

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**RECORD OF THE DECISIONS OF THE CABINET**

**HELD AT 5.32 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 3 MARCH 2021**

**TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG**

**Members Present:**

Mayor John Biggs	
Councillor Sirajul Islam	(Statutory Deputy Mayor for Community Safety, Faith and Equalities )
Councillor Rachel Blake	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing)
Councillor Asma Begum	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Children, Youth Services and Education)
Councillor Sabina Akhtar	(Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit)
Councillor Danny Hassell	(Cabinet Member for Housing)
Councillor Candida Ronald	(Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector)
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	(Cabinet Member for Work and Economic Growth)
Councillor Mufeedah Bustin	Cabinet Member for Planning and Social Inclusion (Job Share) - Lead on Social Inclusion
Councillor Asma Islam	Cabinet Member for Environment and Public Realm (Job Share) - Lead on Environment
Councillor Eve McQuillan	Cabinet Member for Planning and Social Inclusion (Job Share) - Lead on Planning

**Other Councillors Present:**

Councillor Peter Golds	(Leader of the Conservative Group)
Councillor Rabina Khan	
Councillor James King	
Councillor Puru Miah	
Councillor Val Whitehead	
Councillor Marc Francis	
Councillor Ehtasham Haque	

**Officers Present:**

Kevin Bartle	(Corporate Director, Resources and Governance)
Stephen Bramah	(Deputy Head of the Mayor's office)
Claudia Brown	(Divisional Director of Adults Social Care)
Terry Bryan	(Service Head (Pupil Access and School Sufficiency))
Ann Corbett	(Divisional Director, Community Safety)
David Courcoux	(Head of the Mayor's Office)
Thorsten Dreyer	(Head of Intelligence and Performance)
Janet Fasan	(Director of Legal)

Sharon Godman	(Director, Strategy, Improvement and Transformation)
Chris Harrison	(Liveable Streets Technical Director)
Teresa Heaney	(Interim Customer Services Programme Director)
Steven Heywood	(Planning Officer, Plan Making Team)
Afazul Hoque	(Head of Corporate Strategy & Policy)
Dan Jones	(Divisional Director, Public Realm)
Denise Radley	(Corporate Director, Health, Adults & Community)
Marissa Ryan-Hernandez	(Plan Making Team Leader)
Joanne Starkie	(Head of Strategy and Policy - Health Adults and Communities)
Ann Sutcliffe	(Corporate Director, Place)
James Thomas	(Corporate Director, Children and Culture)
Will Tuckley	(Chief Executive)
Joel West	(Democratic Services Team Leader (Committee))

## **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence but Councillor Dan Tomlinson, Cabinet Member for Environment and Public Realm (Job Share) – Lead on Public Realm, gave apologies for having to leave the meeting early.

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER INTERESTS**

There were no Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

## **3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES**

### **DECISION**

1. That the unrestricted minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on Wednesday 27 January 2021 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of proceedings.

## **4. ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) FROM THE MAYOR**

See the minutes.

## **5. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **5.1 Chair's Advice of Key Issues or Questions**

Pre-Decision Scrutiny Questions and officer responses were tabled in relation to the following agenda items:

- 6.1 – Idea Stores Post Consultation Report
- 6.2 – Outcome of consultation on revised approach to day support Services in adult social care
- 6.3 – Bow Bus Gateway timed closures exemptions application.

- 6.7 – Statutory Proposal to close Cherry Trees Special School
- 6.9 – Statutory Proposal to close St Matthias Primary School
- 6.12 – Budget Monitoring Report 2020-21 (Period 9)
- The Overview and Scrutiny Committee's consideration of the Community Safety Partnership Plan (at Agenda Item 6.11)

This were considered during discussion of the relevant items.

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

Nil items.

## **6. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **6.1 Idea Stores Post Consultation Report**

The Pre-Decision Scrutiny Questions and officer responses were noted.

The supplement to the agenda was noted and the recommendations changed to reflect that supplement.

### **DECISION**

1. To note the results of the public consultation and other feedback received.
2. To approve the revised proposals as set out as the 'New Option' on pages 2 and 3 of the supplement to the Report presented at the meeting.

