COUNCIL

Meeting held on 16th September 2019
at Main Hall - Old Town Hall, Stratford

Present: Councillor Joy Laguda MBE (Chair)
Rokhsana Fiaz OBE, Nazir Ahmed, Muhammad Ali,
Zulfiqar Ali, James Asser, Jennifer Bailey, James Beckles,
Daniel Blaney, Ayesha Chowdhury, Ken Clark,
Rohit Dasgupta, Sasha DasGupta, Mariam Dawood,
Ann Easter, Omana Gangadharan, Joshua Garfield,
John Gray, Alan Griffiths, Belgica Guaña, Zuber Gulamussen,
Patricia Holland, Anamul Islam, Nilufa Jahan, Moniba Khan,
Mumtaz Khan, Genevieve Kitchen, Carleene Lee-Phakoe,
Daniel Lee-Phakoe, Pushpa Makwana, Julianne Marriott,
Anthony McAlmont, Charlene McLean, Riaz Ahmed Mirza,
Shaban Mohammed, Mushtaq Mughal, Firoza Nekiwala,
Mas Patel, Salim Patel, Terry Paul, Mohammed Rahman,
Tahmina Rahman, Sarah Ruiz, Lakmini Shah,
Suga Thekkeppurayil, Delphine Tohoura, Rachel Tripp,
Winston Vaughan, John Whitworth and Neil Wilson

The meeting commenced at 7.31 p.m. and closed at 9.30 p.m.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Abdulmuhit,
Brayshaw, Hudson, Lofthouse, Murphy, Osei, Peppiatt, Ruiz, Virdee, and T
Wilson and from Councillor Blaney for lateness.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received from Members.

ORDER OF BUSINESS AND RULES OF DEBATE

The Chair moved, the Deputy-Chair seconded and Council AGREED a
motion, without notice, that Rules 14.1.10 (to vary the order of business)
and 31 (Suspension of Council Procedure Rules) be used to suspend Rule
15 (Rules of Debate) and proposed that the order of business be varied to
enable the early participation of young people who had attended to make
presentations to Full Council on the theme of Climate Emergency and for
Council to have a robust debate.

The effect of the motion, without notice, was to (1) propose that items 16
(Youth Assembly on Climate Emergency) and 17 (Newham Air Quality and
Climate Change Strategic Intent Part 2: Addressing Climate Change) on
the Agenda be considered next and the remainder of the business be
considered in the order as printed in the agenda; and (2) to review the
normal rules of debate to allow the young people there to present to Members.

3. **Youth Assembly on Climate Emergency**

Representatives from the Youth Assembly delivered a presentation to Council on climate emergency and what solutions could be introduced to halt it. They acknowledged that the Government and Newham Council had declared a climate emergency and asked how young people felt about this and how aware were young people in Newham of climate emergency?

They said that 14% (did not believe it was true), 43% (thought it was true, but did not care), 36% (knew about it but did not feel able to do anything) and 7% (knew about it and would like to do something about it).

The Young People’s representatives responded to questions from Members.

4. **Newham Air Quality and Climate Change Strategic Intent Part Two: Addressing Climate Change**

Council considered a report, which was considered by Cabinet on 3 September 2019, and which summarised the main implications for the Council of climate change and the climate emergency. It also identified a number of issues for further development.

**RESOLVED** that:

1. the contents of the relevant report considered by Cabinet on 3 September 2019, be noted; and

2. the adoption of the national government target of net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050 (i.e. a reduction in GHGs by at least 100% of 1990 levels by 2050), whilst maintaining the previously agreed target of making the borough ‘carbon neutral’ by 2030, be agreed.

