

Council

Summons and Agenda

Date: Thursday 29 September 2022

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Council Chamber, Harrow Civic Centre, Station Road, Harrow, HA1 2XY

All Councillors are hereby summoned to attend the Council Meeting for the transaction of the business set out.



Hugh Peart
Director of Legal and Governance Services

Despatch Date: [Wednesday 21 September 2022]

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Useful Information

Joining the Meeting virtually

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You will be admitted on a first-come-first basis and directed to seats.

Please:

- (1) Take a Covid 19 test before travelling and do not attend in person if you test positive.
- (2) Wear a face covering and use the provided hand sanitiser.
- (3) Stay seated.
- (4) Access the meeting agenda online at [Browse meetings - Council – Harrow Council](#)
- (5) Put mobile devices on silent.
- (6) Follow instructions of the Security Officers.
- (7) Advise Security on your arrival if you are a registered speaker.

Filming / recording

This meeting may be recorded or filmed, and if you choose to attend, you will be deemed to have consented to this. Any recording may be published on the Council website.

Agenda publication date: Wednesday 21 September 2022

1. **Council Minutes** (Pages 7 - 20)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2022 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary or non pecuniary interests, arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from all Members of the Council.

3. **Procedural Motions**

To receive and consider any procedural motions by Members of the Council in relation to the conduct of this Meeting. Notice of such procedural motions, received after the issuing of this Summons, will be tabled.

4. **Petitions**

To receive any petitions to be presented:

- (i) by a representative of the petitioners;
- (ii) by a Councillor, on behalf of petitioners;
- (iii) by the Mayor, on behalf of petitioners.

5. **Public Questions**

A period of up to 15 minutes is allowed for members of the public to ask questions of members of the Executive, Portfolio Holders and Chairs of Committees, of which notice has been received no later than 3.00 pm two clear working days prior to the day of this Meeting. Any such questions received will be tabled.

6. **Leader and Portfolio Holder Announcements**

To receive a presentation from the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holders on business since the last ordinary meeting, followed by a question and answer session. The item is allotted 20 minutes.

7. **Recognition of Long Service - Councillor Jerry Miles** (Pages 21 - 26)

Report of the Director of Legal and Governance Services

8. **Pension Board Annual Report** (Pages 27 - 34)

Recommendation I: Pension Board
(28 July 2022)

9. **Outside body - change in representation - Harrow Safer Neighbourhood Board**

The Labour Group have notified that they wish to appoint Councillor Peymana Assad in place of Councillor Kandy Dolor on this Outside Body.

10. **Questions with Notice**

A period of up to 15 minutes is allowed for asking written questions by Members of Council of a member of the Executive or the Chair of any Committee:-

- (i) of which notice has been received at least two clear working days prior to the day of this Meeting; or
- (ii) which relate to urgent matters, and the consent of the Executive Member or Committee Chair to whom the question is to be put has been obtained and the content has been advised to the Director of Legal and Governance Services by 12 noon on the day of the Council Meeting.

Any such questions received will be tabled.

11. **Motions**

The following Motions have been notified in accordance with the requirements of Council Procedure Rule 15, to be moved and seconded by the Members indicated:

(1) **Motion: To commemorate the passing of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and to mark our thanks for her dedicated service**

To be moved by Councillor Paul Osborn and seconded by Councillor David Perry:

“This Council notes:

- The sad passing of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday 8 September, aged 96.
- The Late Queen, our longest reigning monarch, dedicated her whole life in service of the people of the United Kingdom and has made an undeniable impact on our country. The Late Queen showed unwavering and inspirational dedication to serving the nation and the Commonwealth, offering wise counsel in often turbulent times.
- The Late Queen remained firmly committed to carrying out her duty until the very end of her life. This was demonstrated by Her Majesty by working on official duties right up until she passed away.
- The Late Queen opened Northwick Park Hospital in 1970.
- The Late Queen visited Harrow in 1954 for Harrow’s Charter of Incorporation.
- The Late Queen visited Harrow to celebrate the 50-year anniversary of the establishment of the Borough of Harrow in 2004.

- In 2012 The Late Queen made a Diamond Jubilee visit to Krishna Avanti School to celebrate the multi-faith demographic of Harrow.
- As well as achieving the country's longest serving monarch, the Late Queen was an extremely popular Head of State in the United Kingdom and internationally and a public figure we can all be proud of both now and for generations to come.

