

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2022**

**COUNCILLORS**

**PRESENT** Doris Jiagge (Mayor), Suna Hurman (Deputy Mayor), Abdul Abdullahi, Josh Abey, Nicki Adeleke, Gunes Akbulut, Mahmut Aksanoglu, Nawshad Ali, Kate Anolue, Mahym Bedekova, Sinan Boztas, Nesil Caliskan, Mustafa Cetinkaya, Lee Chamberlain, Hivran Dalkaya, Chris Dey, Guney Dogan, Hannah Dyson, Ergin Erbil, Elif Erbil, Susan Erbil, Peter Fallart, Thomas Fawns, Reece Fox, Alessandro Georgiou, Margaret Greer, Patricia Gregory, Adrian Grumi, Esin Gunes, Ayten Guzel, Nelly Gyosheva, Ahmet Hasan, James Hockney, Mohammad Islam, Chris James, Rick Jewell, Joanne Laban, Tim Leaver, Elisa Morreale, Tom O'Halloran, Ahmet Oykenner, Sabri Ozaydin, Bektas Ozer, Paul Pratt, Michael Rye OBE, Julian Sampson, Ruby Sampson, George Savva MBE, David Skelton, Edward Smith, Jim Steven, Nia Stevens, Emma Supple, Doug Taylor, Andrew Thorp and Eylem Yuruk

**ABSENT** Maria Alexandrou, Chinelo Anyanwu, Alev Cazimoglu, Stephanos Ioannou, Chris Joannides, Andy Milne, and Gina Needs

**THE MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE THE BLESSING**

Dr Nick Chandra, Pastor, Revival Christian Church of Enfield gave a blessing.

**1  
ELECT A PERSON TO PRESIDE IF THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR  
ARE NOT PRESENT**

There was no business transacted under this item.

**2  
MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the Chamber for the first Ordinary Council of the Autumn and hoped that all were well following the special meeting convened to commemorate the late Queen Elizabeth II.

There had been many events that the Mayor had been invited to, which the Mayor highlighted and included Enfield's diverse community and she had been overwhelmed by the welcome she had received, for example, the Windrush Anchor Festival, Asure Community Event, Eid Gala, Chariots Festival, an event honouring 20 years of the Congolese Community, the month of Sundays events at Snells Park, Ashfield Parade in Southgate, and Edmonton Shopping Centre and the Youth Talent Event at the Youth Zone of Eagles Boxing Club.

Special thanks were given to Julia Clarke who had retired as Deputy Head of the Prince of Wales Primary School after over 30 years of service. Recognition of Julia's contribution to the Religion and Identity project, where she worked with the university of Westminster to create a scheme of work for Religious Education that was taught throughout the school and had directly led to Alevism being recognised in the UK as a religion – the first country in the world to do so was noted. This scheme of work was now taught in schools across Enfield and the country.

On the 2nd September 2022, the Mayor attended the borough's twinned town of Gladbeck with her daughter, Jannaya and Cllr Elisa Morreale for the weekend. The welcome they received had been wonderful and the Mayor was so happy to be able to be part of the Appeltatenfest this year, after an absence of two years, reaffirming the relationship between the towns, which was now 52 years old.

It had been a great pleasure to meet up with other London Mayors at the London Pearly Kings and Queens Society Harvest Festival Service, a wonderful tradition in London.

The Mayor had also attended the Enfield Voluntary Action Volunteering Ceremony at the Civic Centre and had been inspired to see so many caring people who worked hard to help those who needed support.

Another ceremony attended by the Mayor had been the commendation of the new North Area Borough Commander, Caroline Haines. The Mayor congratulated Caroline on her new appointment.

Black History month in October allowed everyone to celebrate the huge diversity of the borough and the determination and triumph of those who had settled here to make a life for themselves. The Mayor had attended a Windrush Event at the Millfield Theatre, which showcased 20 stories. The Mayor stated that she had been humbled by their resilience and strength.

