in borough and would also support eligible applicants with financial assistance to meet rent in advance and deposits.

Question from Councillor Fajana Thomas to the Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care, Leisure and Parks

Can the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, explain how the sustainable transformation partnership (STP) plan, to merge all local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) into a single CCG at North East London level, will affect our plans to deliver good health outcomes for our residents.

Response:

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

Deputy Mayor Clark replied that local health care systems in Hackney are excellent. The City and Hackney CCG had been rated Outstanding by the quality and outcomes framework.

Deputy Mayor Clark said good quality, local NHS services had achieved this, but it was down to the close working relationship between the Council, the CCGs and our local neighbourhoods. The Council believed that it knew its communities best, which was why commissioning services at both borough and neighbourhood levels had worked to give Hackney residents the very best quality of service that met a diverse range of needs.

Deputy Mayor Clark explained that this was why the Council had been constantly arguing to keep the local framework in place. After all, why fix something that was not broken?

Deputy Mayor Clarke thought Conservatives were against repetitive restructures that waste valuable public resources? She explained that the Council had written several times to the East London Health and Care Partnership, the NHS, the Department of Health and the Secretary of State making this case. It was Hackney Council's lobbying that had forced the ELHCP to hold a series of consultation events with local council leadership.

Deputy Mayor Clarke announced, that following this lobbying, she was pleased to say that the local partnership had recognised the outcomes that the City & Hackney 'model' has achieved for our residents.

Deputy Mayor Clark understood that City & Hackney would retain its own CCG, but the Council would continue to keep an eye on the STP and Long Term Plan to make sure it had not changed. However, what was still not clear was which services would be commissioned at what level. From specific care for rough-sleepers, for example, to wider social care services, CCGs at different levels could be given responsibility to commission at an 'inner-North-East-London' or a North-East-London level.

Hackney Council had been working with the Mayor of London on the STP changes, who had developed six tests to scrutinise any changes to local commissioning services. These were:

TEST 1: Health inequalities and prevention of ill health

TEST 2: Hospital beds

TEST 3: Financial investment and savings

TEST 4: Social care impact

TEST 5: Clinical support

TEST 6: Patient and public engagement

Once Hackney Council knew the details of the plans for North East London, they would be examining the proposals against these tests. Deputy Mayor Clarke explained that the Council would argue for as many commissioned services local, embedded in local neighbourhoods as possible or at least the clinical evidence base from ELHCP otherwise. Deputy Mayor Clark added that it had to have been made very clear that this could not be a money-saving exercise. Any changes must be about patient service first.

If local plans were found not to meet these tests, Hackney Council would be fully against any changes to local commissioning.

Question from Councillor Peter Snell to the Cabinet Member for Housing Services

Can the Cabinet Member for housing management provide an update on meeting the demands of the Grenfell report so that Hackney residents can be sure they are safe in their homes?

Response:

As there was no time left for this response, a written response would be provided.

Written Response

Meeting the demands of the Grenfell report

As you are aware, the first stage of the report from the Grenfell Tower Inquiry was released on 30th October. The Council will of course be fully evaluating the outcomes of that report and assessing what actions will need to be taken, but even before this report Hackney Council has been working hard to make sure every resident is safe in their homes. We have been working closely with the London Fire Brigade, as well as implement the recommendations that have already come out of the Hackitt Review.

A report to this effect is due to go to Cabinet on 18th November outlining actions we have taken to date and this will be the fourth Cabinet report since the Grenfell disaster.

However below is a brief overview of what has been implemented since the Grenfell disaster to give reassurance to our residents and to ensure that residents are not only safe in their homes but also feel safe:

- In April 2018 a new Resident Safety service was implemented to provide a dedicated health and safety and fire safety service to residents.
- A fire risk assessment was carried out in the communal areas of all our housing stock which resulted in a large number of recommendations which needed action.
- All the actions from the initial fire risk assessments have now either been completed or are part of an ongoing programme of works such as the fire door replacement programme.
- All the fire risk assessments for 2017/18 and 2018/19 have been published on our internet page so residents are able to view the assessment for their individual blocks
- A dedicated internet page has been developed to provide regular updates on fire safety to residents.
- A new fire risk assessment schedule has been implemented where all our properties will be subject to a regular fire risk assessment based on risk.
- Implemented a new fire safety online database so fire risk assessments can be monitored and updated on a regular basis, this online database will be made available to the public soon.
- Employed four fully qualified fire risk assessors to ensure we have a consistent approach to our assessments. We used to use external contractors to do this,

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

however, insourcing in this instance meets our requirements better and is consistent with the Council's commitment to providing more services in-house.

