Council: Tuesday 24th January 2023 Opposition Motion in the name of Cllr Dan Thomas

Stop expansion of the ULEZ and say 'no' to future road pricing

Council notes:

- 1) That air pollution is an issue and the need for ULEZ in the most congested inner parts of London may be justified.
- 2) The Mayor of London has confirmed he will expand ULEZ to the outer boroughs of London.
- 3) That ULEZ is a means for the Mayor of London to generate revenue from the people of Barnet.
- 4) Barnet has areas that are urbanised, suburbanised and semi-rural; the use of cars is vital for many residents to get around.
- 5) Barnet's air quality is good and pollution is on a downwards trend.
- 6) The Mayor of London held a consultation on ULEZ's expansion to Outer London Boroughs like Barnet.
- 7) Barnet Conservatives encouraged and called for residents in Barnet to have their say in the ULEZ expansion consultation.
- 8) 66% of the consultation respondents were against Sadiq Khan's ULEZ expansion.
- 9) An overwhelming majority said 'no' to a cost-of-living charge being imposed on the poorest and most vulnerable people both in and outside of London, which will do very little, if anything, to improve air quality.
- 10) Sadiq Khan has been quoted in the BBC and Guardian as supporting road pricing.

Council believes that:

- 1) The people of Barnet should not have to pay more to meet the mayor's budgetary black hole.
- 2) ULEZ expansion is a precursor to widespread road pricing.
- 3) Many Barnet residents require a car to live their daily lives and the imposition of the ULEZ tax will hit the poorest in Barnet.

Council resolves to:

1) Direct the Leader to make a last-ditch attempt to stop the mayor's expansion of ULEZ and advise him this council will oppose any form of road pricing.

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