On the 8th October 2022, the Mayor held an Awareness Day for Domestic Violence, how it affected the mental health of young children and the support services available in Boundary Hall, Edmonton. Many stallholders attended and provided information and advice. It was very useful for the stallholders to network with each other and share valuable information. The Mayor would continue to raise awareness of this issue throughout the Mayoral year.

The Mayor had continued to enjoy attending the citizenship ceremonies and had observed that the numbers had increased in recent weeks. It was pleasing to be able to see the number of people who attended each week. The Mayor stated that she was honoured that so many new citizens had chosen Enfield and sent them all her best wishes for a happy and healthy life in our borough.

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The Mayor asserted that it was very important to her that the meeting ran smoothly. Members were reminded that anyone who wished to speak should stand unless they were unable to do so and should address the meeting through the Mayor. Members were asked to treat each other courteously and with respect; to allow debate to take place so that all elected members had an opportunity to participate fully in the democratic process.

Members were asked to listen politely when a fellow Councillor spoke and not to talk amongst themselves whilst another Member was addressing the meeting. The Mayor acknowledged that, whilst Members may disagree with each other politically, it was possible to challenge robustly and to do so professionally and respectfully.

The Mayor announced her intention to preside over the meeting in a firm but fair manner. Opportunities would be given to Members on both sides of the Chamber to speak. Rudeness and discourteous interruption would not be tolerated. Members were further reminded that when she stood members must take their seat and to wait until she invited them to speak.

The Mayor then invited the Acting Young Mayor, Mustafa Berk AK, to update the Chamber on his activities in his elected role.

The Acting Young Mayor described his personal projects which included promoting cultural awareness and future opportunities for the youth of Enfield, including the idea of Shadow Youth Cabinet members, sitting in on Cabinet meetings.

Councillors were asked to promote the Youth Parliament, to encourage the young people to participate in the opportunity to take part in the discussions about what would happen to them, what they wanted to see happen in the Council and where they lived and to have a say and a presence in politics.

In future there would be 20 elected representatives of the youth of Enfield from the ages of 11 to seventeen. The elections would take place in January 2023.

The Acting Young Mayor stated that another personal project was to develop a new curriculum which was started during the current COVID-19 where new lessons were implemented in schools, which the young people of Enfield believed accurately represented what the future held for them and presented information that they may not necessarily learn in school.

The Acting Young Mayor, on behalf of the young people of Enfield, shared some comments made to him and the discussion that they had. The main thing arising from the discussion were the issues affecting everyone attending the North Middlesex Hospital following the redevelopment of the Chase Farm Hospital site.

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The Acting Young Mayor drew the attention of the Council to these issues, which had directly affected the underprivileged youth of Enfield, who had felt that what was available to them was not necessarily the best.

A further issue raised by the Acting Young Mayor was in relation to the safer street draft proposals and the provision of street shelters, which could be used by young people to take cover from the rain and to meet others.

The young people also wanted more direct connection between the Council and foster care youth and those living in accommodation wanted to see increased interactions with them.

Additionally, the young people wanted to have more opportunities for those aged from 19 to 25. The elected representative was currently up until the age of 18.

Regrettably, the Mayor made a sad announcement, as some of those present may have known, Kaunchita Maudhub passed away recently following a brave battle with a recently diagnosed cancer.

Kaunchita worked for Enfield Council for almost 27 years, firstly in Legal Services and since 2003 in the Community Safety Team - helping people across the borough whose lives were impacted by the anti-social behaviour of others. She gave her time selflessly and generously and her expertise and calmness under pressure were respected and admired by all.

The Mayor offered, on behalf of the Council, condolences to Kaunchita's family, friends, and colleagues at this very sad time.

Members stood to join the Mayor in a minutes' silence.

### **3 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Maria Alexandrou, Chinelo Anyanwu, Alev Cazimoglu, Stephanos Ioannou, Chris Joannides, Andy Milne, and Gina Needs.

Apologies for lateness was received from Councillor Rick Jewell.

### **4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Councillors declared non-pecuniary interests in the following items:

Motion 11.8 – Councillors Chris Dey, Andrew Thorp, Emma Supple due to their involvement with the Guide and Scout Associations; and  
Motion 11.5 – Councillor Joanne Laban who was a Governor of Capel Manor College.

