

2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Fajana-Thomas.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Urgent Unrestricted Business**

4.1 There was no urgent unrestricted business.

5. **Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private, Any Representations Received and the Response to Such Representations**

5.1 No representations were received.

5 **Questions/Deputations**

5.1 No public questions were received.

5.2 Deputation on Opposition to Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) implementation in Hoxton was received. Cllr Kam Adams, Ward councillor for Hoxton East & Shoreditch introduced Sandra Stewart, Chair of Hoxton Residents Action Group (HRAG). Ms. Stewart in remarks made the following comments:

5.3 Concerns that over 50 percent of residents were not informed of the LTN consultation by post, learning of it via word of mouth. This prompted HRAG to conduct paper petitions to canvass residents which has now been submitted to Cllr Adams.

5.4 90 percent of business owners reported not being informed. Ms Stewart reported that business owners invited to an online meeting by the Council's Streetscene team on 9 September 2025 did not receive login details despite emailing requests. Streetscene reportedly claimed 9,000 residents were consulted, while the 2021 census states 11,768 residents live in Hoxton (excluding business owners).

5.5 The pre-consultation question "how do you travel locally" was deemed too loose, with most people interpreting "local" as their local shop, making the question potentially misleading. HRAG objected to the Council's Streetscene team comparing Hoxton to De Beauvoir, asserting Hoxton's unique geographical characteristics with two main streets (Hoxton Street and Pitfield Street). It was noted that Pitfield Street and Hyde Road are already closed off to LTNs without consultation.

5.6 Ms. Stewart reported that national crime statistics show an increase in robberies and sexual assaults since the introduction of similar schemes, described as a "boxing in effect." Proposed schemes would leave Orsman Road as the only street accessible to Hoxton Street from Kingsland Road, likely causing it to become a "rat run" due to existing bottlenecks. Ms. Stewart stated that LTNs would lead to more traffic, idling, and pollution on New North Road, particularly on Saturdays due to the Hoxton Street Market.

5.7 Residents in Hoxton West, including Murray Grove, believe they would be forced to rely solely on Percival Street for access to Kingsland Road, placing immense pressure on

that street. In her comments, Ms. Stewart stated that Hackney's recent transport strategy paper showed concerns regarding increased traffic, accessibility, isolation, and negative impacts on struggling businesses due to limiting the roads. Accident data showed no vehicle-only accidents in Hoxton, but did identify a collision involving a cyclist going the wrong way on Hoxton Street and a child. Cllr Adams has since met with Streetscene, and a proposed school street at St Monica's School, which the community supports.

- 5.8 Ms. Stewart stated that petition data highlights a large proportion of disabled, frail, and elderly residents in Hoxton. Over 80 percent of residents rely on more than one person for support, many being unpaid carers. The Blue Badge exemption only allows one companion car to be registered.
- 5.9 In her final remarks, Ms. Stewart stated that local businesses expressed concerns over accessibility for deliveries, commuting, and the impact on footfall, claiming their businesses will suffer as many people stop off in their cars after work. Businesses in Chatsworth Road were cited as already experiencing significant losses.
- 5.10 Concerns have been voiced by residents to elected members and the local MP. Additionally, concerns were raised to the previous Mayor who had assured that no more LTNs would be introduced to Hoxton. HRAG's ultimate position is that Hoxton has never had a problem with traffic or pollution and that introducing LTNs would create problems for New North Road and Kingsland Road.

Cllr Young's summary response:

- 5.8 Cllr Young thanked the Ms. Stewart for representing residents and businesses in Hoxton and acknowledged Hoxton's unique nature and confirmed that "Connecting Hoxton" is a wider, joined-up project encompassing transport and traffic control and that Council aims to make the area a pleasure to live in, providing cleaner air, reducing antisocial behaviour, and supporting the market to be thriving.
- 5.9 In response to the consultation process, Cllr Young stated that engagement went back to 2023. Streetscene were asked to check with the distributors and the fact that 400 responses were received to the first engagement, these were considered decent and representative of the area. She acknowledged that some people may have missed the documents, but believed distribution was comprehensive. Additionally, in person events were held at stalls and the Council received varied feedback from those that contributed.
- 5.10 Cllr Young acknowledges that the Council has a good understanding of what people are saying and does not believe that Streetscene have missed anything and is keen to ensure that people who are walking, wheeling, using buggies, wheelchairs who have limited mobility are given the highest priority. The Council also needs to take into account of the climate (hot summers and wetter winters) and represent the fact that a third of Hackney's residents have access to a car so have to balance all of this. The policy is to try and support our streets and neighbourhoods and working for everybody so that people can get to the places they want to. The Council is assessing the evidence including the traffic counts and the accident levels rates data and no decisions have been made yet.

