

**LONDON BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON**  
**COUNCIL MEETING - 28 FEBRUARY 2019**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

At the meeting of the Council held at Council Chamber, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 28 February 2019 at 7.30 pm.

**Present:**

Bell-Bradford	Gill	O'Sullivan
Burgess	Graham	Picknell
Caluori	Hamitouche	Poole
Champion	Heather	Poyser
Chapman	Hull	Russell
Chowdhury	Ismail	Shaikh
Clarke	Jeapes	Smith
A Clarke-Perry	Khondoker	Turan
Comer-Schwartz	Khurana	Ward
Convery	Klute	Watts
Cutler	Lukes	Wayne
Debono	Mackmurdie	Webbe
Fletcher	Nathan	Williamson
Gallagher	Ngongo	Woodbyrne
Gantly	O'Halloran	

**The Mayor (Councillor Dave Poyser) in the Chair**

**41 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 December 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and the Mayor be authorised to sign them.

**42 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

## **43 MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **(i) Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Kay, Spall and Woolf. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Woodbyrne. The Mayor noted that Cllr Hyde was not present as she was on maternity leave.

### **(ii) Order of Business**

The Mayor advised that Item 11, Resolution to Extend the 6 Month Rule, had been withdrawn.

### **(iii) Declaration of Discussion Items**

None.

### **(iv) Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the first Full Council meeting of 2019.

The Mayor was honoured to take part in events to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The Mayor had attended a very moving event in Islington Assembly Hall which was well attended by the local community, local councillors, Jeremy Corbyn MP and Emily Thornberry MP. The Mayor had also attended an event at City Hall with Councillor Kay and Mayors from across London to hear the poignant contributions of holocaust survivors.

The Mayor said that homelessness is an important issue and that he had recently spent an evening at the CARIS Cold Weather Night Shelter helping the volunteers. He had also volunteered overnight in a personal capacity. The Mayor was also pleased to encourage and help the Streets Kitchen volunteers on Christmas Day, who served Christmas dinner to homeless people in the Assembly Hall.

The Mayor was pleased to attend the topping out ceremony for 55 genuinely affordable new council homes on the Redbrick Estate with Councillor Graham. The developers had presented the Mayor with a ceremonial trowel which was on display in the Mayor's Parlour.

The Mayor had accompanied the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive at the London Government Dinner at Mansion House. The event was hosted by the Lord Mayor of London and attended by senior figures in local government from across London. The Mayor said that London faces serious challenges, but hoped that these could be addressed through co-operation and collaboration with neighbouring boroughs.

The Mayor had attended several excellent events to celebrate LGBT History Month. The Mayor had attended the opening event with Councillor Chapman, and had also

met with Frank Mugisha, the Director of Sexual Minorities Uganda, who had attended the Pride exhibition at Islington Museum. The Mayor was proud of Islington's rich LGBT history; Islington had the first openly gay Mayor, the first openly gay MP, and the first trans Councillor. Britain's first gay marriage was held in the Council Chamber. The Mayor thanked everyone who had contributed to the programme of activities as part of LGBT History Month.

The Mayor had also attended several cultural activities, including Chinese New Year celebrations and Mother Tongue Language Day.

The Mayor congratulated the new Young Mayor, Lydia Banjo, Deputy Young Mayor, Arkan Ali Akiil, and Member of Youth Parliament, Abubakar Finiin on their election. The Mayor looked forward to working with them in future.

The Mayor reminded councillors that the annual Mayor's Civic Awards ceremony would be held on Thursday 14 March 2019.

#### **44 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Leader noted that it was the first meeting of the Council since the murder of teenager Nedim Bilgin on Caledonian Road on 29<sup>th</sup> January. The Leader said that any loss of life due to senseless violence is an absolute tragedy and should serve to toughen our resolve to address this scourge on our city and our society. The incident had shocked the community and the Leader fully understood the concerns of local residents. The Leader and Cllr Caluori had met with Nedim Bilgin's mother earlier the same week. The Leader said that meeting the parents of young people who had lost their lives was one of the toughest and most humbling parts of his job.

The Leader wanted to provide assurance that, despite the massive cuts the council had faced after years of pernicious austerity, the council was working hard to make our communities safer and would never stop doing so. The Leader also wanted to make clear that the council understood the deep unfairness at the heart of youth crime. Youth crime must be seen through the prism of the deep unfairness in society and the lack of opportunity that affected so many in the local community. Fundamentally, youth crime was a fairness issue as much as it was an issue of law enforcement.