5

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 13 July 2022 were received and **AGREED** as a correct record.

6

**PETITION: WE VOTED FOR YOU. PLEASE SPEAK UP FOR US. #DEBATE ENFIELD'S LOCAL PLAN**

The Lead Petitioner, Carol Fisk spoke for five minutes in support of the petition on Councillors: We voted for you. Please speak up for us. #Debate Enfield's Local Plan. The Petitioner raised the following points:

- To bring the revised Local Plan to a Full Council meeting, as promised by a majority vote of councillors at an Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 9 June 2021.
- To allow sufficient time for councillors to debate the merits of the Local Plan for the first, and only, time at Full Council before it was submitted to the National Planning Inspectorate for consultation as part of the Regulation 19 process.
- To ensure that each councillor had the chance to vote either for or against the plan and, in the interest of transparency and public accountability, subject this vote to a "Roll Call" so that there is a public record of how each councillor voted.
- The revised Local Plan be published, in a fully accessible form for residents (length, format, physical copies) at least 12 weeks before the date of the proposed Full Council meeting to enable councillors, especially those who were new, to properly consider the contents of the plan and to engage their constituents in a meaningful and productive consultation about their aspirations, their homes and their environment **before** the debate at Full Council at which councillors could decide whether to submit the plan to the National Inspectorate and proceed to a formal public consultation.

Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council, thanked the Lead Petitioner for presenting the Petition on behalf of the other residents of Enfield.

Councillor Caliskan noted that the development of a sound local plan was a very important statutory requirement which impacted on generations to come and the Borough. The publication of a Local Plan was a long and complicated process, both technically difficult for officers and always politically sensitive. Should the Council not allocate adequate amounts of land there would be consequences for borough from the National Planning Inspector. The interest shown in the development of a Local Plan from the borough's community groups, civic societies, and our residents was very much welcomed as was the Petition, which included some very constructive and helpful suggestions.

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The Leader stated that she was very happy for the administration to vote to agree the demands in the Petition. In terms of bringing the Local Plan to the Full Council for debate, which was something the Administration had already stated as its intention and was also a statutory responsibility.

The next stage would be for the Council to publish the regulation 19 followed by a 12-week consultation period and the Plan would then be tabled at the Full Council meeting, followed by submission to the National Planning Inspector. If required at that Full Council meeting, there would be an extension of time to allow members to speak.

The Leader moved that the revised Local Plan be published and consulted on in accordance with the intention as previously set out by the Administration and in line with the Council's statutory obligations and in accordance with community consultation good practice

Members from both sides of the Chamber expressed support for the Petition and agreed that the proposals set out in the Plan should receive considered democratic scrutiny.

Members acknowledged the strong support for the Petition which was an overwhelming show of public opinion from across the borough of Enfield and showed a real strength of feeling.

At the end of the debate, it was unanimously **AGREED** that the action the Petition requested be taken.

## 7

### **OPPOSITION PRIORITY BUSINESS - THE LOCAL PLAN**

Councillor Alessandro Georgiou, Leader of the Opposition, introduced the Opposition Priority Business paper on the Local Plan.

Councillor Georgiou noted that Enfield's Core strategy had been adopted in 2010. Inevitably, since then, there had been changes to planning law, planning guidance, and regional plans such as the London Plan. In addition, there had been a number of planning appeals from the Planning Inspectorate that informed local planning applications. Until Enfield adopted a new Local Plan the borough would find it difficult to resist some planning applications that might be regarded as impacting negatively on Enfield.

The current draft Local Plan had been formulated without input from other political groups on the council (unlike all previous Local Plans). The plan also failed to reflect key themes in the London Plan 2021 and national government planning policy, especially on the Green Belt. The consultation with the public in Enfield had been successful and a large number of responses had been received. However, a significant number of the responses questioned aspects of the draft Local Plan. It therefore appeared that the draft Local Plan did not command wholehearted support from the residents of the borough.

The prompt establishment of a cross-party working group would play an important role in ensuring that the Local Plan was progressed through collaborative working.

