

PENSION COMMITTEE

**WEDNESDAY, 10 JULY 2024 AT 6.30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, JUDD STREET, LONDON WC1H 9JE**

**Enquiries to: Sola Odusina, Committee Services
E-Mail: sola.odusina@camden.gov.uk
Telephone: 020 7974 6884 (Text phone prefix 18001)**

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

	Wards
5. DEPUTATIONS (IF ANY)	
The deputations are from	
Camden Unison relating to ethical Pension Investments; and	(Pages 3 - 5)
Camden Palestine Solidarity Campaign. Also, in relation to ethical Pension Fund Investments.	Page 7)

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ENDS

Issued on: Monday 08 July 2024

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COUNCIL MEETING – DEPUTATION/PETITION REQUEST FORM

NAME OF DEPUTATION/PETITION LEADER: Liz Wheatley	
ADDRESS: Camden UNISON Branch Office, 3 rd Floor, Crowndale Centre, 218 Eversholt St NW1 1BD	
TEL: 020 7974 1633	E-MAIL: unison@camden.gov.uk
<p>Name and contact details of other proposed attendees (maximum of 6 plus deputation leader): All can be contacted via unison@camden.gov.uk</p> <p>Anisah Khwaja Rozita Leetham Jenna Litherland Brigid Falconer Chandni Patel Jacqui Wallace</p>	
<p>Does any member of the deputation have access requirements? If so, please tell us what they are: No</p>	
<p>Have you submitted a deputation request to the Council before? If so, please give details: Yes, we have done deputations to both the Pensions Committee and to full Council meetings before on a number of occasions.</p>	

Please summarise below the key points you wish to make at the Council meeting (continue on a separate sheet if necessary):

A summary of the main points that we will focus on in our deputation include:

- We are the main stakeholder in the LGPS – we pay in to it and we receive payments out of it – therefore we believe that we should have some say about how our money is used
- We want to see ethical investment of our pension fund – both that directly managed by Camden and the London CIV – and to be involved in discussions about how that can be achieved
- We want a full and transparent audit and disclosure of investments – including regular reporting of investments so that progress can be measured
- We want specific immediate divestment from:
 - a. The arms industry
 - b. Companies profiting from war and occupation
 - c. The fossil fuel industry

(see guidance notes overleaf)

GUIDANCE FROM THE COUNCIL'S [CONSTITUTION](#) *

Deputations and petitions

Anyone likely to be affected by a matter in which the authority has functions, or which affects that area of the authority, or some of it, or the inhabitants of that area, or some of them may ask that a deputation or a petition should be received by a meeting of the Council.

A deputation request should be made in writing to the Chief Executive (via the contact listed below) setting out the reason why the deputation should be received, by no later than 12noon, three working days before the meeting to which it relates.

The person making the deputation request shall indicate what the deputation is about, the number (no more than 7), names and addresses of the persons who will form the deputation, and the member of the deputation who will address the Council.

Requests to present petitions to Council will be considered in line with the Council's Petition Scheme (Part 5 of the Constitution).

The Mayor will decide whether the deputation or the petition is to be received or not, or whether the deputation or the petition should be heard by another body. In deciding whether or not to redirect a deputation or the petition to another body the Mayor will amongst other things consider whether the matter could benefit from an in-depth analysis which could not be provided at Council, whether it is of wide interest to the Borough and whether the deputation or the petition has already been aired recently at another Council body. A maximum of three deputations or petitions will be taken at each Council meeting with the Mayor deciding which to accept with an overall maximum time allocated to deputations and petitions of 30 minutes.

At the meeting

When called, the spokesperson or Petition Organiser may speak for three minutes. The Mayor will ensure that the remarks are relevant and that the speaker refrains from personal attacks.

Members may then ask questions of the deputation. Six minutes per deputation or petition is allowed for this, to include responses from the depute(e)s/petitioner(s).

After the deputation or petition has been heard the appropriate Cabinet Member or committee chair may respond in a speech no longer than three minutes.

No deputation or petition may appear before the Council again within the next three months on the same or a similar subject.

Data Protection - What will we do with the information that you have provided to us?

The Council has a legal duty to allow public access to its formal meetings (except in limited circumstances where the press and public may be excluded) and we are processing the data that you have provided in order to deal with your request to make a submission to one of those meetings. We will only process the information provided to us for the purpose for which you have provided it.

Your name and address may appear in the papers of the council, committee or sub-committee meeting that you have requested a submission to. These papers are freely available on the Council's website and in hard copy from the Council's offices.

We will not transfer your personal data outside of the EU/EEA.

Full the full privacy notice, please visit <https://www.camden.gov.uk/deputations>

Please return this form by email to vicky.wemyss-cooke@camden.gov.uk / donna.alexander-morrison@camden.gov.uk or by post to:-

Vicky Wemyss-Cooke/Donna Alexander-Morrison
Committee Services
London Borough of Camden
Town Hall
Judd Street
London, WC1H 9JE
Enquires: 020 7974 5726/5319

* Part 4 of Camden's Constitution, 'Procedure Rules and Standing Orders'

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Please accept this as a request for deputation at the Pensions Committee on Wednesday 10th July on behalf of the Camden Palestine Solidarity Campaign.

The topic of the deputation is ethical investments, and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) policies, with specific reference to Israel and Palestine, in the context of recent rulings by the International Court of Justice.

Two recent events push for a new evaluation of the pension fund's policies.

1. The so-called anti-boycott bill has been withdrawn. It was promoted by the previous Conservative government and fell as a result of the election. Local authorities are again free to make their own ethical choices without having to follow central government.
2. The decisions of the International Court of Justice issued this year need to be taken into account.

We believe that Camden needs clear ethical policies that can be followed by its investment managers in a coherent and systematic way. They would need to apply to Israel and Palestine, obviously, but also to climate change, to Russia and Ukraine, to Uighur enslaved labour alleged to be used by China and to any issues where blatant violations are likely to be made.

Where pension funds are pooled, Camden needs to work with the other local authorised involved to draw up common ethical investment policies.

Where Camden has relied on engagement instead of divestment in the past, it needs to take stock and assess whether the policy of engagement has produced positive outcomes of sufficient magnitude.

Luca Salice
Co-chair
Camden Palestine Solidarity Campaign

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