*Note: This had the effect of amending the terms of the resolution passed by Council on 15 April 2019, on the grounds that making the Borough ‘carbon zero by 2050’ was impracticable, as some processes would inevitably continue to produce greenhouse gas emissions, and that, consequently, some degree of carbon offsetting would continue to be necessary. The proposed new target also gave a clear baseline year (1990), against which to measure progress.*

5. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on 15 July 2019, be approved as a correct record, subject to the
following amendments:

(i) **Attendance**

The Chair moved, the Deputy-Chair seconded and Council AGREED the inclusion of Councillor Hanif Abdulmuhit as having been in attendance at the meeting held on 15 July 2019; and

(ii) **Petitions**

That, in respect of the petition submitted and presented by the young persons from NEWVIC, the following words be added after “presented to Council”:

“The key points were: enhanced availability and security for cycles, dedicated cycle ways and their introduction into integrated, innovative solutions.”

6. **Newham Partners Update**

There were no updates from Newham Partners.

7. **Any Announcements by the Chair**

The Chair made the following announcements:

(i) **Councillor Jane Lofthouse (Deputy Cabinet Member for Education)**

The Chair asked Council to join her in wishing Councillor Lofthouse a speedy recovery following her recent cycling accident.

(ii) **Janet Williams**

The Chair was sad to announce the recent passing of Janet Williams, who had been a hardworking and steadfast volunteer across Newham, including being a long-serving governor at local schools, in particular at Sarah Bonnell, and a leader at St John’s Church Stratford. The Chair said that she had been well known to all Members for her volunteer work and she had taken part in many community and environmental initiatives, such as being a Games Maker during the 2012 Olympics, enhancing the Greenway; reporting fly tipping; helping at local community events; and helping elderly and vulnerable residents, particularly at Christmas. At the Connecting Faiths and Building Communities Conference in 2017 her contribution to programmes to enhance her local community in Plaistow was recognised. On behalf of the Council, the Chair extended the Council’s sincerest condolences to her family and friends and said that the absence of her presence would be felt by all.
8. Any Announcements by the Mayor

The Mayor made the following announcements:

(i) **Climate Emergency**

The Mayor was delighted that the Council’s first themed meeting, which had focused on Climate Emergency, had started in such a positive way with an inspiring Youth Citizen’s Assembly on Climate Emergency taking place earlier in the evening with around 150 young people, including a class of pupils from one of Newham’s primary schools.

The Mayor said that it was the start of a week where the urgency of global warming was prominent on the world stage and that, this Friday, a Global Climate Strike, led by young people around the world, would coincide with the first day of the United Nations’ Climate Summit in New York.

She added that showing how young people were taking a stand about the most pressing issue facing our planet and humanity was very important and that, here in Newham, the Council had begun its week by listening to the voice of Newham’s young people on this vital issue, which linked with the events this Friday.

The Mayor said that the Council was also taking action, and later on the agenda it would consider a report on Climate Emergency, which would set out the Council’s plans for the future. She went on to say that climate emergency also ran through the Council’s Community Wealth Building agenda to develop its own green new deal. Therefore, she said, it was vital that everyone played their part and that meant working with the Council’s residents on this agenda. She said that, on Saturday 21 September 2019, Commissioner Councillor Mas Patel would be involving residents during Newham’s Climate Now forum, together with environmental activists and experts to discuss how everyone could get involved with the Council’s plans. Later, she said, on Saturday 9 November 2019, a Climate Emergency Citizens’ Assembly would take place. The Mayor went on to say that, this Sunday, the Council would be marking World Car Free Day, which was something everyone could participate in and encouraged drivers in Newham to join the Council in making do without their cars for 24 hours.

The Mayor said that, across the Borough, nine roads had become ‘play streets’, allowing Newham’s children and young people to enjoy fun and games in a car-free environment. She added that, earlier this month, the Council had launched a public consultation on its comprehensive Air Quality Action Plan, which would run until 14
October.

The Mayor said that this was vitally important, because doing nothing was simply not an option in a situation where Newham had the worst levels of air quality in London and the highest rates of deaths related to toxic air with seven in every hundred. She said that this meant rethinking aspects of how residents lived their lives and how they travelled and that even the smallest changes could make a difference. Change, she said, was always challenging and she knew that this issue had provoked concern and controversy amongst some residents.

