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**LONDON ASSEMBLY LABOUR**



**Andrew Dismore AM**

**Date:** 19 October 2017

Cllr Richard Cornelius  
Leader of Barnet Council  
North London Business Park  
Oakleigh Road South  
London N11 1NP

Dear Cllr Cornelius,

**Re: Small Business Saturday**

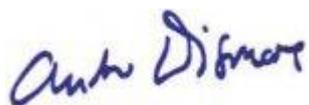
I am writing to ask what action the Council is taking for promote Small Business Saturday. Can you confirm to me that the Council is indeed taking part, and that all Council administered car parks and high streets will be free to park?

Secondly, what way will you be promoting this? In previous years traders have expressed to me a disappointment that Small Business Saturday was not well advertised in Barnet, and that more effort is needed to notify residents through social media, town center advertising, press and other means. Another lackadaisical effort should not be tolerated this year.

With the impact of the mismanaged Brexit negotiations making people worse off and inflation running high, small business in Barnet have never been in greater need of support. But supporting Barnet businesses isn't just for Christmas, and I hope you will look at some of the more systemic problems for businesses in Barnet, such as a need for 30 minutes free parking, and the opportunities afforded by the devolution of business rates.

The council could also look at ensuring there is more business and retail space included in regeneration and large applications. I am concerned that when the Council considers major developments in the borough such as Milbrook Park, this does not happen. You may be able to prevent the large increases in high street and town center rents if you increase the supply of business space. That would be a major benefit.

Yours sincerely,



**Andrew Dismore AM**  
Labour London Assembly Member for Barnet and Camden