6 Unrestricted Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Cabinet

RESOLVED:

1. **That the unrestricted minutes of the previous meeting of the Cabinet held on 24 November 2025 be agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.**

7 Unrestricted Minutes of the Cabinet Procurement and Insourcing Committee (CPIC)

RESOLVED:

1. **To note the minutes of the Cabinet Procurement and Insourcing Committee (CPIC) held on 6 October 2025.**

8. F S524 2025/26 Overall Financial Position - October 2025

- 8.1 In his remarks on the Overall Financial Position, Cllr Chapman highlighted and welcomed the Government's decision to lift the two-child benefit cap, which the Mayor and Council had been lobbying for. Cllr Chapman stated this would have a huge positive impact, lifting approximately 15,000 children in Hackney out of poverty.
- 8.2 The Government's revised funding proposals published in November, Cllr Chapman noted that changes to State and council funding look set to benefit the Council's finances and believes the final settlement will be more favorable than first envisaged, with improvements likely in funding areas such as deprivation, remoteness, and population. Cllr Chapman went on to highlight the addition of £600 million nationally to re-establish the recovery fund grant, which is expected to add £9.7 million to Hackney's budget for 2026/27 and future years.
- 8.3 Cllr Chapman conveyed confidence and appreciation, asserting that owing to the extensive savings, the transformation programme, and successful lobbying efforts, the Council will be in a position to set a lawful and balanced budget for 2026/27. The primary remaining challenge is managing the impact of "demanded services," such as children's and adult social care plans.

RESOLVED:

- 3.1 **That from 1st April 2026 the annual garden waste subscription costs and one-off garden waste collection costs are increased by 3.8%, in line with CPI, as set out in Appendix 2.**
- 3.2 **To note the overall financial position of the Council as at October 2025 and in particular the overspend and the initiatives set out to mitigate this.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

To facilitate financial management and control of the Council's finances and to approve the increase in Garden Waste service costs ahead of the Fees & Charges approval in the Council's Budget report at the beginning of March. This will enable timely communications from January of the new fees, ensuring renewals and take up of the garden waste service is maximised.

DETAILS OF ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

This budget monitoring report is primarily an update on the Council's financial position.

9 F S514 Capital Update and Property Disposals And Acquisitions Report

- 9.1 Cllr Chapman highlight in his brief introductory remarks that the Council is acquiring 174 properties for temporary accommodation, which will provide better, higher-quality accommodation for homeless people and save revenue costs. He also mentioned the improved safety measures for cyclists and pedestrians on Green Lanes and the technical changes to delegations for the Group Director of Finance and Corporate Resources. Cllr Chapman added that the changes were proposed to smooth the negotiation and process around property disposals. Whilst disposals provide a capital receipt, they are fully in line with the Corporate Asset Management Strategy, with actual disposals returning to Cabinet for approval.
- 9.2 Cllr Etti's welcomed the acquisition of 174 self-contained dwellings and stated that measure would improve the quality of accommodation for the families housed and also reduce the cost of the Council's nightly rate. She also highlighted that this is in addition to other mitigation efforts, such as buying back properties within the borough. Cllr Etti also welcomed the proposal for Green Lanes safety improvements for cyclists and pedestrians, assuring residents that the Council is listening, given the volume of casework on road safety in that area.

RESOLVED:

- 3.1 **To note the s106 schemes outlined in section 11 and summarised below.**

S106	2025/26 £'000
Capital	141
Total S106 Capital for Noting	141

- 3.2 **That the Group Director Finance & Corporate Resources be authorised to enter into negotiations for the disposal of Council assets. This authorisation is limited to negotiation; final approval for disposals remains with Cabinet, except where otherwise permitted by the current Scheme of Delegation.**
- 3.3 **To note the implementation and rationale for the change in accounting policy as set out in Section 13.**
- 3.4 **To approve two freehold acquisitions to provide up to 174 temporary accommodation units funded from the existing temporary accommodation budget, see exempt Appendix 1.**
- 3.5 **To delegate authority to the Group Director of Finance & Corporate Resources to agree all commercial terms of the two temporary accommodation acquisitions.**
- 3.6 **To delegate authority to the Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services to settle, agree and enter into all documentation necessary for the two temporary accommodation transactions.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

To facilitate financial management and control of the Council's finances.

The reasons for the decision published on 16 December 2025, can be found at paragraph 4 of the report [here](#).