The Leader said that the Council would always stand shoulder to shoulder with any community suffering from hate and intolerance and stood against hate crime in all of its forms. A shocking and disgusting anti-semitic attack took place on Highbury Corner on Tuesday of this week which the Police were treating as a hate crime. The Leader said that Islington was united in standing against hate. The Leader thanked all of the community representatives and councillors who co-signed the statement issued to condone the attack and reaffirmed the Council's commitment to stand against hate crime. The Leader was concerned about the rising tide of hate and intolerance across the country and the world. The standard of public debate often reflected this and too often the national political rhetoric was translated by people on the ground into violence. The Leader said that it was important to be very clear that

all of us in Islington stood on a platform of community inclusion and of all of Islington's communities were welcome in the borough.

The Leader was proud that at the end of January the council hosted a powerful, informative and deeply moving holocaust remembrance event in the Assembly Hall. This was attended by both of the local MPs, councillors and children from schools from across the borough. Those present had heard the powerful and harrowing words of holocaust survivor Harry Spiro, read movingly by his daughter, Tracey Moses. Attending the event every year was a reminder of how important it was for the council to commit to fighting anti-semitism, islamophobia and all other forms of hate crime and racism.

The Leader was proud to announce that Islington Council was one of the first boroughs to adopt the new formal definition of Islamophobia proposed by the All Party Parliamentary Group on British Muslims. This defined Islamophobia as follows:

"Islamophobia is rooted in racism and is a type of racism that targets expressions of Muslimness or perceived Muslimness."

The Council had spoken with representatives of the Muslim community and believed that defining islamophobia was useful in helping to understand it. The Leader hoped that the working definition would help to challenge bigotry, hatred and discrimination in the community and help to understand the challenges faced by Muslims in society. The terrorist attack committed by Darren Osbourne outside Muslim Welfare House affected the whole community, but it was Muslims who were the specific target of that attack. The Leader was proud of how Islington's communities came together in the hours and days after the attack and rallied round to make it clear that Islington was welcoming to all. By adopting this definition, the Council was putting on record that it would not stand for anti-muslim hatred.

The Leader welcomed campaigners from Fossil Free Islington to the meeting and noted that Councillor Webbe had already spoken to the campaigners to reiterate that the Council absolutely agreed that the chaos enveloping our climate was an emergency and that the Council would pass a motion on the issue at the first available opportunity. The Leader thanked Fossil Free Islington for their campaigning and said that they would always be welcome in the Chamber. The Leader also thanked Councillor Webbe for the leadership she was showing on this issue.

The Leader thanked Councillor Joe Caluori, who was standing down as the Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families after six years in the role. Councillor Caluori had overseen the incredible transformation of Islington's school performance, campaigned on issues such as county lines drug dealing and exploitation, and had overseen significant changes to the council's youth services and the integrated gangs team. Islington's children's services had also received two very impressive Ofsted reports during Councillor Caluori's time in office. The Leader wished Councillor Caluori the best of luck in his new role and thanked him for all he had done as Executive Member.

The Leader was delighted to welcome Councillor O'Halloran as the Executive Member for Community Development. The Leader said that Councillor O'Halloran had been a fantastic Mayor and Chair of Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee and he looked forward to working with her.

The Leader was also delighted to confirm that Councillor Comer-Schwartz would become the Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families. The Leader said that Councillor Comer-Schwartz had done a great job as the Executive Member for Community Development and was delighted that she had agreed to take on the Children, Young People and Families portfolio. The portfolio covered the very important issues of youth crime, school standards and making sure Islington's most vulnerable young people stayed safe. The Leader looked forward to working with Councillor Comer-Schwartz in addressing those issues.

#### **45 PETITIONS**

Nathalie Sowden presented a petition requesting the council to support the Youth Strike for Climate.

#### **46 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Question a) from Sebastian Sandys to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council:

What plans do the Council have this year to shine even more light on your work and decision making and to encourage and enable resident participation in that work? For example, would you agree to a pilot scheme to live stream meetings of key committees?

