

# NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

**Monday 21 January**  
**6.30pm-9pm**  
**Newham Town Hall**

## NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

# Welcome - Cllr John Gray

- Welcome and Introductions
- Housekeeping – info on fire exits and toilets
- Accessibility – BSL interpreters and room support
- Photography

# NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

## Today's schedule - Cllr John Gray

Time	Duration	Session	Presenter
6:30pm	10 mins	Arrivals and refreshments	
6:40pm	5 mins	Welcome, introductions, housekeeping and schedule	Cllr John Gray
6:45pm	5 mins	Budget proposals film	Cllr John Gray
6:50pm	10 mins	Budget overview and participatory democracy – 'People at the Heart of Everything We Do'	Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz
7:00pm	25 mins	Round 1	Michael O'Donnell
7:25pm	10 mins	Council income and budget information	Simon Little
7:35pm	15 mins	2019/20 Budget proposals	Cllr Terence Paul
7:50pm	30 mins	Round 2, feedback from tables and Q&A	Cllr Terence Paul/ Simon Little/ Michael O'Donnell
8:20	10 mins	Break	
8:45	25 mins	Round 3 and feedback from tables	Cllr John Gray
8:50	5 mins	Have your say on 'Our Streets, Transport & Parking'	Cllr John Gray
8:55	5 mins	Close, contact details and feedback forms	Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz/ Cllr Terence Paul/ Cllr John Gray

# **Newham's Budget Proposals 2019/20 Film**

# NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

## Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz – Budget overview and participatory democracy

**Michael O'Donnell –  
Intro to Round 1  
(15 mins for table discussions)**





# **Simon Little – Council income and budget information**



## NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

# Where does our income come from?

- The Council receives £1.05bn in total income
- However a large chunk (over 60%) of this covers specific areas:
  - Schools £268m, Council Housing £111m, Housing Benefit £259m
- Leaves £414m to fund other expenditure.
- £154m of this funding is from fees & charges, specific grants from government and income we get from our assets, including investments.

# NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

## Income from tax plus new homes bonus

	£000
Business Rates & Related Grant	168,035
Council Tax (Including Adult Social Care Precept)	82,039
New Homes Bonus	10,492
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>260,566</b>

# NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

## How we plan to spend this year

	<b>Budget</b>
	<b>£m</b>
Baseline Cost of Services	£193m
Cost Pressures	£35m
Savings & Income	(£18m)
Central Budgets	£41m
Treasury & Investments	£32m
Specific Grants & Contributions	(£23m)
<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>£260m</b>

# NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

## Cost Pressures

	£000
Children's Services	13,378
Adults and housing needs services	3,015
Pension auto-enrolment	1,200
Elections	350
Housing delivery	500
Youth services	1,400
Eat for Free	1,247
Invest in a new schools partnership	100
Free bulky waste	390
London Living Wage	3,000
Unachievable transformation programme savings	7,800
Asset management	1,900
Enforcement services	1,000

**Cost Pressures** **35,280**



## NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

# Savings/Income Generation

Deletion of Small Business Outsourcing Programme support	(924,000)
Every Child programme	(686,000)
Children's service efficiencies	(3,484,000)
Adult Social Care efficiencies	(226,500)
Neighbourhood operations savings	(1,400,000)
Customer services	(440,000)
Business support	(300,000)
Communities & environment restructure	(100,000)
Economic regeneration	(1,066,100)
Publicity budget reductions	(350,000)
One Source budget efficiencies	(487,000)
Procurement savings	(750,000)
Change programme savings	(2,768,000)
Active asset management savings	(400,000)
Improved financial performance for small business programme	(1,000,000)
Fees & charges corporate policy	(1,369,000)
Communities & environment income based on existing performance	(750,000)
Planning services based on based existing performance	(500,000)
Improved debt management and recovery	(50,000)
Revised debtor credit balance policy	(500,000)
	<b>(17,550,600)</b>

# NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

## Spend on Services

	<b>Budget</b>
Adults and Housing Needs Services	£94m
Business and Growth	(£3m)
Chief Executive and Central Services	£1m
Children's Services	£82m
Community and Environment	£38m
Customer Connect and Strategic Services	£2m
Enforcement and Safety	£2m
Asset Management	(£7m)
Regeneration and Planning	£8m
Back Office and other	(£4m)
Other income/savings to be allocated	(£3m)
<b>Total Service Spend</b>	<b>£210m</b>

