

## COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday 24 November 2021 at 7.00 pm  
Council Chamber - Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton, London, SW2 1RW

The Worshipful the Mayor in the Chair

### COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

Councillors Councillor Danial Adilypour, Councillor Scott Ainslie, Councillor Donatus Anyanwu, Councillor Liz Atkins, Councillor Mary Atkins, Councillor Matthew Bennett, Councillor Anna Birley, Councillor Scarlett O'Hara, Councillor Linda Bray, Councillor Tim Briggs, Councillor Marcia Cameron, Councillor Rezina Chowdhury, Councillor Malcolm Clark, Councillor Fred Cowell, Councillor Kevin Craig, Councillor Jon Davies, Councillor Jim Dickson, Councillor Ibrahim Dogus, Councillor Pete Elliott, Councillor Peter Ely, Councillor Paul Gadsby, Mayor, Councillor Annie Gallop, Councillor Adrian Garden, Councillor Nicole Griffiths, Councillor Nigel Haselden, Councillor Dr. Mahamed Hashi, Councillor Claire Holland, Councillor Mohamed Jaser, Councillor Maria Kay, Councillor John Kazantzis, Councillor Ben Kind, Councillor Jessica Leigh, Councillor Nanda Manley-Browne, Councillor Irfan Mohammed, Councillor Philip Normal, Councillor Emma Nye, Councillor Jane Pickard, Councillor Mohammed Seedat, Councillor Becca Thackray, Councillor Martin Tiedemann, Councillor Tina Valcarcel, Councillor Christopher Wellbelove, Councillor Clair Wilcox, Councillor Andy Wilson, Councillor Timothy Windle and Councillor Sonia Winifred

### APOLOGIES:

Councillor David Amos, Councillor Jonathan Bartley, Councillor Jennifer Brathwaite, Councillor Lucy Caldicott, Councillor Joe Corry-Roake, Councillor Edward Davie, Councillor Stephen Donnelly, Councillor Jacqui Dyer, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Pauline George, Councillor Jack Hopkins, Councillor Joshua Lindsey, Councillor Marianna Masters, Councillor Jackie Meldrum, Councillor Jennie Mosley, Councillor Joanna Reynolds, Councillor Iain Simpson and Councillor Joanne Simpson

## 1 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

7. Questions from Councillors.

Councillor Martin Tiedemann, Personal: In the interests of openness and transparency, Councillor Martin Tiedemann declared that he is an employee of the Labour party with regards to question 2 (Labour Policy of Firing and Re-hiring).

## **2 Minutes**

The Minutes of the previous meeting of Full Council held on 22 September were agreed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

## **3 Announcements**

The Mayor announced the sad passing of former MP, Sir David Amess, who lost his life while undertaking his duties.

Councillor Christopher Wellbelove paid tribute to former Mayoress of Lambeth, Erita Griffith, who served between 2009/2010.

The Council observed a minutes silence in remembrance.

## **4 Deputations & Petitions**

### Deputation 1

Ms. Louisa Johnson made a deputation to Council regarding disrepair on Leigham Court Estate, highlighting that:

Residents were often left feeling neglected and there was a lack of response to their complaints. In cases of multiple repairs to the same property, works were often carried out by more than one contractor which caused a lack of consistency and fragmented nature. Leaseholders often reported feeling they had received poor value for money, and confusion over what it is they are paying for. A number of properties had reported damp and mould, which has a detrimental effect on tenants, particularly children and those with pre-existing medical conditions. Tenants become disheartened with long wait times for phone contact, a lack of email response, and visits being cancelled. We ask that you assign a dedicated Housing Officer who will act as our point of contact and to take responsibility of the estate; carry out all priority works by paid professional contractors; and to treat residents with respect and respond to emails and calls.

Councillor Maria Kay, Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness responded, noting that:

The Council apologised for the standards having slipped to these conditions. Promises were made in 2014 before the current election of Councillors, which will be honoured now. There are no excuses as to why this Estate is so off-track, and Lambeth is endeavouring to put it right. Councillor Kay stated that plans are in place to bring it back to good order, including arranging vulnerability assessments on every tenant in the area, preparing renovations to kitchens and bathrooms, initially to priority families; and a survey on damp and ingress to commence a programme of works. Councillor Kay gave her assurance that the works would start in January with the preparations of kitchens and bathrooms; and vulnerable residents would be prioritised.

### Deputation 2

Ms. Sabine Mairey made a deputation to Council regarding the difficulties of living on an estate facing demolition, highlighting that:  
Demolition is contributing to the health crisis, and is pushing the Council to the brink of bankruptcy. It has a detrimental impact globally and causes mass disruption to the

local area. Ms. Mairey stated her dissatisfaction with demolition and spoke about the benefits of the retrofit campaign; these included finance, efficiency and sustainability. Everyone has an individual responsibility to ensure future generations make the right decision in years to come. Ms. Mairey stated that a number of homes which developers offered as affordable are out of reach to non-homeowning tenants, and are left empty as second homes or let with market-value rent – too expensive for homeless or local people, therefore removing the cheapest housing in the area.

Councillor Matthew Bennett Deputy Leader of the Council, Planning, Investment and New Homes, responded, noting that:

The Labour group disagree with the deputation. Lambeth have been honest about the challenges faced, including cuts from the Conservative Government. Councillor Bennett stated that there is not enough money to refurbish every home in the borough. Following recent budget cuts, the recent Housing Commission proposed regeneration. An empty 7-room hostel was being replaced with 31 affordable homes (22 of which were to be offered as Council homes). In instances where Lambeth needed to be funded privately for Council homes, things had been put in place to prioritise Lambeth residents. The Central Hill estate refurbishment was decided after 2 years deciding which option would be best - including a lengthy consultation period in which only 1/3 of tenants opposed refurbishment. Councillor Bennett read a quote from a Central Hill resident who spoke in favour of the estate rebuild. Councillor Bennett stated that he will continue to work with residents, listen to residents and build homes for Lambeth.