Response:

Thank you for your question Sebastian and thank you for your recognition in your question that we are trying to do our best to make local democracy and decision-making more open and transparent. Everything from Ward Partnerships, to encouraging questions from the floor at Council meetings, agreeing to your request to allow questions at the Budget meeting, and the Leader's Question Time events that are held across the borough shows we are an open and listening Council. We are going to do much more of that over the next year, there will be further Leader's Question Time events, we are going to support councillors to hold Ward Partnerships that involve more than just the usual suspects, we are taking advantage of the power of social media to offer two-way communication between the council and residents by responding to issues that are reported to us and actively encourage people to take part in consultations via online methods.

We should also recognise that people in Islington have far more opportunities to engage in Council meetings than people living in other boroughs do. I am often asked by colleagues elsewhere, why did you change the rules in 2014 to allow people to ask questions without notice? Because they think we are mad to have done so.

In terms of webcasting of Council meetings, I don't think that's a silver bullet that will ignite an unstoppable wave of civic activism and engagement. We did actually try this a decade ago; this year marks the tenth anniversary of the council last trying to webcast meetings. Over time fewer and fewer people watched these videos, despite them being well publicised, and at a cost of tens of thousands of pounds. The technology has got cheaper since then, but in costing out your suggestion, it would still cost around £25,000 to webcast meetings.

To be honest, and with the greatest respect to you, given that we have never had any other member of the public request this, I don't think there is a massive demand for it. However, if there ever is public demand for this, we will continue to look at it.

#### **47 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

Question a) from Cllr Convery to Cllr Webbe, Executive Member for Environment and Transport:

Please will your team re-consider the location of communal recycling bins on the Bemerton Estate?

Response:

Thank you for your question. As you know, we are absolutely committed to protecting our environment and I am pleased that our efforts have led to recycling rates in Islington being above those in other Inner London boroughs. We of course must continue to increase our recycling rates, and I would welcome your help, and that of other councillors as community champions, in achieving this. The changes to recycling on council estates in our borough, from door to door collections to communal recycling, were created and delivered by working very closely with residents; including our tenants, management organisations and associations. As a council, we routinely review our communal recycling bin locations and to consider any current issues and where necessary explore solutions to help make recycling easier and more convenient for local people. What I would ask you to do Councillor Convery is to send me details of your specific request about the recycling bins on the Bemerton Estate. I am sure that this can be considered as part of our review. I would want to ensure that before any changes are made to existing refuse infrastructure that ward councillors are consulted on any new arrangements. Thank you again for your question.

Question b) from Councillor Clarke to Councillor Webbe, Executive Member for Environment and Transport:

The Biodiversity action plan is a very welcome initiative by the council and a positive move towards protecting wildlife and biodiversity in Islington. I am proud that most of our parks and many estate green spaces are maintained by our wonderful Grounds Maintenance Service and in some of our parks this is carried out by local residents. I note that Croydon Council will end the use of glyphosate in all its public parks and green spaces as of February 2019. The council plan to train staff in new techniques

and explore feasible non-chemical options. Would Cllr Webbe consider meeting with the relevant councillors on Croydon council with a view to finding out how they are managing this and investigating the possibility of moving Islington Council towards being pesticide free?

Response:

Thank you for your question. Can I start by echoing your comments about the fantastic work that Islington Council does with local residents to look after the green spaces in our borough. Islington Council is committed to reducing the use of pesticides wherever possible and practical. The council is constantly reviewing the market to identify and test alternative methods of weed control as they become available. We are already using new methods of weed control to reduce the amount of pesticide we use. However, there is not currently a cost effective and practical alternative to glyphosate that allows us to go completely pesticide free. However, this year Street Environment Services will use a new application method that applies herbicide using computer controlled spot weeding. The system consists of a shrouded spray head on a purpose built vehicle, and within the shrouded head are sensor units and the spray nozzle. The sensor units detect the presence of weeds and trigger the appropriate spray nozzles to accurately provide the correct amount of herbicide, just to those weeds. This results in very high levels of weed control coupled with reduced herbicide usage. We estimate a 60% reduction on previous years and this will offer greater safety to the operator and public alike. Our staff are working hard on an integrated pesticide reduction plan which provides a framework for how the borough will reduce its pesticide use. I will ensure that officers send this to you, and if necessary we can arrange a meeting, to work towards a pesticide free Islington.

