

MINUTES

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CROWDALE CENTRE, 218 EVERSOLT STREET, LONDON, NW1 1BD AT 7.00 PM MONDAY, 4TH JULY, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT

The Mayor, Councillor Nasim Ali OBE (in the Chair), and;

Sagal Abdi-Wali	Sabrina Francis	Liam Martin-Lane
Meric Apak	Edmund Frondigoun	Sylvia McNamara
Camron Aref-Adib	Georgia Gould	Shah Miah
Kemi Atolagbe	Lorna Greenwood	Awale Olad
Lotis Bautista	Eddie Hanson	Richard Olszewski
Danny Beales	Sharon Hardwick	Will Prince
Siân Berry	Adam Harrison	Lorraine Revah
Marcus Boyland	Lloyd Hatton	Nadia Shah
Anna Burrage	Jenny Headlam-Wells	Tom Simon
Patricia Callaghan	Nancy Jirira	James Slater
Matt Cooper	Samata Khatoun	Gio Spinella
Judy Dixey	Matthew Kirk	Shiva Tiwari
Nasrine Djemai	Izzy Lenga	Nanouche Umeadi
Rebecca Filer	Rishi Madlani	Anna Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councillors Nazma Rahman, Ajok Athian, Richard Cotton, Nina De Ayala Parker, Julian Fulbrook, Heather Johnson, Jenny Mulholland, Andrew Parkinson, Jonathan Simpson, Stephen Stark and Sue Vincent

The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting. They are subject to approval and signature at the next meeting of the Council and any corrections approved at that meeting will be recorded in those minutes.

1. GUIDANCE ON HYBRID MEETINGS

RESOLVED –

THAT the guidance on hybrid meetings be agreed.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 7th March, 6th April and 25th May 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record.

3. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF STATUTORY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, COMPULSORY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND VOLUNTARY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA

In relation to Motion 3 on the agenda, Councillor Dixey declared that she used the Council's green waste collection service.

4. SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR OTHER RELEVANT OFFICERS, AND ANY OTHER MEMBERS WHO THE MAYOR HAS AGREED MAY MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT

Broadcasting of the meeting

The Mayor announced that the meeting was being broadcast live to the Internet and would remain available for viewing for twelve months, after which it could be made available upon request. Anyone addressing the meeting was deemed to be consenting to having their contributions recorded and broadcast, and to the use of those sound recordings and images for webcasting and/or training purposes.

Order of agenda

The Mayor announced that he had agreed under Council procedure rule 17(p) that the emergency motion circulated on the first supplementary agenda would be considered at this meeting. He proposed, and it was agreed, that this be taken as the first substantive item of business.

Floods in Bangladesh

The Mayor spoke of the devastating floods in the Greater Sylhet district of Bangladesh and said that he would be working with various charities in Camden to raise funds to provide relief to those affected. He encouraged those present to help if they could.

Councillor Rishi Madlani

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Madlani on receiving the Inspirational Leader Award at the British LGBT Awards 2022.

Mary Allen

The Mayor paid tribute to Mary Allen, a well known figure in the London Irish community, who had recently passed away, and on behalf of the Council expressed condolences to her family and friends.

Queen's Birthday Honours

The Mayor congratulated former councillor Abdul Hai on receiving an OBE and Christine Gilbert on being made a DBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Pride in London 2022

Councillor Madlani thanked all those who had marched with the Council at Pride in London on 3rd July 2022.

Siobhan Baillie MP

Councillor Spinella congratulated former councillor Siobhan Baillie MP on the birth of her second child.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Athian, Cotton, De Ayala Parker, Fulbrook, Johnson, Mulholland, Parkinson, Rahman, Simpson, Stark and Vincent.

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Olszewski.

6. DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

There were no deputations or petitions.

EMERGENCY MOTION

Consideration was given to the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Abdi-Wali and which was seconded by Councillors Simon, Spinella and Berry:-

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This Council notes that the access to safe, legal abortions is a human right and a conquest for women, their health and their rights across the world. That prior to legal abortion in the UK in 1967, 9% of all maternal deaths were due to unsafe and illegal abortions.

That according to the World Health Organisation 7 million women a year are hospitalized due to unsafe abortions and 70,000 women die across the world every year due to the lack of access to safe legal abortion.

