

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

Monday, 8 January 2024 6.30 p.m.
Council Chamber - Town Hall, Whitechapel

Members:

Chair: Councillor Musthak Ahmed

Vice Chair: Councillor Bodrul Choudhury

Councillor Ahmodur Khan, Councillor Abdul Malik, Councillor Abdul Mannan, Councillor Maisha Begum, Councillor Marc Francis, Councillor Asma Islam and Councillor Sabina Khan

Co-opted Members:

Jahid Ahmed and Halima Islam

Deputies: Councillor Shafi Ahmed, Councillor Saif Uddin Khaled, Councillor Amin Rahman, Councillor James King, Councillor Sabina Akhtar and Councillor Mohammad Chowdhury

[The quorum for this body is 3 voting Members]

Contact for further enquiries:

Thomas French, Democratic Services,
Thomas.French@towerhamlets.gov.uk
020 7364 3048

Town Hall, 160 Whitechapel Road, London, E1 1BJ
<http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee>



Public Information

Viewing or Participating in Committee Meetings

The meeting will be broadcast live on the Council's website. A link to the website is detailed below. The press and public are encouraged to watch this meeting on line.

Meeting Webcast

The meeting is being webcast for viewing through the Council's webcast system.

<http://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

Electronic agendas reports and minutes.

Copies of agendas, reports and minutes for council meetings can also be found on our website from day of publication.

To access this, click www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee and search for the relevant committee and meeting date.

Agendas are available on the Modern.Gov, Windows, iPad and Android apps



Scan this QR code to view the electronic agenda



A Guide to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Local Government Act 2000 established the overview and scrutiny function for every council, with the key roles of:

- Scrutinising decisions before or after they are made or implemented
- Proposing new policies and commenting on draft policies, and
- Ensuring customer satisfaction and value for money.

The aim is to make the decision-making process more transparent, accountable and inclusive, and improve services for people by being responsive to their needs. Overview & Scrutiny membership is required to reflect the proportional political makeup of the council and, as well as council services, there are statutory powers to examine the impact of work undertaken by partnerships and outside bodies, including the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and local health bodies.

In Tower Hamlets, the function is exercised by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC). The OSC considers issues from across the council and partnership remit. The Committee has 3 Sub-Committees:

- Children & Education Scrutiny Sub Committee
- Health & Adults Scrutiny Sub Committee
- Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Sub Committee

The committee's quorum is three voting members.

Public Engagement

OSC usually meets once per month (a few days before Cabinet, to allow scrutiny of decisions scheduled to be made there). These meetings are open to the public to attend, and a timetable for meeting dates and deadlines can be found on the Council's website. More detail of how residents can engage with Overview and Scrutiny are available here

[Overview and scrutiny \(towerhamlets.gov.uk\)](https://towerhamlets.gov.uk/overview-and-scrutiny)

London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Monday, 8 January 2024

6.30 p.m.

SECTION ONE

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST AND OTHER INTERESTS (PAGES 7 - 8)

Members are reminded to consider the categories of interest in the Code of Conduct for Members to determine whether they have an interest in any agenda item and any action they should take. For further details, please see the attached note from the Monitoring Officer.

Members are reminded to declare the nature of the interest and the agenda item it relates to. Please note that ultimately it's the Members' responsibility to declare any interests form and to update their register of interest form as required by the Code.

If in doubt as to the nature of your interest, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting by contacting the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services

3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 27 November 2023

To follow

4. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

The following items have been considered at the Cabinet meeting on [3 January 2024](#). The committee is invited to consider the reports below, as part of the council's budget process:

4.1 Budget Report 2024-25 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-27

5. FORTHCOMING DECISIONS

6. VERBAL UPDATES FROM SCRUTINY LEADS

To receive verbal updates from Scrutiny Leads.

To follow

7. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE QUERY AND ACTION LOG

To follow

8. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS 'CALLED IN'

To consider any other unrestricted call-ins from the recent Cabinet meeting.

9. SCRUTINY SPOTLIGHT

10. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF UNRESTRICTED CABINET PAPERS

To consider and agree pre-decision scrutiny questions/comments to be presented to Cabinet.

11. REQUESTS TO SUBMIT PETITIONS

To receive any petitions (to be notified at the meeting).

12. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

To consider any other unrestricted business that the Chair considers to be urgent.

13. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

In view of the contents of the remaining items on the agenda the Committee is recommended to adopt the following motion:

“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.”

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL SECTION (Pink Papers)



Tower Hamlets Council
Tower Hamlets Town Hall
160 Whitechapel Road
London E1 1BJ

The exempt committee papers in the agenda will contain information, which is commercially, legally or personally sensitive and should not be divulged to third parties. If you do not wish to retain these papers after the meeting, please hand them to the Committee Officer present.

SECTION TWO

14. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

Nil items

15. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS 'CALLED IN'

Nil items

16. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL) CABINET PAPERS

To consider and agree pre-decision scrutiny questions/comments to be presented to Cabinet.

17. ANY OTHER EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

To consider any other exempt/ confidential business that the Chair considers to be urgent.

Next Meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Monday, 29 January 2024 at 6.30 p.m. to be held in Council Chamber - Town Hall, Whitechapel



Agenda Item 2

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AT MEETINGS, NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Code of Conduct for Members at Part C, Section 31 of the Council's Constitution

(i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)

You have a DPI in any item of business on the agenda where it relates to the categories listed in **Appendix A** to this guidance. Please note that a DPI includes: (i) Your own relevant interests; (ii) Those of your spouse or civil partner; (iii) A person with whom the Member is living as husband/wife/civil partners. Other individuals, e.g. Children, siblings and flatmates do not need to be considered. Failure to disclose or register a DPI (within 28 days) is a criminal offence.

Members with a DPI, (unless granted a dispensation) must not seek to improperly influence the decision, must declare the nature of the interest and leave the meeting room (including the public gallery) during the consideration and decision on the item – unless exercising their right to address the Committee.

DPI Dispensations and Sensitive Interests. In certain circumstances, Members may make a request to the Monitoring Officer for a DPI dispensation or for an interest to be treated as sensitive interest.

(ii) Non - DPI Interests that the Council has decided should be registered – (Non - DPIs)

You will have 'Non DPI Interest' in any item on the agenda, where it relates to (i) the offer of gifts or hospitality, (with an estimated value of at least £25) (ii) Council Appointments or nominations to bodies (iii) Membership of any body exercising a function of a public nature, a charitable purpose or aimed at influencing public opinion.

Members must declare the nature of the interest, but may stay in the meeting room and participate in the consideration of the matter and vote on it **unless:**

- A reasonable person would think that your interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair your judgement of the public interest. **If so, you must withdraw and take no part in the consideration or discussion of the matter.**

(iii) Declarations of Interests not included in the Register of Members' Interest.

Occasions may arise where a matter under consideration would, or would be likely to, **affect the wellbeing of you, your family, or close associate(s) more than it would anyone else living in the local area** but which is not required to be included in the Register of Members' Interests. In such matters, Members must consider the information set out in paragraph (ii) above regarding Non DPI - interests and apply the test, set out in this paragraph.

Guidance on Predetermination and Bias

Member's attention is drawn to the guidance on predetermination and bias, particularly the need to consider the merits of the case with an open mind, as set out in the Planning and Licensing Codes of Conduct, (Part C, Section 34 and 35 of the Constitution). For further advice on the possibility of bias or predetermination, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting.

Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992 - Declarations which restrict Members in Council Tax arrears, for at least a two months from voting

In such circumstances the member may not vote on any reports and motions with respect to the matter.

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Further Advice contact: Janet Fasan, Interim Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer, Tel: 0207 364 4800.

APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

(Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, Reg 2 and Schedule)

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by the Member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of the Member. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.



THE FORWARD PLAN

Published: 1 January 2024

Contact Matthew Mannion
Officer: Democratic Services
Email: matthew.mannion@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Telephone: 020 7364 4651

Forward Plan January 2024

The Forward Plan is published 28 days before each Cabinet meeting.

In addition, new issues and changes to existing issues will be published on the website as soon as they are known.

The web pages also contain past Forward Plans and publication deadlines for future Plans. To visit the web pages go to <http://democracy.towerhamlets.gov.uk/mgPlansHome.aspx?bcr=1>.

Tower Hamlets Council **Forthcoming Decisions Plan**

What is this document?

The Forthcoming Decisions Plan (or 'Forward Plan') contains information on significant decisions that the Council expects to take over the next few months.