### Deputation 3

Ms. Hannah Durden, representative of the Lambeth Eco Housing Group, made a deputation to Council regarding Retrofit over New Build, highlighting that:

The Lambeth Eco Housing Group, comprised of residents and those in the education and build group, is strongly of the view that Retrofit should be prioritised of new build. It has a number of positives including reducing carbon emissions and minimising waste. Ms. Durden states that the property interest is the biggest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint. Ms. Durden stated that new Government funding structures are now available, including funding for retrofit. Lambeth had stated that they would be building homes that reduce more than twice in carbon emission reductions that current policy requires, but current policy is out of date and incapable of combatting the climate emergency. Ms. Durden stated that Lambeth had been trailblazers in the past, particularly with the Hollis and Warwick housing developments, in which 68 units were retrofitted to reduce energy consumption and half fuel bills, as well as providing improved thermal comfort and security. The Eco Housing Group wish to support Lambeth utilising retrofit at scale, alongside relevant and necessary skills training as part of delivering a new housing strategy. Ms. Durden stated that in this way, residents could help tackling both the climate and housing crises together. The Eco Housing Group would like to see extra units added under permitted development rights, particularly on low-density estates. Lambeth announced that they would be net-Zero carbon by 2030, an ambition which Ms. Dearden stated she welcomed, although these developments required an off set payment, suggesting that Lambeth are not designing homes to be zero carbon. The Eco Housing Group wanted Lambeth to be providing zero carbon homes now through a revised housing strategy. To retrofit these properties at a later date to achieve true zero carbon would cost Lambeth significantly more. Ms. Durden stated that she was in support of the Green party Motion going unamended and had some questions to Council this evening, including whether Lambeth are carrying out a review of their housing stock to inform a retrofit strategy; whether Lambeth are in discussion with other London boroughs regarding retrofit schemes; and how are Lambeth at odds with construction engineers and industries regarding whole life carbon assessments.

Councillor Matthew Bennett Deputy Leader of the Council, Planning, Investment and New Homes, responded, noting that:

Big on retrofit

Lambeth was the first authority to declare a climate emergency, and that Lambeth Council and its Leader, Councillor Claire Holland, were represented at COP. 23 of Lambeth's schools were being fitted with energy efficient lighting, better insulation and solar panels. 5 of Lambeth's libraries were being retrofitted, along with a number of hostels, community centres and family homes. Councillor Bennett noted that there was not a large sum of funding available for housing – though there was small pots of funding which could be used for pilot projects. Councillor Bennett stated the Lambeth recognises Climate Justice must go hand in hand with Social Justice, and that this fair transition will not leave any Lambeth family homeless. Lambeth has 300,000 on the housing waiting list and 3000 families in temporary accommodation. Although retrofitting is important, it does not provide extra homes; and the Government must step up to combat the housing crisis. Extra costs cannot be put on rents of Council tax, as proposed in the Opposition motion. Councillor Bennett closed stating his pride in the work being carried out by Lambeth.

## **5 Cabinet Statement**

Councillor Claire Holland, Leader of the Council, addressed Full Council, noting that:

- The tragic recent drowning in the English Channel, arising from the Government's asylum policy which only served to put lives at risk
- The Home Affairs Select Committee report into the Windrush compensation scheme, with only 5% of those eligible having received compensation and 23 persons passing away before receipt. Lambeth condemned this behaviour and, with Green Party support, led opposition to it and provided advice services and the Windrush Action Group to give a voice to those impacted
- Being one of two Labour leaders from the COP26 local government delegation had given Lambeth a chance to promote its record on a global stage. However, whilst local governments enacted transformative plans, national governments struggled to reach agreement
- Discussion with the world's local leaders revealed structural inequalities across granular to global levels, and it was unfeasible to implement solutions that shifted problems to other communities
- Lambeth had the people, know-how, leadership and commitment to deliver the fundamental, multi-level change needed to tackle associated inequalities and respond to the challenges of the climate crisis; and were committed to go further, faster and fairer in responding to the climate crisis.

## **6 Opposition Statement**

Councillor Nichole Griffiths, Co-Leader of the Green Party, next addressed Full Council, noting that:

- COP26's lack of agreement was disappointing, especially on climate justice; but welcomed naming fossil fuels as a cause. Local authorities would take the initiative, such as emission reduction plans

- Robust and holistic approaches were needed to reach carbon-zero emissions by 2030, requiring review of the demolition and construction scheme, and curtailing overdevelopment
- The New Homes motion was whitewashed by Labour amendments, with carbon offsetting and continued waste of funds ensuring that climate change and social justice were not tackled hand-in-hand. Lambeth needed to implement recommendations from the Local Government Association's in its long-awaited Housing Strategy and from the Citizens Assembly on retrofit and repair
- Estate Regeneration provided homes only available to families with incomes over £60,000
- Long delays and poor service in housing repairs had seen one family without running water for two weeks after having the taps removed but not replaced, and it was requested how Wates were being held to account for their service provision
- Power to Change, a film starring Brixton residents, recorded how Lambeth's young people did not feel safe, and the Council needed to review and consider its approaches to community safety
- The Council needed to ensure a safe space for survivors to attend the IICSA report discussions.

