

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held on Monday 10 July 2017 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor

Councillor Bhagwanji Chohan

The Deputy Mayor

Councillor Arshad Mahmood

COUNCILLORS:

Aden Agha Allie Ahmed **Bradley** Butt Chan Carr S Choudhary Colacicco Collier Colwill Crane Conneely Davidson Denselow Duffy Dixon Ezeajughi Farah Harrison Hirani Hoda-Benn Hossain Hylton **Jones** Kabir Kansagra Kelcher Long Marquis Mashari McLeish Maurice McLennan Miller

Moher J Mitchell Murray W Mitchell Murray Naheerathan

Nerva M Patel
RS Patel Perrin
Pitruzzella Shahzad
Ms Shaw Ketan Sheth
Krupa Sheth Southwood
Stopp Tatler

Thomas Van Kalwala

Warren

7. Fire Safety in High Rise Tower Blocks

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- A £10million increase to the Council's 2017/2018 Capital Programme, in order to meet the cost of enhancing the fire safety measures in the Council's housing stock, be agreed;
- (ii) The Council's Chief Executive be asked to write to the Government as a matter of urgency to request that the Government provide direct financial support to meet the costs that will be incurred;
- (iii) The Council's Chief Executive be asked to write to the Government as a matter of urgency to request that the Government urgently consider revocation of the permitted development rights for office to residential conversions, in order to ensure that such proposals go through the proper planning process to enable full consideration of all relevant planning considerations;
- (iv) It be noted that a report which proposed an outline programme of works would be taken to the Council's Cabinet meeting on 24 July 2017;
- (v) It be noted that a report with a fully itemised and costed programme of work would be prepared for Cabinet consideration and approval by October 2017, and that its implementation would be monitored by the Housing Scrutiny Committee:
- (vi) The Council's Strategic Director of Community Wellbeing be asked to write to Registered Providers in the borough to request that they keep the Council updated as to the status of their Fire Risk Assessments for the high risk tower blocks that they were responsible for within the borough;
- (vii) The Council's Chief Executive be asked to write to the Government as a matter of urgency to request that the Government review the use of building control teams from the private sector and other Councils to inspect buildings for the purposes of building control approval, which can mean a total lack of oversight by the relevant local authority inspectors of the fire risk level in some privately owned high rise blocks; and
- (viii) The Council's Chief Executive be asked to write to the Government as a matter of urgency to request that the Government address whether licensing laws for landlords in the private sector are stringent enough to ensure that all dwellings are fit for human habitation.