### **Action by:**

#### **CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE (A. SUTCLIFFE)**

(Interim Divisional Director, Customer Programme (T. Heaney))

### **Reasons for the decision**

The shift in resident behaviour (pre-Covid) towards using self-service machines and other digital options mean our overall staffing requirement has reduced.

Furthermore, the pandemic has changed the Idea Stores service and the way it is delivered; accelerating the change in the way that residents choose to interact with us.

We are facing significant financial pressures, which have only worsened due to Covid.

We need not only to deliver savings that are already planned, but to offer options that would support the council to meet the additional financial challenge.

We have been able to develop the revised proposal mainly through careful use of timetables. We are therefore asking that the revised proposal be approved as set out below as there is very little flexibility about the times and days of sessions at Cubitt Town Library, Bethnal Green Library or IS Watney Market. Any additional changes are likely to reduce the saving we can deliver.

### **Alternative options**

Keep services unchanged. This would result in a smaller staff restructure that would deliver approx. £600K and result in an additional budget pressure of £1M for the organisation (Not Recommended)

Deliver a total of £1.6M by proceeding with the proposal that came to Cabinet in October 2020 and which was set out as Option 1 in the public consultation

Based on feedback from residents develop a new option based on the above, but which allows us to keep some hours at Cubitt Town Library (CTL) and improve the opening times and hours at Bethnal Green Library (BGL) and Idea Store Watney Market (ISWM) but still delivers the saving.

A number of consultation responses highlighted the lack of any proposed weekend opening at BGL and CTL. Expanding the revised proposal to also include opening BGL and CTL for 8 hours a day on Saturdays would require a reduction of the savings target of £100k.

## **6.2 Outcome of consultation on revised approach to day support in adult social care**

The Pre-Decision Scrutiny Questions and officer responses were noted.

### **DECISION**

1. To agree the closure of Physical Disability Day Opportunities, Riverside day centre and Pritchard's Road day centre with effect from 4 May 2021
2. To agree to develop Russia Lane as a 'dementia hub' day service
3. To agree to open a community support hub from May 2021 onwards (if it is safe to do so in light of the Covid-19 pandemic)
4. To endorse the proposal to encourage more people to organise their own day support through a direct payment
5. To agree the commitment to make Tower Hamlets a more inclusive place for people with care and support needs.

### **Action by:**

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR, HEALTH, ADULTS AND COMMUNITY (D. RADLEY)**

(Divisional Director, Adult Social Care (C. Brown)  
(Joint Director, Integrated Commissioning (W. Tomsett)  
(Head of Strategy and Policy, Health, Adults and community (J. Starkie)

**Reasons for the decision**

The rationale for changing day support can be summarised as follows:

- Our current approach is not fully in line with our strategic aims – by this we mean, a focus on promoting independence, inclusion, working with people in a strengths-based way and ensuring services are personalised.
- We are facing significant financial pressures that have been worsened as a result of the pandemic and therefore need to make savings – we are focusing on the cost of services and opportunities to continue to provide good quality support at less cost.
- We need to consider what day support should look like in a ‘post-Covid’ world.
- Some in-house day centres were underutilised prior to the pandemic.

The recommendations on how to change day support have been made as a result of:

- Our strategic aims
- The findings of the Toynbee Hall coproduction exercise
- The consultation results described in this report
- The results of the Equality Analysis
- An evaluation of the options available (including value for money)

**Alternative options**

Do not agree with the recommendations. This is not recommended due to the reasons given above and would require an alternative savings proposal to be developed. 2.2 Suggest an alternative proposal. The report includes a rationale for the detail of the proposal. The consultation results include respondent suggestions on alternatives that would generate savings. A summary and an evaluation of these suggestions is provided in the report: Overall, these suggestions are either already in place or have been discounted as unviable.

### 6.3 Bow bus gateway and timed closures exemptions considerations

The Pre-Decision Scrutiny Questions and officer responses were noted.

Final recommendation added to note reporting error.