Question c) from Councillor Russell to Councillor Webbe, Executive Member for Environment and Transport:

Islington's current Local Implementation Plan 2011-2031 has a target to reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured on the road in Islington by 21.6% by 2013, and by 38.4% by 2020 compared against the 2006-2008 average baseline. In 2016 the police reporting system was changed to tackle previous inconsistency in reporting and earlier data has been backcast to be comparable with current data. What is the back cast value for the 2006 - 2008 baseline of 89 people KSI?

Response:

Thank you for your question. Islington Council is committed to making Islington a safer place for pedestrians and cyclists. Over the last few years, we have taken significant steps to reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured on the road in Islington. As you know, are committed to the Vision Zero agenda, which aims to eliminate all deaths and serious injuries on the road. These steps include becoming the first borough to pioneer a blanket 20mph speed limit on its own road and prioritising the transformation of key transport intersections and junctions, like Archway Gyratory, and others to come at Highbury Corner and Old Street. Together

with the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, we will continue to pursue pedestrian and public realm improvements to create safer space for pedestrians and cyclists.

I welcome the Mayor's Transport Strategy, published last year, and its ambitious policies and proposals for London, including, as I indicated, his commitment to achieve 'Vision Zero'. In response to the Mayor's strategy, the Council is preparing its own Transport Strategy, which will set the strategic transport vision for Islington for the period 2019-2041. A key objective of that strategy will, of course, be to reduce road dangers and ensure fewer people will be injured or killed on Islington's streets. The revised baseline that you requested for 2006-8 data is 165 Killed and Seriously Injured on the road. Thank you for your question.

Question d) from Councillor Russell to Councillor Webbe, Executive Member for Environment and Transport:

How did Islington perform against the Local Implementation Plan target of reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on the road by 21.6% by 2013, and will you meet the 2020 target for a 38.4% reduction against the baseline?

Response:

Thank you again, I see this follows on from your first question. In 2013, Islington Council achieved a 20.2% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured on the road. In December 2017, that reduction stood at 24.2%. I therefore re-iterate Islington Labour's commitment to continue to make our streets safer for everyone. We will continue our work to deliver on this commitment and meet the 2020 target. We don't yet have figures for 2018, but I'm happy to pass that on to you when we have that data. Our commitment is to work towards zero, an elimination of all deaths on roads and streets in Islington. Thank you for the question.

#### **48 COUNCIL SIZE SUBMISSION TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND**

Councillor Watts moved the recommendations in the report. Councillor Russell seconded. The recommendations in the report were put to the vote and **CARRIED**.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the Council size submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, to be taken into account in the Commission's review of Islington's electoral arrangements, be approved.

**49 GAMBLING POLICY 2019-2022**

Councillor Comer-Schwartz moved the recommendations in the report. Councillor Gill seconded. The recommendations in the report were put to the vote and **CARRIED**.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the draft Gambling Policy 2019-2022, Appendix A of the report submitted, be approved.
- (ii) That the council will not issue any casino licences in the period 2019 – 2022 be agreed.

**50 ISLINGTON COUNCIL'S FIRST ANNUAL REPORT ON TACKLING MODERN SLAVERY**

Councillor Hull moved the recommendations in the report. Councillor Debono seconded. Councillor Russell contributed to the debate. Councillor Hull exercised his right of reply. The recommendations in the report were put to the vote and **CARRIED**.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the collaborative work done across the Council and with its partners to combat modern slavery be noted.
- (ii) That the specific work completed to date regarding the Council's supply chain and implementation of the Charter be noted.
- (iii) That he proposals, detailed in Part C of this report, to develop further the Council's response to the Charter, be agreed.

**51 CHIEF WHIP'S REPORT**

Councillor Gill moved the recommendations in the report. Councillor Hamitouche seconded. The recommendations in the report were put to the vote and **CARRIED**.

**RESOLVED:**

**Executive Appointments**

- (i) That Cllr Comer-Schwartz has been appointed as the Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families from 1st March 2019, be noted;
- (ii) That Cllr O'Halloran has been appointed as the Executive Member for Community Development from 1st March 2019, be noted;

- (iii) That the Executive Member portfolios, set out at Appendix A, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019, be noted.

