

Council 31 January 2023

Motion 1

The following motion proposed by Councillor Stotesbury and seconded by the Mayor has been amended and now reads as follows:

Council notes:

- That the Labour Mayor of London Sadiq Khan has announced his intention to expand the Ultra Low Emission Zone to the London border, starting August 2023.
- That within the ULEZ, all vehicles not meeting the “ultra low emission vehicle” standard are charged £12.50 per day each time they are used, both residents’ vehicles and visitors’.
- That the expansion to the London border will have knock-on effects to residents in Watford and in many other local authorities on the edge of London.
- Due to poor public transport links in outer London and nearby areas, Watford residents are unfairly penalised because people in these areas are more likely to own a car, more likely to need a car, and less able to find alternatives.
- Further, older cars which will be hit with the ULEZ charge will be disproportionately owned by people on lower incomes who cannot afford a newer replacement vehicle.
- Watford is served by a number of TfL services and as such, residents in Watford are paying into TfL’s budget but do not have access to the TfL scrappage scheme.
- That the initial requirement for TfL to find new revenue from expanding current schemes was part of a negotiated funding settlement with the Conservative government.

Council acknowledges that Mayor of Watford, Peter Taylor has written to Sadiq Khan to outline his opposition to the ULEZ expansion until such time as:

- The car scrappage scheme is extended to Watford
- Watford stations are included in zone 6 to reduce public transport costs

Council calls for the Labour Mayor of London to halt or delay his proposed ULEZ expansion until such times as:

- Watford residents are included in TfL’s scrappage scheme to encourage the transition from polluting vehicles to ULEZ compliant vehicles.
- TfL and Hertfordshire County Council invest more in our public transport in order to encourage residents to switch from private to public transport
- Watford stations are included in zone 6 of the TfL network to reduce costs for Watford's residents.