This Council resolves to:

- Commemorate the sad passing of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.
- Formally commemorate our gratitude and thanks to The Late Queen for her 70 years as monarch.
- Investigate naming the new Town Hall after The Late Queen, in honour of Her Majesty's memory and role in Harrow's creation as a London Borough.
- Reaffirm the Council's sense of public duty and strive to emulate The Late Queen's commitment to serving the people.
- Welcome the ascension of His Majesty King Charles III and wish him a long and prosperous reign."

Data Protection Act Notice

The Council will record the meeting and will place the recording on the Council's website.

[Note: The questions and answers will not be reproduced in the minutes.]

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COUNCIL 29 SEPTEMBER 2022

MINUTES

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Council

Minutes

21 July 2022

Present: Councillor Janet Mote (The Worshipful the Mayor)

Councillor Ramji Chauhan (The Deputy Mayor)

Councillors:

Ghazanfar Ali	Hitesh Karia
Dan Anderson	Eden Kulig
Marilyn Ashton	Kuha Kumaran
Peymana Assad	Jean Lammiman
Christopher Baxter	Jerry Miles
June Baxter	Amir Moshenson
Philip Benjamin	Phillip O'Dell
Govind Bharadia	Paul Osborn
Nicola Blackman	Nitin Parekh
Simon Brown	Mina Parmar
Shahania Choudhury	Varsha Parmar
Salim Chowdhury	Anjana Patel
Dean Gilligan	Pritesh Patel
Matthew Goodwin-Freeman	David Perry
Stephen Greek	Natasha Proctor
Chetna Halai	Kanti Rabadia
Susan Hall	Aneka Shah-Levy
Graham Henson	Rekha Shah
Maxine Henson	Norman Stevenson
Stephen Hickman	Samir Sumaria
Nitesh Hirani	Krishna Suresh
Asif Hussain	Sasi Suresh
Thaya Idaikkadar	Yogesh Teli
Ameet Jogia	Zak Wagman
Rashmi Kalu	Antonio Weiss

Joined virtually: Councillor David Ashton

Apologies received: Councillor Kandy Dolor Councillor Vipin Mithani

PRAYERS

The meeting opened with Prayers offered by
Monsignor Vincent G Brady of St Luke's Church, Pinner.

14. Council Minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 26 May 2022 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

15. Declarations of Interest

The following interests were declared:

Item 14 – Motion opposing Mayor Khan's ULEZ Expansion

Councillor Susan Hall declared an interest in that she was a member of the Greater London Authority and would leave the Chamber for the discussion and vote on this item.

Councillor Asif Hussain declared a disclosable pecuniary interest and would leave the Chamber for the discussion and vote on this item.

Councillor Stephen Greek declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was employed by the Greater London Authority.

16. Procedural Motions

The Leader of the Council moved a procedural motion that the petitions for debate at items 5 and 6 on the Summons, Stop Closure of Harrow Viewpoint Car Park and Reinstate the right for people to Visit Old Redding Viewpoint and the Case is Altered Pub, be debated together for up to a maximum of 15 minutes. Upon being put to the vote this was agreed.

17. Petitions

No petitions were received.

18. Petition - Stop Closure of Harrow Viewpoint Car Park

In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme, Council received a petition containing over 2,000 signatures as follows

- (i) Petition submitted by Geoff Eldridge containing over 2,000 signatures stating

"Harrow Council have decided to close Harrow View Point car park from 6pm. This will not only effect all dog walkers / walkers who have used this space for decades but will also effect the pub The Case Is Altered which has bought life back to the area and made it a family friendly place for people to visit. The pub was previously shut for over 2 years which bought problems to the area where anti social behaviour started from. When the pub opened it stopped people from using the car park inappropriately. The closure of the car park will affect the pub

and could potentially lead to closure ! Are they planning more flats ?? Harrow doesn't need anymore flats and it would be a shame to lose such a beautiful part of Historic Harrow. There will also be severe traffic issues when the car park closes as people will start to park their cars on the road and this could be hazardous.

Sign this petition to help save a beautiful part of Harrow.”

- (ii) Debate was held on the content of the petition.

RESOLVED: That the petition referred to the Corporate Director of Place for consideration.

