TOWER HAMLETS

Elections 3 May 2018
Candidates for
Mayor of Tower Hamlets

## valivaris <br> vous and:

When you vote, your decision is yours alone.
No-one, not even a partner or family member, is allowed to:

- pressure you into voting a certain way
- offer you something in exchange for your vote
- pretend to be you at the polling station
- complete your postal vote for you

If someone tries to take your vote, or the vote of anyone you know, call the charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800555111 or visit crimestoppers-uk-ors


The
Electoral
Commission Crimestoppers.

## Introduction

On Thursday 3 May 2018, electors in Tower Hamlets will vote for the person they want to be the next Mayor of the borough and for the local councillor(s) to represent their area on Tower Hamlets Council.

Plans for the elections are already well underway and we are working hard to ensure that local people are able to cast their votes safely and securely on 3 May. These elections will have the strongest processes in place in London to prevent fraud and some of the most robust in the country.

The Mayor of Tower Hamlets is an important position. The Mayor will represent the borough and lead the council for the next four years, making decisions about services which matter to local people, from community safety to schools, and from housing to parks and open spaces.

There are 7 candidates standing for Mayor. When you cast your vote you will see that they will be listed on the ballot paper alphabetically (please see overleaf for a sample ballot paper).

Under the Local Authorities (Mayoral Elections) Regulations 2007, this booklet is sent to every registered elector in our borough. It contains a short statement from all candidates for Mayor who chose to be included and who sent me addresses which comply with the legal requirements.

Lots were drawn to determine the order in which the candidates' pages appear in this booklet and the content of each section is the responsibility of the candidate. The views expressed cannot be attributed to the Returning Officer or Tower Hamlets Council.

Please read the FAQs at the back of this booklet. There is also a great deal of information on our website at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/vote

If you have any queries, you can contact our Electoral Services team by calling 02073640872 or emailing vote@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Will Tuckley<br>Returning Officer, and Chief Executive of Tower Hamlets Council

## Sample ballot paper

## Election of the Mayor for London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Vote once $x$ in column 1 for your first choice, and Vote once $x$ in column 2 for your second choice

AHMED, Abul Monsur Ohid Aspire

ALI, Anwara
The Conservative Party Candidate


 Liberal Democrat

BIGGS, John Robert
Labour Party


JEBB, Ciaran Alasdair Green Party


KHAN, Rabina
People's Alliance of Tower Hamlets

## How to cast your votes

## Vote once ${ }^{\text {X }}$ in column 1 for your first choice

## Vote once in column 2 for your second choice

For the Mayoral election you have two votes. Vote once in column one for your first choice candidate and once in column two for your second choice candidate.

You do not have to cast a second choice vote, but you must cast a first choice vote or your ballot paper will not be counted

If you vote for the same candidate twice, your second choice vote will not be counted.

## Who can vote?

To vote in this election your name must be included in the Register of Electors for Tower Hamlets.

All registered British, Commonwealth, Republic of Ireland and European Union citizens will be entitled to vote.

You must be aged 18 years on, or before, 3 May 2018.

# John Biggs Labour candidate for Mayor of Tower Hamlets 

## 路Labour



## Dear Resident

As a Tower Hamlets resident like you, I want better for our borough.
I said when I was elected three years ago that I would clean up the corruption and mismanagement of the previous mayor. We have done that: getting the finances under control, investigating every allegation of criminality, and taking decisions in public again.
If re-elected, I will continue to run the Council with integrity.
But we also need to change Tower Hamlets - cleaning up our streets and our polluted air, bringing down crime, and making housing genuinely affordable. We have made a good start: scrapping the bulk waste charge; putting new police officers on the streets, and building council housing again. But there is much more to do,
That's why my promise to you is ambitious and uncompromising.
I want to make this the best place in London to walk and cycle; to drive out the hard drug dealing which fuels much of our crime; to ensure there is a childcare place for every child that needs it; and much more.
And I will fight the Conservative austerity that is hurting local people.
That has cut police numbers to the bone, almost bankrupted our NHS, and is about to hit our schools.
I will be on your side, every day. I hope you will support me - and your Labour councillor candidates - to build a cleaner, safer, fairer Tower Hamlets.

## Thank you



John Biggs

# A campaigning team, fighting for a cleaner, safer, fairer Tower Hamlets 



WE WILL GIVE OUR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES THE CHANCE TO THRIVE, with a childcare place for every child that needs one, all schools rated Good or Outstanding and an excellent youth service.


WE WILL REDUCE POVERTY, by creating 1,000 new apprenticeships, supporting 5,000 local people into work, and continuing our innovative Tackling Poverty programme.