#### DECISION

1. To note the content in this report and in particular the alternative options considered in section 2 of the report.
2. To agree the hours of operation for the Roman Road bus gateway to be 6.30am to 9.30am and 3.30pm to 7pm, Monday to Friday.
3. To agree the hours of operation for the Coborn Road timed closure to be 6.30am to 7pm, Monday to Friday.
4. To agree the following exemptions during the hours of operation for both the Roman Road bus gateway and Coborn Road timed closure: local buses, emergency services, blue badge holders, carers, Local GPs on-call, Taxicard users and Royal Mail vehicles while fulfilling their Universal Service Obligation as defined in 3.16 onwards within the report.
5. To agree to charge a £20 annual fee for exemptions to cover the cost of administration.
6. To agree that in line with the experimental traffic order procedures any necessary alterations are made within 6 months and the hours of operation and exemptions are reviewed between 6 and 18 months after implementation.
7. To note the Equalities Impacts as set out in section 4 of the report and the full Equalities impact Analysis (EqIA) in Appendix B to the report.
8. It was noted that the scheme boundary should include Clinton Road, Haverfield Road and Cadogan Terrace (from Wick Lane to Cadogan Close).

#### Action by:

##### **CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE (A. SUTCLIFFE)**

(Divisional Director, Public Realm (D.Jones)

(Programme Director (C. Harrison)

#### Reasons for the decision

The bus gateway and the timed closure in Bow are needed to help address the following known issues:

- High through-traffic which equates to 49% of all vehicle journeys in the area

- Air pollution which in areas is at unhealthy levels, affecting children and adults' health and life expectancy
- Road safety issues including high collisions on residential roads and anti-social driving, particularly a concern for the vulnerable road users (pedestrians and cyclists)

By addressing these issues and improving the environment and safety it will encourage more residents, visitors and workers in the area to use sustainable and/active modes of transport. This in turn will create a healthier and pleasant community.

Traffic figures, published by the Department for Transport, demonstrate a decrease in the average number of daily motor vehicles using the A11 (Bow Road) from 48,951 in 2010 to 28,618 in 2019. This equates to a reduction of 20,333 motor vehicles. In contrast, within the wider Bow area, there are on average 33,000 vehicle movements of which 16,000 are using residential roads to cut through the area as opposed to utilising main artery roads such as the A11 (Bow Road). These residential roads are not designed for such an increase in traffic and creates unhealthy levels of air pollution and reduces the safety of the road for all users. Decreasing the numbers of vehicle using residential streets will improve the environment and encourage further active local trips.

Further, the traffic origin and destination survey undertaken in June 2019 recorded just under 1,000 vehicles cutting through the area of Bow during the return from school period between 3pm and 4pm. This equates to over 16 cars a minute which could be on the main roads instead of cutting through the residential streets along school routes. Road traffic is the largest cause of noise pollution in London, with it also comes road danger and air pollution.

### **Alternative options**

The bus gateway is intended to permit, during hours of operation only, scheduled local buses plus a number of exempted vehicles to travel through it without attracting a penalty notice. Three exemption options have been considered, as set out below, which increase in scale of exemption. These will also be reflected in the timed closure on Coborn Road. The options considered are:

#### **Option 1 (recommended)**

- Emergency services
- Local buses (where required on existing routes)
- School buses, dial a ride, local buses (all ability Bow services, community and passenger transport)
- Blue badge holders from within the scheme area - up to 2 nominated vehicles
- Carers (receiving care allowance, DLA, PIP) – up to 2 nominated vehicles
- Local GPs on call
- Taxicard users
- Royal Mail vehicle while fulfilling their Universal Service Obligation

**Option 2 (including those in option 1)**

- Residents of the Bow scheme area, being the area North of Bow/Mile End Road, West of A12 'motorway', South of Victoria Park, East of Grand Union Canal)
- Businesses with registered business vehicles in the area (area defined as above)

**Option 3 (including those in option 1 and 2)**

- Longer operational times to cover the daytime and weekends. Proposed to be 6:30am to 7pm Monday to Friday and 11am to 9pm Saturday and Sunday.

It should be noted that different options for the hours of operation were put forward as part of the public consultation survey. These were

- 24 hours a day 7 days a week,
- 7am to 7 pm Monday to Friday
- 7am to 10am and 2:30pm to 7pm Monday to Friday

Overall support was received for the longest possible hours of 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. The full result of the consultation can be found within the cabinet report on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020. This option was considered as an alternative option; however in regard to the comments received during the consultation and assessment made with the EqlA it is felt that this would restrict the hours of operation beyond those that are necessary in order to significantly lower the through traffic within the area and meet the scheme objectives.