- All our high and medium risk properties are now subject to a type 3* fire risk assessment which involves us carrying out a non-invasive assessment within 10% of resident homes.
- A number of our properties have also been subject to a type 4* fire risk assessment which has involved carrying out an invasive survey within 10% of resident homes.
- We have carried out a survey of all our cladding and insulation which has resulted in a number of blocks having the insulation removed and replaced. Fortunately we did not have any ACM on any of our blocks.
- Sprinklers have been fitted to one of our blocks on the advice of the LFB and we are currently carrying out works to fit sprinklers in another block as part of the asset management programme. The advice to fit sprinklers was based on the fact that the block was occupied by a large number of elderly and vulnerable residents who would need additional support in the event of a fire.
- Undertaken extensive fire stopping in our properties to ensure there are no breaches in the fire compartmentalisation*.
- Carried out an extensive programme of installing fire action signs and notices and advising residents on the evacuation process for their building.
- Installed dry risers in all our blocks where identified in the fire risk assessments.
- We are in the process of replacing all of our front flat entrance doors with fire doors which have been tested to the current standards where required. Phase one is currently in progress and will include all our properties which are 10 storey's or higher.
- The Council has introduced a Fire Safety Programme Board to oversee all fire safety related programmes and to give assurance to senior managers that fire safety is given the highest priority.
- We provide regular newsletters and updates to residents in regard to fire safety and work very closely with our communications departments to ensure that we keep residents informed of any changes in legislation or ongoing programme of work.

The Council has spent £5.7m in 18/19 in implementing the actions from the fire risk assessments and have a budget of £14.2m for 19/20. In total it is anticipated that the overall cost of all the remedial works resulting from the fire risk assessments and additional requirements of the Hackitt Review will result in a total spend of £20m. However this is being kept under close review as we anticipate additional financial burdens on council's following the release of the Grenfell Tower report.

As well as the above actions we are continuing to work closely with the LFB to implement any recommendations in our properties and where significant works are required we are ensuring that we implement interim control measures to reduce risks such as fitting of door closers. We also have a number of projects currently in progress to further improve fire safety and health and safety in our properties such as identifying our vulnerable residents to provide additional support, fitting of fire safety

signage and fire action notices, implementation of a hoarding working party to identify hoarders, updating all our premises information boxes and developing up to date plans for all our blocks to assist the LFB in the event of an emergency.

We are also working to implement the recommendations of the Hackitt Review ahead of any new legislation coming into force such as the role of building safety manager and ensuring that we have all documentation in place in relation to fire safety and health and safety such as gas certification etc.

The Council will continue to monitor and implement any recommendations that are required and will scrutinise the Grenfell Fire Report to ensure that any new recommendations are considered and implemented as necessary.

8 Elected Mayor's Statement

8.1 The Mayor referred to the pre-election spending round announced in the Chancellor's Spending Review. Local Government had faced a cut of 60p for every £1 and Hackney had faced a £140m cut to its central government grant, which worked out at about £529 per resident. The Council had to find a further £25m of savings over the next three years but the Prime Minister was announcing the end of austerity. Labour run Councils were of the view that this was far from the truth. The '£3.5bn increase' announced for local government was not new money and it assumed Council Tax and Business Rates would rise which was a tax on local residents. One third of the proposed £1.5bn funding boost for social care was funded by Council Tax rises, which did not cover the £2.5bn gap in social care funding as a result of austerity.

The £800m one-off funding for SEND was half the amount councils needed. The Mayor took the view that teachers should not have to go cap in hand to parents to fund supplies, or cover the shortfall from their own pay packets.

The Mayor said that yet again the government had failed to show how it would tackle the housing crisis. No new money had been announced to help councils build the social housing that local residents desperately need.

The Mayor also highlighted that, other than school funding, all of the funding promises that had been announced were only for one year.

The Mayor spoke about the budget, and how tough decisions would still have to be made. There was uncertainty about how much funding Hackney Council would receive and there was also uncertainty around what Brexit would bring and its impact on Hackney Council's budget.

The Mayor reassured Councillors that under his administration, Hackney Council would always protect the most vulnerable from the impacts of austerity. They would always prioritise frontline services and those programmes that made a difference to the lives of Hackney residents. Any savings that the Council had to make would be done in partnership with local residents. Despite the cuts, Hackney Council would continue to build a fairer, safer and more sustainable Hackney.

The Mayor highlighted some recent events in Hackney including breaking ground for the new Leisure Centre and School on the Britannia site. In the past

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

month the Council had been celebrating Black History Month which had been reflecting on school curricula, national museums and key institutions some of which were seen as unrepresentative of the diversity of the borough. It was important that the Council led on reflecting the stories of the black diaspora in Hackney. It was as important to use the time to work on making the future a better place for young people who continued to face inequality, unconscious and conscious bias, barriers to employment as well as out and out racism and discrimination. The Mayor praised Councillor Williams for her efforts in making sure that this was exactly what the Council had done in October. The Hackney Museum had held an exhibition all month on African and Caribbean hair and style, along with 55 other events across the borough throughout October. Twenty four of these events had been held in the borough's four Youth Hubs, and had ranged from talks, quizzes, and workshops across a wide range of topics including mental health, fashion, history, sport and the intersectionalities of being black and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+) and disabled.

