

**Executive Decision  
Individual Decision Notice  
Special Urgency Notification**



**Decision Maker: Commissioners' Decision Making Meeting, 20 May 2015**

**Classification:**  
Unrestricted

**Stepney City Farm Educational Facilities**

Under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 – notice is hereby given that a Key Decision is required to be taken under Special Urgency provisions as it is not possible to provide at least 5 clear days' notice of the decision.

As required under the above regulations, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed to the above decision being taken under the Special Urgency Provision.

This notification will be published as soon as possible before the decision is taken.

**Reason why it is impractical to provide 28 clear days' notice of the decision:**

The educational facility will deliver a new indoor space (Ecopod) providing a bigger teaching area and also include an outdoor kitchen area to provide an additional teaching zone and alternative resource. The new facilities need to be delivered over the summer months to allow Stepney City Farm the ability to expand the current lesson and tour programme for the new school term 2015/2016. The Ecopod classroom can only be delivered through Pod Living Ltd as they are the sole supplier of the Ecopod. However, the build date is insecure as no agreement has been signed due to the lack of written confirmation of the funding. The last possible day that the windows and doors can be ordered (they are made to measure) in order for the build to go ahead on the 15th June is the 28th of May, but formal approval is required now in order to sign the build contract and for this to go ahead.

**Signature:**

Jonathan Taylor

**Date:**

6 May 2015

**Comments of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:**

Agreed

**Signature: Cllr Joshua Peck**

**Date: 19 May 2015**

**Further details of the decision to be taken:**

<b>Key Decision? Yes</b>	<b>Ward(s)</b> Stepney Green
<b>Summary of Decision</b>	To note the improvements proposed at Stepney Coty Farm To note the monies secured by alternative funding (big lottery fund) To agree to match fund Educational Facilities

<b>Community Plan Theme</b>	<b>A Great Place to Live; A Prosperous Community</b>
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	N/a
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Stepney City Farm is a working farm and community meeting place and provides opportunities for children and adults a chance to meet farm animals, learn how to grow food and try out arts and crafts. The farm also hosts school groups four days a week during term time as well as activities during the holiday.</p> <p>The proposed educational facility will meet an identified shortage of appropriate indoor space at the Farm to deliver the current and future educational programme. This will enable the Farm to provide an improved service to the local community, primarily school children and volunteers, but also the elderly and disabled who utilise the farm services.</p> <p>The educational facility improvements works are to be funded through s106 contribution. The s106 Agreement required the Developers to provide written approval of the projects identified by the Council, prior to release of the money. Approval was granted September 2014 and the s106 contribution received by the Council October 2014.</p> <p>The Planning Contributions Overview Panel (PCOP), following legal review and development of a Project Initiation Document (PID), approved the project 26th March 2015.</p>
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No
Contact details for comments or additional information	Jonathan Taylor (Sustainable Development Team Leader) jonathan.taylor@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	None beyond the report.

Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why (Paragraph number – see notes section)?	No, Unrestricted
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**NOTES**

**Advance notice of Key Decisions**

Key decisions are all those decisions which involve major spending, or savings, or which have a significant impact on the local community. The precise definition of a key decision adopted by Tower Hamlets is contained in Article 13.03 of the [Constitution](#).

Individual notices of new Key Decisions will be published on the website as they are known, whilst a Forward Plan collating these decisions will be published 28 days before each Cabinet meeting. The Forward Plan will be published on the Council’s website and will also be available to view at the Town Hall and Libraries, Ideas Centres and One Stop Shops if required. [The Committee pages](#) on the Council website include copies of the Forward Plan, Cabinet and other meeting dates and the publication dates of the Forward Plan.

If, due to reasons of urgency, a Key Decision has to be taken where 28 days’ notice have not been given. Notice will be published (including on the website) as early as possible and Urgency Procedures as set out in the Constitution will have to be followed.

The most effective way for the public to make their views known about the issues listed in the Forward Plan is to examine the consultation column of the Forward Plan, and/or contact the report author or Cabinet Lead Member as soon as possible, and no later than 10 working days before the decision is expected to be taken.

You can also view the Council’s [Consultation Calendar](#), which lists all the issues on which the Council and its partners are consulting.

Reports, appendices and background papers will be available on the Council’s website 5 clear working days before the Cabinet meeting. For all other information or to submit documents in relation to any issue, please contact the relevant officer.

**Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private**

**The Council is also required to give at least 28 days’ notice if it wishes to consider any of the reports on the agenda of an Executive meeting (such as Cabinet) in private session. The last row of each item below will indicate any proposal to consider that item in private session.** Should you wish to make any representations in relation to an item being considered in private please contact Democratic Services on the contact details listed below. Note that this applies to Cabinet and Commissioner Decision Making Meetings but not to Individual Decisions outside of Cabinet.

The notice may reference a paragraph of Section 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act. In summary those paragraphs refer to the following types of exempt information (more information is available in the Constitution):

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority handling the information)
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matters arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:-
  - a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
  - b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

**Democratic Services Contact Details:**

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