# Dr Anwara Ali MBE for Mayor of Tower Hamlets 

Having lived in Tower Hamlets for over 40 years I have a deep-rooted connection to the borough and a personal commitment to improving the quality of life for its residents, who are my neighbours. I was educated in the local state school system from nursery all the way through to medical school. I have been determined to live in Tower Hamlets and give something back to the community that gave me so much.

I am standing for election because I have experienced first-hand how the residents of Tower Hamlets have been let down for the past 50 years by a Council controlled mainly by the Labour party. As a local GP I struggle daily to secure good Council Services for my patients. The current Mayoral administration's poor record on housing and crime also concerns us all greatly.

I have been fortunate in achieving my dream of becoming a Doctor and Councillor whilst serving my local community. My hope is that my administration at the Town Hall will enable the many young people in Tower Hamlets to achieve their hopes and ambitions for their future. This must be a borough of opportunity and I want to work to deliver that opportunity for the next generation.

## I want to see every Tower Hamlets citizen progress and fulfil their full potential.

Only a Conservative Mayor can get the best for Tower Hamlets out of a Conservative Government. You have two preference votes on 3 May 2018. Use one of them for Dr Anwara Ali to bring positive change to Tower Hamlets.


## Dr Anwara Ali MBE for Mayor of Tower Hamlets

## My 3 point plan for a GREAT and UNITED Tower Hamlets

## 1 Safe Streets and Homes

- Invest $£ 5$ million on tackling crime and antisocial behaviour, including paying for more police officers and more PCSOs in each ward.
- Install new CCTV cameras equally across each ward of the borough and in crime hot spots.
- Establish a "Fight crime, invest in kids" programme using existing public buildings for provision of after school clubs.


## 2 Secure the Future

- Improve the quality of care given to children in care ("No decision about me without me"), and make sure the 15 recommendations in the borough's latest Ofsted report are implemented.
- Improve 16-18 year old educational and non-vocational skills provision, making sure our young people are equipped with the tools they need to get a job by incentivising head teachers.
- Establish a board to Fight Fraud and Corruption.
- Re-negotiate contracts with suppliers by working with other local authorities to bulk purchase and reduce consultancy fees by sharing senior management team expertise.


## 5 Sustainable

- Ensure sustainable development by negotiating better deals with developers, making sure all new developments are accompanied with the necessary infrastructure.
- Secure social and affordable housing for families and young people across the borough.
- Connect our parks, historic and cultural places by establishing a "Ride a Tower Hamlets Health and Well-being shuttle".
- Ask our government to award Tower Hamlets special status, in recognition of the highest density of property developments in the country.
- Ensure that our residents get a fair share of the resources from the London Mayor, as well as from central government.


I've lived in Tower Hamlets for more than seven years and I'm proud to be part of our borough's diverse community, with its long history of pioneering progressive change.

As a keen cyclist and a renter, I share many of the concerns of most people in Tower Hamlets. I am standing for Mayor because I believe Tower Hamlets needs a radical change of approach in the way that issues such as air pollution, affordable housing and public health are addressed.

The Green Party offers that radical approach - speaking honestly about the challenges we face, listening to local communities and proposing innovative, progressive solutions.

## \#Alipollution

Tackle air pollution and dangerous driving using traffic filtering schemes and enforcing 20 mph zones

## \#YOUNGPEOPLE

Fund programmes for young people including our threatened nuisenes and youth centres

## \#ANTI-SOCALBEHAVIOUR

hinovative approaches to tackling anti-social behaviour incturding drug safe-zones and community-focused policing

## \#LOGALHOUSNG

## \#SMALLBUSINESS

Support our, local small businesses by reducing rents and
giving new life to our emply shops and high streets

## \#GREENSPACES

Protecting our existing green spaces, creating new ones and taking action on fly-lipping

# RABINA KHAN FOR A FRESH START 

Tower Hamlets deserves better. The council is still in the headlines for all the wrong reasons. In the past three years, our children's social services have failed Ofsted, and the planning committee been at the centre of bribery allegations in the Sunday Times. We've seen cuts to youth centres and home care for the elderly, and attempts to privatise our council-run nurseries.

This borough matters to me because I live and work here. I am the daughter of a docker who came to the East End as a young man. And now, as a mum of three of my own kids growing up here and attending our schools, I have seen first-hand the change and transformation of this part of London.

Early family experiences of injustice have given me a determination do what I can to improve the lives of the disadvantaged and the vulnerable and to fight discrimination, whether on grounds of gender, race, religion, sexuality, gender identity or disability.

