

13 July 2016

Council

Council Motions

Wards: All

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Report summary

Motions and amendments submitted by Councillors, in accordance with Standing Order 13, are set out below.

Key to shading:

Bold – additions

~~Strikethrough – deletions~~

Motion 1: Conservative

This Council agrees that there should be no increase in the volume, frequency and length of music events in the parks and green spaces across the borough.

It also agrees that given the views of a large number of concerned and angry residents towards its events strategy it will commit to ensuring that at least one third of all revenue taken from events is reinvested back in to the space the event was held, communicating to all residents groups how this has been spent, and to ensuring that all resident's opinions are taken in to account when considering the length, volume and frequency of all events.

The Council agrees that any increase would accelerate the profoundly negative impact of such events felt by the huge number of residents living nearby.

The Council also commits to ensuring that any events that fall within the definition of a trade fair or exhibition set out in Article 7(1)(vii) of the Greater London Open Parks and Open Spaces Order 1967, will be prohibited from all Common land. In addition, that as required by this Order, it will obtain ministerial consent before erecting any buildings or other structures, whether temporary or permanent, on common land.

Amendment 1: Councillor Jack Hopkins

This Council agrees that **the revised events strategy builds on Lambeth's record as one of the only boroughs in London that gives back to local parks.**

Notes that ~~there should be no increase in the volume, frequency and length of music events in the parks and green spaces across the borough~~ **has been developed with input from local residents and businesses, as well as event organisers over five years and is set out in the report.**

It also ~~agrees that given the views of a large number of concerned and angry residents towards its~~ **notes that the events strategy it will commit to ensuring that at least one third of all includes a new formula to ensure that** revenue taken from events is reinvested back in to the space the event was held **and reflects the council's need to use its resources to plug gaps in funding. Further notes that the strategy includes strengthened governance arrangements to ensure that councillors and** ~~communicating to all residents groups how this has been spent, and to ensuring that all resident's opinions are taken in to account~~ **during the event approval process** ~~when considering the length, volume and frequency of all events.~~

The Council ~~agrees~~ **notes** that any increased **sound levels will be limited to a maximum of eight event days per zone per year, helping to limit** ~~would accelerate the profoundly the~~ negative impact of such events ~~felt by the huge number of residents living nearby.~~

Notes that the Council ~~adheres also commits to~~ **the current legislation that governs the use of metropolitan parks and open spaces including** Article 7(1)(vii) of the Greater London Open Parks and Open Spaces Order 1967 **and will continue to work within the parameters of all relevant legislation.** ~~will be prohibited from all Common land. In addition, that as required by this Order, it will obtain ministerial consent before erecting any buildings or other structures, whether temporary or permanent, on common land.~~

Motion 2: Councillor Jane Edbrooke

This council notes the outstanding efforts of Lambeth's teachers and pupils in delivering another year of excellent results and providing school places to all children, regardless of ability. Ofsted's annual report states that, despite high levels of disadvantage, Lambeth has "nothing but good and outstanding secondary schools", while 94% of our primary schools are good or outstanding.

Council is very concerned, however, that these achievements will be undermined by the Conservative Government's continued drive towards turning all schools into academics - regardless of the wishes of teachers, pupils and parents – and ill-thought through changes to funding mechanisms, which will see a 20% cut in Lambeth's education budget.

Council further notes that:

- Despite amendments to the government's recent white paper, there remains a clear ideological steer from ministers towards forced academisation.
- The NUT estimates the cost of the process of academisation will be in the region of £1.3bn and that this money could be better spent on funding schools places at a time when there is a shortage of school places in London.
- There is widespread opposition to forced academisation from the Local Government Association, Conservative councils across the country and MPs of all parties
- The current national schools funding formula has helped Lambeth's pupils achieve remarkable year-on-year improvements, despite the high levels of

deprivation that many face, and any move to level down, rather than level up schools funding will jeopardise further improvements.

Council calls on the Government to:

- Halt its plans to force academy status and re-think its policy, which is undemocratic, expensive, fails to meet the needs of local pupils, excludes parental involvement and removes local accountability.
- Give the council the ability to ensure all schools support the needs of local children including providing places regardless of ability and enough places to meet future demand.
- Look again at its planned new funding formula and ensure that London schools do not see their budget needlessly slashed at a time when it is critical that we maintain and increase levels of investment in their future.

Amendment 1: Conservative

This council notes the outstanding efforts of Lambeth's teachers and pupils in delivering another year of excellent results ~~and providing school places to all children, regardless of ability.~~ Ofsted's annual report states that, **although London is the region with the highest levels of disadvantage in the country**, ~~despite high levels of disadvantage,~~ **areas like Haringey, Islington and Lambeth** have "nothing but good and outstanding secondary schools", while 94% of ~~our~~ **Lambeth's** primary schools are good or outstanding.