The Mayor said recently Hackney had celebrated Diwali, the festival of light and he wished Shana Tovah to all those who had celebrated Rosh Hashana in September.

The Mayor echoed Councillor Rennison's earlier comments about the Council's new campaign, launched on World Homelessness Day to raise awareness about the issues of rough-sleeping and how everyone could help, particularly in the run-up to the winter months. Hackney Council was at the frontline of tackling rough-sleeping, with its innovative walk-in centre – the Greenhouse – and the Council worked closely with No Second Night Out services which had been expanded in Hackney over the past year, and with Street Link, which provided outreach support to people sleeping rough through the night. The Mayor said this had not solved the scourge of rough-sleeping, which under the current government had increased by 165%. In July this year, the Council had been deeply saddened to hear the news about the death of Musa Sevimli, a homeless man living on Hackney's streets.

The Council knew that lots of its residents wanted to help, but were unsure of what they could do. The Council's Talk, Tap, Time, Tell initiative, as outlined by Councillor Rennison earlier, guided people through what they could do. One of the Mayor of London's Tap stations was just outside the Council chamber. The Mayor encouraged his fellow Councillors to use the Tap station after the meeting.

The Mayor turned to the climate emergency and the steps Hackney Council was taking. As mentioned by Councillor Burke earlier, the Council had launched a consultation on its plans to reduce residual waste and increase recycling in the borough. This was a bold step to increase recycling, and just one of the ways that the Council would encourage a sustainable and circular economy. Over the summer Hackney Council had been trialling a glyphosate free zone in Homerton to promote biodiversity, increase green infrastructure, and to see if abandoning the use of the herbicide meant it could continue its high standards of street maintenance. Hackney Council had also held a car free day in Stoke Newington Church Street in September. People had been invited to join the celebrations, which included street entertainment, store pop-ups and Yoga classes, as the entire street, from Albion Road to Stoke Newington High Street

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

was closed for the day. There had also been a chance for local people to have their say on the Council's successful bid to the Mayor of London's Air Quality Fund to reduce polluting traffic on the street. In addition to the car-free day in Church Street, the Council had also worked with Hackney Play Association to set up the borough's biggest ever simultaneous Play Street event. There had been 16 Play Streets run on the day, with residents from across the borough invited to join in. Broadway Market and Rowland Gardens had been welcomed to the list of Green Flags in Hackney bringing the total number of Green Flags to 27.

The Mayor was pleased to announce that the Council would introduce the biggest council-run tree planting programme in a generation. This would maximise the canopy cover on Hackney's streets which not only would lock in carbon from the atmosphere but also improve Hackney's resilience against climate change and ever increasing temperatures. More details would be announced in the coming months, particularly during National Tree Week from 25th November. This demonstrated the Council's determination do everything it could to tackle the climate emergency.

The Mayor saw Labour-run councils at the forefront of fighting for a carbon-neutral Britain. Hackney Council pledged to be open and transparent with its plans to become a net-carbon-neutral Council and it would work with its residents on the changes that would have to be made to prevent a climate emergency. Hackney Council would be holding its first Citizens' Assembly on 16th November and all of these plans would be scrutinised by the people of Hackney.

The Mayor spoke of his shock in seeing the images of the burst main water pipe on Queen's Drive, Finsbury Park a few weeks ago. As highlighted by Councillor Selman earlier, Hackney Council's emergency planning officers were on the scene to help residents throughout the incident. They had set up rest centres and supported residents with advice and guidance. The London Fire Brigade, Police and Salvation Army had also done a fantastic job in responding, helping local people including some of Hackney's most vulnerable residents to safety. The Mayor was sure the reason behind the burst main water pipe would become clear over the coming weeks. The Council had also written a number of times to Thames Water about their inadequate response to help local people impacted by the flooding and the lack of water supply and a number of meetings had been held since the incident.

The Mayor acknowledged that while Thames Water frontline staff had done a fantastic job with the resources that they had, he had written to the Interim Executive Chair about systemic failings and its vague and untimely information on social media, with many posts being deleted after a few minutes of being posted. There had not been nearly enough bottled water to distribute to the thousands of residents left without running water, and water had not been provided to Council rest centres in a timely manner. Mayor Glanville had also written to the local Parkwood Primary School to offer any Council resources that were necessary. The Mayor added that having well-resourced, in-house services run by the Council, that were able to respond effectively and work together as one organisation, had meant the Council had better served affected residents.

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

The Mayor spoke on how his administration had built on its record as a campaigning Council with its public opposition to the Silvertown Tunnel and the expansion of London City Airport.

Hackney was clear that it was facing a climate emergency. The Council could not face this emergency while continuing to facilitate and even encourage unsustainable and damaging transport systems.