We face major challenges ahead with Brexit and the worsening impact of austerity on the poorest and most vulnerable. I'll run a council that is always prepared, that stands up for local people's interests, and that prioritises tackling child poverty, poor housing, low pay, poor physical and mental health support, knife and gang crime, acid attacks, environmental concerns and gender inequality. Perhaps, most urgently, I will address the housing crisis that sees tens of thousands of local people on waiting lists and in overcrowded homes, drawing on my five years' experience as Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration. Then there's governance. We all need a listening council that is both transparent and accountable. The Borough is crying out for sensible, collaborative politics. That is why I will lead a cross-party cabinet and hold a referendum to ask the people of Tower Hamlets whether they wish to retain the Mayoral system. I will work for a fairer borough, bring our communities closer together and invest in community policing to make residents safe. I will develop a cultural strategy for the Borough and tackle all forms of discrimination with focus and determination. Our local community deserves no less.

We need to turn our backs on service decline and failure and ensure our council runs services that meet local needs and are of a high quality.

Please vote for me on 3 May for a fresh start, so we can start building a fairer Tower Hamlets that works for everyone.

Yours faithfully,

Rabina Khan


# MY PLEDGES 

## $\checkmark$ CROSS-PARTY CABINET

I will have all parties around the table when decisions are made, and hold a Referendum to decide whether Tower Hamlets' residents wish to retain the Mayoral system,

## $\checkmark$ TACKLE THE HOUSING CRISIS

I will pledge to build 2,500 council and 2,500 affordable homes, promoting community land trusts and holding ballots on estate regeneration.

## FREE SOCIAL CARE

I will scrap the charges that have been introduced so that the elderly, disabled and vulnerable residents can count on their council to look after them.

## $\checkmark$ A GREEN BOROUGH

I will engage local communities in developing a medium-term air quality and climate change strategy, which will include planting 2000 trees in the Borough.
$\checkmark$ INVEST IN CHILDREN \& YOUNG PEOPLE
I will invest in more youth centres to make up for recent closures and keep affordable council-run nurseries. Ill keep the EMA-replacement and bursaries for students, trainee teachers and social workers. A new Mayor's Employment \& Enterprise Board will help people into employment and assist local businesses, and target gender pay gaps.

## RENTAL ENFORCEMENT TEAM

I will establish this to campaign for living rents and help people facing problems in the private-rented sector.
$\checkmark$ BREXIT TASK FORCE
I will establish a Brexit Task Force to plan for potential scenarios, as Tower Hamlets will be disproportionately affected due to our global importance as a major financial centre.

## FREEZE COUNCIL TAX

I will reinstate the $100 \%$ Council Tax Reduction Scheme for working families and vulnerable residents.

## - CYCLING STRATEGY

I have a vision to make Tower Hamlets the most cycle-friendly borough. The new Tower Hamlets Cycling Strategy will include upgrading existing cycle routes and creating new ones, building secure bike parking facilities and increasing the number of benches and shelters.

## STAND UP FOR TENANTS AND LEASEHOLDERS

I will ballot residents on bringing Tower Hamlets Homes back into the Council and retain the cap on services charges to leaseholders.

## FIGHTING CRIME \& ASB

I will allocate funds for increasing community policing and invest in a dedicated Borough Superintendent to address the increase in knife and acid crime and target drug dealers, with a new anti-social behaviour (ASB) budget for residents in wards to spend at their discretion.

## DIVESTMENT FROM FOSSIL FUELS

A shift away from fossil fuels towards alternative sources of energy is needed to avert catastrophic levels of climate change. I will follow New York in seeking to divest the Council's Pension Fund from all investments in the top 200 fossil fuel companies by the end of the next council term in 2022.


Tower Hamlets faces the most significant challenges ever including catastrophic decline in housing, education, increasing joblessness and greater crime, insecurity and hopelessness.
With over 20 years as a local government finance official and 16 years as Councillor I have dedicated my life to public service in Tower Hamlets.
In addition, I served as Deputy Mayor for 4 years under the leadership of former Mayor Lutfur Rahman where we
delivered some of the best services in Britain.

I bring a fresh and new vision to create a safer, prosperous and fairer future where all people have somewhere affordable and safe to live and, where everyone is provided with the opportunities to achieve their full potential.
I have the leadership skills, management experience and creative thinking needed to make Tower Hamlets the most successful Borough in Britain.

## VOTE ABUL MONSUR OHID AHMED FOR A SAFER, FAIRER AND PROSPEROUS TOWER HAMLETS



## Having listened to the people of Tower Hamlets, MY TOP PRIORITIES INCLUDE:

## HOUSING

Building 10,000 new social and affordable housing by 2026. Use LBTH land for $100 \%$ council homes ensuring every homeless person has somewhere to live and ending all rough-sleeping by 2022.