10. CE S588 Hackney's Education Strategic Plan 2026 to 2029

- 10.1 Deputy Mayor Bramble introduced the item as an important strategy being presented to Cabinet and highlighted the extensive engagement with Cabinet colleagues during its development. Deputy Mayor Bramble also thanked Cllr Sizer and the Hackney Education Team for their work on the strategy.
- 10.2 The strategy was informed by a significant pre-consultation phase, which took place prior to the formal consultation. This involved engagement with elected members, community organisations, parents, carers, children and young people, and helped identify where the Council needed to work differently. Deputy Mayor Bramble advised that feedback from this stage directly shaped the consultation, and engagement levels during pre-consultation were higher than during the formal consultation, as participants felt their views were genuinely heard. Engagement activity included drop-in sessions at schools, nurseries and community hubs. The Deputy Mayor emphasised that community involvement was central to shaping the strategy.
- 10.3 The Deputy Mayor outlined that the strategy sets out the Council's education vision for the next three years. While some difficult decisions were required, the focus remained on ensuring Hackney's schools are in the strongest possible position, with an emphasis on partnership working between schools, communities, and with parents and carers as key stakeholders. She stated that health and wellbeing sit at the heart of the strategy, with a commitment to creating an environment in which children are supported not only to achieve but to thrive.
- 10.4 The strategy reflects a strong commitment to anti-racist and equality work, recognising both Hackney's diversity and the barriers faced by some communities, with equity identified as a core principle. The Deputy Mayor emphasised that education is a key driver of opportunity, and noted Hackney's progress from being one of the lowest-performing boroughs to one of the highest-performing nationally across several Measures. In closing, she highlighted the importance of political commitment, the role of educators, and the continued involvement of children, young people and the wider community in delivering the strategy.
- 10.5 The Mayor expressed her appreciation of all of the work and passion that has gone into developing the strategy and remarked that the Council will always try to do better for Hackney's children.

RESOLVED

- 3.1 To approve the Education Strategic Plan 2026- 29 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report to be published in January 2026.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

The reasons for the decision was published in the decision notice on 16 December 2025, and can be found at paragraph 4 for the report [here](#).

11. CE S546 Hackney Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Inclusion 3 Year Strategy

- 11.1 Cllr Sizer introduced the strategy, expressing pride and calling it a "community project" that resulted from a huge amount of work from officers, the Deputy Mayor, and community members, including parents and children.
- 11.2 Cllr Sizer highlighted that the strategy is hyper-local, representing Hackney as a borough, and places a strong emphasis on ensuring any disproportionately affected communities are given a voice and focus. She noted that Hackney is "ahead of the curve" nationally on SEND, positioning it right at the front of any piece educationally.
- 11.3 On emotional health and wellbeing, Cllr Sizer reaffirmed the absolute importance for the cohort of children and stated that the strategy is robust and representative of the borough and the national picture.
- 11.4 Cllr Young commented on the powerful equality impact assessment and the intersectional areas and pleased to see the strategy.

RESOLVED

- 3.1 To approve the SEND and Inclusion 3 Year Strategy as set out in Appendix 2 of the report to be published in January 2026.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

The reasons for the decision were published in the decision notice on 16 December 2025, and can be found at paragraph 4 for the report [here](#).

12. AHI S658 Care Charging Review - Policy Change Recommendations

- 12.1 In his introduction, Cllr Kennedy asked Cabinet to approve several changes to Hackney's non-residential care charging policy, following a consultation, in order to strike a fair balance and align with the vast majority of other local authorities.
- 12.2 Proposed Changes moves from charging based on 92% of the service cost to 100% of the cost of the service.
- Accessible Income: Move from only taking 75% of accessible income into account to taking 100% of it into account.
 - Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG): Align the MIG calculation with the Department of Health and Social Care minimum rates.
 - Arrangement Fee: Introduce a flat rate arrangement fee of £16,265 for self-funded individuals when the Council sets up or charges their care package.
 - Blue Badge Admin Fee: Introduce a £10 admin fee for Blue Badge applications and renewals.
- 12.3 Cllr Kennedy stated that the Council consulted on the proposal to disregard 20 percent of disability benefits (instead of 25%) when making calculations however took the decision to not proceed due to clear resident feedback and concerns about worry and possible hardship that may be caused.

