Full Council - Thursday 28th September 2023

Motion (2) - AMENDMENT

Proposer: Cllr. David Perry Seconder: 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 ever 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.