- I will kick-start this by establishing a new Mayor's Homelessness Fund and donate $15 \%$ of my allowance on an on-going basis.


## EDUCATION AND YOUTH

- Driving up education standards across all our schools, re-introduce: free school meals, the $£ 400$ Education Maintenance Allowance and $£ 1500$ University Bursary Scheme.
- Deliver affordable child care provision and ensuring every child have access to child care.

Bring in-house Tower Hamlets Youth Services and ensure it is effectively resourced by providing at least $£ 10 \mathrm{~m}$ extra funding every year.

## SAFETY, SECURITY, CLEANER AND GREENER STREETS \& ESTATES

Take a zero tolerance to all hate crimes including within first 30 days establish the Tower Hamlets Hate Crime Commission, fund 60 new police officers.

Deliver 50 electric charging points across the borough by 2020.

## REGENERATION, EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND TACKLING POVERTY

Create 10,000 new jobs, apprenticeship and training opportunities including a New Technology quarter.

Deliver support to small business and self-employed people including taxi and minicab drivers.

Within the first 30 days I will establish the Anti-Poverty \& Fairness Commission to eradicate inequality and poverty.

Establish targeted positive action recruitment initiatives to ensure the Council staff composition fully reflects the communities at every level by 2022

## CREATE THRIVING THIRD AND FAITH SECTOR

■ Establish a Third Sector Development Fund, restore the Faith Grants Scheme and enable out of hours and week-end Coroner Services

## BRING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER AND CARE FOR THE ELDERLY

Establish an annual Tower Hamlets Communities Festival (THFest).

Promote active ageing, re-introduce free home care and ensure that every elderly person has access to care provision they need.


I support Jeremy Corbyn and his anti-austerity manifesto, and I will work alongside any Tower Hamlets councillor who wants to put those ideas into practice.
We cannot wait for a general election to stop Tory cuts - we can make Jeremy Corbyn's policies real now in Tower Hamlets.
The current council plans $£ 58 \mathrm{~m}$ in cuts 2017-2020. I stand for a no-cuts council, that will resist the Tories' demands for endless austerity, and instead launch a mass borough-wide campaign to win the funding necessary from the government.
The best way to pressure Tower Hamlets council to stop the cuts is to use your first preference Mayor vote for the Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition.
Tower Hamlets doesn't add-up; there is obscene wealth living in gated communities opposite the poorest estates in the country. In a borough where half the households live on less than $£ 30,000$ a year, and a fifth on less than $£ 15,000$, all the best housing goes to the rich and jobs are created that we are excluded from.
If elected mayor I pledge to take half the £75,000 Mayor's salary and donate the rest to campaigns to improve the lives of working-class people such as a £10 an hour minimum wage and rent controls.
We must fight for our services: If the Poplar Councillors in the 1920s fought and won, so can we!

# VOTE FOR TRADE UNONIST AND SOCIALST COALITION 

# TUSG AGANST curs 

突07587235074 towerhamletstusc@gmail.com © www.tusc.org.uk
f:TowerHamletsTUSC

- Stop all cuts to council services and jobs
- Stop the nursery privatisation
- No to council tax, rent and service charge increases to make up for government cuts
- Cap Rents not Benefits.
- Build Council Homes at social rents
- $£ 10$ an hour Minimum Wage: End Zero Hour Contracts
- Apprenticeships for Young People with a guaranteed job
- Free Education For All: Restore the Education Maintenance Allowance for college students, Scrap Tuition Fees; For a Living Student Grant
- Good Local Facilities for our Young people
- No Hospital cuts: No privatisation: Fight NHS Cuts: Restore free care for the elderly

I was born in the Mile End Hospital and lived in the East End for the vast majority of my life. My two children were born in the London Hospital. I am a union organiser and have organised campaigns to win pay rises for low paid mainly women workers that have lifted them out of poverty pay. I have fought cuts to jobs and services, stopping a school from closing down and saving workers from redundancy.
I have campaigned in Tower Hamlets for decades: I organised mass nonpayment of the poll tax on my estate as part of the national campaign which defeated it; I was one of the organisers in a massive youth campaign across the borough which stopped the BNP. and campaigned against the EDL when they tried to march through our borough; I opposed the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the bombing of Syria; I have always supported workers and campaigners who have taken action to stop job and service cuts, such as the cleaners at the Royal London hospital last year, and the nursery campaigners.
We need socialist policies for the benefit of all - not the billionaires!

