

### Philip Glanville Labour and Coop Mayor of Hackney

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Dear Member,

Welcome to my March-May Mayor's Report and the first of the new administration.

The past few months were dominated by the local elections and I would like to thank everyone who supported the campaign and stood for council. Here in Hackney I campaigned in every ward and we had the best result since 1986 - winning the highest share of the vote in the Mayoral Ballot and 52 councillors including in former Lib Dem Cazenove. Our victory was only tempered by losing one of our hardest working councillors Rosemary Sales in Stamford Hill West and not seeing our other candidates elected.

It's been a busy first few weeks appointing the new Cabinet, preparing for the Council AGM, running the Hackney Half and working to turn our manifesto into a new corporate plan. I was pleased today to open the new Hackney Wick station and also visit one of our school streets in Clapton. We've started work on becoming a 'Child Friendly Borough', held our annual cycling conference and I was proud to go on [Newsnight to mark #WalktoSchoolWeek](#) and talk about our work to tackle air pollution through school streets and other interventions.

Alongside this we have continued to campaign at the TUC March, supporting Deliveroo workers and supporting the Windrush generation. Reflecting on previous campaigns it was good to see to see MHCLG finally take heed of our concerns about FOBT machines and announce last week that maximum stakes would indeed be decreased from £100 to £2.

Hackney has won six prestigious awards for Hackney Town Hall, Kings Crecent, Woodberry Down and our apprenticeship programme, more details can be found below. Deputy Mayor Bramble and Cllr Selman attended the Hackney Ethnic Minority Forum Event on Knife Crime. We're leading co-ordinated work across the Council and our partners. Cllr Bramble has also been entering into national discussions on the future of education policy and will be holding a National Education Service debate with Hackney South on 13th June.

Best wishes,

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### Mayor's Diary Highlights

#### May 23

Hackney Council AGM

#### May 22

LLDC Board and minutes silence for Manchester bombing victims.

North East London Fabians Q&A

#### May 21

Dementia Festival Tea Dance

Nightingale Lunch Club Bingo

[Newsnight on air pollution](#)

#### May 20

Hackney Half Marathon

#### May 19

Wilton Way Royal Wedding Party

#### May 18

London Councils Labour Group AGM

Evening Standard Homes and Property Awards

#### May 17

[Hackney Cycling Conference](#)

School Leavers Awards

#### May 16



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## Hackney Council AGM and Mayor's Civic Awards

Hackney thanked its unsung heroes in a ceremony at the Town Hall on 23 May. I presented the Mayor's Civic Awards to three well-deserving winners; Barbara Layne, Salmah Kansara and Ngozi Headley-Fulani. I believe it's really important to celebrate the borough's community champions, who go above and beyond to make Hackney the great place that it is today. These awards not only help us recognise the achievements and efforts of these extraordinary residents but will hopefully inspire more people to get involved with volunteering and community action to help make a lasting difference to Hackney.

The awards, now in their third year, aim to recognise and celebrate some of the fantastic people within the borough and take pride in the amazing things people in Hackney achieve every day.

Barbara Layne is a retired community nurse who has never given up on supporting people in her local community. She has been a volunteer for the past 20 years after she first started volunteering by visiting vulnerable and isolated older residents in the borough. Since then she has been involved in many of community initiatives, including being the first volunteer on the over 50s dance social in 2001. She has supported the event ever since, and now welcomes over 160 guests a month. Also an active volunteer at the 2012 Olympic Games, Barbara helped start a project to get older people to use local leisure centres and get involved with sport – something still used by leisure centres today, benefitting hundreds of Hackney's older people. Each year she volunteers for the St Pauls Winter Night Shelter, providing food and shelter for homeless people. Barbara has also encouraged 20 other older people to volunteer for the shelter, to ensure there are always enough volunteers to keep the project open and provide support for some of the most vulnerable people in Hackney.

Salmah Kansara is the Services Development Manager at the Ihsan Children's Centre based at the North London Muslim Community Centre. Through her role there she has touched many lives, helping women who are experiencing domestic abuse, who are homeless and vulnerable, to find support and access services. Described as a "hero", Salmah is there for women, motivating mothers who have lost their confidence to get back into work and study to achieve, aspire and thrive in society. Salmah has helped hundreds of women in Hackney, both as a positive role model and by going above and beyond what is expected of her

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Hackney Youth Parliament Election  
Launch and Q & A

### May 15

Labour Group AGM

### May 14

Capital Investment and Britannia  
Boards

### May 12

Joined Hackney North and South on  
the TUC March

### May 11

Meeting with Hackney and City CCG  
and Deputy Mayor Demirci

Meeting with Ian Levy Foundation

### May 10

[Visit to De Beauvoir Primary School  
with Deputy Mayor Bramble to look at  
their Child Friendly Borough Work.](#)

New Councillors Induction Event

### May 9

Follow up meeting with MOPAC,  
Hackney Police, Cllr Selman and  
Deputy Mayor Linden

### May 8

Hackney Citizens Welcome Breakfast

Speaker's Farewell Dinner

### May 7

Believe in Youth Community Peace  
Walk

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with one-to-one support and community outreach. She makes sure no one is left behind and everyone has the chance to live their dreams and feel a sense of belonging and happiness in Hackney.

Ngozi Headley-Fulani set up Sistah Space in 2015 to support women and girls of African heritage who have experienced domestic or sexual abuse and those who have lost a loved one to domestic violence. It is also a safe space for women to go to. Over the past three years Ngozi has built up the organisation, bringing together a team of volunteers to provide lifesaving support, whilst recognising and responding to the impact of these issues on the wider community. Ngozi has fundraised to provide toys, trips for affected children and families, and a community use car to help women who need to leave their home in an emergency. She has also organised community events to help women access Council services as well as broader events to celebrate and highlight African and Caribbean history and culture in the borough. The lifesaving work she does every day, as well as campaigning for a better future for all, is a testament to Ngozi as a local hero, with a true dedication and love for Hackney and its citizens.

## Hackney Council appoints new Director of Education

Annie Gammon, Headteacher of Stoke Newington Secondary School, is set to become Hackney Council's new Director of Education.

Ms Gammon said: "Hackney has some of the best schools in the country, and I'm looking forward to working with young people, staff and parents to help further build on these strengths.

"This is a particularly exciting time to take on this role, as the Council and schools continue to work together toward our shared goal of making sure all young people in Hackney have the best possible start in life and can access the opportunities available to them across the borough and beyond."

Ms Gammon, who has led Stoke Newington School for the last 10 years, will take over from interim Director Sian Davies, in September. She was previously a Deputy Head and an Education Adviser in Tower Hamlets, and started her career as a maths teacher.

## Mental Health Awareness Week in Hackney

Hackney Council marked Mental Health Awareness Week led by Councillor Tom Rahilly, Mental Health Champion.

It was themed around the Five Ways to Wellbeing, which are about really simple things that anyone can do to help keep themselves happy and healthy. In a world where we are increasingly juggling our responsibilities, it can be easy to neglect our own mental wellbeing. Stress is a massive factor for a lot of people and I hope that by including one or all of the Five Ways to Wellbeing during Mental

### May 4

Election Count at Britannia

### May 3

Election Day and Campaigning in Homerton, Hackney Downs, Dalston, Stamford Hill West, Springfield and Cazenove

### May 2

Campaigning in Hoxton West

### May 1

Campaigning in London Fields and Brownswood

### April 30

Cabinet Campaigning in Dalston and Interview with Danish Newspaper

Campaigning in Stoke Newington

Hackney Gazette and Hackney Unites Hustings

### April 29

Campaigning in Oval

Hackney Citizen Hustings

Campaigning in De Beauvoir and Newham

### April 28

Campaigning Barnet and Stamford Hill West.

Hackney Singers Concert

Health Awareness Week, people will learn how to tackle and manage stress more effectively, simply through making small changes.

Hackney council is taking steps to help improve the mental wellbeing of residents as part of Mental Health Awareness Week, sharing some of the everyday ways local people can help themselves.

Mental Health Awareness Week, which will run from Monday 14 – Sunday 20 May, focuses on managing stress, which if left unmanaged can lead to more serious mental and physical health conditions.

The council is promoting the 'Five Ways to Wellbeing' - a set of evidence-based messages which aims to improve people's mental health and wellbeing (5 to Thrive is the local campaign funded by City and Hackney CCG). If you give them a try, you may feel happier, more positive and able to get the most from life. The five things that can help to boost mental wellbeing are: connecting, being active; taking notice, to keep learning and to give back.

Every day next week Hackney Council shared ideas and tips on how you can boost your mental health and wellbeing by focusing one theme a day.

For more information please visit: <http://news.hackney.gov.uk/mental-health-awareness-week-in-hackney/>

## Hackney Wins National School Leavers Award

Hackney Council has won a national prize for school leaver employment in the public sector. Based on direct feedback by apprentices employed by the council, the award was announced at the sixth annual School Leaver Awards 2018. The win, which was unveiled at the sixth annual School Leaver Awards 2018 held at London's Sheraton Grand Park Lane, was an added bonus to the Council already being listed as a top 100 employer for the same group.

In the lead up to the award, young people on Hackney's apprenticeship programme were asked anonymously to complete a survey, giving feedback on every aspect of their working lives, from job satisfaction and career progression, to company culture and work/life balance. The Council beat six other public sector organisations to clinch the top prize.

The Council, which is playing a leading role in providing opportunities for school leavers, launched Hackney Apprentices last year, and currently has over 100 young people employed through its apprenticeship programme. The next recruitment drive - for over 30 apprentices in areas including ICT, plumbing, electrical, and youth work – will take place in the summer. To find out more about Hackney Apprentices visit: [www.hackney.gov.uk/apprenticeships](http://www.hackney.gov.uk/apprenticeships) or email [apprenticeships@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:apprenticeships@hackney.gov.uk).

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### April 27

Mayor's Casework Surgery

Campaigning in Springfield

Mayor of Lewisham's Leaving Do

### April 26

Gangs and Crime Meeting with Police and Cllr Selman

Hackney Citizens Assembly

### April 25

Charlie Burns Foundation Event

### April 24

Newington Breakfast

Campaigning in Stamford Hill West

### April 23

Cabinet Campaigning in Hackney Downs

Capital Investment Board

Campaigning in Hackney Downs

### April 22

Campaigning in Stamford Hill West & Springfield

St John of Jerusalem Festival Chorus Concert with Suresnes Choir

### April 21

Campaigning Hackney Downs

## £115,000 for new play area at Daubeney Fields

The play area at Daubeney Fields in Lower Clapton will be transformed thanks to funding from two charities.

Hackney Council has secured £115,000 from the London Marathon Charitable Trust and the Veolia Environmental Trust to transform the space into a playable landscape. As well as installing more swings, slides and climbing structures, the play area will use the landscape to encourage more active, imaginative and accessible play.

The new play area has been designed in consultation with representatives from local primary schools, the Clapton Park Children's Centre and the park user group, Daubeney Fields Forever. Local residents had the opportunity to comment on proposals at a community fun day in the Park.

Daubeney Fields is an important green space for thousands of residents who live in flats without gardens on the nearby Clapton Park and Kingsmead estates - this funding will be used to provide improved facilities for local children to get active and play outdoors.

## Dancing and singing down memory lane at Hackney's first Dementia Festival

Hackney will host its first ever Dementia Arts Festival from Monday 21 to Friday 25 May – a week of mostly free events and activities for people with dementia and their families, carers and friends to enjoy, whilst reliving memories through games, dancing and singing. It was co-ordinated by Dementia Champion Cllr Yvonne Maxwell.

The festival included workshops where residents can explore their memories and emotions in a memory bank workshop with postgraduate art student Pauline.

People signing up to the festival can enjoy lots of free events and activities including a tea dance on Monday 21 May at Shoreditch Town Hall to launch the Dementia Festival, board games, sports, walks, swimming, a classic matinee, singing and art exhibitions.

The festival took place during Dementia Action Week to raise awareness and support and make change happen for people affected by dementia. Earlier this year, councillors voted to continue working towards making Hackney a dementia friendly borough, continuing its work to support the Hackney Dementia Action Alliance group (HDAA).

Sandra Cater, Dementia Friendly Community Coordinator in Hackney, said: "I am absolutely delighted to have gained the support of so many partner organisations in Hackney to hold our first ever Dementia festival. There will be something for everyone and all of the events and activities have been especially designed for people with dementia in mind. It is really important that people with dementia feel included and involved in their community."

The Dementia Festival is part of the ongoing work to make Hackney a dementia friendly borough. Around 1,300 people in Hackney are living with dementia, and with an increasing and ageing population in the borough, the rate of dementia will increase along with demand for local dementia-friendly services.

Hackney Dementia Festival includes dementia friendly film screenings to help people to reconnect with their memories and other people. Partner organisations holding events include St Joseph's Hospice, GLL leisure services, Alzheimer's Society, Rio Cinema, Hackney Picturehouse, Shoreditch Town Hall, St Mary's Secret Garden, Hackney Archives, Hackney Libraries and Homerton University Hospital NHS Trust.

For more information go to [www.hackney.gov.uk/dementia-festival](http://www.hackney.gov.uk/dementia-festival)

## Integrated Gangs Unit's vital work to support people away from violent crime

Cllr Selman, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Policy and Voluntary Sector wrote a blogpost on the work of Hackney's Integrated Gangs Unit following an in-depth [article from the Financial Times](#) about this unit's important work:

The Financial Times yesterday profiled the fantastic work of Hackney's Integrated Gangs Unit (IGU) which, since 2010, has been working to reduce violent gang-related crime in the borough.

I am extremely proud of the IGU, which was the first co-located unit of its kind when it was set up. It brings together staff from the Council, police, third-sector organisations and government agencies. They all work to reduce violent crime by tackling the social, educational, mental health and employment factors that underwrite the path of too many people into crime.

The IGU works directly with the 150 people in Hackney who are at the highest risk of involvement in gang activity.

It takes time - often years of consistent work - to convince those engaged in violent crime that there are other opportunities out there. Sometimes this can even mean outreach workers from the IGU accompanying people to the job centre or medical appointments, or backing up a college or apprenticeship application.

The level of trust and consistency that staff from the unit can offer to those it supports has been achieved through the sustained backing of the Council, police and other partners, and a commitment to supporting the work of its dedicated staff. This is why in our manifesto we pledged to continue to give the IGU the support it needs to continue its excellent work.

Following the IGU's formation in 2010, Hackney saw a reduction in gang violence. The number of gun-related crimes in the borough dropped from 114 in the year to February 2011 to 66 in the year to February 2018. Until the recent surge in violence across the capital, there had not been a gang-related murder in Hackney for two years.

The recent rise in violent crime experienced across London and the country is extremely troubling, and the causes are extremely complicated. The IGU has a crucial role to play and is one part of the solution, which includes a much broader range of preventative work, including through our youth services.

Over the last few weeks we've been talking to members of the community - including at an over 100-strong meeting in Hackney attended by local community leaders and the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan - to make sure we understand the rise in violence and are doing all we can to tackle it.

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### April 13

Meeting with Janette Collins & Crib

Meeting with Deputy Leader of London Councils

### April 12

Meeting with Shelter

Hackney Community Reassurance Meeting with the Mayor of London

### April 11

Meeting on procurement and insourcing with Camden and Islington

North London Muslim Centre Hustings

### April 10

Mayor of London Knife Crime Summit

### April 9

London Local Elections Launch

Campaigning in Cazenove

### April 8

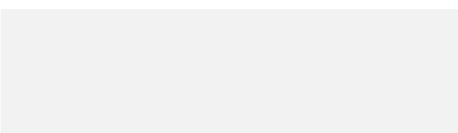
Hackney Quest Community Football Cup

Campaigning in Tower Hamlets & De Beauvoir

### April 7

Campaigning in Newham

BAME campaign day in Dalston



These conversations with the community, including with the borough's amazing and talented young people, will continue, as will our tireless work - through the IGU and our other services - to do all we can to halt the surge in violent crime.

### Background:

We use the gangs matrix to make sure the support we offer to people through our Integrated Gangs Unit (IGU) is intelligence-led.

- We work with around 150 people from the gangs matrix at any one time.
- Those we work with are at the highest risk of involvement in gang crime: around 85% are adults, a third are currently in custody and almost all have previously offended.
- The key aim of the Unit is to divert people away from violent crime and support them into education, training and employment.
- In the last few months alone, we have supported three people into apprenticeships and three more into further education.
- The names of the people we support are kept under constant review, and removed if there is no longer a need for support from the IGU.

## Loads of free and fun family activities at the Dalston Children's Festival

The biggest ever Dalston Children's Festival will leave families spoilt for choice this summer, with over 30 free activities on offer.

Taking place across two days on Saturday 26 May and 2 June during the half term holiday, the Dalston Children's Festival is the perfect way for Hackney's under 18's to be entertained for free whilst giving families the chance to discover the fun to be had in Dalston all-year-round.

With creativity and play at the heart of the festival, Dalston's vibrant artistic and play communities will have activities on offer both indoors and out.

Some of the many highlights of the festival include:

- A Drag Queen storyteller at the Hackney Pride 365 family picnic
- A film screening of Disney's Coco in Spanish with English subtitles, followed by Day of the Dead inspired craft
- A visit from the Hackney Play Bus as Dalston Sq is transformed into a giant playground
- Bollywood dancing for kids and parents
- Carnival crafts with last years Hackney Carnival winners Tropical Isles
- And much, much more!

The Dalston Children's Festival is a community-led event and has been organised

### April 6

Visit to Bridport House

Community Safety Meeting with Leader of Waltham Forest Cllr Coghill

### April 5

Meeting with Day-Mer

HTH Vigil for Israel Ogunsola

### April 4

Meeting with Rabbi Pinter

Meeting with HCVS

Campaigning in Kings Park

### April 3

Meeting with MOPAC, Hackney Police, Cllr Selman and Deputy Mayor Linden on community safety and resources

Campaigning in Harrow and Clissold

### March 29

Meeting with CCG and North East London Commissioning Alliance (former STP)

Campaigning in Victoria

### March 28

UCL @ HereEast Thomas Heatherwick - Donaldson Lecture

### March 27

IGU Fortnightly Gangs Review Panel

Campaigning in Hoxton West

### March 26

Britannia Board

by the Dalston Children's Network (DCN), a collective of organisations that have an on-going offer for children and young people in Dalston, and is supported by Hackney Council.

For more details about the Dalston Children's Festival 2018, please visit the website [www.dalstonchildren.org.uk](http://www.dalstonchildren.org.uk) or pick-up a flyer from Dalston businesses, restaurants, cafes and the Dalston CLR James Library.

You can also follow the Dalston Children's Festival on Twitter using #dalstonchildren or on the Dalston Children's Festival Facebook page.

## New 'health and wellbeing' website for Hackney and City of London

A new website has been launched giving information about the health and wellbeing needs of residents in Hackney and City of London to make it easier to commission services to address current and future health needs of the local population.

The new website has been set up to improve online access to information published by the Public Health Intelligence Team, which provides a 'Health and Wellbeing Profile' of Hackney and the City of London.

The 'Health and Wellbeing Profile' is also known as a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) which presents evidence on what are the key needs of the local population. Hackney and City of London's Health and Wellbeing Boards has a statutory duty to publish a local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).

The JSNA contains information about mental health and substance misuse in children and young people, lifestyle and behaviour of residents, stroke needs, learning disability needs and other health and lifestyle related information about residents in Hackney and the City of London.

The information contained within the JSNA is used for different purposes, including setting the strategic direction of the Health and Wellbeing Boards, informing funding bids for voluntary sector organisations, commissioning services to meet the needs of local people, and monitoring the performance of services in meeting those needs.

The new website will give senior leaders from the NHS, the local authorities, Healthwatch and the voluntary and community sector easier access to information so they can work together more effectively to improve the health and wellbeing of people in Hackney and City of London and reduce health inequalities.

The new site enables users to search and filter content to what they are interested in and receive information relevant to them. Some sections are available in an interactive format where users can search and filter content, whilst some content is available to download for people interested in specific topics.

The new website is just one step to develop the JSNA into a user friendly public health information tool for residents to access across Hackney and the City of London.

For more information go to <https://hackney.gov.uk/jsna>

To provide feedback on the website and content please email: [public.health@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:public.health@hackney.gov.uk)

## New 2018 Hackney Cabinet

I confirmed my new Cabinet team, who will support me during my first full term and work with me to deliver our manifesto. As a Labour Party member you should have received an email about this earlier in the week.

I am introducing a second deputy mayor, and promoting former Chair of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission, Cllr Chris Kennedy to the Cabinet.

- Cllr Anntoinette Bramble: Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Young People and Children’s Social Care
- Cllr Feryal Demirci: Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care, Transport and Parks
- Cllr Caroline Selman: Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Policy and the Voluntary Sector
- Cllr Chris Kennedy: Cabinet Member for Families, Early Years and Play
- Cllr Guy Nicholson: Cabinet Member for Planning, Business and Investment
- Cllr Rebecca Rennison: Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing Needs
- Cllr Clayeon McKenzie: Cabinet Member for Housing Services
- Cllr Jon Burke: Cabinet Member for Energy, Sustainability and Community Services
- Cllr Carole Williams: Cabinet Member for Employment, Skills and Human Resources
- Cllr Sem Moema: Mayoral Advisor for Private Renting and Housing Affordability

I also issued the statement below:

“I’m pleased to confirm the Cabinet team who will support me in my first full term as Mayor of Hackney. Hackney is one of the most diverse boroughs in the country, and I’m proud to have appointed a Cabinet team that continues to reflect that diversity.

“I’m particularly pleased to welcome Cllr Kennedy to the Cabinet. During his time as Chair of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission, Chris demonstrated that he has the skills, knowledge and compassion that will bring great value to the team. Among other things, he will be leading on our support and services for children and young people with special educational needs, ensuring we can dedicate even greater focus to this important issue, to both work with families, teachers and other stakeholders locally, and also to make sure, working alongside Deputy Mayor Bramble, Hackney’s voice is heard nationally, as we continue to fight for fairer funding.

“Cllr Demirci now has responsibility for adult social care and public health. By combining these critical service areas with air quality, parks and transport, I hope we will be able to build on the progress we have already made in tackling air pollution, and I have appointed her joint deputy mayor, to acknowledge the enormous challenges and opportunities we face as we work in new ways with our partners to create a healthier borough.

“Cllr Selman, who has been working with me on our response to community safety, has an expanded portfolio to recognise that tackling some of the issues causing recent violence and crime in the borough are complex, and as well as keeping up the fight for more police resources also needs a wider and more coordinated response, not just from the Council, but the voluntary sector and the community as a whole.

“I’m looking forward to getting to work on delivering the promises we made in our manifesto. From building 800 new council and social rented homes to setting up a publicly owned energy company and ensuring young people can access the opportunities available across the borough, we will continue to work hard to make Hackney a place for everyone.”

Full details of everyone’s portfolios can be found here: <https://www.hackney.gov.uk/cabinet>

## **Celebrating old and new – double recognition for Hackney’s architecture**

A flagship new council housing development and the transformation of the 1930s Grade II listed Hackney Town Hall were both recognised as some of the capital’s best architecture as Hackney Council celebrated a double victory at this week’s RIBA London Awards 2018.

The Kings Crescent estate, designed by Henley Halebrown and Karakusevic Carson Architects, was one of just two council housing developments recognised in the awards, which honours the best architecture of all types across London.

The project, which has seen 275 new Council homes and major improvements to the existing homes with new 'winter garden' balconies, was acknowledged for its close engagement with residents during the planning and its innovative approach to regeneration by combining new homes with refurbished buildings.

The refurbishment of Hackney Town Hall, on Mare Street, led by Hawkins Brown architects, also received an award having not just revived an important civic landmark back to its former glory, but updated it for modern use.

The conservation project retained the original art-deco features of the building, while creating new spaces for events, weddings and ceremonies - including two new covered courtyards - to ensure it remains a public building at the heart of the borough's civic life.

These awards demonstrate our commitment to both maintaining Hackney's history and heritage, but also creating well-designed high quality new buildings that meet the needs of the borough today.

As with all the new homes we build, at King's Crescent we've worked with high-calibre architects and the local community to create designs that don't just provide much needed new Council homes but create places where people really want to live. This award shows that building genuinely affordable homes doesn't have to mean compromising on design.

The recognition for the newly refurbished Town Hall is testament to our efforts to both invest in and preserve an important historic public building and to ensure that future generations of Hackney residents can have pride in this modern, accessible hub of civic life.

## Ongoing Britannia Update

We have revamped the Council's website on Britannia (<https://www.hackney.gov.uk/britannia-site>) and also provided a range of updates on the project in the last month, more information can be found here: <http://news.hackney.gov.uk/britannia-project-images-of-homes-and-school-released/> at the same time we organised a range of local drop ins and a further newsletter to local wards near the site.

This month we also submitted the planning application more details can be found here: <http://news.hackney.gov.uk/planning-application-submitted-for-new-leisure-centre-school-and-homes/>

There will be a further planning consultation in June and work continues on the design of the family friendly leisure water (pools 3 and 4).

## Statement and blog on rising youth violence in London (5 April 2018)

No one could fail to be shocked and saddened by the recent surge of violence across London in recent weeks and here in Hackney.

Our thoughts are with those who have lost loved ones to acts of senseless violence, and as a Council our priority has been to work closely with the community to provide support and reassurance following these tragic attacks.

Hackney remains a safe place to live and work, with crime rates still well below what they were 15 years ago, but the recent increase in violence concerns us all. A very small minority of people in London are involved in violent crime, but clearly even a small number is too many, and recent events have been felt right throughout our community. The last few weeks have shone a light on the need for action across the capital to make sure no more families have to go through what too many are dealing with today.

Over many years, Hackney Council - and in particular our youth services, Integrated Gangs Unit and community safety team - has worked tirelessly with the police and other local partners to divert young people away from crime, create meaningful opportunities and keep residents safe. Despite this ongoing investment, we know we cannot do this alone, and we will host an urgent meeting of our partners and community leaders in the coming days to discuss concerns and urgently look at what more we can do together to respond.. Earlier this week we met with senior leadership in the Metropolitan Police and Deputy Mayor Linden to discuss these issues and we welcome today's announcement of more visible on the ground policing resources.

In the meantime, I would echo calls across London for an end to violence and for anyone who might know anything about the murders that have taken place in Hackney - or who might be worried that someone they know is involved in gang violence - to contact the police or our Children and Families Service on 020 8356 5500.

## **I called on the Home Secretary to demonstrate action on Windrush 'travesties'**

I've called on the new Home Secretary to undo immigration policies which led to members of the borough's 'Windrush generation' being refused access to public services and threatened with deportation.

Writing to Sajid Javid, who took over the Home Office last month and pledged to review the current system and 'do the right thing', I said:

"I write to you to express my deep personal concern, and the concern of thousands of Hackney residents, about the Government's treatment of those who relocated from the Caribbean between 1948 to 1971, known as the Windrush generation.

"Hackney has a long cherished history of migration which has made it the special place it is today. About 8% of its population is of Afro-Caribbean ethnicity and, though the Council does not have precise figures, it's believed the borough is home to hundreds, if not thousands, of the Windrush generation, and many more come from Commonwealth countries across the globe. They and their children have, and continue to, contribute a huge amount to Hackney, and are at the heart of the borough's rich diversity and vibrant culture. Indeed, Hackney is about to embark on celebrations and events to mark the 70th anniversary of the arrival of the Windrush into Tilbury in 1948.

"To see valued members of society being treated as second class citizens by your government has left me, and I imagine any fair-minded individual, appalled. It is entirely without justification and the Home Office's cold approach to the enforcement of its ill-conceived 'hostile environment' immigration policies has been startlingly inhumane. Hackney Council and voluntary and community sector organisations across the borough have repeatedly heard first-hand about the terrible impact Home Office policies are having on local people's lives. They are devastating individuals and families, and hundreds of residents are living in a climate of fear and uncertainty.

"As well the personal anguish this 'hostile environment' approach has had on British citizens, it is leading to a host of other negative policy outcomes. Fear of drawing attention to themselves and facing deportation is acting as a barrier to people who are not undocumented migrants from accessing services and advice to which they are fully entitled. Areas particularly affected include health and mental health services, housing support, and employee rights advice, and the result is often exploitation and discrimination.

"Residents not accessing the services they need results in considerable negative knock-on effects for them and the wider system. We are experiencing a growing number of individuals and families presenting as having No Recourse to Public Funds, meaning families are only supported once they are found to be destitute in line with Section 17 of the Children Act, which has a clear impact on the welfare of children and adults.

"I welcome your comments last month, on becoming Home Secretary, that you would now 'do the right thing' and look very carefully at the existing system to make it more fair and humane. This was a much needed show of commitment to thousands of citizens who have contributed so much and played a central role in Britain's success over the past 70 years.

"I would appreciate an update on what actions your department is taking to resolve the issues surrounding the status of the Windrush generation? I would also be pleased to hear more about changes you intend to make to dismantle the 'hostile environment' policies which are causing such concern among Hackney residents.

"As a Council we are also keen to support any of our residents who have been adversely affected. I would welcome any information you have on Hackney residents who were part of the Windrush generation, their current status, and how we can support them or best direct them to support.

"Finally, there is a growing concern that the Windrush issue is simply the tip of the iceberg. Policies to make life difficult for non-documented migrants is impacting on many who are non-white British. There is increasing discrimination in access to services, housing, jobs and wider participation in our communities. Also, Hackney has many highly skilled migrants who increasingly are being asked to meet stringent tests to remain in the UK. Current immigration policies are threatening community cohesion and economic growth in culturally diverse boroughs such as Hackney. It also makes me concerned for the 40,000 Hackney residents with EU citizenship, who might face similar challenges in years to come if they lose their documents or fall on hard times.

"I share the view of many, including Diane Abbott, MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington, that the Immigration Act 2014 needs to be amended to stop any further travesties such as Windrush, as well as more general societal and economic issues. Can you tell what, if any, elements of the Act you will be looking to address to make it a more humane and sensible piece legislation fit for a 21st Century Britain?"

Between 1948 to 1971, the Government invited thousands of people from Commonwealth countries in the Caribbean to relocate to Britain to address labour shortages. They were named the 'Windrush generation' after the ship Empire Windrush on which the first group arrived.

Despite widely being considered British citizens, many didn't receive formal papers and new laws which came into force with the Immigration Act 2014 have led to many recently being refused access to public services and threatened with deportation.

Hackney resident and former Labour councillor Patrick Vernon launched an online petition urging the Government to stop deportations, change the burden of proof and offer an amnesty for those who travelled across as children. It received almost 180,000 signatures and was debated in Parliament.

To read my letter in full: [https://www.hackney.gov.uk/media/11597/Philip\\_Glanville - Sajid Javid re Windrush/pdf/Philip\\_Glanville - Sajid Javid re Windrush](https://www.hackney.gov.uk/media/11597/Philip_Glanville_-_Sajid_Javid_re_Windrush/pdf/Philip_Glanville_-_Sajid_Javid_re_Windrush)

Our work in this area continues with Deputy Mayor Bramble taking part in roundtables on the subject with Government, not only on how we tackle this issue, but also how we mark the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Windrush. The campaign has also evolved into lobbying for a national holiday: <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/219610>

## **Do the Ridley Road Market challenge and beat the Supermarket's on price!**

As part of our ongoing work to promote our markets we created a mini campaign around Ridley Road. We found that savvy shoppers in Hackney should head straight to Ridley Road Market and fill their baskets as it officially has the best bargain buys in the borough and beats the supermarkets on price and value.

With shopping list in hand, one Hackney resident set out to compare prices in Ridley Road Market with a local big supermarket.

It was a clear win for Hackney's biggest street market, it came out £17.60 cheaper. You can watch the video and find out more here: <http://news.hackney.gov.uk/do-the-ridley-road-market-challenge/>

## Explore Hackney Town Hall with free public tours

A town hall is more than just a building: it represents both local government and the community, and provides a public space where the two can meet. Now an illuminating display in Hackney Town Hall's newly refurbished vaults will shed light on the building's origins and proud history.

To celebrate London History Day on 31 May the vaults will be opened to the public for the first time, as part of the Town Hall tours, which will now take place on a regular, twice monthly basis. Opened in 1937, to great fanfare, then mayor of Hackney, Herbert Butler, called Hackney Town Hall a 'great dignified centre of public life'.

It was designed by architects Lanchester & Lodge, who also designed the Grade II-listed Parkinson Building in Leeds, and won a competition for the honour. In keeping with the beautiful Art Deco architecture, most of the furniture and fittings in Hackney Town Hall were specifically designed for this new, modern civic hub.

Original plans show the spaces allocated for local government functions like paying rates, now known as Council Tax. Important life events – such as registering a birth or a marriage – have always been marked by a visit to the town hall. Although the registrars are now based in Hackney Service Centre, people can still get married in the Town Hall.

To celebrate its recent refurbishment, and in keeping with the ideals of the original builders, a new permanent display has been created in the Town Hall Vaults. It highlights the separate aspects of the building, both physically and symbolically.

The three rooms focus on the building itself, its representation as the symbolic centre of civic pride, and its function as a home of local democracy.

Items that were found during the extensive 12-year restoration are included in the display. Many of the original features had not been touched throughout the Town Hall's history, and 1930s era technology remained untouched for decades. For example, a central vacuum system, which is built into the walls.

The Town Hall was designed as a place for people to be proud of. That pride is also symbolised in the regalia worn by the mayors of Shoreditch and Stoke Newington, which only became part of the London Borough of Hackney in 1965. The public can admire the chains of office and maces in all their early 20th century glory. The old Hackney chain and mace have been updated with a new coat of arms, and are still in use today by The Speaker of Hackney.

Part of the exhibition is dedicated to the work of the Council and the ways in which residents are able to influence its policies. Designed to be used by schools, pupils will be able to learn more about voting in local elections and other ways in which their voices can be heard, such as campaigning or signing petitions.

Morningside School Council got a sneak peak behind the scenes before the opening, Ebenezer Zelalem, year 5 school councillor said his favourite room was where all the debates happen, in the council chamber, he said: "I would like to be the Mayor of Hackney one day, I would say other children should come and visit as you can see a lot and learn more about what they do at the Council.

To book visit: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hackney-town-hall-tour-and-vaults-display-tickets-46223936037>

Members of the public can visit Hackney Town Hall's newly refurbished vaults by booking a place on a free guided tour of the building. For more info on dates and to make a booking visit: [www.hackney.gov.uk/speaker](http://www.hackney.gov.uk/speaker); or call: 020 8356 3591. Special tours for school groups are also available.

## Consultations and campaigns

Will be updated next month

## Previous Motions and policy updates

### **CTRS Motion Response (approach agreed by Group)**

This issue has been extensively debated in wards, CLPs, Labour Group and been subject to the Council's statutory consultation. The motions came through the ward and GM process after the Manifesto had been agreed, but we were aware of them and have addressed the issue in this pledge:

*"Since 2010, we have been fighting the unfair cuts in national benefits that are leaving so many Hackney residents struggling. We will continue to challenge the Government and push for a return to proper national funding for benefits like Council Tax support and Housing Benefit, and we urge a future Labour Government to make them a priority."*

In previous responses I have provided extensive background material on how Hackney compares to other boroughs and the challenge we would face having a fully funded scheme. We have continued to reduce the use of bailiffs and Cllr Rebecca Rennison, Cabinet Member for Finance and Housing Needs is conducting a wide ranging debt and advice review which will involve councillors and key stakeholders and cover the other issues raised.

### **Response to Hackney North Motion on the NHS (agreed by Group):**

The NHS, throughout its history, has suffered from an absence of the level of local accountability that is considered normal for other public services. Whilst the NHS Bill would resolve some of the issues of fragmentation and marketisation created by the 2012 Health and Social Care Act, it still leaves local decision making in the hands of bodies that are not democratically accountable to local people.

Our own Hackney plans for greater integration of health and social care have accountability to local people at their heart. Our Integrated Commissioning Board is a 50:50 partnership between elected councillors and representatives of the NHS giving democratic accountability for local NHS decisions for the first time. We would like to see other parts of the country adopt models similar to ours.

We have no plans to develop an Accountable Care Organisation and feel that our ambitions for more joined up care can be achieved through more collaborative working between existing NHS organisations and the council.

Hackney Council has always been clear that we will not sign up to the North East London STP until the following conditions are met:

- There has been a genuine consultation with local people Council recommendations on social care, prevention and the wider determinants of health have been acted on
- Our ambitions for integration of health and social care as part of Hackney's devolution pilot are supported
- There are no proposals to take funding from Hackney's NHS to bail out other parts of North East London

Our plans to support our local NHS and to deliver more joined up health and social care will be a key part of the 2018 local election campaign.

### **Motion on Equity Manifesto (Response from Mayor and Cllr Nicholson):**

**Equity pledge:** Ensure the payment of industry rates for all productions or events which receive support directly or in kind from our local authority, in line with Arts Council requirements for nationally funded work.

**Draft response:** In our Manifesto we call on all employers in the borough to sign up to the London Living Wage as the minimum rate they pay employees. As part of the Council's procurement requirements it also sets this out. But the Council has no direct authority to intervene into third party employment contracts with sub contractors such as between a producer and performers, however it will always attempt to use its influence to promote the payment of industry agreed rates, terms and conditions even though it doesn't carry this authority. As part of our work on our new Cultural Strategy we will ensure that this issue is raised.

**Equity pledge:** Guarantee that alongside provision from an arts department, money for professional live performance is part of multiple departments' budgets, showing the key role it plays in delivering a council's strategic objectives – such as regeneration, education, parks, libraries and public health.

**Draft response:** Yes, the Arts, including the performing Arts, make an important contribution to a wide range of strategic objectives which include all of the above and we refer to this explicitly in the forthcoming manifesto and in the Borough wide Arts & Cultural policy – we are also placing an additional strategic objective for the Arts in Hackney to promote and strengthen a tolerant and inclusive community that is confident and outward looking that embraces and takes ownership of change in our community. Already Young Hackney, Public Health, Parks, Libraries, Hackney Museum, Hackney Archive and Hackney Learning Trust through our Music Services collaborate and support live performances from professionals and local people.

**Equity pledge:** Ensure at least one 'Creative Enterprise Zone' in our borough by 2022 so as to open up access to live performance for all Londoners, irrespective of their background, both as workers and audience members.

**Draft response:** The Council is already in the development phase of a CEZ for Hackney Wick and Fish Island with colleagues in Tower Hamlets Council, the London Legacy Development Corporation, the creative sector in the area, which includes the performing Arts in the area and City Hall.

**Equity pledge:** Establish a twice yearly trades council meeting for professionals working in the creative industries in the borough, chaired by the relevant cabinet member/committee chair, alongside a cultural chamber of commerce for employers and institutions.

**Draft response:** We are bringing forward through our manifesto, for all businesses in all sectors in the borough a commitment to a 'Landing Pad' and a 'Launch Pad' designed to provide everyone in business a service to assist, advise, refer and connect with services, support and networks. As part of this commitment there is a Hackney Business Network that is both online and made up of area based forums for businesses. Alongside the Network and area forums is a portfolio of sector specific forums proposed one of which could and should embrace the Arts.

**Equity pledge:** Use the planning process and community infrastructure levy to provide professional live performance spaces, in consultation with the artists who live and work in the borough.

**Draft response:** We will be drawing on both community infrastructure levy and Planning policy to support an investment into the Arts. This will be a community enabled and sector led approach to the Arts for both event investment, project delivery and to identify the infrastructure needs. The performing Arts are one of the activities but not the only one – the fine Arts and the applied Arts also have a place.

## Manifesto Update

Our Hackney 2018 Labour Manifesto is now being turned into a new Hackney Council Corporate Plan, you can download a copy of the original document here: [https://www.hackney-labour.org.uk/manifesto\\_2018](https://www.hackney-labour.org.uk/manifesto_2018)

## Visiting, speaking and reporting back to branch Labour Parties

I am keen to book new dates for ward meeting visits for the remaining months of this year, in June I am going to Shacklewell. If you want to invite me please email [philip.glanville@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:philip.glanville@hackney.gov.uk)

Since being elected in September 2016 I have been to Wick, Victoria, De Beauvoir (twice), Homerton, King's Park, Clissold, Stoke Newington, Hackney Central, Hoxton West, Haggerston, Woodberry Down, Stamford Hill West, Brownswood, Leabridge, Dalston and Hackney Downs Ward Party Meetings. That's nearly all our local branches as well as to Hackney Momentum, Fabian and the Coop party meetings.