# LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

# **RECORD OF THE DECISIONS OF THE CABINET**

# HELD AT 5.35 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2016

# C1, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG

# **Members Present:**

Mayor John Biggs				
Councillor Sirajul Islam	(Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Mem	ber		
	for Housing Management & Performance)	_		
Councillor Shiria Khatun	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member	for		
	Community Safety)			
Councillor Rachael Saunders	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member	for		
	Education & Children's Services)			
Councillor Rachel Blake	(Cabinet Member for Strategic Development)			
Councillor Asma Begum	(Cabinet Member for Culture)			
Councillor David Edgar	(Cabinet Member for Resources)			
Councillor Ayas Miah	(Cabinet Member for Environment)			
Councillor Joshua Peck	(Cabinet Member for Work & Economic Growt	h)		
Councillor Amy Whitelock Gibbs	(Cabinet Member for Health & Adult Services)	,		
Other Councillors Present:				
Councillor Peter Golds Councillor John Pierce	(Leader of the Conservative Group)			

# **Officers Present:**

Luke Addams Katherine Ball Simon Baxter	(Interim Director of Adult's Services) (SeniorAccountant, Development & Renewal) (Acting Service Head, Public Realm, Communities Localities & Culture)
Terry Bryan	(Head of Pupil Admissions & Exclusions)
Melanie Clay	(Director, Law Probity and Governance)
Zena Cooke	(Corporate Director, Resources)
Margaret Cooper	(Section Head Transport & Highways, Public
<b>.</b> .	Realm, Communities Localities & Culture)
Aman Dalvi	(Corporate Director, Development & Renewal)
Tony Evans	(Senior Business Executive)
Shazia Ghani	Strategic Commissioning Manager, Commissioning & Strategy
Stephen Halsey	(Corporate Director Communities, Localities & Culture)
Chris Holme	(Service Head, Resources & Economic Development)
Debbie Jones	(Interim Corporate Director, Children's Services)
Kevin Kewin	(Acting Service Head, Corporate Strategy and

	Equality)
Paul Leeson	(Finance Manager, Development & Renewal)
Kelly Powell	(Acting Deputy Service Head of Communications)
Dean RiddickMcGregor	(Political Adviser to the Labour Group)
Barry Scarr	(Interim Service Head, Finance & Procurement)
David Tolley	(Head of Consumer and Business Regulations
-	Service, Safer Communities, Communities
	Localities & Culture)
Will Tuckley	(Chief Executive)
Monsur Uddin	(Political Advisor to the Mayor)
John Seekings	(Interim Service Head, Communications and
-	Marketing)
Matthew Mannion	(Committee Services Manager, Democratic
	Services, LPG)

# 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

# 2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor Sirajul Islam declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 5.3 (Housing Revenue Account Budget Report 2016/17) as he was a Council tenant. Similarly it was noted that Councillors Rachael Saunders and Ayas Miah had personal interests as Leaseholders. However the report of a general natures and was not specifically about their properties so they would take part in the discussion.

# 3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

# DECISION

 That the unrestricted minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on Tuesday 5 January 2016 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of proceedings.

# 4. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

# 4.1 Chair's Advice of Key Issues or Questions

A Pre-Decision Scrutiny Question was **tabled** in relation to Agenda Item 5.7 (Community Safety Partnership Plan Review and Extension). This was considered during the discussion on that agenda item.

# 4.2 Any Unrestricted Decisions "Called in" by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Nil items.

# 5. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

#### 5.1 General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17

#### DECISION

- 1. To submit to Council for agreement a General Fund Revenue Budget of £358.313m subject to any changes that may be required following the final settlement in February 2016.
- 2. To agree the Council tax (Band D) at £920.85 for 2016-17 be referred to Full Council for consideration.
- 3. To authorise the Corporate Director, Resources in consultation with the Mayor and Lead Member of Resources to make the required changes to the budget following the final settlement announcement in February.
- 4. To consider the following matters:

#### **Budget Consultation**

The outcome of consultation with residents and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the budget and savings proposals as detailed in section 3.12 and <u>Appendix 9 and 10</u>.

#### Funding

The funding available for 2016-17 and the indications and forecasts for future years set out in Section 3.4.

# Base Budget 2016-17

The Base Budget for 2016-17 as £350.346m as detailed in Appendix 1.

