

COUNCIL – 25th SEPTEMBER 2025

BUSINESS FROM THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ON 21st JULY 2025

Report of the Borough Solicitor

This report relates to the unconsidered motions and the responses to written Council questions from the Council meeting held on 21st July 2025.

1. Background

The Constitution advises that where motions have not been dealt with by the conclusion of the meeting of the Council, they fall without discussion and are passed to the relevant Cabinet Member or Committee Chair whose response is then to be provided to the next meeting of the Council. Also the responses to written questions that were provided for last ordinary Council meeting are to be circulated as part of the next meeting's agenda for information. These responses are then noted at that next meeting without debate.

2. Responses to motions

At the meeting of the Council held on 21st July 2025, there were 3 motions that were not considered due to lack of time. As the Constitution requires, these motions were passed to the relevant Cabinet Members or Committee Chairs, who are required to report back to the next meeting of the Council. A copy of the motions and the responses are attached at Appendix A to this report.

3. Responses to written questions from Councillors

The written questions from Councillors and the responses from Cabinet Members linked to the Council meeting on 21st July 2025 are attached as Appendix B.

4. Recommendation

That the report be noted.

COUNCIL 21st JULY 2025

UNCONSIDERED MOTIONS

Appendix A

- 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.

RESPONSE BY THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND A SUSTAINABLE CAMDEN

The Council is acutely aware of the scale of the housing crisis in London and Camden is using all its levers to tackle this. Camden is making good progress with its draft Local Plan which builds on the strong policies in Camden's current Local Plan where housing is the priority land use. The plan contains robust policies to secure the delivery of affordable low-cost rent and intermediate rent homes, not only

on residential sites but also uniquely on commercial sites in the Central Activities Zone (excluding Hatton Garden) and in our main town centres.

Preliminary data shows that in 24/25, 1,002 new homes were completed in Camden and of these 259 were at low-cost rents for Camden residents on our housing register and 126 were at intermediate rents for Camden residents on low to medium incomes in line with our Intermediate Housing Strategy. These were delivered on a variety of residential and commercial sites and delivered by a variety of public and private developers including the Council, thus demonstrating the effectiveness of our planning policies and planning processes.

Camden is investing £2.3 billion to deliver the homes urgently needed by the 8,000 families on our housing waiting list. Through our Community Investment Programme, we've so far delivered 2,000 new homes – over 1,250 of which are affordable – with a further 330 currently under construction. These are part of the 4,850 homes Camden is currently working towards delivering for our residents.

Councillors were correctly advised at Planning Committee that they should attach great weight to housing delivery, as the presumption in favour of sustainable development applies in Camden and the NPPF indicates that applications should be granted unless their adverse impacts would significantly and demonstrably outweigh their benefits when assessed against NPPF policies as a whole. Who the homes are marketed for is not something that can be taken into account. Some coastal towns have principal residence policies - these were mainly introduced in neighbourhood plans which have a lower bar from evidence and passing examination. This is to deal with the proliferation of second homes, which ranges from 20% - 50% in these areas. Second homes are at around 6% in Camden so not at a level at which we could justify a similar approach.

Islington has had planning guidance (not policy) in place since 2015 which aims to ensure that new homes are used and occupied as a dwelling house (not left empty). It sets out several obligations to this effect which it proposes to insert into S106 agreements for developments of 20 or more dwellings. I understand Islington recently tried to include this as a policy in their Local Plan. The Inspectors were not satisfied that it was necessary to make developments acceptable in planning terms and considered that there wasn't recent evidence to show it is a significant issue facing the borough – so deleted the policy. The planning team are not aware of anywhere where this has approach has successfully been integrated into policy.

