

MEETING

COUNCIL

DATE AND TIME

TUESDAY 25TH JANUARY, 2022

AT 7.00 PM

VENUE

HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, LONDON NW4 4BQ

Dear Councillors,

Please find enclosed additional papers relating to the following items for the above mentioned meeting which were not available at the time of collation of the agenda.

| Item No | Title of Report | Pages |
|---------|--|--------|
| 14.1 | ADMINISTRATION MOTION IN THE NAME OF CLLR DANIEL THOMAS - COMBATTING CRIME IN BARNET | 3 - 4 |
| 14.2 | OPPOSITION MOTION IN THE NAME OF CLLR ANNE CLARKE - LEVELLING-UP IN BARNET | 5 - 6 |
| 14.3 | ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION IN THE NAME OF CLLR THOMAS - POLITICAL DISCOURSE WITHIN BARNET | 7 - 8 |
| 14.5 | OPPOSITION MOTION IN THE NAME OF CLLR ROSS HOUSTON - DEVELOPMENT IN BARNET | 9 - 10 |

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Council: 25 January 2022
Administration Motion in the name of Cllr Dan Thomas
Combatting crime in Barnet

AGENDA ITEM 14.1

Amended by Councillor Sara Conway

Council notes that:

1. After years of cuts the Government increased its funding to the Metropolitan Police by £138.9m last year and have committed to a further increase of £164.2m in the year to come.
2. The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan has invested £1.08bn in policing and tackling crime. This includes £719.5m in council tax and £352.6m in business rates.
3. He has invested more than any other Mayor from City Hall.
4. Of the 20,000 police officers promised by the Government nationally London has received enough funding to hire only 1,369 officers.
5. London is still waiting for the Home Office to confirm funding for 3,261 officers - more than half of the 6,000 officers both the Commissioner and Mayor believe is essential to keep London safe.

Council also notes that:

1. Tackling violence is the Mayor's number one priority.
2. Over the past year youth violence, knife crime and gun crime are down.
3. Sadly, 2021 was the worse year on record for the murder of teenagers in London.
4. To tackle violent crime, the Mayor has established the country's first Violence Reduction Unit.
5. Further measures will include a focus on education, keeping young people in school and investment in positive opportunities for young Londoners.
6. Over the course of just 12 months – the package of measures will support nearly 100,000 more young Londoners.

Council further notes:

1. The Conservatives have had over ten years in Government, and we've seen austerity, cuts to our police, and cuts to our youth clubs.
2. It was the previous Mayor who closed 76 police stations, cut PCSOs by 65% and is the leader of a party whose cuts to policing cost 21,000 officers.
3. Today, there is a 24-hour police front counter in every London borough including Barnet, alongside telephone contact centres, a new website, social media and a strengthened dedicated police team in every ward.

This Council believes that:

1. The people of Barnet should feel safe in their borough, their neighbourhoods and their homes.
2. In order to make our residents feel safe, it is important that there is a visible police presence across the borough.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 17.17: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

3. Barnet Council's expansion of the Community Safety Team (CST) by 15 officers is long overdue – and comes after Barnet's Conservatives voted against Labour's proposal for 30 more police officers in Barnet to combat crime and increase enforcement.

4. Barnet Council's current review of its CCTV is also long overdue – the last one took place 9 years ago.

5. The CCTV review should be linked to a community safety assessment of our public places, including street lighting.

6. Barnet would benefit from Labour's national plan for Police Hubs located in visible and accessible places in communities, each with its own Neighbourhood Prevention Team to tackle anti-social behaviour and other crimes quickly.

This Council resolves to:

1. Lobby the Government to properly fund the Metropolitan Police Service and ensure that London and Barnet receive their fair share of the 20,000 police promised nationally.
2. Launch a full review of our public places, leading a community safety assessment of our streets, parks, housing estates, new developments and transport hubs, linked to the review of CCTV and better lighting.
3. Support Labour's plan for local Police Hubs.

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Council: 25 January 2022

**Opposition Motion in the name of Cllr Anne Clarke
Levelling-up in London and Barnet**

AGENDA ITEM 14.2

Amended by Cllr Alison Moore

Council notes:

1. The Government's stated plan to unite and level-up every part of the UK.
2. Unfortunately, London and its constituent Boroughs, including Barnet, do not seem to be part of this plan.
3. Last year the Conservatives put out fake news leaflets about the financial state of Transport for London (TfL) using similar TfL colours and fonts to make it look official.
4. The leaflets claimed that the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan had mismanaged TfL funding.
5. But they didn't detail the real reason TfL currently faces such an uncertain future: Boris Johnson.
6. As Mayor of London, Boris Johnson gave up TfL's £700M annual operating grant from the Treasury making London the only major city in Europe so heavily dependent on fares income.
7. When Covid-19 hit, passenger numbers on the tube plummeted by 97% and on the buses by 86%.
8. These numbers have struggled to fully recover since and have hit TfL's fares revenue hard.
9. Passenger numbers have dropped again following recent work from home advice, having never fully recovered to pre-pandemic levels.
10. The Government's emergency deals for TfL have all come with strings attached including above-inflation fare rises and restrictions on concessions.
11. In contrast, private train operators facing similar problems have had £10.4 billion in financial support from the Government, with no strings attached.