#### **Growth and Inflation**

The risks identified from potential growth and inflation commitments arising in 2016-17 and future years and as set out in Section 3.5 and in <u>Appendix 3</u>.

# General Fund Revenue Budget for 2016-17 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2016-17 to 2019-20

The initial budget proposal and Council Tax for 2016-17 together with the Medium Term Financial Plan set out in <u>Appendix 1</u>.

#### Savings

New savings items to be included in the budget for 2016-17 and the strategic approach for future savings to be delivered are set out in Section 3.6, <u>Appendix 4.1 and 4.2</u> of the report.

# **Capital Programme**

The capital programme to 2018-19; including the proposed revisions to the current programme as set out in section 3.10 and detailed in

<u>Appendices 8.1, 8.2 & 8.3</u>, and the proposed refresh of the council's capital strategy during 2016-17.

To adopt a capital estimate for Communities, Localities & Culture TFL LIP schemes (2016-17) totalling £2.487m & S106 schemes totalling £0.276m as detailed in <u>Appendices 8.1 & 8.2</u>.

# **Dedicated Schools Grant**

The position with regards to the Dedicated Schools Grant as set out in Section 3.8 and <u>Appendices 6.1 & 6.2</u>.

# **Housing Revenue Account**

The position with regards to the Housing Revenue Account as set out in Section 3.9 and <u>Appendix 7</u>.

#### **Financial Risks: Reserves and Contingencies**

The strategic budget risks and opportunities as set out in Section 3.7 and <u>Appendix 5.2</u>.

#### **Reserves and Balances**

New schemes being funded from general fund reserves in 2016-17. The position in relation to reserves as set out in the report and further detailed in <u>Appendices 5.1 & 5.3</u>.

#### Action by:

# CORPORATE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES (Z. COOKE)

(Interim Service Head, Finance and Procurement (B. Scarr) (Head of Financial Planning & Corporate Finance Partner (E. Hussain) (Deputy Financial Planning Manager (R. Ebaretonbofa-Morah)

#### **Reasons for the decision**

The council is under an obligation to set a balanced budget for the forthcoming year and to set a Council Tax for the next financial year by 11th March 2016 at the latest. The setting of the budget is a decision reserved for Full Council. The council's Budget and Policy Framework requires that a draft budget is issued for consultation with the Overview & Scrutiny Committee following this meeting.

The announcements that have been made about Government funding for the council require a robust and timely response to enable a balanced budget to be set.

#### Alternative options

The council is required to respond to the budget reductions in Government funding of local authorities and to set an affordable Council Tax and a balanced budget, while meeting its duties to provide local services. This limits the options available to Members. Nevertheless, the council can determine its priorities in terms of the services it seeks to preserve and protect where possible, and to a limited extent the services it aims to improve further, during the period of continuing budget reductions.

# 5.2 Treasury Management Strategy Statement For 2016-17

# DECISION

- 1. To recommend that Full Council approve the following policy and strategies:
  - a) The Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement set out in section 2 at annex A attached to this report;
  - b) The Treasury Management Strategy Statement set out in sections
    5 6 at annex A attached to this report;
  - c) The Annual Investment Strategy set out in s sections 5 6 at annex A attached to this report, which officers involved in treasury management, must then follow;
- 2. To recommend that Full Council approve the prudential and treasury management indicators as set out in appendix 1 to the report; and
- 3. To delegate to the Corporate Director Resources, after consultation with the Lead Member for Resources, authority to vary the figures in this report to reflect any decisions made in relation to the Capital Programme prior to submission to Budget Council.

# Action by:

# CORPORATE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES (Z. COOKE)

(Investment and Treasury Manager (B. Tobun)

# Reasons for the decision

It is consistent with the requirements of treasury management specified by CIPFA, to which the council is required to have regard under the Local Government Act 2003 and regulations made under that Act, for the council to produce three strategy statements to support the Prudential Indicators which ensure that the council's capital investment plans are affordable, sustainable and prudent. The three documents that the council should produce are:

- Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement
- Treasury Management Strategy, including prudential indicators
- Investment Strategy

# Alternative options

The council is bound by legislation to have regard to the CIPFA requirements for treasury management. If the council were to deviate from those requirements, there would need to be some good reason for doing so. It is not considered that there is any such reason, having regard to the need to ensure that the council's capital investment plans are affordable, sustainable and prudent.

