

SUMMONS TO ATTEND COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday 27 February 2025 at 6.00 pm

Conference Hall - Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley, HA9 0FJ

Please note that this meeting will be held as a physical meeting with all members of the Council required to attend in person.

To the Mayor and Councillors of the London Borough of Brent and to each and every one of them.

I hereby summon you to attend the MEETING OF THE COUNCIL of this Borough.

KIM WRIGHT Chief Executive

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Dated: 19 February 2025 (republished 21 February 2025)

For further information contact: James Kinsella, Governance Manager Tel: 020 8937 2063; Email:james.kinsella@brent.gov.uk

For electronic copies of minutes and agendas please visit:

<u>Council meetings and decision making | Brent Council</u>

Limited space will be available at the meeting for the press and public to attend or alternatively it will be possible to follow the meeting via the live webcast. The link to follow proceedings via the live webcast is available here



Notes for Members - Declarations of Interest:

If a Member is aware they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest* in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent and must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If a Member is aware they have a Personal Interest** in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent.

If the Personal Interest is also a Prejudicial Interest (i.e. it affects a financial position or relates to determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission, or registration) then (unless an exception at 14(2) of the Members Code applies), after disclosing the interest to the meeting the Member must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item, except that they may first make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the matter, provided that the public are allowed to attend the meeting for those purposes.

*Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

- (a) **Employment, etc. -** Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit gain.
- (b) **Sponsorship -** Any payment or other financial benefit in respect expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of election; including from a trade union.
- (c) **Contracts -** Any current contract for goods, services or works, between the Councillors or their partner (or a body in which one has a beneficial interest) and the council.
- (d) **Land -** Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.
- (e) **Licences-** Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.
- (f) **Corporate tenancies -** Any tenancy between the council and a body in which the Councillor or their partner have a beneficial interest.
- (g) **Securities -** Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

**Personal Interests:

The business relates to or affects:

- (a) Anybody of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management, and:
 - To which you are appointed by the council;
 - which exercises functions of a public nature;
 - which is directed is to charitable purposes;
 - whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy (including a political party of trade union).
- (b) The interests a of a person from whom you have received gifts or hospitality of at least £50 as a member in the municipal year;

or

A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting, to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the electoral ward affected by the decision, the well-being or financial position of:

- You yourself;
- a member of your family or your friend or any person with whom you have a close association or any person or body who employs or has appointed any of these or in whom they have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000, or any firm in which they are a partner, or any company of which they are a director
- any body of a type described in (a) above

Agenda

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To Follow

To confirm as a correct record, the minutes of the previous meeting of the Council held on Monday 18 November 2024.

3 Declarations of Interest

Members are invited to declare at this stage of the meeting, the nature and existence of any relevant disclosable pecuniary or personal interests in the items on this agenda and to specify the item(s) to which they relate.

4 Mayor's Announcements

To receive any announcements from the Mayor.

5 Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies (if any)

1 - 2

To agree any appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies (if any) in accordance with Standing Order 30(g).

6 Budget and Council Tax 2025 - 2026

6.1 Budget & Council Tax 2025-26

3 - 358

This report sets out the Council's budget proposals for 2025 - 26. It also details the results of the consultation, scrutiny and equalities considerations in relation to the budget proposals. The report also sets out the overall financial position facing the Council for the medium term and highlights the significant risks, issues and uncertainties.

Members are asked to note that the recommendations in the report were approved by Cabinet on 10 February 2024 for reference on to Council.

6.2 Conservative Group amendments to the Budget & Council Tax 359 - 376 proposals 2024 – 25

To consider the proposed amendments submitted by the Conservative Group in relation to the Council's budget proposals for 2025 – 26

(Agenda republished to include the attached alternative budget proposals on 21 February 2025)

6.3 Liberal Democrats Group amendments to the Budget & 377 - 390 Council Tax proposals 2024 – 25

To consider the proposed amendments submitted by the Liberal Democrats Group in relation to the Council's budget proposals for 2025 – 26

Ward Affected: Contact Officer: Ravinder Jassar, Deputy Director

All Wards of Finance

Tel: 020 8937 1487

ravinder.jassar@brent.gov.uk

7 Auditor's Annual Report on the London Borough of Brent

391 - 436

This report presents the Council's External Auditor's Annual Report on value for money as part of the 2023 - 24 audit of the year end accounts. It also sets out the key recommendations made within the Annual Report.

Members are asked to note that a representative of the Council's External Auditor's (Grant Thornton) will be present at the meeting to present the report and respond to any issues raised.

Ward Affected: Contact Officer: Minesh Patel, Corporate Director

All Wards of Finance & Resources

Tel: 020 8937 6528

Minesh.Patel@brent.gov.uk

8 Review of working age Council Tax Support Scheme for 2025-26

437 - 586

To receive a report presenting the outcome of the consultation process undertaken on changes to the Local Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme 2025-26 and seeking approval to the revised scheme.

Members are asked to note that the proposed changes in the report were approved by Cabinet on 10 February 2025 for reference on to Council.

Ward Affected: Contact Officer: Thomas Cattermole- Director of

All Wards Resident Services

020 8937 5446

Thomas.Cattermole@brent.gov.uk

9 Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2024-2025

587 - 620

This report provides an update on treasury management activities for the first half of the financial year 2023-24.

Members are asked to note that the report was noted by Cabinet on 10 February 2025 and has been referred on to Council for consideration in

compliance with CIPFAs Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

Ward Affected: Contact Officer: Amanda Healy, Deputy Director

All Wards Investment & Infrastructure

Tel: 020 8937 5912

Amanda.Healy@brent.gov.uk

10 Members' Allowance Scheme Annual Review 2025-26

621 - 628

This report outlines the annual review of the Members Allowance Scheme undertaken for 2025 - 26.

(Agenda republished to include the attached report on 21 February 2025)

Ward Affected: Contact Officer: Amira Nassr, Deputy Director

All Wards Democratic Services

Tel: 020 8937 5436

amira.nassr@brent.gov.uk

11 Changes to the Constitution

629 - 668

This report seeks approval to a number of changes to the Constitution in order to reflect a recent restructure of Directorates, new procurement legislation and other minor matters.

Ward Affected: Contact Officer: Debra Norman, Corporate

All Wards Director Finance & Resources

Tel: 020 8937 1578

amira.nassr@brent.gov.uk

12 Urgent Business

At the discretion of the Mayor to consider any urgent business, in accordance with Standing Order 37(s).



Please remember to switch your mobile phone to silent during the meeting.

 The meeting room is accessible by lift and seats will be provided for members of the public. Alternatively, it will be possible to follow proceedings via the live webcast HERE