## Make Elaine Bagshaw Your FIRST Preference Taking Pride In Our Borough

# Liberal Democrats 

## My 'Six To Fix' Plan

I made Tower Hamlets my home six years ago, having worked here before. It's a place I love living in but it has been let down time and time again in recent years by people looking to serve only themselves, not you. It's time we changed that.

The Liberal Democrat team are committed to finding real solutions to issues affecting local people.

We have spoken to thousands of residents and heard your concerns about Tower Hamlets. We have listened to you and created our 'Six to Fix' plan of how to address six key issues in the borough.

This election is about who is going to stand up for residents. A vote for me and the Liberals Democrats is a vote for action and real change.


Taking Pride In Our Borough www.towerhamletslibdems.org.uk/six_to_fix \#TeamHamlets
@esbagshaw
Facebook.com/ElaineBagshawLibDem contact@elainebagshaw.co.uk


## Homes

We want everyone to be able to live in a safe, affordable home and for people to be able to stay living near their families and communities.

## Anti-Social Behaviour 8 Crime

Everyone should feel safe when living, working and travelling in our borough.


## Recycling \& Waste

We take pride in our borough and want to live in a clean and tidy area, and we want to make it as easy as possible for you to recycle and reduce your impact on the planet. We have one of the worst recycling rates in the country and we know we can do better!


## Brexit

Whether you voted leave or remain, you deserve a Council that is prepared for the impact of Brexit, not putting its head in the sand.

## Community \& Green Spaces

We want Tower Hamlets to have a strong sense of community, even as more people come to live here.

## Make It Easier To Do Things With The Council

We are tired of scandalous headlines that drag our borough down. We want the Council to do all it can to make life easier for you.

Use Council powers to bring the 559 empty homes in the borough back into use
Protect renters by making landlord licensing compulsory, like in Newham
Link affordable rent to wages, not market rent, so that people are no longer priced out of the borough
Support leaseholders to set up residents' associations and challenge poor service and excessive charges from some management companies

Work with all housing providers in the borough to address ASB on estates by investing in CCTV and antisocial behaviour teams
Invest in our Youth Service and make sure it targets the most vulnerable and in need young people
Make sure ward panels are set up in every Council ward so that you can have your say on what police need to focus on in your area

## How the votes for Mayor will be counted

The count for the Mayoral election will take place on Thursday 3 May following the close of poll at 10pm.

If one candidate gets more than $50 \%$ of the validly cast first choice votes, he or she will be elected as Mayor of Tower Hamlets.

If no candidate gets more than $50 \%$ of the validly cast first choice votes, the two candidates with the most first choice votes remain in the contest and all the other candidates drop out. Then, the validly cast second choice votes on the ballot papers of the candidates who dropped out of the contest are counted. Where there are votes for the two candidates remaining in the contest, they are added to the first choice votes these candidates already have

Of the two candidates, the one with the most validly cast first choice and second choice votes combined will be declared the next Mayor of Tower Hamlets.

Following the official declaration by the Returning Officer, the result will be published on the council's website and displayed on the notice board at the Town Hall. Follow the council on social media for the results:
@TowerHamletsNow.

# Frequently asked questions 

Please visit our website for a full list of FAQs at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/vote

When will the polling stations be open?
Polling stations will be open from 7am-10pm on 3 May. The location of your polling station is printed on your poll card.

I have lost my poll card, can I get another one?
If you are on the register you don't need a poll card to vote. You can attend the polling station and staff there will help you.

Do I need to take ID to the polling station?
You do not need to show ID to vote. You will need to tell polling staff your full name and address. They will then mark your name in the register and give you your ballot papers.

Why has every voter in my house been sent a booklet?
The law requires every registered voter is sent their own copy so they can see who the candidates are.

Do the candidates contribute to the cost of the booklet?
The law allows for the Returning Officer to require a contribution from candidates towards the cost of printing the booklets. All candidates contributed the same amount - $£ 500$.

## When will the votes be counted?

The votes will be counted from 10pm on Thursday 3 May and the results will be published on the council's website.

How do you know that people who are voting are legitimate?
The council has worked hard to ensure that the borough's electorate are correctly registered under Individual Electoral Register (IER) ensuring everyone's details have been verified before adding them to the register.

During the election process, the council also carry out additional checks on late applications to the register and all addresses with more than six people registered to vote.

## Frequently <br> asked questions

Where can I find out more information about elections in Tower Hamlets? Go to www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/vote or call us on 02073640872.

I can't find my polling station using the interactive map - the page doesn't load up
During busy periods our maps may take longer to load onto the system. Please contact us and we can have a look for you.

## Notes

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CrimeStoppers.
The
Electoral
Commission