**6.4 Determination of Limehouse Neighbourhood Forum Application**

This item was withdrawn.

**Reasons for the decision**

N/A

**Alternative options**

N/A



## **6.5 Determination of Spitalfields Neighbourhood Forum Application**

### **DECISION**

1. To approve the redesignation of the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Forum as the designated neighbourhood forum for the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Planning Area, to come into force on 5 April 2021.
2. To note the specific equalities considerations as set out in Paragraph 7.1 of the report.

### **Action by:**

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE (A. SUTCLIFFE)**

(Planning Officer (S. Heywood))

### **Reasons for the decision**

Tower Hamlets Council has received an application to renew the designation of the Neighbourhood Forum for the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Area.

The Council is required to determine applications for the designation of Neighbourhood Forums in accordance with the Town and County Planning Act 1990 (as amended) ('TCPA 1990') and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 ('the 2012 Regulations'). The Government's Planning Practice Guidance ("PPG") on Neighbourhood Planning (Ref ID: 41-021-20140306) also provides guidance on the determination of such applications, which states that the role of the Local Planning Authority (LPA) is to take decisions at key stages in the neighbourhood planning process.

Under the modifications to the 2012 Regulations made by the Neighbourhood Planning (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2016, the Council must make a decision on applications for neighbourhood forum designations within 13 weeks of starting a consultation on the application.

Officers have assessed the application against the relevant legislation and guidance and believe that it meets with the requirements for approval. Only a small number of consultation responses were received, and these were all either positive, expressing no objection, or providing no comment. No reasons have been provided in any of the consultation responses to suggest that the application should not be approved. A consultation statement is provided as appendix 5 to the report.

### **Alternative options**

An LPA may designate or refuse a Neighbourhood Forum application. Where the LPA is satisfied that a prospective Forum meets the requirements of section 61F of the TCPA 1990, the Forum must be approved. Where the LPA is not satisfied that a prospective Forum meets the said requirements, the LPA may refuse the application and give reasons for the refusal to the prospective Neighbourhood Forum.

An LP may refuse to consider an application for a neighbourhood forum in areas where a neighbourhood forum is already designated. The current neighbourhood forum designation in the Spitalfields neighbourhood Planning Area will expire on 5 April 2020. The Council could therefore refuse to consider this application until such a time as the original designation has expired. However, the neighbourhood forum has submitted their application for re-designation at this time in order to avoid a period where the area has no designated forum. If the application were not considered until the current designation expires, there would be at least a 13 week period with no forum designation, and this would likely coincide with the examination process for the recently submitted Spitalfields Neighbourhood Plan.

**6.6 Report on the outcome of public representations received in response to the statutory Notice on the proposal to amalgamate Cubitt Town Infants and Junior Schools: Decision on Amalgamation of Cubitt Town Infants and Junior Schools • Decision on Clo**

**DECISION**

1. To note the report and supporting documentation, particularly the statutory notice at Appendix 1 to the report and the Equalities Assessment at Appendix 2 to the report, along with any comments and/or objections made by respondents to the Statutory Notice.
2. To agree to proceed with plans for the amalgamation (merger) of Cubitt Town Infants and Junior Schools into an all-through 3 to 11 years' primary school to be completed by 1 April 2022.

**Action by:**

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND CULTURE (J. THOMAS)**

(Service Head, Pupil Services and School Sufficiency (T. Bryan)

(School Organisation and Place Planning Manager (I. Mkparu)

**Reasons for the decision**

The recommendation is made in order to determine the council's response to representations received following the statutory notice.

Following the recent retirement of the headteacher of Cubitt Town Infants' and after the schools governing bodies considered it was now the right time to join together to become a single 3-11 Primary School. The amalgamation is also considered in view of the earlier Ofsted Inspection, where Cubitt Town Infants was found to 'require improvement' with emphasis on the school needing to improve its leadership and management. In contrast the Junior School is rated as 'good' with a determined and strong leadership team that works well together. The proposal for an amalgamation of the two schools has been put forward

An amalgamation will also enable the better use of educational resources including teaching and non-teaching staff. In terms of management and administration, it will avoid duplication, improve efficiencies and maximise

resources. Having a single governing body to drive the school's strategic planning and monitor whole school development will ensure robust accountability and provide a single school at the heart of the local community.

