

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN
COUNCIL MEETING – 17TH JULY 2023

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

1. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Gio Spinella and which was seconded by Councillor Andrew Parkinson

This Council believes that local council and mayoral decisions about transport and travel have a huge impact on people's lives and livelihoods;

This Council believes that bodies must consult local residents and businesses fully and conscientiously, to empower them to stop decisions that will adversely affect them;

This Council believes that different parts of Camden and London have different needs, and require different solutions to solve different problems;

This Council recalls previous decisions regarding CS11 and the Haverstock Hill cycle lanes: decisions of the Mayor and this council which were unlawful due to a failure to consult and to consider material considerations;

This Council notes the legal challenge to the Mayor of London's expansion of the Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) scheme from five councils, who have challenged the lawfulness of the decision on similar grounds to CS11 and Haverstock Hill;

This Council notes the strong opposition to ULEZ expansion in the areas to which it is being applied;

This Council therefore supports the five councils' challenge to ULEZ expansion.

2. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Awale Olad and which was seconded by Councillor Sagal Abdi-Wali

This Council notes:

- The damning findings of the March 2023 Casey Review, which showed a persistent and endemic culture of racism, misogyny, homophobia and violence against women within London's Metropolitan Police force.
- That whilst the Casey Review was shocking, it will not be surprising to many in our communities who have been failed by the Metropolitan Police. Rather, the report further exposed an institution that has been known for systemic failures since before the murder of Stephen Lawrence in 1993.

- The persistent failure of leadership at all levels of the Metropolitan Police to act decisively and remove dangerous officers from their posts, despite multiple reports showing their propensity for serious harm prior to the violence and destruction they subsequently caused to dozens of lives.
- That the murder of Sarah Everard by Wayne Couzens, the dehumanising treatment of Bibaa Henry and Nicole Smallman, the Stephen Port murders, and the 48 rape offenses committed by David Carrick might have been prevented if swift and effective action had been taken at the time.

This Council further notes:

- Camden Council's efforts to address Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) through the establishment of a new VAWG board, a series of public awareness campaigns demonstrating solidarity against VAWG, and an improved joint-up strategy across the Council to address VAWG.
- Camden Council's work to address systemic racial injustice through our Building Equal Foundations work including training for staff in anti-racist practice, and work with schools and other partner institutions to diversify leadership in our borough as part of our equalities mission.
- The Council's investment in approaches to address perpetrators, provide trauma informed support to victims of crime and investment in early intervention and prevention of community violence and harm - local government across London has approaches and best practice that is of value to the Metropolitan Police in its transformation.
- The introduction of a new LGBT+ Community Liaison Officer (CLO) for Camden and Islington to improve relationships and trust between the LGBTQ+ Community and the Police.
- Whilst it recognises the good work done by many local police officers, including our own here in Camden, it is clear that there is significant work still to be done to change a culture that has enabled these horrifying injustices to take place.
- As highlighted by Baroness Casey, it is not enough for the Metropolitan Police to “reflect” on what needs to change, but that it needs a complete overhaul in order to take firm and decisive action against racism, misogyny and homophobia.
- The work of the Independent Scrutiny and Oversight Board, which has highlighted the reluctance of the Metropolitan Police so far to make any significant change.

This Council resolves:

- That the Metropolitan Police should make concrete efforts to rebuild the trust lost by adopting and implementing all of the 16 recommendations of the Casey Review. This includes:
 - Adopting a new, independent, multidisciplinary team of police officers and staff who will reform how the Metropolitan Police deals with misconduct cases,

with a particular focus on how it handles sexual misconduct, domestic abuse and discrimination.

- Overhauling the recruitment and vetting system to ensure that new recruits are not drawn to the job for the wrong reasons; and revoking special qualifications where officers' standards fall short of public expectations.
- Providing the Police Commissioner new powers that ensure that they can take strong and decisive action when the sanctions and consequences for misconduct are inadequate.
- A dedicated Women's Protection Service which specialist units who focus on rape and serious and sexual offences and the creation of a children's strategy to focus resources on safeguarding and child protection.
- To build an improved borough-based approach that will rebuild trust in policing across communities by investing in frontline policing - including safer communities and public protection - and ensuring victims of crimes such as domestic violence and sexual assault have appropriate, compassionate, and effective support and resources.
- That the Metropolitan Police commit to an overhaul of stop and search powers and accountability for the use of force in our communities.
- That the Metropolitan Police work closely with London local government as part of boosting local accountability and scrutiny of police powers, including working closely with those communities most impacted by police activity and communities and individuals subject to the disproportionality highlighted in the Casey report.

3. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Tom Simon and which was seconded by Councillor Nancy Jirira

This Council notes:

- (i) that since 2002, people seeking asylum have only been able to apply for the right to work after they have been waiting for a decision on their asylum claim for over a year, and only if they can be employed into one of the narrow, highly-skilled professions included on the Government's Shortage Occupation List;
- (ii) that people seeking asylum are left to live on £5.39 per day, struggling to support themselves and their families, and left vulnerable to destitution, isolation, and exploitation;
- (iii) the potential foregone economic gain of millions of pounds to the UK via increased taxable income and reduced payments of accommodation and subsistence support.

This Council believes that:

- (i) people seeking asylum want to be able to work so that they can use their skills and make the most of their potential, integrate into their communities, and provide for themselves and their families;

- (ii) restrictions on the right to work can lead to extremely poor mental health outcomes and a waste of potentially invaluable talents and skills for the economy;
- (ii) allowing people seeking asylum the right to work would therefore lead to positive outcomes for the local and national economy.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- (i) join the Lift the Ban Coalition, which is campaigning to restore the right to work for everyone waiting for more than 6 months for a decision on their asylum claim; and
- (ii) call on the UK Government to give people seeking asylum the right to work unconstrained by the shortage occupation list after they have waited six months for a decision on their initial asylum claim or further submission.

ENDS