The number of properties being used for short-term let in Camden is far too high and undermining the supply of homes we desperately need and causes terrible trouble for neighbours to these short term lets. Camden has lobbied national government to not proceed with the changes proposed by the last Government to introduce a new use class for short-term lets with permitted development rights to convert from self-contained housing. This would have fuelled the rise in short-term lets and we are relieved that this change has not been introduced. We support the Government proposals for a registration scheme for short-term lets which would greatly assist Camden in identifying and therefore enforcing against illegal short-term lets.

The Council will continue where possible to prioritise residents within housing Camden has control of or influence over, such as existing Council homes, new homes built through our Community Investment Programme, existing housing association homes where the Council has nomination rights, and new housing association homes where the Council secures new nomination rights through the planning process.

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.

RESPONSE BY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

I refer to the motion which touches on an issue that is deeply important to this Council — how we engage our residents in decision-making and ensure Camden remains a truly democratic borough.

First, it's worth restating the purpose of consultation. A consultation is a way of asking residents, businesses, and other stakeholders for their views on how a proposal should be implemented, not only whether it should happen. It is not — and cannot be — a referendum. Many decisions we take arise from legal duties, adopted policy frameworks, or long-term strategic commitments agreed by the whole Council. In such cases, consultation helps us understand the impacts, refine proposals, and design them in a way that works best for our communities.

Our approach to consultation in Camden is grounded in recognised standards of good practice and is both transparent and democratic. Consultations are public, accessible in their design and delivery, and clearly set out the proposal, the reasoning behind it, and the areas where feedback can influence the outcome. All responses are carefully considered alongside evidence, statutory obligations, and strategic priorities before decisions are made.

However, consultation is only one part of how we engage with residents. In many cases, it is the later stage of a much longer process of participation. Our participation and engagement work often starts months — or even years — earlier, through workshops, neighbourhood forums, tenants and residents' associations, Citizen's Assemblies, and targeted outreach to those whose voices are less often heard. This ensures that by the time we reach the important consultation stage, proposals have already been shaped (but not finalised) with input from the people they affect.

On planning matters it is important to note that a planning application cannot be rejected on the basis of a petition. The law is clear that decisions on planning applications must be made against adopted planning policy taking into account material planning considerations. Public representations are only considered to be material planning considerations if they raise legitimate planning issues and the strength of the planning argument is more important than the quantity of comments. This ensures consistency, fairness and legal robustness in the process.

For these reasons, introducing a 'democracy backstop' that treats consultations as binding referendums, or sets arbitrary thresholds for participation, would fundamentally change the role and purpose of consultation and would run the risk of not being a consultation in law. It could lead to important decisions and changes being unable to be implemented due to arbitrary response rates/levels of support required and might prevent us from meeting statutory or legal duties or delivering on policies already agreed democratically by Full Council.

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

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.

RESPONSE BY THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND A SUSTAINABLE CAMDEN

Maintaining and delivering new, improved green spaces is crucial to the health and wellbeing of our residents. Our [Parks for Health Strategy \(2022-2030\)](#) highlights that every £1.73 invested in green spaces releases £20 in health benefits for our residents. Additionally, 39% of Camden residents do not have access to their own

green space, which underscores the importance of investing in accessible local green space across the borough.

Camden ensures that investment in green spaces is thoughtful and targeted towards areas most in need through our Green Space Investment Plan. From 2020 to 2025 Camden invested over £12 million in capital improvements to green spaces, including Swiss Cottage Open Space which recently won a National Landscape Award in the Community & Schools Development category. A new five-year programme will commence in 2026 further focusing on areas identified as being deficient in local green space, using Greenspace Information for Greater London, Camden's Parks Accessibility Audit (2019), and resident feedback from the Green Space Survey (2025). Our goal is to ensure green and play spaces are within walking distance of residents' homes wherever possible.

In our latest resident survey, there was strong support for creating more green spaces in Camden. 2,230m² of new green space has been delivered in the highway in the last 5 years and Alfred Place Gardens exemplifies how grey spaces can be transformed into green, where we created a new public open space in the heart of the busy West End. We are continuing to fund officer resources to assess the feasibility of new green spaces in the borough, and we are delivering over £3 million of HS2 funding for a new green space at Phoenix Road, creating safer, healthier streets and new play opportunities in an area feeling significant impact from construction.

