



3rd March 2023

Dear Peter,

I am writing to inform you that, due to personal family circumstances, I am no longer in a position to be able to carry out my cabinet responsibilities in full and am therefore, with great regret, resigning from my post.

I remain strongly committed to the renewed and inspiring vision you, as leader, have shown for the improvement of our borough and commend you for your hard work and determination to achieve it, and I have been very pleased to have been part of this during the past two years.

I am personally particularly proud of our many achievements so far. Perhaps the most salient has been our recognising and swift addressing of shortcomings we discovered along the road; the most important of which, for me, was the health and safety of the residents we provide homes for. Our resolve to refer ourselves to, and work with, the Regulator of Social Housing, with urgency, and to inform all interested parties immediately, stands as a testament to the strong commitment we made to be open and transparent at all times, even the most difficult.

There are many more achievements we have made since 2021 despite significant financial and capacity challenges and pressures as a direct result of the pandemic, Brexit, and the cost-of-living crisis – all made significantly much worse only days after Liz Truss announced her damaging mini-budget. I am so glad that our resolve to ride the tide and deliver on our manifesto commitments, despite the odds, never left us for a moment and the efforts we all put in to find a way forward are paying off.

I am proud that we are still able to provide the new homes we promised to build, homes that residents can genuinely afford to live in and genuinely afford to heat - and having witnessed housing and energy costs rise so sharply recently, homes that have never been so needed.

I am also very happy that we revised the way we allocate our homes so that the process is fair, efficient, and transparent and that we brought our Housing Revenue Account back onto a stable and financially sustainable footing for the future, which will ensure homes are safe, well maintained, insulated and free from hazardous damp and mould. We have also done much to relieve homelessness in the past two years. We have done our utmost to bring rough sleepers in from the streets and the cold and get them the support they need to get their lives back on track or medical needs attended to. Our ambitious acquisitions programme is enhancing the lives of families who find themselves in need of temporary accommodation after being made homeless and avoiding the need to place them in bed and breakfast hotels.

I would like to take this opportunity to say what a rewarding experience it has been for me and how much I have enjoyed the role, enjoyed working with you and the cabinet team and how very proud I





am of the energised good work the cabinet is doing and the real difference we are making to the lives of people in Ealing.

It is with regret that I must depart at this time and I very much hope to be able to re-join the team at some point in the future when my circumstances change.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Labour group and Cabinet colleagues, and in particular, yourself, Shital and Steve, for all the help and support you have given me in recent weeks.

With best wishes,

Lauren

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lauren Wall'.

Councillor Lauren Wall
Councillor for Northolt West End