That the denial of access to legal and safe abortion hits disproportionately the youngest and the poorest women.

That denying women access to abortion is a form of gender discrimination.

That safe abortion services protect women's right to health.

That forcing a woman to undergo a life-threatening, unsafe abortion threatens her right to life.

That women have the right to decide whether or not to bring their own pregnancy to term.

And further notes

That legitimate moral reservations over the practice of abortion are a matter of individual personal conscience and cannot be imposed on the rest of the population.

That the ruling of the United States Supreme Court to overturn Roe vs Wade is a devastating blow for women's rights in the very heart of the Western world and a tragedy for millions of women in the USA.

That the right to legal safe abortion is under attack in different parts of the world, from Brazil to Poland.

That in our own country, there remains unequal access to safe abortions, as women in Northern Ireland are still awaiting access to abortion care, a right granted to them in 2020 but not yet implemented 2 years later.

And therefore resolves:

To re-iterate Camden's unqualified support for women's rights including the right of access to safe and legal abortion and unqualified support for the laws that safeguard this in the UK, from the Abortion Act (1967) to the Human Rights Act (1998).

To call for the full implementation of access to safe and legal abortion care across the UK.

To condemn the ruling by the United States Supreme Court.

To send a message of solidarity to all the women and families who will suffer as a result of this ruling.

That Camden Council lobbies national government to directly introduce legislation that enables local authorities to introduce 'buffer zones' specifically around abortion clinics and related services. This power would allow local authorities to more effectively protect anyone using these services, so they are able to do so free from harassment and intimidation.

The motion was then put to the vote and CARRIED.

RESOLVED –

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That according to the World Health Organisation 7 million women a year are hospitalized due to unsafe abortions and 70,000 women die across the world every year due to the lack of access to safe legal abortion.

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7. THEMED DEBATE - MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER AND REDUCING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Councillor Callaghan introduced the report and the Council then heard from the following speakers:-

- Faduma Ibrahim, Youth Safety Co-ordinator at the British Somali Community Centre, spoke about the Community Centre and specifically about the aim of the Girls Project to provide a safe space for girls in Camden, the role of the Police Workshop in building a better relationship between the community and the Police, and the work taking place with the detached youth team on establishing more inter-generational projects. More funding was needed though in order to carry on with these projects.
- Mubarak Mohamud of Clime-It Brothers spoke about the fact that financial reward and the poor job market for young people was driving some to criminality, and of the need to replace the 'job before a job' that used to be available in the form of paper rounds and Saturday jobs, in order to give young people an alternative to making money by drug dealing and other criminality.
- Liz Mack of Change Grow Live explained that her organisation was commissioned by the Council to deliver the Routes of the Street service for vulnerable adults with complex needs. She detailed the services provided to assist those sleeping rough or involved in street activity to access support in a

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safe multi-agency setting. She added that the intelligence led approach relied on information from the community, the Council and partners.

- Omar Hall, Camden Detached Youth Team Co-ordinator, explained that his team was part of the Council's Integrated Youth Support Service and was effectively a mobile, street based team of youth workers who worked with young people where they were, both physically and as an individual, in a way that suited them individually. The Team also worked in Camden schools offering a range of programmes supporting personal, social and health education and citizenship work, and also did a lot of work in the community to support community cohesion.
- Shaheeda Rahman, Camden Community Safety Manager, spoke about how the Community Safety Service had evolved to listen to communities and residents through a number of mechanisms, and via being geographically based. She explained that the role of Community Presence Officers was to deter anti-social activity and gather intelligence, and the Team took a multi-agency approach focussing on actions and outcomes. She also spoke about the work taking place to combat 'cuckooing'.
- Chief Superintendent Andy Carter of the Metropolitan Police remarked that policing was undergoing a significant transformation to adapt to new crime challenges and social issues. He detailed the 3 main objectives of the Met Direction and how the progress against these objectives was measured. He commented that the bond between Police and community had come under strain recently and strengthening this, as well as focussing on the Police's culture and standards, was key. More officers were coming in through different pathways and all were keen to learn so he had set up a board to focus on organisational learning.
- Superintendent Jack Rowlands of the Metropolitan Police expressed his support for Camden's public health approach to reducing violence and making the borough safer, and a commitment to the partnership approach being taken in Camden. He spoke about innovation within his team to engage with young people and stated that working with the Council on this was critical to addressing the issues of most concern to residents of the borough together. Two strong town centre teams patrolled hotspots in the borough and the licensing teams supported businesses and the Council to take an enforcement and problem-solving approach to make the borough safer. Camden Police had a nationally recognised anti-social behaviour team to tackle 'cuckooing', trafficking and exploitation. He encouraged people to join ward panels to help the police identify issues of most importance to residents.