The strategies and policy statement put forward in the report are considered the best methods of achieving the CIPFA requirements. Whilst it may be possible to adopt variations of the strategies and policy statement, this would risk failing to achieve the goals of affordability, sustainability and prudence.

# 5.3 Housing Revenue Account Budget Report 2016/17

# DECISION

#### Revenue

- 1. To approve the draft 2016/17 Housing Revenue Account budget as set out in Appendix 1.
- To approve the draft 2016/17 Management Fee payable to Tower Hamlets Homes (THH) of £33.376 million as set out in Table 7 in section 10.
- 3. To note that under the Management Agreement between the Council and THH, THH manages delegated income and expenditure budgets on behalf of the Council. The principal delegated income budgets are for rental income and service charges, and the major item of delegated expenditure is repairs and maintenance. In 2016/17, THH will manage delegated income budgets totalling £88.512 million, and delegated expenditure budgets of £24.208 million.
- 4. To note the HRA Medium Term Financial Plan (2016/17 to 2020/21) outlined in Appendix 2.

#### **Capital**

- 1. To adopt a capital estimate of £2 million in relation to external works on priority blocks, as outlined in paragraph 13.3.
- 2. To adopt a capital estimate of £11.5 million to fund newly arising Decent Homes works as outlined in paragraphs 13.4.
- 3. To adopt a capital estimate of £3.6 million in relation to Mechanical and Electrical schemes Initiatives as outlined in paragraph 13.5.
- 4. To adopt a capital estimate of £4 million in relation to Fire Risk Assessment as outlined in paragraphs 13.6.
- 5. To adopt a capital estimate of £1 million to fund Overcrowding Reduction Initiatives as outlined in paragraph 13.7.
- To adopt capital estimates for the Aids and Adaptations programme (£750,000), the Capitalisation of Voids (£1.5 million) and the Capitalisation of Fees and Salaries (£650,000) as outlined in paragraph 13.8.
- To adopt a capital estimate of £200,000 in order to maintain a contingency for urgent works of £1 million, as outlined in paragraph 13.9.

#### Action by: CORPORATE DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL (A. DALVI) (Service Head, Resources (C. Holme) (Finance Business Partner (P. Leeson) (Senior Accountant (HRA and Capital) (K. Ball)

# Reasons for the decision

The Mayor is required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 to determine a balanced Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget prior to the start of the new financial year. The Council must also approve the Management Fee payable to Tower Hamlets Homes (THH) so that it can fulfil its obligations under the Management Agreement to manage the housing stock on behalf of the Council.

In accordance with Financial Regulations, capital schemes must be included within the Council's capital programme, and capital estimates adopted prior to any expenditure being incurred. This report seeks the adoption of the necessary capital estimates for various schemes in order that they can be progressed.

# Alternative options

The Council has a statutory duty to set a balanced HRA and provide THH with the resources to fulfil its obligations under the Management Agreement. Whilst there may be other ways of delivering a balanced HRA, the proposals contained in this report are considered the most effective, having regard to the matters set out in the report.

# 5.4 Licensing of the Private Rented Housing Sector

# DECISION

- To agree, considering the options available, to introduced a Selective Licensing scheme within Weavers, Whitechapel and Spitalfields and Banglatown areas (pre May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2014 ward boundaries)
- 2. To confirm that the proposed designation criteria for introducing Selective Licensing, as outlined in this report have been met.
- 3. To agree to delegate to the Corporate Director of Communities Localities and Culture to setting the commencement date and issuing of the required statutory notifications in relation to the notification of the Selective Licensing scheme designation.
- 4. To agree the fee structure, licence conditions, and Housing Standards which it is proposed are adopted as part of scheme.
- 5. To agree to delegate to the Director of Communities Localities and Culture, authority to bring in the lower fee for all applications to enable the scheme to be introduced sooner depending on the duration of the ICT development and introduction.

- 6. To agree that no further exemptions to the scheme should be considered in addition to the statutory exemptions.
- 7. To agree that additional licensing should be considered further, subject to approval with the Mayor and Lead Members, once the extent of the Governments consultation of extending the definition of a licensable House in Multiple Occupation is known and that a cross-party letter be prepared as a submission to the Government expressing Members support for additional licensing powers for Local Authorities.