Maintaining our green and play spaces is central to our management approach, with safety and accessibility prioritised through weekly checks and building a case for further investment where needed. We are pleased to note that earlier this year, 56% of people reported being satisfied or very satisfied with their local park. Tree maintenance and planting is also important and in 2024/25 we planted 635 trees, increasing our tree canopy by 1.7%. We have also achieved Tree Cities of the World status six times.

ENDS

APPENDIX B

RESPONSES TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

QUESTION 1

TO THE: LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

BY: COUNCILLOR JAMES SLATER

To ask the Leader of the Council if he can give an update on the Council's retrofitting of its Council housing stock?

REPLY

The Council has a clear plan for the retrofitting of Council homes. In the last few years, the Camden has secured £21m in grants for retrofit of its homes and is leading work to harness institutional investment.

Regionally, Camden is the lead borough for a consortium spanning London boroughs and a number of registered providers through which £78m of grants will be deployed across London over the next three years. This is a key part of the Warmer Homes London delivery plan, launched last week by London Councils.

On the specifics, our most recent projects have seen the deep retrofit of 58 homes across 5-7 Belsize Grove, 28 homes in Brooks Court Estate, and our solar share scheme at 1-73 Henderson Court.

We are now progressing works under the "Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 2" to 73 homes across 1-18 Chester Court, 50 Fitzjohn's Avenue, 13-29 Belmont Street, and various street properties, and we continue to progress internal wall insulation projects through the net zero neighbourhood project in Somers Town.

Finally, we are progressing our large-scale installation of solar panels and storage. Our first wave of schemes will target 1,000 homes, with this increasing to 3,000 over a three-year period. As part of this we will utilise about £10m of grants, institutional investment and secure other funding such as carbon credits. Resident engagement on the first wave will start later this year. This work will utilise the "Social Housing Fund Wave 3", and we are also using an additional £3.5m from this fund to support the installation of a communal heat pump at Lymington Road Estate to provide all heating and hot water needed across the estate benefiting 250 residents.

QUESTION 2

TO THE: CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND A SUSTAINABLE CAMDEN

BY: COUNCILLOR JUDY DIXEY

How many officers are tasked with enforcing the proper placement of dockless bikes and e-scooters in their designated bays? What other responsibilities do they have? What plans are there to expand this capacity, given the large increase in bays that is being rolled out in the borough? What powers will those officers have to impose penalties to ensure compliance?

REPLY

With no national regulation for dockless bike hire management, Camden took action to acquire as many tools as possible to help manage dockless bikes for the benefit of the community and users.

The Council led the way in London by putting in place contracts with two dockless bike providers—Lime and Human Forest. This gives the Council stronger on-street management controls through conditions and performance requirements, alongside revenue to invest in the service (including paying for dedicated parking bays to be installed). The Camden contract management team has an on-street enforcement officer (partly funded by the contract), who monitors hot-spot areas and uses a range of enforcement powers against the bike companies to deal with bikes obstructing pavements and overfull parking bays. Since enforcement began in Camden in March 2025, a total of 47 Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued, and 125 bikes have been removed.

This work is supported by a range of other measures that are used to help ensure better parking compliance and clearer pavements, including improved parking technology, in-app messaging, customer fines, and continuing to increase parking capacity across the borough.

I am glad that this government has taken the step to propose a national licensing framework as part of the English Devolution Bill. We have called for such powers for many, many years. If passed, this will enable local transport authorities to regulate “micromobility” such as this. We will be carefully reviewing the Bill and working with colleagues at TfL and London Councils to assess the impacts and potential opportunities arising from these proposed changes

QUESTION 3

TO THE: CABINET MEMBER FOR BETTER HOMES

BY: COUNCILLOR LIAM MARTIN-LANE

Throughout the spring, the Council conducted a series of advice surgeries dedicated to private rented sector tenants. What have been the key trends/outcomes of these events, and are there any plans to organise more in future?

