Meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Barnet

TO BE HELD ON

TUESDAY 19TH JANUARY, 2021 AT 7.00 PM

VENUE

Virtual Meeting
Link to virtual Meeting: https://bit.ly/3bu2cMs

SUMMONS AND AGENDA



To view agenda papers go to:

https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cld=162&Mld=10236&Ver=4



Agenda and Timetable Tuesday 19th January, 2021

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	Part 1 - Statutory formalities/Announcements (15 minutes)	
1.	Apologies for absence	
2.	Elect a Member to preside if the Mayor is absent	
3.	Prayer	
4.	Declarations of Interest	
5.	Minutes of the last meeting	5 - 22
6.	Official announcements	
7.	Any business remaining from last meeting	
	Part 2 - Question Time (30 minutes)	
8.	Questions to the Leader (and Committee Chairmen if he/she has delegated) - TO FOLLOW	To Follow
	Part 3 - Statutory Council Business (60 minutes)	
9.	Petitions for Debate (20 minutes)	
10.	Reports from the Leader	
11.	Reports from Committees	
11.1	Report of the Constitution and General Purposes Committee - Constitution Review - TO FOLLOW	To Follow
12.	Reports of Officers	
12.1	Report of Finance & Section 151 Officer - London	23 - 30

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12.2	Report of the Head of Governance - Calendar of meetings	31 - 36
13.	Questions to Council Representatives on Outside Bodies	
	Break (15 minutes)	
	Part 4 – Business for Debate (45 minutes)	
14.	Motions (45 minutes)	
14.1	Administration Motion in the name of Councillor Roberto Weeden-Sanz - Opposing Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and Additional Driving Levies	37 - 38
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14.6	Opposition Motion in the name of Councillor Barry Rawlings - Keep the £20 a week Universal Credit uplift	47 - 48
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15.	Motions for Adjournment	

2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

Minutes

OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET held at Virtual Meeting, on 20 October 2020

AGENDA ITEM 5

PRESENT:-

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Caroline Stock)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Lachhya Bahadur Gurung)

Councillors:

Eva Greenspan Golnar Bokaei Danny Rich Jess Brayne Jennifer Grocock Helene Richman **Rohit Grover** Felix Byers Tim Roberts Anne Clarke Ross Houston Gabriel Rozenberg Alison Cornelius Anne Hutton Lisa Rutter Pauline Coakley Webb Shimon Ryde Laithe Jajeh Dean Cohen Kathy Levine Gill Sargeant Melvin Cohen David Longstaff Alan Schneiderman John Marshall Mark Shooter Sara Conway Elliot Simberg Jo Cooper Kath McGuirk Geof Cooke Ariun Mittra Thomas Smith Richard Cornelius Alison Moore **Daniel Thomas** Ammar Nagvi Reuben Thompstone Saira Don Val Duschinsky Nagus Narenthira Sarah Wardle Charlie O-Macauley Paul Edwards Roberto Weeden-Sanz Claire Farrier Reema Patel Laurie Williams Anthony Finn Wendy Prentice Peter Zinkin Nizza Fluss Sachin Rajput Zakia Zubairi

Barry Rawlings

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Hart, Councillor Prager, Councillor Teare and Councillor Sowerby.

2. ELECT A MEMBER TO PRESIDE IF THE MAYOR IS ABSENT

The Worshipful the Mayor was present.

3. PRAYER

Linda Freedman

Rabbi Berger was called upon by the Worshipful the Mayor to speak to Council and say prayers.

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4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting dated 23 July 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

6. OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Worshipful the Mayor expressed her deep sadness at the loss of fellow Councillor Brian Gordon and formally conveyed to his family the collective sorrow and condolences of the Council. The Worshipful the Mayor would be taking on the Royal Free Charity on behalf of Councillor Brian Gordon and asked that anyone wishing to donate let her know.

The Worshipful the Mayor announced that she had been informed in advance of those wishing to pay tribute to Councillor Gordon. The following Councillors spoke in tribute; Councillor Daniel Thomas, Councillor Gill Sargeant, Councillor Barry Rawlings, Councillor Gabriel Rozenberg, Councillor Linda Freedman, Councillor Sarah Wardle, Councillor Dean Cohen, Councillor Sachin Rajput.

Following tributes, The Worshipful the Mayor invited everyone to join her in holding a minute's silence in Councillor Gordon's memory.

The Worshipful the Mayor reminded everyone that Remembrance Services across the Borough would not be taking place in the same format as usual, due to Covid-19. The Worshipful the Mayor asked residents to stay at home and conduct their remembrance in the comfort of their own homes, watching the national televised services.

7. ANY BUSINESS REMAINING FROM LAST MEETING

There was none.

8. QUESTIONS TO THE LEADER (AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN IF HE/SHE HAS DELEGATED)

Answers to the questions submitted were provided as a supplementary paper to the agenda.

Supplementary questions were then asked and answered within the allotted time given for the item.

9. PETITIONS FOR DEBATE (20 MINUTES)

There were none.

10. REPORTS FROM THE LEADER

There were none.

11. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

11.1 REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE 2019-20

Councillor Rohit Grover, Chairman of the Audit Committee, moved the reception and adoption of the recommendations in the report. Debate ensued.

On the recommendations in the report being put to the vote, the recommendations were unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the Council approve the Annual Report of the Audit Committee for 2019-20 as an accurate record of the outcomes and work programme of the year.

11.2 REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE - CONSTITUTION REVIEW

Councillor Melvin Cohen, Chairman of the Constitution and General Purposes Committee, moved reception and adoption of the recommendations in the report. Debate ensued.

On the recommendations in the report being put to the vote, the recommendations were agreed.

Votes were recorded as follows:

For	32
Against	26
Abstain	0
Total	58

RESOLVED

That the Council agreed to the amendments to the Constitution as outlined in the report and amended versions at appendices B to U.

11.3 REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE - AREA PLANNING COMMITTEES AND THE BOUNDARY REVIEW

Councillor Melvin Cohen, Chairman of Constitution and General Purposes Committee, moved reception and adoption of the recommendations in the report. Debate ensued.

On the recommendations in the report being put to the vote, the recommendations were agreed.

Votes were recorded as follows:

For	32
Against	24
Abstain	2
Total	58

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Council agreed to amend the Constitution to incorporate the changes as set out in the report and the amended versions attached at Appendices A and B.
- 2. That the Council agreed for implementation of the changes referred to at 1. above be effective from 1 November 2020.

12. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

12.1 REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & SECTION 151 OFFICERS - FLEXIBLE USE OF CAPITAL RECEIPTS

The Worshipful the Mayor moved reception and adoption of the recommendations in the report.