#### Action by:

# CORPORATE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITIES, LOCALITIES AND CULTURE (S. HALSEY)

(Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards (D. Tolley)

#### Reasons for the decision

There are two types of adoptive licensing schemes for the Private Rented Sector (PRS) which the Council can adopt. These comprise an additional licensing scheme limited to houses in multiple occupation only or a selective licensing scheme for any property in the private rented sector. This report addresses the latter. The Housing Act 2004 gives the Council the power to introduce Housing Licensing Schemes for privately rented properties within the whole Borough or in designated areas, in order to improve standards of management in the Private Rented Sector (PRS) and reduce anti-social behaviour.

A licensing scheme will enable the Council to impose a legal requirement, in the designated area, on all landlords to register, apply for a licence for each property they rent out, and comply with specific licence conditions thus giving the Council more power to tackle irresponsible letting of properties.

In addition, improving physical standards and the quality of management in the PRS will deliver social and health benefits. The links between poor health through damp and mould and overcrowding are well established. Improved quality of housing will have an impact across many different partner organisations i.e. health, education. Whilst the primary aim of licensing is clear, the reduction of anti-social behaviour and for landlords to assist with the management of their tenants, it is expected that licensing will also assist the Council and partners to achieve wider objectives.

Licensing is expected to assist in encouraging stable, long term tenancies to the benefit of landlords and tenants.

Prior to designating an area, the Council must consult with interested groups such as landlords, tenants, letting agents, landlord associations and other interested parties.

Recent changes were introduced by central government concerning PRS licensing schemes. The general approval was removed from Councils to designate the whole of their area for licencing. From the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, local

authorities have to seek confirmation from the Secretary of State for any selective licensing scheme which would cover more than 20% of their geographical area or would affect more than 20% of privately rented homes in the local authority area

A PRS housing licensing scheme will attract a licence fee for each property and the scheme will be self-financing.

The private rented sector serves a diverse population of tenants and privately rented properties range from luxury apartments to large shared houses. Equally varied are landlords, who range from large companies to individuals renting out a single property.

The census reported that 33% of properties were in the PRS. There has been an estimated increase of 135% in PRS property since the previous census in 2001. The census data has been used when assessing the quantum of housing tenures, as this can be provided at ward level. The areas under examination relate to the pre 2014 wards, due to the amount of data available.

One of the difficulties that the Council has in managing the PRS is that it does not hold a register of properties and relies on complaints to deal with disrepair and anti-social behaviour issues.

Currently enforcement action is taken against landlords on a reactive basis via complaints. This relates more to housing conditions rather than anti – social behaviour. However, when contact is made with landlords they are encouraged to become registered with the Landlord Accreditation Scheme. This is a London wide scheme driven by the Mayor of London to improve private sector management and regulation. However, the uptake has not been extensive.

# Alternative options

The Cabinet may chose not to introduce an adoptive housing licensing scheme and rely upon the current mandatory Houses in Multiple Occupation licence scheme alone.

Cabinet may determine to designate the whole Borough as a Selective Licensing scheme and in this case it would need to seek the approval of the Secretary of State.

# 5.5 Consultation of the late night levy for licensed premises

#### DECISION

- 1. To note the adoptive powers under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.
- 2. To consider and comment on whether the Council should consult on the adoption of the powers for introducing a late night levy, along the basis outlined within the report.

# Action by:

# CORPORATE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITIES, LOCALITIES AND CULTURE (S. HALSEY)

(Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards (D. Tolley)

# Reasons for the decision

If Cabinet wish to consider adopting a night time levy for licensed premises selling alcohol, then a consultation must take place of interested stakeholders including all relevant businesses.

Cabinet is not committed to adopting the Late Night Levy after undertaking a consultation. However, if it does it would have to provide clear justified reasons why it feels that a levy is required. Any decision of this nature undertaken by the Council is open for Judicial Review. The recorded crime data would support the justification for the levy.

If after consultation, a licensing scheme is adopted, there is likely to be a request from businesses to vary their licences so they will not come within the scope of the levy, resources would need to be allocated to deal with these additional requests.

#### Alternative options

Cabinet may wish to keep the status quo and not require businesses that sell alcohol past midnight to pay the late night levy to help to fund the management of the late night economy.

# 5.6 LIP Delivery Plan 2016/17

Minor correction noted to report.