REPLY

The Private Sector Housing Service is responsible for improving standards within the private rented sector (PRS), which accounts for 36% of households in Camden. The Private Sector

Housing service ran a series of four Private Renters Advice Surgeries between 18 February to 26 March 2025, covering eight wards, with the aim to raise awareness of how the Council can support private renters. The surgeries were a collaborative effort between ward members and a range of services which support private renters.

During the sessions, Council teams were on hand to provide information and advice on cost of living, energy efficiency, community safety, disrepair, harassment and illegal evictions and advice on the new Renters' Rights legislation. The surgeries were also timed to highlight the ongoing consultation concerning the renewal of the borough wide additional houses in multiple occupation scheme.

Unfortunately, despite considerable effort to publicise the event, attendance was disappointingly low ranging from 1 to 25 tenants. A diverse communication plan had been devised, including:

- Posters placed in libraries, council buildings, local businesses.
- PRS Partners / NHS / schools / community centres
- Camden Private Renters website
- CNJ adverts
- Door-to-door delivery of flyers
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter and Next Door)

The feedback from the surgeries was very positive from the renters that attended and ward members, with a good level of engagement.

In view of the outcomes, the service is keen to run additional surgeries in the future and is exploring more imaginative ways to engage tenants, including better use of social media. With the Renters' Rights Bill due to receive Royal Assent later this year, it is more important than ever to be able to engage with our private renters.

QUESTION 4

TO THE: CABINET MEMBER FOR VOLUNTARY SECTOR, EQUALITIES AND COHESION

BY: COUNCILLOR RISHI MADLANI

Given global and UK challenges facing our LGBT+ communities, staff and residents how did Camden mark Pride month and Pride in London and what more can the Council do to ensure the Borough is free from hate?

REPLY

We believe that everyone has the right to be themselves without fear, and lots of work is happening right across our organisation to ensure that everyone continues to feel safe, welcome and included in Camden.

We remain firmly committed to providing services to all our residents and will continue to make sure these are accessible to trans men and women, with dignity and tailored support to meet individual needs.

On Saturday 5 July a team of Camden staff – including our future Chief Executive, Jon Rowney – councillors and their families and friends came together to march in the 2025 Pride in London parade – joining millions of others to celebrate our LGBTQ+ communities and to make our voice heard in the continued fight for true LGBTQ+ equality and progress.

Camden also hosted a “Pride on the Square” event in St Giles Square—featuring queer artists’ stalls, craft workshops, and a family-friendly community art piece. It also included a frozen yogurt “party bus” from SNOG and highlighted local LGBTQ+ makers.

We want our organisation and our borough to be a place where everyone feels safe, welcome and able to be themselves without fear. We stand in solidarity with our LGBTQ+ colleagues, councillors and communities – and we firmly believe that when we work to protect and progress the rights of one group, we protect and progress the rights of everyone.

We have made meaningful progress in these spaces, bringing art, visibility and programmes to the borough during Pride, and continue to work towards a borough free from hate by investing in safe, accessible physical spaces for all, education and training across services, support for staff and residents, and formal partnerships with LGBTQ+ organisations. These actions go beyond celebrating Pride to build lasting representation, safety, and education across Camden.

QUESTION 5

**TO THE: CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND A SUSTAINABLE
CAMDEN**

BY: COUNCILLOR NINA DE AYALA PARKER

Last month saw the biggest ever London Climate Action Week (LCAW) - what role did Camden play in LCAW and were we able to support any London-wide initiatives?

REPLY

Camden Council actively participates in London Climate Action Week in recognition of our significant levels of community led climate action and good carbon reduction progress across Camden and the Council.

