

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE CABINET

HELD AT 5.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 7 JUNE 2006

**COMMITTEE ROOM, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE
CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG**

Members Present:

Councillor Denise Jones (Chair)	(Leader of the Council)
Councillor Sirajul Islam (Vice-Chair)	(Deputy Leader of the Council)
Councillor Helal Abbas	(Lead Member, Children's Services)
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	(Lead Member, Regeneration, Localisation and Community Partnerships)
Councillor Anwara Ali	(Lead Member, Equalities, Employment and Skills)
Councillor Abdul Asad	(Lead Member, Older People and Health)
Councillor Rupert Bawden	(Lead Member, Housing and Development)
Councillor Joshua Peck	(Lead Member, Resources and Performance)
Councillor Lutfur Rahman	(Lead Member, Culture)
Councillor Abdal Ullah	(Lead Member, Cleaner, Safer, Greener)

Other Councillors Present:

Councillor Rofique U Ahmed	
Councillor Louise Alexander	(Scrutiny Lead Member, Learning Achievement & Leisure)
Councillor Alibor Choudhury	
Councillor Shamim A. Chowdhury	
Councillor Stephanie Eaton	(Scrutiny Lead Member, Learning, Achievement and Leisure)
Councillor Peter Golds	
Councillor Abjol Miah	
Councillor Timothy O'Flaherty	
Councillor M. Mamun Rashid	
Councillor Simon Rouse	(Scrutiny Lead Member, Excellent Public Services)
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	(Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

Officers Present:

Isobel Cattermole	– (Service Head, Strategic & Operational Services, Education)
Kevan Collins	– (Corporate Director, Children's Services)
Alex Cosgrave	– (Corporate Director, Environment & Culture)
Mary Durkin	– (Interim Service Head, Youth and Community Learning)
Alan Finch	– (Service Head, Corporate Finance)
Christine Gilbert	– (Chief Executive)
Chris Holme	– (Service Head, Resources, Development & Renewal)
Julia Jones	– (Interim Head of Communications)
Michael Keating	– (Service Head, Research & Scrutiny)
Karrie Kilpatrick	– (Supporting People Manager, Housing Services)
Bernadette Marjoram	– (Accommodation Programme Director)
Maureen McEleney	– (Director of Housing Management)
Emma Peters	– (Corporate Director, Development & Renewal)
Claire Saul	– (Communications Manager)
Martin Smith	– (Director of Resources)
Ann Sutcliffe	– (Service Head, Building Schools for the Future)
Chris Weavers	– (Political Adviser to the Majority Group)
Graham White	– (Legal Adviser)
Sara Williams	– (Assistant Chief Executive)
Heather Wills	– (Idea Store Programme Director)
Ian Wilson	– (Deputy to the Chief Executive)
Angus Taylor	– (Senior Committee Officer, Democratic Services)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2006/ 2007

The clerk sought nominations for the Chair of the Cabinet for the Municipal Year 2006 - 2007.

Councillor A. Asad nominated Councillor D. Jones as Chair of the Cabinet for the Municipal Year 2006 - 2007. Councillor O. Ahmed seconded the nomination.

There being no other nominations it was: -

Resolved

That Councillor D. Jones be elected Chair of the Cabinet for the Municipal Year 2006 – 2007.

COUNCILLOR D. JONES IN THE CHAIR**2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2006/ 2007**

The Chair nominated Councillor S. Islam as Vice-Chair of the Cabinet for the Municipal Year 2006 - 2007. Councillor O. Ahmed seconded the nomination.

There being no other nominations it was: -

Resolved

That Councillor S. Islam be elected Vice-Chair of the Cabinet for the Municipal Year 2006 – 2007.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from: -

- Ms I. Freeman (Assistant Chief Executive Legal), for whom Mr G. White, Legal Adviser was deputising.
- Mr J. Goldup (Director Adult Services).

Noted

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor H. Abbas declared a personal interest in Agenda Items 7.2(1) "Report 'Called in' Disposal of Cheviot House" [Unrestricted] and 16.2(1) "Report 'Called in' Disposal of Cheviot House" [Exempt/ Confidential]. The declaration was made on the basis that the provisional decision of the Cabinet, taken in April 2006, included disposal of Cheviot House for use as a Foyer scheme run by East Homes. The Foyer scheme at Stratford was run by East Potential, a subsidiary company of East Thames Housing Association, a member of the East Homes Group, and Councillor Abbas worked with East Potential.