### **Committee Appointments**

- (iv) That Cllr Comer-Schwartz be appointed to the Health and Wellbeing Board from 1st March 2019 for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (v) That Cllr O'Halloran be appointed as a substitute member of the Health and Wellbeing Board from 1st March 2019 for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (vi) That Katharine Willmette, Director of Adult Social Care (Operations), be appointed to the Health and Wellbeing Board from 4th March 2019 for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (vii) That Cllr Comer-Schwartz be appointed to the Haringey and Islington Health and Wellbeing Boards Joint Sub-Committee from 1st March 2019 for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (viii) That Cllr O'Halloran be appointed as a substitute member of the Haringey and Islington Health and Wellbeing Boards Joint Sub-Committee from 1st March 2019 for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (ix) That Katharine Willmette, Director of Adult Social Care (Operations) be appointed to the Haringey and Islington Health and Wellbeing Boards Joint Sub-Committee from 4th March 2019 for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (x) That Cllr Champion be appointed as Chair of the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee from 1st March 2019 for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xi) That Cllr Khondoker be appointed as a member of the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee with immediate effect for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xii) That Cllr Champion be appointed as a member of the Audit Committee on 1st March 2019 for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xiii) That Cllr Khondoker be appointed as a member of the Housing Scrutiny Committee on 1st March 2019 for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.

- (xiv) That Cllr Convery be appointed as a member of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee with immediate effect for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xv) That Cllr Spall be appointed as a member of the Planning Committee with immediate effect for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xvi) That Cllrs Gill, Burgess, Spall, Poole and Bell-Bradford be appointed to the Grievance Committee with immediate effect for the remainder of the municipal year or until successors are appointed.
- (xvii) That Cllr Gill be appointed as the Chair of the Grievance Committee with immediate effect for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xviii) That Cllr Burgess is appointed to the Grievance Committee due to her role as the Deputy Leader of the Council be noted.
- (xix) That Cllrs Turan, Ward, Lukes, Caluori and Ismail be appointed to the Grievance Appeal Committee with immediate effect for the remainder of the municipal year or until successors are appointed.
- (xx) That Cllr Turan be appointed as Chair of the Grievance Appeal Committee with immediate effect for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xxi) That Cllr Ward is appointed to the Grievance Appeal Committee due to his role as the Executive Member for Housing and Development be noted.
- (xxii) That Cllrs Wayne, Hull, O'Halloran, Champion and Kay be appointed to the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee with immediate effect for the remainder of the municipal year or until successors are appointed.
- (xxiii) That Cllr Wayne be appointed as Chair of the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee with immediate effect for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xxiv) That Cllr Hull is appointed to the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee due to his role as the Executive Member for Finance, Performance and Community Safety be noted.
- (xxv) That Cllrs Hamitouche, Webbe, Cutler, Klute and Graham be appointed to the Disciplinary Appeal Committee with immediate effect for the remainder of the municipal year or until successors are appointed.

- (xxvi) That Cllr Hamitouche be appointed as Chair of the Disciplinary Appeal Committee with immediate effect for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xxvii) That Cllr Webbe is appointed to the Disciplinary Appeal Committee due to her role as the Executive Member for Environment and Transport be agreed.

### **Outside body appointments**

- (xxviii) That Cllr Comer-Schwartz be appointed as a member and the Chair of the Corporate Parenting Board from 1st March 2019 for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xxix) That Cllr Comer-Schwartz be appointed as a member and the Chair of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education on 1st March 2019 for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xxx) That Cllr Comer-Schwartz be appointed to the Dame Alice Owens School Foundation Advisory Committee until May 2019, or until a successor is appointed.
- (xxxi) That Cllr O'Halloran be appointed to the Islington Community Covenant Grant Schemes Panel for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xxxii) That Cllr O'Halloran be appointed to the Islington Community Chest Panel for the remainder of the municipal year or until a successor is appointed.
- (xxxiii) That Denise Ward be re-appointed to the Board of Cloudesley Charity for a four year term.

### **Constitution Amendments**

- (xxxiv) That Part 5 of the Council's Constitution be amended to insert the terms of reference of the Grievance Committee, Grievance Appeal Committee, Investigating and Disciplinary Committee, and Disciplinary Appeal Committee, set out at Appendix B.
- (xxxv) That Part 5 of the Council's Constitution be amended to revise the composition of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee, as set out at Appendix B.

### **Receiving officer**

- (xxxvi) That it be confirmed that the Assistant Director, Corporate and Dispute Resolution and Deputy Monitoring Officer is authorised to commission to act as the Receiving Officer an appropriate chief officer, or a Monitoring Officer from a neighbouring authority.

