

**LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN**  
**COUNCIL MEETING – 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024**  
**NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

**1. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Edmund Frondigoun and which was seconded by Councillor Heather Johnson**

This Council notes:

- The Autumn Budget, delivered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves on 30 October 2024, set out the new Labour Government's plan to fix the foundations of the country's economy and to start rebuilding Britain following 14 years of Conservative decline.
- The Budget introduces crucial measures to support economic growth such as tackling inequality, uplifting health and social care budgets and empowering local authorities.
- The extension of the Household Support Fund and Discretionary Housing Payments for the most vulnerable residents, in combination with changes to schemes like Right to Buy, will enable the retention of receipts locally and will be of significant benefit to local authorities across the country, including Camden.
- Further announcements from the Budget that will have a significant impact on residents across Camden are:
  - The measures to improve energy efficiency in homes and public buildings, with additional grants available for retrofitting.
  - The new incentives for small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) and specific support for local high streets.
  - Enhanced funding for local community safety initiatives seeks to address anti-social behaviour, promote crime prevention, and improve community well-being.
  - Additional funding for Special Education Needs and Disabilities provision to ensure that we can deliver the best quality education for every child in every community.
  - Commitment to funding that will enable HS2 to terminate at Euston.

This Council believes:

- Strengthening and expanding social and affordable housing is essential to ensuring Camden remains a fair and inclusive borough, and reforms that protect and enhance the social housing stock are crucial for our community.

- Increased health and social care funding provides an opportunity to enhance service quality, support vulnerable residents, and ensure all individuals receive the care and dignity they deserve.
- Advancing Camden's net-zero and sustainability goals is vital for both the environment and residents, and investments in energy efficiency can deliver long-term cost savings and improved living conditions.
- Community safety initiatives and resources targeted at reducing anti-social behaviour are fundamental to building cohesive, resilient neighbourhoods and fostering trust and safety for all residents.
- Certainty on HS2 will help end the blight and uncertainty caused by the previous Conservative government's mismanagement of the project.

This Council resolves:

- To maximise the impact of housing reforms by prioritising the retention, development, and accessibility of affordable and social housing, addressing Camden's diverse housing needs.
- To pursue and leverage available funding for energy efficiency initiatives, including retrofitting, as part of Camden's drive toward net-zero emissions and reducing the cost burden on residents.
- To work alongside local policing, community organisations, and residents to utilise community safety support, fostering initiatives that tackle anti-social behaviour and build safety in Camden.
- To take a proactive approach in advertising the benefits of our leading work in Camden in areas like preventative children's services to feed into the development of further government plans.
- To do all it can to maximise the benefits of HS2 for the people of Camden in terms of jobs, homes, open spaces, and wider economic and community benefits.

**2. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Judy Dixey and which was seconded by Councillor Matthew Kirk**

This Council notes the various difficulties faced by residents with limited mobility in walking the streets and accessing public and other transport:

- The inflexibility of the Healthy School Streets schemes in Camden can make accessing transport especially difficult for vulnerable residents with limited mobility.
- The particular problem faced by residents in larger Healthy School Street schemes, returning from hospital appointments at unpredictable times.
- The significance of street benches for residents with limited mobility, expanding their accessible realm, enabling them to enjoy their neighbourhoods and reach shops and transport facilities at a short distance from their homes.

- The continuing problem of Lime and Human Forest e-bikes and e-scooters blocking pavements and dropped kerbs.
- The threat posed to blind residents by A board signs and other street clutter, as well as uneven pavements.
- The importance of Transport for London's (TfL's) Dial-a-Ride service to some elderly and disabled people and the plethora of complaints about the inaccessibility and unreliability of the service.
- The need for step-free access at underground and rail stations in Camden, such as Kentish Town, Finchley Road and West Hampstead.
- The difficulty that closed bus stops can cause residents, particularly residents who are elderly, or disabled, or with limited mobility such as mums with pushchairs or people with heavy luggage.
- The ongoing concern with the floating bus stop design among elderly and disabled residents; while there have been no reported major incidents, just the possibility affects users' confidence and contributes to growing isolation and loneliness.
- The need for better training for bus drivers to demonstrate that London is Age-friendly, allowing passengers, particularly those with disabilities, to sit down before setting off.

This Council further notes:

The equalities impact assessment of the Camden Transport Strategy Delivery Plan 2025-28 acknowledges the potential negative impact of the plan on older residents and those with disabilities.

This Council believes:

The Labour administration needs to ensure that our transport network serves the most vulnerable people in our society, using the social model of disability. The Camden Transport Strategy Delivery Plan provides an opportunity to address these issues.

This Council therefore calls on the Cabinet to:

Refine Healthy School Streets (HSS) so they work better for disabled residents, and those with specific needs.

Create a functional solution to the need of disabled residents of HSS to return home from unpredictable timed hospital and other appointments by taxi.

Lobby the Mayor of London and TfL to:

- improve the availability and reliability of the Dial-a-Ride service.
- introduce step-free access at more stations in Camden.
- ensure bus drivers are trained to take better care of disabled passengers.

Lobby the Government to re-examine the design of floating bus stops, having cognisance of the impact they have on bus use by people who are disabled, elderly or who have other needs.

**3. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Steve Adams and which was seconded by Councillor Andrew Parkinson**

The Council notes that the residents of Camden need the reassurance of a present and effective Police Service to provide security and prevent crime. They similarly depend on health workers in the Royal Free, University College Hospital and the various smaller clinics located in Camden. There are growing problems with the housing of police officers due to the cost of rental property within the area and the potential redevelopment of the section house in Kentish Town. The cost of housing similarly affects health workers.

The stated policy requirement for a sustainable neighbourhood in Kentish Town should apply throughout the borough. This requires that our vital workers are able to live reasonably close to their places of work and do not have to commute great distances, with all the negative effects of tiredness and pressure on public transport.

To this end the Conservative group believe that the affordable housing provisions in new developments must be tailored, in some part, to resolve these issues.

The Council resolves to reserve 5% of all new affordable housing for these key workers and also ensure that of this provision, at least a third is for family accommodation in order to enable these workers to establish roots in our community and strengthen it.

**ENDS**