# DECISION

- 1. To note the schemes proposed for funding in the LIP Delivery Plan.
- 2. To include the schemes listed in Appendix 1 to the report within the Communities Localities & Cultural Services Directorate's 2015/16 and 2016/17 Capital Programme.
- 3. To adopt Capital Estimates for the sum specified in the estimated scheme cost column for 2016/17 and additional LIP Major Schemes funding of £0.650m in 2015/16 as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.
- 4. To agree that where possible the Council's Framework Contracts for Highways be used for the implementation of these works as appropriate.

# Action by: CORPORATE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITIES, LOCALITIES AND CULTURE (S. HALSEY)

(Head of Engineering (M. Cooper) (Business Finance Partner (S. Adams)

# Reasons for the decision

Financial Regulations require the adoption of capital estimates for specific schemes to authorise expenditure by Council Officers on the delivery.

# Alternative options

None considered.

# 5.7 Community Safety Partnership Plan Review and Extension

# DECISION

- 1. To note the content of the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 Revised for Year 3 (appendix 1 to the report).
- 2. To note the content of this report and the decision made under the relevant legislation by the CSP to extend its current CSP Plan by 1 year, so that it remains aligned with MOPAC's Police and Crime Plan 2013-16 and expires on 31.03.17.
- 3. To agree that this report, the Revised CSP Plan 2013-16 and CSP decision to extend goes before progresses to Full Council as per Council Constitution for formal consideration.

# Action by:

# CORPORATE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITIES, LOCALITIES AND CULTURE (S. HALSEY)

(Community Safety Partnership Officer (C. Hewitt)

#### Reasons for the decision

Full Council must adopt a Community Safety Partnership Plan in order to meet statutory requirements set by the Crime and Disorder Act (1998). The priorities and governance structure outlined in the Plan are based on the statutory strategic assessment exercise that was carried out by statutory partners to consider data on safety in the Borough. They have been agreed by the Community Safety Partnership in July 2015 to be the best model to deliver a safer and more cohesive community in Tower Hamlets. The Cabinet are asked to consider the reviewed Plan, along with the CSP decision to extend it by one year in order to remain aligned with MOPAC's Police and Crime Plan 2013-16 and satisfy itself that it can proceed to Full Council.

#### Alternative options

It is a statutory responsibility for Community Safety Partnerships to produce a Community Safety Plan and the decision to set the term length including extending existing Plans lies with the Community Safety Partnership under the relevant legislation. There are therefore no alternative options to doing so without risking government censure, damaging key partner relationships and undermining community safety. It is the role of Full Council to ratify that partnership plan.

# 5.8 Determination of School Admission Arrangements for 2017/18

# DECISION

- 1. To agree the arrangements and oversubscription criteria for admission to Community Nursery Schools/Classes in 2017/18, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.
- 2. To agree the arrangements, oversubscription criteria and catchment areas for admission to Community Primary Schools in 2017/18, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report.
- 3. To agree the arrangements and oversubscription criteria for admission to Community Secondary Schools in 2017/18, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report.
- 4. To agree the schemes for co-ordinating admissions to the Reception Year of primary school and Year 7 of secondary school for 2017/18, as set out in Appendix 4 to the report.
- 5. To agree the scheme for co-ordinating 'In-Year' Admissions for 2017/18, as set out in Appendix 5 to the report.
- 6. To agree the planned admission number for each school in Tower Hamlets in 2017/18, as set out in Appendix 6 to the report.

#### Action by:

# CORPORATE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SERVICES (D. JONES)

(Head of Pupil Admissions and Exclusions (T. Bryan)

# **Reasons for the decision**

The Council decides and implements its school admission arrangements through local consultation and collaboration, enabling it to fully understand and meet circumstances in its area. In doing so, the Council seeks to provide a clear framework intended to ensure that arrangements are lawful, reasonable and minimise delay to children accessing education.

The proposed schemes, consultation and recommendations in this report are consistent with the Council's statutory duties as set out in the most recent revision of the School Admissions Code (Dec 2014).

The Council is addressing the rising need for school places and ensuring that both its school admission and school place planning arrangements work in harmony. 14.5FE of additional primary capacity has been created in the school years 2008/09 to 2014/15. This equates to 435 more places available for the Reception year and 3045 places when the additional capacity is filled in all year groups. A further 2FE of primary capacity will be available from September 2016 with the expansion of Olga Primary School.

