

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE CABINET

HELD AT 5.35 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 31 OCTOBER 2017

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 Member for Housing)
Councillor Amina Ali	(Cabinet Member for Environment)
Councillor Rachel Blake	(Cabinet Member for Strategic Development & Waste)
Councillor Asma Begum	(Cabinet Member for Community Safety)
Councillor David Edgar	(Cabinet Member for Resources)
Councillor Denise Jones	(Cabinet Member for Health & Adult Services)
Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE	(Cabinet Member for Culture and Youth)
Councillor Joshua Peck	(Cabinet Member for Work & Economic Growth)

Other Councillors Present:

Councillor Dave Chesterton	(Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee)
Councillor Peter Golds	(Leader of the Conservative Group)
Councillor Andrew Wood	

Apologies:

Councillor Amy Whitelock	(Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services)
Gibbs	

Officers Present:

Stephen Bramah	(Deputy Head of the Mayor's office)
Zena Cooke	(Corporate Director, Resources)
David Courcoux	(Head of the Mayor's Office)
Sharon Godman	(Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Partnerships)
Asmat Hussain	(Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer)
Debbie Jones	(Corporate Director, Children's)
Tom McCourt	(Strategic Director)
Christine McInnes	(Divisional Director, Education and Partnership, Children's)
Matthew Pullen	(Infrastructure Planning Manager)
Denise Radley	(Corporate Director, Health, Adults & Community)
Ann Sutcliffe	(Acting Corporate Director, Place)
Will Tuckley	(Chief Executive)
Elizabeth Bailey	Senior Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer

Janice Beck	(Head of Building Development, Children & Adults Resources)
Bola Akinfolarin	(Interim Head of Development Compliance and Commissioning)
Richard Chilcott	(Acting Divisional Director, Property and Major Programmes)
Ann Corbett	(Divisional Director, Community Safety)
Abdul J. Khan	(Sustainable Development Manager, Strategy Innovation & Sustainability, Development and Renewal)
Veronica Parker	(Communications Adviser Communications)
David Tolley	(Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards)
Matthew Mannion	(Committee Services Manager, Democratic Services, Governance)
David Knight	(Senior Democratic Services Officer)
Rushena Miah	(Committee Services Officer)

AGENDA ORDER

During the meeting the Mayor agreed to change the order of business to take Agenda Item 5.1 at the top of the meeting. All other agenda items were taken in order. For clarity, the minutes are presented in the order the items were set out on the agenda.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Amy Whitelock Gibbs, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

RESOLVED

1. That the unrestricted minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on Tuesday 19 September 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

Pre-Decision Scrutiny Questions were received on the following agenda items:

- Item 5.5 (Approval and allocation of S106 and CIL funding)
- Item 5.7 (Statement of Licensing Policy Review)
- Item 5.9 (Contract Forward Plan)
- Item 5.12 (School Place Investment Planning)

The questions and responses were considered during discussion of each relevant agenda item.

In addition, Councillor Dave Chesterton, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, provided Cabinet with an update on their meeting the previous week. He highlighted a number of issues that had been examined, including:

- A Spotlight session on the Medium Term Financial Strategy, with the Committee particularly examining the Strategic Investment plans, Children's and Adult Care spending, the Better Care Fund and the Council Tax reduction scheme.
- There was an update on the Scrutiny review of disabled and ethnic minority staff representation at senior management levels of the Council.
- Christabel Shawcross the Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Adults Board had presented their annual report which highlighted the focus on personalising safeguarding and empowering the vulnerable.
- The Community Safety Partnership Plan had been considered and endorsed by the Committee, although a number of suggested improvements were raised.

Councillor Dave Chesterton also thanked all those, including Cabinet Members who had presented at the meeting.

The **Mayor** thanked Councillor Chesterton for his update and welcomed the engagement of Cabinet Members in the work of Scrutiny.

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

Nil items.

5. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 Climate Change Mitigation & Adoption Strategy

Councillor Rachel Blake, Cabinet Member for Strategic Development introduced the report. She welcomed the report as a vital step in tackling the poor air quality suffered across the Borough. She explained that the Council had consulted widely on the planned Strategy which had been particularly beneficial in highlighting areas where awareness raising would be effective. She highlighted that a number of the specific actions set out, such as developing charging points for electric vehicles, were already being progressed.

Kate Hand, Hackney and Tower Hamlets Friends of the Earth, addressed the Cabinet meeting. She welcomed the report as a big step forward for the Borough. She urged the Council to pursue the most ambitious targets possible and, in particular, requested the Council review some of the existing targets to make sure they were specifically measurable.

