

Council Meeting
Wednesday, 27 September 2023

**Agenda item 15: Proposed Amendments to Motions received by the
Monitoring Officer prior to 12 noon on Tuesday, 26 September**

Constitution Procedure [Rule 17](#) -paragraph 17.8

Underlined text = proposed additional wording

~~Strikethrough text~~ = proposed deletions

15. Motions

15c Green Motion - Call for an Independent Investigation Following the Resignation of the Mayor of Hackney

The following amendments are proposed by the Labour Group:

This Council notes:

- The former Mayor of Hackney tendered his resignation on the 15th of September 2023
- ~~He had misled the public in relation to his actions in the immediate aftermath of being informed by the council of Mr Dewey's arrest.~~
- The former Mayor ~~was~~ is under investigation by the [London Region](#) Labour Party for his behaviour.
- ~~The Mayor failed to live up to at least four of the seven Principles of Public Life. He has avoided accountability, failed to act with openness and transparency, been dishonest with the public, and failed to show leadership by exhibiting these principles in his own behaviour.~~
- The former Mayor ~~called partying with Mr Dewey after learning about his arrest~~ his behaviour "an error of judgement" and has apologised and has stated that he takes full responsibility for "not being as transparent as [he] should have been".

The Council believes that:

- An independent ~~investigation~~ review is still required into ~~who knew what and when about Mr Dewey's arrest and what actions they took, both within the Labour Party and~~ the situation within the council.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- Explore all possible avenues by which an independent ~~investigation~~ review into the situation can be held ~~into who knew what, when and what actions they took following the raid on Mr Dewey's home by the National Crime Agency (NCA) in the Council.~~
- ~~Write to the chair of the Hackney Labour Party to call for them to hold an independent investigation into who knew what, when and what actions they took following the raid on Mr Dewey's home by the NCA, in the Labour Party.~~

(The London Region Labour Party is already holding an ongoing investigation)

Proposer: Cllr Ian Rathbone

Seconder: Cllr Chris Kennedy

15d Green Motion - Include a Ban on High-Carbon Advertising in the Council's Advertising and Sponsorship Policy

The following amendments are proposed by the Labour Group:

This Council notes:

- That the Council's Corporate Advertising and Sponsorship Policy 2022 was adopted by the Cabinet Procurement and Insourcing Committee on 16/01/2023¹. ~~However, to date, it has not been implemented across sites run by the council.~~
- The policy outlines a number of products and services which will not be accepted on council-owned media, including the promotion of products high in fats, sugars and salts (HFSS), alcohol, knives or weapons and gambling services. These proscribed products and services would undermine the Mayor's priorities as set out in the strategic plan for a fairer, safer, healthier Hackney working together for every child. ~~However none of the products or services currently banned address the "greener" priority.~~
- ~~The policy states that it "will be subject to ongoing updates made by the Council on a regular and reasonable basis."~~

This Council believes that:

- Advertising can be used to induce demand for products and services where there may be no actual need, and where the products and services run counter to the council's stated policies, aims and objectives.

~~**This Council also notes that:**~~

- ~~London borough of Hackney declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 committing to reach net zero emissions by 2040. In 2022, the Council passed the Climate and Ecology Bill, declaring its intention to bring forward its net zero target to 2030 so it can join the UK100 network.~~
- ~~Hackney's Climate Action Plan emphasised the Council is only directly responsible for 5% of the borough's territorial emissions and that the Council must take a leading role in encouraging and supporting behavioural change in individuals, institutions and businesses.~~
- ~~Hackney's Climate Action Plan notes that 15% of Hackney's emissions are from transport and aviation accounts for 7% of that amount.~~
- ~~One of Hackney's Climate Action Plan goals is for goods to be repaired and reused, and for us only to buy what we need.~~

1

- ~~Last year a nationally representative survey of UK public attitudes found that over two-thirds (68%) of UK adults said that they would restrict the advertising of environmentally harmful products.²~~

~~In addition~~ This council notes:

- ~~The legal opinion, as part of the due diligence in addressing the role of advertising in fuelling the climate emergency, of Richard Wald KC of 39 Essex Chambers, commissioned by the New Weather Institute on behalf of Badvertising and Adfree Cities, which provides legal advice to local councils implementing policies to restrict advertising for environmentally damaging, high-carbon goods and services.³~~
- ~~Richard Wald KC's legal opinion outlines how:~~
 - ~~The adoption of an advertising policy banning 'high-carbon' advertising is squarely within the powers available to local authorities and therefore prima facie lawful.~~
 - ~~The legal risks of adopting a high-carbon advertising ban are limited and the prospect of a successful challenge is low.~~
 - ~~Councils have broad scope to design a policy according to their discretion, despite a lack of a national definition of 'high-carbon', with effective precedents already set and working in practice.~~
- In broad terms, 'high-carbon' products and services, are those which are environmentally damaging and which must be phased out or limited to reach the UK's climate goals. These include fossil fuels, internal combustion vehicles and aviation.
- Councils leading the way with policies restricting high-carbon advertising include Cambridgeshire County Council⁴, Basingstoke⁵ and Coventry⁶.

The Council resolves to:

~~Add to the Advertising and Sponsorship Policy 2022:~~

- [Work towards including into the Advertising and Sponsorship Policy 2022](#) a clause that prohibits those whose business activities/practices do not align with the Council's wider values, corporate objectives and strategic goals, such as the environment and carbon accounting. Exceptions may be considered if the companies, partnerships, organisations or individuals involved can prove that less than 5% of their overall income is derived from any of the excluded products and services.

² <https://www.badverts.org/latest/polling-finds-big-uk-majority-in-favour-of-curbs-on-polluting-ads>

³

<https://www.newweather.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/High-Carbon-Advertising-Opinion.docx-1.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asset-library/advertising-and-sponsorship-policy-2022.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/advertising-sponsorship-policy>

⁶ <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/advertisingsponsorshippolicy>

- [Add a link concerning this new clause to the Advertising and Sponsorship Policy on all relevant pages on the council's website including where promoting advertising space in Love Hackney freesheet: https://hackney.gov.uk/hackney-today-life-advertising](https://hackney.gov.uk/hackney-today-life-advertising)
- Encourage event partners to consider their advertising and sponsorship policies in light of the borough's carbon reduction goals, and where possible, stipulate that a policy on high-carbon advertising and sponsorship is a requirement in negotiations about the council's support.
- ~~Add a link to the Advertising and Sponsorship Policy on all relevant pages on the council's website including where promoting advertising space in Love Hackney freesheet: <https://hackney.gov.uk/hackney-today-life-advertising>~~
- To implement the agreed Advertising and Sponsorship Policy as soon as feasible.

Proposer: Cllr Kennedy

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Nicholson