

Council 31 January 2023

14. Motions submitted under Council Procedure Rule 13.0

1. The following motion has been proposed by Councillor Stotesbury and seconded by the Mayor Taylor:

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 a minority of 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, a minority of Watford residents are unfairly penalised disadvantaged because a minority of people in these areas may have own a heavily polluting vehicles are more likely to own a car, more likely to need a car, and less able to find alternatives.
- Further, older cars, heavily polluting vehicles, which will be hit with the ULEZ charge will be disproportionately owned by fewer people but may be 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.

- **Watford Borough Council has declared a climate emergency and understands the need to implement policies that respond to the emergency, working with different councils and authorities, in particular in clearing up air pollution in our town and surrounding areas.**

Council acknowledges that Mayor of Watford, Peter Taylor has written to Sadiq Khan to outline 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 ., **with Watford Borough Council paying it’s fair share towards the scrappage scheme.**
- TfL, ~~and~~ Hertfordshire County Council, **Watford Borough Council and the National Government** 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.

Amended motion

Proposed by: Asif Khan,

Seconded by Nigel Bell

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- Due to poor public transport links in outer London and nearby areas, a minority of Watford residents are disadvantaged because a minority of people in these areas may own a heavily polluting vehicles, and less able to find alternatives.
- Further, older cars, heavily polluting vehicles, which will be hit with the ULEZ charge will be disproportionately owned by fewer people but may be 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.

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