On the recommendations in the report being put to the vote, the recommendations were unanimously agreed

Council RESOLVED that:

That Council approve the use of Capital Receipts to fund the Barnet House Exit Settlement.

12.2 REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER - CALCULATION OF POLITICAL BALANCE (PROPORTIONALITY)

The Worshipful the Mayor moved reception and adoption of the recommendations in the report. The Worshipful the Mayor noted that as Council had agreed at item 11.3 to changes to planning committee arrangements, Council was therefore requested to note that Appendix B reflects the political balance of the Council.

On the recommendations in the report being put to the vote, the recommendations were unanimously agreed.

Council RESOLVED that:

- 1. That the Council note the political balance of the council is:
- 36 Members of the Conservative Group
- 24 Members of the Labour Group
- 2 Members of the Liberal Democrat Group
- 2. Council agree the allocation of seats as set out in the tables within the report in order to comply with the political balance regulations requiring seats to be allocated proportionately to the political groups on Council.

12.3 REPORT OF HEAD OF GOVERNANCE - APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

The Worshipful the Mayor introduced the report.

The Head of Governance requested Council note that following the decision at item 11.3 appointments would be to Planning Committees A, B and C and not Area Planning Committees, as outlined in Appendix A.

The Head of Governance also informed Council that the Conservative Group wished to move the following amendments to the nominations included in the schedules in Appendix A:

- Strategic Planning Committee remove Cllr Linda Freedman and replace with Cllr Golnar Bokaei
- Planning Committee A remove Cllr Linda Freedman (Substitute) and replace with Cllr Mark Shooter (Substitute)
- Planning Committee A remove Cllr Sarah Wardle (Substitute) and replace with Cllr Shimon Ryde (Substitute)
- Planning Committee B remove Cllr Peter Zinkin (Substitute) and replace with Cllr Shimon Ryde (Substitute)
- Planning Committee C remove Cllr Shimon Ryde and replace with Cllr Linda Freedman
- Planning Committee C remove Cllr Mark Shooter (Substitute) and replace with Cllr Shimon Ryde (Substitute)

Council were requested to note some minor typographical amendments to the Committee schedules as follows:

- Safer Communities Partnership Board correction to the name of Councillor Weeden-Sanz
- Adults and Safeguarding Committee correction to the name of Cllr Anne Clarke
- Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee correction to the name of Councillor Anne Hutton

Council noted the amendments to Appendix A of the report.

The Group secretaries moved the nominations in their names.

The Worshipful the Mayor moved to vote on the nominations for Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

RESOLVED:

That Council unanimously agreed the nominations put forward by the Conservative group for the roles of Chairman and Vice-Chairman on Committees, as outlined in Appendix A of the report. .

The Worshipful the Mayor moved to vote on the bodies and appointments where there was competition between the groups for membership;

- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Safer Communities Partnership Board
- Local Plan Advisory Group
- North Central London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- NCL Joint Commissioning Committee

A block vote was taken on the bodies and appointments listed above where there was competition:

Votes were recorded as follows:

The 32 Members present within the Conservative group voted in favour of the conservative group nominations.

The 24 Members present within the Labour group voted in favour of the Labour group nominations.

The 2 Members present within the Liberal Democrats voted in favour of the Liberal Democrats nominations

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RESOLVED:

That the Conservative nominations for the contested positions were agreed except for the Local Plan Advisory Group, where the Conservative and Labour nominations were agreed, as outlined in Appendix A of the report.

The Worshipful the Mayor moved to vote on the remaining nominations that are uncontested.

The remaining uncontested nominations were unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the uncontested nominations, as outlined in Appendix A of the report be agreed.

The Worshipful the Mayor moved to vote on the non-councillor appointments to Committees as outlined in Appendix B.

All non-Councillor appointments to Committees were unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the non-Councillor appointments to Committees, as outlined in Appendix B of the report be agreed.

12.4 REPORT OF HEAD OF GOVERNANCE - APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Worshipful the Mayor introduced the report.

The Head of Governance advised Council of Councillor John Hart's intention to stand down form the position on the Arts Depot Trust Limited. Nominations had been received from the Groups as follows:

- Conservative nomination Councillor Reuben Thompstone
- Labour nomination Councillor Anne Hutton
- Liberal Democrat nomination Councillor Gabriel Rozenberg

The Head of Governance also informed Council that Officers had advised that due to a change to the Terms of Reference of the Grahame Park Partnership Board there were now only 2 vacancies. The nominations received from the groups were as follows:

- Conservative nomination Councillor Sarah Wardle
- Labour nomination Councillor Gill Sargeant
- Liberal Democrat nomination Councillor Gabriel Rozenberg

The Group secretaries moved the nominations in their name.

The Worshipful the Mayor moved to vote on the outside bodies appointments where there was competition between the groups for membership;

- Grahame Park Partnership Board
- North London Waste Authority
- Arts Depot Trust Limited

A block vote was taken on the bodies and appointments listed above where there was competition:

Votes were recorded as follows:

The 32 Members present within the Conservative group voted in favour of the conservative group nominations.

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The 24 Members present within the Labour group voted in favour of the Labour group nominations.

The 2 Members present within the Liberal Democrats voted in favour of the Liberal Democrats nominations

RESOLVED:

That the Conservative nominations for the contested positions be agreed as outlined in Appendix A and B of the report, except for the Grahame Park Partnership Board where the Conservative and Labour positions are agreed.

The Worshipful the Mayor moved to vote on the remaining nominations that are uncontested.

The remaining uncontested nominations were unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the uncontested nominations, as outlined in Appendix A and B of the report be agreed.

13. QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were none.

14. MOTIONS (45 MINUTES)

14.1 ADMINISTRATION MOTION IN THE NAME OF CLLR DANIEL THOMAS - A MOTION OF GRATITUDE

The Leader moved the motion in his name. Debate ensued.

The motion in the name of the Leader was put to the vote.