19. Petition - Reinstate the right for people to visit Old Redding Viewpoint and The Case is Altered Pub

In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme, Council received a petition containing over 2,000 signatures as follows

- (i) Petition submitted by Geoff Eldridge containing over 2,000 signatures stating

“This petition is for Harrow Council to either increase the hours of operation of the car park until 11:30 pm as per their off-street parking places public notice and/or remove the double yellow lines which are now on both sides of the entire length of the road. The actions of Harrow Council have not considered the needs of Harrows' residents and are discriminatory, unreasonable and show a complete disregard for the small business that operates from The Case is Altered. The Case is Altered relies on people being able to visit the area by car and Harrow Council have gone to great lengths to ensure that is no longer possible after 4 pm.

We the undersigned, request that Harrow Council increase the hours of operation of our public car park until 11:30 pm as per Harrow Council's public notice and/or remove the unnecessary double yellow lines in order to save The Case is Altered from closure.”

- (ii) Debate was held on the content of the petition.

RESOLVED: That the petition referred to the Corporate Director of Place for consideration.

20. Public Questions

There were no public questions.

21. Leader and Portfolio Holder Announcements

- (i) The Leader of the Council, Councillor Paul Osborn, introduced the item highlighting the Administration's achievements, challenges and plans since the last ordinary meeting.
- (ii) Other Members spoke and/or asked questions of the Leader of the Council which were duly responded to.

22. Honorary Alderman

RESOLVED: That an Extraordinary Council meeting be convened on 29 September 2022 to consider conferring the title of Honorary Alderman on Camilla Bath.

23. Scrutiny Annual Report 2022

RESOLVED: That the Scrutiny Annual Report 2021-2022 be endorsed.

24. Outside Body Appointment - Deputy Lord Lieutenant's Committee

RESOLVED: That Councillor Jean Lammiman be appointed to the Deputy Lord Lieutenant's Committee, in place of Councillor Nitesh Hirani.

25. Information Report - Remuneration Packages of £100,000 or greater

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

26. Questions with Notice

To note that one question from Councillors to the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holders had been received and that the recording was on the Council's website.

27. Motions

(i) "Motion opposing Mayor Khan's ULEZ Expansion

Motion in the names of Councillor Paul Osborn and Councillor Marilyn Ashton

To be moved by Councillor Paul Osborn and seconded by Councillor Marilyn Ashton:

"This Council notes that:

- On 4th March 2022 the Mayor Khan announced his plan to expand the Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) from its current boundary to cover almost all of Greater London, including Harrow. These plans would see the ULEZ expanded by 29th August 2023.
- On 25th October 2021, the ULEZ was already expanded to 18 times its original size.

- The October 2021 expansion was a significant change which took place less than a year ago.
 - The ramifications of this change have not yet been fully assessed.
- The proposed 2023 expansion would mean that those with non-compliant vehicles would pay £12.50 per day to drive within the ULEZ.
 - Residents would be forced to pay more to get to work, visit friends and family and take advantage of Harrow's local businesses and high streets.
 - This will likely cost jobs, damage the social fabric of Harrow, and encourage businesses to locate elsewhere.
 - The less well-off are disproportionately penalised.
 - The proposed 2023 expansion is fundamentally unfair on those Harrow residents, who would be unable to afford to replace their car or pay the £12.50 per day and would thus be forced to rely on public transport which is not always reliable.
 - The Mayor of London has set aside over £200 million towards expanding the ULEZ and related projects.

This Council resolves to:

- Oppose measures to push up the cost of living in Harrow by imposing taxes and charges on Harrow residents, who rely on their cars and trades vehicles to get about.
- Call on the Mayor of London to withdraw his unworkable and discriminatory ULEZ expansion.
- Recommend to Mayor Khan that the over £200 million set aside for the ULEZ and related projects should be invested in more equitable and effective ways of improving London's air quality, such as:
 - A faster upgrade to a zero-emission bus fleet
 - Increasing the roll out of rapid charging points
 - Encouraging more freight consolidation schemes
 - Bringing back the previous Boiler Cashback Scheme to encourage Londoners to upgrade their boilers to reduce household emissions
 - Financing a generous scrappage scheme to support Londoners in replacing their vehicles.”

Upon the meeting moving to the vote, the Conservative Group requested that their vote be recorded. The Motion was carried.

[For the Motion: Councillors Marilyn Ashton, Christopher Baxter, June Baxter, Benjamin, Bharadia, Blackman, Chowdhury, Goodwin-Freeman, Chauhan, Greek, Halai, Hirani, Idaikkadar, Jogia, Karia, Kumaran, Lammiman, Moshenson, Osborn, Mina Parmar, Anjana Patel, Pritesh Patel, Rabadia, Seymour, Stevenson, Sumaria, Teli and Wagman].

Against the Motion: None.

Abstain: The Worshipful the Mayor Councillor Janet Mote, Councillors Ghazanfar Ali, Dan Anderson, Assad, Brown, Chauhan, Choudhury, Gilligan, Graham Henson, Maxine Henson, Hickman, Kalu, Kulig, O'Dell, Parekh, Varsha Parmar, Perry, Proctor, Rekha Shah, Aneka Shah-Levy, Krishna Suresh and Sasikala Suresh.]

Absent: Councillors David Ashton, Dolor, Hall, Hussain and Mithani.

RESOLVED: That the Motion, as set out above, be adopted.

(ii) **“Cost of Living Emergency in Harrow Motion**

Motion in the names of Councillor David Perry and seconded by Councillor Natasha Proctor

To be moved by Councillor David Perry and seconded by Councillor Natasha Proctor:

“This Council notes that:

Harrow and its residents are suffering due to a cost of living crisis:

- On 1 April 2022, Ofgem increased the energy price cap by 54 per cent and this is almost certainly going to increase in October.
- In light of the increased energy price cap, the average standard tariff energy bill will increase by £600+ per year and the average pre-pay meter energy bills increasing by £700+ per year (*Ofgem, 2022*).
- On 6 April 2022, the Government increased National Insurance by 1.25%, which is projected to cost the average Harrow family an additional £108 per year.
- On 18 May 2022, inflation was confirmed at 9%.
- The escalating cost of fuel is putting huge strain on local people simply trying to go about their everyday lives. As of 12 July, petrol is at an average of 190.65p per litre, while diesel is 198.42p per litre. It is expected they will be more than £2 per litre by the end of the summer and already are in some petrol stations. Filling up a

typical family car's 55-litre fuel tank with petrol now costs £104.86 on average, while it costs £109.13 to do so with diesel.

- The Government has suspended the pensions 'triple lock' for 2022/3, meaning that Harrow's pensioners will see a rise of 3.1 per cent this year (*instead of 8.3 per cent under the triple lock formula*). This year, this will cost a Harrow pensioner on the full new state pension an average of £487, and on the full basic state pension an average of £373 (*TUC, 2022*).
- In 2021/22 Harrow foodbanks have handed out food parcels to thousands of residents on a weekly basis, many of whom are families with children. This continues to get worse.
- The recent 'Covid Additional Relief Fund' (*CARF*) and 'Household Support Fund' (*HSF*) is just not adequate enough for the needs of Harrow families and businesses. Many will not even qualify for the schemes.

Council believes:

Under the current government, people are seeing tax hikes, energy bills soaring and fuel and food prices rising drastically.

Council resolves:

- To declare a "Cost of Living Emergency".
- Council instructs the Interim Chief Executive, Leader of the Council and three local Harrow MPs (*Gareth Thomas, Bob Blackman and David Simmonds*) to collaboratively write to the relevant Secretaries of State to express concerns over the points raised above along with seeking a meeting to discuss local circumstances and argue;
 - Against the changes to the 'Pension' Triple Lock,
 - Consider a regular Windfall Tax on energy giants supporting residents with ongoing energy bills should the Cost of Living Crisis deepen in future years.
 - Further duty reductions on fuel at the pumps
- Endorse the setting up of a local 'Cost of Living Emergency Summit' to be led by the Leader of the Council and Leader of the *Opposition*, with stakeholders including Citizens Advice, Food Banks, Local Trades Unions, Chambers of Commerce and invite local MPs to attend to discuss how the Council could further support residents in the future, work collaboratively, offer further support and use its influence to create positive change.
- Immediately work with all relevant stakeholders in Harrow to seek an increase in both CARF and HSF funding."

A tabled amendment was received, duly seconded, put to the vote and was carried. Upon the meeting moving to the vote, the Conservative Group requested that their vote be recorded.

[For the Amendment: Councillors Marilyn Ashton, Christopher Baxter, June Baxter, Benjamin, Bharadia, Blackman, Chowdhury, Goodwin-Freeman, Chauhan, Greek, Halai, Hall, Hirani, Idaikkadar, Jogia, Karia, Kumaran, Lammiman, Moshenson, Osborn, Mina Parmar, Anjana Patel, Pritesh Patel, Rabadia, Seymour, Stevenson, Sumaria, Teli and Wagman].