As a minimum this will include notice of:

- All Key Decisions to be taken by the Mayor or Cabinet.
 - This could include decisions taken at public meetings or taken individually at other times.
- Budget and Policy Framework Decisions (for example the Budget Report itself and major policies to be agreed by Council as set out in the Constitution)

In addition the Council aims to publish all other decisions to be taken by the Mayor and/or Cabinet.

Key Decisions

The Council is required to publish notice of all key decisions at least 28 days before they are taken by the Executive. 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 Section 3 of the [Constitution](#). Key Decisions can be taken by the Mayor, the Mayor in Cabinet or an officer if it has been expressly delegated.

Publication of Forthcoming Decisions

Individual notices of new Key Decisions will be published on the website as they are known on the 'Forthcoming Decisions' page, whilst this 'Forthcoming Decisions Plan' collating these decisions will be published regularly, as a minimum at least, 28 days before each Cabinet meeting. The 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.

Urgency

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 (on the website) as early as possible and Urgency Procedures as set out in the Constitution have to be followed.

Make your views known

The most effective way for the public to make their views known about a Forthcoming Decisions is to contact the lead officer, or Cabinet Member (where stated), listed. You can also view the Council's [Consultation Calendar](#), which lists all the issues on which the Council and its partners are consulting.

Information about the Decision Makers

Further information on the Mayor and Members of the Cabinet can be found on the Council's [website](#).

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 item being considered in private please contact Democratic Services on the contact details listed on the front page.

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.

Contact Details for this Plan

Contact: Matthew Mannion
Officer: Head of Democratic Services
Email: matthew.mannion@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Telephone: 020 7364 4651

Forward Plan January 2024

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Decision Title	Due Date	Page No.
Annual Report on School Performance for 2022-2023	21/02/24	15
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*Housing with Care Strategy 2023-2033	27/03/24	20
*Licence to occupy areas of Victoria Park in 2024, 2025 and 2026 at times to be more specifically agreed	31/01/24	19
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REVIEW OF THE MAJOR EVENTS POLICY, VICTORIA PARK	29/11/23	6
Strategic Delivery and Performance report (23-24) Quarter 2	13/12/23	6

* New Issues published since the last Forward Plan

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Title of Report	REVIEW OF THE MAJOR EVENTS POLICY, VICTORIA PARK	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	<p>This report asks Cabinet to consider and approve an updated Major Events Policy for Victoria Park. The original policy was agreed by Cabinet in 2011. A partial amendment to the policy was approved by Cabinet in 2021, in response to the impact of COVID-19 on events.</p> <p>A full review of the Major Events Policy is being recommended to enable the Council to be competitive with other London venues and be able to hold a wider range of events in the park for the public and resident benefit.</p> <p>The decision is a Key Decision as it would have a significant effect on the communities of two or more wards.</p>		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 29/11/23		
Community Plan Theme	Boost culture, business, jobs and leisure		
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	NA		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	NA		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Matthew Eady (Director of Commissioning and Culture) matthew.eady@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	NA		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	Partly Exempt (Part of the report will be exempt) The report and appendices will include commercially and financially sensitive information.		
Title of Report	Strategic Delivery and Performance report (23-24) Quarter 2	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? No

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Summary of Decision	This report will set out performance for Q2 showing progress on the Strategic Plan for all the reportable strategic measures and also the key achievements for annual deliverables.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 13/12/23		
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities		
Cabinet Member	Mayor		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	None		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Robin Beattie (Acting Director of Strategy Innovation and Transformation) robin.beattie@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	N/A		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Budget Monitoring 23/24 Quarter 2	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? No
Summary of Decision	Budget Monitoring 23/24 Quarter 2		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 13/12/23		
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities		
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living		

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Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	N/A		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	N/A		
Contact details for comments or additional information	John Harrison Interim Director of Finance, Procurement and Audit john.harrison@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	N/A		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Council Tax Discounts and Premiums for Empty Properties and Second Homes	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	<p>This item seeks to gain agreement for the Council to amend the current Council Tax discounts and exemptions applied to empty properties from 1st April 2024. The reason for this decision is to encourage owners to bring back properties into use and increase the availability of homes in the borough.</p> <p>The proposal also seeks to provide notice that the Council intends introduce from 1st April 2025 to levy an additional Council Tax premium on second homes in the borough.</p>		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 13/12/23
Community Plan Theme	Invest in public services
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	None
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the	No

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result of this Assessment?	
Contact details for comments or additional information	Chris Boylett (Interim Head of Revenue and Benefits) chris.boylett@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	N/A
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted
Title of Report	Fees and Charges 2024-25 Report
	Ward All Wards
	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	Fees and charges are reviewed annually as part of the financial and business planning process. This ensures that they are set at the appropriate level for the prevailing economic circumstances and represent good practice in terms of the Council's aim to provide value for money.