The Mayor and Councillor Williams had recently written to the Home Secretary, Priti Patel MP, urging her to scrap the current 'hostile environment' policies, and to raise awareness of the Windrush Compensation scheme. They had also stressed the need for legal aid to be provided to those affected and to launch a formal independent inquiry. Hackney was proud to have a long-cherished history of being a destination for new arrivals in the United Kingdom, making it the special place it was today. The Council was appalled that some of its residents had been treated as second class citizens under the current government's hostile environment policies that had caused significant harm to Hackney residents, as well as deep personal anguish. Hackney was the first Council to pass a comprehensive motion around the Windrush scandal. Hackney Council would keep fighting for the justice that its residents deserved.

The Mayor highlighted Hackney Council's efforts calling on the government to raise awareness of, and support training and research into, rare and uncommon cancers.

On World Mental Health Day, Hackney Council had announced a Concordat on Hate Crime and Modern Day Slavery and exploitation. Hackney had been the first London borough to do this.

Last month Hackney Council had stood-up for its residents from other European Union (EU) member states, to act where the government had shown total inaction. The government had spent £100 million on now pointless 'get ready for Brexit' advertising, while spending only £5m to help advertise and support EU citizens applying for settled status. Hackney Council had written to thousands of its citizens from other EU member states, unreservedly stating that #HackneyLovesYou and encouraging them to apply for settled status. The Council had also invited them to an event where it brought organisations together to offer advice and support a few weeks ago. The Law Centre, Hackney Citizens Advice, Migrant Help, Praxis, London Growth Hub, Council's registrars and the Hackney Museum all gathered in the Assembly Hall. The Mayor was also proud to have taken part in the recent marches to stand up for Hackney and stop a No Deal Brexit.

The Mayor thanked Council officers for all their hard work citing the work of the Chief Executive who had recently held a series of roadshows. The Mayor explained that while Councillors set the political direction for Council, they would not be able to deliver its programmes without help from Council officers. The Mayor commended the work of two members of staff, both of whom had recently left the Council; Kim Wright, former Group Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing and Ian Rae, former Head of Planning.

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

The Mayor said that today, he had joined Councillor Williams and the Chief Executive Officer in welcoming Apprentices, Graduates and Supported Internships to Hackney Council.

The Mayor also thanked those council officers who had been the first responders during the burst water mains and the fire in Clapton.

The Mayor said Council officers were winning national awards for their hard work. The Council's Markets Service team had recently been recognised for being the most innovative markets management team at the recent NABMA - the governing body for Markets and Street Trading - awards and this national award was considered one of the most prestigious in the industry. The Markets Service had been commended for its innovative approach to the management of markets, specifically the Council's Trading Places programme, which supported local people in unemployment, as they started to work for themselves, as well as providing development courses for existing traders. The Council had helped many to expand their enterprises across the borough, growing their income and making a positive contribution to the local economy and employment. The team had worked tirelessly 7 days a week to deliver vibrant, thriving markets and street trading sites that traders, communities and visitors to the borough can enjoy each and every day and the Council had some exciting places to continue to grow and develop over the next 5 years. The Mayor encouraged his fellow councillors to shop local in the run up to Christmas.

Hackney Council had also won two awards for its apprenticeship programme, winning both the Recruitment Excellence Award 2019 and the Large Employer of the Year 2019 at the London Apprenticeship Awards. This was seen as a tremendous achievement and the Mayor congratulated all the staff in the Employment and Skills team as well as the talented apprentices who had made the scheme such a success. This achievement had followed a record of success for the apprenticeship programme with the Council winning the School Leavers Award 2019 for the second year running in May and one of the apprentices, Tony McKenzie, had been awarded 'Best Contribution by a New Apprentice' at London Apprenticeship Awards earlier this month. Establishing the Hackney Apprenticeship Scheme had been a key manifesto commitment in both 2016 and 2018 and it had gone from strength to strength. The Council had established the Hackney apprenticeship scheme because it had wanted more Hackney residents to have the skills, experience and qualifications to flourish in their roles at the Council, and to succeed and excel in their chosen careers. The Council wanted to create more opportunities for local residents and to encourage young people to be ambitious about their futures. Hackney Council's award-winning apprenticeship programme was designed to give people a chance to start their career within different Council services, and included part-time vacancies to allow residents who may otherwise not be able to work to apply. The Mayor said the programme had been a great success with current and former apprentices and over 75 per cent of them had chosen to stay with the Council either through permanent employment or a higher apprenticeship.

The Mayor said he wanted a General Election. He highlighted how the recent Brexit advertisements were another example of the Prime Minister putting his own interests above the country's and using public funds for his own gains. The

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

Mayor reminded Councillors that £100 million had been spent on the Get Ready for Brexit campaign.

The Mayor also reminded Councillors of the Prime Minister's history of using public funds for vanity projects. As Mayor of London he had, for example, wasted £53m on the Garden Bridge proposal.

The Mayor said that the current London Mayor was now trying to rectify up his predecessor's mistakes and he was fighting for genuine change. Sadiq Khan was delivering record levels of social housing, more affordable public transport and a message of openness to the world. The Mayor said he would be proud to campaign for him in the London Mayoral election next year.

