#### London Borough of Brent – Summary of the decisions taken by the Council on Monday 10 July 2023

PRESENT: Councillors Hylton (Mayor), Dar (Deputy Mayor), Aden, Afzal, Agha, Ahmed, Ahmadi-Moghaddam, Akram, Bajwa, Begum, Benea, M.Butt, S.Butt, Chan, Chappell, Chohan, Choudry, Conneely, Crabb, Dixon, Donnelly-Jackson, Ethapemi, Farah, Fraser, Gbajumo, Georgiou, Grahl, Hack, Hirani, Johnson, Kabir, Kansagra, Kelcher, Kennelly, Knight, Long, Lorber, Mahmood, Matin, Maurice, Miller, Mistry, Mitchell, Moeen, Molloy, Nerva, J.Patel, M.Patel, Rajan-Seelan, Shah, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Smith, Southwood and Tatler.

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1	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Collymore and Rubin.
2	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	AGREED that the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on Wednesday 17 May 2023 be approved as a correct record.
3	Declarations of Interest	Councillor Lorber declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 15.2 (Liberal Democrats motion (Protecting, preserving and promoting Parks and Open Spaces in Brent) as a Director and Trustee of Barham Park Community Library given the reference to Barham Park within the motion.
4	Mayor's Announcements (including any petitions received)	<ul> <li>Announcements from the Mayor were noted in relation to:</li> <li>Kings Birthday Honours List 2023</li> <li>Pride Flag Raising Event</li> <li>75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Windrush event</li> <li>Reopening of Harlesden Library</li> <li>Srebrenica Memorial Event</li> <li>Barham Primary School shortlist in "Community Collaboration" category Worlds Best School</li> <li>Celebrating 75 years of the NHS</li> <li>Community Cohesion</li> <li>Death of Sir Ben Helfgott – including commemoration and tributes from Councillors Maurice &amp; Nerva</li> </ul>

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		Petitions
5	Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies and Appointment	AGREED
	of Chairs/Vice Chairs (if any)	(1) the following change in appointments to Outside Bodies:
		(a) London Council's Greater London Employment Forum – Councillor Muhammed Butt to replace Councillor Mili Patel as the Council's full representative with Councillor Mili Patel to replace Councillor Muhammed Butt as Deputy.
		(2) To confirm the appointment of Stephen Ross to fill the vacant position as an Independent Co-Opted Member on the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee for a four year term of office expiring at the Annual Council meeting in May 2027 (subject to confirmation of the ongoing appointment at the Annual Council meeting each year).
6	Deputations (if any)	No deputations were received at the meeting.
7	Questions from Members of the Public & Brent Youth Parliament	<ol> <li>NOTED</li> <li>The written response provided by the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure &amp; Climate Action to a public question submitted by Diane Richard regarding traffic safety in Wrottesley Road. No supplementary question was received.</li> <li>The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Customers, Communities &amp; Culture to a public question submitted by Fitzroy Lee on the extent of community engagement undertaken in relation to the renaming of Gladstone Park and Leopold.</li> <li>The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member</li> </ol>

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		<ul> <li>for Customers, Communities &amp; Culture to a public question submitted by Noreen Scott regarding the use of Gladstone Park to host a Windrush 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration event given previous concerns raised in relation to the naming of the Park.</li> <li>4. The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Planning &amp; Growth to a question submitted by Brent Youth Parliament regarding access to employment services, financial information and guidance by young people and use of information available through the Flourishing Futures research project to focus on the barriers to employment being experienced by young people to support this process.</li> <li>5. The written response provided by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools to a question submitted by Brent Youth Parliament regarding the financial support available for young people to assist in meeting the costs of college and higher education. No supplementary question was received.</li> <li>6. The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Public Health &amp; Adult Social Care to a question submitted by Brent Youth Parliament regarding the range of access to mental health support for young people and ability of the Youth Parliament to support future development and design of services.</li> </ul>
8	Petitions (if any)	No petitions were presented at the meeting.
9	Reports from the Leader and Cabinet	NOTED the report and update provided at the meeting by Councillor Muhammed Butt, as Leader of the Council, highlighting the work being undertaken across each Cabinet portfolio alongside the efforts being made to manage the Council's finances as efficiently as possible within the current economic climate in order to provide ongoing support and services to residents within the borough. As part of the update the Leader took the opportunity to outline the work being undertaken to support young people and other members of the local community into employment as well as to extend business