Councillor H. Abbas declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 9.2 "Integrated Health and Social Care Services for Adults of Working Age in Tower Hamlets – Future Governance Arrangements". The declaration was made on the basis that report, which contained recommendations relating to the East London and City Mental Health NHS Trust and referred to the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust and Councillor Abbas was a Non-Executive Director of North East London Health Authority.

Councillor O. Ahmed declared a personal interest in Agenda item 11.3 "Idea Store Half-Year Report". The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report contained recommendations relating to the Idea Store Programme to which Leaside Regeneration Limited had given capital funding at an earlier stage of the programme and Councillor Ahmed was an employee of Leaside Regeneration Limited.

Councillor A. Ali declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9.1 "Supporting People Strategy 2005 - 2010". The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report referred to the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust and Councillor Ali was an employee of the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust (partner in general practitioner's practice in Spitalfields).

Councillor A. Ali declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9.2 “Integrated Health and Social Care Services for Adults of Working Age in Tower Hamlets – Future Governance Arrangements”. The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report referred to the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust and Councillor Ali was an employee of the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust (partner in general practitioner’s practice in Spitalfields).

Councillor A. Asad declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9.1 “Supporting People Strategy 2005 - 2010”. The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report referred to the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust and Councillor Asad was a representative of the Authority on the governing body of the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust.

Councillor A. Asad declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9.2 “Integrated Health and Social Care Services for Adults of Working Age in Tower Hamlets – Future Governance Arrangements”. The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report referred to the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust and Councillor Asad was a representative of the Authority on the governing body of the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust.

Councillor R. Bawden declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9.1 “Supporting People Strategy 2005 - 2010”. The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report referred to the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust and Councillor Bawden was an employee of the London Ambulance Service NHS Trust.

Councillor R. Bawden declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9.2 “Integrated Health and Social Care Services for Adults of Working Age in Tower Hamlets – Future Governance Arrangements”. The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report referred to the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust and Councillor Bawden was an employee of the London Ambulance Service NHS Trust.

Councillor S. Islam declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 11.1 “Strategic Business Case (SBC) for Building Schools for the Future (BSF)”. The declaration was made on the basis that the report contained recommendations relating to Mulberry School and Councillor Islam’s daughter attended Mulberry School.

Councillor D. Jones declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9.1 “Supporting People Strategy 2005 - 2010”. The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report contained referred to the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust and Councillor Jones was a member of the governing body of the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust.

Councillor D. Jones declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9.2 “Integrated Health and Social Care Services for Adults of Working Age in Tower Hamlets – Future Governance Arrangements”. The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report referred to the Tower Hamlets

Primary Care Trust and Councillor Jones was a member of the governing body of the Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust.

Councillor D. Jones declared a personal interest in Agenda Item Agenda item 10.1 “Rich Mix Cultural Centre”. The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report contained recommendations relating to the Rich Mix Cultural Centre and Councillor Jones was a member of the governing body of the Rich Mix Cultural Foundation the accountable body for the Rich Mix Centre project.

Councillor D. Jones declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 11.1 “Strategic Business Case (SBC) for Building Schools for the Future (BSF)”. The declaration was made on the basis that the report contained recommendations relating to Mulberry School and Councillor Jones was a member of the governing body of Mulberry School.

Councillor J. Peck declared a personal interest in Agenda Items 7.2(1) “Report ‘Called in’ Disposal of Cheviot House” [Unrestricted] and 16.2(1) “Report ‘Called in’ Disposal of Cheviot House” [Exempt/ Confidential]. The declaration was made on the basis that the report and the provisional decision of the Cabinet, taken in April 2006, contained recommendations which could potentially have an impact on Weavers Fields and made significant references to Weavers Fields, and Councillor Peck was a resident of Wilmot Street which adjoins Weavers Fields.

Councillor L. Rahman declared a personal interest in Agenda item 10.1 “Rich Mix Cultural Centre”. The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report contained recommendations relating to the Rich Mix Cultural Centre and Councillor Rahman was a was a nominee of the Authority to the governing body of the Rich Mix Cultural Foundation the accountable body for the Rich Mix Centre project.