The Mayor said that while Mayor Khan had been delivering, the previous London Mayor's record had got worse. Parliament had been illegally prorogued, a Queen's Speech had been used as a party political broadcast and without housing even being mentioned, sexual harassment allegations, the London Assembly potentially recalling him over corruption claims, and an almost 100% loss record in Parliament. Hackney Council had learnt today that the Tories had invited a lobbyist for fracking and apparent tax dodging to write their election manifesto. The Mayor said the Conservatives, locally and nationally, were united in failure to rise to the most critical challenge of this time; the climate emergency and the need to tackle pollution. The Prime Minister had just shown how low the Conservatives were. They were banking on the politics of fear and smear to win the upcoming General Election.

The Mayor said only Labour had a message of hope, a promise of a public vote on the final Brexit deal, and the answers to the most pressing challenges that Hackney's residents were facing. Labour were seeking to build 100,000 new Council Homes a year, to create a National Education Service, to save the NHS, to end the hostile environment and to end austerity.

The Mayor concluded by saying the stakes had never been higher, but he knew that Labour were up to the fight, and would be proud to re-elect its two fantastic Hackney Labour MPs, and fight all around the country to win the election for the many and ensure Labour got into government.

The Speaker invited Councillor Levy as Leader of the Opposition to respond.

Councillor Levy began by admitting that with the deputation earlier he had been ambivalent about the maladministration and the lack of support towards the Stamford Hill Haredi community. In September 2019 when Councillor Klein had expressed his disgust at the alleged report of hate crime in Stamford Hill he recalled the swift and sympathetic intervention when writing to the Managing Director of a Real Estate Company, after an overzealous and unfeeling employee thoughtlessly demanded residents to remove the Mezuzot, a religious symbol, from the doors of Cedarwood Court and Councillor Levy thanked him for that. Set against this was local residents' complaints against the loss of 70 plus parking spaces alongside one side of West Bank with a cycle route that could have easily utilised an already sign posted route in the very next road without disadvantaging so many local people. The Council had heard about the damage that had been done as a result of this, for example, the impact on the shopping centre on Dunsmore Road a crucial service to the

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

local Haredi community, that could not be replicated by local supermarkets. The way that it had been pushed through by the Council had shown that they had not understood the make-up of this disadvantaged community and it was seen as an unfortunately aggressive step in the delivery of harmonious community relations. Therefore, there was some irony in the Mayor's letter written earlier which stated that; "we need to understand the residents and the wider community that is served". Councillor Levy said that these sentiments had not been served and not been put into practice when it had mattered. Councillor Levy understood that local residents were so incensed by the artificially created CPZs that heartlessly divided a community, that they were now seeking to redress this in the Courts. This was creating hardship and inconvenience to the families across either side of these zones. They had been drawn up without any understanding of the make-up and character of the community.

Councillor Levy hoped that when Council next meets the people of the United Kingdom would have elected a new Conservative government with a fresh mandate that would deliver, amongst other things, an orderly Brexit from the EU, which had been the will of over 17 million people expressed in the referendum of 2016. The prevarication and vacillation displayed by the Labour leadership would finally come to an end. The efforts of some MPs, to thwart the mandate given to them by the electorate did them no credit at all. Councillor Levy said that he himself and voted to remain. However, Councillor Levy highlighted that the greatest irony of all, as any student of Modern European History would know, was that the then European Union had launched a diplomatic offensive primarily aimed at the UK to join the strategic project that was then the European Coal and Steel Community that then became known as the Schuman Plan. However, as Historian Anthony Beevor had written "any lingering attachment to empire and a world role within the Atlantic alliance Britain's heart was not in Europe". Ernst Bevin, then of the Labour Government believed that the plan could not work and that any hope of British Leadership on the continent was finished. Councillor Levy commented that if back then the Labour Government that given up the challenge to be one of the founding members of the EU, he felt certain the UK would not have had the conversation and wasted hundreds of hours discussing the pros and cons of leaving the EU now. As a founding member, the UK had had the opportunity to have a decisive role in the direction of travel and there would have been no desire to leave the EU.

Councillor Levy concluded by paying tribute and sending his sincerest condolences to Geoff Taylor's widow and family; it was very sad to hear the news of his passing. Geoff's family it was hoped could find comfort and consolation in the cherished memory of his devotion to not only his own constituency of Victoria but also the people of Hackney and beyond during his many years of selfless and dedicated public service. Councillor Levy had fond memories of Geoff's warm and friendly welcome when he was elected. Geoff was very respectful of and eager to learn about his background and he asked him to arrange a visit to the Synagogue on Edgerton Road. Sadly this visit never came to pass but it was the true measure of the sincerity and thoughtful personality of Geoff that he wanted to learn about the lives of people from different backgrounds. During Geoff's tenure as a Cabinet Member for Finance, Councillor Levy remembered him, standing across the Council Chamber, giving his well-reasoned speeches for the Mayor's budget proposals, delivered in his own inimitable style. Councillor Levy admitted that while he did not always see

eye to eye with Geoff, he knew what he said was sincerely meant and he respected him all the more for it.