## **7 Questions from Councillors**

### **1. Councillor Scott Ainslie to Councillor Anna Birley**

#### **Investment of the Council's Pension Fund**

##### **Supplementary Question**

Councillor Ainslie asked when the Cabinet Member for Finance was going to do better.

##### **Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Birley stated that the Council has a huge amount of ambition and is ahead of the curve. It was noted that Lambeth had published the most ambitious Climate Action Plan of all of the London Boroughs, and was taking its funds out of four investments and change them so that everyone has the opportunity to invest in Lambeth's green investment.

### **2. Councillor Tim Briggs to Councillor Claire Holland, Leader of the Council**

#### **Labour Policy of Firing and Re-hiring Workers**

##### **Supplementary Question**

Councillor Briggs asked whether Labours 'fire and rehire' practise was failing to live up to its own hype on equal pay.

##### **Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Holland stated that she was grateful for Councillor Briggs' interest in gender equality. Councillor Holland addressed Councillor Briggs, stating that if he were genuinely bothered about equality for women then he would stand in Chamber and

treat women, including Madam Mayor. with respect.

Councillor Tim Briggs raised a Point of Order, asking whether Councillor Holland was saying that women should be treated differently to men.

Councillor Holland continued, stating that this dialogue was regrettable when having a Motion about VAWG, and it being the day before the day of elimination for the international violence against women. Councillor Holland stated that one cannot talk about gender equality in one way and behave in another. It was noted that there was a gender pay gap in the country and Labour were actively addressing it.

### **3. Councillor Jane Pickard to Councillor Danny Adilypour**

#### **Supplementary Question**

Councillor Pickard asked when the Cabinet Member predicts that the pan London group of local authorities would be set up.

#### **Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Adilypour stated that Thames Water and its communications have had impacts on a majority of residents and their lives. Lambeth were now demanding more from Thames Water who had committed to making us a priority – of which Councillor Adilypour had requested a detail explanation for.

### **4. Councillor Scarlett O'Hara to Councillor Andy Wilson**

#### **Advertisements**

#### **Supplementary Question**

Councillor O'Hara asked will the council meet with AdLock Lambeth to learn best practises form local authorities to be socially responsible in terms of its advertisements.

Cllr Thackray raised a Point of Order, stating that there was a lack of respect shown towards Members her side of the House, to Councillor Briggs, by the Leader of the Council was not appreciated. She stated that the Code of Conduct ('valuing my colleagues and staff and engaging with them in an appropriate manner', 'treating people with due respect') had been breached.

The Mayor noted that Councillor Thackray's objection was noted and that Council would now move on with its Agenda.

#### **Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Wilson stated that AdBlock had been in contact over the Summer, looking to work with the Council to ensure that ads are appropriate and not influencing people negatively. It was noted that the Council do not have control over everything; only what is Council- owned and operated. Discussion were being had with other local authorities who had adopted schemes with AdBlock.

### **5. Councillor Corry Roake to Councillor Andy Wilson**

## **Cuts to Universal Credit**

In the absence of Councillor Corry Roake, the question fell.

### **6. Councillor Rezina Chowdhury to Councillors Jim Dickson and Lucy Caldicott**

## **Performance of the Council's Test and Trace Programme**

### **Supplementary Question**

Councillor Chowdhury asked whether the Social Care Charges currently being pushed in by central Government were fair and reasonable and if they would benefit Lambeth residents.

### **Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Dixon stated that Lambeth has managed its Test and Trace programme competently and in a way which has benefitted the local community, in a much more cost-effective way than central Government. The changes implemented by Government towards Adult Social Care had not been put together well and resulted in lower-income residents paying more. Better off members of society with expensive houses would only see 10% of their assets at most being wiped out by social care. Councillor Dixon stated that this was not a positive and progressive reform.

### **7. Councillor Philip Normal to Councillor Sonia Winifred**

## **Conversion Therapy**

### **Supplementary Question**

Councillor Philip Normal asked how Lambeth was working to make it the best place for those identifying as LGBTQ+ to live and work, and whether the Cabinet Member would be writing to the Minister for Women and Equalities to outline Lambeth's opposition to conversion therapy and call in the Government to make good on its promise to outlaw the practise without caveat.

### **Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Winifred stated that 'disgusting' was the only way to describe conversion therapy. Lambeth prides itself with its Equalities Agenda and is extremely proud of its LGBTQ+ communities. Councillor Winifred states that she would be writing to the Equalities Minister as well as the Minister for Health, and posed whether there should be tighter regulations surrounding new Councillors, in order to eradicate the outrageous practise.

### **8. Councillor Stephen Donnelly to Councillor Donatas Anyanwu**

## **In-Sourcing Leisure Services**

In the absence of Councillor Donnelly, the question fell.

**9. Councillor Becca Thackray to Councillor Claire Holland, Leader of the Council**

**Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty**

**Supplementary Question**

Councillor Thackray asked whether the Leader of the Council would be signing the 2024 treaty and asking the Mayor of London to do the same.

**Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Holland stated that the 2024 treaty was crucial to the future of the planet. Therefore she would be signing the treaty and be lobbying every level of Government to do the same. It was noted that conversations were being had with the Chair of the Pensions Committee regarding all work being done.

**10. Councillor Mohamed Jaser to Councillor Ed Davie (answered by Winifred needs wording)**

Support for Afghan Refugees in Lambeth

**Supplementary Question**

Councillor Jaser asked whether Lambeth's schools would support the settling of refugee children by recruiting teachers and teaching assistants who speak their language.

**Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Winifred stated that Lambeth would continue to support its refugee communities and be a welcoming borough. Lambeth was dedicated to ensuring that children arriving through the resettlement scheme were made to feel safe and welcome in the borough and given all the resources necessary to build a new life in their new homes. Lambeth was committed to resettling up to 8 families from Afghanistan and has made homes available in anticipation of the Home Office allocating families to those properties. Schools would welcome and help to settle and assess the needs (both academically and personally) of children. Targeted intervention and support would be offered where needed to individual students.