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		opportunities, with reference to the recent topping out ceremony for SEGRO V-Park Grand Union development and upcoming Brent Jobs Fair.
10	other Non-Cabinet Members	<ol> <li>NOTED</li> <li>The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Action to a question submitted by Councillor Choudry regarding the enforcement work being undertaken to tackle blue badge theft and fraud and how best to report concerns.</li> </ol>
		2. The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Homelessness and Renters Security to a question submitted by Councillor Kennelly in relation to the work being undertaken with Housing Associations and other housing providers to tackle cases of mould and damp in properties and support available from the Council to assist in holding providers to account.
		3. The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities and Public Protection and Cabinet Member for Public Health and Adult Social Care to a question submitted by Councillor Chan regarding the work being undertaken by the Council to address gambling as a public health issue as well as in terms of anti-social behaviour linked to the increase in adult gaming centres.
		4. The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Homelessness and Renters Security to a question submitted by Councillor Georgiou regarding the rationale behind the approach taken to the implementation of proposals arising from the review of the housing estate

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caretaking service and associated impact on service charges and costs, which it was felt required further scrutiny.
Responses were also provided by the relevant Cabinet Members on the following additional questions raised during the open session of this part of the meeting:
• Councillor Kansagra regarding the current approach towards the payment of carers allowances under the Members Allowance Scheme.
<ul> <li>Councillor Lorber regarding the commitment towards the Neighbourhood Planning process and application of policies adopted as a result through the planning process.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Councillor Kennelly highlighting concern at the recent vandalism of commemoration tree planted by the Association of Jewish Refugees in Preston ward and action being taken to protect and prevent any further damage in future.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Councillor Mistry seeking assurance in relation to the Council's policy on the collection of rent from vulnerable residents living within Supported Accommodation.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Councillor Kelcher regarding the Council's commitment to continue supporting the improvement and development of parks and open spaces, including those located across Harlesden and Kensal Green ward such as Bramshill Road Park.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Councillor Long relating to accessibility of the details and information being provided on the Landlord Selective Licensing Scheme.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Councillor Jayanti Patel regarding the measures being taken to tackle and enforce against illegal footway parking along Kingsbury Road and around Kingsbury Circle.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Councillor Georgiou regarding the appropriateness of Shared Ownership being classified as a genuinely Affordable Housing option in the development of housing schemes across Brent and rationale behind the approach being to the disposal of</li> </ul>

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		23 properties in Alperton due to be considered by Cabinet on 17 July 2023.
11	Report from Chairs of Scrutiny Committees	NOTED the update reports provided by the Chair of the Resources & Public Realm and Chair of the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committees.
		Responses were also provided on the following additional questions raised during the open session of this part of the meeting:
		<ul> <li>From the Chair of the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee to Councillor Kansagra seeking clarification on the outcome of the review on performance of Thames Water across the borough and Committee's position regarding renationalisation of the utility service.</li> <li>From the Chair of the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee to Councillor Kabir regarding proposals for any planned new build hospital provision within the borough.</li> </ul>
12	Annual Report from the Chairs' of the Audit & Standards Advisory and Audit & Standards Committees	Audit & Standards Advisory Committees outlining the work undertaken by both
13	Non Cabinet Members' Debate	The following motion was unanimously AGREED as the outcome of the non-cabinet member debate:
		<u> "Casey Review – Metropolitan Police</u>
		This Council notes:
		<ul> <li>The damning findings of the March 2023 Casey Review, which showed a</li> </ul>

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		persistent and endemic culture of racism, misogyny, homophobia and violence against women within London's Metropolitan Police force.
		<ul> <li>The recent BBC investigation that found that the Metropolitan Police seriously mishandled key inquiries related to a major suspect in the murder of Stephen Lawrence.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>That whilst the Casey Review and the recent revelations about the Stephen Lawrence investigation are shocking, it will not be surprising to many in our communities across Brent who have been failed by the Metropolitan Police. Rather, these findings have further exposed an institution that has been known for systemic failures since before the murder of Stephen Lawrence in 1993.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>The persistent failure of leadership at all levels of the Metropolitan Police to act decisively and remove dangerous officers from their posts, despite multiple reports showing their propensity for serious harm prior to the violence and destruction they subsequently caused to dozens of lives.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>That the murder of Sarah Everard by Wayne Couzens, the dehumanising treatment of Bibaa Henry and Nicole Smallman, the Stephen Port murders, and the 48 rape offenses committed by David Carrick might have been prevented if swift and effective action had been taken at the time.</li> </ul>
		This Council also notes:
		<ul> <li>That crime disproportionately impacts members of the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities, those on the lowest incomes and members of the LGBTQ+ community, and that tackling crime across the borough means it</li> </ul>