The Mayor said that she had heard residents’ concerns over the changes being proposed, but the Council had to deal with the health crisis caused by some of the Borough’s most polluted and congested roads. Of course, she said, the Council had to take forward any changes in partnership with its residents, car users and non-car users alike, which meant it was important that the Council listened to views because it needed everyone on board.

The Mayor said that, in the end, everyone benefitted from the Borough’s healthier, liveable streets. She urged people to look at the facts. She said she had been struck by one particular statistic, which could be found in the Air Quality Action Plan document, on page 7 to the Agenda, which outlined, in human terms, a map showing the appallingly high levels of children under 18 on asthma medication. She said that, across the Borough, this amounted to 3,423 children, which she said was an appalling figure.

The Mayor asked people to look at where the worst affected areas were (which corresponded to the most congested and where the Council wanted to close the ‘rat runs’). She said that these levels were among the highest in London and that data from National Health England showed that Newham was the second highest borough in London for children under 9 years old admitted to hospital because of extreme asthma cases. That, she said, was 206 children a year, in hospital, because they literally could not breathe and that was why people and the Council needed to make changes where it had the power to take action. The Mayor went on to say that everyone had to ask what was important and that, as a Council and as Corporate Parents, it knew the answer in that the Borough’s children were the Borough’s future.

(ii) **DSEI Arms ‘Fair’ and the Alternative Peace Exhibition**

The Mayor reported to Council that, in line with the letter and the spirit
of the motion passed in June, it had taken a strong and vocal stand in
opposition to the DSEI arms ‘fair’ which had been held last week.
She was pleased that the Mayor of London had also come out in
opposition. She said that the Council would continue to work with
others to ensure that this event never came to Newham again, and
she commended campaigners, including CND and Newham Against
the Arms Fair, for their efforts.

The Mayor expressed her thanks to those who had made it possible
and, in particular, Councillors John Whitworth, Daniel Blaney, Sasha
Das Gupta and Belgica Guana, in putting together a truly inspirational
number of speakers.

The Mayor said that she had also heard about the devastating effects
of conflict and war in Yemen, which had affected some 14 million
children. That was why, she said, she had asked officers to look into
the possibility of identifying an appropriate charitable fund for Yemeni
children affected by the war as one of the Mayor's Charities, to raise
awareness on the humanitarian catastrophe in Yemen.

(iii) Brexit

The Mayor said she wanted to speak about the Council’s preparations
for Brexit and wanted to offer some reassurances about what the
Council was putting in place, particularly in light of ever increasing
uncertainty and the extraordinary actions of the Government in recent
weeks.

She said that the Council was working hard to plan for whatever
eventuality transpired through the Brexit Board that the Council had
established earlier this year. More than anything, she said, she
wanted to send a strong message, again, to every single EU national
in Newham that, regardless of what happened, Newham was their
home and the Council would support them. She said that the Council
was working to ensure that people know their rights and how to
exercise them in relation to settlement status, including where to find
the information they needed, from trusted sources. Therefore, she
said, whatever happened in the run up to 31 October 2019 and
beyond, the Council would be there for all its residents.

(iv) Democracy Commission

The Mayor said that, in relation to the Democracy and Civic
Participation Commission, she was very pleased to announce that
Nick Pearce, Professor of Public Policy at the University of Bath, had been appointed as Chair. The Commission, she said, would soon begin its work, engaging with residents and seeking expert knowledge. She added that Nick Pearce would bring a breadth of experience to the job and would be a huge asset as the Council worked towards making Newham a beacon of participatory democracy and she looked forward to further updates as the Commission began its deliberations.

The Mayor said that Nick Pearce would lead a panel of Commissioners, all of whom were expert in participatory democracy and resident involvement, including the use of social media and new methods. In conclusion, the Mayor said that in relation to participatory democracy, she wanted to formally thank all those young people involved in the ‘takeover’ of the Newham Mag over the summer, and congratulated them for the September edition they had produced. She said that there was more to come with the start of the Council’s civic journalism initiative, showing how it was involving its residents in everything it did.