The votes were recorded as follows

For	58
Against	0
Abstain	0
Total	58

RESOLVED:

That the motion in the name of Councillor Daniel Thomas was therefore agreed. The Council notes:

- 1. The Covid-19 pandemic has thrown previously unknown and unprecedented challenges at the country, including the London Borough of Barnet.
- 2. There have been 459 deaths across the borough due to the Covid-19 pandemic*.
- 3. From the start of lockdown on 23rd March to 28th August, the Council has continued to provide core services as well as additional essential support and relief to those in the community more affected by the outbreak. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. 4,855 urgent phone calls, and 3,999 emails asking for help answered
 - b. 7.6 million bin collections

- c. 27,339 householders given Council Tax payment support
- d. 14,148 food parcels and 700 hygiene parcels dispatched to the most vulnerable
- e. 3,904 local businesses were awarded over £60 million in grants
- f. 4,600 'triage' calls made and 6,600 text messages sent to shielded individuals
- g. 1.8 million items of PPE dispatched to care homes, home carers and schools
- 4. Thousands of residents across the borough volunteered their time to help their community, including the 993 who registered to volunteer with *Barnet Together*.
- 5. A number of staff members have taken time from their substantive roles to support the Borough Emergency Control Centre.
- 6. 50 members of staff created the Essential Supplies Hub, and manned it with the assistance of 21 volunteers and made over 10,000 deliveries to over 750 households.
- 7. A Covid-19 recovery strategy is being implemented. This will set out how the Council will ensure that the borough is able to continue to future-proof the borough and build a post-Covid Barnet with a plan to support our residents and businesses.

This Council believes that:

- 1. Staff at Barnet Council have put in an extraordinary effort to protect and provide for the borough's residents.
- 2. The fact that large projects, such as the Brent Cross Cricklewood regeneration have continued to make good progress, despite the challenges of the year, shows the commitment of our staff to ensuring a Barnet fit for the future.
- 3. With our preparedness plans, we are prepared for any potential subsequent waves of the Covid-19 virus.

This Council resolves to:

- 1. Thank all the staff across the Council for all their hard work throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. Without their hard work, our residents, our businesses and our borough-at-large would not have been served as well as it has been.
- 2. Thank the thousands of residents who volunteered across the borough, to assist those in need of help during this challenging time.
- 3. Express our condolences to the loved ones of all those who have died due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 4. Continue working on our Covid-19 recovery strategy, that will plot a path for the borough to recover from the pandemic.

14.2 OPPOSITION MOTION IN THE NAME OF CLLR ROSS HOUSTON - STOP OVERDEVELOPMENT IN BARNET

Councillor Ross Houston moved the motion in his name. Councillor Shimon Ryde moved an amendment in his name. Councillor Gabriel Rozenberg moved an amendment in his name. Councillor Anne Clarke moved an amendment in her name. Debate ensued.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Shimon Ryde was put to the vote. The votes were recorded as follows:

For	31
Against	26
Abstain	1
Total	58

The amendment in the name of Councillor Shimon Ryde was declared CARRIED.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Gabriel Rozenberg was put to the vote.

A formal division was called in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.

Votes were individually recorded for all Members.

Co	ouncillor		For	Against	Not Voting	Absent
1.	MAYOR Caroline	STOCK		✓		
2.	DEPUTY MAYOR	GURUNG		✓		
3.	Golnar	BOKAEI		✓		
4.	Jess	BRAYNE	✓			
5.		BYERS		✓		
6.	Anne	CLARKE	✓			
7.	Pauline	COAKLEY WEBB	✓			
8.	Dean	COHEN		✓		
9.	Melvin	COHEN		✓		
10	Geof	COOKE	✓			
11	Jo	COOPER	✓			
12	Sara	CONWAY	✓			
13	Alison	CORNELIUS		✓		
14	Richard	CORNELIUS		✓		
15	Saira	DON		✓		
16	Val	DUSCHINSKY		✓		
17	Paul	EDWARDS	✓			
18	Claire	FARRIER	✓			
19	Anthony	FINN				✓

Councillor		For	Against	Not Voting	Absent
20 Nizza	FLUSS		✓		
21 Linda	FREEDMAN		✓		
22 Eva	GREENSPAN		✓		
23 Jennife	r GROCOCK		✓		
24 Rohit	GROVER		✓		
25 John	HART				✓
26 Ross	HOUSTON	✓			
27 Anne	HUTTON	✓			
28 Laithe	JAJEH		✓		
29 Kathy	LEVINE	✓			
30 David	LONGSTAFF		✓		
31 John	MARSHALL			✓	
32 Kath	McGUIRK	✓			
33 Arjun	MITTRA	✓			
34 Alison	MOORE	✓			
35 Ammar	NAQVI	✓			
36 Nagus	NARENTHIRA	✓			
37 Charlie	O-MACAULEY	✓			
38 Reema	PATEL	√			
39 Alex	PRAGER				✓
40 Wendy	PRENTICE		✓		
41 Sachin	RAJPUT		✓		
42 Barry	RAWLINGS	✓			
43 Danny	RICH	✓			
44 Helene	RICHMAN		✓		
45 Tim	ROBERTS	✓			
46 Gabriel	ROZENBERG	✓			
47 Lisa	RUTTER		✓		
48 Shimon	RYDE		✓		
49 Gill	SARGEANT	✓			
50 Alan	SCHNEIDERMAN	✓			
51 Mark	SHOOTER		✓		
52 Elliot	SIMBERG		✓		
53 Thomas	SMITH		✓		
54 Stepher	n SOWERBY				✓
55 Julian	TEARE				✓
56 Daniel	THOMAS		✓		
57 Reuben			✓		

Councillor		For	Against	Not Voting	Absent	
58	Sarah	WARDLE		✓		
59	Roberto	WEEDEN-SANZ		✓		
60	Laurie	WILLIAMS	✓			
61	Peter	ZINKIN		✓		
62	Zakia	ZUBAIRI	√			

The votes were recorded as follows:

For	26
Against	30
Abstain	1
Total	57

^{*}Cllr Finn was absent from this vote.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Gabriel Rozenberg was declared LOST.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Anne Clarke was then put to the vote.

A formal division was called in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.

Votes were individually recorded for all Members.

	ouncillor		For	Against	Not Voting	Absent
	MAYOR Caroline	STOCK		✓		
64	DEPUTY MAYOR	GURUNG		√		
65	Golnar	BOKAEI		✓		
66	Jess	BRAYNE	✓			
67		BYERS		✓		
68	Anne	CLARKE	✓			
69	Pauline	COAKLEY WEBB	✓			
70	Dean	COHEN		✓		
71	Melvin	COHEN		✓		
72	Geof	COOKE	✓			
73	Jo	COOPER	✓			
74	Sara	CONWAY	✓			
75	Alison	CORNELIUS		✓		
76	Richard	CORNELIUS		✓		
77	Saira	DON		✓		
78	Val	DUSCHINSKY		✓		