Councillor A. Ullah declared a personal interest in Agenda item 10.1 “Rich Mix Cultural Centre”. The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report contained recommendations relating to the Rich Mix Cultural Centre and Councillor Ullah’s partner was a member of the governing body of the Rich Mix Cultural Foundation the accountable body for the Rich Mix Centre project.

Councillor A. Ullah declared a personal interest in Agenda item 11.2 “Lifelong Learning Service Fees and Charges 2006/ 2007”. The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report referred to Tower Hamlets College and Councillor Ullah was a member of the governing body of Tower Hamlets College.

Councillor A. Ullah declared a personal interest in Agenda item 13.1 “Exercise of Corporate Director Discretions”. The declaration of interest was made on the basis that the report reported the exercise of a discretion relating to the undertaking of additional works for Doughty Court and Councillor Ullah was a resident of Doughty Court.

Councillor L. Alexander declared a personal interest in Agenda Items 7.2(1) "Report 'Called in' Disposal of Cheviot House" [Unrestricted] and 16.2(1) "Report 'Called in' Disposal of Cheviot House" [Exempt/ Confidential]. The declaration was made on the basis that the report and the provisional decision of the Cabinet, taken in April 2006, contained recommendations which could potentially have an impact on Weavers Fields and made significant references to Weavers Fields, and Councillor Alexander was an objector to the development of Weavers Fields.

Noted

5. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

The Chair **Moved** and it was: -

Resolved

That the unrestricted minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Cabinet held on 5th April 2006 be approved and signed by the Chair, as a correct record of the proceedings.

6. DEPUTATIONS & PETITIONS

Nil items.

7. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7.1 Chair's advice of Key Issues or Questions in relation to Unrestricted Business to be considered

The Chair informed members of the Cabinet that Councillor Uz Zaman, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, had **Tabled**: -

- A sheet of questions and comments arising from the deliberations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on 6th June 2006, in respect of the unrestricted business contained in the agenda for consideration
- A sheet of advice / comments relating to Agenda item 12.2 "The Council's Strategic Plan 2006 – 2011: Year 1 Implementation Plan (2006/7) & Best Value Performance Plan, a Budget and Policy Framework Report."

copies of which would be interleaved with the minutes.

Councillor Uz Zaman, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, informed members of the Cabinet that he had nothing to add to the questions / comments / advice raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as set out in the tabled papers regarding: -

- Agenda item 8.1 "Proposed Drinking Control Zones – Bethnal Green and Whitechapel" (CAB 001/067).

- Agenda item 9.1 “Supporting People Strategy 2005-2010” (CAB 002/067).
- Agenda item 9.2 “Integrated Health and Social Care Services for Adults of Working Age in Tower Hamlets – Future Governance Arrangements” (CAB 003/067).
- Agenda item 10.1 “Rich Mix Cultural Centre” (CAB 004/067).
- Agenda item 12.4 “Accommodation Strategy Implementation” (CAB 011/067).
- Agenda item 12.5 “Award of Contracts for Grocery Provisions, Ready Prepared Frozen Meals, Fruit and Vegetables, School Milk and Fresh and Frozen Meat” (CAB 012/067).

Budget and Policy Framework Item

- Agenda item 12.2 “The Council's Strategic Plan 2006 – 2011: Year 1 Implementation Plan (2006/7) & Best Value Performance Plan” (CAB 009/067).

The Chair **Moved** and it was: -

Resolved

That the questions/ comments/ advice of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted, and that these be given consideration during the Cabinet deliberation of the items of business to which the questions and comments related.

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

7.2(i) Report “Called in” Disposal of Cheviot House (CAB 016/067)

The Chair informed members of the Cabinet that Councillor Uz Zaman, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had **Tabled** a reference (CAB 016/067) arising from the deliberations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on 6th June 2006, in respect of the provisional decision of the Cabinet, held on 5th April 2006, made in relation to the “Disposal of Cheviot House” (CAB 206/056), a copy of which would be interleaved with the minutes.

Councillor Uz Zaman, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, addressed members of the Cabinet in relation to the tabled reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and requests contained therein.

Ms Peters, Corporate Director Development and Renewal, at the request of the Chair, addressed the matters raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as set out in the tabled reference.