9. Any Announcements by the Chief Executive

The Chief Executive was pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Colin Ansell (current Interim Corporate Director for Adults and Health) to the permanent position of Corporate Director for Adults and Health.

10. Any Updates by Cabinet Members

There were no updates by Cabinet members.

11. Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme and Future Commissions

The Chair of the Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee, made the following statement:

“Thank you Chair,

Since the last update I provided to Full Council, The Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on the 23rd July. At this meeting, the Mayor and Chief Executive were questioned on issues regarding the Corporate Plan, the Mayoral Priorities and provided an update on the Council restructure.

Also at the meeting, the Committee approved its work programme for 2019/20. Like last year, the Committee has chosen to undertake most of its work through the four themed Scrutiny Commissions that are in-line with the Scrutiny Chairs’ remits.

Work has been going on throughout summer on drafting a schedule of meetings for the four Commissions in order to provide the various
departments and Cabinet Members with advance notice of when topics will be considered by Scrutiny. It is intended that each of the four Commissions will meet on a fairly basis, with most of the first meetings of each Commission taking place within the forthcoming weeks.

In fact, the first meeting of the Education, Children’s and Young People’s Scrutiny Commission has already met, with Members wishing to make sure they met to consider issues relating to corporate parenting and the leaving care hub ahead of the first Ofsted Monitoring visit.

A schedule of items to be considered at meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee throughout the year is also being developed and we will continue the work started last year in dedicating a certain amount of Committee time to questioning the Mayor and Cabinet Members on matters within their portfolios. Invitations will soon be sent to those Executive Members that have not already one of these question and answer sessions in the past year and I look forward to the Committee holding the Executive to account in this way over the coming year.

The next meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will take place on the 25th September, here at Stratford Town Hall. The focus of this meeting will be on rough sleeping and issues relating to the Stratford Mall. We will also be welcoming an update on the work of the Homelessness Taskforce.

In addition to this, since I last reported to Full Council, we have held our inaugural Scrutiny Family event for all Members of Scrutiny. At this event, the Mayor and Members of the Executive were invited to discuss the key challenges and proposed work to be undertaken within their portfolios. I thanks the Mayor and all of those Cabinet Members in attendance for their participation. The event also included a Scrutiny Member Development session with the Centre for Public Scrutiny, which was very informative and should help Members undertake their vital scrutiny role.

The next month will see a considerable amount of scrutiny activity being undertaken and I look forward to updating you on that activity.”

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Councillor Blaney moved, Councillor Whitworth seconded and Council AGREED a motion, without notice, that Rule 14.1.10 (to vary the order of business) be used to allow for the order of business to be varied to enable consideration of the motion submitted, on notice. The effect of the motion, without notice, was to propose that item 15 (Motions) on the Agenda be considered next and the remainder of the business be considered in the order as printed in the agenda.

**Motions**

The following motion was submitted, on notice, in accordance with Rule 11
Motion on the Governance Referendum and Proposed Governance Arrangements

Council notes that, on 15 April 2019, Council noted the Governance Referendum report, which outlined some of the risks involved in holding the Governance Referendum on the same day as the London Mayoral and Assembly elections (1). Council also noted the report on the Democracy and Civic Participation Commission, part of whose remit is to propose different models of governance for Newham (2).

Council believes that the referendum should be held on a different day from the London elections and that a decision on the type of governance model proposed in the referendum should not be taken before the proposals of the Democracy and Civic Participation Commission can be considered.

Council therefore resolves:

to hold the Governance Referendum on a date between June 2020 and May 2021, with an indicative date for 1st April 2021 following consultation

to decide upon a proposed governance model to offer in a referendum, after taking the conclusions of the Democracy and Civic Participation Commission into account

that the timetable must be tightly maintained to guarantee that the implementation of any referendum result takes effect from May 2022.