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		<ul> <li>is integral that these communities have trust and faith in the police that serve them.</li> <li>Black people are nine times more likely to be stopped and searched by police than white people, official figures for England and Wales show.</li> <li>As highlighted by Baroness Casey, it is not enough for the Metropolitan Police to "reflect" on what needs to change, but that it needs a complete overhaul in order to take firm and decisive action against racism, misogyny and homophobia.</li> <li>The work of the Independent Scrutiny and Oversight Board, which has highlighted the reluctance of the Metropolitan Police so far to make any significant change.</li> <li>Whilst this council recognises the heroic work done by many police officers, including our own neighbourhood officers here in Brent, there is clearly unfinished business in the police force if there is to be an end to the culture that enabled these horrifying injustices to take place.</li> <li>This Council further notes: <ul> <li>Brent Council's efforts to address Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) through the following initiatives:</li> <li>The establishment of a VAWG Scrutiny Task Group in 2020 which provided a set of recommendations on how best to utilise Council resources to help combat VAWG. These recommendations are currently being implemented and its progress regularly reviewed to ensure this issue remains a high priority for the Council.</li> </ul></li></ul>

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	<ul> <li>Increased resources to VAWG organisations across the borough, as well as increased MARAC service provision to meet the demands from the knock-or effect of the Covid-19 pandemic.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Workshops conducted with local businesses across Brent to ensure that training is provided to the night-time economy (local pubs, bars, restaurants etc.) around supporting vulnerable women and safeguarding is offered more widely to local businesses.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>A series of public awareness campaigns demonstrating solidarity agains VAWG.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>The Council's investment in approaches to address perpetrators, provide trauma support to victims of crime; and investment in early intervention and prevention o community violence and harm – it is local government across London that has the approaches and best practice that is of value to the Metropolitan Police in its transformation.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>The positive introduction of LGBT+ Community Liaison Officers (CLO) for the North West Borough Command Unit (covering Brent, Barnet and Harrow boroughs) to improve relationships and trust between the LGBTQ+ Community and the Police.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>The Cabinet Member for Community Safety meets with the Metropolitan Police Commander for North West BCU (covering Brent, Harrow and Barnet) once a month to discuss urgent police matters affecting Brent residents and to ensure the interests of our communities in Brent are taken into account by the local police.</li> </ul>

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This Council therefore resolves:
(1) That the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities & Public Protection should write to the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police to confirm Brent Council's support of the Casey Review, requesting that the Metropolitan Police make concrete efforts to rebuild the trust lost by adopting and implementing without delay, all 16 recommendations of the Casey Review.
This includes:
<ul> <li>Adopting a new, independent, multidisciplinary team of police officers and staff who will reform how the Metropolitan Police deals with misconduct cases, with a particular focus on how it handles sexual misconduct, domestic abuse and discrimination.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Overhauling the recruitment and vetting system to ensure that new recruits are not drawn to the job for the wrong reasons; and revoking special qualifications where officers' standards fall short of public expectations.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Providing the Police Commissioner new powers that ensure that they can take strong and decisive action when the sanctions and consequences for misconduct are inadequate.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>A dedicated Women's Protection Service with specialist units who focus on rape and serious and sexual offences and the creation of a children's strategy to focus resources on safeguarding and child protection.</li> </ul>