This amalgamation would be achieved through the technical closure of Cubitt Town Infants School and extending the pupil age range of Cubitt Town Junior school, to accommodate the displaced pupils. The remaining primary school (3-11) would retain its original school Department for Education (DfE) number, as it is not a new school, even though its phase has changed.

In line with DfE guidance (November 2019), 'Making significant changes (prescribed alterations) to maintained schools' and 'Opening and Closing Maintained Schools', first stage public consultation has been undertaken, and a statutory notice inviting further representation has been published.

### **Alternative options**

The Mayor could decide not to agree to the recommendation for the schools amalgamation. In which case the schools would continue as separate institutions and seek to find alternative ways to work together to gain most benefit from their expertise and resources.

The Mayor could decide to delay his decision on the schools amalgamation. However, this could mean the amalgamation taking place later than the proposed date of 1st April 2022, by which time the position for both schools may be less advantageous and the uncertainty unsettling for children, staff and parents.

## **6.7 Report on the outcome of public representations received in response to the statutory proposal to close Cherry Trees Special School: Decision on Closure of Cherry Trees Special School.**

The Pre-Decision Scrutiny Questions and officer responses were noted.

### **DECISION**

1. Having considered the responses to the statutory (public) notice at Appendix 1 to the report, the Equalities Assessment at Appendix 2 to the report and the alternative options explored in the earlier public consultation report, to agree the to close The Cherry Trees Special School with effect from 31 August 2021.

### **Action by:**

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND CULTURE (J. THOMAS)**

(Service Head, Pupil Services and School Sufficiency (T. Bryan)

(School Organisation and Place Planning Manager (I. Mkparu)

### **Reasons for the decision**

The recommendation is made in order to determine the Council's response to representations received following the issuing of a statutory notice proposing the closure of The Cherry Trees School.

The closure proposal follows a period of the School's poor performance, alongside a review of the Local Authority Special Educational Needs Strategy recommending moving to a different model of provision that better supports academic attainment and the inclusion of children with special educational needs (SEN) within mainstream provision.

**Alternative options**

The Mayor could decide not to agree to the recommendation for The Cherry Trees School to close. In which case the Council would then need to decide how the School could be improved to provide high quality and cost effective specialist education, in line with current requirements.

The Mayor could decide to delay the decision on the School's closure until later.

However, this uncertainty would adversely impact on the provision of education for the current pupils and would therefore not be in their best interests.

**6.8 Report on the outcome of public representations received in response to the statutory proposal to close Shapla Primary School: Decision on Closure of Shapla Primary School.**

**DECISION**

1. Having considered the responses to the statutory (public) notice at Appendix 1 to the report, the Equalities Assessment at Appendix 2 to the report and the alternative options explored in the earlier public consultation report, to agree the proposal to close Shapla Primary School with effect from 31 August 2021.

**Action by:**

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND CULTURE (J. THOMAS)**

(Service Head, Pupil Services and School Sufficiency (T. Bryan)

(School Organisation and Place Planning Manager (I. Mkparu)

**Reasons for the decision**

The recommendation is made in order to determine the council's response to representations received following the statutory notice.

Prior to the earlier stage one consultation, which was followed by the issuing of the statutory notice, alternatives were explored to support a sustainable future for Shapla Primary School. These were considered in detail by the School's Governing Body. However, upon further analysis none of these alternatives were considered viable. These alternatives together with explanations of why they could not be pursued are considered in this report and its appendices.

**Alternative options**

The Mayor could decide not to agree to the recommendation for Shapla Primary School to close. In which case the council would then have to decide on how the School's increasing budget deficit would be funded beyond the 2020/21 school year, given that it is no longer financially viable and will not see a sufficient increase in its pupil numbers for the situation to change in the foreseeable future.