Councillor		For	Against	Not Voting	Absent
79 Paul	EDWARDS	✓			
80 Claire	FARRIER	✓			
81 Anthony	FINN				✓
82 Nizza	FLUSS		✓		
83 Linda	FREEDMAN		✓		
84 Eva	GREENSPAN		✓		
85 Jennifer	GROCOCK		✓		
86 Rohit	GROVER		✓		
87 John	HART				✓
88 Ross	HOUSTON	✓			
89 Anne	HUTTON	✓			
90 Laithe	JAJEH		✓		
91 Kathy	LEVINE	✓			
92 David	LONGSTAFF		✓		
93 John	MARSHALL			✓	
94 Kath	McGUIRK	✓			
95 Arjun	MITTRA	✓			
96 Alison	MOORE	✓			
97 Ammar	NAQVI	✓			
98 Nagus	NARENTHIRA	✓			
99 Charlie	O-MACAULEY	√			
10 Reema	PATEL	✓			
10 Alex	PRAGER				✓
10 Wendy	PRENTICE		✓		
10 Sachin	RAJPUT		√		
10 Barry	RAWLINGS	✓			
10 Danny	RICH	✓			
10 Helene	RICHMAN		✓		
10 Tim	ROBERTS	✓			
10 Gabriel	ROZENBERG	\checkmark			
10 Lisa	RUTTER		✓		
11 Shimon	RYDE		✓		
11 Gill	SARGEANT	✓			
11 Alan	SCHNEIDERMAN	✓			
11 Mark	SHOOTER		✓		
11 Elliot	SIMBERG		✓		
11 Thomas	SMITH		✓		
11 Stephen	SOWERBY				✓

Councillor		For	Against	Not Voting	Absent
11 Julian	TEARE				✓
11 Daniel	THOMAS		✓		
11 Reuben	THOMPSTONE		✓		
12 Sarah	WARDLE		✓		
12 Roberto	WEEDEN-SANZ		✓		
12 Laurie	WILLIAMS	✓			
12 Peter	ZINKIN		✓		
12 Zakia	ZUBAIRI	✓			

The votes were recorded as follows:

For	26
Against	30
Abstain	1
Total	57

^{*}Cllr Finn was absent from this vote.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Anne Clarke was declared LOST.

The motion as amended by Councillor Ryde was put to the vote. Votes were recorded as followed:

For	30
Against	26
Abstain	1
Total	57

^{*}Cllr Finn was absent from this vote.

RESOLVED that the motion as amended by Councillor Ryde be agreed. Council notes that:

- 1. The Government has proposed a white paper relating to the planning system, titled 'Planning for the Future', which is currently being consulted on.
- 2. The submission deadline for this consultation is the 28th October
- 3. The Council will be making a submission to the Government as a part of this consultation.
- 4. In the Council's submission to this consultation, consideration will be given to the thoughts and concerns raised during the debate on this motion.

Council believes that:

- 1. 'Planning for the Future' sets out the Government's plan to build new homes around the country, and to make the housing market more accessible to those who currently struggle.
- 2. Making a submission to the Government's white paper consultation is the appropriate action to take at this time.

Council calls on the Leader of the Council to:

1. Ensure that the Council continues to lobby the appropriate individuals in order to make sure that our views are represented to Government.

14.3 JOINT MOTION IN THE NAME OF CLLR DAN THOMAS AND CLLR BARRY RAWLINGS - ADOPTING A BARNET-WIDE DEFINITION OF ISLAMOPHOBIA

The joint motion in the name of Councillor Daniel Thomas and Councillor Barry Rawlings was put to the vote.

The votes were recorded as follows

For	58
Against	0
Abstain	0
Total	58

RESOLVED:

That the joint motion in the name of Councillor Daniel Thomas and Councillor Barry Rawlings be agreed.

That the Council notes:

- 1. The Council agreed to create and adopt a definition of Islamophobia in July 2019
- 2. According to the 2011 census, over 36,000 Muslims live in Barnet, making up over 8% of the borough's population
- 3. Muslim communities in Barnet are members of traditions from around the globe, including but not limited to Albania, Iran, Pakistan and Somalia
- 4. The below definition was written from consultation with Barnet's Muslim community, and has the support of the Barnet Islamic Forum.

This Council believes that:

- 1. No form of racial or religious hatred has any place in the London Borough of Barnet
- 2. It is right that a definition of Islamophobia in Barnet was built by the Barnet Muslim community

This Council adopts the following definition of Islamophobia:

Anti-Muslim prejudice, also known as islamophobia, is a perception of Muslims, often expressed as a dislike or hatred towards an individual, a group or their property, institutions and facilities for possessing the perceived characteristics of a Muslim.

This prejudice is often rooted in racism, and can be manifested in many ways, including but not limited to abusive behaviour, threats of violence, damage and desecration of property, assault and extreme violence.

14.4 ADMINISTRATION MOTION IN THE NAME OF CLLR WEEDEN-SANZ - ADOPTING THE IHRA DEFINITION EXAMPLES

This motion was withdrawn and replaced with 14.6 a joint motion in the name of Councillor Weeden-Sanz and Councillor Barry Rawlings.

14.5 AMENDMENT TO ADOPTING THE IHRA DEFINITION EXAMPLES TO MOTION IN THE NAME OF CLLR ROBERTO WEEDEN-SANZ AND CLLR BARRY RAWLINGS (AGENDA ITEM 14.6)

The administration motion in the name of Councillor Roberto Weeden-Sanz was amended, as outlined in the supplement agenda, to become a joint motion with Councillor Barry Rawlings.

The joint motion in the name of Councillor Roberto Weeden-Sanz and Councillor Barry Rawlings was put to the vote.

Votes were recorded as follows:

The votes were recorded as follows

For	58
Against	0
Abstain	0
Total	58

RESOLVED that

This Council notes that the joint motion in the name of Councillor Roberto Weeden-Sanz and Councillor Barry Rawlings be agreed.

This Council notes that

- 1. Barnet Council adopted the working definition of antisemitism proposed by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) in January 2017.
- 2. Barnet Council was the first local authority in the country to adopt such a definition.
- 3. Since Barnet Council's adoption, best practice has been to adopt the IHRA definition examples alongside the definition proper.
- 4. The motion of January 2017 was proposed by the late Councillor Gordon.

This Council believes that:

- 1. It is right to take this opportunity to bring our definition up to date in line with current best practice, and to reaffirm our own commitment to fighting hatred and religious intolerance.
- 2. In recognition of Cllr Gordon's campaigning against antisemitism, this should be done in his memory.
- 3. The 'examples' that illustrate antisemitism can help clarify what is and is not antisemitic to those without a full understanding of the many ways in which this hate crime is perpetrated.