~~Council is very concerned, however, that these achievements will be undermined by the Conservative Government's continued drive towards turning all schools into academics – regardless of the wishes of teachers, pupils and parents – and ill-thought through changes to funding mechanisms, which will see a 20% cut in Lambeth's education budget.~~

The Council notes that while the Conservative Government have reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring that those schools most at risk of failing young people are turned around via conversion to Academies, that new legislation will not force any schools to convert to academy status.

Council further notes that:

~~– Despite amendments to the government's recent white paper, there remains a clear ideological steer from ministers towards forced academisation.~~

- Despite academies only coming in to being since 2002, there are a number of examples of schools being turned around after being converted to an academy and delivering outstanding outcomes for pupils

- More than half of all secondary schools are already academies (56%)

- **By encouraging primaries to convert to academies and to join existing chains, this council notes that teachers will be properly supported and can focus on teaching and learning in the classroom, rather than administration.**

- The NUT estimates the cost of the process of **forced** academisation ~~will be~~ **would have been** in the region of £1.3bn and that **some** of this money could be ~~better~~ spent on funding schools places at a time when there is a shortage of school places in London. **In Lambeth only 57.8% of children got their first preference for secondary school last year, which is well below the national average.**

- ~~Although there was some widespread opposition to total forced academisation from the Local Government Association, Conservative councils across the country and MPs of all parties,~~ **a number of third parties have recommended that more primary schools become academies given the circumstances in which the education system finds itself. In particular, the fact that it is estimated that a fifth of head teachers are approaching retirement age and with a new national curriculum and assessment system, there will be new pressures on teachers.**

~~The current national schools funding formula has helped Lambeth's pupils achieve remarkable year-on-year improvements, despite the high levels of deprivation that many face, and any move to level down, rather than level up schools funding will jeopardise further improvements.~~

Council calls on the Government to:

- ~~Consider how their new~~ **Halt its plans to force academy status and re-think its policy, which is undemocratic, expensive, fails to meet the needs of local pupils, excludes** **could be tweaked to reassure** ~~parentsal~~ **of their continued** involvement and **takes in to account the existing expertise from** ~~removes~~ **local authorities** accountability.

- ~~Give the council the ability to ensure all~~ **Ensure that** schools **are given the** support they needs **to ensure** of local children including providing ~~enough~~ **enough** places regardless of ability and enough places to meet future demand.

- Look again at its planned new funding formula and ensure that London schools do not see their budget ~~needlessly slashed~~ **disrupted** at a time when it is critical that **children receive the best possible education and care** ~~we maintain and increase levels of investment in their future.~~

Amendment 2: Councillor Scott Ainslie

This council notes the outstanding efforts of Lambeth's teachers and pupils in delivering another year of excellent results and providing school places to all children, regardless of ability. Ofsted's annual report states that, despite high levels of disadvantage, Lambeth has "nothing but good and outstanding secondary schools", while 94% of our primary schools are good or outstanding.

Council also notes the limitations of the Ofsted inspection regime, particularly when taking into account the needs of the most vulnerable children. It further

notes that Lambeth has the highest rate of exclusions in London from its primary schools, and the fourth highest rate from its secondary schools.

Council also notes that a recent report from the Runnymede Trust entitled 'Ethnic Inequalities in London' ranked Lambeth as being the worst borough in London by a very long way, for ethnic inequalities in education.

Council is very concerned, however, that ~~these~~ **any** achievements will be undermined by the Conservative Government's continued drive towards turning all schools into academics - regardless of the wishes of teachers, pupils and parents – and ill-thought through changes to funding mechanisms, which will see a 20% cut in Lambeth's education budget.

Council further notes that:

- Despite amendments to the government's recent white paper, there remains a clear ideological steer from ministers towards forced academisation.
- The NUT estimates the cost of the process of academisation will be in the region of £1.3bn and that this money could be better spent on funding schools places at a time when there is a shortage of school places in London.
- There is widespread opposition to forced academisation from the Local Government Association, Conservative councils across the country and MPs of all parties
- The current national schools funding formula has helped Lambeth's pupils achieve remarkable year-on-year improvements, despite the high levels of deprivation that many face, and any move to level down, rather than level up schools funding will jeopardise further improvements.
- **The Council's support for the establishment of academies in Lambeth makes it much harder to resist the Government's plans.**
- **The Council needs to take action to reduce the high exclusion rate from Lambeth's schools.**
- **The Council needs to take urgent action to address the huge ethnic inequality in education in Lambeth.**

Council calls on the Government to:

- Halt its plans to force academy status and re-think its policy, which is undemocratic, expensive, fails to meet the needs of local pupils, excludes parental involvement and removes local accountability.
- Give the council the ability to ensure all schools support the needs of local children including providing places regardless of ability and enough places to meet future demand.
- Look again at its planned new funding formula and ensure that London schools do not see their budget needlessly slashed at a time when it is critical that we maintain and increase levels of investment in their future.