Members of the Council then commented as follows:

- The Borough Commander appeared in front of the Culture and Environment Scrutiny Committee once a year and often indicated everything was fine, but in fact the turnover in Borough Commanders and ward sergeants indicated that there was a problem with the way community policing was working. The new Borough Commander was urged to move back to embedding officers into communities.

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- OSTED had recently challenged a local school during an inspection on what it was doing to tackle drug dealers grooming young people and speakers were asked to comment on this work.

In response to comments, Superintendent Rowlands remarked that the Camden and Islington police team was keen to continually improve and he agreed that community policing required consistency. He gave his assurance that he would work to retain as many sergeants as possible, while supporting their development and the needs of the community. There were Safer Schools Officers in all Camden secondary schools helping schools to identify risks, raising awareness of the dangers of drugs and exploitation, and using enforcement where necessary.

- A recent report from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) had highlighted poor recording of crime across London, particularly when the crimes involved anti-social behaviour (ASB).
- More help should be given to businesses and enterprises who were willing to give paid opportunities to young people to find empty spaces in which to operate in the borough.

In response to comments, Superintendent Rowlands commented that the Met Police was developing an action plan to address the points raised by HMIC in relating to data recording. Locally, whenever a crime was reported by a member of the public, it was recorded and investigated. Every reported incident of anti-social behaviour was entered into the ASB system and was actioned by one of the ASB teams. There was an issue, too, of underreporting, which was linked to trust and confidence, and he encouraged people to always report crime to local police who would do what they could to investigate.

- What more did the speakers think the Council could do to assist with their work?

Mubarak Mohamud remarked that the role models for many young people were the people with the expensive cars that they saw out in the community, often drug dealers and gang members, and young people learned to speak the same language as the gangs – unfortunately, there was little being done in schools to address the use of this street language. He added that provision of meanwhile spaces for small enterprises to get off the ground was essential.

Faduma Ibrahim remarked that the Council could assist with the provision of more parent workshops for those for whom English was not the first language.

- What was the Metropolitan Police doing to increase participation and diversity in the Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panels?

Superintendent Rowlands commented that it was incumbent on all ward panel members to reach out into their networks to encourage a more diverse and representative membership. He and his team would also be advertising the Panels and the benefits of participation via flyers and community events.

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- To what extent was there a reluctance to engage with the authorities and a complicity of silence when it came to reporting crimes?

Shaheeda Rahman commented that a reluctance to engage was not a particular issue for the Community Safety team as officers had built strong relationships within their communities who did proactively report their concerns. There was also an exchange of information with the Police so the team could act as a reporting conduit.

- How could black and other minority ethnic councillors assist organisations to understand the issues affecting young people?
- Was there a resource where all the organisations working in this area could be found and, if not, could one be created?

Faduma Ibrahim remarked that the community often did not know how to contact councillors so councillors could assist by being more accessible to the community.

- What work was taking place to ensure that primary schools were aware of the issues and the support available?

Omar Hall commented that many schools were doing lots of work in this area with support from many organisations. This ranged from one to one work with children coming to their attention as in need of support, to larger scale targeted work. His team delivered a programme in primary schools about the issues of youth crime, knife crime and safety, and used a range of techniques to do so without frightening them. However, many of the issues being faced by young people were happening out in their communities, so those communities needed to be helped to be more robust and to support their young people. Work in schools had to be supplemented by the wider community approach.

- After care was key to dealing with anti-social behaviour and it was not enough just to move the perpetrators on without follow up. What work was taking place on this?

Superintendent Rowlands agreed that intervention was key and the SNTs would look to respond as quickly as possible to prevent escalation, with the ASB team undertaking follow up calls. On hate crime, there was a dedicated officer to provide support to victims and he was looking at how this could be widened to victims of ASB and other crime too.