**11. Councillor Nicole Griffiths to Councillor Claire Holland, Leader of the Council**

Climate Action Plan

**Supplementary Question**

Councillor Griffiths asked whether the Leader of the Council could provide more specific dates for the creation of Climate Action Plan.

**Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Holland stated the plan would be completed in December, after deciding between extensive engagement or stakeholder engagement and driving forward with

working groups. It was noted that the Chief Executive fully backed this process, along with other Chief Executives.

## 8 Motions

### Motion 1: A homes policy that complies with the new Lambeth Local Plan 2020-2035

Councillor Pete Elliott requested that a recorded vote be undertaken for the Motion 1, under procedure rule 14.3 (Constitution, Part 4, Section B(d), page 94).

The amendment from the Conservative Member was **NOT CARRIED** by 1 vote for, 45 against and 0 abstentions.

Councillor	For	Against	Abstain
ADILYPOUR Daniel		X	
AINSLIE Scott		X	
ANYANWU Donatus		X	
ATKINS Liz		X	
ATKINS Mary		X	
BIRLEY Anna		X	
BENNETT, Matthew		X	
O'Hara Scarlett		X	
BRAY Linda		X	
BRIGGS Tim	x		
CAMERON Marcia		X	
CHOWDHURY Rezina		X	
CLARK Malcolm		X	
COWELL Fred		X	
CRAIG Kevin		X	
DICKSON Jim		X	
DOGUS Ibrahim		X	
ELLIOT Pete		X	
ELY Peter		X	
GADSBY Paul		X	
GARDEN Adrian		X	
GEORGE Pauline		X	
GRIFFITHS Nicole		X	
HASELDEN Nigel		X	
HOLLAND Claire		X	
JASER, Mohamed		X	
KAY Maria		X	
KAZANTZIS, John		X	
KIND Ben		X	
LEIGH Jess		X	
MANLEY-BROWN Nanda		X	
MOHAMMED Irfan		X	
NORMAL Philip		X	
NYE Emma		X	
PICKARD Jane		X	

REYNOLDS Joanna		X	
SEEDAT, Mohammed		X	
THACKRAY Becca		X	
TIEDEMANN Martin		X	
VALCARCEL Tina		X	
WELLBELOVE Christopher		X	
WILCOX Claire		X	
WILSON Andy		X	
WINDLE Tim		X	
WINIFRED Sonia		X	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>0</b>

The amendment from the Labour was **CARRIED** by 41 votes for, 5 against and 0 abstentions.

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
ADILYPOUR Daniel	X		
AINSLIE Scott		X	
ANYANWU Donatus	X		
ATKINS Liz	X		
ATKINS Mary	X		
BIRLEY Anna	X		
BENNETT, Matthew	X		
O'Hara Scarlett	X		
BRAY Linda	X		
BRIGGS Tim		X	
CAMERON Marcia	X		
CHOWDHURY Rezina	X		
CLARK Malcolm	X		
COWELL Fred	X		
CRAIG Kevin	X		
DICKSON Jim	X		
DOGUS Ibrahim	X		
ELLIOT Pete		X	
ELY Peter	X		
GADSBY Paul	X		
GARDEN Adrian	X		
GEORGE Pauline	X		
GRIFFITHS Nicole		X	
HASELDEN Nigel	X		
HOLLAND Claire	X		
JASER, Mohamed	X		
KAY Maria	X		
KAZANTZIS, John	X		
KIND Ben	X		
LEIGH Jess	X		
MANLEY-BROWN Nanda	X		

MOHAMMED Irfan	X		
NORMAL Philip	X		
NYE Emma	X		
PICKARD Jane	X		
REYNOLDS Joanna	X		
SEEDAT, Mohammed	X		
THACKRAY Becca		X	
TIEDEMANN Martin	X		
VALCARCEL Tina	X		
WELLBELOVE Christopher	X		
WILCOX Claire	X		
WILSON Andy	X		
WINDLE Tim	X		
WINIFRED Sonia	X		
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>

The Substantive Motion from Labour, on A homes policy that complies with the new Lambeth Local Plan 2020-2035, as amended by the Labour, was **CARRIED** and Council **RESOLVED**, by 41 votes for, 0 against and 5 abstention

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
ADILYPOUR Daniel	X		
AINSLIE Scott			X
ANYANWU Donatus	X		
ATKINS Liz	X		
ATKINS Mary	X		
BIRLEY Anna	X		
BENNETT, Matthew	X		
O'Hara Scarlett	X		
BRAY Linda	X		
BRIGGS Tim			X
CAMERON Marcia	X		
CHOWDHURY Rezina	X		
CLARK Malcolm	X		
COWELL Fred	X		
CRAIG Kevin	X		
DICKSON Jim	X		
DOGUS Ibrahim	X		
ELLIOT Pete			X
ELY Peter	X		
GADSBY Paul	X		
GARDEN Adrian	X		
GEORGE Pauline	X		
GRIFFITHS Nicole			X
HASELDEN Nigel	X		
HOLLAND Claire	X		
JASER, Mohamed	X		

KAY Maria	X		
KAZANTZIS, John	X		
KIND Ben	X		
LEIGH Jess	X		
MANLEY-BROWN Nanda	X		
MOHAMMED Irfan	X		
NORMAL Philip	X		
NYE Emma	X		
PICKARD Jane	X		
REYNOLDS Joanna	X		
SEEDAT, Mohammed	X		
THACKRAY Becca			X
TIEDEMANN Martin	X		
VALCARCEL Tina	X		
WELLBELOVE Christopher	X		
WILCOX Claire	X		
WILSON Andy	X		
WINDLE Tim	X		
WINIFRED Sonia	X		
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>