This Council resolves to:

- 1. Adopt the following illustrative examples of antisemitism, as set out by IHRA:
 - a. Manifestations might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic. Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for "why things go wrong." It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.
 - b. Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
 - ii. Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
 - iii. Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
 - iv. Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).
 - v. Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
 - vi. Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
 - vii. Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor.
 - viii. Applying double standards by requiring of it a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
 - ix. Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
 - x. Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
 - xi. Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

- c. Antisemitic acts are criminal when they are so defined by law (for example, denial of the Holocaust or distribution of antisemitic materials in some countries).
- d. Criminal acts are antisemitic when the targets of attacks, whether they are people or property – such as buildings, schools, places of worship and cemeteries – are selected because they are, or are perceived to be, Jewish or linked to Jews.
- e. Antisemitic discrimination is the denial to Jews of opportunities or services available to others and is illegal in many countries.

14.6 LIBERAL DEMOCRAT MOTION IN THE NAME OF CLLR GABRIEL ROZENBERG - STANDING UP FOR LOCAL CONTROL OF THE PLANNING PROCESS (AGENDA ITEM 14.5)

The amendment to the motion in the name of Councillor Shimon Ryde was put to the vote.

Votes were recorded as follows:

For	32
Against	26
Abstain	0
Total	58

The motion in the name of Councillor Gabriel Shimon Ryde is therefore Carried.

The motion as amended by Councillor Ryde was put to the vote. Votes were recorded as followed:

For	32
Against	26
Abstain	0
Total	58

RESOLVED that the motion as amended by Councillor Ryde be agreed. Council notes that:

Council notes that:

- 1. The Government has proposed a white paper relating to the planning system, titled 'Planning for the Future', which is currently being consulted on.
- 2. The submission deadline for this consultation is the 28th October
- 3. The Council will be making a submission to the Government as a part of this consultation.
- 4. In the Council's submission to this consultation, consideration will be given to the thoughts and concerns raised during Council debate on this subject.

Council believes that:

- 1. 'Planning for the Future' sets out the Government's plan to build new homes around the country, and to make the housing market more accessible to those who currently struggle.
- 2. Making a submission to the Government's white paper consultation is the appropriate action to take at this time.

Council calls on the Leader of the Council to:

Ensure that the Council continues to lobby the appropriate individuals in order to make sure that our views are represented to Government.

The meeting ended at 9.59pm



Council

19 January 2021

Title	London Boroughs Grants Scheme – Borough Contributions, 2021/22
Report of	Director of Finance & Section 151 Officer
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	Yes
Key	No
Enclosures	None
Officer Contact Details	Ken Argent, Grants Manager, Finance Service (ken.argent@barnet.gov.uk) (020 8359 2020)

Summary

This report considers the proposals of the London Councils Leaders' Committee regarding the overall level of expenditure of, and borough contributions to, the London Boroughs Grants Scheme (LBGS) in 2021/22.

Officer's Recommendations

- 1. That the recommendation of the London Councils Leaders' Committee for an overall level of expenditure and borough contributions of £6,668,000 in 2021/22, involving a levy on Barnet of £294,546, be approved.
- 2. That the Director of Finance be instructed to inform the Chief Executive of London Councils accordingly.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

Formal approval of the 2021/22 LBGS budget by at least 22 of the constituent boroughs is required before 1 February 2021. In the event of the budget not being agreed by this statutory deadline, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government has powers to intervene and set the budget at the same level as in 2020/21 (£6,668,000).

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The budget reflects how the LBGS has been reconfigured, with the approval of constituent authorities, since 2011/12, pursuant to the significant cuts in public sector spending.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

3.1 The next meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee to which this report would ordinarily have been submitted is not until 8 February, after the statutory deadline for notifying the council's decision.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 The chief executive of London Councils will be notified of the council's decision in compliance with the deadline set.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 The council is committed to working in partnership with the voluntary and community sector (and with other public agencies and local businesses) to ensure that high quality public services are delivered in the most effective and efficient way in line with the Corporate Plan.
- 5.1.2 The LBGS was established in 1985 under section 48 of the Local Government Act 1985 to make grants to pan-London and sub-regional voluntary organisations. The scheme remains in force so long as a majority amongst London boroughs continues to support it.
- 5.1.3 Section 48(3) of the 1985 Act requires constituent councils to contribute towards any expenditure of the designated authority in the making of grants which has been incurred with the approval of at least a two-thirds majority of the councils.
- 5.1.4 With the consent of constituent authorities, the City Corporation succeeded the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames as the appointed designated authority for the LBGS in 2004, involving the discharge of certain formal requirements such as issuing the annual levy on boroughs. In all practical respects, however, the scheme is administered by London Councils.

Reviews of Future Role and Scope of LBGS

5.1.5 In 2010, following a review of the future role and scope of the LBGS set against cuts in

public sector spending, the London Councils Leaders' Committee agreed the principles for a future grants scheme based on funding a genuinely London-wide programme embracing services that are frontline, specialist or where mobility of clients is key to delivery; infrastructure support to service providers; voice/representation services; and capacity building.

- 5.1.6 Funding for all services categorised as essentially local in nature, but either more suited to sub-regional decision-making and delivery or capable of local determination and priority, ceased in 2011/12.
- 5.1.7 In 2012, following consultation with boroughs and other stakeholders, the Leaders' Committee agreed the principles and priorities to be applied in selecting four-year commissions through the LBGS with effect from April 2013, based on commissioning fewer, but better resourced, services and only those that are genuinely pan-London. The priorities were:
 - to tackle homelessness, including developing new ways of working with partners, focused on early intervention and prevention of homelessness, emergency accommodation and advice services:
 - to prevent sexual and domestic violence and assist victims to access emergency services and/or services that support women and communities affected by forced marriage and harmful practice;
 - to tackle poverty by promoting access to employment and training, drawing on opportunities for match funding provided by boroughs working with London Councils and the European Social Fund (ESF);
 - to help London's voluntary and community sector to build capacity and operate more efficiently.
- 5.1.8 A further review of the LBGS in 2015 against the backdrop of further announcements about the funding position of local authorities over the following five years resulted in discontinuance of the fourth priority (capacity building of the third sector) in commissioning new services for the four-year period from April 2017.

2020/21 LBGS budget

5.1.9 The LBGS has an overall budget of £6,668,000 in 2020/21 to meet the cost of the current set of commissions, reflecting the ending of the ESF programme; the impact on the match funding requirement; and reduced administrative costs following the completion of work on closing the programme, which is met entirely from borough subscriptions.