- Areas like Primrose Hill had really struggled with ASB and the job of monitoring this often came down in the end to local people and organisations rather than the Police. Why was this?

Superintendent Rowlands remarked that on Primrose Hill there was shared responsibility between Royal Parks and the Met Police. He assured Members that the Safer Neighbourhoods Sergeant had tasked his officers not only with responding

to ASB incidents but also with working with Royal Parks and other partners to reduce the number of incidents. He encouraged people to always call 111 or 999 if concerned, and he assured them that Royal Parks was taking action too.

- What did the experience of the pandemic teach, and what could the Council do better in future?

Liz Mack commented that the pandemic had shown that barriers between agencies could be brought down very quickly and those agencies could work in a more agile way. 'Everyone in' saw very close working with NHS partners to provide wraparound support, and Camden Council had been an exemplar in trying to continue that as far as possible.

- Young people needed to be encouraged to believe that they could achieve their goals and aspirations. How could more young people be encouraged to take up leadership roles?

Mubarak Mohamud remarked that the lure of the drug dealer was often too tempting if the future looked bleak, so giving young people a clear vision of a successful future was key.

Councillor Callaghan thanked all those who had contributed to the debate and she summarised some of the issues raised by each of the external speakers. She remarked that there would be a special surgery with the British Somali Community Centre so the Council could work with them more closely, and she also floated the idea of a mentoring programme for young people as was happening in the US. She would be undertaking more walkabouts and intelligence gathering as well as more work on 'cuckooing', and continuing to work with the Police and other partners to make Camden safer for everyone in the borough. She agreed that a resource pulling together information about all the organisations working in this area was a good idea and undertook to set that up. Younger Members were part of the solution and needed to encourage young people in the community to engage.

8. STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND QUESTIONS TO THE LEADER AND CABINET MEMBERS

Councillor Georgia Gould, Leader of the Council, made a statement to those present. Councillor Tom Simon, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, and Councillor Gio Spinella, Leader of the Conservative Group, made statements in the response and then Councillor Gould made final remarks.

The Leader and Cabinet Members then took questions from Members as follows:-

- Councillor Berry asked the Cabinet Member for New Homes, Jobs and Community Investment whether Camden needed a better strategy for meanwhile uses, and permanent uses, of council owned spaces. Councillor Beales

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responded that an affordable workspace strategy was in development and would look at council owned spaces and meanwhile uses. This would be launched in the next year with a view to replicating different models already in use. The Camden Future Fund had also recently been launched to provide some funding to those locked out of traditional finance and there was advice available too, though Greater London Authority (GLA) and central government funding would be key. In response to a supplementary question, Councillor Beales remarked that he could not commit other Cabinet Members to create lists of available meanwhile spaces, but he was sure they had heard the request for such a list.

- Councillor Aref-Adib asked the Leader of the Council what support was available to refugees from places other than Afghanistan and Ukraine and whose situations had not received the same press attention. Councillor Gould responded that there were 2000 refugees in Camden, 439 of whom were in contingency hotels as they were from places in the world that did not automatically qualify them to be considered for asylum. There was a large amount of support but they could not access employment and this area of work was not funded so Camden was making the case to government for changes to the scheme to allow the provision of a wider ranging support service. In response to a supplementary question, Councillor Gould remarked that the Council was working with Groundwork to support those coming into the country to convert their qualifications to those recognised in the UK.
- Councillor Jirira asked the Cabinet Member for New Homes, Jobs and Community Investment about what steps had been taken to ensure that the redevelopment of the O2 Centre was offering a good deal for Camden. Councillor Beales responded that meetings had taken place with the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group about a potential future health facility within the site and a meeting had taken place with Transport for London to bottom out costs for step free access. Officers continued to talk with the developers about the planning application and were considering consultation responses on that application, having made it clear that comments could be made right up until the application was determined by the Planning Committee. In response to a supplementary question, Councillor Beales remarked that there was a major housing crisis and a car park was not a good use of the space. Alongside housing, amenities for local people were also needed and this was a significant opportunity to deliver both homes and community facilities for local people.
- Councillor Slater asked the Leader of the Council about the useability and accessibility of the Council's switchboard service. Councillor Gould responded that there was a lot of work going on already, in collaboration with local residents, on a new telephone system which was due to launch soon, and there had already been changes made to how people reported housing repairs, with other reporting channels now available.
- Councillor Burrage asked the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities about what could be done to apply pressure to Royal Parks to provide enough resource to ensure that the large gatherings of people on Primrose Hill in the summer months did not cause undue disruption to local residents and businesses. Councillor Callaghan responded that Royal Parks had been reticent to address the issues but had put temporary gates up, though this was clearly not a permanent

solution. The Police had made a difference towards the end of summer 2021 but pressure needed to be maintained on Royal Parks to put up permanent gates, which could then be closed at night if necessary.