Against the Amendment: Councillors Ghazanfar Ali, Dan Anderson, Assad, Brown, Chauhan, Choudhury, Gilligan, Graham Henson, Maxine Henson, Hickman, Hussain, Kalu, Kulig, O'Dell, Parekh, Varsha Parmar, Perry, Proctor, Rekha Shah, Aneka Shah-Levy, Krishna Suresh and Sasikala Suresh.

Abstain: The Worshipful the Mayor Councillor Janet Mote and Councillor Chauhan.]

Absent: Councillors David Ashton, Dolor and Mithani.

Upon the meeting moving to the vote on the substantive Motion it was carried. The Conservative Group requested that their vote be recorded.

[For the Substantive Motion: Councillors Marilyn Ashton, Christopher Baxter, June Baxter, Benjamin, Bharadia, Blackman, Chowdhury, Goodwin-Freeman, Chauhan, Greek, Halai, Hall, Hirani, Idaikkadar, Jogia, Karia, Kumaran, Lammiman, Moshenson, Osborn, Mina Parmar, Anjana Patel, Pritesh Patel, Rabadia, Seymour, Stevenson, Sumaria, Teli and Wagman].

Against the Substantive Motion: None.

Abstain: The Worshipful the Mayor Councillor Janet Mote, Councillors Ghazanfar Ali, Dan Anderson, Assad, Brown, Chauhan, Choudhury, Gilligan, Graham Henson, Maxine Henson, Hickman, Hussain, Kalu, Kulig, O'Dell, Parekh, Varsha Parmar, Perry, Proctor, Rekha Shah, Aneka Shah-Levy, Krishna Suresh and Sasikala Suresh.]

Absent: Councillors David Ashton, Dolor and Mithani.

RESOLVED: That the Motion, as amended and as set out below, be recommended to the Executive for consideration:

“Cost of Living Emergency in Harrow Motion

This Council notes that:

Harrow and its residents are suffering due to a Global cost of living

crisis:

- Cost of oil and gas has spiked due to Putin's horrific and illegal war in the Ukraine, which has restricted supplies. The impact of this war, in addition to economic consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic, has led to the price rises and inflation which has created this cost of living crisis.
- On 1 April 2022, Ofgem increased the energy price cap by 54 per cent and this is almost certainly going to increase in October.
- In light of the increased energy price cap, the average standard tariff energy bill will increase by £600+ per year and the average pre-pay meter energy bills increasing by £700+ per year (Ofgem, 2022).
- On 6 April 2022, the Government increased National Insurance by 1.25% to provide money for the NHS and social care, which is projected to cost the average Harrow family an additional £108 per year.
- Harrow Council, under Labour, increased the Council Tax burden on Harrow residents by a staggering amount, which has only worsened the cost of living for local people. The previous Labour administration:
 - Increased Council Tax by the maximum every year.
 - Increased Council Tax by over 31% since 2011, the largest increase of any London Council.
 - Increased Council Tax by £79.72 in their February 2022 budget, the largest cash increase of any London Council this year.
 - After being in control of the Council for most of the last 12 years, Labour left Harrow with the second highest Council Tax rate of any London Council.
- Labour Mayor Khan has increased the GLA precept by 8.8% in April, adding £31.93 to Band D bills. The previous Conservative Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, froze the precept for his first term and cut it throughout his second term.
- The Labour Mayor of London is also planning to expand the ULEZ (Ultra Low Emission Zone) to include Harrow. This would mean Harrow's poorest residents, who can't afford to replace their cars, would be forced to pay £12.50 per day to drive their vehicles.
- On 18 May 2022, inflation was confirmed at 9% in the UK. Inflation is currently 9.1% in the USA and 8.6% in the Eurozone.
- The escalating cost of fuel is putting huge strain on local people simply trying to go about their everyday lives. As of 12 July, petrol is at an average of 190.65p per litre, while diesel is 198.42p per

litre. It is expected they will be more than £2 per litre by the end of the summer and already are in some petrol stations. Filling up a typical family car's 55-litre fuel tank with petrol now costs £104.86 on average, while it costs £109.13 to do so with diesel.

