

A Manifesto for Change in Tower Hamlets

Innovation in local democracy

A proposal for a new political manifesto written by and with the community

Got any ideas, policies, questions, suggestions email:

abettertowerhamlets@gmail.com or contact Andrew Wood

See some suggested topics on the next pages

If I have missed any let me know,



31/12/2021

Crowdsourced manifesto – Andrew Wood Mayoral Campaign

Andrew Wood



1

A Manifesto for change in Tower Hamlets – draft list - NOT in any order of priority

- **What are the problems we are trying to solve?**
- **What are the opportunities we wish to create?**
- **What works well already?**
- **What threats do we face to our economy, finances, quality of life, safety?**

Problems	Opportunities	Threats	What works well
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASB • Drugs • Affordability of housing • Rubbish & recycling • Build quality issues • Lack of transparency • Missing housing targets • Data not used • Financial accounts delayed • Scrutiny does not work • Income generation • What else? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large financial reserves & low borrowing • Historical assets like Tower of London • Environmental assets like the rivers, parks • Economic assets like Canary Wharf & the City of London • Education • Life sciences/STEM • Small businesses • What else? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working from home to business rate income • Gang culture developing • Building & fire safety failures • Quality of life as densest Borough • Change in government funding model • Inflation • Population turnover • What else? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's services is improving • Schools • Civic society • What else?

A Manifesto for change in Tower Hamlets – draft topics page 1 – NOT in any order of priority

Children

- Schools – how to help
- Youth protection – knife crime
- Youth centers – big or small?
- Play opportunities everywhere
- Mentoring
- COVID

Safety, Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour

- Drugs
- Knife crime
- NOX use
- Youth activities
- VAWG

Climate change

- How can Council adapt
- How can we help others adapt
- Decentralise energy production
- Renewable energy
- Electric vehicle strategy

Adult social care

- How to ensure quality
- Mental health
- Loneliness
- Home care

Homes

- Housing waiting list rules
- How/where to deliver new homes
- Affordability
- Mix of homes required
- Quality of homes
- Commonhold
- District / communal heating
- Ventilation
- Recycling

Building Safety

- NPW fire report
- Advice team for residents
- Help for Fire Brigade

Rubbish & recycling

- Recycling ‘pink bags’
- Street litter
- Food waste
- Fly-tipping

Enforcement

- Hard power of the Council
- Court action
- Fines
- Police action

Quality of Life – how can we improve?

- Noise
- Pollution/air quality
- Activities
- Late night noise

Cost of Life – how can we reduce costs?

- Council tax
- Heating
- Service charges

A Manifesto for change in Tower Hamlets – draft topics page 2 - NOT in any order of priority

Tower Hamlets Council

- Data driven decision making
- Structural changes
- Cultural changes
- BAME pay levels
- Turnover of staff
- Temporary staff levels
- Out of Borough staff levels
- Working with other Boroughs
- DELIVERY, DELIVERY, DELIVERY
- **Transparency**
- Training programme – graduate & non-graduate

Council Communications

- How to use social media better
- Transparency
- Reliable source of information not a Pravda
- Effective campaigns

Disability

- How to improve quality of life
- Remove barriers

River Thames, Docks, Canals

- Transport role
- Recreational role
- Environmental role

Citizen's participation in decision making

- Consultation rules
- Where should decisions be made?
- Level of decentralization?
- Citizens Assemblies
- Local Councils (Town, Parish, Community Councils)
- Neighbourhood planning
- Ward level decision making
- Safer Neighbourhood Ward panels

Transport

- Liveable Streets
- Public transport & Transport for London
- Cycling & e-bikes
- E-scooter
- The role of the car
- Parking – car, cycle, scooter

Mayoral powers & scrutiny

- Transparency
- How should Mayor make decisions
- How to improve Audit & Scrutiny
- Role of Councillor's
- Committee structure
- Cabinet members role

Technology

- Smart cities
- Tech incubators

A Manifesto for change in Tower Hamlets – draft topics page 3 - NOT in any order of priority

Businesses & economy

- How to keep businesses here
- Help for new small businesses
- How to encourage businesses to move here
- Economic strategy focused on life sciences, tourism,

Housing associations

- Tower Hamlets Homes status
- Quality of housing associations
- Service charges & utilities
- Build quality
- S106 management

Private renting/ownership

- Commonhold encouragement
- Leasehold problems
- Licensing
- Service charges
- Build quality

Jobs

- Adult skills development
- Training
- Schools mentoring
- New business
- Life sciences
- English language training

Public health

- Pandemic preparation
- COVID future waves

Infrastructure

- Utilities – electricity, water, sewage, broadband
- Transport
- Social facilities

Parks, Green & Open Spaces

- How to create new extra space
- How to improve

Customer services

- How to use the internet better
- How do help those not on the internet
- Use of apps
- Artificial Intelligence

Sports, activity & leisure

- Swimming (St Georges!)
- Sports facilities – indoor & outdoor
- Children's sports
- Outdoor exercise
- Cricket
- Extra hockey facilities

Markets

- New second hand
- New locations especially at weekends
- Protect existing markets in 21st c

A Manifesto for change in Tower Hamlets

What have I missed?

As I write this, I am conscious of all the things that could be added, immigration related policies for example, but this is only the start of a process not the end and I wanted to keep this short!

In the coming week's I will start to add more detail to these topics for you to then review or send me your ideas

It will make clear:

1. Those topics which are the direct responsibility of the Council and where the Council has power or
2. Those topics where the Council have a role to play with its stakeholders or
3. Those topics where other organisations have the primary role – for example government, Mayor of London, Met Police, utility providers and how we can work with them or ask them to change

But as the densest Borough in the country with the most tall building, one of the youngest populations and high levels of immigration there are a range of issues we face that are unique to Tower Hamlets or where we lead the country

How to contribute to this process

Email: abettertowerhamlets@gmail.com or cllrandrewwood@gmail.com

Join this new Facebook public group, search for a 'A Vision for Tower Hamlets'

Message me on Twitter: [@andrewwood17](https://twitter.com/andrewwood17)

WhatsApp/text me on: 07710 486 873



Promoted by Andrew Wood of 12,
Neptune Court, Homer Drive,
London E14 3UQ