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 03/01/24
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	The Mayor, Lead Member for Resources and the Cost of Living; and the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be consulted. Consultation will take place via MAB SRP and Overview and Scrutiny meetings
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	EIAs are being carried out for any new charges and where charges have increased above inflation.
Contact details for comments or additional information	John Harrison Interim Director of Finance, Procurement and Audit john.harrison@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	N/A
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so	No, Unrestricted

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why?			
Title of Report	Procurement and delivery of new electric vehicle charging points 2024-2026	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	<p>This report seeks mayoral approval for officers to undertake three procurement projects for installing over 2000 new electric vehicle (EV) charging points across the borough in 2024.</p> <p>This report also seeks mayoral approval to delegate the contract awarding for each of the above procurement exercises to the director of the public realm.</p>		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 31/01/24		
Community Plan Theme	A clean and green future		
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Legal, Finance and Procurement will be consulted</p> <p>Each EV charging site will be subject to public consultation under Section 17 of the Local Authorities Act which required a site notice for each proposed site. Where dedicated charging bays are proposed</p>		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	Will be carried out		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Simon Baxter (Interim Director Public Realm) simon.baxter@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	EQIA EV charger sites list		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted NA		
Title of Report	Contracts Forward Plan 2023/24 Q3	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This report presents the contracts being procured during quarter three. The report also sets out the Contracts Forward Plan at appendix 2 to this report.		

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	The report asks for confirmation that all contracts can proceed to contract award after tender.
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Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 31/01/24		
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities		
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	Where required, consultation with service users and stakeholders will be undertaken as part of the project and budget approval process. Necessary consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the Council's policies and procedures		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No. Contract specific EqIA is expected to be completed by respective contract owners as part of the directorate approval.		
Contact details for comments or additional information	John Harrison Interim Director of Finance, Procurement and Audit john.harrison@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Report and appendices include details of all contracts to be awarded.		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	HAP Regeneration Scheme	Ward Stepney Green	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	In March 2022, planning consent was granted for the redevelopment of Harriott, Apsley and Pattison Houses, known as HAP, for the delivery of 412 new homes and the re-provision of the existing community space. This report is seeking approval on the use of Section 203 powers of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 (HPA 2016), to expedite the scheme for the purposes of land transfer matters and to deal with third party rights and easement. This report is also seeking an in principal approval of using Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) powers. A further report will be presented to Cabinet in late 2024, to make the CPO which will empower the Council to acquire all land and property interests within the site boundary ('Order Land') necessary to facilitate the delivery of the scheme.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 31/01/24
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Community Plan Theme	A council that works for you and listens to you		
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	HAP Resident Panel Internal consultation: with Finance and Procurement External consultation: with HAP Residents Panel will take place through regular monthly meetings		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No, but a full EQIA has been carried out and was appended to the last report to Cabinet on this scheme in December 2021		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Karen Swift (Divisional Director, Housing and Regeneration) Karen.Swift@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	HAP Regeneration Scheme Cabinet report: 15th December 2021		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	Partly Exempt (Part of the report will be exempt)		
Title of Report	Budget Report 2024-25 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024-27	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This report sets the budget for the financial year 2024-25 and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for the years 2024-27.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 31/01/24
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	The Mayor, Lead Member for Resources and the Cost of Living; and the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be consulted. Budget consultation takes places with businesses and residents of Tower Hamlets.

