

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN
COUNCIL MEETING – 14TH OCTOBER 2024

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

- 1. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Steve Adams and which was seconded by Councillor Andrew Parkinson**

The Council notes that the public's faith in the method of Camden Council's consultation on various issues has diminished and seeks to repair this.

The requirement to embark on engagement with residents cannot be met by the imposition of stilted consultation actions.

The Council resolves to return to true, open consultation without pre-judgment, without leading questions and with an open mind and the intent of respecting the stated opinions of residents and not selecting to note only those responses that suit the designs of the Council.

- 2. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor James Slater and which was seconded by Councillor Tommy Gale**

This Council notes:

- That the new Labour Government is committed to strengthening our democracy and upholding the integrity of elections across the UK.
- During the 2024 General Election, there were reports of intimidation at polling stations as well as flyposting in the borough. This was followed by misinformation and inappropriate inactivity in the recent by-elections.
- In more transient and younger areas, more eligible voters are unregistered.
- During the pandemic, Camden Council wrote to all registered voters with information about how to sign up for a postal vote, and has since regularly reminder voters about this option across all its channels and signposted how this might be done, which has led to an increase in those applying.

This Council believes:

- Protecting the right to vote, and the ability for people to do so without intimidation, is central to our democracy.
- The Labour Government is right to review rules around voter ID to expand eligibility and make it easier to vote and address inconsistencies in the system.
- The Government should review the legislation around protecting polling stations from intimidation and interference as part of its work on Defending Democracy.

This Council resolves:

- To call on the new Labour government to introduce automatic voter registration.
- To send correspondence to all voters in Camden with information about signing up for a postal vote in the next year.
- To write to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster to call for a review of the guidance and legislation around conduct outside of polling stations.

3. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Nancy Jirira and which was seconded by Councillor Tom Simon

This Council notes:

- The increase in Stage One Complaints about the housing repairs service from 728 in 2021-22 to 1150 in 2022-23 to 1564 om 2023-24.
- The failure to respond to even half of those complaints within the Housing Ombudsman's recommended timescale.
- The high and growing number of Member's Enquiries about housing repairs.
- The findings of maladministration against the council by the Housing Ombudsman.
- The inaugural Tenant Satisfaction Measures survey which shows satisfaction with housing repairs at around the London average, in a field with some terrible performances.
- Constant stories in the local press about poor quality service.

This Council believes:

That a high-quality repairs service is essential for the wellbeing of the Council's tenants.

The Labour administration's frequent claims over the last 14 years to be improving this service have failed to address the fundamental problems of poor communication, missed appointments, poor quality work and damp & mould issues.

That Camden Council should have the ambition to have the best housing repairs service in the UK.

This Council calls on:

The Cabinet Member for Better Homes to set out the administration's plans to realise that ambition.

ENDS