Following discussion of the report, the **Mayor** thanked everyone for their contributions and welcomed the report. He also welcomed action being taken by the Mayor of London to tackle this issue. He stated that he would be monitoring progress and then **agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED

1. To note that a mayoral priority growth bid was passed and an air quality fund has been approved in the last budget. The fund is for £200,000 over a two year period of 17/18 and 18/19. The fund is intended for 'prospective bidders to support activities aligned to the Council priorities in improving air quality'. Criteria for the proposed projects include:
 - be related to either reducing emissions of, reducing exposure to or increasing awareness of air pollution;
 - be directly relevant to actions in our AQAP;
 - have a measurable impact; and
 - have wider community benefits
2. To approve the Air Quality and Climate Change Strategy.
3. To approve the Air Quality Action Plan.

5.2 Community Safety Partnership [CSP] Plan 2017 - 21

Councillor Asma Begum, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, introduced the report. She briefly took Cabinet through the key points of the Plan and highlighted that there had been 1,400 responses during the consultation from residents and workers in the Borough.

During discussion, the **Mayor** noted the Pre-Decision Scrutiny Questions and the discussions that had taken place at the recent Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting. He agreed to allow delegated authority to the Corporate Director, Health, Adults and Community to make minor changes to the Plan where required. With that change he **agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED

1. To recommend that Full Council approve the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017-21 (Appendix 1 to the report), as per the Council Constitution.
2. To delegate to the Corporate Director, Health, Adults and Community authority to make minor changes to the Plan before submission to Council.

5.3 Funding for Additional Youth Activity

Councillor Abdul Mukit, Cabinet Member for Culture and Youth, introduced the report. He explained that the report set out the Youth Service Outcomes Framework as well as specific proposals for funding a number of additional services for young people. He was particularly pleased with the innovation shown in some of the proposals, for example in the setting up of a youth innovation fund to allow young people to bid for funds for particular projects/ideas.

The other proposals were to extend youth service provision down to eleven year-olds and a specific proposal to support A Team Arts and these were also welcomed.

A number of members of the Youth Council (Shaïam Islam, Milly Parvin, Said Uddin, Mazha Alam and Imad Ali) were present and they took Cabinet through their key target outcomes of Accountability, Accessibility, Trust, Safety and Agency as set out in the Outcomes Framework. They also commented on how well they felt they had been engaged by officers to help develop the Framework.

The **Mayor** thanked them for coming along and giving their views. He welcomed the report and **agreed** the recommendation as set out.

RESOLVED

1. To approve the allocation to the Youth Service of £300,000 additional funding from Council reserves on the items set out in the main body of the report.

5.4 Scrutiny Review Youth Services - Action Plan

Councillor Abdul Mukit, Cabinet Member for Culture and Youth, introduced the report. He explained that the proposed action plan was in response to an Overview and Scrutiny Committee challenge session.

The **Mayor** reviewed the report and **agreed** the recommendations as set out.

RESOLVED

1. To note the report and recommendations of the Scrutiny Challenge Session on Youth Services as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.
2. To approve the action plan in Appendix 2 to the report, which sets out the Council's response to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Challenge Session.

5.5 IDF: Approval of the allocation of S106 and CIL funding and Approval for the Adoption of a Capital Budget in Respect of the following projects: King Edward Memorial Park Masterplan Delivery; Aberfeldy Village Health Centre; Suttons Wharf Health Centre; Wellington Way Health Centre; Raines Foundation School.

The **Mayor** introduced the report and briefly reminded everyone present how decisions of this nature were progressed.

Councillor Andrew Wood, Ward Councillor for Canary Wharf Ward, addressed Cabinet. He highlighted concerns that additional infrastructure spending was required on the Isle of Dogs considering the large scale developments that were expected. The **Mayor** reported that he was monitoring infrastructure investment across the Borough and that indeed some of the investments being proposed would bring benefits across the area and not just to the locality in which they were based.

The **Mayor** reviewed each of the proposals in turn, considered the Pre-Decision Scrutiny Questions and responses and then **agreed** the recommendations as set out.

RESOLVED

1. To approve the allocation of £3,267,241 in Section 106 (S106) funding to the proposals set out in the "*King Edward Memorial Park Masterplan Delivery*" Project Initiation Document (PID), which is attached to the Cabinet report at Appendix A and Table 1.
2. To approve the allocation of £3,119,421 in Section 106 (S106) funding to the proposals set out in the "*Aberfeldy Village Health Centre*" Project Initiation Document (PID), which is attached to the Cabinet report at Appendix B and Table 1.