A homes policy that complies with the new Lambeth Local Plan 2020-2035

Council notes:

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- Lambeth was the first London borough to declare a Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) and to pledge that the borough will become net zero by 2030.
  - The CEE was declared in 2019, however, the two most recent IPCC Special Reports, published in 2018 and September 2021, suggest that tipping points could be exceeded even between 1 and 2 °C of warming and that we must act now to take the necessary action immediately to reduce emissions.
  - The withdrawal of the Green Homes Grant and failure of the Government to provide long term finance, has made the task of decarbonising homes more challenging and more urgent.
  - 15% of territorial UK emissions come from residential burning of gas and there is an urgent need to decarbonise heating and power in homes, as well as insulate to the highest standards.
  - 80% of the buildings we use today will still be in use in 2050 and most have poor heating efficiency standards, while 100% of the homes that we build today will still be in use in 2050.

- There is no need to build homes with high embodied carbon. The Passivhaus standard's design software, the Passivhaus Planning Package (PHPP), now has an optional extra embodied carbon module and, as an example, the country's leading Passivhaus architect, Architype, is now increasingly specifying wood framed buildings.
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- That Passivhaus is one way to design to zero carbon but is not the only model.
  - There are a number of well-designed and accessible online platforms that allow us to calculate their embodied carbon using quantity surveying principles.
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- According to 2019 Government figures, 15.2% of London households are living in fuel poverty and this is only likely to increase with the current inflationary pressures being seen on energy prices.
  - To meet its climate targets, the UK has an ambition to retrofit all homes to Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) Band C standard by 2035, while most private property companies are targeting EPC A by 2030. Only 29% of homes meet EPC Band C and the UK's current policy approach is nowhere near ambitious enough to tackle the remaining 71%. Energy efficiency improvements have stalled, measures are expensive and the industry is underinvesting.
  - In 2017, The GLA estimated that there are 144,400 households in Lambeth. In order to retrofit these homes to EPC Band C standard by 2030, the council will have to exponentially increase the number of homes being retrofitted each year to over 20,000.
  - The 'green recovery' opportunities presented by the need to decarbonise our homes with the opportunity to support local businesses and up-skill Lambeth workers in this sector; the LGA Inform estimates there could be 1787 jobs in Lambeth by 2030 in low carbon heating and energy efficiency work.
  - As a 100% council owned company, HfL is setting an example by ~~only~~ building homes that exceed existing Lambeth and London Plan policies on Carbon reduction. HfL schemes are currently building homes that deliver more than twice the carbon emission reductions as current policy requires, and far in excess of the reductions being built by private developers. They have done so by making use of both low embodied carbon building materials and life cycle carbon assessments to ensure new homes that are built to address London's housing crisis also contribute to our work to build a more sustainable borough.
  - Lambeth Council is leading by example, by taking responsibility for reducing emissions from council properties; supporting other housing providers and freeholders to take action in their own properties; and ensuring developers are building sustainable energy solutions into new developments.
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- Policy EN4 of Lambeth Local Plan 2020-2035, Sustainable Design and Construction,

paragraph D states: “New build residential developments are encouraged to use the Home Quality Mark and Passivhaus design standards.”.

- The science and technology, both around the CEE and house building techniques, is moving forward at a fast pace and Lambeth’s planning and housing officers need to stay informed to keep up with industry best practices.

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This council therefore resolves to:

- Continue to enforce the high environmental building standards and carbon emission reductions contained in the Lambeth Local Plan and the London Plan.
- Continue to ~~F~~follow the methodology of BREEAM (Building Research Establishment's Environmental Assessment Method) because of its other environmental standards.
- To develop a strategy and plan showing how it can reduce emissions in its housing stock, so that it is ready with clear plans if government or mayoral funding becomes available.
- Carry out a full audit of council housing stock to identify the worst polluters and therefore the biggest wins that can be gained from retrofitting.
- Continue with the HfL programme of building new ~~Build~~ social housing, to high environmental standards, that is of good enough quality to pass on to the next generation as we tackle the housing crisis. This includes new homes on Lambeth’s estate regeneration schemes which are being built to significantly higher standards than the homes that they replace. HfL’s new homes are being built to a higher environmental and sustainability standard than is required in planning policy, applying circular economy principles to reuse 80% of existing building materials, and delivering significant, long-lasting, reductions in carbon emissions.
- Help reduce waste, both as part of the construction process, using Building Information Modelling (BIM) and Modern Methods of Construction (MMC), and encourage Lambeth Housing developments to become zero waste once occupied.
- Continue the programme of replacing ~~Ensure~~ all communal lighting on estates ~~,~~ with LED lighting and produce a plan to replace all lighting in Lambeth’s housing stock with LED lighting subject to available funding.
- Work with Registered Housing Providers and Lambeth’s other Landlords and Landowners to enable them to audit their housing stock.
- Work with industry and FE providers to ensure that a skilled local workforce managed, and wherever possible employed directly, by the council is lined up to deliver against the plan.
- Continue to provide Continual Professional Development for relevant Lambeth Officers to become fully knowledgeable in the latest building techniques, including building or retrofitting to the Passivhaus standards and in the use of modern technologies, such as

the scanning of existing buildings and use of prefabricated building envelopes to enable retrofitting with no disturbance to residents, as is being introduced in Germany.