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		(2)	To call upon the Metropolitan Police to build an improved borough-based approach that will rebuild trust in policing across communities by investing in frontline policing - including safer communities and public protection - and ensuring victims of crimes such as domestic violence and sexual assault have appropriate, compassionate, and effective support and resources.	
		(3)	To call upon the Metropolitan Police to commit to an overhaul of stop and search powers and accountability for the use of force in our communities.	
		(4)	To call upon the Metropolitan Police to further their partnership working with London local government as part of boosting local accountability and scrutiny of police powers, including working closely with those communities most impacted by police activity and communities and individuals subject to the disproportionality highlighted in the Casey report."	
14	Changes to Terms of Reference			
	(Tour) for the North West London Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Appointment to Committee	(1)	Agree the updated Terms of Reference for the North West London Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (NWL JHOSC) a detailed within Appendix A of the report.	
		(2)	replace the current Terms of Reference for the NWL JHOSC included within Part 4 of Brent's Constitution with the updated version approved under (1) above.	
15	Motions	(1)	Having been put to a vote, in accordance with Standing Order 42(I), the Motion submitted by the Conservative Group "Don't Punish Brent's Drivers" was withdrawn from consideration at the meeting.	
		(2)	Following the approval of an amendment moved by the Labour Group in relation	

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		to the original Motion submitted by the Liberal Democrats Group, the following Motion (as amended) was AGREED:
		"Protecting, preserving and promoting Parks and Open Spaces in Brent
		This Council notes:
		Our borough is home to many wonderful green, open spaces and parks that are enjoyed by residents of all ages and backgrounds. From smaller parks like Mount Pleasant Open Space in Alperton, King Edward VII in Wembley, to historical parks like Barham Park and Gladstone Park, larger country parks in Fryent, and thriving open spaces in the Welsh Harp and Northwick Park, to name but a few.
		These vital spaces must be protected, particularly if they are threatened by development that does not meet local need.
		In recent years we have become even more aware of how important green spaces are for local people. During the Covid-19 pandemic and periods of lockdown, they became a sanctuary for so many who were able to spend time in them, benefiting both mental and physical health.
		With the promise of much needed homes in Brent it is crucial that new residents are able to access open spaces in the areas they move to. Brent Council continues to work with partners to bring forward new developments to ensure they incorporate adequate large green space which is maintained by Housing Associations/ Managing Companies. In Wembley Park, for example, a new seven-acre Union Park will feature a bandstand, children's play areas, sport zones and urban meadow. It replaces a former 1,000 space care and coach park and is one of the first new large public parks

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		in London for decades and is Wembley's first new mayor park in 150 years.
		Achieving Climate Emergency targets relies heavily on safeguarding open spaces, protecting mature trees and important habitats for local wildlife. Without doing so, we risk missing these targets in or borough.
		The decision by the Planning Committee to allow the building of houses located along the north-west corner of Barham Park is in accordance with Brent Council's long established Core Strategy of protecting Brent parks and open spaces from unwelcome development. The disposal of the properties at 776 and 778 Harrow Road was first taken by the Executive in December 2009. The decision made by the Planning Committee was on the basis of officer recommendation and discussion at the meeting, including the consideration of the Local Neighbourhood Plan. The Planning Committee decision does not result in the loss of any local green space from the redevelopment of the buildings and does not impact upon the ability to experience the area of the original historic landscape park.
		The Barham Park decision does not result in the loss of any local green space and therefore re-affirms the existing precedent of maintaining the protection of parks and open spaces from development in keeping with the strength of feeling from local residents on this important issue.
		Therefore, this Council believes:
		1. That all of Brent's parks and open spaces should be valued and celebrated as vital assets in our community.
		2. Parks and open spaces must all be protected from the potential of development,

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	particularly of development that does not meet local need or that is clearly not for genuine community use.
3.	The value of parks and open spaces cannot be understated; even more so as increasing numbers of local people have little to no access to their own gardens or green space.
4.	The Cabinet should reassure all residents that within its responsibilities it will always prioritise the preservation of our parks and open spaces and promote these assets.
This	s Council resolves:
(1)	To confirm its longstanding strategic position that it will recognise the value of open spaces and parks in the borough and seek to protect them.
(2)	To call on the Cabinet to ensure within its responsibilities there will be no new buildings and no expansion of buildings in parks other than for legitimate community use.
(3)	To reaffirm its Planning Policies on protecting public parks and open spaces
(4)	To incorporate in all Planning reports the potential environmental impact applications will have on our area, and how they might impact Climate Emergency targets, utilising our newly approved Sustainable Environment & Development Supplementary Planning Document.
(5)	To work with partners across the city, from the Corporation of London, other Local