Proposed: Councillor John Whitworth  
Seconded: Councillor Daniel Blaney

Following discussion, the motion was put to the vote and was declared CARRIED.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chief Whip moved, the Deputy-Chair seconded and Council AGREED a motion, without notice, that Rule 14.1.10 (to vary the order of business) be used to allow for the order of business to be varied to enable consideration of appointments. The effect of the motion, without notice, was to propose that item 18 (Appointments) on the Agenda be considered next and the remainder of the business be considered in the order as printed in the agenda.

13. Appointments

RESOLVED that the following appointments be made:

Committees
(i) That Councillor Neil Wilson replace Councillor Rev Ann Easter on the Council’s Audit Committee; and

(ii) That Councillor Pushpa Makwana be appointed to the Council’s Local Development Committee.

Cabinet

(i) That Councillor Zulfiqar Ali replace Councillor Susan Masters as Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care (statutory Lead Member);

(ii) That Councillor James Asser’s portfolio (Environment) be extended to include Highways and Sustainable Transport; and

(iii) That Councillor Rohit DasGupta be appointed Commissioner for Social Integration and Equalities.

14. Deputations

There were no requests for Deputations referred to Council by the Chief Executive.

15. Petitions

A petition had been received by Councillor Nilufa Jahan on behalf of residents of Prestbury Road, E7 8NG, in relation to the road, which was in a state of disrepair and sought urgent action to resurface it.

16. Members’ Questions

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 24.2 (Members’ Question Time), the following questions were submitted by Members:

Question 1 from Councillor Alan Griffiths to Councillor John Gray

“In the light of the map included in the report on fuel poverty, what steps (such as publicity with benefit renewal claims) can the Council take to encourage owners and tenants of older homes to improve insulation and adopt other energy efficiency measures?”

Published Response

Supporting owners and tenants of older private sector homes to make energy efficiency improvements is primarily a matter for central government. There is a high risk that private owners and landlords aren’t sufficiently incentivised to upgrade the energy efficiency of their properties and thereby jeopardising national climate change objectives.
As part of its response to climate change, the council will review the kind of support that it can provide and the measures it can take locally to support and encourage the upgrading of privately owned residential properties. The Council’s Property Licensing Team will continue to enforce the Excess Cold Hazard, which requires landlords to make repairs to properties. The Council will also, as part of its response to the climate emergency, give consideration to the policy measures it can take to improve minimum standards in respect of matters such as types of boilers, insulation and windows installed in private rented properties. It will also consider the issue of enforcement in respect of rented domestic and non-domestic properties, which are below E grade on their Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs). Finally, at a time when Universal Credit and the capping of benefits threatens to increase poverty the Community Wealth Strategy will seek to ensure that local people maximise their incomes to alleviate fuel poverty.

However, in the short to medium term, it is likely that its own resources will need to be targeted mostly towards the improvement of its own property, a substantial proportion of which needs significant investment to improve energy efficiency to a standard consistent with its carbon emission reduction targets. As part of its response to the climate emergency, the Council will seek to determine the nature and scale of the additional works required and incorporate them into its financial planning arrangements.

**Question 2 from Councillor John Whitworth to Councillor Zulfiqar Ali**

“I welcome the draft Air Quality Action Plan as a positive step towards improving the quality of life of Newham residents and note that it includes the full or partial incorporation of most of the recommendations of the Regeneration, Housing and Environment Commission’s Task and Finish Scrutiny Report. However, the Action Plan merely mentions that “we will investigate the feasibility of introducing a Workplace Parking Levy in the Borough of Newham”, while this borough - with a comprehensive public transport network - seems well suited to a scheme which is being encouraged by the Mayor of London and Transport for London. What will the Council do to investigate the feasibility of introducing a Workplace Parking Levy?”

**Published Response**

Workplace parking levies option has been available since 2012. It is intended to discourage motorised journeys to work by introducing a charge on those employers that offer free workplace parking for some or all of their employees. As Councillor Whitworth says this was mentioned as part of our discussions at a Scrutiny meeting and I can assure him that this will be further discussed as part of our ongoing review of our parking policies. However I must say at this juncture that whilst this option has been available for some times, very few authorities actually implemented this. Nottingham implemented this to fund their tram infrastructure programme. As part of our review, we will look at pros and cons of this option.
At this stage I would like to say that we need to ensure that we look at this objectively in terms of merits of introducing such a charge, which is regarded as a mini congestion charge. We need to examine this in our wider policies context considering our economic, regeneration, business investment and community wealth building as well as growth.