9. BUSINESS FROM THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS ON 7TH MARCH AND 6TH APRIL 2022

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Solicitor.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

10. APPOINTMENTS TO FORMAL COUNCIL BODIES

There were none.

11. REPORTS FROM THE CABINET, THE AUDIT AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE, THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEES AND OTHER COUNCIL COMMITTEES

11(a) NORTH LONDON WASTE PLAN ADOPTION

Consideration was given to a report and a reference from the Cabinet, which were introduced by the Cabinet Member for New Homes, Jobs and Community Investment. Following a comment from a Member, it was

RESOLVED –

THAT, having considered the results of the equalities impact assessment set out in Appendices C and D of the report, and having had due regard to the obligations set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2022, the North London Waste Plan, as set out in Appendix B to this report, which incorporates the amendments recommended by the Planning Inspector who carried out the public examination of the Plan, be adopted.

Under Council Procedure Rule 20.5, Councillor Berry requested that her vote against the recommendation be recorded in the minutes.

11(b) MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2022/23 - AMENDED

Consideration was given to report and a reference from the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee, which were introduced by the Chair of that Committee.

Following comments from Members and closing remarks from Councillor Abdi-Wali, it was

RESOLVED –

- i) THAT the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2022/23 as detailed in Appendix A of the report be agreed, with the payment to be backdated to the beginning of the financial year.
- ii) THAT the Borough Solicitor be authorised to take all necessary steps in relation thereto, including amendments to the Constitution and publication and operation of the Scheme.

12. BUILDING EQUAL FOUNDATIONS - TACKLING RACE INEQUALITY AND DISPROPORTIONALITY IN CAMDEN - UPDATE TO COUNCIL

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Voluntary Sector, Equalities and Cohesion, who introduced the report.

Members made a number of comments, after which it was

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

13. MOTIONS

Consideration was given to the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Greenwood and which was seconded by Councillor Frondigoun:-

This Council notes:

The need to prioritise community safety in our borough and to ensure that Camden is a safe and inclusive place for everyone.

That crime has risen by 18% nationally since July 2019, while prosecution rates have fallen by an unprecedented 18% over the same period.

That whilst in government, both the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats have implemented dramatic spending cuts to policing budgets. This has led to Camden losing 264 patrolling police officers since 2010.

That the previous Mayor of London and current Prime Minister oversaw the closure of 63 police stations across London during their tenure.

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The shocking rise in hate crime across London in recent years and the worrying increase in Racism, Islamophobia, Antisemitism, Misogyny, and abuse targeting the LGBT+ community and disabled residents.

This Council further notes:

Camden Council's ongoing work to introduce 900 new and improved CCTV systems across the borough's housing estates, tackling crime and antisocial behaviour.

The critically important work of Camden's Youth Safety Taskforce in reducing violent crime; and the borough's public-health approach to reducing knife violence.

The Council's successful rollout of uniformed Community Presence Officers and the positive impact that this has had on improving community safety.

The unsatisfactory situation facing the current Mayor of London because of successive real-terms police budget cuts imposed by the Home Office.

This Council believes:

That national government has badly let down Camden by handing down harsh spending cuts to local policing year-on-year, which means crime and antisocial behaviour has risen in Camden and across London.

That the Council should continue its work rolling out Community Presence Officers, who can help to fill the gaps created by police spending cuts and help to improve community safety.

That the previous Mayor of London was wrong to close multiple local police stations, including one in this borough.

That gender-based violence must be classified as a hate crime, so that we can better combat domestic and misogynistic abuse.

That the Council should continue working closely with community organisations, such as the Community Security Trust and Tell Mama, in order to better identify and stamp out hate crime in our borough.