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	<p>Internal consultation will take place via MAB SRP and Overview and Scrutiny meetings</p> <p>External consultation takes place via the Budget Consultation process for six weeks starting October 2023.</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	<p>John Harrison Interim Director of Finance, Procurement and Audit john.harrison@towerhamlets.gov.uk</p>		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	N/A		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Fixed Penalty Notice Increase for Environmental Crime	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	<p>To inform the Mayor and Cabinet Members of the revised fixed penalty notice (FPN) levels available for environmental crimes, namely fly-tipping, littering, household waste duty of care, graffiti, and fly-posting, which came into force under The Environmental Offences (Fixed Penalties) (England) Regulations 2023 ("the Regulations") on the 31st July 2023</p>		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 21/02/24
Community Plan Theme	A clean and green future
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	NA
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	NA

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Contact details for comments or additional information	Simon Baxter (Interim Director Public Realm) simon.baxter@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	NA		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Food Insecurity Action Plan – Response to recommendations	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? No
Summary of Decision	As part of the scrutiny committee’s review of LBTH’s response to food insecurity a number of recommendations were made for improvements to the local authority’s response. This report outlines comments from relevant services and actions taken on board as a result of these recommendations.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 21/02/24		
Community Plan Theme	Boost culture, business, jobs and leisure		
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Inclusion		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	N/A		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Ellie Kershaw (Acting Director, Growth and Economic Development) ellie.kershaw@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Tower Hamlets Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Food Insecurity in Tower Hamlets Scrutiny Review		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		

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Title of Report	Reduction and Recycling Plan Progress Report - Quarter 3, 2023	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	Tower Hamlets Reduction and Recycling Plan (RRP) 2023-2025 was approved by Cabinet in September 2023. A report detailing progress of the RRP is due at Cabinet on a quarterly basis. This report provides an update for Quarter 3, 2023-24.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 21/02/24		
Community Plan Theme	A clean and green future		
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	NA		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	NA		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Simon Baxter (Interim Director Public Realm) simon.baxter@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?			
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Annual Report on School Performance for 2022-2023	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? No
Summary of Decision	This report provides an overview of education performance in the school year 2022/23. A summary analysis of the 2023 results, compared to previous years, is provided for national average attainment including for Children in Our Care (CIOC). The report highlights successes, challenges and barriers to further progress. The report also highlights THEP support and interventions in primary and secondary schools to raise achievement through system leadership.		

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Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 21/02/24		
Community Plan Theme	A council that works for you and listens to you		
Cabinet Member	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning (Statutory Deputy Mayor)		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	NA		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Yasmin Ashley, Lisa Fraser Executive Support Team Leader, Childrens & Culture and Health, Adults & Community yasmin.ashley@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Acting Corporate Director, Children's Services) lisa.fraser@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?			
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Determination of Admissions Arrangements for 2025/26	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This is the annual report to determine the Local Authority's school admissions arrangement for community schools for 2025/26 school year		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 21/02/24
Community Plan Theme	Accelerate Education
Cabinet Member	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning (Statutory Deputy Mayor)

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Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	Public The council is legally required to determine its school admission arrangements every year and consult the public, if there are any proposed changes. Given that changes are being proposed there will be a full public consultation with a report on the responses available as part of the cabinet report.		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	NA		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Lisa Fraser (Acting Corporate Director, Children's Services) lisa.fraser@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Proposed admission arrangements and oversubscription criteria in 2024/25 for: ? community nursery classes ? community primary schools. ? community secondary schools Proposed schemes co-ordinating admissions in 2025/26 for : ? Reception and Year 7 ? In-Year admissions Published Admission Number for each school in Tower Hamlets for 2025/26		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Planning for School Places 2024/25 Review and Recommendations	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This is the council's annual report on its review of pupil place planning in Tower Hamlets. It explains: ? the current position on the provision of school places in the borough; ? the projected demand for school places in future years; ? the steps being taken to manage the sufficiency and sustainability of school places in accordance with the council's school organisation strategy. The report also serves to inform: ? decisions on education capital investment planning and future bids to the DfE's new school programmes; ? the medium to longer term commissioning or decommissioning of places for children and young people with SEND; ? discussions with school and trust leaders around required changes to current SEND provision to meet emerging needs.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 21/02/24
Community Plan	Accelerate Education

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Theme			
Cabinet Member	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning (Statutory Deputy Mayor)		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	NA		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Lisa Fraser (Acting Corporate Director, Children's Services) lisa.fraser@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LA's Annual Report on School Roll Projections 2. LA's SEND Sufficiency Plan Overview 3. Council's Local Plan approach to allocating school sites 4. Summary of capital funding streams available 		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Parks and Open Spaces Capital Improvement Programme (Playgrounds)	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? No
Summary of Decision	<p>The Parks Capital Improvement programme will enable investment into parks and open spaces. Investment improvements will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrades to playground equipment in Council managed parks and open spaces, which have been identified through a risk-based approach in line with the Council's internal Operating Procedure to ensure that play equipped is well maintained and safe. - A minimum of 50% of play equipment will be accessible. 		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 21/02/24
Community Plan Theme	Boost culture, business, jobs and leisure
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation

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Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	None		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Raj Mistry Corporate Director for Communities raj.mistry@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	None		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Licence to occupy areas of Victoria Park in 2024, 2025 and 2026 at times to be more specifically agreed	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	<p>The report will recommend that the Mayor in Cabinet approves the option to enter into a three-year Licence to Occupy with AEG Presents Limited for a set number of days per annum yet to be agreed and in line with the major events policy for Victoria Park.</p> <p>The report will recommend that the Mayor in Cabinet authorises the Corporate Director of Communities to arrange for the completion of all necessary agreements in relation to the three-year licence to occupy.</p> <p>The decision to enter into a three-year Licence to Occupy with AEG Presents Limited will enable the Council to receive a licence fee subject to a Premises Licence being granted.</p>		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 31/01/24
Community Plan Theme	
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation
Who will be consulted before decision is made	NA

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and how will this consultation take place	None		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	NA		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Raj Mistry Corporate Director for Communities raj.mistry@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?			
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	Partly Exempt (Part of the report will be exempt) Information relation to existing concessionaire and the proposed Licence to Occupy arrangements is exempt information, the release of which may significantly prejudice the existing concessionaire's future business arrangements. Therefore, the public interest in knowing the information is outweighed by the public interest in maintaining the exemption.		
Title of Report	Housing with Care Strategy 2023-2033	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	To adopt the Housing with Care Strategy that sets out the high-quality housing with care options that the Council needs to deliver over the next ten years to meet the future care and support needs of residents whilst continuing to promote their independence and wellbeing.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 27/03/24
Community Plan Theme	A council that works for you and listens to you
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Social Care
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	A QA checklist will be completed, which confirms that the proposals have due regard to any equalities impacts for the population cohort concerned
Contact details for comments or additional information	Warwick Tomsett Joint Director, Integrated Commissioning warwick.tomsett@towerhamlets.gov.uk

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What supporting documents or other information will be available?	
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted

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Questions	Response
6.1	
<p>In what ways do hostels contribute to the Council's statutory duties regarding housing provision, and how do they fit into the broader strategy for preventing homelessness and improving outcomes?</p>	<p>Single homeless hostels are one of several types of accommodation in the housing pathway and are designed to provide a temporary stay pending a longer-term solution to meet housing need. They are one way that the Council can fulfil its statutory homeless duty. People who are placed in hostels are supported via a pathways coordinator to plan for their future housing need and a coordinated partnership approach is taken to ensure that they are well supported with a wide range of health and care needs. Hostels fit into the wider Homeless and Rough Sleeping Strategy as part of the housing pathway and provide an option for those in need of temporary accommodation who also have additional support needs.</p>
<p>Can you elaborate on the proposed "Care Coordination pilot" and its expected impact on the health, independence, and overall quality of care received by hostel residents?</p>	<p>The proposed care coordination multi-disciplinary team meetings will bring together partners across the system as a mechanism to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase and improve access to comprehensive care • Improve health and wellbeing through joined-up support planning and personal care (including end of life care) • Identify and support people before they reach crisis • Work with complex individuals to reduce hospital attendance, crisis and death • Offer holistic approaches to address mental and physical health issues in partnership with all stakeholders involved in support and care provision.
<p>What metrics are being used to measure the success of the proposed Care Coordination pilot, and how will improvements in health, independence, and care quality be quantified?</p>	<p>In the first 12 months the Care Coordination pilot for Homelessness and Rough Sleepers living in Hostels will aim to -</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce emergency attendances and other related emergency calls by 50% against previous years • Fast track safeguarding process and further reduction of safeguarding through proactive integrated care coordination across partners, reducing unnecessary safeguarding alerts by 50% against previous years • Manage and reduce high risks to individuals by 30% (for example by reducing hospital attendance, crisis and death against previous years) • Improve partners' relationships through bringing multi-disciplinary team approaches to tackling health and care inequalities for those who are in hostels [measured by survey] • Improve communications and coordination of care, reducing unnecessary administrative work through the help of care coordinators [measured by survey] • Improve the experience of people who are homeless and rough sleepers who are currently in the hostel provision [Using focus groups and other engagement tools] <p>The pilot is being funded by the NHS. Further analysis will be undertaken at the end of the pilot to better understand potential savings to the wider health and social care system including exploring options for "invest to save" Business Cases to expand the project.</p>
<p>6.2</p>	
<p>How was the value of £675,892.43 for the direct contract award determined, and what factors were considered in reaching this amount?</p>	<p>The value of £675,892.43 for the requested direct contract award was determined and calculated based on the current contract value of the contracts in place. This amount is required for the providers to deliver the service, keep staff in place and continue to deliver a quality and safe home for our young people.</p>

