

Full Council, 12 December 2017

Administration Motion in the name of Cllr Gabriel Rozenberg

Electric cars must not bypass local democracy

Council welcomes the Government's announcement that it will ban sales of new petrol and diesel powered vehicles by 2040. In Barnet, Conservatives have encouraged the shift to electric to electric power by introducing free parking for electric vehicles, additional CPZ charges on diesel vehicles, and eight electric charging points — with a further 50 being installed from early 2018.

Council notes that, while addressing the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs committee of the House of Commons on 23 November 2017, the Mayor of London called for permitted development powers to “speed up [the introduction of] charging points without going to [local council planning] committees who refuse permission because residents complained about rapid charging points.”

Council is disappointed by this apparent lack of faith in local councillors and the residents they represent. Bypassing local planning committees, and ignoring local ward members, is not the way to achieve a smooth transition to electric vehicles. Council therefore calls on the Leader of the Council to write to Mayor Khan to express its concern.

[Under the relevant FCPR I request that my motion is voted on at the meeting.]