Please note that such schemes have previously been considered to impact negatively on some local businesses, particularly in comparison to nearby competitors in places where no such fees are not applied (e.g. in a neighbouring borough). This is also said to influence new employer’s site selection criteria when selecting sites. We would therefore like to understand more about its context and likely impact.

It is something that we will seek views of our neighbouring authorities to see if there can be a collective approach to this as any individual action in this regard will have consequential impact on the neighbouring boroughs. As such, we need to assess feasibility and complexities of introducing this levy. As such I would consider it likely to be part of a later phase of the parking review.”

Question 3 from Councillor Daniel Blaney to Councillor James Asser

“Crossing the borough boundary there is no shortage of street litter bins with a recycling facility on one side. Why do these seem so few and far between in Newham?”

Published Response

The Council is currently undertaking work to address our recycling rates, after years of underinvestment in this vital area of the council’s service. The intention is to improve it at all levels including rolling out awareness and education campaigns to increase recycling levels. We are pulling together a new recycling strategy, and this will include examining the way we collect recycling items, how we can increase the number of litter bins with recycling options; and how we can make it easier for people to recycle on the street.

Question 4 from Councillor Daniel Blaney to Councillor Zulfiqar Ali

“A number of respected groups including London Living Streets, CPRE London and RoadPeace have launched a “Boroughs Healthy Streets Scorecard”, with a score for every London Borough. What is the local authority’s view of their scoring for Newham?”

Published Response

The Council welcomes the good work done by Living Streets, CPRE London and RoadPeace in developing this index, which provides a good proxy for healthy streets achievements across London local authorities. To
obtain a “Healthy Streets” score, it uses a number of observed indicators such as mode share, active travel, parking zone coverage, casualty rates, and cycle lanes etc. The score is out of 10 for each of London’s 33 Boroughs.

As a consequence of the positive work we have commenced, Newham is ranked in the top 12 out of 33 boroughs. With a score of 5.3, Newham is one of only three non-central London boroughs in the top 12. City of London is top, with a score of 8.7 and Havering and Redbridge lowest ranked at 1.4 and 1.9 respectively.

This ranking is considered a fair reflection of our healthy street position in relation to other London Boroughs, some of whom are more developed in their environmental and traffic reduction policies. It also shows that we are still in a better position than the majority and some of our neighbouring authorities.

The relatively high ranking reflects Newham’s recent positive healthy streets initiatives, including the RPZ rollout (which is currently under review), the highways and footways renewal programme, the Crossrail public realm schemes, Stratford Town Centre, the Greenway and Quietway cycle schemes and various other Local Implementation Plan (LIP) initiatives that have delivered a range of healthy streets outcomes across the Borough in recent years.

The Council’s LIP schemes and initiatives programme is committed to delivering on Healthy Streets objectives, and these outcomes are pre-requisites for all the schemes we take forward.

This commitment to deliver healthy streets outcomes, matched with the support from our communities and councillors, is likely to positively impact on our future healthy streets scores, enabling opportunities for active and sustainable travel for our residents. This will therefore lead to improvements in our air quality and our public health record.

**Question 5 from Councillor Rachel Tripp to Councillor Zulfiqar Ali**

“Encouraging residents to walk and cycle by making the environment safer and more welcoming is a vital part of reducing car use, and combatting climate change (as well as encouraging community cohesion, and increasing activity levels). After the great news of our first successful Liveable Neighbourhood bid to TfL, could the Cabinet Member for Highways please update me and my colleagues about our next steps, particularly if any further work is planned on another bid we made: the joint one with Waltham Forest, around the Forest Gate North and Cann Hall area?”

