

Council

24 January 2018

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: Conservatives

Social mobility in Labour-Lambeth and Conservative-run Wandsworth

The Council notes that next-door Conservative-run Wandsworth is now the 4th best place in the country for disadvantaged children to do well in life, according to the Labour-led national Social Mobility Commission.

Given Lambeth Council's Borough Plan principles of 'inclusive growth', 'reducing inequality', and 'strong and sustainable neighbourhoods', and given Wandsworth's similar demography to Lambeth, Lambeth Council congratulates Wandsworth and looks to its neighbour to learn lessons that can help Lambeth residents on low incomes become more socially mobile. The reasons for that success include, but are not limited to:

- Wandsworth Council building 1,000 new homes solely on infill land, without demolishing residents' homes or taking away residents' secure tenancies
- Repairs, fire safety checks and their recommendations have all been carried out properly on Wandsworth properties, ensuring that residents are housed in safety
- The burden of council tax on low income families is roughly half that of Lambeth

- 94% of secondary schools in Wandsworth are rated 'Good' or 'Outstanding', helping children from lower income families achieve more
- 37 'looked after' children in Wandsworth went to university last year
- Libraries in Wandsworth have all been kept open, with a new community library being built in Northcote ward, helping social mobility and cohesive communities
- Wandsworth was the strongest borough for economic growth last year, named 'Best Borough for Small Businesses' at the Federation of Small Businesses Awards, bringing more jobs and prosperity to low income families

Council agrees to learn from the reforms carried out in Conservative-run Wandsworth to try to institutionalise inclusive growth, reduce inequality and create strong and sustainable neighbourhoods that are repaired and managed properly, rather than ignored or demolished. In learning from the success of Conservative-run Wandsworth, Lambeth Council commits itself to actually improving social mobility for residents on lower incomes, rather than grandstanding and trying to blame others for its own failures.

Amendment 1, Labour

Social mobility in Labour-Lambeth and Conservative-run Wandsworth

The Council notes that **Lambeth is the 17th best place in the country out of 324 local authorities (and next-door Conservative-run Wandsworth is now the 4th best place in the country)** for disadvantaged children to do well in life, according to the ~~Labour-led national Government's~~ Social Mobility Commission.

Council notes that 17 out of the top 20 boroughs in the country are inner London boroughs, attributed by the Commission to the economic strength of the capital and the success of schools in London.

Given Lambeth Council's Borough Plan principles of 'inclusive growth', 'reducing inequality', and 'strong and sustainable neighbourhoods', ~~and given Wandsworth's similar demography to Lambeth, Lambeth Council congratulates Wandsworth and looks to its neighbour to learn lessons that can help Lambeth residents on low incomes become more socially mobile. The reasons for that success include, but are not limited to:~~ **Council welcomes the success of Lambeth, and of other London boroughs, for major strides made in social mobility that are specifically identified in the report, in particular:**

- ~~Wandsworth~~ **The need for genuinely affordable housing, with Lambeth Council building 1,000 new homes at council rent and exceeding our affordable housing target by driving a hard bargain with developers - unlike Wandsworth Tories who allowed the Battersea Power Station developer to cut 250 affordable homes. solely on infill land, without demolishing residents' homes or taking away residents' secure tenancies**
- ~~Repairs, fire safety checks and their recommendations have all been carried out properly on Wandsworth properties, ensuring that residents are housed in safety~~
- ~~The burden of council tax on low income families is roughly half that of Lambeth~~
- **96% of Lambeth secondary schools, and 94% of secondary schools in Wandsworth, are rated 'Good' or 'Outstanding', helping children from lower income families achieve more**
- **The payment of the London Living Wage, with the report calling on local authorities like Wandsworth to follow Lambeth's lead as one of the first local authorities to "become an accredited living wage employer and to encourage others in the community to do likewise."**
- **The importance of early year's investment, where Lambeth has invested heavily in our network of children's centres (of which we have one of the largest networks of**

any London borough) and why we're proud to be one of the only five areas in the country to be awarded funding from the Big Lottery Fund Lambeth Early Action Partnership (LEAP) to support children in the most deprived wards

- ~~37 'looked after' children in Wandsworth went to university last year~~
- ~~Libraries in Wandsworth have all been kept open, with a new community library being built in Northcote ward, helping social mobility and cohesive communities~~
- ~~Wandsworth was the strongest borough for economic growth last year, named 'Best Borough for Small Businesses' at the Federation of Small Businesses Awards, bringing more jobs and prosperity to low income families~~

Council praises the work of Social Mobility Commission and expresses its dismay that since the publication of the report, the entire Commission, including a former Conservative Cabinet Minister, have quit because of the complete loss of "hope of the current government making the progress...necessary to bring about a fairer Britain".

Council shares the Commission's lack of faith in the Conservative government and resolves to reaffirm our commitment to tackling inequality in all parts of our borough, as outlined in the work of the Lambeth Equality Commission.

~~Council agrees to learn from the reforms carried out in Conservative-run Wandsworth to try to institutionalise inclusive growth, reduce inequality and create strong and sustainable neighbourhoods that are repaired and managed properly, rather than ignored or demolished. In learning from the success of Conservative-run Wandsworth, Lambeth Council commits itself to actually improving social mobility for residents on lower incomes, rather than grandstanding and trying to blame others for its own failures.~~

Motion 2: Labour

Universal credit

Council notes:

- That the Labour administration in Lambeth and Labour councils across the country have campaigned against Tory government cuts to benefits since 2010.
- That the full roll-out of Universal Credit Full Service began in December 2017, and will be completed across the borough in February for those residents who experience a change in circumstances.
- That when fully implemented, the council estimates that the total number of affected residents is likely to be over 40,000.
- That the roll-out is happening at the same time as the Government has decided to close the Job Centres in Brixton and Clapham.

Council further notes:

- That Lambeth Council's Welfare Rights Service identified significant flaws in the pilots of Universal Credit in parts of Lambeth that were published in its submission of evidence to the Department for Work and Pensions Select Committee in October 2017
- That this included that residents had experienced months of delays when trying to claim Universal Credit and when trying to resolve issues with underpayments caused by poor assessments.
- That residents have faced additional stress and financial problems, including significant rent arrears. 85% of tenants claiming Universal Credit were in arrears, while the figure

for tenants who aren't claiming Universal Credit is around 25% (reflecting similar increases seen in other parts of the country).

- That the impact on resources from local advice services, charities and to local and health authorities has been considerable in terms of increased time trying to resolve the problems and increased pressure on services resulting from the detrimental impact on claimant's health. The services have also found increasing numbers of people presenting in crisis with no income to meet their essential needs.
- That the Leader of the Council wrote to the Chancellor in November presenting this evidence and requesting a pause in the roll-out of Universal Credit – but has not received a response and the government has failed to act.

Council believes:

- That while appreciating the principle of simplifying the benefits system to help claimants, the actual design of the current system and implementation of Universal credit has been a disaster.
- That the purpose of piloting such a complex scheme should be to learn from the evidence and improve it, but the government has completely failed to listen to examples presented from across the country, including from Lambeth
- That the government should pause the roll-out of universal credit until it has fixed the significant problems that are causing misery for thousands of people across the country

Amendment 1: Councillor Scott Ainslie, Green Party

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Council resolves to:

- **Provide comprehensive advice and support to those who have faced benefit delays or errors as a result of Universal Credit.**
- **Ensure that no tenant is evicted and classed as 'intentionally homeless' due to rent arrears caused by Universal Credit errors.**

Motion 3: Councillor Scott Ainslie, Green (Not to be debated)

Single Use Plastics (Motion)

Council notes that 8 million metric tonnes of plastic waste pollutes the seas each year and that by 2050 the weight of plastic in the oceans is predicted to exceed that of fish, posing a risk to marine life and to human health.

It further notes that Single use plastic such as packaging makes up half the 300 million tons of plastic produced in the world. The introduction of a 5p bag charge has been effective in reducing single-use plastic (SUP).

Council resolves to play its part and commits to:

- making Lambeth Council a full signatory of the 'Plastic Free Pledge'
- become a 'single-use-plastic-free' authority by the end of April 2018, phasing out the purchase and procurement of SUPs through the Council's supply chain;
- end the sale and provision of SUP products such as bottles, cups, cutlery and drinking straws in council buildings, and work with tenants and operators in commercial properties owned by Lambeth Council to do the same at meetings and events;
- investigate the possibility of requiring pop-up food and drink vendors at council events to avoid SUPs as a condition of their contract;
- encourage the borough's businesses, organisations and residents to go 'single-use-plastic-free' working with best practice partners to explore the creation of a 'plastic free network,' providing business support, practical guidelines and advice to help local businesses transition from SUPs to sustainable alternatives.

Council commits to impose conditions relating to the use of SUPs on festival organisers using its parks and will actively encourage facilities' users, local businesses and other local public agencies to do the same.

Council will monitor its progress to improve on recycling waste from buildings and parks and help residents and visitors to use alternatives, such as re-filling bottles from taps.

Amendment 1: Labour

Single Use Plastics

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It further notes that Single use plastic such as packaging makes up half the 300 million tons of plastic produced in the world. The introduction of a 5p bag charge has been effective in reducing single-use plastic (SUP).

Council resolves to play its part and commits to **exploring**:

- making Lambeth Council a full signatory of the 'Plastic Free Pledge'
- **becoming** a 'single-use-plastic-free' authority by the end of April-2018, phasing out the purchase and procurement of SUPs through the Council's supply chain;
- **ending** the sale and provision of SUP products such as bottles, cups, cutlery and drinking straws in council buildings, and work with tenants and operators in commercial properties owned by Lambeth Council to do the same at meetings and events;
- **investigating** the possibility of requiring pop-up food and drink vendors at council events to avoid SUPs as a condition of their contract;
- **encouraging** the borough's businesses, organisations and residents to go 'single-use-plastic-free' working with best practice partners to explore the creation of a 'plastic free network,' providing business support, practical guidelines and advice to help local businesses transition from SUPs to sustainable alternatives.

Council commits to **exploring** conditions relating to the use of SUPs on festival organisers using its parks and will actively encourage facilities' users, local businesses and other local public agencies to do the same.

Council welcomes the progress made in increasing recycling rates since 2014 and resolves to continue to monitor its progress to improve on recycling waste from buildings and parks and help residents and visitors to use alternatives, such as re-filling bottles from taps.

Motion 4: Labour (Not to be debated)

Ending harassment of women, residents and staff at health centres

This council notes:

- That in recent years regular demonstrations have taken place outside Lambeth's three health clinics providing abortion services from Marie Stopes or BPAS in Waterloo, Brixton and Streatham.
- These protests often involve graphic imagery and false medical information that many women seeking to access services at this site, as well as residents in the area and staff working at the clinics, have found intimidating and distressing.

This council believes:

- That the right to protest and freedom of speech are important, and that there are strongly held views on both sides of the abortion debate.
- But no woman should face intimidation when seeking support from clinics offering abortion services as laid out in the Abortion Act 1967.
- That these protests are furthermore causing unwarranted distress to residents and staff working at these clinics.

This council resolves:

- To condemn the intimidation taking place at these sites, particularly those targeted at intimidating women seeking to use services at health clinics in Waterloo, Brixton and Streatham.
- To call on Lambeth to urgently explore every possible option and will take all necessary actions within its powers to prevent anti-abortion protestors from intimidating and harassing women and staff, as well as causing distress to Lambeth residents.
- To call on Lambeth to explore as part of its approach the implementation of a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) which can be used to ban protests within 100 metres of defined sites with fines of up to £1,000 if this area is breached.

Amendment 1: Councillor Tim Briggs

Ending harassment of women, residents and staff at health centres

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- These protests often involve graphic imagery and false medical information that many women seeking to access services at this site, as well as residents in the area and staff working at the clinics, have found intimidating and distressing.

This council believes:

- That the right to protest and freedom of speech are important **fundamental rights**, and that there are strongly held views on both sides of the abortion debate.
- **No peaceful protest or free expression or free assembly taking place within the requirements of law should be prevented by this council, including peaceful trade union protests**
- ~~But no~~ **No** woman should face intimidation when seeking support from clinics offering abortion services as laid out in the Abortion Act 1967.
- ~~That these p~~ **Protests** are furthermore causing unwarranted distress to residents and staff working at these clinics.

This council resolves:

- **To respect the European Convention of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, including Freedom of Expression (Article 10) and Freedom of Assembly and Association (Article 11), and to reassert our commitment to human rights enshrined in law**
- To condemn the intimidation taking place at these sites, particularly those targeted at intimidating women seeking to use services at health clinics in Waterloo, Brixton and Streatham.
- To call on Lambeth to urgently explore every possible option and ~~will~~ take all necessary actions within its powers to prevent ~~anti-abortion~~ protestors from intimidating and harassing ~~women and staff, as well as causing distress to Lambeth residents.~~ **anyone**

- ~~• To call on Lambeth to explore as part of its approach the implementation of a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) which can be used to ban protests within 100 metres of defined sites with fines of up to £1,000 if this area is breached.~~

Motion 5: Labour (Not to be debated)

Making Lambeth a greener, cleaner borough

This council notes the significant improvements implemented by the current Labour administration to make our borough a greener and cleaner place to live. This includes:

- Successfully lobbying for the introduction of a new clean air bus corridor along the A23 route that will reduce pollution from Transport for London (TfL) buses by an estimated 84 per cent.
- Improving cycling opportunities for residents by delivering more secure cycling storage spaces than any other borough, resurfacing 102 miles of public roads since 2014 and successfully lobbying for the installation of Santander bike docking stations this year in Brixton and Stockwell.
- Working with TfL to create new Quietways and over ten miles of new quieter and safer cycling routes in the borough
- Planting hundreds of trees across the borough, including those as part of the Our Streets programme in Streatham.
- Introducing a borough-wide 20mph speed limit to make our roads safer
- Introducing a tough new crackdown on anti-social behaviour crimes focused on keeping streets and estates free from fly tipping, littering and spitting which has seen more than 3,500 fines issued in 2017.
- Bringing forward safety improvements to dangerous junctions in Vauxhall, Stockwell, Tulse Hill and on Streatham High Road.
- Publishing an air quality action plan, committing us to deliver 59 specific actions to improve air quality in Lambeth
- Increasing recycling and maintained weekly bin collections
- Delivering a record 12 Green flags in Lambeth's parks and open spaces

To continue these improvements, council resolves to:

- Lobby the government to introduce a new Clean Air Act that develops a national approach to improving poor air quality throughout the country.
- Ensure Ministers enshrine current EU air quality protections in UK law after Brexit.
- Maintain pressure on the Secretary of State for Transport to honour his commitment to provide Lambeth with adequate funding to make further improvements to Lambeth's roads to benefit cyclists, road users and pedestrians.
- Lobby for the extension of Santander bike docking stations in the next four years further south into Lambeth.

Amendment 1: Councillor Tim Briggs, Conservative

Making Lambeth a greener, cleaner borough

This council notes the significant improvements implemented by **Transport for London (TfL), the Government, the previous Mayor of London and** the current Labour administration to make our borough a greener and cleaner place to live. This includes:

- ~~Successfully lobbying for the~~ The introduction of a new clean air bus corridor along the A23 route that will reduce pollution from ~~Transport for London (TfL)~~ buses by an estimated 84 per cent, **after years of Lambeth Council failing to tackle pollution on the A23**
- Improving cycling opportunities for residents by delivering more secure cycling storage spaces than any other borough **and ensuring that Cyclehoop hangars are installed despite huge delays**, resurfacing 102 miles of public roads **with TfL** since 2014 and successfully lobbying for the installation of Santander bike docking stations this year in Brixton and Stockwell,
- Working with TfL to create new Quietways and over ten miles of new quieter and safer cycling routes in the borough, **thanks to the plans of previous Conservative Mayor Boris Johnson now being implemented**
- Planting hundreds of trees across the borough, including those as part of the Our Streets programme in Streatham, **in order to mitigate the broken promises of Mayor Sadiq Khan to plant 2 million new trees across London when in reality no new trees at all have been funded**
- Introducing a borough-wide 20mph speed limit to make our roads safer, **and to end Lambeth Council's refusal to actually enforce the speed limit**
- Introducing a tough new crackdown on anti-social behaviour crimes focused on keeping streets and estates free from fly tipping, littering and spitting which has seen more than 3,500 fines issued in 2017 **by copy the 2016-17 Conservative alternative manifesto commitment to bring in more enforcement officers**
- **Asking TfL to bring** ~~Bringing~~ forward safety improvements to dangerous junctions in Vauxhall, Stockwell, Tulse Hill and on Streatham High Road.
- Publishing an air quality action plan, committing us to deliver 59 specific actions to improve air quality ~~in~~ **after Lambeth was found in November 2017 to be the second worst borough in London for air pollution**
- Increasing recycling and maintained weekly bin collections, **noting that Lambeth is an appalling 318 out of 350 English councils for its total household waste recycling, composting and reuse rate from April 2016 to March 2017**
- Delivering a record 12 Green flags in Lambeth's parks and open spaces, **whilst noting that the council made a loss to residents of £485,000 this year staging outdoor events**