The Mayor could decide to delay the decision on the School's closure until later years. However, this would mean that the School's financial position would worsen, further impacting on the quality of education for its current pupils and leaving an even bigger budget deficit. It would then not be possible for Shapla Primary School to provide pupils with a rounded education that meets their academic, social and emotional needs. Consequently, any delay would not be in the best interests of educational provision in the area.

**6.9 Report on the outcome of public representations received in response to the statutory proposal to close St Matthias Primary School: Decision on Closure of St Matthias Primary School.**

The Pre-Decision Scrutiny Questions and officer responses were noted.

**DECISION**

1. Having considered the responses to the statutory (public) notice at Appendix 1 to the report, the Equalities Assessment at Appendix 2 to the report and the alternative options explored in the earlier public consultation report, to agree the proposal to close St Matthias CE Primary School with effect from 31 August 2021.

**Action by:**

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND CULTURE (J. THOMAS)**

(Service Head, Pupil Services and School Sufficiency (T. Bryan)

(School Organisation and Place Planning Manager (I. Mkparu)

**Reasons for the decision**

The recommendation is made in order to determine the council's response to representations received following the statutory notice.

Prior to the earlier stage one consultation, which was then followed by the issuing of the statutory notice, alternatives were explored to support a sustainable future for St Matthias CE Primary School. These were considered in detail with both the London Diocesan Board for Schools (LDBS) and the School's Governing Body. However, upon further analysis none of these alternatives were considered viable. The alternatives together with explanations of why they could not be pursued are considered in the report and its appendices.

**Alternative options**

The Mayor could decide not to agree to the recommendation for St Matthias CE Primary School to close. In which case the council would then have to decide on how the School's increasing budget deficit would be funded beyond the 2020/21 school year, given that it is no longer financially viable and will not see a sufficient increase in its pupil numbers for the situation to change in the foreseeable future.

The Mayor could decide to delay the decision on the School's closure until later years. However, this would mean that the School's financial position would worsen, further impacting on the quality of education for its current pupils and leaving an even bigger budget deficit. It would then not be possible for St Matthias to provide pupils with a rounded education that meets their academic, social and emotional needs. Consequently, any delay would not be in the best interests of educational provision in the area.

**6.10 Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) provision at Ben Jonson School'****DECISION**

1. Having considered the responses to the statutory (public) notice at Appendix 3 to the report, the Equalities Assessment at Appendix 4 to the report and the earlier public consultation report at Appendix 1 to the report, to agree the proposal to agree the prescribed alterations to Ben Johnson and Bowden House Schools as set out in the Statutory Notices at Appendix 2 to the report.

**Action by:**

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND CULTURE (J. THOMAS)**

(Interim Divisional Director, Education and Partnerships (P. Maddison))

**Reasons for the decision**

The recommendation is made in order to determine the Council's response to representations received following the issuing of a statutory notice proposing the prescribed alterations in order to establish Primary SEMH provision in Tower Hamlets that meets the requirements of the SEN Strategy, the needs of local children and the SEMH Primary Implementation Plan.

The provision would replace the provision at Cherry Trees School with provision more closely fitting the Local Authority commitment the following principles for Primary SEMH provision. - access to specialist SEMH support for girls and boys in Borough - stronger access to the full Primary curriculum - stronger support to access Mainstream provision - better, and more flexible, transitions to the right provision to meet the needs of the child.

**Alternative options**

The Mayor could decide not to agree to the prescribed alterations in which case the new provision would not be available to children should the decision

to close Cherry Trees be undertaken, nor would the Local Authority be able to deliver its SEN Strategy.

The Mayor could decide to delay the decision on the prescribed alterations until later. However, this uncertainty would adversely impact on the provision of education for the current pupils in primary school with SEMH and would therefore not be in their best interests.

## **6.11 Community Safety Partnership Plan 2021-2024**

### **DECISION**

1. To agree to recommend that Full Council approve the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2021-23.

#### **Action by:**

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR, HEALTH, ADULTS AND COMMUNITY (D. RADLEY)**

(Divisional Director, Community Safety (A. Corbett)

(Strategy and Policy Manager (J. Kerr)

(Community Safety Commissioning Manager (L. Hutchinson)

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

Community Safety Partnerships are required under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) to ensure a strategic plan is in place to address crime and disorder locally. The current plan ends on 31st March 2021 and a new plan is being developed for 2021-2024. As the Community Safety plan is a partnership document listed in the Constitution, it is reserved for final decision by full Council subject to prior approval by Cabinet.

