

---

## **SPECIAL MOTION NO. 5 – THE MAYOR, HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM**

---

Standing in the names of:

- (i) Councillor Colin Aherne
- (ii) Councillor Michael Cartwright

“The Council notes that at the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on the 16th September 2010 the Mayor allowed Administration members to use their majority to stop public debates on the three Opposition Special Motions. This is the first time ever that this has happened in this borough. These motions had been legitimately placed onto the agenda for that meeting and were representing matters of concern brought to the Opposition by members of the public.

The Council notes that this unprecedented measure was proposed by the Conservative Chief Whip and agreed by all of the majority Conservative Members present. This happened despite the presence of over sixty homeless people, charity workers and other members of the public who had attended to witness these special motions being debated and voted upon.

This Council agrees that it is important that all Mayors must use the powers vested in that office to ensure that the ruling group do not abuse their powers to disregard the legitimate rights of the Opposition.

The failure of the Mayor to use these powers on the 16th September 2010 has had the consequence of Opposition Members being unable to maintain any confidence that the Mayor will act in a non-partisan manner to safeguard the democratic process at council meetings

Finally, it is with deep regret that the Council is asked to note that the Opposition members of the authority have no confidence in the impartiality of the current Mayor as she has endangered the non-political nature of her office.”