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		Authorities and City Hall to protect, preserve and promote vital green, open
		<ul><li>spaces in London."</li><li>(3) The following Motion submitted by the Labour Group was AGREED:</li></ul>
		"Celebrating 75 years of the NHS in Brent
		This council notes:
		<ul> <li>5 July 2023 marked 75 years of the National Health Service - it is the beating heart of Britain and the Labour Party's proudest achievement.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Treating over a million people a day in England, the NHS touches all our lives. It is also the biggest employer in Europe and the world's largest employer of highly skilled professionals, with over 1.3m members of staff from over 200 different nationalities.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>When it was founded by Nye Bevan in 1948, the NHS was the first universal health system to be available to all, founded on the simple principle of care based on people's need, not their ability to pay.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Today, nine in 10 people agree that healthcare should be free of charge, more than four in five agree that care should be available to everyone, and that the NHS makes them most proud to be British.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>The NHS has delivered huge medical advances, including the world's first liver, heart and lung transplant in 1987, pioneering new treatments, such as bionic eyes and, in more recent times, the world's first rapid whole genome sequencing</li> </ul>

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	service for seriously ill babies and children.
•	This year also marks another very important 75 <sup>th</sup> anniversary – the arrival of the HMT Empire Windrush in Britain with more than 800 passengers from the Caribbean, ready to embark on their new lives. The Windrush Generation helped to build the National Health Services and we stand on the shoulders of their legacy.
•	More recently the NHS and social care organisations have also benefitted from EU and other overseas staff.
•	Throughout Covid-19, doctors, nurses, health and social care workers and NHS staff put their lives at risk to protect us all.
This	council further notes:
•	Our NHS colleagues are integral to the work of Brent Council.
•	Since its creation, NHS spending has increased by an average of 3.7 per cent per year in real terms. But from 2010/11 to 2018/19, NHS funding growth slowed to 1.4 per cent per year. Spiralling inflation has reduced the value of the NHS budget, with NHS Confederation analysis showing that the NHS is facing real terms cut in funding of between £4 billion and £9.4 billion.
•	Over the last ten years, the foundations of the NHS have been eroded through outsourcing to private companies and insufficient investment in both staff and infrastructure. Pay for health practitioners is now less than it was in 2010, 40 per cent of doctors in the NHS are looking to leave the NHS for work abroad; and of

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Boris Johnson's promised 40 new hospitals, less than a quarter are yet to gain planning permission.
<ul> <li>There are currently more patients waiting for treatment than ever in the history of the NHS. Furthermore, every month, tens of thousands of patients are spending entire days waiting in A&amp;E with hospitals overwhelmed with patients who are fit to leave or wouldn't need to be there in the first place if they could access healthcare earlier.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Ahead of the NHS's 75th birthday, a report by the NHS Assembly has set out the growing consensus that the NHS should now focus on three key areas for long term development: better preventing ill health, personalising care and delivering more co-ordinated care closer to home.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>The disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on BAME (Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) communities highlighted the deep health inequalities faced by so many of our residents, as well as the inequalities faced by BAME staff in the NHS, which the NHS also needs to urgently address.</li> </ul>
This Council believes:
<ul> <li>The infrastructure of the NHS at both the community and national level requires wholesale renewal to meet the demands of an ageing population.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Brent Council has a strong track record of working with the NHS for the benefit of all our residents, to ensure a borough where we can all feel safe, secure, happy and healthy. In partnership with the NHS we have:</li> </ul>

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<ul> <li>Launched 8 Family Wellbeing Centers, bringing together health, nursing, and parental support for children.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Held Prostate Cancer Awareness events in Stonebridge and Harlesden.</li> </ul>
• Won the Nursing Times Award for the Public Health Nursing category and
been shortlisted for the unique initiative of the oral health mobile bus, which looked to improve education for parents across Brent about healthy eating and dental health.
<ul> <li>Despite these achievements, there is so much more that could be done to improve the NHS in Brent – and that only with a Labour Government will the necessary change be delivered.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>That the time is now, to seize the historic moment of the NHS's 75th anniversary to unite behind a shared vision of its next and best era.</li> </ul>
This Council resolves to:
(1) Request the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Adult Social Care write to
the Shadow Chancellor, Rachel Reeves, outlining support for the Labour Party plan for the biggest expansions of doctor and health practitioner numbers in the history of the NHS, committing to:
<ul> <li>Doubling the number of medical school places to 15,000 a year</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Doubling the number of district nurses qualifying each year</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Training 5,000 new health visitors a year</li> </ul>
• Creating 10,000 more nursing and midwifery clinical placements each year
<ul> <li>A long-term workforce plan for the NHS, with independent workforce projections, new career paths into the NHS, and new types of health and</li> </ul>

