

LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN
COUNCIL MEETING – 19TH JANUARY 2026
NOTICE OF MOTIONS

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

This Council notes:

- The Labour government's Local Government Financial Settlement for Camden Council freezes the per capita core spending power in cash terms for the next three years
- The settlement is based on the assumption of a maximum increase in Council Tax for each of the next three years i.e. 4.99%
- This means that the council faces a cut in spending in real terms, depending on levels of inflation (3.2% as of November 2025).
- Therefore Camden residents will be asked to pay more tax, but will get less.

This Council further notes

- Members of the Labour administration, past and present, have repeatedly criticised reductions in local government funding and have consistently claimed that a Labour Government would deliver improved financial settlements for councils such as Camden. The current settlement contradicts those claims and fails to protect Camden from real-term cuts.

This Council believes that the real-term cuts to the core spending power over the next three years made by the government will put additional pressure on already stretched key public services. This shows that Labour is failing the people of Camden and that the Prime Minister is letting down his own constituents.

In addition, this Council notes the continuing pressure on the Housing Revenue Account, including the absence of additional "new burdens" funding from the current Government for policy and regulatory changes such as Awaab's Law. This adds pressure on the HRA and is a driver of the council's intended increase to council rents.

This Council calls on:

- The Leader of the Council to write to the Prime Minister asking him to reconsider and revise the settlement so as not to unfairly disadvantage the people of Camden.
- The Leader of the Council to work with other London Councils to press for a fairer funding settlement, including revisions to the allocation formulae for London.

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 essential value of recycling to Camden and the need to engage all residents and visitors to enthusiastically join in with this effort.

At the December meeting of the Culture and Environment Scrutiny Committee it was noticed that the statistics on recycling in 24/25 have actually fallen by around 5% from the previous year. This unfortunate reduction may well be linked to the removal of many of the street recycling bins in the borough which has had the effect of encouraging greater use of refuse waste bins for recyclable materials.

On questioning about the wisdom of this action, officers responded that, as well as the potential for fly-dumping near these facilities which could be more properly controlled by greater enforcement, there were two main reasons for their decision to remove this service to residents.

The first is simply economic. The cost of street recycling and the level of contamination in the bins is considered unwelcome. The second and disturbing justification is that the council wishes to encourage residents to change their natural habits and move away from buying items which lead to recycling.

While reducing all types of waste is undeniably good, to do so by removing a service and effectively forcing the behaviour of people rather than enabling and encouraging such, steps into the realm of big brother and away from Conservative principles.

The Council, therefore, resolves to replace the street recycling provision and firmly communicate on all new bins, that casual contamination lets down the great majority of people who support the reduction of waste and that enforcement through prosecution is an option.

In this way Camden will benefit and a sensible service will be resumed.

3. To consider the following motion, notice of which was given by Councillor Sagal Abdi-Wali and which was seconded by Councillor Marcus Boyland

This council notes:

- That since the last local elections, Camden Labour has listened to what residents told us they needed most and we have delivered real, visible improvements as a result. Our approach is rooted in security and dignity in everyday life, investing in the foundations that make Camden work, widening opportunity in a diverse borough, and building pride in place for the future.

This council further notes:

- Residents told us they want safer neighbourhoods and the confidence that problems will be dealt with. Camden Labour has delivered an ASB Review (including a single reporting route and dedicated ASB officers), backed by visible enforcement (more than 1,300 fixed penalty notices and 650 statutory notices between 2024-25 alone) and the Camden Safety Bus (with over 1,500 engagements in 2025).
- Residents told us they want safe, warm, well-maintained council homes: the foundation of security for thousands of our families. Camden Labour has delivered major investment and building safety at scale, including approving a £670m Housing Investment Strategy covering fire safety, retrofit and major works, and improving repairs and resident experience (with independent surveys now showing an average of 85% satisfaction with day-to-day repairs).
- Residents told us we must tackle overcrowding and homelessness so more families can live and thrive in Camden. Camden Labour has delivered new homes through the Community Investment Programme (including hitting the halfway milestone of 1,500 homes), secured £20m for the Temporary Accommodation Purchase Programme, delivered over 200 larger family-sized properties via the Family Friendly Housing Purchase programme, and is delivering new family hostels while driving the number of families in unsuitable B&Bs for over six weeks down from 70 to 0, and in Premier Inn and Travelodge from 180 to 0.
- Residents told us they want high-quality care and support people can rely on. Camden Labour has delivered an Outstanding CQC rating for Adult Social Care (the first local authority in the country to receive this under the new system), launched a Carers Action Plan with unpaid carers, supported over 1,300 residents to get active with physical activity programmes, and expanded indoor air quality monitoring prioritising vulnerable households.
- Residents told us they want Camden to be a great place for their children to grow up and learn. Camden Labour has helped secure free school meals for all primary-age children in Camden (almost 10,000 children), with all Camden schools rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted, alongside strong youth and cultural provision including an outstanding Youth Justice rating, major library improvements, and large-scale cultural participation for young people.
- Residents told us they want support through the cost-of-living crisis and strong local community organisations. Camden Labour has backed our voluntary sector with over £4m annual investment for 100+ organisations, expanded resident-led neighbourhood projects through the We Make Camden Project Fund, and supported 10,000 residents via the Camden Advice Network generating £10m in financial gains and writing off £1.8m in debt.
- Residents told us they want to feel pride in Camden as a place – a cleaner, greener borough with well-kept parks and public spaces. Camden Labour has invested £12.7m in parks and green spaces since 2020 (including new spaces like Alfred Place gardens and pocket parks), is planting 600 trees per year, and has invested an additional £1m per year in street cleaning and enforcement including higher fly-tipping fines.

This council resolves:

1. To put on record that these achievements reflect Camden Labour having stood by consistent priorities for the borough and investing heavily in the

foundations residents rely on: safe neighbourhoods, decent homes, high-quality care, great schools and youth services, strong community support, and well-kept parks and public spaces. This stands in clear contrast to the local austerity politics pursued when the Liberal Democrats previously ran Camden with the Conservatives, and returning to this style of politics could reverse hard-won progress.

2. To recognise that, whatever the national funding context, the difference is how a council chooses to respond - and that Camden Labour has consistently prioritised protecting frontline services and directing investment towards the issues residents care about most.

ENDS