The Mayor thanked Councillor Levy for his kind words on the passing of Geoff Taylor. It was a measure of the kind of man he was that he brought together the different experiences from all parts of the borough.

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Levy's comment on the Council's efforts in combating hate and anti-Semitism, because there was hate and anti-Semitism in Stamford Hill directed against our fellow citizens. The Council stood absolutely and resolutely against it both on the ground, when it arises, whether it was from businesses, from campaign groups, from people coming into the borough or from people in the borough preaching hate. That was why the Council was pleased it had had passed two motions against hate; one more broadly and one focussed on a definition around anti-Semitism. Speaking about accusations of anti-Semitism, raised earlier on during the Council meeting, the original discussion had been about transport structure changes, it had nothing to do with anti-Semitism. The Council was only seeking to improve the lives residents across the borough. The Mayor said that he would not accept that climate change, air pollution, traffic pollution and the enforcement of traffic orders were demonstrations of anti-Semitism from Council officers or his administration. The Council would continue to oppose anti-Semitism and hate in Hackney and would continue to oppose those who used it to their political advantage.

The Mayor turned to Councillor Levy's comments on Brexit which had outlined some of the challenges. He was proud of Britain's role in the construction of the EU in relation to such things as the common market and the customs union and highlighted all the work that had been done by the last Labour Government which had helped establish a more social liberalist Europe. The message coming out from Labour was the only way to prevent the continuation of austerity and stop Britain leaving the EU had to be another chance at a say on any Brexit deal. The Labour party was the only party offering that at the next election and the Mayor was proud to say that to the residents of Hackney. The Mayor said he was a remainer and how most of his fellow Councillors were remainers too and they had stood up for the 78.5% of Hackney residents who had voted to remain. It was ironic that climate change activists were gagged and that one of the authors of the Conservative party's election manifesto had worked for the fracking industry. Locally the Conservatives had done nothing on climate change and nationally the government was in the hands of big business. The Mayor urged everybody to continue to support the work of Hackney Council, which would be supercharged by the work of a Labour government.

9 Report from Cabinet: Children and Families Service 2018-19 Full Year Report to Members

- 9.1 Deputy Mayor Bramble, Cabinet member for education, young people and children's social care, introduced the Children and Families Service 2017-18 report.

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

It had been a very busy year in social care. There had been more cuts in local government funding from central government which meant a loss of 60 pence in every pound. However, despite the cuts there had been an increase in demand for services that were needed by local residents. Hackney Council was working as hard as it could with its dedicated teams to try to meet the needs of young residents.

In terms of overall performance, the success of long term placements over two years was becoming better. This meant that Hackney's young people were being placed in the right homes. There had been an increase in children in inter-care; these were older children, some of whom were unaccompanied asylum seekers.

Deputy Mayor Bramble highlighted the Priorities for the Children and Families Service in 2019/20 as outlined in the report and reiterated the emphasis on a child centred approach. In February 2019 the Council had been visited by the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (OFSTED) for inspection which resulted in some immediate points for action which were set out in the report. Council staff had been working tirelessly to ensure those actions were implemented. Deputy Mayor Bramble thanked the staff for their dedicated commitment to their work and their professional development. Deputy Mayor Bramble said she had regular update meetings with the Children and Families Service and she found the staff were really proud and positive about the service.

The Deputy Mayor had recently chaired the first LGA Regional Alliance meeting and Hackney was seen as an innovative borough and viewed in a positive light. The recent Hackney Council staff survey revealed the positivity around the service and the fact that staff felt they were making a fundamental difference to the lives of young people. The Council was managing to achieve this despite central government cuts.

Deputy Mayor Bramble highlighted the work that was being done on safeguarding. It was a creative and innovative approach but it was now about embedding that approach and cascading that information widely. Deputy Mayor Bramble concluded by once again thanking the staff and those Councillors who had oversight of the service's work.

Councillor Levy congratulated the officers on their excellent report which comprehensively dealt with looked after children in Hackney and other associated services. Councillor Levy was also pleased that the OFSTED concerns were being robustly addressed. Councillor Levy hoped that future OFSTED visits would not demand other areas of the service to require improvement. Councillor Levy asked for clarification on the term "other" in respect of the placement types. Councillor Levy also sought clarification on how many children were covered by GDO orders and the reasons. Additionally Councillor Levy sought clarification on whether the Post Permanency team had been asked to ensure that parents court-mandated regular contact with their children, under GDO orders were robustly supported.

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

Councillor Woodley highlighted the increase in the number of looked after children in 2018/19, which was influenced by the number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC); 44 UASC as at 31st March 2019 compared with 27 at the same time last year. This long term commitment was something to celebrate but Councillor Woodley asked what reassurances could be given over steps were being taken to lobby government for more funding.