### **Independent Panel**

- (xxxvii) That the requirement to establish an Independent Panel in the event of the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee making a recommendation to dismiss be noted.
- (xxxviii) That the appointment of three independent persons to the Panel in accordance with the requirements in paragraph 1.2.4 of Model Disciplinary Procedure And Guidance – England contained within the Chief Executive Handbook, be agreed.
- (xxxix) That authority be delegated to the Democratic Services Manager to convene the panel as required and to arrange appropriate training to those independent persons who will participate in the panel.

## **52 BUDGET PROPOSALS 2019-20+**

Councillor Hull moved the recommendations in the report. Councillor Watts seconded.

Councillor Russell moved an amendment.

Councillors Heather, Clarke, Khondoker, Cutler and Burgess contributed to the debate.

Councillors Russell and Hull exercised their right to reply.

The amendment was put to the vote. Voting was recorded as follows:

**For:** Councillor Russell

**Against:** Councillors Bell-Bradford, Burgess, Caluori, Champion, Chapman, Chowdhury, Clarke, Comer-Schwartz, Convery, Cutler, Debono, Fletcher, Gallagher, Gantly, Gill, Graham, Hamitouche, Heather, Hull, Ismail, Jeapes, Khondoker, Khurana, Klute, Lukes, Mackmurdie, Nathan, Ngongo, O'Halloran, O'Sullivan, Picknell, Poole, Poyser, Shaikh, Smith, Turan, Ward, Watts, Wayne, Webbe, Williamson, Woodbyrne.

The amendment was **LOST**.

The recommendation in the report were put to the vote. Voting was recorded as follows:

**For:** Councillors Bell-Bradford, Burgess, Caluori, Champion, Chapman, Chowdhury, Clarke, Comer-Schwartz, Convery, Cutler, Debono, Fletcher, Gallagher, Gantly, Gill, Graham, Hamitouche, Heather, Hull, Ismail, Jeapes, Khondoker, Khurana, Klute, Lukes, Mackmurdie, Nathan, Ngongo, O'Halloran, O'Sullivan, Picknell, Poole, Poyser, Shaikh, Smith, Turan, Ward, Watts, Wayne, Webbe, Williamson, Woodbyrne.

**Abstention:** Councillor Russell

The recommendations were **CARRIED**.

**RESOLVED:**

**General Fund Budget 2019-20 and MTFS (Section 3 of the Main Report)**

1. That the 2019-20 net Council cash limits as set out in Table 1, paragraph 3.7 of the report, and the MTFS at Appendix A of the report, which include the 2019-22 revenue savings at Appendix B of the report, and the 2019-20 revenue growth proposal at paragraph 3.6 of the report, be agreed.
2. That the Council should strongly oppose Government proposals in the 'Review of Local Authorities' Relative Needs and Resources Consultation' to remove deprivation indicators from the baseline grant formula, which would significantly disadvantage high-need boroughs such as Islington, and the other key elements of the Council's response as set out in paragraphs 3.9-3.10 of the report, be agreed.
3. That the fees and charges policy be noted and the 2019-20 fees and charges, paragraphs 3.12-3.13 and Appendices C1 - C3 of the report, be agreed.
4. That the estimated use of the Council's earmarked budget reserves (including the creation of a new Transformation Reserve), the Council's policy on the level of General Fund balances, with an increase in General Fund balances of £2m in 2019-20, and an increase in the ongoing contingency budget of £3m in 2019-20, as set out at paragraphs 3.14-3.17 and Table 2 of the report, be agreed.

**HRA Budget and MTFS (Section 4 of the Main Report)**

5. That the balanced HRA 2019-20 budget, including savings and growth proposals, within the HRA MTFS, at Tables 4-5 and Appendix D1 of the report be agreed.
6. That the 2019-20 HRA rents, fees and charges, agreed by Executive on 17 January 2019, Tables 6-9 and Appendix D2 of the report, be noted.

**Capital Programme 2019-22 (Section 5 of the Main Report)**

7. That the 2019-20 capital programme, paragraph 5.1, Table 10 and Appendix E1 of the report, be agreed and the provisional programme for 2020-22, paragraph 5.1, Table 10 and Appendix E1 of the report, be noted.
8. That the Capital Strategy 2019-22, which includes affordability prudential indicators and the minimum revenue provision (MRP) policy, paragraph 5.2 and

Appendix E1 of the report, be agreed.