This Council calls on:

The Government to assess the impact of over a decade of policing cuts on community safety in Camden.

The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members to continue to implement local measures that will offset national cutbacks to policing and the closure of local police stations; and improve community safety in the borough.

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The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members to continue to build upon successful campaigns for two new neighbourhood policing teams for Camden; and to campaign for investment in more community policing across the borough.

The Cabinet Members responsible to launch new enforcement hubs across Camden. These should link up the work of the Council's enforcement officers with police officers.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Kirk and seconded by Councillor Simon as follows:

Delete paragraph 2.

Delete paragraph 3 and replace with 'Cuts to national police budgets over the last 12 years have led to a significant reduction in the number of front line police staff in Camden.'

Add a new paragraph 5 'That the current Mayor of London has closed a further 30 police stations during his tenure.'

Delete original paragraph 5 and replace with 'The worrying rise in reported hate crime across London in recent years, which reflects a real increase as well as improvements in recording; the episodic spikes, sometimes linked to government policy; and the persistence of all forms of hate crime, such as Racism, Islamophobia, Antisemitism, Misogyny, and abuse targeting the LGBT+ community and disabled residents.'

Delete original paragraph 6 and replace with 'The slow progress since 2019 of the Council's programme to introduce new and improved CCTV systems across the borough's housing estates, tackling crime and antisocial behaviour.'

After original paragraph 9, add a new paragraph 'The failure of leadership of the current Labour London Mayor over his six years in office that have led to:

- a) A series of damaging and appalling scandals including the murder of Sarah Everard by a serving officer, the strip-searching of Child Q, stop and search of Bianca Williams, the exchange of grossly offensive messages between serving officers and the Stephen Port case.*
- b) The Metropolitan Police being placed in "special measures" by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICRF)*
- c) HMICRF identifying a "barely adequate standard of crime-recording accuracy" resulting in an estimated 69,000 crimes going unrecorded.*
- d) HMICRF identifying failures to engage with victims and to tackle a backlog in responding to allegations of child abuse.*
- e) A collapse of public confidence in the Metropolitan Police from 67% to 49%.'*

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Original paragraph 12, delete 'previous Mayor of London was' and replace with 'successive Mayors of London were'.

Original paragraph 15, add new paragraphs 'The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members to lobby Labour London Mayor Sadiq Khan to accept personal responsibility for the woeful state of the Metropolitan Police and to provide effective leadership to respond rapidly to the concerns raised by HMICRF.'

The Cabinet Member for Housing to report on the progress of the programme to deliver new and improved CCTV to housing estates and to accelerate delivery of the remainder of the programme.'

The amended motion therefore read:

This Council notes:

The need to prioritise community safety in our borough and to ensure that Camden is a safe and inclusive place for everyone.

That the previous Mayor of London and current Prime Minister oversaw the closure of 63 police stations across London during their tenure.

That the current Mayor of London has closed a further 30 police stations during his tenure

The worrying rise in reported hate crime across London in recent years, which reflects a real increase as well as improvements in recording; the episodic spikes, sometimes linked to government policy; and the persistence of all forms of hate crime, such as Racism, Islamophobia, Antisemitism, Misogyny, and abuse targeting the LGBT+ community and disabled residents

This Council further notes:

The slow progress since 2019 of the Council's programme to introduce new and improved CCTV systems across the borough's housing estates, tackling crime and antisocial behaviour.

The critically important work of Camden's Youth Safety Taskforce in reducing violent crime; and the borough's public-health approach to reducing knife violence.

The Council's successful rollout of uniformed Community Presence Officers and the positive impact that this has had on improving community safety.

The unsatisfactory situation facing the current Mayor of London because of successive real-terms police budget cuts imposed by the Home Office.

The failure of leadership of the current Labour London Mayor over his six years in office that have led to:

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- a) A series of damaging and appalling scandals including the murder of Sarah Everard by a serving officer, the strip-searching of Child Q, stop and search of Bianca Williams, the exchange of grossly offensive messages between serving officers and the Stephen Port case.*
- b) The Metropolitan Police being placed in “special measures” by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICRF)*
- c) HMICRF identifying a “barely adequate standard of crime-recording accuracy” resulting in an estimated 69,000 crimes going unrecorded.*
- d) HMICRF identifying failures to engage with victims and to tackle a backlog in responding to allegations of child abuse.*

This Council believes:

That national government has badly let down Camden by handing down harsh spending cuts to local policing year-on-year, which means crime and antisocial behaviour has risen in Camden and across London.