Councillor Lynch congratulated Deputy Mayor Bramble and the Council Officers involved in this work particularly given the challenging circumstances. Councillor Lynch highlighted the steps she and her fellow Corporate Parenting Board members had taken over the last year to improve the health needs of looked after children including the introduction of an integrated service model in September. This model aimed to improve the assessments given to these children, who often had pre-existing poor health outcomes. It was also encouraging that this service was now being provided by Homerton Hospital.

Deputy Mayor Bramble talked about Special Guardianship. Council staff worked continuously with the children and the birth parents but there were often extenuating circumstances which were difficult to resolve.

At every opportunity the Council would lobby government about devolution. However the Government's view of devolution involved local authorities taking all the responsibility but none of the resources to manage the devoluted powers. Council staff were considering a new term of status in respect of looked after children which would ensure the children received the right level of support. Deputy Mayor Bramble welcomed the comments around children's health and commended Councillor Lynch and her fellow Corporate Parenting Board Members on their work and the improved outcomes for children.

Councillor Levy raised a point of order regarding his earlier question about the undefined category, "other" and asked how many of the children were covered by special guardianship? Deputy Mayor Bramble replied that she would provide a written response.

RESOLVED, the Council NOTED the contents of the Children and Families Service 2017-18 report.

- 10.1 Councillor Burke, Cabinet member for Energy, Waste, Transport and Public Realm briefly introduced the report. Councillor Burke recommended that the Chair of the Corporate Committee, Councillor Webb introduced the report. However Members were in agreement that an introduction was not necessary.

Councillor Odze, referred to section 4.5, of the report which highlighted that if all the boroughs did not approve the delegation the byelaw would not be enacted. Councillor Odze said he saw nothing in this section of the report about what action would be taken if that happened. It needed to be clearly laid out what the Council planned to do in these circumstances.

Councillor Stops gave some context to the issue of micro mobility, referring to a tweet that he had seen that had said that it might be the future of urban transport. Half a million journeys were made everyday in Hackney and 44% of these end to end trips were by foot which was a huge percentage and made it clear that walking was the most important transport mode. 10% of Hackney's population had some form of immobility impairment, 1000 people were registered blind, both these groups struggled when bicycles were dumped on the pavement. They also struggled when people put A boards on the pavement and all manner of other obstacles. They also struggled when bicycle lanes were put through pavements. Pavements needed to be sacrosanct. Councillor Stops said that he welcomed this attempt to try and manage the latest incursion, the dockless bicycle. He wished the byelaw well and queried how he would report someone who broke this bicycle law. Would responsibility be delegated to Councillors to fine the perpetrators?

Councillor Billington said she was an enthusiastic user of dockless bicycles. She saw them as a useful way to increase mobility and to allow people to find a way to cycle but not necessarily using their own bike. E bikes, or Electric bicycles, in particular were encouraging people who may not normally cycle to cycle. Councillor Billington was supportive of the idea of a by law to put the onus on the people who hired the bicycles. It would be extraordinarily difficult for the people who were delivering this service to police it. It was the responsibility of all able bodied people to think about how they used public space and to think about those people who were not able bodied. Councillor Billington urged her fellow Councillors to make the case for a properly drafted by law for the responsible use of dockless bicycles, particularly electric bicycles because they were heavy and were not easily moved. Councillor Billington looked forward to more responsible use of these bicycles in the future.

Councillor Burke thanked Councillor Stops for his comments and acknowledged the transport issues that both he and Councillor Billington had raised. Councillor Burke said that there was a lot of discussion both in the Chamber and on social media about the benefits of dockless bicycles but little about the clear challenges associated with them. Hackney residents would not pay to support the dockless bicycles market. There was a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Council and two dockless bicycle providers. This had resulted in the providers making available a substantial amount of money to cover repairs and providing appropriate facilities to contain these dockless bicycles. The MOU included the provision that the bikes were not to be placed within the public realm. Part of that exercise would involve Council officers looking at co locating with the providers some form of semi-secure cycle storage, such as Sheffield stands. It was understood that the 20 quality

criteria, on which Hackney Council's procurement process was based on had set the gold standard and it was hoped that the Council would make the case for the adoption of the by law. Councillor Burke replied to Councillor Odze's question and said it was very unlikely that any borough would disagree with the proposal. The MOU in Hackney provided a safeguard however in the event that the by law was not enacted.

RESOLVED, that Council delegate the Council's functions relating to making and promoting the pan-London dockless byelaw to London Councils' Transport and Environment Committee.

RESOLVED, Council approves the Chief Executive as the authorised person to delegate the Council's functions in recommendation 2.1 of the report.