3. To approve the allocation of £2,937,287 in Section 106 (S106) and £182,091 in Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding to the proposals set out in the “Suttons Wharf Health Centre” Project Initiation Document (PID), which is attached to the Cabinet report at Appendix C and Table 1.
4. To approve the allocation of £1,493,700 in Section 106 (S106) funding to the proposals set out in the “Wellington Way Health Centre” Project Initiation Document (PID), which is attached to the Cabinet report at Appendix D and Table 1.
5. To approve the allocation of £4,000,000 in Section 106 (S106) funding to the proposals set out in the “Raines Foundation School” Project Initiation Document (PID), which is attached to the Cabinet report at Appendix E and Table 1.
6. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate for the five projects described in this document and the attached PIDs and incorporate them into the Council’s capital programme.

5.6 Disposal of 2 Trinity Green, Mile End Road, E.1. 4TS

Councillor David Edgar, Cabinet Member for Resources, introduced the report. He explained that there had been further discussions with the Friends of Trinity Green and that he proposed that consideration of the report be deferred to allow these discussions to conclude.

He explained that he expected the report would return at an upcoming Cabinet meeting and that the recommendations may not change but that it was important to ensure the discussions were concluded before a decision was taken.

The **Mayor** noted the proposal. He **agreed to defer** consideration of the report to a later Cabinet meeting.

RESOLVED

1. To defer consideration of the report to a future Cabinet meeting to allow for further discussion on potential disposal processes.

5.7 Statement of Licensing Policy Review 2018

Councillor Asma Begum, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, introduced the report. She highlighted that since the introduction of the policy there had been a reduction in anti-social behaviour and in licensing applications. The report considered a proposal to extend the Cumulative Impact Zone (CIZ) in the Brick Lane area but concluded there was insufficient evidence for that expansion. However, the report did provide evidence that it could be worth considering a new CIZ in the Bethnal Green area and so it was proposed to consult on that option.

Councillor Peter Golds, Leader of the Conservative Group, addressed the meeting. He confirmed his view that the Council had a robust licensing policy and the Licensing Committee received good advice from officers which ensured very few decisions had been successfully challenged. He stated it was important to review the CIZ areas as a duty to residents who were impacted by the problems highlighted in the report.

The **Mayor** welcomed the comments received and noted the Pre-Decision Scrutiny Question and Response. He suggested that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may wish to take on a role of monitoring the effectiveness of the Council's licensing policies should they wish. He noted the public expectation that new applications would normally be refused in CIZ areas. He **agreed** the recommendations including to consult on a potential new CIZ in Bethnal Green.

RESOLVED

1. To agree the forward programme for consulting on the proposed Statement of Licensing Policy.
2. To agree, that the consultation should be based on the proposed changes detailed in Appendix Two to the report.
3. To delegate to the Corporate Director, Place authority to make any pre consultation amendments to the policy deemed necessary following consultation with the Corporate Director Governance.
4. To consult whether to retain the current Cumulative Impact Zone in the Brick Lane area at Appendices 1 and 3 to the report.
5. To consult on a further Cumulative Impact Zone for Bethnal Green Road/ Cambridge Health Road to Old Bethnal Green Road that forms part of the Licensing Policy.

5.8 Passenger Transport Contact Extension

Councillor Amina Ali, Cabinet Member for Environment, introduced the report. She highlighted that the Council had a responsibility to provide transport services to certain groups and that it was important to ensure the provision could continue uninterrupted.

The **Mayor** highlighted the importance of making progress on the new contract arrangements and **agreed** the recommendations as set out.

RESOLVED

1. To agree to continue to operate within the existing Passenger Transport Contract Framework for a period of 1 year and 6 months to ensure continuity of service.
2. To authorise the Corporate Director of Place (or in the Corporate Director's absence the Divisional Director) after consultation with the Corporate Director, Governance, to agree the final terms and conditions of any agreement to implement this decision; and
3. To authorise the Corporate Director, Governance, to execute all necessary contract documents to implement this decision.
4. To amend the estimated value of contract spend for the re-procurement of the Passenger Transport Framework shown on the contracts forward plan and presented to the Mayor in Cabinet on the 26th July 2016 to read £10.8 million.

5.9 Contracts Forward Plan 2017/18 Q3

Councillor David Edgar, Cabinet Member for Resources, introduced the report. He explained that the report was provided to give an opportunity for Members to request that a more detailed report be presented to Cabinet on any of the contracts listed. However, all Cabinet Members were involved in discussions with relevant Corporate Directors anyway and he was not aware of any requests to bring forward specific reports to Cabinet.

