



Council

Thursday 28 September 2023

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LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

COUNCIL MEETING

-

28 SEPTEMBER 2023

PUBLIC QUESTION

A period of up to 15 minutes is allowed for the asking of written questions by members of the public of a Member of the Executive or the Chair of any Committee.

Questioner: Dipaque Bhatt

Asked of: Councillor Anjana Patel (Portfolio Holder Portfolio Holder for Highways, Infrastructure and Community Safety)

Question 1:

“What is Harrow Council doing about public baiting for rats in areas where there is a known infestation across our borough? West Harrow seems to have a ridiculous amount. However, baiting seems to be left to the residents.

I do think that Harrow Council should be working in collaboration with Thames Water drains to bait drains for example. And also deploy public baiting in high-risk areas.”

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

COUNCIL MEETING

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28 SEPTEMBER 2023

PUBLIC QUESTION

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Questioner:

Asked of: Councillor (Portfolio Holder for)

Question 2:

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

COUNCIL MEETING -

28 SEPTEMBER 2023

PUBLIC QUESTION

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Questioner:

Asked of:

Question 3:

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LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

COUNCIL MEETING

-

28 September 2023

QUESTION WITH NOTICE

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Questioner: Cllr Nitin Parekh

Asked of: Councillor Marilyn Ashton, Portfolio Holder for Planning & Regeneration

Question 1:

“Harrow benefits from an exceptionally diverse historic environment. It includes conservation areas designated under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as ‘areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Harrow is green and leafy borough and has many areas designated as Conservation Areas. What is the Council doing to maintain, enhance or protect these areas.?’”

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

COUNCIL MEETING -

28 September 2023

QUESTION WITH NOTICE

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Questioner: Councillor Stephen Hickman

Asked of: Councillor Mina Parmar, Portfolio Holder for Housing

Question 2:

“What actions is the portfolio holder taking to improve standards in rented housing across Harrow?”

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

COUNCIL MEETING -

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Questioner: Councillor Antonio Weiss

Asked of: Councillor Marilyn Ashton, Portfolio Holder for Planning & Regeneration

Question 3:

“The Portfolio Holder received a presentation at the Planning Policy Advisory Panel last week on the developers plans for Queens House in the Town Centre, given the proposal is planning to remove 385 parking spaces from the area and also the Future High Streets Fund '5 year - meanwhile use' on Greenhill Way car park will remove an additional 40 spaces, is the Portfolio Holder concerned the two schemes mentioned may adversely impact the businesses in the Town Centre?”

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

COUNCIL MEETING -

28 September 2023

QUESTION WITH NOTICE

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Questioner: Councillor Graham Henson

Asked of: Councillor Anjana Patel, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Infrastructure and Community Safety

Question 4:

“The borough looks in a terrible state; verges not cut, large volumes of weeds on pavements and in kerbsides, accumulating rubbish and detritus attracting vermin, and basal growth not being dealt with – will the portfolio holder tell us what actions they are taking to ensure all grass verges across Harrow are being maintained within residents expectations or even within the Service Level Agreement (SLA)?”

Full Council – Thursday 28th September 2023

Motion (2) – AMENDMENT

Proposer: Cllr. David Perry **Seconded:** Cllr. Natasha Proctor

Motion calling for TfL to examine the boundary position of ULEZ cameras:

“This Council notes:

- Council passed a motion to oppose the ULEZ expansion in July 2022.
- The Mayor of London’s decision to expand the ULEZ came into effect on 29 August 2023.
- The ULEZ, on its old boundary, made £224 million in revenue during 2022. It is expected that the expanded ULEZ will extract ~~over~~ **significant additional revenue** ~~£300 million~~ per annum from **many Londoner’s living within the current cost of living crisis.** ~~poorest and most vulnerable motorists and traders.~~
- There have been ~~worrying~~ reports by Harrow residents who say that they have received ULEZ fines while driving on non ULEZ boundary roads, although **TfL have publicly said that drivers initially caught in the ULEZ zone from its commencement on August 29th, will not have received PCNs for non-payment of the charge, rather they will have received enforcement warning letters that the ULEZ is now in force.**
- The most frequently mentioned sites are Common Road and Brockley Hill.
- ~~It emerged over the summer that the Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy had asked a City Hall-funded expert to counter science that questioned the benefits of ULEZ.~~
- The Leader of the Council wrote to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities requesting that the government supports a parliamentary amendment which will grant London Councils greater power to reject London-wide schemes like ULEZ. **Government ministers did look into this suggestion but dropped the plan after receiving legal advice it would probably fail if challenged in court and therefore did not knowingly want to waste tax-payers’ money.**

This Council believes:

- The ULEZ expansion is a **positive step to tackling air pollution however the speedy roll out will leave many Londoners unable to make the necessary changes to vehicle arrangements resulting in adverse financial circumstances** ~~regressive tax on our poorest motorists and struggling trades people.~~
- It is **concerning** ~~wrong~~ that some residents **in future may get** ~~have been allegedly~~ fined while driving on roads which TfL’s website states are not within the ULEZ zone.

This Council resolves:

- To call on TfL to urgently examine the locations of their cameras near to boundary roads.
- To tell TfL to ensure anyone who **could be** ~~was~~ mistakenly fined while driving along a non-ULEZ boundary road is contacted and **the PCN withdrawn** ~~refunded.~~
- To reiterate our **calls for a more generous scrappage scheme now the scheme has come into force and call on the Government to adequately fund London’s attempts to improve air quality, like other cities, so no Londoners are financially worse off.** ~~opposition to the ULEZ stealth tax and call on the Mayor of London to stop his war on Harrow’s poorest and most vulnerable motorists.~~
- ~~To welcome the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities positive response to Leader’s request for enhanced decision-making powers for London Councils, which will allow councils to reject future schemes like ULEZ from being imposed by the Mayor of London/GLA.”~~
- To welcome the £1.5m+ investment Harrow residents have claimed through the scrappage scheme so far, and instruct the Council Communications channels to robustly publish more widely the support available to our residents including the ULEZ appeal process should residents feel they have received an incorrect fine in future from travelling on non ULEZ related roads.

Ends

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