

**LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN**  
**COUNCIL MEETING – 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025**

**NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

- 1. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Judy Dixey and which was seconded by Councillor Linda Chung**

This Council notes:

- The scale of the housing crisis in London in general and its severity in Camden, where there are over 8,000 people on the waiting list for social housing and the cost of private renting has increased by 11.4% in just the last year.
- The inability of council-led house building to meet the housing needs of the borough and the reliance on private developers to help meet that need.
- The growing trend of major developments being marketed overseas.
- The recent decision of the Planning Committee on 100 Avenue Road, where Members were told they should give great weight to the number of new homes the development would provide, but the developer openly admitted in the meeting that the properties would be marketed for overseas sales.
- The lack of a basis in the Council's planning policy to support planning conditions requiring new homes to be designated for local need.

This Council further notes:

- There are approximately 6,000 properties being used as short-term lets in Camden
- Reports in recent years routinely put the number of empty homes in Camden at over 4,000 properties.

This Council believes:

- That homes built in Camden should primarily meet local need, not serve as assets for overseas investment.

This Council calls on the Cabinet Member for Planning and a Sustainable Camden to develop an evidence base and planning framework to prioritise housing for Camden residents in future developments.

**2. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Steve Adams and which was seconded by Councillor Andrew Parkinson**

This Council notes the importance of democracy in decision making and that many recent consultations on highways and housing matters, carried out by the borough, have delivered decisions which sit at odds with residents' opinion in affected wards or areas. The claim that "We make Camden" begs the question, "Who is the We? In order to prevent the further poor outcome where consultation is used solely for the purpose of backing a prejudged outcome, measures must be taken to apply a democracy backstop.

To achieve this valuable result, the Council moves to adopt a measure whereby, if two thirds of local residents in an affected area, oppose the aim of a consultation, then that scheme would be returned to officers for reconsideration or withdrawn. Further, that any consultation should achieve a level of response of at least 20% of local residents to be considered to have validity.

Only through this route can those who live in Camden rest confident that they will not be overruled by the administration and left with an undesirable impact on their direct community.

**3. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Tommy Gale and which was seconded by Councillor Joseph Ball**

This Council notes:

- Access to high-quality parks and green spaces is fundamental to the health, wellbeing and quality of life of Camden's communities. Well-maintained green spaces bring people together, support physical and mental health, provide safe places for children to play, and help residents connect with nature close to home.
- Labour-led Camden has made sustained investment in our parks and green spaces a central priority - not just maintaining them, but improving and reimagining them for the future. These investments are helping us deliver on Camden's Climate Action Plan, Biodiversity Strategy and Clean Air Action Plan - while responding to what residents consistently say they value most.

This Council further notes a range of recent improvements delivered across the borough, including:

- Swiss Cottage Open Space - reopened in May 2025 following a £1.3m transformation, with new rain gardens, wildflower planting, grassy mounds, a redesigned play area and enhanced accessibility, creating a more attractive and inclusive local park.
- Crabtree Fields (Fitzrovia) – where Camden is working with residents to refresh this estate green space with improved planting, a new children's play area and better layout, while maintaining its character and ecological value.

- Maygrove Peace Park - the restoration of the Peace Crane and Anthony Gormley's Untitled Listening sculpture, with landscape improvements to come, following discussion with the local community.
- Estate-based greening - including enhancements to green spaces on Goldington and Peckwater estates through the Community-Trees programme, which planted 90 new trees and wildflower beds in partnership with local young people.
- Tree planting and care - with over 2,500 new trees planted since 2020 and a dedicated coordinator in place, Camden is on track to meet its 3,000-tree target by the end of 2025. A new contractor is now in place to help care for and maintain over 29,000 council-managed trees across parks and open spaces.
- Community growing and volunteering - including a new dedicated Food Growing Officer to support residents to grow food in local parks and on estates, and the Camden Green Gym, where local volunteers gave over 5,000 hours last year to improve green spaces across the borough.
- Creative and cultural investment in green space - such as the permanent installation of a Chelsea Flower Show garden at Compton Close near Euston, and new arts-led planting trails on estates through partnerships with local cultural organisations.
- Parks for Health strategy - working with local health services and over 20 community groups to make parks more accessible, inclusive and supportive of residents' health and wellbeing.

This Council additionally notes:

- Our commitment to green space is rooted in equity and inclusion - ensuring investment reaches all parts of Camden, including estates and areas with limited access to nature. Greener neighbourhoods support cleaner air, stronger communities and a fairer, healthier borough.

This Council resolves:

- To continue prioritising investment in Camden's parks, green spaces and tree canopy - especially in areas with the greatest need.
- To embed access to high-quality green space into all relevant areas of council policy - from housing and health to regeneration and culture - ensuring Camden remains a borough where everyone can enjoy nature on their doorstep.

**ENDS**