- The Government has suspended the pensions 'triple lock' for 2022/3, meaning that Harrow's pensioners will see a rise of 3.1 per cent this year (instead of 8.3 per cent under the triple lock formula).
- In 2021/22 Harrow foodbanks have handed out food parcels to thousands of residents on a weekly basis, many of whom are families with children. This continues to get worse.
- The recent 'Covid Additional Relief Fund' (CARF) and 'Household Support Fund' (HSF) has helped Harrow residents by providing much need financial relief. The Conservative government has implemented a number of measures to ease the cost of living, including:
 - A £6 billion tax cut for 30 million working people across the UK, worth over £330 a year, by raising the National Insurance personal threshold from £9,500 to £12,570. Around 70 per cent of all workers will have their taxes cut by more than what they will pay through the levy to sustainably fund the NHS and social care.
 - A £150 Council Tax rebate and a £400 discount to energy bills in the autumn.
 - £326, the first of two cost of living payments, will automatically be paid into 7 million bank accounts between 14 July and 31 July 2022 as part of the government's £37 billion support package. The second instalment of £324 will follow from the autumn, with separate payments for pensioners and disabled people also coming later this year.
- Harrow Council's new Conservative administration are introducing policies which will save residents money:
 - 1 Hour of Free on Street Parking will commence in August.
 - Before the end of the year, the Council will introduce a free bulky waste collection service.
 - Extend Free School Meals during school holidays to include May Half Term and the 6-week summer holiday.

Council believes:

- Due to a Global pandemic and the war in the Ukraine people around the world are seeing energy bills soaring and fuel and food prices rising drastically.
- The Government over this period has taken unprecedented measures to support Harrow residents.

- The Government should continue its strong and proud record of supporting Harrow's residents and should see what further measures can be introduced.

Council resolves to:

- Declare a "Cost of Living Emergency".
- Work with local MPs and neighbouring Councils to lobby the Secretary of State responsible for local government and the Chancellor of the Exchequer to ensure that Harrow residents get the support that they need at this difficult time.
- Endorse the setting up of a local 'Cost of Living Emergency Summit' to be led by the Leader of the Council, with other stakeholders to discuss how the Council could further support residents in the future, work collaboratively, offer further support and use its influence to create positive change.
- Immediately work with all relevant stakeholders in Harrow to seek an increase in both CARF and HSF funding."

(Close of Meeting: All business having been completed, the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8.46 pm).

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COUNCIL
29 SEPTEMBER 2022

RECOGNITION OF LONG SERVICE -
COUNCILLOR JERRY MILES

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REPORT FOR: COUNCIL

Date of Meeting:	29 September 2022
Subject:	Recognition of Long Service: Councillor Jerry Miles
Responsible Officer:	Hugh Peart – Director of Legal and Governance Services
Exempt:	No
Wards affected:	None
Enclosures:	None

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

The Council on 18 July 1985 adopted a recommendation from the then Policy and Resources Committee meeting of 2 July, concerning the recognition of Members' long service and resolved:

“That the Council agree that Members of the Council who complete 25 years' service with the Council be presented with framed, illuminated copy resolutions of appreciation”.

This report sets out the proposal for a Long Service Award to Councillor Jerry Miles.

Recommendations:

That Council approve a Long Service Award marking Councillor Jerry Miles 25 years' service as a Member for Harrow Council in September 2022.

Section 2 – Report

- 2.1 It is the current policy of the Authority to recognise the completion of 25 years' service on the part of the Members of the Council by awarding a framed, illuminated address of appreciation (Council Resolution of 18 July 1985).
- 2.1 Full Council must agree any change or abandonment of this policy.
- 2.3 A long service award was last made in May 2019 to Councillors Jean Lammiman, Chris Mote and Phillip O'Dell. Councillor Jerry Miles will achieve this distinction in September 2022.

Councillor Jerry Miles

Councillor Jerry Miles was first elected to the Council in September 1997 and has served continuously to date. Following the Borough Elections of 2022 when Councillor Miles was returned to serve as a Member for the Roxeth Ward, he will in the lifetime of this Council (in September 2022) attain the required 25 years' service.

Councillor Miles has served on various Council Committees including Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Performance and Finance Scrutiny Sub-Committee, Call In Scrutiny Sub-Committee and Traffic and Road Safety Advisory Panel and has held the office of Chair of each these bodies. In addition, Councillor Miles has also served on the Development and Planning Committee, Development Control Committee, Hearing Review Sub-Committee, Assessment Sub-Committee and Personnel Appeals Panel.