#### **Alternative options**

The content of the plan can be amended in line with feedback. There is a statutory responsibility for Community Safety Partnerships to produce a Community Safety Partnership Plan, detailing how crime and disorder will be addressed locally. Under the Council Constitution, it is the role of Full Council to ratify that plan.

**6.12 Budget monitoring report 2020-21 as at 31st December 2020 (period 9)**

The Pre-Decision Scrutiny Questions and officer responses were noted.

**DECISION**

1. To note the Council's projected outturn position against General Fund, Dedicated Schools Budget, Housing Revenue Account and earmarked reserves for 2020-21, based on forecasts as at 31st December 2020;
2. To note the reserves position of the Council is uncertain pending the closure of the statement of accounts for the period 2016 – 2020;
3. To note the Council's projected outturn position against General Fund and Housing Revenue Account capital programme approved budgets, based on forecasts as at 31st December 2020;
4. To note that there are no equalities implications directly resulting from the report, as set out in Section 4 of the report.

**Action by:**

**INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES (K. BARTLE)**

(Head of Strategic Finance (Chief Accountant) (A. Khan)

**Reasons for the decision**

The Council could choose to monitor its budgetary performance against an alternative timeframe, but it is considered that the reporting schedule provides the appropriate balance to allow strategic oversight of the budget by Members and to manage the Council's exposure to financial risk. More frequent monitoring is undertaken by officers and considered by individual service directors and the Council's Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) including approval of management action.

To the extent that there are options for managing the issues identified these are highlighted in the report in order to ensure that Members have a full picture of the issues and proposed solutions as part of their decision making.

**Alternative options**

The regular reporting of Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring information through the year and the preparation of the provisional outturn position after the year end provides detailed financial information to Members, senior officers and other interested parties on the financial performance of the Council. It sets out the key variances being reported by budget holders and the management action being implemented to address the identified issues.

Further information across the Council's key financial activities is also included to ensure that CLT and Members have a full picture to inform their consideration of any financial decisions set out in this report and also their broader understanding of the Council's financial context when considering reports at the various Council Committees.



Set alongside relevant performance information it also informs decision making to ensure that Members' priorities are delivered within the agreed budget provision.

It is important that issues are addressed to remain within the approved budget provision or where they cannot be contained by individual service management action, alternative proposals are developed and solutions proposed which address the financial impact; CLT and Members have a key role in approving such actions as they represent changes to the budget originally set and approved by them.

### **6.13 Strategic performance and delivery reporting – Q3 2020/21**

#### **DECISION**

1. To note the strategic delivery and performance report for quarter 3 2020/21.
2. To note the performance of the strategic measures, including those measures where the minimum expectation has been missed; and
3. To note progress in delivering the council's Strategic Plan.

#### **Action by:**

##### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE (W. TUCKLEY)**

(Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Performance (S. Godman)

(Head of Intelligence and Performance (T. Dreyer)

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

The council is committed to improving outcomes for residents. Our corporate priorities and outcomes are found in our Strategic Plan and provide a framework for action.

Our Performance & Accountability Framework sets out the process for monitoring the timely and effective delivery of the Strategic Plan to improve outcomes for residents. In line with the framework, Cabinet receives regular update reports to ensure oversight of pace, delivery, performance and improvement activities.

This report promotes openness, transparency and accountability by enabling Tower Hamlets residents to track progress of activities that impact on their lives and the communities they live in.

#### **Alternative options**

Cabinet can decide not to review the delivery and performance information. This is not recommended as Members have a key role to review and challenge underperformance and to utilise performance information to inform resource allocation.

**7. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT**

Nil items.

**8. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Nil items.

**9. EXEMPT / CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

Nil items.

**10. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

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

Nil items.

**10.2 Any Exempt / Confidential Decisions "Called in" by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

Nil items.

**11. EXEMPT / CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

Nil items.

**12. ANY OTHER EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT**

Nil items.

The meeting ended at 8.04 p.m.

Mayor John Biggs