Emerson Park Matters

Winter 2023



Havering Council's Finances - The Truth

The new Council, run by the Residents Association Political Party and Labour, are using 13 year old numbers from 2010 to suggest that they need to cut spending by £70m, without explaining that:

- The reduced government grant to London councils has been offset by the retention of more business rates and other funding streams for the Council.
- This year, the funds available to the Council actually increased, compared to last year when the Conservatives successfully ran the Council's finances.

Where there are legitimate concerns about the bigger social care costs compared to other boroughs, **our MP Julia Lopez** has worked with all political parties to help represent the Council to Ministers. Your local Conservative Chairman, **Dominic Swan** also personally raised the topic with Michael Gove.

We are therefore pleased to report that from April onwards; Havering's core spending power will grow by 9.5%, with extra revenue support grant and money for social care.

Labour and the Residents Association Political Party need to spend this extra money wisely.



The first change should be to stop spending our taxes on their "£70m" leaflet. Don't use the taxpayers' money to print and deliver them to everyone's door.

In contrast, this leaflet is paid for by the local Conservative Association's membership fees and delivered by our local volunteers.

Hornchurch Job Fair



Your local MP, Julia Lopez, is hosting a Jobs & Apprenticeships Fair at Queen's Theatre on 10 February with the local JobCentre and Havering's schools and businesses.

It follows a successful Jobs Fair in August when over 60 residents secured a job or training.

Since September 2021 unemployment has fallen by 865 people across the constituency. Unemployment is at its lowest since 1974 under this Conservative government. We plan the next fair to help local people get the skills they need to boost our businesses.

We want to hear your views! Let us know at: www.hornchurchandupminsterconservatives.com

Emerson Park Action Team



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Keith's Corner

Despite completing our manifesto commitment, with 350 more police officers in our borough unit since 2018, Keith was concerned by rising levels of crime in Emerson Park.

Back in November, Keith Prince your Conservative London Assembly member, hosted a public crime meeting. As well as Inspector Zed Ashgar, he invited the leader of the council from the Residents Association Political Party, so this was not a party political event.

Over 200 residents attended with many sharing concerns. Since the meeting, Keith Prince has raised these with Sadig Khan in city hall who is responsible for policing.



Refuse Collection Campaign Success



A Conservative petition in Havering Town Hall by Cllr David Taylor has successfully put pressure on the Residents Association Political Party and Labour coalition to keep weekly bin collections.

The planned cuts would not have seen savings for twelve years. Over 2000 local people backed Councillor Taylor's petition and we hope the Council sticks to its new position.

Labour's ULEZ Charge - Will Stage 2 Catch You?

Research published in the Evening Standard Newspaper Labour's ULEZ will suggests spend £200 million on fitting cameras and other costs just to collect their new tax.

The charges Sadiq Khan has proposed for 2023 will not cover this.

We fear that he will try to catch many more cars once he has the scheme **approved**, particularly



Petrol Euro 5 Cars & Euro 6 Diesels (currently being sold).

If your car is exempt from ULEZ in 2023, will it be taxed in 2024? Or 2025?

We are calling on the Residents Association Havering Council to back Conservative Councils of Bexley, Hillingdon, Bromley and Harrow in resisting the ULEZ expansion.

Sign our petition to stop ULEZ by scanning the QR code.

£1.44 million win for Queen's **Theatre**

Hornchurch & Upminster MP, Julia Lopez, has welcomed the announcement of £1.44m in government arts funding for Hornchurch's Queen's Theatre over the next three years. This comes after its Grade II listing to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.

Over £6 million support for our pensioners

19,994 pensioners across Hornchurch Upminster have received their £300 cost of living payment to deal with rising fuel costs winter — worth about £6 million. A further £324 payment was received by 1,917 low income pensioners in our area - a package worth £621,108.

Construction Starts on New NHS **Health Hub**

Work began in December on a brand government-funded NHS Hub for Hornchurch, due to open March 2024 on Suttons Lane. This will take pressure off Queen's Hospital and deliver care closer to people's homes.

Join the team!

Our vibrant Association of local volunteers work with our elected representatives to get results for residents on important campaigns like those in this bulletin. We also have fantastic social events like our forthcoming Coronation Dinner in Upminster with Security Minister,

Tom Tugendhat MP. After campaigning sessions, we like to support local pubs and cafes while socialising debating. Do join us by scanning the QR Code!