# **Cllr Terence Paul – 2019/20 Budget Proposals**



# NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM



an additional  
**£1.4m**  
into youth services to keep  
our young people safe



**£3m**  
to pay our care staff the  
London Living Wage



an additional **£1.2m**  
for primary school children to  
continue to eat for free, increasing  
the total investment to  
**£6.3m**



# NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM



**£1.4m**

to support 19,000 lowest income households by cutting the cost of their Council Tax



an additional  
**£10.6m**

into Children's Services



**£1.3m**

to support children with Special Educational Needs

# NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM



an additional  
**£500,000**  
to accelerate social  
housing delivery



**£390,000**  
for free bulky waste  
collections



**£250,000**  
to ensure residents are at the  
heart of our decision-making

**Cllr Terence Paul –  
Round 2  
(20 mins for table discussions)**



# Round 2: What are your thoughts on the proposed budget?

interest being paid on money borrowed by previous administration what percentage goes to pay this/

glad no increase ASB

Can the council make more savings in consultation with their staff?

Eat for Free is invaluable. Strong consensus.

we should not be cutting services to pay for interest on previous administration debt

record keeping previously poor re rms

we should be looking at debt interest

no Newham identity

libraries not recognisable as called community neighbourhood centres





# Round 2: What are your thoughts on the proposed budget?

250,000 for decision making is money well spent adds to transparency

need to find a way of communicating with more people to get their views

A rise in Council Tax seems like a positive step when it is explained in context of the wider budget

250,000 small amount comparatively on decision making

increase in budget for youth services is worthwhile

small amount on bulky waste a good decision

need a summary of meeting needs to be published in mag not just website

summaries needed in leaflet form so everyone has access

what is money 500,000 being spent on for social housing



# Round 2: What are your thoughts on the proposed budget?

a question about what are youth services and how will quality assurance framework be measured.

percentage changes would be useful to know

perhaps donation from people who don't need to eat for free

eat for free-money well spent

investment in youth provision will mean less having to spend on asb

Where is the money for enforcement?

putting efforts in prevention for youth provision

Question around cost pressure discussed with Terry and Michael. Are the underlying reasons understood and planned for?

London living wage-money well spent





# Round 2: What are your thoughts on the proposed budget?

Plans re' long term budgeting process. Clarification required re' the process from transitional budget to fully long term planned budget.

agree with london living wage allocation

Benchmark Newham against other successful / good Councils

Support for more investment in SEN support for children and young people

youth service money well spent

partnership work between family , stat authorities , holistic approach for young people

paying people properly means that people will do their jobs properly

need more youth provision so the money allocated very good

Joint spending with health. Need to look at this. Preventative agenda very important in terms of budget impact.



# Round 2: What are your thoughts on the proposed budget?

Can we get health / CCG to do this sort of process?

Is the £390,000 for bulk waste best used as experience tells us that the service is not being used. Is it value for money?

agree council tax increase if improvement in services

Youth service investment is welcomed. Strong consensus.

more money spent on environmental asb - flytipping, stickers, cleaner streets

strong agreement for free school meals

council tax - increase for those willing to pay more

another view is that eat for free should be means tested

endorse council tax reduction for low income





# Round 2: What are your thoughts on the proposed budget?

How does Brexit impact our budget

We are struggling to fully understand the information presented in regards to cost pressures and cuts being made which makes it very hard to comment on the proposed spend

agree with eat for free proposals

London Living Wage is welcomed but wider scope to be considered. Community Wealth Building Agenda/Social Wealth Building model.

residents invested in contributing to decision making - agree with allocation

Can cuts be made through review of staff costs / expenses

feel better informed following this meeting

need more of a breakdown of how it is being spent which is in layperson terms

we need a detailed breakdown



# Round 2: What are your thoughts on the proposed budget?

council tax mixed view regarding cutting lowest income households

Review the use of agency staff - costly

agree free bulk waste collections

Where is the money for adult social care?

In favour of bulky waste collection investment

Concern about elderly

Homelessness services - make better use of empty buildings

Consult with service users

Why are you reducing council tax for some residents but raising it for others?



# Round 2: What are your thoughts on the proposed budget?

social housing delivery accelerates



# **Roving mic – feedback from tables**



# NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

## BREAK (10 mins)

**Cllr John Gray -  
Round 3  
(15 mins for table discussions)**

# Round 3: How would you like to be involved in future budget proposals for 2020/21 and beyond?

Continuation of this years approach

more assemblies like these

We need to work from trends. Need benchmarking data so we can reflect and discuss.

how can people get involved at any other time - other than organised events such as this

discussions better than online

What measures and KPIs will be in place for residents to review

Citizens' Assembly is great but need more info/detail about comparison.