**Published Response**

The Council put forward 3 Liveable Neighbourhood bids last year for TfL
funding and we were pleased to receive funding for one of these schemes. This was for Freemasons Road area. However, we also received high commendation from TfL on the quality of the other 2 bids, which would have been funded had more funding been available. You would be pleased to know that our 3 bids were among the top 10 submitted by local authorities to the TfL.

The Freemason’s Road scheme was successful in securing funding from the programme, and we are engaging with residents now on a package of potential measures for the area that will be included in our submission for 2nd stage implementation funding in October this year. We are hopeful that a substantial award will be made to allow us to advance the scheme in earnest in 2020/21.

Given the local support for the joint LBWF scheme in the Forest Gate North and Cann Hall areas by residents of both boroughs, we do indeed intend to resubmit our joint bid with colleagues from LBWF again this year – and although TfL have already advised us that our bid needs no additional work and will automatically be submitted for consideration again this year, we intend to undertake some further engagement with residents and develop some more illustrative designs to update our bid and demonstrate our joint working capabilities with funding already set aside in our Local Implementation Plans. This should make our submission even stronger, and we are very hopeful of a successful outcome for this scheme this year.

The bid is to be submitted by 31st October, with a decision from TfL likely in January 2020.

Officers and I remain committed to work with local Ward Councillors and key local stakeholders to identify and develop further bids to the Liveable Neighbourhood programme in future years.

In addition to the separate TfL-funded Liveable Neighbourhoods programme, the Council also has an allocation for ‘safe and healthy’ neighbourhoods in our LIP for the next three years, which seek to address through traffic in residential areas and deliver the same behavioural and climate change outcomes but over a smaller residential area and with ‘lighter touch’ measures.

17. **Questions by the Public**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 26 (Questions by the Public), the following questions were submitted by members of the public:

**Question 1 – from Davide Restifo to Councillor James Asser**

“I live in East Ham and I do believe that the north east neighbourhood doesn't have many trees. London has been crowned the world's first National Park City this year, but I wish it would be so in East Ham too. Can
we please plant more trees?”

**Published Response**

We are committed to planting more trees and are looking at options to do so. We have already worked with Trees for Cities to plant an orchard and are currently working with them and other bodies to look at future options and potential funding. Investment in trees is important both in terms of improving our air quality but also creating a better local environment. We are keen to hear from local residents who have suggestions of where we could plant more trees in their neighbourhood.

**Question 2 from Resident to Councillor Zulfiqar Ali**

“Can individual house permits be introduced so that you can get a box put outside your house where only you can park? I certainly would pay for this option as houses on my road have multiple cars and I am often left struggling to find a place to park.”

**Published Response**

the Council, when acting in its role as the Highway Authority, often receives requests similar to this, it is not legally allowed to dedicate a part of the public highway to any individual person or premises. The issue of properties with multiple vehicles and the limited availability of parking space is a challenging one. There is currently a review of all Parking Policies and Procedures underway that will seek to try to increase parking bays where possible by reviewing length of yellow lines where safely possible. This is intended to locate parking provision in a fair and equitable way whilst encouraging people to consider the use and ownership of vehicles in their daily lives and the associated environmental and safety impacts.

**Question 3 – withdrawn by questioner**

**Question 4 from Aftar Ahmed to Councillor Zulfiqar Ali**

“Does the borough have an air pollution related target and, if so, does this lead to an increased funding from the Mayor/Central Government? What involvement have the local councillors had in this scheme and why were they not notified to feedback and start a dialogue with their respective wards?”

**Published Response**

Air Quality objectives are set by national government who hold the legal responsibility. However under Local Air Quality Management requirements, Newham like all local authorities (LAs) must develop actions
to reduce air quality and most recently launched its Air Quality Action Plan consultation

https://www.newham.gov.uk/Pages/ServiceChild/Air-pollution-consultation.

While there is no increased funding from central government to help LAs meet nationally set Air Quality objectives; there are some grants that councils can access such as the Greater London Authority (GLA) recently launched £4m Good Growth Fund which is ring-fenced for air quality schemes. Additionally, the GLA is developing a new CAB (Cleaner Air Borough) award scheme, and the application requirements and criteria will be published later this year.