9. That the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2019-20 (including external debt and treasury management Prudential Indicators), as considered by Audit Committee on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019, paragraph 5.2 and Appendix E2 of the report, be agreed.
10. That the Strategy for Other Investments (including Commercial Investments) 2019-20, paragraph 5.3 and Appendix E3 of the report, be agreed.

**Council Tax and Retained Business Rates (Section 6 of the Main Report)**

11. That the calculations required for the determination of the 2019-20 council tax requirement and the level of council tax as detailed in Section 6 of the report and summarised below, be agreed:
  - 1) The 2019-20 council tax requirement of £92,993,961.91, paragraph 6.2 of the report.
  - 2) The relevant basic amount of Islington Band D council tax of £1,169.38, a 2.99% increase compared to 2018-19, and to determine that this is not 'excessive', paragraphs 6.3 and 6.4 of the report.
  - 3) The basic amount of Islington Band D council tax for dwellings to which no special item relates (i.e. outside of the Lloyd Square Garden Committee area) of £1,169.16 and total Band D council tax (including the GLA precept) of £1,489.67, paragraphs 6.5 and 6.9 of the report.
  - 4) The amount of 2019-20 council tax (excluding the GLA precept) for each valuation band over each of the Council's areas, paragraph 6.7 of the report.
  - 5) The total amount of 2019-20 council tax (including the GLA precept) for each valuation band over each of the Council's areas, paragraph 6.9 of the report.
12. That in relation to the Council's proposed participation in the second year of the London Business Rates Pilot Pool, paragraphs 6.10 to 6.14 of the report, the following be agreed:
  - 1) That the designation by the Secretary of State as an authority within the London Business Rates Pilot Pool pursuant to 34(7) (1) of Schedule 7B Local Government Finance Act 1988 be accepted and approved.
  - 2) That participation in the London Business Rates Pilot Pool with effect from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, be agreed.

- 3) That the authority's administrative functions as a billing authority pursuant to the Non-Domestic Rating (Rates Retention) Regulations 2013 be delegated to the City of London Corporation acting as the Lead Authority, be agreed.
- 4) That the Lead Authority be authorised to sub-contract certain ancillary administrative functions regarding the financial transactions (payment of tariffs and top-ups) within the Pool to the GLA as it considers expedient, be agreed.
- 5) That authority be delegated to the Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance, Performance and Community Safety, to agree the operational details of the pooling arrangements with the participating authorities, be agreed.
- 6) That authority be delegated to the Section 151 Officer to make any amendments to the Memorandum of Understanding, at Appendix F to the report, as may be required by the Secretary of State, and to enter into the final Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the authority, be agreed.
- 7) That the Leader of the Council be authorised to represent the authority in relation to consultations regarding the London Business Rates Pilot Pool as may be undertaken by the Lead Authority pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding, be agreed.
- 8) That authority be delegated to the Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance, Performance and Community Safety, to consider such consultative reports as the Lead Authority may circulate and to respond on behalf of the authority with regard to any recommendations and, in particular, proposals for projects to be approved for funding from the Strategic Investment Pot, be agreed.
- 9) That the Lead Authority be delegated the functions of assessment, due consultation and approval of projects eligible for funding from the Pool's Strategic Investment Pot following consultation with the participating authorities (provided that at least two thirds of such participating London Boroughs are (including the City of London Corporation) in favour of the relevant recommendation as well as the Mayor of London, and that no entire sub-region is in disagreement with the decision) on such terms and conditions as shall ensure value for money and compliance with the law, be agreed.

**Matters to Consider in Setting the Budget (Section 7 of the Main Report)**

13. That the Section 151 Officer's and the Monitoring Officer's comments in their determination of the revenue and capital budgets for 2019-20 and the basis for

the level of council tax, including the Section 151 Officer's report in relation to his responsibilities under Section 25 (2) of the Local Government Act 2003, be noted.

14. That the Resident Impact Assessment (RIA) on the 2019-22 budget proposals, Appendix G of the report, be noted.
15. That the Annual Pay Policy Statement for 2019-20, Appendix H of the report, be agreed.
16. That authority be delegated to the Service Director Financial and Asset Management (acting Section 151 Officer), in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance, Performance and Community Safety, to make any changes to the budget proposals contained within the report that are necessitated by the final GLA precept, be agreed.

The meeting closed at 9:00pm

**MAYOR**