Throughout the Week we delivered a broad communications campaign to showcase the Council’s current climate programme and promote the upcoming refreshed Climate Action Plan. The campaign highlighted Council initiatives residents and businesses can get involved with, including the Camden Climate Fund, Camden Climate Alliance, EcoPoints and the new Greener Camden website, featuring the

Community Green Deal recommended by Cllr De Ayala Parker. It also includes highlights from our engagement process on the new Climate Action Plan which is set to launch in early 2026 ([here](#)).

Council officers supported and attended a range of Climate Action Week events on urban planning, insurance, and business climate action. This included participating in a Sustainability Summit hosted by The Fitzrovia Partnership Business Improvement District, which brought together businesses, community leaders and experts in Fitzrovia to workshop new project ideas under their new Sustainability Strategy.

QUESTION 6

TO THE: CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND COST OF LIVING

BY: COUNCILLOR NANOUCHE UMEADI

What was the total Cost of Living funding distributed in 2024/25, with a ward breakdown of recipients? Please also provide ward-level figures for the number of working-age and pensioner residents receiving full or partial Council Tax Support in 2024/25.

REPLY

In 2024-25 the Cost of Living Fund distributed £1,577,902 in 4,402 grants to 3,154 households at an average of £358 per award.

- 63% of applicants stated they have a disability
- 66% of applicants are women
- 60% of applicants are from a Black or Global Majority background
- 3% of grants were made to households in out of borough Temporary Accommodation
- A household can receive up to two awards in one year

Please note that this excludes a further £1.1m in 3,302 Household Support Fund awards.

Ward Breakdown:

| Recipient's Ward | Total Awards | Total Payment Amount | Percentage of Total | Total number of households supported |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Totals | 4,402 | £1,577,902 | 100% | 3,154 |
| St Pancras and Somers Town | 523 | £190,498 | 12% | 367 |
| Haverstock | 412 | £154,100 | 10% | 284 |
| Kilburn | 382 | £136,400 | 9% | 276 |
| Regents Park | 346 | £123,800 | 8% | 242 |
| Gospel Oak | 336 | £117,800 | 7% | 238 |
| Kings Cross | 289 | £106,700 | 7% | 205 |
| Camden Square | 247 | £90,004 | 6% | 166 |
| Holborn and Covent Garden | 231 | £81,000 | 5% | 170 |
| Kentish Town South | 233 | £83,400 | 5% | 166 |
| Camden Town | 175 | £61,600 | 4% | 120 |
| Fortune Green | 152 | £54,850 | 3% | 106 |
| South Hampstead | 153 | £55,500 | 4% | 109 |
| Highgate | 144 | £53,200 | 3% | 113 |
| West Hampstead | 124 | £42,650 | 3% | 94 |
| Primrose Hill | 121 | £41,700 | 3% | 89 |
| Bloomsbury | 117 | £41,000 | 3% | 87 |
| Kentish Town North | 115 | £39,600 | 3% | 87 |
| Frognal | 70 | £24,800 | 2% | 42 |
| Belsize | 65 | £20,700 | 1% | 51 |
| Hampstead Town | 33 | £11,100 | 1% | 26 |
| Out of Borough | 134 | £47,500 | 3% | 116 |

Please also provide ward-level figures for the number of working-age and pensioner residents receiving full or partial Council Tax Support in 2024/25.

16,075 Camden households receive Full Council Tax Support and 6,051 Camden households receive partial Council Tax Support. The total number of households receiving Council Tax Support is 22,126. A ward-level breakdown of the figures is in the table below.