Councillors in Little Ilford, East Ham North and Manor Park wards were all informed at various stages before implementation of the pilot experimental Browning Road scheme, including during development stage. Members will remain engaged throughout the entire pilot experiment period so that they are better informed of the pilot including key issues emerging from residents in their wards. Browning Road has had a long-term Nitrogen Dioxide monitor in place. Over the 2000 – 2017 period, the data shows that there have been successive breaches in air quality requirements - in excess of the EU levels for human health. More details can be found in our 2018 Air Quality Strategic Review on our website at https://www.newham.gov.uk/Documents/Environmentandplanning/AirQualityAnnualStatusReport.

Question 5 from Imran Asghar to Councillor Zulfiqar Ali

“In regards to Browning Road Bridge - what is the cash generated from fines going to be used for - If this is for quality of air for local residents then what measures have been taken?”

Published Response

The aim of the Browning Road experimental pilot scheme is to reduce through traffic, so that environmental conditions, air quality and road safety can be improved in the area. Additionally, the experimental pilot seeks to promote use of public transport and walking. We expect compliance will be high as a majority of vehicles presently using that route will no longer be permitted to use the route. As with other traffic and parking contraventions, if some unauthorised vehicles do chose to ignore the road signs and restrictions, then in line with section 55 of the Road Traffic Act, fines will be issued. Money generated can only be used to reinvesting public highways related maintenance and improvements including those that improve safety and health benefits.

Question 6 from Adeel Patel to Councillor Zulfiqar Ali

What actual research has taken place for the implementation of restricted usage of the Browning Road Bridge? Where is the evidence? Why has this not been disclosed?
Previously, similar pilot schemes have run (Sherrard Road); this was made permanent with no consultation. As a result, we want to know what happens during these 6 months, what consultations take place during and after and how will the final decision be made?

**Published Response**

Prior to implementing the pilot experimental schemes on Browning Road, vehicle travel data was collected which identified over 3600 vehicles using the Browning Road bridge as a short cut through the area (the majority of these vehicles were from outside of the borough). Additionally, evidence from the Newham Long Term Condition Mapping Report (produced by the NHS which shows that East Ham North ward area has significantly high incidents of asthma) was considered; as was ratified NO2 results from 2002 - 2017 (which shows that NO2 pollution levels on Browning Road are well above safe limits); both alluding to amongst the worst air quality in Newham.

Based on this evidence, the Council identified the area as a prime site for implementing a ‘traffic cell’ approach as part of its commitment to the ‘liveable neighbourhood’ and ‘liveable streets’ agenda being pursued by the Mayor of London (as integrated in the Council’s Local implementation Plan). The traffic cell approach proposes controls in a local area that limits the number of vehicles passing through a designated cluster of residential streets. This improves traffic flows, road safety and helps reduce vehicle emissions that will help improve the health and wellbeing of residents.

This scheme is designed as an experimental Traffic Management Order. The whole purpose of this is to introduce a scheme for a set duration and the formal consultation process starts from the day it is implemented and lasts its entire duration of 6 months. The comments of support or objections or suggestions received are properly considered before any decision on the future of the scheme. An experimental scheme of this nature can legally be in place for a maximum period of 18 months before it is made permanent, amended or removed. Additionally the Council is going to be undertaking further traffic data studies and air quality data collection. We will then at a later date write to all of the affected residents within the EHN, LI and Manor park wards, providing details of the data collected, investigations and feedback received. We will invite suggestions for any further changes or amendments. A report will then be produced detailing all responses and data with recommendations regarding the future of the scheme. Views of ward councillors will be considered as part of the on-going consultation process.

In accordance with Rule 9 (Duration of Meeting), the remainder of the business was not considered since the meeting was required to conclude at 9.30pm.

Accordingly, the Chair declared the meeting closed at this point.
18. **Speeches from Members**

This matter was not considered.

19. **Conclusion of Business of Council Meeting**

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed.