

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY, 30 OCTOBER 2018**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT

Saray Karakus (Mayor), Kate Anolue (Deputy Mayor) Huseyin Akpinar, Mahmut Aksanoglu, Maria Alexandrou, Daniel Anderson, Tolga Aramaz, Ian Barnes, Dinah Barry, Mahym Bedekova, Chris Bond, Sinan Boztas, Yasemin Brett, Anne Brown, Nesil Caliskan, Alev Cazimoglu, Mustafa Cetinkaya, Katherine Chibah, Lee David-Sanders, Birsen Demirel, Chris Dey, Guney Dogan, Elif Erbil, Ergin Erbil, Susan Erbil, Ergun Eren, Achilleas Georgiou, Alessandro Georgiou, Charith Gunawardena, Ahmet Hasan, Elaine Hayward, Stephanos Ioannou, Nneka Keazor, Joanne Laban, Bernadette Lappage, Dino Lemonides, Derek Levy, Andy Milne, Gina Needs, Terence Neville OBE JP, Ahmet Oykenner, Sabri Ozaydin, Michael Rye OBE, George Savva MBE, Edward Smith, Jim Steven, Claire Stewart, Doug Taylor, Mahtab Uddin, Glynis Vince and Hass Yusuf

ABSENT

Guner Aydin, Will Coleshill, Clare De Silva, Margaret Greer, Christine Hamilton, Rick Jewell, Tim Leaver, Mary Maguire, Ayfer Orhan, Vicki Pite and Lindsay Rawlings

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APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Aydin, Coleshill, De Silva, Greer, Hamilton, Jewell, Lever, Maguire, Orhan, Pite, Rawlings and for lateness from Councillors Akpinar, Achilleas Georgiou and Keazor.

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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

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**LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND -
ELECTORAL REVIEW - COUNCIL SUBMISSION**

Councillor Caliskan moved and Councillor Laban seconded the report of the Director of Law and Governance setting out the Council's submission on the proposed size of the Council, as part of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's London Borough of Enfield Electoral Review. (Report No: 102)

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NOTED

1. The last review had been in 1999. Two recent meetings of the Electoral Review Panel had taken place to discuss the submission and officers had been instructed to put it together, based on evidence provided and estimations of population growth.
2. Both political groups had agreed to recommend that the Council size should remain as it currently was, with 63 councillors.
3. Sixty-three was felt to be a sensible proposal that could deliver good governance. It enabled the Council to be represented by a wide variety of people, people of all ages, working and retired. It could also give scope to enable members to take maternity leave.
4. Since the last review there had been major changes in technology and in how constituents could be served.
5. The review was bound by limitations set down by the Boundary Commission and could only take account of anticipated population growth to 2024. The borough was growing fast and was likely to continue to do so because of increasing housing targets. The population had grown by 14.3% over the last 10 years. Demands on councillors were also likely to increase. With 63 councillors, all would be doing more.
6. The majority of opposition members were pleased to support the joint submission as they felt that this would carry more weight with the Boundary Commission. As responsibilities were increasing, it would be unwise to reduce the numbers.
7. Concern was expressed that the relevance to the conclusions of the information on pages 24-26 was unclear, and it was felt that this should be clarified in the final report.
8. A few opposition councillors said that they were not in support of the submission. They felt that the Council should be smaller. The view was that number of electors per councillor had only increased by about 500 and that this did not take into account the change to the Leader Cabinet model of governance which was felt to have led to a reduced role for backbench members. They felt that Bexley and Harrow had made the right decision to reduce numbers. Although many councillors did fantastic work, others were felt to be passengers.
9. They thought that by reducing the number of councillors, savings could be made which could then be spent on front line services.
10. The view was expressed that parties should bring in a more rigorous selection process to ensure that councillors were more professional and could meet increased responsibilities.
11. Some opposition members expressed support for the idea of a changing to a mayoral model of governance which had been a success in other boroughs.
12. In a report that had been discussed at the Electoral Review Panel information had been provided on numbers of Members enquiries which varied across the wards.
13. Councillor Caliskan summed up by saying that she felt that the proposal for the Council size to remain 63 was uncontroversial, adequate and sensible. She believed that councillors played an

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invaluable role representing their communities, whether in administration or not. Pressures on the local authority were due to government cuts, not down to the number of councillors. The question whether to move to a Mayoral system and the associated arguments might have merit but could not be included in the scope of this boundary commission review. More work did need to be carried out to ensure elected representatives were reflective of the communities they serve, including more women and carers. She believed that the role local government was incredibly valuable.

Following the discussion, the recommendations were put to the vote and agreed with the following result:

For: 46

Against: 0

Abstentions: 4

AGREED:

1. That Council endorse the recommendation of the Electoral Review Panel that the Council size remains at 63 members, as detailed in section 2 of the submission document attached to the report in Appendix 1.
2. That the submission document attached to the report in Appendix 1 is referred to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as the Council's submission on Council size.
3. To delegate to the Director of Law and Governance, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Opposition, the power to make any minor amendments to the submission document as required before submission of the report to the Boundary Commission.

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COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

AGREED the following changes to Committee Memberships:

- Audit and Risk Management – Councillor Lee David-Sanders to replace former Councillor Jon Daniels
- Joint Consultative Group for Teachers and Staff Forum – Councillor Glynis Vince to replace Councillor Will Coleshill
- Licensing Committee – Councillor Dinah Barry to replace Councillor Katherine Chibah and Councillor Vicki Pite to be appointed as a Vice Chair.
- London Borough of Enfield/Enfield Racial Equality Council - Councillor Joanne Laban to replace Councillor Will Coleshill
- Public Transport Consultative Group – Councillor Edward Smith to replace Councillor Stephanos Ioannou
- SACRE - Councillor Joanne Laban to replace Councillor Will Coleshill
- Green Belt Forum – Councillor Lee David-Sanders to fill the vacancy.