2021/22 LBGS budget

5.1.10 The Leaders' Committee on 8 December 2020 agreed to recommend to constituent authorities for approval an overall level of expenditure of £6,668,000 for 2020/21, the same as for the current year, made up of:

	2021/22	2020/21
	£	£
Payments to commissions	6,173,000	6,173,000
Operating expenditure (including central recharges and London Funders' membership fees)	495,000	495,000

5.1.11 It is proposed that the budget would once again be met entirely from borough subscriptions (of £6,668,000). Barnet's apportionment of the levy based on population data (see 5.2.1 below) will be 4.42% in 2021/22, which will result in a Barnet contribution of £294,546, an increase of £1,011 on the 2020/21 levy.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.1 The annual payment to the LBGS is a levy under section 74 of the Local Government Finance 1988 and regulations made under it. Individual borough contributions are determined by total resident population of the respective boroughs, based on Office of National Statistics (formerly OPCS) mid-year estimates for the year two years before the start of the financial year for which the levy is issued.
- 5.2.2 The levy on Barnet has fallen from £1,145,489 in 2010/11 to £293,535 in 2020/21.
- 5.2.3 Based on mid-year 2019 population estimates, when Barnet's population was 395,870 (compared to 392,140 in mid-2018), Barnet's contribution to the LBGS in 2021/22 will be 4.42% of total borough contributions.
- 5.2.4 Provision for the level of contribution to the LBGS, as finally approved, will be included in the draft 2021/22 revenue budget, which will be presented to the Policy and Resources Committee on 8 February 2021. If the LBGS budget put forward is approved, Barnet's contribution in 2021/22 will be £850,583 less than in 2010/11.
- 5.2.5 Approval of the budget will mean that total borough contributions to the LBGS will be £18,212,000 (73.1%) less than the sum of £24,900,000 paid in 2010/11.

5.3 Social Value

5.3.1 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2013 requires people who commission public services to think about how they can also secure wider social, economic and environmental benefits, a consideration for London Councils as the commissioning agency for the LBGS.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

5.4.1 Article 7 of the council's constitution details the terms of reference of the Policy and Resources Committee, which includes grants. The committee is not scheduled to meet until after the statutory deadline for formal approval of the 2021/22 LBGS levy. Article 4 of the constitution provides that Full Council may make decisions on matters normally

reserved to committees where an urgent decision is required. Determination of whether a matter is urgent is reserved to the mayor and chairman of the relevant committee in consultation with the leader and the relevant chief officer. The mayor and the leader, who is chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, have been consulted and have agreed to the urgency.

5.4.2 Further legal and constitutional considerations are detailed in paragraphs 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.2.1, 5.5 (below) and 5.6 (below).

5.5 **Risk Management**

- 5.5.1 The council is bound by law to contribute towards the costs incurred by the designated authority in the making of grants under the LBGS according to the formula set out above. In the event of the scheme being discontinued, constituent authorities would be required to contribute to its winding up costs, both in relation to grant commitments made and the closing of the unit that administers the scheme. These have not been quantified.
- 5.5.2 If the LBGS budget for 2021/22 is not agreed by two-thirds of constituent councils before 1 February 2021, the budget will be set at the same level as in 2020/21 (£6,668,000).

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

- 5.6.1 Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the council and all other organisations exercising public functions must have due regard to the need to:
 - eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and conduct prohibited by or under the Act;
 - advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it

The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; and sex and sexual orientation. The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality into daily business and keep them under review in decision making; the design of policies; and the delivery of services.

An analysis by London Councils in accordance with the duties under the Act identified that a refocusing of the grants programme to reflect the reduced resources available in the context of the significant spending constraints facing local authorities would have an impact on protected groups of people. The principles and priorities of the existing programme, and the service specifications and strands to deliver outcomes, seek to apply scare resources to mitigate, where possible, any adverse equality impacts arising from a refocused programme operating with a reduced budget.

5.7 Corporate Parenting

5.7.1 Not relevant in the context of this report.

5.8 Consultation and Engagement

Grants Programme, 2017-21

- 5.8.1 In 2015, London Councils consulted boroughs and stakeholders on whether the grants programme should continue past March 2017 and, if it did, what the priorities of the programme should be.
- 5.8.2 The council in its response acknowledged the value of the LBGS in funding organisations that supported niche groups which would lack adequate scale if resourced locally but expressed concern about how effectively the scheme was promoted within boroughs and that many of the commissioned services did not benefit Barnet residents to any significant degree. Many of the organisations supported operated predominantly in central London and the disproportionate benefit that inner London boroughs with smaller populations received amounted to a redistribution of wealth from outer London.
- 5.8.3 The response stated that there was a need to take account of how many costly problems had migrated outwards to the suburbs and that sub-regional programmes tended to be better aligned to local need than those commissioned at the pan-London level. In the council's opinion, better outcomes could be achieved by redeploying the levy locally. Although it did not necessarily wish to withdraw from all activities funded through the LBGS, its overall view given the nature of the consultation, which posed a single question about the future of the programme, was that it should not continue.
- 5.8.4 The consultation and other evidence signified a majority view that acting collectively to address London-wide priorities was effective; provided value for money; and delivered positive outcomes for people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. A majority amongst stakeholders expressed support for continuation of a pan-London grants programme operating in accordance with the principles agreed in 2012.
- 5.8.5 The current four-year programme, 2017-21, which eliminated capacity building of the third sector from the previously agreed commissioning priorities pursuant to announcements about the future funding position of local authorities, has commissioned fourteen projects dedicated to tackling homelessness; sexual and domestic violence; or promoting access to employment on a pan-London basis. The programme has been extended to a fifth year, ending in March 2022, because of the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

5.9 Insight

5.9.1 Not relevant in the context of this report.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 Council, 28 January 2020: approval of an overall level of LBGS expenditure of £6,668,000 in 2020/21, involving a levy on Barnet of £293,535.
- 6.2 Reports to London Councils Grants Committee (11 November 2020) and Leaders' Committee (8 December 2020) on the LBGS proposals for 2021/22.
- 6.3 London Councils Chief Executives' Circular 04/20 dated 11 December 2020 seeking approval to the 2021/22 budget.





Council

AGENDA ITEM 12.2

19 January 2021

Title	Report of the Head of Governance	
Report of	Head of Governance	
Wards	All Wards	
Status	Public	
Urgent	No	
Key	No	
Enclosures	Appendix A – Changes to calendar of meetings 2020-21 Appendix B - Calendar of Meetings 2021-2022 TO FOLLOW Appendix C - Calendar of Meetings – Collated – TO FOLLOW	
Officer Contact Details	Andrew Charlwood, Head of Governance, andrew.charlwood@barnet.gov.uk 020 8359 2014	

Summary

This item presents various constitutional and administrative matters for Council's agreement. Full details are as set out in the attached appendices.

Officers Recommendations

- 1. That Council note the changes to the calendar of meetings 2020-21
- 2. That Council approve the proposed calendar of meetings 2021-22.