**Recommendations:**

- A cross-party working group should review the draft Local Plan and make recommendations to the Cabinet and Council.
- Full Council should debate the revised Local Plan prior to submission.
- Proposals to allow building on the Green Belt should be reviewed in the light of the London Plan 2021 and in the light of opposition to development on the Green Belt by the Mayor of London and National Government.
- Careful consideration needs to be given where taller buildings may be acceptable.

Some members felt that the current draft Local Plan was not supported as it had not been debated in the Chamber and expressed full support for the Petition.

It was noted that the Local Plan would be a mechanism to promote urban regeneration, utilize the brownfield sites to safeguard against development on the green belt and provide green spaces for the health and wellbeing of local residents. Members commented that without a Local Plan the borough remained vulnerable to inappropriate and undesirable development in unsuitable locations.

The Local Plan was a very important document, which would allow for the development and regeneration of the local area in the way that is desired through extensive consultation and public debate. The Local Plan would protect the borough from inappropriate development which impacted on the borough and would enable the council to make significant, informed decisions. Members noted that although building on brownfield sites had merit, two thirds of the brownfield sites in the borough were currently in private ownership. The Local Plan would enable the council to address the housing situation in the borough, where there were over 3,500 residents in temporary accommodation.

During the debate, a procedural motion under paragraph 4.2 was moved by Councillor Dey and seconded by Councillor Ozaydin to extend the time for the debate for a further 20 minutes which was put to the vote and **AGREED**.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Nesil Caliskan, thanked all members who contributed to the proactive and constructive debate ahead of the difficult decisions the council would have to make in complex policy areas for the benefits of residents. The Planning Inspector had to agree that the council has a sound Local Plan, working practically and collectively for the whole borough. There was more work to be done, particularly to find a compromise between developing on the green belt and building up and infrastructure and use of strategic development land.

Following the debate, the recommendations in the paper were **AGREED**.

**8  
SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND)  
PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY 2023-2027**

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi moved, and Councillor Chris James seconded, the report.

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi introduced the report and thanked parents and carers for their contribution and time, which sought the approval of Full Council for the new Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Partnership Strategy 2023-27, which would replace Enfield's SEND Education Strategy (2018), which had now expired.

The new strategy would provide strategic direction for the Council and the local SEND Partnership to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

The strategy highlighted the importance of the first 1,001 days of a child's life (up until the age of 2), and the impact this can have on the development and life chances of our children and young people. Where early identification, together with early and consistent intervention was crucial to the outcomes and life chances of the borough's children and young people.

The strategy also recognised that a child's development and life chances were influenced by a multitude of factors such as early relationships, the care they receive, living in poverty, or becoming looked after.

There were significant pressures on the Local Authority. There was a high need deficit in Enfield which resulted in a large number of children and young people attending out of borough provision.

For the children and young people with complex needs to achieve positive outcomes and reach the high aspirations set out in the Council Plan Enfield Borough Council must meet and support their needs.

The Opposition welcomed and supported the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Partnership Strategy 2023-2 which simplified access to early identification and intervention with ongoing support to enable the children and young people with complex needs to reach their full potential, to participate in society and to thrive.

Disappointment was expressed that the new Strategy did not contain reference how practical support could be accessed, particularly for those children and young people who were significantly affected by lockdown, which would have lifelong implications for those who were unable to access services and provisions and where online interventions were not effective.

The Administration expressed confidence that Enfield Borough Council would provide the support.

Following the debate, the recommendation in the report was put to the vote and was unanimously **AGREED**.

## **9**

### **SCRUTINY ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMMES 2022/23**

Councillor Margaret Greer moved, and Councillor Chris Dey seconded, the report.

**AGREED** to approve the annual scrutiny work programmes for 2022/23 for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Standing Panels.

## **10**

### **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

A procedural motion was moved and seconded under paragraph 2.2 of the Council Procedure Rules to change the order of business on the agenda so that Motions would be taken as the next item of business which was put to the vote and **AGREED**.