- Work with Housing Associations to support them to retrofit their homes through training and sharing best practice as it is learned.
- Retrofit all its council stock that is below EPC Band C. Starting with those at Band G and tackling the worst first, when funding is available.
- Continue to partner with innovative charitable organisations, such as Repowering, who can access community finance and who the council has worked with for several years to create renewable energy across the borough.
- To reject the proposal of the Lambeth Green Party to use Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loans to borrow to cover the cost of retrofitting. Estimates to retrofit Lambeth's council housing stock are approximately £700 million, and borrowing from the PWLB of that scale would need to be covered by either enormous cuts to revenue spending on council services, massive increases in council tax for all Lambeth residents or, if borrowing was entirely within the HRA, an enormous increase in rents for council tenants.
- To recognise that thanks to Life Cycle Carbon Assessments new build homes can be demonstrated to deliver better long-term carbon impacts than retrofitted homes, and also help Lambeth to provide more homes for homeless families on the council's waiting list despite the opposition of Lambeth's Green Party.

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- To consult tenants and seek their approval to design and cost a programme of work that would decarbonise the council's housing stock by 2030.
  - Prioritise low embodied carbon construction and continue to support the use of Life Cycle Carbon Assessments, so that the full picture of the carbon impacts of new developments can be understood.
  - Lobby the government to provide funding to Local Government to ensure retrofit, where possible, of homes in Lambeth.
  - To reject Lambeth Green Party's view that efforts to tackle the climate crisis and efforts to tackle the housing crisis are incompatible; and to ensure that climate justice and social justice can go hand in hand by continuing to deliver high-quality and environmentally sustainable new homes that are genuinely affordable for families in need.

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## **Motion 2: Tackling the epidemic of Violence Against Women and Girls**

The amendment from the Conservative Member was **NOT CARRIED** by 1 vote for, 41 against and 4 abstentions.

The amendment from the Greens was **NOT CARRIED** by 4 vote for, 42 against and 0 abstentions.

The Original Motion from Labour, on Tackling the epidemic of Violence Against Women and Girls was **CARRIED** and Council **RESOLVED**, by 45 votes for, 0 against and 1 abstention.

## Tackling the epidemic of Violence Against Women and Girls

### Council notes:

- That the disappearance and murder of Sarah Everard in our borough launched a wave of anger and protests across the country.
- Blessing Olusogun's death remains unexplained.
- Nicole Smallman and Bibaa Henry were stabbed to death after meeting friends in a park, and metropolitan police officers took pictures of their bodies.
- Sabina Nessa was killed when walking to see a friend in her local area.
- That one woman is killed every three days by a man in the UK.

### Council further notes:

- The detrimental impact that violence against women and girls (VAWG) by men has on individual women, their families, their communities and society as a whole.
- Women from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds, deaf and disabled women, and LGBT+ women are even more likely to experience harassment, discrimination and abuse.
- Women from diverse backgrounds experience abuse differently and male power is used against them differently.
- Women living in poverty are particularly vulnerable to experiencing violence and face disproportionate challenges in accessing the necessary support to make them safe. Lack of access to secure housing, precarious employment, difficulty accessing social security and poverty work to keep women in abusive situations.
- There are on average 12 'honour killings' every year in the UK, where women are killed due to the belief that they have brought shame or dishonour upon their family.
- Street harassment and violence against women and girls is endemic in the UK:
  - 80% of women of all ages have been sexually harassed in public, with 90% of these women not reporting it as they don't believe it will make a difference
  - 97% of young women have been sexually harassed, with 96% not reporting it due to the same reasons above
    - One in two women are sexually harassed in the workplace
    - One in three women will experience domestic violence in their lifetime
    - One in five women will be raped in their lifetime
    - Two women a week are killed by a current or former partner (this rose to three a week during lockdown), and three women a week take their own lives following domestic abuse.
- Women who report rape have a 3% chance of it ever being heard in court. Most women who survive domestic violence do not receive justice from the criminal justice system.

### Council welcomes:

- That Lambeth Council continues to campaign to make misogyny a hate crime. we welcome the announcement that all police forces in England and Wales are to log incidents motivated by misogyny.
- That Lambeth Council will expand the number of venues signed up to, and will ask existing signatories to recommit to, the Women's Safety Charter, and report regularly

on the difference it has made – sending a clear message that female harassment will not be tolerated.

- Lambeth Council's funding of the largest number of refuge centre beds in London with 52.
- That Lambeth Council funds community-based support for survivors of violence, with a further service planned to deter sexual assaults related to the night-time economy.
- Many Lambeth licensed premises are sign up to the 'Ask Angela' campaign to protect women on a night out

Council believes:

- That male violence against women and girls is part of a broader culture of misogyny in society.
- Perpetrators of serious violence usually have a history of inflicting abuse and harassment against other women and girls. Tackling violence against women and girls means dismantling this culture.
- The seeds of violent behaviour are often sown at a young age and if the right interventions are not made in time, then the problem continues to perpetuate.
- Tackling other forms of discrimination and the economic system that further enables abuse against women and girls.
- The Police, Courts, Sentencing and Crime Bill will potentially silence the right to protest in a meaningful or impactful way, or for women to be heard on this issue in an impactful way.
- That our current justice system allows rape, one of the most heinous crimes to be effectively decriminalised is not fit for purpose. Sustained cuts to all elements of the justice system, as well as institutional misogyny, mean that crimes against women and girls that are reported are not effectively investigated by the police. The decision to fail to resource this work is a political choice.