The co-ordination of arrangements together with school catchment areas provide a framework to plan the provision of school places more coherently,

taking account of existing and future school locations; travelling distance; pupil migration and changes in neighbouring boroughs.

#### **Alternative options**

The Council has a statutory duty to annually determine the arrangements for admission to its community schools and to formulate a complying scheme for co-ordinating admissions at the main points of entry (i.e. reception, Year 3 for junior schools and Year 7 for transfer from primary to secondary school). If Cabinet fails to take such action the Council would be acting contrary to the law.

The recommendations in this report have been prepared with regard to the need for arrangements to be clear, objective and fair. Due consideration has been given to alternative admission arrangements, but any alternative action could lead to inequality and leave the Council open to legitimate complaint and legal challenge. If Cabinet wished to consider adoption of alternative arrangements, then full consideration would need to be given to the guidance provided, particularly as to the legal requirements.

# 5.9 End of key stage examinations: Key Stages 2, 4 and 5 (validated results) for 2014/15 academic year

#### DECISION

1. To ensure that future arrangements for school improvement allows the borough to focus on the continuous improvement of its schools as reported in this paper.

#### Action by:

# CORPORATE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SERVICES (D. JONES)

(Interim Service Head, Learning and Achievement (T. Parkin)

#### **Reasons for the decision**

Much of this work is non-statutory and funded through Schools' Forum and DSG. The Mayor and Members are asked to note the validated results for Key Stages 2, 4 and 5.

#### Alternative options

Any alternative support would need to be funded through our central funds. Schools receive funds directly from the Department for Education to undertake school improvement work and it is for schools, individually and collectively, to buy-in services as they see fit.

# 5.10 Draft Outline Strategic Plan 2016-19

# DECISION

1. To approve the draft Outline Strategic Plan.

# Action by: DIRECTOR, LAW, PROBITY AND GOVERNANCE (M. CLAY)

(Acting Service Head, Corporate Strategy and Equalities (K. Kewin)

#### **Reasons for the decision**

It is important that the Council sets out its key priorities and how it will measure progress against them. This report presents the draft Outline Strategic Plan. The full Strategic Plan (i.e. the final Outline Plan and accompanying Delivery Plan) will be considered by Cabinet in April.

#### **Alternative options**

The Mayor may choose not to agree an Outline Strategic Plan. This course of action is not recommended as there would be significant planning gap: the Strategic Plan is a key element of the Council's business planning arrangements. It is important for the Council to articulate its priorities.

The Mayor in Cabinet may choose to amend the Outline Strategic Plan prior to approval. If he wishes to amend the Plan, regard would need to be given to the Council's medium term financial plan, as well as any impact arising from the changes. Amendments may be made to the Outline Strategic Plan prior to its final approval in Cabinet, alongside the Strategic Plan Delivery Plan, in April 2016.

# 5.11 Best Value Improvement Plan 12 month monitoring report

# DECISION

- To agree the draft six month progress update (Appendix 1 to the report) prior to the submission to the Secretary of State by 17th March 2016
- 2. To note that the progress report will be updated to reflect the latest position before submission to the Secretary of State.

# Action by:

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE (W. TUCKLEY)

(Acting Service Head, Corporate Strategy and Equalities (K. Kewin) **Reasons for the decision** 

The Council is required to monitor these plans to comply with Secretary of State Directions.

#### Alternative options

The Council is required to comply with Secretary of State Directions.

The actions within the plans have been the subject of consultation with a range of parties and the Commissioners which has considered alternative options.

# 5.12 List of Mayor's Individual Executive Decisions

# DECISION

1. To note the Individual Mayoral Decisions set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

#### Action by: COMMITTEE SERVICES MANAGER (M. MANNION)

#### Reasons for the decision

This is a noting report to aid transparency.

The reasons each decision were taken are set out in their specific reports.

#### Alternative options

The alternative option would be to not produce this report, but that would not aid transparency of decision making.

# 6. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

Nil items.

# 7. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Nil items.

# 8. EXEMPT / CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

Nil items.

# 9. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

# 9.1 Chair's Advice of Key Issues or Questions in Relation to Exempt / Confidential Business

Nil items.

# 9.2 Any Exempt / Confidential Decisions "Called in" by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Nil items.

# 10. ANY OTHER EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

Nil items.

The meeting ended at 7.22 p.m.

# SECTION ONE (UNRESTRICTED)

Mayor John Biggs