1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 The Head of Governance report seeks Council's approval for various matters of business relating to the Council's statutory and constitutional functions.
- 1.2 Appendix A includes changes to meetings dates for the current calendar of meetings 2020-21.
- 1.3 Appendix B includes the proposed calendar of meetings for 2021-22.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 As set out in the attached appendices.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

3.1 N/A

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Council decisions will be minuted and implemented through the Head of Governance.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 As set out in attached appendices.
- 5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)
- 5.2.1 Any specific implications are set out in the attached appendices.
- 5.3 Social Value
- 5.3.1 Any specific implications are set out in the attached appendices.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.4.1 Council Constitution, Article 4 The Full Council states that the Council is responsible for "Agreeing and amending the terms of reference of committees, deciding on their composition and making appointments to them."
- 5.5 Risk Management
- 5.5.1 None specifically arising from this report.
- 5.6 Equalities and Diversity
- 5.6.1 None specifically arising from this report.

5.7 Corporate Parenting

5.7.1 None specifically arising from this report.

5.8 **Consultation and Engagement**

5.8.1 There has been consultation with Members and chief officers on the proposed meeting dates.

5.9 **Insight**

5.9.1 None specifically arising from this report.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 None.



Changes to current Calendar of meetings 2020-21

Committee Meeting	Original date	New date
Planning Committee B	14 th January 2021	21st January 2021
Pension Fund Committee	N/A	Additional meeting date to be confirmed.

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Administration Motion in the name of Cllr Roberto Weeden-Sanz

AGENDA ITEM 14.1

Opposing Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and Additional Driving Levies

Council notes that:

- 1. A number of London Councils, mainly those controlled by the Labour Party, imposed Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) in their boroughs.
- 2. These LTNs form part of Labour London Mayor Sadiq Khan's *London Streetspace* programme.
- 3. There are around 200 LTN schemes underway across London, none are in Barnet.
- 4. Thousands have protested against LTNs in boroughs such as Ealing, whose MP wrote to her Council stating that these LTNs had been "poorly thought through and rushed."
- 5. A number of LTNs were reversed after surrounding roads saw major surges to congestion. One LTN in a neighbouring borough caused such considerable extra congestion that there was traffic spill-over in Barnet wards such as Brunswick Park.
- 6. Sadiq Khan has also floated the idea of a daily charge being levied on all cars entering anywhere in London, from anywhere outside.
- 7. Sadiq Khan increased the Congestion Charge, and proposed extending it into Barnet.
- 8. TfL, which is Chaired by Sadiq Khan, received two bailouts in 2020.

Council believes that:

- 1. LTNs have been implemented without being thought through, leading to greater traffic elsewhere in boroughs in which they have been built, with knock-on effects in neighbouring boroughs, and causing difficulty for some emergency service vehicles in those areas.
- 2. As an outer-London borough, Barnet's businesses, and indeed residents' families, would be damaged by a charge levied on all those entering the city in a car.
- 3. Decisions, plans and proposals by Sadiq Khan to increase and extend the Congestion Charge, as well as to create a new charge for entering London is an outcome of a mismanaged TfL, throughout Mayor Khan's term.
- 4. Extra charges such as these will have the greatest negative impact on the poorest in our borough and across London.
- 5. The Covid pandemic has simply revealed the dire state of TfL's finances, and while it exacerbated their problems, it was not the sole cause of the organisation's financial difficulties.

Council resolves to:

- 1. Not impose any LTNs on Barnet residents.
- 2. Call on Sadiq Khan to not levy a new charge for those entering London, or to increase or extend the Congestion Charge, or to threaten Londoners with these actions which would financially harm Barnet's residents and businesses.

Opposition Motion in the name of Cllr Alan Schneiderman

AGENDA ITEM 14.2

Protecting our Parks and Green Spaces.

Council notes:

1. Just how important it has been, for residents' health and wellbeing, to have access to parks and green spaces during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Council resolves:

1. To continue to protect all Barnet's parks and green spaces.



Administration Motion in the name of Cllr Sarah Wardle

AGENDA ITEM 14.3

Dealing with Dangerous Cladding

Council notes that:

- 1. There is a national issue whereby some buildings were clad with materials that are dangerous and have now been banned, including several within Barnet.
- 2. Dangerous cladding has led to catastrophes in the UK, such as the fire in Grenfell Tower of 2017.
- 3. In light of the Grenfell fire, the Council set aside £30million to improve fire safety measures across its housing stock. The Council swiftly assessed our Council-owned blocks and took the necessary action to support residents, with £7million being spent to replace cladding on three local tower blocks.
- 4. Hendon MP Matthew Offord has launched a petition urging urges the Government to take immediate action to complete necessary remedial cladding work at no cost to leaseholders.
- 5. *Inside Housing* published "10 steps to End Our Cladding Scandal", based on the recommendations of the Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee.

Council believes that:

- 1. People should feel safe in their own homes, and it is unacceptable for any people to live in homes that are dangerously clad.
- 2. Residents who bought new-build flats should not have to pay for remedial works to address cladding safety.

Council resolves to:

- 1. Support Inside Housing's 10 steps that must be taken to End Our Cladding Scandal:
 - a. The government must lead an urgent national effort to remove all dangerous cladding from buildings by June 2022.
 - b. The Building Safety Fund must cover all buildings, regardless of height, and a range of internal and external fire safety defects, not just cladding.
 - c. The government should provide the money up front and then seek to recover it from any responsible parties or via a temporary levy on development.
 - d. Social housing providers must have full and equal access to the fund.
 - e. The government must compel building owners or managers to be honest with residents about fire safety defects.
 - f. The government should cover the cost of interim safety measures.
 - g. The government should act as an insurer of last resort and underwrite insurance where premiums have soared.
 - h. A fairer, faster process is needed to replace the EWS form and funding is necessary to ensure all buildings requiring a form are surveyed within 12 months.

- i. Mental health support must be offered to affected residents.
- j. Protecting residents from historic and future costs must be a key commitment of new building safety legislation.

Opposition Motion in the name of Cllr Arjun Mittra

AGENDA ITEM 14.4

Commonwealth and veterans' support

Council notes:

- 1. Commonwealth veterans have a long and proud history of service in the British military. From World War II to recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, Commonwealth veterans have served with distinction alongside British born veterans.
- 2. However, when their service is complete many are left with extortionate charges to remain in the UK. Commonwealth veterans are supposed to receive indefinite leave to remain in the UK however many veterans state they were not informed that they needed to make an immediate application to the Home Office for leave to remain in the UK when their service was complete. Many thought the process was automatic, but this is not the case.
- 3. Fees for indefinite leave to remain have also dramatically increased. Since 2015, fees have increased by nearly 127% from £1051 £2381 with a family of four having to pay nearly £10000 to remain in the UK. This doesn't include associated legal fees that some who have struggled with immigration applications may need to pay. This has led to many facing spiralling debt and uncertain immigration status with the very real prospect of deportation. Whilst their applications are ongoing commonwealth veterans are also unable to seek employment or claim benefits.