| Ward | Working age claimants | | | Pension age claimants | | | Total claimants within each ward |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Full CTS | Partial CTS | Sub-Total working age claimants | Full CTS | Partial CTS | Sub-Total pension age claimants | |
| Belsize | 273 | 72 | 345 | 151 | 34 | 185 | 530 |
| Bloomsbury | 442 | 129 | 571 | 262 | 86 | 348 | 919 |
| Camden Square | 483 | 193 | 676 | 196 | 67 | 263 | 939 |
| Camden Town | 449 | 174 | 623 | 148 | 51 | 199 | 822 |
| Fortune Green | 546 | 213 | 759 | 261 | 67 | 328 | 1,087 |
| Frognaal | 148 | 62 | 210 | 81 | 26 | 107 | 317 |
| Gospel Oak | 732 | 290 | 1,022 | 377 | 128 | 505 | 1,527 |
| Hampstead Town | 85 | 35 | 120 | 97 | 23 | 120 | 240 |
| Haverstock | 761 | 385 | 1,146 | 404 | 117 | 521 | 1,667 |
| Highgate | 488 | 183 | 671 | 232 | 78 | 310 | 981 |
| Holborn and Covent Garden | 704 | 299 | 1,003 | 317 | 120 | 437 | 1,440 |
| Kentish Town North | 361 | 143 | 504 | 161 | 45 | 206 | 710 |
| Kentish Town South | 556 | 242 | 798 | 273 | 77 | 350 | 1,148 |
| Kilburn | 935 | 441 | 1,376 | 560 | 123 | 683 | 2,059 |
| Kings Cross | 670 | 284 | 954 | 281 | 88 | 369 | 1,323 |
| Primrose Hill | 454 | 157 | 611 | 361 | 88 | 449 | 1,060 |
| Regents Park | 735 | 349 | 1,084 | 338 | 105 | 443 | 1,527 |
| South Hampstead | 450 | 189 | 639 | 188 | 52 | 240 | 879 |
| St Pancras and Somers Town | 931 | 467 | 1,398 | 415 | 133 | 548 | 1,946 |
| West Hampstead | 511 | 176 | 687 | 258 | 60 | 318 | 1,005 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Totals | 10,714 | 4,483 | 15,197 | 5,361 | 1,568 | 6,929 | 22,126 |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|

QUESTION 7

TO THE: CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND A SUSTAINABLE CAMDEN

BY: COUNCILLOR EDMUND FRONDIGOUN

To ask the Cabinet Member for Planning and a Sustainable Camden what engagement has the Council had with Thames Water regarding persistent issues of flooding on Plender Street?

REPLY

Camden Council works closely with Thames Water to facilitate timely repairs and advocate for mains replacement where persistent issues are identified. Regular coordination meetings take place with Thames Water to review flood risk areas and infrastructure performance. With regards to the most recent Plender Street pipe-burst, Street Works officers and Emergency Management officers escalated the issue to Thames Water for action when reported on Sunday 6 July and continued to work with and oversee their works on site. On completion of the work, Camden's Highways Team monitored the road surface and surrounding infrastructure to ensure safety and identify any follow-up repairs.

Officers have requested that Thames Water review the permit data relating to water leaks in Plender Street since 2022 and respond in detail to the six permits issued for leaks since 2022, confirming whether these relate to the same section of pipework and whether they are unrelated. Not all permits were as disruptive as these works, but it will allow us to review the findings with Thames Water. The investigation into the leaks in Plender Street will help expediate any necessary mains replacement.

Responsibility for maintaining and upgrading water infrastructure lies with Thames Water. As the statutory undertaker, Thames Water is obligated to ensure the integrity of its network, including timely repairs, proactive leak detection, and long-term asset management.

We remain committed to working with Thames Water and other stakeholders to improve the borough's resilience to flooding and water infrastructure challenges, including in areas like Plender Street where persistent issues have been identified.

QUESTION 8

TO THE: CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND A SUSTAINABLE CAMDEN

BY: COUNCILLOR IZZY LENGA

To ask the Cabinet Member for Planning and a Sustainable Camden to provide a ward-level update on the number of new cycle hangars, EV chargers, and trees installed across the borough since May 2022?