Ms Peters, Corporate Director Development and Renewal, responded to matters raised by members of the Cabinet and other Members, speaking with the consent of the Cabinet, regarding the following: -

- Whether the valuation process undertaken in relation to Cheviot House had resulted in a realistic valuation.
- The scope for further consultation with local residents in relation to concerns regarding the establishment of a Foyer Scheme and continued public access to the current service provision at Cheviot House.
- The mixed commercial and residential nature of the area in the vicinity of Cheviot House.
- The complexity and linkage of issues associated with the disposal of Cheviot House and the opportunity cost of the proposed sale of Cheviot House rather than on an open market sale for unencumbered residential development.
- Future of the site at Weavers Fields to the Authority by East Thames Housing Association in the context of alternative Foyer provision at Cheviot House.

Ms Peters, Corporate Director Development and Renewal, in response to a request from members of the Cabinet, undertook to circulate a briefing note regarding Foyer initiatives and the nature of associated activities.

The Chair thanked Councillor Uz Zaman for presenting the contribution of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and summarised the deliberations of the Cabinet as follows: -

- It was considered that Foyer provision was needed in the Borough and there was an aspiration that the Authority met that demand.
- The disposal of property owned by the Authority could not be examined solely from a commercial/ financial perspective, in these circumstances where there was also a need to take account of social imperatives.
- The advice of officers that consultation with local residents in relation to the disposal of any property was not normal, but that there was provision for consultation during the planning process, had been noted.

The Chair **Moved** the following **Motion** for the consideration of the Cabinet: -

“That we: -

1. Note the comments / advice/ recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in relation to this matter.
2. Reaffirm our provisional decision, made on 5th April 2006, in relation to the Disposal of Cheviot House.”

and it was: -

Resolved

1. That the advice / comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as detailed in the tabled Reference (CAB 016/067), be noted; and
2. That the provisional decision of the Cabinet, made on 5th April 2006, in relation to the Disposal of Cheviot House (CAB 206/056), be reaffirmed.

8. A BETTER PLACE FOR LIVING SAFELY

8.1 Proposed Drinking Control Zones – Bethnal Green and Whitechapel (CAB 001/067)

Ms Williams, Assistant Chief Executive in introducing the report: -

- Advised members of the Cabinet that statute required that the establishment of a Drinking Control Zone was a Council function not an Executive function, however the Cabinet was asked in the report to consider and endorse proposals, set out at paragraphs 2.1 to 2.3 inclusive, from the perspective of its wider role in relation to Community Safety.
- At the request of the Chair, addressed the matters raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on 6th June 2006, in relation to the report; as set out in the sheet of questions and comments tabled by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee earlier in the proceedings.

Councillor Asad, Lead Member Older People and Health, commented that the consumption of alcohol and any related anti-social behaviour was not confined to non-muslim sections of the Community and considered that the information leaflet referred to in paragraph 5.1 of the report should be circulated in both English and Bengali languages.

The Chair, in referring to the plan detailing the boundary of the Whitechapel Drinking Control Zone, attached at Appendix A1 to the report, commented that some vandalism had recently taken place in the burial ground indicated at the top of the plan, and in this context consideration should be given to inclusion of the burial ground within the boundary of the Drinking Control Zone to avoid displacement to this area.

Councillor Islam, Vice-Chair, in referring a list of streets included in the consultation process and implementation of the Whitechapel Drinking Control Zone, attached at Appendix A to the report, specified some apparent errors and omissions; and in this context suggested that consideration should be given to revising the list of streets accordingly.

Ms Williams, Assistant Chief Executive, responded to matters raised by members of the Cabinet regarding the following: -

- The agencies that would enforce the Drinking Control Zones.
- Clarity in relation to the rules to be enforced within the Drinking Control Zones.
- A statement in paragraph 8.2 of the report regarding the geographical origin of drinkers frequenting Museum Gardens and Bethnal Green Gardens.
- The possibility of displacement of any nuisance to other areas outside the Drinking Control Zone.
- The wider inter-agency approach to prevention and treatment of alcohol abuse adopted by the Authority.