Council believes:

1. London and its Boroughs, including Barnet, are not being treated fairly.
2. The Government's strategy of forcing TfL to increase fares will discourage people from using public transport and further reduce revenues.
3. Without a serious and sustainable settlement, the Government will deal a real blow to our city and its Boroughs.
4. The Government talk about levelling up, but really all they are doing is levelling down London and its Boroughs, including Barnet, with an enforced managed decline.
5. The war on Londoners must stop now.

Council resolves to:

1. Lobby the Secretary of State to ensure that London, and its Boroughs, including Barnet, are not levelled-down.

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Amended by Councillor Rawlings

Council notes that:

1. It's the job of the Opposition Labour Group to point out the failures of the Conservative administration running Barnet Council.
2. Barnet's Labour councillors have highlighted the following:
 - a. Boris Johnson's Conservatives in Barnet claim that they have maintained weekly bin collections and have the lowest number of missed bin collections in London, but they neglect to mention the thousands of bin collections that have been missed, including an average 3,500 a week during the height of the bin collection chaos following their poorly managed re-organisation of the Council's waste service.
 - b. The Conservatives cite that in real terms Council Tax in Barnet has been reduced by 5.2% over the past decade, but over the total 19 years under the Conservatives, Barnet's share of Council Tax has increased by over 4% in real terms. Band D in 2002 was £742, it is now £1,337, and although the Conservatives promised to keep Council Tax low at the last local election, they have hiked it up by the legal maximum every year.
 - c. The Conservatives claim that Barnet has zero "non-decent" Council homes, but Labour councillors' housing casework has included problems with mould, damp, pest-infestations, structural damage / subsidence, building safety, damaged security doors, flooding / leaking roofs, and exposed electrical wiring. Some of this casework is from residents in wards with only Conservative councillors. And who can forget that the Council famously came under fire in the Victoria Derbyshire show for leaving residents to rot in squalid, pest-infested conditions on the derelict West Hendon housing estate.
 - d. The Barnet Conservatives claim that their mass-outsourcing of Council services to Capita has saved millions, but it has been such a resounding failure that they are now scrabbling to bring most of the services back in-house. The Council's own figures show that they have spent £217.93 million more with Capita than the original contract price.

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- e. The Conservatives claim that they have stood up to developers, but at the last local election they promised to stop overdevelopment. They have not stopped it and have even forced through massive mega-high, mega-dense developments themselves, most recently at Cricklewood B&Q.
 - f. The Barnet Conservatives claim that they would not and will not build on our parks or green spaces, but they proposed installing renewable energy solutions such as batteries at substations and solar farms in parks and open spaces which they deemed low quality / low value. Following public outcry, the Conservatives later changed the proposal to “open space sites which are under-utilised”. This remained in the budget until two months ago. For the record, open spaces are green spaces.
3. These are only some examples of Conservative failure in Barnet, but they appear to be the ones the Conservatives are most worried about.

Council recognises that:

- 1. Barnet’s Conservative councillors do not like it when Labour highlights these issues.

Council resolves to:

- 1. Promote democracy and opposition holding the administration to account.

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Amendment from Cllr Nagus Narenthira

Council believes that:

1. For development to work well residents' views must be central to plans with co-production at early stages.

Council notes that:

1. Conservative-run Barnet Council has failed to do this, and ignored residents' views on key developments, forcing them through despite huge opposition, for example:
 - a. The Hendon Hub – opposed by the vast majority of respondents to the Council's consultations including 2,000 petition signatories
 - b. The B&Q site, Cricklewood – the mega-high 18 storey, mega-dense 1,049-unit scheme opposed by 2,000 residents in letters of objection

Council also notes that:

1. Conservative-run Barnet Council handed-over North Finchley Library, the artsdepot, Lodge Lane car park and Woodhouse Road car park to Developers.
2. These Council assets were disposed of with no agreed plans for the North Finchley Regeneration project and before the stakeholders' Partnership Board was set-up.
3. The Council failed to robustly defend the planning refusal for the massive North London Business Park scheme at Appeal.
4. As a result, the Government over-turned the decision, and the Developer has now doubled the size of the scheme - perhaps this is what the Government means by 'levelling-up'.

Council believes that:

1. There needs to be a complete re-think about how development in Barnet is done, with residents' voices at the heart of regeneration.
2. The Planning Service should be brought back-in house, and run by the Council on behalf of the residents of Barnet

Council resolves to:

1. Ensure there is more community engagement in neighbourhood planning in the future, reviewing the Council's approach to co-production and consultation so residents are involved in the early stages of development and regeneration
2. Work to bring Planning back-in house in the review of the Capita contract.

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