Council resolves to:

- Stand in solidarity with protestors who oppose violence against women, and girls.
- Do all we can as a council and in our communities to champion the rights and entitlements of women and girls and to tackle violence against them. This includes continuing to invest in vital services, listening and responding to women and girls about the action we need, and calling out misogyny and sexism wherever we see and hear it.
- Call for increased government investment in the criminal justice system to prevent violence and deliver justice for women and girls
- To call for the government to reverse the cuts to women's support services
- Campaign for this Government to invest in male perpetrator prevention programmes.
- To promote the Our Streets Now campaign to make street harassment a crime, and encourage all elected members, and residents to sign their petition.
- Call on the Lambeth and Southwark Borough Command Unit to prioritise investigating crimes against women and girls and ask them to ensure that women are treated with the required sensitivity.
- Work with the Lambeth and Southwark Borough Command Unit on improving women's safety in Lambeth.
- Continue to deliver culturally competent services for VAWG which fully serve our diverse population.
- Strengthen Safer Neighbourhood ward panels to have agenda items on hate crime incidents and domestic violence.

- Work with schools and families to tackle toxic masculinity culture.
- Continue to work with local and national networks working to end violence against women and girls.
- Encourage all men to take the White Ribbon pledge, never to take part in, condone or stay silent about violence against women.

### **Motion 3: Ending Labour’s ULEZ discrimination against disabled residents**

The amendment from the Green Party was **NOT CARRIED** by 4 votes for, 42 against and 0 abstentions.

The Original Motion from Conservative, on Ending Labour’s ULEZ discrimination against disabled residents, was **NOT CARRIED** by 1 votes for, 45 against and 0 abstentions.

### **Motion 4: Unlocking the potential of Lambeth’s high streets**

The amendment from the Conservative Member was **NOT CARRIED** by 1 votes for, 41 against and 4 abstentions.

The Original Motion from Labour, on **Unlocking the potential of Lambeth’s high streets**, was **CARRIED** by 45 votes for, 0 against and 1 abstentions.

#### Unlocking the potential of Lambeth’s high streets

This Council believes that healthy high streets are essential for community cohesion, civic pride, employment, shopping, services and leisure. But many shops and businesses in London and around the UK were struggling even before the Covid pandemic: high street retail employment fell in more than three-quarters of local authorities between 2015 and 2018 according to the Office of National Statistics<sup>i</sup> and more than half of all UK consumers were shopping online before the pandemic<sup>ii</sup>.

This Council notes that retail is among the sectors most affected by the coronavirus pandemic, and that retail workers have been on the frontline of the crisis throughout. The almost complete shutdown of non-essential shops between March and June 2020 has hit businesses hard, and the need for social distancing has changed the way many businesses operate, reducing footfall. The pandemic has accelerated what, in many cases, has been a longer trend of lower footfall and changing shopping habits. As the Portas Review a decade ago acknowledged, the form and function of many high streets needs to radically change if they are to adapt and survive.

This Council welcomes the willingness of Government to acknowledge the problems and come forward with initiatives in response to these challenges such as the furlough scheme, the Covid support business loans, and the High Street Taskforce. But the announcements in October’s Budget fall short of the reform needed: tweaking revaluations cycles and temporary discounts will not deliver the support that Lambeth’s businesses need and deserve.

As the Treasury Select Committee stated in 2019, the current system of Business Rates places an unfair burden on “bricks and mortar” businesses compared to online ones, and the Business Rate system needs radical overhaul<sup>iii</sup>. Lambeth’s businesses deserve better than tinkering around the edges of a broken system. They need concrete plans to scrap business rates, and replace them with a new, fairer system of business taxation which protects our town centres and local businesses, incentivises investment and rewards business which reopen empty premises – and which levels the playing field by ensuring online retail giants pay their fair share.

This Council further welcomes the support Lambeth Council provided to businesses and

workers in Lambeth to support them through the Covid-19 pandemic to survive this unprecedented disruption to high street trading and to adapt to social distancing guidelines and restrictions, including:

- Establishing the Lambeth Local Economy Hardship Fund during the first Covid-19 national lockdown which provided £4.2 million in grant support to over 370 local organisations in Lambeth, including restaurants, pubs, cafes, clubs, and music venues, put at risk by loss of income during the pandemic. Grants of between £5,000 and £25,000 were on offer to badly hit businesses, charities, and not-for-profit organisations to support their chances of survival and recovery.
- Working with Lambeth's Business Improvement Districts by setting up the Business Taskforce to support local businesses as part of the pandemic response.
- Awarding over £6.1 million to more than 650 businesses in Lambeth through our Economic Resilience Fund in 2021, supporting a wide range of businesses, from individual freelance artists to renowned hospitality venues, the events supply chain and much more, recognising the diversity of Lambeth's local economy.
- Working with the Mayor of London to support Lambeth's high streets recover from the pandemic, securing grants of £20,000 for two high street recovery projects in Tulse Hill and West Norwood and in Crystal Palace.
- Running a successful Shop Local, Shop Safe campaign encouraging Lambeth residents to support businesses local to them.
- Launching the Future Workspace Fund, an £8 million investment over the next few years to provide affordable workspace across the borough, building on our record of investing in workspaces like Build Studios and International House.