RESOLVED

- 3.1 To agree to the following changes to Hackney's non-residential Care Charging Policy:
 - I. To remove the maximum charge cap (currently £250 per week)
 - II. To move from charging based on 92% of the cost of service to 100%
 - III. To move from 75% of assessable income taken into account to 100%
- 3.2 To agree to moving LBH's Minimum Income Guarantee calculation in line with DHSC minimum rates.
- 3.3 To agree a new, flat rate arrangement fee of £162.65 for self-funders who request that LBH set up or make changes to a package of care for them on their behalf.
- 3.4 To agree a fee for Technology-Enabled Living Services applicable to residents who do not qualify under the eligibility criteria outlined in the Care Act.
- 3.5 To introduce a £10 administration fee for Blue Badge applications and renewals.
- 3.6 To confirm an agreement, following consultation and feedback from residents, that the amount of disability benefits we automatically disregard from the financial assessment of client contributions will remain at 25%, and not be reduced to 20% as proposed.

REASONS FOR DECISION

The reasons for the decision can be found in the report [here](#).

13. F S594 Kings Hall Leisure Centre Refurbishment Project - Appropriation of the Kings Hall Leisure Centre Site for Planning Purposes

- 13.1 The Mayor in her introduction for the Kings Hall Leisure Centre Refurbishment Project highlighted its significance as a beloved community asset and a significant step to bring the historic building back into full public use by moving the planning process forward.
- 13.2 The Mayor advised that the appropriation proposal is about taking the planning process forward and that residents have been clear they want a modern, inclusive, high-quality leisure centre. She emphasised that the building is not the only focus, but in the health and wellbeing of local people, families, young people and older residents the facilities they deserve, right in the heart of the borough.
- 13.3 The refurbishment is also about sustainability and the long-term future of the Council's leisure estate. The Mayor added that Kings Hall will be upgraded to meet modern environmental standards, helping to cut carbon while improving comfort and accessibility.
- 13.4 The Mayor thanked the community and local campaigners remained engaged throughout the journey. The decision put forward to Cabinet shows that the Council listens and will act together with residents to protect its heritage and deliver for Hackney's future.

RESOLVED

- 3.1 To agree that the land at Kings Hall Leisure Centre, 39 Lower Clapton Road, London, E5 0NU, shown edged red on the plan at Appendix 1, which is currently held for leisure purposes under the General Fund, is no longer required for those purposes.**
- 3.2 To approve the appropriation of the land set out at 3.1 for planning purposes to facilitate the carrying out of the development pursuant to section 122(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.**
- 3.3 To agree that following completion of the development proposals at 3.2 the land shown edged red on the plan at Appendix 1 will no longer be required for planning purposes and approve the appropriation of the land for leisure purposes to be transferred to and administered from the General Fund and in accordance with 122(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.**
- 3.4 To authorise entering into access licences to facilitate works associated with the development.**
- 3.5 To authorise the Group Director Climate, Homes and Economy and the Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services to deal with all necessary arrangements to effect the appropriation set out in this report.**
- 3.6 To authorise the Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services to prepare, agree, settle and sign necessary legal documentation to effect the entering into licences and into any other ancillary legal documentation as required.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

The decision notice was published on 16 December 2025, and the reasons for the decision can be found at paragraph 4 for the report [here](#).

14. HCE S662 Adoption of the Retrofit Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

- 14.1 The Mayor introduced agenda items 14, 15 and 16, Supplementary Planning Documents.
- 14.2 In the Mayor's remarks, she sets out the ambitious framework for how Hackney grows ensuring that development, whether residential or commercial, supporting the Council's climate commitments and protects the character of our borough.
- 14.3 The Retrofit SPD gives residents and businesses a practical roadmap for making their buildings greener and cheaper to run, helping us cut emissions while improving comfort, affordability and energy efficiency across Hackney.
- 14.4 The Residential and Commercial Alterations & Extensions SPDs bring much-needed consistency to the planning process, giving homeowners, landlords and businesses clear expectations while safeguarding the look and feel of our neighbourhoods and high Streets. Together, these documents show Hackney leading by example supporting good growth, raising design standards, and ensuring that every change to our built environment works for residents today and for future generations.
- 14.5 Councillor Nicholson commented on the distinctness of Supplementary Planning Documents and added that the documents have been comprehensively reviewed.

- 14.6 Cllr Nicholson gave credit to the Heritage and Design teams and the Planning Service for bringing this and the other substantial pieces of work forward.

RESOLVED

- 3.1 Cabinet is asked to adopt the Retrofit Supplementary Planning Document at Appendix 1 of the report.**
- 3.2. To delegate authority to the Group Director, Housing, Climate and Economy to approve the final designed version of the Supplementary Planning Document for adoption.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

The decision notice was published on 16 December 2025, and the reasons for the decision can be found at paragraph 4 for the report [here](#).