REPLY

We are determined to put in as many secure spaces for people to keep their bike, places for people to charge their electric car and new trees as possible across the borough. The information below shows where we have got to – a strong story with more still to do.

| Cycle hangars, EVCPs and Trees since May 2022 | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| Ward | Cycle Hangars (Installed) | Cycle Hangars (Planned) | Electric Vehicle Charging Points (Installed) | Electric Vehicle Charging Points (Planned) | Trees (Installed) |
| Belsize | 9 | 35 | 6 | 34 | 27 |
| Bloomsbury | 8 | 19 | 15 | 8 | 118 |
| Camden Square | 9 | 5 | 5 | 12 | 29 |
| Camden Town | 4 | 18 | 3 | 6 | 23 |
| Fortune Green | 12 | 18 | 12 | 16 | 171 |
| Frognal | 0 | 2 | 15 | 12 | 95 |
| Gospel Oak | 5 | 20 | 16 | 20 | 72 |
| Hampstead Town | 2 | 22 | 59 | 19 | 30 |
| Haverstock | 6 | 22 | 6 | 14 | 85 |
| Highgate | 7 | 21 | 9 | 18 | 61 |
| Holborn and Covent Garden | 15 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 82 |
| Kentish Town North | 4 | 32 | 6 | 6 | 68 |
| Kentish Town South | 5 | 13 | 6 | 20 | 46 |
| Kilburn | 11 | 20 | 7 | 18 | 151 |
| King's Cross | 6 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 100 |
| Primrose Hill | 11 | 20 | 14 | 8 | 51 |
| Regents Park | 6 | 4 | 9 | 10 | 34 |
| South Hampstead | 21 | 26 | 23 | 18 | 71 |
| St Pancras & Somers Town | 15 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 61 |
| West Hampstead | 23 | 23 | 21 | 8 | 40 |
| TOTALS | 179 | 330 | 242 | 259 | 1415 |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Note: | Planned EVCPs – we intend to have a further 259 charge points installed by the end of September '25 |
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QUESTION 9

TO THE: CABINET MEMBER FOR BETTER HOMES

BY: COUNCILLOR LORNA JANE RUSSELL

Would the Cabinet Member for Better Homes please confirm: how many households in temporary accommodation, and of which size, were placed in Camden/other London/outside of London each year for the last five years? How much was spent on this?

REPLY

Camden Council has a statutory duty to prevent homelessness, however, a combination of welfare reforms, cost of living crises, limited access to private rented sector accommodation and the imminent implementation of the Renters Rights Bill has significantly diminished the Council's ability to both support residents to sustain tenancies and to support households into private rented sector accommodation. Despite this, the Council has a statutory duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act to assist households who are either homeless or threatened with homelessness.

Demand for homelessness support is increasing every year, as are the associated costs, and despite the Council's best efforts to do everything possible to reduce numbers in temporary accommodation, as it is an unstable and unsettling form of accommodation, increased demand means there is no other option but to use it. Every effort is made to accommodate households within Camden or as close to Camden as possible. To ensure everyone is treated fairly and prioritised on the basis of their need, all temporary accommodation placements are made in accordance with the Council's Homelessness Accommodation Policy.

For the year 2024-25, 1013 households were placed in temporary accommodation. Of these, 377 households were placed within Camden, 599 households were in temporary accommodation across London, and 10 households were outside of London.

As is the case with other councils both in London and nationally, the pressures on the temporary accommodation budgets and the general fund are unprecedented. The table below illustrates Camden's spend on temporary accommodation provision.

| Year | Households in TA | TA Cost |
|----------|------------------|-------------|
| 2021-22 | 554 | £4,530,442 |
| 2022-23 | 647 | £8,433,133 |
| 2023-24 | 800 | £13,290,077 |
| 2024-25* | 1013 | £28,024,298 |

*The total temporary accommodation spend for 2024-25 includes a bad debt provision totalling £5.877M and a £2.5M contribution to the HRA for the TAPP properties.

ENDS