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	<ul> <li>care professionals.</li> <li>Supporting the expansion by reintroducing the 45p additional rate of income tax paid by those earning more than £150,000 a year.</li> </ul>
	2) Work with the North West London Integrated Care System to promote measures that maximise opportunities at a local level to improve life for local residents by:
	<ul> <li>Promoting prevention and reducing the number of people with long term conditions.</li> <li>Promoting the best deployment of resources to address identified need.</li> <li>Work with other statutory partners but also co-produce solutions with our communities and Voluntary Sector that will improve the lives of our most deprived communities in Brent.</li> <li>Working with our diverse communities to ensure equality of experience in accessing health care services."</li> </ul>
(4	I) The following Motion submitted by the Labour Group was AGREED:
۳ <u>۴</u>	Keeping Brent on the move: renewing our roads and pavements
Т	his council notes:
•	Providing a transport network which supports economic development and works to improve safety, accessibility and inclusivity is fundamental to keeping our borough on the move in the coming years.
•	Whether you walk, drive, cycle or take a bus or taxi; maintaining Brent's roads, pavements and infrastructure is vital part in creating a safe place to call home.

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<ul> <li>In Brent, in the last Administration our teams repaired or maintained over 128 Kilometres of roads and pavements, enough to get you from the Civic Centre to Dover.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>In this year alone, as part of Brent's "winter resilience" programme of injecting patching of potholes, we have undertaken 2,568 repairs across the borough.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>In London more broadly, as the effects of austerity have compounded, so too has the effect on our public realm. London Councils have stated that our infrastructure is in "managed decline" thanks to years of real terms budget cuts, exacerbated by high inflation. For example, over 80 bridges in London are currently substandard and subject to restrictions owing to a backlog in repairs.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>With the effects of climate change increasing the severity of storms and flooding, our roads, pavements and drainage systems will be overwhelmed more frequently and require greater investment than ever before.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>In the last London Councils "State of the City" report a total backlog for maintenance repairs across all forms of infrastructure in the capital is said to be c. £1.6bn. In Brent, repairing every effected part of our pavements was estimated at the time to be over £60m.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Brent Council has recently launched a new "Fix my Street" tool which will make it quicker for residents to report roads and pavements in need of repair. At time of submitting this motion 36k reports have been submitted, with 5k fixed in just the last month alone.</li> </ul>

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	This council further notes:
	<ul> <li>That the situation has deteriorated further when, in 2018, the government withdrew highway maintenance funding to Transport for London (TfL). This funding had been ring-fenced to resurfacing TfL's Red Routes and the 32 boroughs' principal roads (with Brent Council formerly receiving approximately £900k annually).</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>If Brent Council was not in London, adjusted for inflation, we could have expected to receive up to £7 million of funding for our roads from TfL during the intervening period.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>As a result of the significantly reduced funding for our principal road network, the overall condition of these routes has suffered. To address the decline Brent Council has allocated £4m for a Principal Roads programme with £1m of the investment being spent in 2022/23 and a further £2m programmed for 2023/24.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>That unlike the whole of the rest of England, the government provides no funding for the maintenance of highways and pavements in London.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>By way of comparison, the government has committed over £2.7 billion of local highways maintenance outside of London between 2022 and 2025.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Recent announcements of funding worth £200m from Active Travel England are also unavailable to London boroughs.</li> </ul>
	• The government has since announced a £380m cut (by more than 50% of its

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16	Urgent Business	No urgent items of business were raised at the meeting.
		(2) Request that the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Action, bring forward a report to Cabinet, setting out Brent Council's future capital investment into our roads, pavements, and improvements in our public realm – as part of our manifesto commitment to invest £15 million into a programme of repairs and renewal."
		(1) Request that the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Action, write to the Secretary of State for Transport demanding that London is treated in the same way as the rest of England when funding the maintenance of our roads, pavements, and infrastructure.
		This Council resolves to:
		<ul> <li>This follows a long line of broken promises from this government on infrastructure, from the Northern Powerhouse Rail to HS2 – now all curtailed.</li> </ul>
		current budget) to the active travel budget in the current spending review, which the Labour Party has estimated could cost more than £2bn in the long term through the impact on public health and wider economy.