Need a wider reach - perhaps council staff can attend groups and visit residents in community settings

needs to be a link between the people / residents and the council more widely. also a voice from the youth





# Round 3: How would you like to be involved in future budget proposals for 2020/21 and beyond?

What funds are we cutting and where are we taking it?

Is there a community scrutiny committee who can scrutinize finance records etc

A continued explanation of updates, decisions etc in the Newham Mag

Lack of political diversity leads to a lack of scrutiny

Provide more background and include benchmarking.

councillors need to reach out to residents; ie respond to emails and door knocking

be involved twice a year re budget proposals

a link up with adult education to bring ESoL learners into this environment so that they can use their skills practically

How are other councillors involved in budget setting and scrutiny ?





# Round 3: How would you like to be involved in future budget proposals for 2020/21 and beyond?

Other ways to input that don't reply on attendance at meetings

communications regarding how people can engage

Residents to involved in the budget proposals earlier in the financial year

is there a link with schools so that there can be a voice from the youth re future budget proposals

proactive engagement with those who don't feel like their voices can be heard

Would like to see other political groups involved in scrutiny alongside residents

All 60 Councillors involved in scrutiny

how can residents help to build relations with neighbours

Simplify the use of language in all aspects of the process and use clear jargon free language



# Round 3: How would you like to be involved in future budget proposals for 2020/21 and beyond?

online surveys and a means to evaluate

need reports on the budgets that have been proposed via email

more advertising for further assemblies

Does Newham operate by KPI and benchmarking? Should be open to see for residents

start with your street

We should be able to review measurable outcomes

online community platform to encourage discussion and good practice

Transparency creates a feeling of acceptance - keep giving information and being accountable

If you can't measure it, you can't manage it





# Round 3: How would you like to be involved in future budget proposals for 2020/21 and beyond?

Bear in mind the uniqueness of Newham borough

Would like to see performance in the Mag

want to know effectiveness of spending, spending should be measured and results made known

Monitoring is essential throughout the year against targeted spending

more specialised meetings on particular aspects of the budget

Having thematic priorities works well

have information available online

Separate budget consultations for different services

summary of the proposals and discussions published in the magazine



# Round 3: How would you like to be involved in future budget proposals for 2020/21 and beyond?

have discussions at places people meet organically; ie cafes

More Citizens Assembly to take place in Neighbourhood Centres.

No RMS version 2 to ever happen again. Scrutiny should prevent this.

Ward Councillors to be more invested in these forums and take lead

Need meetings where you don't just give us information, you also take information from us from our experience as residents

How is the spending making a difference?

how much is spent on Newham Mag

Stay true to these promises - how do we know that you are not still pretending

more regular forums





# Round 3: How would you like to be involved in future budget proposals for 2020/21 and beyond?

Better understanding of reserves and how this is used. How does the council tap into that.

have incremental reviews of spend

Success champions

want to know if online surveys are useful, do many people respond

Demonstrating impact

More publicity of annual accounts

A key part of this is partnerships

More details required - where does the Community Neighbourhood Citizens Assembly come into this?

Do we have partnerships with charitable sector who can apply for external matched funding



# Round 3: How would you like to be involved in future budget proposals for 2020/21 and beyond?

Lack of political diversity. No functioning opposition to hold Council to account. KPIs, Newham Mag. Give them the opportunity to comments and scrutinize alongside residents etc.



# Roving mic – feedback from tables



## NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

# Cllr John Gray – Have your say on 'Our Streets, Transport & Parking'

Your contributions will shape Newham's Transport & Parking strategy

Have your say by:

- Registering for one of the Forum events:

26<sup>th</sup> Jan (Canning Town)

31<sup>st</sup> Jan (Stratford)

4<sup>th</sup> Feb (East Ham)



**Register at:**

[www.newham.gov.uk/OurStreet](http://www.newham.gov.uk/OurStreet)

Or in a Newham Library

# NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

Or have your say by voting on other people's statements/  
creating your own at [www.newham.gov.uk/OurStreet](http://www.newham.gov.uk/OurStreet)  
(support available in Libraries)

## What should be done to improve Newham's Streets, Transport and Parking?

 Anonymous wrote: 85 remaining  
People don't walk as the area feels dangerous.

Agree       Disagree      Pass / Unsure



Submit

**NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM**

**Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz/  
Cllr Terence Paul/  
Cllr John Gray**

**Close, feedback forms and  
contact details**



## NEWHAM PEOPLE'S BUDGET FORUM

# Contact Details

### **Cllr John Gray**

Deputy Mayor and (Statutory) and  
Cabinet Member Housing Services

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