That the Council should continue its work rolling out Community Presence Officers, who can help to fill the gaps created by police spending cuts and help to improve community safety.

That successive Mayors of London were wrong to close multiple local police stations, including one in this borough.

That gender-based violence must be classified as a hate crime, so that we can better combat domestic and misogynistic abuse.

That the Council should continue working closely with community organisations, such as the Community Security Trust and Tell Mama, in order to better identify and stamp out hate crime in our borough.

This Council calls on:

The Government to assess the impact of over a decade of policing cuts on community safety in Camden.

The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members to lobby Labour London Mayor Sadiq Khan to accept personal responsibility for the woeful state of the Metropolitan Police and to provide effective leadership to respond rapidly to the concerns raised by HMICRF.

The Cabinet Member for Housing to report on the progress of the programme to deliver new and improved CCTV to housing estates and to accelerate delivery of the remainder of the programme.

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The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members to continue to implement local measures that will offset national cutbacks to policing and the closure of local police stations; and improve community safety in the borough.

The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members to continue to build upon successful campaigns for two new neighbourhood policing teams for Camden; and to campaign for investment in more community policing across the borough.

The Cabinet Members responsible to launch new enforcement hubs across Camden. These should link up the work of the Council's enforcement officers with police officers.

Councillor Greenwood, the mover of the original motion, declined to accept the amendment.

There was then a short debate on the motion and the amendment.

The amendment moved by Councillors Kirk and Simon as the put to the vote and LOST.

The original motion was then put to the vote and CARRIED.

RESOLVED -

This Council notes:

The need to prioritise community safety in our borough and to ensure that Camden is a safe and inclusive place for everyone.

That crime has risen by 18% nationally since July 2019, while prosecution rates have fallen by an unprecedented 18% over the same period.

That whilst in government, both the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats have implemented dramatic spending cuts to policing budgets. This has led to Camden losing 264 patrolling police officers since 2010.

That the previous Mayor of London and current Prime Minister oversaw the closure of 63 police stations across London during their tenure.

The shocking rise in hate crime across London in recent years and the worrying increase in Racism, Islamophobia, Antisemitism, Misogyny, and abuse targeting the LGBT+ community and disabled residents.

This Council further notes:

Camden Council's ongoing work to introduce 900 new and improved CCTV systems across the borough's housing estates, tackling crime and antisocial behaviour.

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The critically important work of Camden's Youth Safety Taskforce in reducing violent crime; and the borough's public-health approach to reducing knife violence.

The Council's successful rollout of uniformed Community Presence Officers and the positive impact that this has had on improving community safety.

The unsatisfactory situation facing the current Mayor of London because of successive real-terms police budget cuts imposed by the Home Office.

This Council believes:

That national government has badly let down Camden by handing down harsh spending cuts to local policing year-on-year, which means crime and antisocial behaviour has risen in Camden and across London.

That the Council should continue its work rolling out Community Presence Officers, who can help to fill the gaps created by police spending cuts and help to improve community safety.

That the previous Mayor of London was wrong to close multiple local police stations, including one in this borough.

That gender-based violence must be classified as a hate crime, so that we can better combat domestic and misogynistic abuse.

That the Council should continue working closely with community organisations, such as the Community Security Trust and Tell Mama, in order to better identify and stamp out hate crime in our borough.

This Council calls on:

The Government to assess the impact of over a decade of policing cuts on community safety in Camden.

The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members to continue to implement local measures that will offset national cutbacks to policing and the closure of local police stations; and improve community safety in the borough.

The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members to continue to build upon successful campaigns for two new neighbourhood policing teams for Camden; and to campaign for investment in more community policing across the borough.

The Cabinet Members responsible to launch new enforcement hubs across Camden. These should link up the work of the Council's enforcement officers with police officers.

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The remaining motions were not considered due to lack of time.

14. OPEN SESSION

This item was not considered due to lack of time.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE MAYOR CONSIDERS URGENT

There was no urgent business.

The meeting ended at 9.59pm.

CHAIR

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MINUTES END