This Council resolves to:

- Write to the Government to urge them to:
  - Put forward a plan to scrap the unfair business rates system and replace it with a new, fairer system which protects Lambeth's high streets and local businesses and supports their recovery from the pandemic.
  - Level the playing field between online and high street businesses, to make it fair and sustainable for all – by increasing the digital service tax and putting in place higher global minimum rates of corporation taxes for large multinationals.
- Write to Lambeth's business community thanking them for their hard work through this crisis, and especially thanking retail staff who have been on the front line during the pandemic, and who have helped to keep our communities safe.
- Explore what local action can be taken to revive our high streets now, while waiting for action from Westminster, including:
  - Sign Lambeth Council up to the Co-operative Party's Unlock the High Street campaign to devolve the Towns Fund, Levelling Up Fund, UK Shared Prosperity Fund and other national funding pots – to give local communities, councils and regions the ultimate say in how it is spend in their area.
  - Recognise the amazing contribution that our Business Improvement Districts in West Norwood, the Southbank, Waterloo, Vauxhall, Clapham, Streatham, Brixton continue to make in Lambeth's town centres, and work with them to explore the creation of Community Improvement Districts. These would help to reconnect communities with our BIDs and other levers that drive economic development in town centres and create an equal partnership of business and community organisations to galvanise action at a local level.
  - Work with Lambeth's BIDs to proactively contact landlords of vacant premises to explore meanwhile use options and/or encourage alternative rental models (e.g. turnover rather than market rent) to enable new co-operatives, SMEs, social enterprises and community businesses to open their doors on the high street.
  - Provide advice and support to community and co-operative businesses to take on ownership or management of vacant high street properties so that communities have a say and a stake in their local town centres.

- Make any data held by the council on ownership of high street properties public and in an accessible format, so that community groups seeking to buy empty shops through a community share offer have the information they need to do so.
- Make full use of s215 and other planning enforcement powers where empty units are attracting antisocial behaviour or creating an eyesore on the high street – and name and shame those premises which don't do their bit and are regularly subject to enforcement.

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## **Motion 5: Making Lambeth the Safest Borough to Walk and Cycle in London**

The amendment from the Conservative Member was **NOT CARRIED** by 1 vote for, 45 against and 0 abstentions.

The amendment from the Greens was **NOT CARRIED** by 45 vote for, 1 against and 0 abstentions.

The Substantive Motion as amended by the Greens, on Making Lambeth the Safest Borough to Walk and Cycle in London was **CARRIED** and Council **RESOLVED**, by 45 votes for, 0 against and 1 abstention

### Making Lambeth the Safest Borough to Walk and Cycle in London

#### Council notes:

- That in 2020, 167 people were killed or seriously injured on Lambeth's roads.
- That nearly two cyclists a day suffer serious life changing injuries on London roads. Whilst this is a statistically small proportion of cyclists, the fact remains that so many people each year suffer from life threatening injuries simply from engaging in active transport.
- Concern about safety whilst cycling was shown in the 2013 British social attitude survey to be a major barrier to more people taking up cycling. Cycling infrastructure such as advisory cycle lanes, mandatory cycle lanes and segregated cycle lanes have been shown to have a positive effect on reducing accidents and enabling people to take up cycling.
- The Council has worked with partners in local and central government to ensure that various safety measures and protected routes for cycling are available across the borough. However, there are still only 15 kilometres of cycleway in Lambeth.
- That the south of Lambeth is especially lacking in safe cycling routes.
- Cycling is, as identified by the 2011 Department for Transport study 'Climate Change and Transport Choices', a crucial aspect of sustainable travel, which is essential for helping with the ongoing climate emergency.

#### Council Welcomes:

- The increase in cycling across Lambeth in 2020 helped by active travel measures, with Department for Transport figures showing Lambeth as showing one of the largest increases in the country in weekly cycling rates.
- The council's Transport Strategy adopted in 2019 that commits to delivering a network of safe walking and cycling routes across the borough, safe enough for a 12 year old to cycle independently.
- The 1800 spaces in cycle hangers that have been installed across the borough allowing for the safe storage of the bicycles.

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- Plans to install another 300 spaces over the coming months, improving accessibility for those living in homes that do not have storage space for cycles.
  - The council's support for grassroots organisations such as upcycle, working with local young people to refurbish old cycles to bring them back into use to be gifted to young people on our housing estates.
  - The fact that the council is on course to deliver on its commitment of providing cycle training to 2000 children in our schools, with well over 1600 having already benefit so far this year.
  - The council's efforts to introduce walking buses at schools across Lambeth, provide pedestrian training to young people at our primary schools and the fact we have introduced over 20 school streets making it safer for children in Lambeth to walk, cycle or scoot to school.
  - The training sessions and one to one adult training currently under offer to help new and returning cyclists with the skills needed to navigate London's roads and to help them find suitable routes.

Council resolves to:

- Ensure the protection of people who walk and cycle is at the forefront of the built environment, paying particular attention to our road user hierarchy.
- Design and signpost safe walking routes, improving the visibility of healthier walking routes that have cleaner air and lower traffic.
- Develop a reference group to work closely with residents from protected groups under the Equality Act 2010, to ensure that increasing equity is at the heart of the council's approach in delivering active travel.
- Increase the amount of protected cycling infrastructure over the course of the next council term by delivering the Healthy Routes implementation plan outlined within the council's Transport Strategy.
- To work with TfL to improve safety on main roads, such as the A23, by removing dangerous pinch points and junctions, supporting the delivery of new cycling infrastructure on those roads and improving the signposting for users.
- Make and widely promote maps of safe cycle routes throughout the borough.
- To work collaboratively with the local community in the design and delivery of cycle routes and to provide a clear and open process for local communities to request infrastructure in their area where possible.
- To carry on resourcing cycling training at all ages to ensure people are safe and confident on the roads.
- To continue delivering the cycle hanger programme with the ultimate aim that everyone in Lambeth who wants to has the opportunity to store a cycle safely.
- Push TfL to bring in a 20mph speed limit on all the roads they control (red routes) in the borough.
- To set ambitious cycling targets for all members of Lambeth's population.
- Develop a reference group to work closely with residents on low paid income streams (eg. carers, cleaners, gardeners, delivery drivers), to ensure that social justice is at the heart of the council's approach in delivering active travel.

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