Councillor Miles has represented the Council on numerous outside bodies including London Borough of Harrow (LBH) Bus & Highways Liaison Meeting, LBH Rail Liaison Meeting, Harrow Environmental Forum, London Road Safety Council, London Councils' Transport & Environment Committee (Associated Joint Committee) and Harrow Sports Council.

The Council is requested to record its appreciation of the public service rendered by Councillor Jerry Miles, in the form of the following resolution:

Councillor Jerry Miles B.A.(Hons)., M.Lib., A.L.A.:

Recognition of Long Service

“The Council of the London Borough of Harrow do hereby record their appreciation of the twenty-five years' service by Councillor Jerry Miles to the London Borough of Harrow.

In recognition of his completion of twenty-five years of public service to Harrow, this resolution be engrossed on vellum and publicly presented to Councillor Miles, at the Council Meeting in November 2022.”

- 2.4 The costs for the long service awards will be met from existing budgets.
- 2.5 This report is submitted, following consultation with the Leader of the Council, Leader of the Labour Group and Councillor Jerry Miles

Financial Implications

The costs associated with the vellums will be met from within existing budgets.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Statutory Officer: Dawn Calvert

Signed on by the Chief Financial Officer

Date: 12 July 2022

Statutory Officer:

Signed by the Monitoring Officer

Date: 8 July 2022

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Alison Atherton, Senior Professional Democratic Services

Background Papers: Election records, Committee memberships

If appropriate, does the report include the following considerations?

- | | |
|-----------------|-----|
| 1. Consultation | YES |
| 2. Priorities | NO |

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COUNCIL
29 SEPTEMBER 2022

PENSION BOARD
RECOMMENDATION
(28 JULY 2022)

RECOMMENDATION I

PENSION BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

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Pension Board

Minutes

28 July 2022

Present:

Chair: Mr R Harbord

Board Members: Pritesh Patel Employer representative –
London Borough of Harrow
Gerald Balabanoff (VC) Scheme Members'
Representative - Pensioners

Apologies received: Patrick O'Dwyer

Absent: Dr Simon Radford

Recommended Items

10. Pension Board Draft Annual Report 2021- 22

Members were presented with the regular draft annual report, as required by the Board's Terms of Reference and invited to make comments before a final version of the report can be submitted to Full Council in September 2022.

A key point raised in the discussion revolved around the membership of the Board with members stating that consideration should be given on either introducing reserves or expanding the cohort of members to ensure resilience and continuity of the Board. Whilst appointment of reserves was considered, Members were reminded that the Board was an independent from the Council body and as such operated under different legislation, one which may not include provision for reserves. Increasing the existing membership was another option albeit challenging due to ongoing difficulties in recruiting and retaining members. The Board did not raise any further comments.

RESOLVED: That the annual report be noted and referred to Council for endorsement subject to officers investigating queries about appointment of reserve members and expanding the structure of the Board and amending the report accordingly.

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW PENSION BOARD

2021/22 ANNUAL REPORT

Background

The Local Pension Board was set up by 1 April 2015 in accordance with the requirements of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 (The Act).

The Pension Board has responsibility for assisting the Council as the administering authority of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) in relation to the following:

- securing compliance with the LGPS regulations and other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the LGPS;
- securing compliance with requirements imposed in relation to the LGPS by the Pensions Regulator; and
- such other matters as the LGPS regulations may specify.

The Act provides for the Board membership to be of equal numbers of “employer representatives” and “scheme member representatives”. In addition we have an Independent Member who is currently the Chair of Pension Board.

Harrow Pension Board’s Terms of Reference require the Board to present a report on its work to the Full Council once a year.

This report covers the work of the Pension Board to 31st March 2022 – the seventh year of operation of the Harrow Pension Board.

Meetings

Pension Board normally meets quarterly and held its first meeting on 25 June 2015. The current Chair, Richard Harbord and Vice Chair, Gerald Balabanoff were appointed at that meeting and have been re-appointed to those posts annually since that date.

The Board’s Terms of Reference indicate that it will meet at least twice and not more than four times a year. The Pension Regulator’s expectation is that LGPS Pension Boards will meet four times a year.

During 2021-22, the Board met four times.