11 Pensions Committee Annual Report

11.1 Councillor Chapman, Chair of the Pensions Committee, introduced the report which set out the role of the Pensions Committee and a summary of the key activities and achievements in 2018/19. The report demonstrated how the Committee had fulfilled its role as the Scheme Manager for the London Borough of Hackney Pension Fund. It had been a difficult year in terms of the challenging environment with continued uncertainty over Brexit and threats to international trade Councillor Chapman was delighted to tell the Council that this was another successful year with £1.6 billion worth of assets. One of the Council's most successful investments had been in low carbon investments. Whilst a priority was for the Fund to pay its pensioners, Councillor Chapman was pleased to announce that due to this success there had been a saving for Hackney residents of £10 million over the current valuation period. This had allowed the Council to support budgets across the Council in areas such as housing and schools for example. The Committee would be working closely with its actuaries over the forthcoming valuation period for the next financial year.

Councillor Chapman thanked his fellow Councillors for helping in that success particularly the Vice Chair of the Pensions Committee, Councillor Desmond, and all the other members of the Pensions Committee and all the Council Staff and advisers who had given excellent service over the years.

Councillor Rennison thanked Councillor Chapman in his role as Chair of the Pensions Committee.

RESOLVED, that Council NOTED the contents of the report.

12 Standards Committee Annual Report 2018-19

12.1 Deputy Mayor Bramble, Chair of the Standards Committee, introduced the third annual report giving an overview of the work and activities of the Standards Committee over the past year. The report also provided information on the monitoring of the Members' Code of Conduct. Deputy Mayor Bramble was pleased to report that Members were conducting themselves to a high ethical standard but she was mindful that her comments were attributed to the report

as written and anything that had occurred after its publication she would not be able to comment on.

RESOLVED, that Council CONSIDERED the Standards Committee's Annual Report for 2018/19, as attached at Appendix 1 and NOTED its contents.

13 Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2018-19

- 13.1 Councillor Gordon, Chair of the Scrutiny Panel, introduced the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2018-2019. Local government was still going through a period of uncertainty. The impact of austerity on local authorities and their most vulnerable citizens had been felt over the last nine years and it was hoped that this would end soon. Despite these challenging times in Hackney there was pride in this work and its track record of innovation. Last year scrutiny was taken out into the local community and the Council continued to strive to ensure that the voices of as many residents as possible were heard in the processes. Councillor Gordon said also great pride was taken in the policy and depth of the work on scrutiny on holding the executive, officers and partners to account, as and when it was necessary. The Scrutiny Panel did not shy away from difficult and challenging subjects as part of its inquiries, as well as looking at ways to innovate its policies. All four Scrutiny Commissions tackled a number of complicated and difficult policy areas during the last year. The Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission conducted an in depth review into improving outcomes for children excluded from school, who were among some of the borough's most vulnerable and marginalised young people. The Health in Hackney Commission had examined opportunities in local health care and innovation and continued to hold partners to account in a time of rapid change and uncertainty around local health care provision. The Living in Hackney Commission was closely examining community safety partnerships in response to serious violence which was a matter of growing public concern. Scrutiny had also held Thames Water to account over the recent floods and it would do so again in November. The Skills, Economy and growth Commission had focused on an extensive review of Hackney Council's policy on an inclusive economy for all local businesses trying to thrive and grow. This was another example of scrutiny going out into the community. Councillor Gordon said the Scrutiny Panel would like to thank those people who had helped scrutiny meetings including Council officers and representatives from outside organisations, many of whom were experts in their field and for them coming to Scrutiny Panel meetings and helping to challenge and inform the executive. The Scrutiny Panel had been fortunate to be supported by an energetic, exceptional and talented team of scrutiny officers under the leadership of Tracy Anderson. Additionally one development last year was the creation of an open democracy reporter, who attended meetings and highlighted the work that the commissions do. This was reported in the Hackney Citizen. Hackney was also fortunate to benefit from many active citizens who had given up their own time to inform the Scrutiny Commissions with their own experiences and campaigning expertise.

Councillor Gordon concluded by thanking the diligent and tenacious commission members who worked hard to ensure that the Scrutiny Panel continues to improve services for all Hackney residents.

Wednesday, 30th October, 2019

A motion was put forward by Councillor Peters to extend the meeting by ten minutes. This was seconded by a majority of the Members.

Mayor Glanville echoed those comments from Councillor Gordon and on behalf of the executive thanked Scrutiny Panel members Councillors Gordon, Conway, Coban, Etti, Hayhurst, Maxwell, Patrick, Billington and Lufkin for all their work last year. The Mayor highlighted the level of scrutiny and innovation that had taken place last year and he echoed Councillor Gordon's comments about how Scrutiny Commission and Panel meetings had been brought alive by the reporting of Hackney Citizen. He concluded by reminding Councillors that there could not be a Mayoral system without a strong, sustainable system of investigation into scrutiny matters under the leadership of Scrutiny Panel members.

RESOLVED, that Council NOTED the contents of the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2018-19.

14 Appointments to Committees/Commissions

14.1 Tim Shields introduced the report.

Council **RESOLVED**, to agree the appointment of Justine McDonald, the statutory representative for the Roman Catholic Westminster Diocesan Schools Commission to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission until 1 May 2020:

Duration of the meeting: Times Not Specified