15. HCE S663 Adoption of Commercial Extensions and Alterations Supplementary Planning Document

RESOLVED

- 3.1. To adopt the Commercial Extensions and Alterations Supplementary Planning Document.**
- 3.2. To delegate authority to the Group Director, Housing, Climate and Economy to approve the final designed version of the Supplementary Planning Document for adoption.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

The decision notice was published on 16 December 2025, and the reasons for the decision can be found at paragraph 4 for the report [here](#).

16. HCE S664 Adoption of the Residential Alterations and Extensions Supplementary Planning Document

RESOLVED

- 3.1. To adopt the Residential Extensions and Alterations Supplementary Planning Document at Appendix of the report.**
- 3.2. To delegate authority to the Group Director, Housing, Climate and Economy to approve the final designed version of the Supplementary Planning Document for adoption.

REASONS FOR DECISION

The decision notice was published on 16 December 2025, and the reasons for the decision can be found at paragraph 4 for the report [here](#).

17. Non-Key Decision: Article 4 Direction to Remove Permitted Development Rights for Change of Use from Use Commercial, Business & Service (Class E) to Residential (Class C3) in Ridley Road, Dalston E8

- 17.1 The Mayor introduced agenda items 17, 18 and 19, Article 4 Directions referencing the need to protect Hackney's unique culture, economic heart and historic character. The purpose to ensure that change in the borough is properly considered, consulted on, and in the public interest.
- 17.2 Reflecting on the Ridley Road, Councillor Nicholson in his remarks made an urgent request to Cabinet for the first phase of implementing an Article 4 Direction to ensure full coverage across Dalston Town Centre.
- 17.3 Cllr Nicholson explained that the Article 4 Direction requires planning permission to change the use of ground-floor commercial, retail, or business space to residential. It was discovered that a small part of Ridley Road was not covered by the existing town-centre-wide Article 4 Direction. The request to agree to implement the Direction in this small area is to fill the gap, ensuring the entire Dalston Town Centre is protected.
- 17.4 Cllr Nicholson further explained that the issue is driven by high demand for space in the Town Centre, particularly along Ridley Road. Councillor Nicholson acknowledged the support of the Dalston Ward Councillors in bringing forward this urgent matter.

RESOLVED

- 3.1 To approve the making of a non-immediate Article 4 Direction (A4D) (Appendix 1) to withdraw the permitted development ("PD") rights granted by Schedule 2, Part 3, Class MA of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) ('the GDPO') for changes of use from commercial, business or services (Class E) to a dwellinghouse (Class C3) for 17 - 75, 77 - 87, 89 - 93 (odd) Ridley Road E8, 1a St Marks Rise, and land to the rear of 4 Colvestone Crescent, Dalston E8 (as shown in Appendix 2).**
- 3.2. To approve the consultation of the Article 4 Direction as set out in paragraphs 5.19 and 5.20 of this report.**
- 3.3. To delegate authority to the Group Director, Housing, Climate and Economy to approve amendments to the Article 4 Notice and area Map.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

The decision notice was published on 16 December 2025, and the reasons for the decision can be found at paragraph 4 for the report [here](#).

18. Non-Key Decision: Confirmation of Article 4 Direction to Remove Permitted Development Rights in Brownswood Conservation Area

RESOLVED

- 3.1 To approve the confirmation of an Article 4 Direction (A4D) (Appendix 1) to withdraw the permitted development ("PD") rights granted by Schedule 2, Part 1, Class A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H. Part 2, Class A, B and C and Part 14, Class A and J of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order**

2015 (as amended) (“the GPDO”) for development in Brownswood Conservation Area.

REASONS FOR DECISION

The decision notice was published on 16 December 2025, and the reasons for the decision can be found at paragraph 4 for the report [here](#).

19. Non-key Decision: Confirmation of Article 4 Direction to Remove Permitted Development Rights in Beck Road Conservation Area

RESOLVED

- 3.1. To approve the confirmation of an Article 4 Direction (A4D) (Appendix 1) to withdraw the permitted development (“PD”) rights granted by Schedule 2, Part 1, Class A, C, G, H and Part 2, Class C of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) (“the GPDO”) for development in Beck Road Conservation Area.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

The decision notice was published on 16 December 2025, and the reasons for the decision can be found at paragraph 4 for the report [here](#).

20. Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded during discussion of the remaining items on the agenda, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3, Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

21. Urgent Exempt Business

Exempt.

22. Restricted Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Cabinet

Exempt.

23. F S514 Capital Update and Property Disposals and Acquisitions [Exempt Appendices]

Exempt.

24. F S594 Kings Hall Leisure Centre Refurbishment Project - Appropriation of the Kings Hall Leisure Centre Site for Planning Purposes [Exempt Appendices]

Exempt.

Duration of the meeting: 6.00pm - 6.55pm