Importantly, the remaining vacancy, for a representative of the non-LB Harrow employers, was filled during the year.

Role and Terms of Reference

We understand our role and are generally happy with the generic nature of the Terms of Reference, which we reviewed in October 2019. However, our view is that we should meet more than twice a year and that the periods of office of the various

members should be staggered to avoid the potential loss of too much experience at one time.

We recorded our concern that there have been two vacant positions on the Board, for a representative of the “other employers (i.e. not Harrow Council) and a representative for the active (contributing) scheme members, and requested officers to prioritise recruitment to these vacancies.

We have also requested that the membership of Pension Board is extended to ensure that each meeting is quorate. The current terms of reference make no provision for reserve members.

We have also requested that all reports from Pension Fund Committee, including exempt reports, be made available for review by Pension Board on a timely basis.

Knowledge and Understanding of the Local Government Pension Scheme

To assist in our understanding and to assist in our scrutiny role, we have been provided with a large amount of information about the Scheme, usually with an officer’s commentary, including

- Annual Report and Accounts
- Governance Compliance Statement
- Investment Strategy Statement
- Pension Fund Risk Register
- Policy for Reporting Breaches of Law
- Policy for Avoiding Conflicts of Interest
- Pension Fund Administration Strategy
- Pension Fund Training Policy

Relationship with Pension Fund Committee

At each meeting, the Board have been advised of the agendas of, and decisions taken by, the Pension Fund Committee at its recent meetings. Our views have, in turn, been reported to the Committee. The Board has also been invited to attend the Committee meetings and the training sessions held prior to each meeting.

A recurring theme throughout the year has been legal advice that members of the Board are not entitled to remain at the Committee’s meetings when exempt papers are discussed even though Board members are expected to abide by the Council’s Code of Conduct.

Since 2018-19 the Pension Board has been referring Pension Board minutes and recommendations to Pension Fund Committee. During 2021-22, the Board was asked to review a number of draft policies before these were submitted to the Pension fund Committee for final approval. This approach to policy development and review has been helpful, and the Committee intends to continue this approach in future.

Annual Report and Financial Statements

We were again invited to consider the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Pension Fund, together with their various attachments and the reports of the Auditor. The areas in which we expressed particular interest have been:

- Actuarial assumptions and actuarial valuation results
- Employer contributions
- The prospect of the funding deficit being recovered in 20 years
- The performance of the Fund and the way it is discussed in reports to facilitate the scrutiny process
- The effectiveness of investment managers internal controls
- Local Government Pension Scheme Pooling Arrangements through the London Collective Investment Vehicle (LCIV)

We have received reports on the Scheme Advisory Board's Good Governance Review, the London Collective Investment Pooling arrangements and outcome of the GAD Section 13 review of the 2019 triennial valuation.

Benchmarking and key performance indicators

We have shown particular interest in benchmarking and key performance indicators.

Traditionally, reliable benchmarking and comparison information covering all administering authorities has not been available. However, recent Government requirements in the context of the pooling arrangements have necessitated the provision of relatively consistent information from all administering authorities.

We have also asked for refinement to pension administration reporting to better understand performance against key performance indicators. KPI's have been considered as a standing item since June 2017. Pension Board receives confirmation of breaches of law and has been assured that annual benefit statements are issued on time.

Environmental, Social and Governance Issues (ESG)

The Board supports the Committee's stance in expecting fund managers to adopt appropriate codes of practice and that they are required to provide an explanation when they do not. We have also requested information on the LCIV approach to ESG.

Training

Pension Board members are invited to the regular training sessions which take place before pension Fund Committee meetings and Board members have also availed themselves of other relevant training including that offered by CIPFA.

Conclusion

The regulations governing Pension Boards are contained in the Local Government Pension scheme (Amendment) (Governance) 2015 Regulations 2015 (SI2015/57)

The main provisions are:

“(1) Each administering authority shall no later than 1st April 2015 establish a pension board (“a local pension board”) responsible for assisting it –

(a) to secure compliance with –

(i) these Regulations,

(ii) any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the Scheme and any connected scheme, and

(iii) any requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator in relation to the Scheme and any connected scheme; and

(b) to ensure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Scheme and any connected scheme.

Essentially the role of the Pension Board is one of Scrutiny and our role is wholly advisory.

The Board looks forward to consolidating performance in the current year and continuing to develop its role as an effective body for scrutiny and improvement.