To continue these improvements, council resolves to:

- Lobby the government to introduce **legislation for actually a new Clean Air Act that develops a national approach to** improving poor air quality throughout the country.
- **Congratulate the Conservative Government for 2017 seeing the first full day without coal power since the Industrial Revolution, and breaking 13 clean energy records**
- ~~Ensure Minister~~ **Note that the Government has said it will** enshrine current EU air quality protections in UK law after Brexit.
- ~~Maintain pressure on~~ **Ask** the Secretary of State for Transport to ~~honour his commitment to~~ provide Lambeth with adequate **even more** funding to make further improvements to Lambeth's roads to benefit cyclists, road users and pedestrians.

Lobby **Labour Mayor Khan** for the extension of Santander bike docking stations in the next four years further south into Lambeth, **in the hope that despite the Mayor now having broken 6 of his election promises he will actually implement a commitment on Santander bikes**

Amendment 2: Councillor Scott Ainslie, Green Party

Making Lambeth a greener, cleaner borough

This council notes the ~~significant~~ improvements implemented by the current Labour administration to make our borough a greener and cleaner place to live, **recognises also the role that community groups and the Green Party have played, and that the Council needs to do much more.** This includes:

- Successfully lobbying for the introduction of a new clean air bus corridor along the A23 route that will reduce pollution from Transport for London (TfL) buses by an estimated 84 per cent.
- Improving cycling opportunities for residents by delivering more secure cycling storage spaces than any other borough, resurfacing 102 miles of public roads since 2014 and successfully lobbying for the installation of Santander bike docking stations this year in Brixton and **Stockwell, but also noting that much of the money (although the Council cannot provide an exact figure) spent on road resurfacing came from the destruction and sell off of housing co-ops across the borough.**
- Working with TfL to create new Quietways and over ten miles of new quieter and safer cycling routes in the borough
- Planting hundreds of trees across the borough, including those as part of the Our Streets programme in Streatham, **but acknowledging the work of community groups who formulated a bid to the Mayor of London's Street Tree fund for more trees for Lambeth and that Our Streets money that should have gone to Streatham was spent instead on the ward represented by the leader of Lambeth Council.**
- Introducing a borough-wide 20mph speed limit to make our roads safer, **while recognizing that the 20mph borough wide limit is still not borough-wide, that a number of roads in the borough which are under local authority control still aren't 20mph, including the section of Mitcham Lane outside St Leonard's Primary School in Streatham. Recognising also that the proposal for a 20mph borough-wide limit was raised by Green councilor Rebecca Thackray in 2006, that Roads have been made 20mph in Lambeth after campaigning by :Lambeth Green Party and the national 20's plenty campaign of which Green Party leader Jonathan Bartley was the official representative in Lambeth. Council further notes that when the Green Party tabled a motion setting a timetable for its implementation, Labour voted against it.**
- Introducing a tough new crackdown on anti-social behaviour crimes focused on keeping streets and estates free from fly tipping, littering and spitting which has seen more than 3,500 fines issued in 2017 **while noting that Lambeth Labour is playing politics with fly-tipping to mask how little has actually been done, claiming thousands of fines have been issued for fly-tipping when actually just 35 have been issued for serious fly-tipping.**
- Bringing forward safety improvements to dangerous junctions in Vauxhall, Stockwell, Tulse Hill and on Streatham High Road. **noting that it was the Green Party that won a review from TfL of both the St Leonard's Junction and junction of Mitcham Lane and Ambleside avenue in Streatham, working with local residents including parents and teachers at St Leonard's primary school, including petitions presented to the London Mayor in 2012 and 2013, and meetings with TfL staff, which has led to the improvements at these junctions.**
- Publishing an air quality action plan, committing us to deliver 59 specific actions to improve air quality in Lambeth, **but noting that Lambeth Council was called to**