Council believes:

1. This is poor reward for people persuaded to leave their countries in order to serve in the British armed forces and put their lives on the line in the service of this country.

Council resolves to:

- 1. Make Barnet's armed forces champions and lead officers aware of the difficulties experienced by commonwealth veterans and ensure that those who are currently experiencing problems, whether financial or immigration difficulties, are not disadvantaged whilst their applications are ongoing.
- 2. Council also asks the Leaders of all three political Groups to write to the Prime Minister, the minister of state for immigration, and the minister of state for veterans' affairs outlining Council's support for all commonwealth veterans who have served a minimum of 4 years to be granted automatic and free of charge right to remain in the UK and that any veteran who completes 12 years of service to be automatically given British Citizenship.
- 3. Council also asks the Leaders of all three political Groups to write to all three Barnet MPs to ask them to press the Government for a change in the legislation as set out above.



Administration Motion in the name of Cllr Daniel Thomas

AGENDA ITEM 14.5

Fighting Food Insecurity in Barnet

Council's vision for food security in Barnet is that:

 All residents, at all times, have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs for an active and healthy life. We want to ensure people have such access consistently and reliably, without resorting to emergency supplies, scavenging, stealing or other coping strategies.

Council believes that:

- Covid has created unprecedented challenges for residents across the borough and impacted on access to food for various reasons such as shielding, the inability to book online delivery slots and fear of supermarket visits and an increase in unemployment.
- 2. The Council should help those most vulnerable tackle the underlying causes of food insecurity, minimise its health impacts and support the voluntary and community sector who aid in this area.

Council notes that:

- 1. The Council has been combatting food insecurity for years, having established a Working Group in 2017, and signing off an action plan in 2019. This action plan has now been amended in light of the Covid pandemic.
- 2. At the beginning of the pandemic outbreak, the Council set up an Essential Supplies Hub that provided food and other essentials to vulnerable individuals and families across the borough.
- 3. The Council has continued to support foodbanks throughout the pandemic, with a particular emphasis on ensuring good supply during school holidays.
- 4. The Council was allocated almost £1million from the Government's Covid Winter Grant Scheme. 80% of this grant went to providing meal vouchers for children and families, to ensure no children went hungry over the school holidays, while the remainder was allocated to supporting other vulnerable residents across Barnet.
- 5. Over 650 people volunteered to support our Essential Supplies Hub, helping to support those in need and to fight food insecurity.
- 6. Should a food bank be forced to close due to extenuating circumstances, the Council has contingency plans to ensure a continued supply.
- 7. To ensure the long-term sustainability of Barnet's local food aid providers, we are providing them with links to resources to attract new direct donations, in addition to resources provided via the Essential Supplies Hub. As part of this, Young Barnet Foundation (YBF) is currently running a campaign to encourage donations directly to foodbanks.

Council resolves to:

- 1. Produce a new food security action plan.
- 2. Continue working to ensure that future emergency plans incorporate food security.
- 3. Place an even greater emphasis on tackling the underlying causes of food insecurity.
- 4. Thank all Barnet residents and community groups who have helped fight food insecurity in our borough by supporting our food banks, volunteering with our supplies hub and more.

Opposition Motion in the name of Cllr Barry Rawlings.

AGENDA ITEM 14.6

Keep the £20 a week Universal Credit uplift

This Council notes:

- In April the Government plans to cut the benefit level for millions of claimants by ending the time limited increase to the basic rate of Universal Credit (and the tax credit equivalent) announced by the Chancellor on 20th March as part of his pandemic response package.
- The £20 a week boost reflected the reality that the level of benefits were not adequate to protect the swiftly increasing number of households relying on them as the crisis hit. Exactly because that increase was a very significant and welcome move to bolster low- and middle-income families' living standards, its removal will be a huge loss.
- Pressing ahead would see the level of unemployment support fall to its lowest realterms level since 1990-91, and its lowest ever relative to average earnings. Indeed, the basic level of out-of-work support prior to the March boost was – at £73 a week (£3,800 a year) – less than half the absolute poverty line.
- The increase in benefits has had a positive effect on the lives of thousands of local claimants who are better able to pay for life's essentials such as food, clothing and utilities.
- The local economy has also benefited from the increase in benefit levels as claimants spend their money locally thereby supporting local businesses and jobs.

Council resolves to:

- Write to the Chancellor, Rishi Sunak and to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson demanding that the £20 increase to Universal Credit is made permanent and extended to claimants on legacy benefits.
- Work with other local government organisations to form a coalition to pressure the Government to make the £20 increase to Universal Credit permanent.



Council meeting: 19 January 2021

Liberal Democrat Group motion: Cllr Jess Brayne

AGENDA ITEM 14.7

Stand up for Carers - Increasing Carer's Allowance

The pandemic has highlighted the invaluable role of Barnet's carers, both those employed in the care sector and unpaid people who care for family members. Carers in Barnet have been at the forefront of the coronavirus pandemic response and continue to do a selfless and remarkable job in very difficult circumstances.

Situations provoking care interventions can happen with little warning. Often those giving care have to reduce their working hours or give up work to juggle competing demands. The pressures on young carers can negatively impact on their experiences and outcomes in education, having a lasting effect on their life chances. Many carers in Barnet are unaware of their entitlement to financial support, a carers assessment or break, and the support services available.

Council notes that:

- 1. There are approximately 6.5 million volunteers in the UK who look after a family member or friend who is elderly or has a disability, or a mental or physical illness.
- 2. Many people who provide care do not recognise themselves as a 'carer'. The latest government figures show that 4,784 unpaid carers in Barnet are entitled to receive Carer's Allowance, although only 3,695 currently do.
- 3. At just £67.25 a week; Carer's Allowance is the lowest benefit of its kind.
- 4. In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Government increased the Universal Credit standard allowance and the Working Tax Credit basic element by £20 a week above the planned uprating in April 2020, but it has not increased Carer's Allowance.

Council resolves to:

1. Call on the Leader to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, urging them to increase Carer's Allowance by £1,000 a year, from its current rate of £67.25 a week to £87.25, in line with the £20 a week uplift in Universal Credit, including those who do not receive the Allowance due to overlapping benefits and with equivalent increase in Carer Premium and Carer Addition.