<p>Why did the service not go out to tender within the contracted period (ending 30th July 2023), and what steps have been taken to address the delay and prevent such occurrences in the future?</p>	<p>As per the report, there have been capacity issues in the commissioning team which contributed to the tender not being published within the contracted period. This has been addressed through recent permanent recruitment. Alongside this, the service has put robust governance in place including the Young People's Placement Pathway Board, Task & Finish groups and monthly update reporting.</p>
<p>How will the proposed four-month implementation period (1st February to 1st June 2024) impact the lives of young people in the pathway, and what specific steps are being taken to minimize disruption during this transition?</p>	<p>The implementation of the new pathway will inevitably cause change for a number of young people, however, a robust implementation period of four months will enable all stakeholders (Children's Social Care, Housing, Commissioners, incumbent providers, new providers and landlords) to work closely together to minimise the impact on our young people and coordinate young people's moves in an open, transparent manner ensuring our young people have a choice and voice in where they will be moved to in the new pathway. Stakeholders have already started mapping out the needs of our young people in the current pathway and what kind of accommodation and support they will require in the new pathway from June 2024 onwards.</p>
<p>How will the council ensure that young people are consulted and given a choice during the transition to the new pathway, and what steps are being taken to address the diverse needs and preferences of the current young people placed in the pathway?</p>	<p>As above, stakeholders have started to map out the needs of our young people ensuring they have a choice in what accommodation and support will be offered to them in the new pathway. Moreover, commissioners will ensure young people's voices are listened to and will guide the implementation of the new pathway using a variety of methods; sharing updates and getting feedback through their social workers and personal assistants, attending house meetings at their current homes, surveys, focus groups and inviting young people to participate at implementation meetings/ events.</p>
<p>6.7</p>	

<p>What estimate has been made of the number of additional days a large part of the eastern half of Victoria Park will be out of bounds for residents of Tower Hamlets as a result of the increase in the number of commercial events?</p>	<p>A potential additional two major event days per annum could be considered through the proposed policy.</p> <p>For a major events programme, the build period is approximately two weeks, with a further additional week for event take down.</p> <p>It is anticipated that major events will, due to the logistics and costs for setting up a major event site, programme several event days back-to-back. This reduces impact on the park and the total number of days that an area of the park is out of use.</p> <p>The current major events programme holds 10 event days consecutively.</p> <p>Two thirds of the park remain available to park users during event occupation periods. To minimise disruption to park users, the Council works with event organisers to provide pedestrian cross paths during periods of the event occupation.</p>
<p>What assessment has been made of the impact of increasing the number of days of commercial events on organised sports activity in Victoria Park, including football and cricket?</p>	<p>The major events programme does not impact on the sporting pitches in Victoria Park.</p>
<p>What has been the total revenue expenditure on the management and maintenance of Victoria Park in each years since 2010?</p>	<p>The Council's current financial system was introduced in 2013/14. Therefore, we are unable to provide any information prior to this financial year. Details are provided below of the total revenue spend for Victoria Park from this period.</p> <p>2013/14: £1,712,658 2014/15: £1,768,671 2015/16: £1,776,180 2016-17: £1,650,791 2017/18: £1,653,521 2018/19: £1,820,153 2019/20: £1,857,127 2020/21: £1,590,954 2021/22: £1,590,954</p>

	2022/23: £1,295,310 (note this figure is lower as support services costs were transferred to another cost centre)
What consultation Tower Hamlets Council has had with the Heritage Lottery Fund about the Mayor's proposed increase in the amount of commercial activity in Victoria Park?	There is no requirement for the Council to consult with the HLF about the events programme.
If the Mayor will meet with the Friends of Victoria Park to explain the rationale for his proposed increase in the number of commercial events in Victoria Park and listen to their concerns?	For the Mayor's Office to Answer.

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