## **11**

### **MOTIONS**

#### **Urgent Motion in the name of Councillor Nesil Caliskan**

Enfield Council recognises that the Government has lost control of the economy amidst a cost-of-living crisis, prompting the Bank of England to make an unprecedented £65bn intervention to stabilise markets, following catastrophic proposals announced in the September minibudget.

Increasing energy bills, tax rises on working people and inflation reaching a 40-year high have devastated living standards for Enfield residents. The economic crisis also means higher rents and higher mortgages as interest rates skyrocket.

The economic crisis has been self-inflicted by Liz Truss and her government. This Council notes that trickle-down economics has consistently failed.

The decision of the government to reverse the plans to abolish the 45p income tax rate was only made after days of economic turbulence.

1. Enfield Council calls on the government to:
2. Properly tax the oil and gas giants to pay for an energy price cap freeze  
Ensure the minimum wage is set at a level that reflects the cost-of-living  
Enfield Council will write to the Chancellor to urge him to take immediate action to stabilise the economic situation.

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3. Enfield Council will take direct action to do everything it can to support residents throughout this crisis, including:
4. Identifying public building space in the borough that could provide places of warmth for those struggling to heat their homes
5. Creating a programme to make additional food available to pupils from low-income households to help them through the winter
6. A call to action to our community organisations to work with us to get hot food to our residents aged over 70 who may struggle in the coming months Making our residents fully aware of our Hardship Fund services and how to contact us
7. Establishing a highly visible and easily accessible Cost of Living web resource on our Council website that is regularly updated with helpful information for residents

During the debate, a procedural motion was moved and seconded under paragraph 4.2 to extend the debate for a further 10 minutes which was put to the vote and **AGREED**.

Following the extended debate, a procedural motion was moved and seconded under paragraph 13.21(ii) to go to the vote, which was put to the vote and **AGREED**.

A recorded vote on this item was requested by Cllr Nesil Caliskan. Eleven more members of the Council having stood in support of the request for a recorded vote, the Urgent Motion was put to the vote and was **AGREED** with the following votes recorded:

### **Labour**

#### **31 Voting For**

Abdul Abdullahi  
Josh Abey  
Nicki Adeleke  
Gunes Akbulut  
Mahmut Aksanoglu  
Nawshad Ali  
Kate Anolue  
Mahym Bedekova  
Sinan Boztas  
Nesil Caliskan  
Mustafa Cetinkaya  
Hivran Dalkaya  
Guney Dogan  
Ergin Erbil  
Thomas Fawns  
Margaret Greer  
Esin Gunes  
Ayten Guzel  
Nelly Gyosheva  
Ahmet Hasan  
Suna Hurman

Mohammad Islam  
Chris James  
Rick Jewell  
Tim Leaver  
Ahmet Oykener  
Sabri Ozaydin  
George Savva  
Nia Stevens  
Doug Taylor  
Eylem Yuruk

**Conservative  
21 Abstentions**

Lee Chamberlain  
Chris Dey  
Hannah Dyson  
Peter Fallart  
Reece Fox  
Alessandro Georgiou  
Patricia Gregory  
Adrian Grumi  
James Hockney  
Joanne Laban  
Elisa Morreale  
Tom O'Halloran  
Paul Pratt  
Michael Rye OBE  
Julian Sampson  
Ruby Sampson  
David Skelton  
Edward Smith  
Jim Steven  
Emma Supple  
Andrew Thorp

The remainder of Motions lapsed under the guillotine arrangements.

**12  
COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME**

This item was noted under the guillotine arrangements. Answers to questions were provided in the supplementary agenda circulated at the meeting.

**13  
COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

The changes to the committee membership were dealt with under the guillotine arrangements and it was **AGREED** that:

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Councillor Tim Leaver and Councillor Abdul Abdullahi to replace Councillor Guney Dogan and Councillor Margaret Greer on the Staff Appeals, Appointments and Remuneration Committee.  
Councillor Alessandro Georgiou to replace Councillor James Hockney on the Finance & Performance Scrutiny Panel.

### **14**

#### **NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

There were no nominations to outside bodies.

### **15**

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was **NOTED** as 16 November 2022.