Motion 3: Councillor Scott Ainslie

Council notes the clear message sent by the residents of Gipsy Hill in the recent council by-election expressing their opposition to the Council's library closures and estate demolitions.

Council notes that despite being Labour's safest council seat, Labour's share of the vote in Gipsy Hill decreased from 70% to 42% and that more people voted for parties opposed to library closures and estate demolitions than for Labour. Council further notes that the greatest opposition in Gipsy Hill to Labour's plans came from the Central Hill estate.

Council resolves to listen to Lambeth residents and support the proposals put forward by residents to save their libraries and refurbish, not demolish, their estates.

Amendment 1: Councillor Paul Gadsby

Council notes the clear message sent by the residents of Gipsy Hill in the recent council by-election **in electing Labour's candidate Luke Murphy, despite a Green party campaign designed to scare residents.** ~~expressing their opposition to the Council's library closures and estate demolitions.~~

~~Council notes that despite being Labour's safest council seat, Labour's share of the vote in Gipsy Hill decreased from 70% to 42% and that more people voted for parties opposed to library closures and estate demolitions than for Labour. Council further notes that the greatest opposition in Gipsy Hill to Labour's plans came from the Central Hill estate.~~

~~Council resolves to listen to Lambeth residents and support the proposals put forward by residents to save their libraries and refurbish, not demolish, their estates.~~

Council further notes that the election demonstrated the difference between an administration that is determined to protect services and build more social housing despite huge pressures from the government, and an opposition party with absolutely no credible answers to those challenges.

Motion 4: Councillor Paul Gadsby

This council notes that our community has a debt of service to those individuals who have served in the Armed Services, as recognised by the Armed Forces Covenant and Lambeth's own Community Covenant. It further notes however that there is a lack of accurate information about how many veterans, reservists and dependents there are in the United Kingdom and Lambeth, making it difficult to judge their needs and shape services accordingly.

This council resolves:

1. To support the Royal British Legion's Count Them In campaign calling for the next national census to include additional questions on the Armed Forces community.
2. To write to the government asking ministers to make a public statement supporting this campaign and ensuring that the next census includes these questions.

Motion 5: Councillor Paul McGlone

This council notes the positive international consensus on a financial transaction tax that deducting a tiny fraction of one percent of the value of trades in equities, bonds and derivatives could raise billions if introduced in a concerted way.

It further notes that the revenue raised could be used to support public services and reverse the unfair cuts to Lambeth and other councils by the current Conservative government.

This council resolves to:

1. Support the introduction of a properly designed financial transaction tax that avoids negative economic consequences, but generates additional revenue for public services.
2. Calls on such a tax to be set jointly by the UK with our international allies, particularly with our partners in Europe and the United States.
3. Write to the government calling for them to end their indifference to this issue, and work to introduce such a tax, the proceeds of which should be used to offset the enormous cuts that Lambeth Council and other local authorities have suffered under this government.

Amendment 1: Conservative

This council notes **after many years of discussion, that recently a proposed financial transaction tax between ten European Countries has stalled again given the lack of consensus on how it would be introduced.** ~~the positive international consensus on a financial transaction tax that deducting a tiny fraction of one percent of the value of trades in equities, bonds and derivatives could raise billions if introduced in a concerted way.~~ **It also notes that when Italy introduced its own form of Tobin tax in 2013, trading fell off – likely because it moved to other counties - and estimates about the about of money raise proved to be over optimistic. The Council is aware that London’s largest industry remains finance, and it is the largest financial exporter in the world, making it essential that the City of London continues to be seen as a favourable centre for business and investment.**

This Council further notes that hypothecated taxes have never been favoured in the UK, given their ability to mask increases or decreases in total Government spending.

~~It further notes that the revenue raised could be used to support public services and reverse the unfair cuts to Lambeth and other councils by the current Conservative government.~~

This council resolves to:

- ~~1. Support the introduction of a properly designed financial transaction tax that avoids negative economic consequences, but generates additional revenue for public services.~~
- ~~2. Calls on such a tax to be set jointly by the UK with our international allies, particularly with our partners in Europe and the United States.~~
- ~~3. Write to the government calling for them to end their indifference to this issue, and work to introduce such a tax, the proceeds of which should be used to offset the enormous cuts that Lambeth Council and other local authorities have suffered under this government.~~