account by the Green Party failing to produce an annual air pollution plan in 2014 and then taking its air pollution monitors offline to save money, that Lambeth Council refuses to end its incineration of waste which pumps pollution into the air in Lambeth as well as other boroughs and that after a promise from the Council to clamp down on engine idling not one fine was issued by Lambeth Council. Council further notes that Lambeth Labour voted against a motion tabled by the Green Party to put cheap diffusion tubes outside Lambeth schools to measure air pollution.

- Increasing recycling by a paucity amount and maintained weekly bin collections, Council notes that Lambeth's recycling rate in 2010 was 27%. It set a target for itself to recycle 50% of waste by 2017/18 in its waste strategy <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/rr-lambeth-waste-strategy.pdf> but it in fact has an annual rate of just 28.8% according to official figures <http://www.lwarb.gov.uk/londons-recycling-rate-increases-201617/> Council further notes that Lambeth ranks in 21st place among London boroughs for recycling. Council further notes the report by the London Assembly in 2011 which attributes low recycling rates like those in Lambeth to a failure of political leadership. Council also notes that Lambeth Council was caught by the Green Party trying to artificially boost its recycling figures in 2014 to cover up its failure, by including the residue for its dirty, polluting waste incineration, which is used to build roads. Council notes that this was covered by the BBC and earned a rebuke by the Mayor of London. Council further notes that Lambeth Labour have played politics with waste collection falsely telling local people that the Green Party would cut bin collections in Lambeth, when the Green Party is committed to maintaining them. Council further notes that Lambeth Council has just spent tens of thousands of pounds putting new black bins on streets throughout the borough, none of which have recycling facilities.
- Delivering a record 12 Green flags in Lambeth's parks and open spaces but noting that Lambeth's Park's and Green spaces are being exploited for profit by the Council, and local people are not being properly consulted about what happens to them.
- Recognising that "The People's Plan" by residents at Cressingham Gardens, who had secured an Urban Community Energy Fund (UCEF) Green retrofit feasibility grant, as they wanted their estate to be greener in addition to having more truly affordable housing, has been ignored by Lambeth Council and breaking a promise by the council leader who publicly promised to abide by the wishes of the residents.

Council will:

- Lobby the government to introduce a new Clean Air Act that develops a national approach to improving poor air quality throughout the country.
- Ensure Ministers enshrine current EU air quality protections in UK law after Brexit.
- Stop its support for Brexit and oppose Brexit but also Lobby Ministers to enshrine current EU air quality protections in UK law should Brexit occur.
- Maintain pressure on the Secretary of State for Transport to honour his commitment to provide Lambeth with adequate funding to make further improvements to Lambeth's roads to benefit cyclists, road users and pedestrians.
- Lobby for the extension of Santander bike docking stations in the next four years further south into Lambeth.
- Lobby TfL and the Mayor of London to extend the ultra low emission zone to Streatham.

- **Introduce a 20mph hour limit on all roads controlled by Lambeth Council, including the section of Mitcham Lane around St Leonard's primary school in Streatham.**
 - **Stop misrepresenting recycling and fly-tipping statistics.**
 - **Lobby the Mayor of London for a 20mph limit on Streatham High Road**
 - **Issue penalty notices for engine idling**
 - **End its incineration of waste**
 - **Clean up Lambeth Council's own vehicle fleet.**
 - **Change its decision on Cressingham Gardens and respect the wishes of the residents and their retrofit plan for a greener estate with more homes at Council Rent Levels.**
 - **Protect Lambeth's parks and Green spaces from commercial interests**
-