

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**RECORD OF THE DECISIONS OF THE CABINET****HELD AT 5.33 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2022****C1, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE CRESCENT,
LONDON, E14 2BG****Members Present in Person:**

Mayor Lutfur Rahman	
Councillor Maium Talukdar	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning (Statutory Deputy Mayor))
Councillor Kabir Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding)
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Safer Communities)
Councillor Saied Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living)
Councillor Suluk Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Inclusion)
Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury	(Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Social Care)
Councillor Iqbal Hossain	(Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation)
Councillor Kabir Hussain	(Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency)

Other Councillors In Attendance Virtually:

Councillor Nathalie Bienfait
Councillor Sirajul Islam

Officers Present in Person:

Jill Bayley	(Head of Legal Safeguarding)
Sharon Godman	(Director, Strategy, Improvement and Transformation)
Sam Harney	(Mayor's Political Advisor)
Niall McGowan	(Housing Regeneration Manager, Place)
Denise Radley	(Corporate Director, Health, Adults & Community)
Ann Sutcliffe	(Corporate Director, Place)
David Tolley	(Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards)
Will Tuckley	(Chief Executive)
Kieran Andrieu	(Head of External Relations, Mayor's Office)
Jenny Fisher	(Policy Analyst)
Shuhel Malique	(Mayor's Sports and Wellbeing Advisor)
Shafiqur Rahman	(Mayor's Social Inclusion Advisor)
Matthew Mannion	(Head of Democratic Services)

Officers In Attendance Virtually:

Steve Nyakatawa (Director of Education)
Peter Maskell (Interim Head of Procurement)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Councillor Abu Chowdhury (Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills and Growth)
- Janet Fasan (Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer) for whom Jill Bayley (Head of Lead Safeguarding and Deputy Monitoring Officer) was deputising.
- James Thomas (Corporate Director, Children and Culture)

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER INTERESTS

There were no Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

For clarity Councillor Ohid Ahmed confirmed he did not have an interest Agenda Item 11.1 (Blackwall Reach Regeneration: Update and GLA Proposal Phase 4).

3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

DECISION

1. That the unrestricted minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on Wednesday 28 September 2022 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 respect of Agenda Item 6.4 (Contracts Forward Plan 2022/23 – Quarter 2). They were considered during discussion of the relevant Agenda Item.

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

Nil items.

6. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**6.1 Accelerate Education – cost of living**

An additional recommendation was agreed.

DECISION

1. To agree to make discretionary awards in respect of students who are over compulsory school age particularly for students who are most in need of support based on household incomes for the financial year 2022/23.
2. To recommend that further discretionary awards for future financial years will be a priority in the setting of the 2023-2026 MTFS but can only proceed beyond 31 March 2023 once that budgetary approval has been secured.
3. To approve the proposed outline delivery plan for the Mayor's Education Maintenance Allowance and University Bursaries.
4. That the application deadline of 30 November 2022 (set out in Paragraph 8.1 of the report) be extended to 2 January 2023.

Action by:

CORPORATE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND CULTURE (J. THOMAS)
(Director of Education (S. Nyakatawa))

Reasons for the decision

Families and their children need support to alleviate the cost-of-living crisis and its adverse impact on household incomes. Young people resident in the Borough need support to stay in education post 16 and for those students who want to go to university financial support in the first year of their undergraduate studies is critical for their future employment opportunities.

Alternative options

Maintain the current position where no additional support is provided to young people through the Mayor's Education Maintenance Allowance and the University Bursary Award scheme.

As there is already a 16 - 19 bursary (discretionary) scheme available through the Education and Skills Funding Agency, the other option is to implement the Mayor's University Bursary Award scheme only.

6.2 Gambling Policy 2022-2025

DECISION

1. To agree to forward the Gambling Policy to Council for adoption.

Action by:

CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE (A. SUTCLIFFE)

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

Reasons for the decision

All relevant local authorities are required under the Gambling Act to review their gambling policy.

The purpose of the policy is to define how the responsibilities under the Act are going to be exercised and administered.

A statutory consultation process must take place prior to the adoption of the revised Gambling Policy by Full Council.

Alternative options

Pursuant to the Gambling Act 2005, the Council is a responsible authority for the licensing of premises used for gambling. If the Council did not have a policy, it would be acting ultra vires with regards to any decisions it makes determining gambling premises licences.

The Gambling Commission has laid down guidance which the Council must have regards to carrying out their functions under the Act, including setting their Gambling Policy. Departure from the guidance without good reason could leave the council at risk of judicial challenge. The Gambling Commission guidance has been followed in drafting the revised Gambling Policy. The policy focuses on the elements covered by the licensing objectives.

6.3 Air Quality Action Plan 2022-2027

DECISION

1. To approve the Air Quality Action Plan 2022-2027 for publication.
2. To note the Equalities Impact Assessment / specific equalities considerations as set out in Paragraph 4 of the report.

Action by:

CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE (A. SUTCLIFFE)

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

Reasons for the decision

Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 requires local authorities to designate an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) where National Air Quality Objectives

are exceeded. Where an AQMA is designated, an Air Quality Action Plan must be produced identifying how National Air Quality Objectives will be met.

As the Council's current AQAP expires in October 2022, there is a requirement to update it. The revised AQAP sets out the actions the Council will take over the next 5 years (2022-2027) to deliver air quality improvement in the borough in compliance with our legal duty. The AQAP has been produced to comply with relevant statutory guidance issued by the Mayor of London and follows the format of the London Local Air Quality Management (LLAQM) Borough Air Quality Action Matrix 2019 produced by the GLA. The matrix has 25 actions that GLA expect boroughs to deliver locally to as part of their LLAQM action planning obligations.

Alternative options

Alternative option considered is to do nothing, however, as the air quality levels are failing to meet the national air quality objectives and the Council has declared an AQMA, there is duty to produce an AQAP and update it every 5 years. Otherwise, the borough would be in breach of its legal duty and at risk of receiving a direction from the Mayor of London.

6.4 Contracts Forward Plan 2022/23 - Quarter 2

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

DECISION

1. To note the contract summary at Appendix 1 to the report and confirm that all contracts set out can proceed to contract award after tender.
2. To authorise the Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer to execute all necessary contract documents in respect of the awards of contracts referred to at Recommendation 1.
3. To note the procurement forward plan 2022-2027 schedule detailed in Appendix 2.

Action by:

INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES (K. BARTLE)

(Interim Head of Procurement (P. Maskell))

Reasons for the decision

The Council's Procurement Procedures require submission of a quarterly forward plan of contracts for Cabinet consideration, and it is a requirement of the Constitution that "The contracting strategy and/or award of any contract for goods or services with an estimated value exceeding £1m, and any contract for capital works with an estimated value exceeding £5m shall be approved by the Cabinet in accordance with the Procurement Procedures" as amended by the General Purposes Committee held on 05 October 2021. This report fulfils these requirements for contracts to be let during and after quarter two of the current financial Year.

Alternative options

Bringing a consolidated report on contracting activity is considered the most efficient way of meeting the requirement in the Constitution, whilst providing full visibility of contracting activity; therefore no alternative proposals are being made.

7. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

Nil items.

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

1. "That, under the provisions of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting for the consideration of the Section Two business on the grounds that it contains information defined as Exempt in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972."

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**11.1 Blackwall Reach Regeneration: Update and GLA Proposal Phase 4**

The recommendations set out in the report were agreed.

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

Nil items.

The meeting ended at 6.30 p.m.

Chair, Mayor Lutfur Rahman
Cabinet