The **Mayor** agreed that he would expect all his Cabinet Members to be on top of the arrangements for contract awards in their areas. He noted the Pre-Decision Scrutiny Question and response and he **agreed** that all contracts listed could proceed to award following tender.

RESOLVED

1. To note the Contracts Forward Plan at Appendix 1 to the report.
2. To confirm that all contracts can proceed to contract award after tender.
3. To authorise the Divisional Director, Legal Services to execute all necessary contract documents in respect of the awards of contracts referred to in recommendation 2 above.
4. To note the procurement forward plan 2017-22 schedule detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.

5.10 Appointments to External Bodies October 2017

The **Mayor** introduced the report and **agreed** its recommendations.

RESOLVED

1. To agree to the removal of Councillor John Pierce from the Board of the Norton Folgate Almshouses Charity.
2. To agree to the removal of Councillor Andrew Cregan from the Board of East End Homes.
3. To agree to the appointment of Councillor John Pierce to serve on the Board of East End Homes, to serve until further notice.
4. To agree to the removal of Councillor Rachael Saunders from and the appointment of Councillor Denise Jones, to serve until further notice on:
 - a. East London & The City University Mental Health NHS Trust (East London NHS Foundation Trust),
 - b. East London Nursing Trust and
 - c. the role of Older People's Member Champion.
5. To agree to the appointment of Councillor Amy Whitelock-Gibbs to serve on the Tower Hamlets Education Partnership Advisory Council, to serve until further notice.

5.11 Mayor's Individual Executive Decisions - List of Recently Published Decisions

The **Mayor** introduced the report and **agreed** its recommendation.

RESOLVED

1. To note the Individual Mayoral Decisions set out in the Appendices.

5.12 School Place Investment Planning, Children's Services Capital Programme

The **Mayor** introduced the report and agreed the reasons for urgency as set out, namely that:

"The report is being brought to Cabinet outside of the usual process as a consequence of recent redrafting to ensure decisions are informed by the most recent data so the Council meets its Best Value Duty with regard to significant capital investment."

The report was then discussed and a number of issues were noted including:

- The challenges in predicting the total number of school places required.

- Whether existing buildings were suitable for the proposed uses and whether repairs were required.
- Whether the Bow Boy's School site was suitable for high needs provision.
- How the Council were undertaking longer term planning on the future best use of school buildings.

Councillor Andrew Wood, Ward Councillor for Canary Wharf Ward, addressed Cabinet, commenting on a number of the points raised and in particular expressed concern that if parents did not see a suitable school near to them then they may simply leave the Borough.

The **Mayor** welcomed all the contributions to the discussion and, taking the recommendations in turn, **agreed** the recommendations as set out.

RESOLVED

1. To note the contents of this report and the anticipated out-turn for the 2016/17 Children's Services Capital Programme and proposed allocation of the funding available in 2017/2020 as set out in Appendix A.1 and 2 (paragraph 3.2) to the report;
2. To note the deferral of the scheme to create a new primary school on the Bromley Hall School site (paragraph 3.5 of the report);
3. To note that discussions are ongoing regarding the future use of the former Bow Boys' School site to meet primary place needs in the area and wider high needs special provision requirements (paragraph 3.10 of the report)
4. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £5m for the opening of a primary school at Wood Wharf (paragraph 4.3 to the report);
5. To agree that the Council should enter into an Agreement for Lease with Canary Wharf Group for the proposed school (paragraph 3.27 of the report) and authorise the Corporate Director, Governance to finalise the terms of the lease and agreement for lease;

[Note – at the Cabinet Meeting held on 28 November 2017 – it was agreed that the above recommendation should be altered to state that the delegation was to the Corporate Director, Place, following consultation with the Corporate Director, Governance.]

6. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £9m for works at Langdon Park and George Green's Schools to provide additional 6th Form accommodation and also the replacement of the temporary classroom block at George Green's School (paragraph 4.4 of the report);

7. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £3m for works at Bow School to provide additional accommodation (paragraph 4.5 of the report);
8. To agree that authority is delegated to the Corporate Director, Children's Services, in consultation with the Corporate Director of Resources, to agree tenders for projects in respect of all proposed tenders referred to in this report, within the approved programmes and capital estimate;
9. To agree that authority is delegated to the Corporate Director, Children's Services, in consultation with the Corporate Director of Resources, to prepare and carry out a Bill of Reductions for any scheme that exceeds the budget to ensure expenditure is contained within the agreed costs.

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 7.33 p.m.

MAYOR JOHN BIGGS