The Chair in **Moving** the recommendations contained in the report proposed the addition of the following recommendation, to address the matters raised by members of the Cabinet, for the consideration of the Cabinet:

“That consideration be given to: -

- (a) Inclusion within the Whitechapel Drinking Control Zone of the burial ground indicated at the top of the plan attached at Appendix A to the report (CAB 001/067).
- (b) Revision of the list of streets, detailed at Appendix A to the report (CAB 001/067) to correct errors and omissions: -
- (c) Circulation of the information leaflet referred to in paragraph 5.1 of the report (CAB 001/067) in both English and Bengali languages.”

and it was: -

Resolved

1. That the proposal to undertake statutory consultation for a Drinking Control Zone in accordance with the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (and associated regulations), in the Museum Gardens area indicated on the plan attached at Appendix B to the report (CAB 001/067); be endorsed;
2. That the proposal to confirm the Drinking Control Zone currently running as a pilot initiative in the Whitechapel area, as indicated on the plan attached at Appendix A to this report, and to extend the scope of zone to cover the streets around Vallance Road, for the reasons outlined in paragraph 7.3 of the report (CAB 001/067), be endorsed; and
3. That the proposal that Council be recommended to authorise the Assistant Chief Executive to:
 - (a) Consider any representations received to the consultation referred to in resolution 1. above;

- (b) Approve the making of the proposed Drinking Control Zones for the areas indicated on the plans attached at Appendices A and B to this report;
 - (c) Consider the inclusion of any additional areas within the Drinking Control Zones, referred to above, identified during the consultation as appropriate for such inclusion;
- be endorsed.

4. That consideration be given to: -

- (a) Inclusion within the Whitechapel Drinking Control Zone of the burial ground indicated at the top of the plan attached at Appendix A to the report (CAB 001/067).
- (b) Revision of the list of streets, detailed at Appendix A to the report (CAB 001/067) to correct errors and omissions: -
- (d) Circulation of the information leaflet referred to in paragraph 5.1 of the report (CAB 001/067) in both English and Bengali languages.

9. A BETTER PLACE FOR LIVING WELL

9.1 Supporting People Strategy 2005 - 2010 (CAB 002/067)

Ms McEleney, Director Housing Management, at the request of the Chair, addressed the matters raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on 6th June 2006, in relation to the report; as set out in the sheet of questions and comments tabled by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee earlier in the proceedings.

The Chair **Moved** and it was: -

Resolved

That the Supporting People Strategy Annual Plan 2006-2007, attached at Appendix A to the report (CAB 001/067), be approved.

9.2 Integrated Health and Social Care Services for Adults of Working Age in Tower Hamlets – Future Governance Arrangements (CAB 003/067)

Mr Wilson, Deputy to the Chief Executive, at the request of the Chair, addressed the matters raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on 6th June 2006, in relation to the report; as set out in the sheet of questions and comments tabled by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee earlier in the proceedings.

The Chair **Moved** and it was: -

Resolved

That the Director of Adult Services be authorised to extend the Section 31 agreement between the Council and the East London and City Mental Health NHS Trust for the delivery of health and social care services to adults of working age with mental health problems in Tower Hamlets, on the existing terms, for the period 1.6.06 to 31.12.06, with an option of earlier termination if required.

10. A BETTER PLACE FOR CREATING AND SHARING PROSPERITY**10.1 Rich Mix Cultural Centre (CAB 004/067)**

Mr Holme, Service Head Resources – Development and Renewal, at the request of the Chair, addressed the matters raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on 6th June 2006, in relation to the report; as set out in the sheet of questions and comments tabled by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee earlier in the proceedings.

Mr Holme, Service Head Resources – Development and Renewal, responded to matters raised by members of the Cabinet and other Members, speaking with the consent of the Cabinet, regarding the following: -

- With reference to Appendix A to the report, underlying assumptions behind the figures.
- With reference to paragraph 5.7 of the report clarification as to the part of the facility where the Authority's freehold had yet to transfer and the valuation pertaining to that freehold.
- Clarification regarding capital and revenue aspects of the Forward Funding arrangement with the Rich Mix Cultural Foundation.
- Clarification regarding terms of the loan to the Rich Mix Cultural Foundation recommended by officers in paragraph 2.3 of the report.
- The benefits for local residents of the Rich Mix Cultural Centre.

Councillor Peck, Lead Member Resources and Performance proposed an amendment to the recommendations contained in the report as follows: -

“That the recommendation contained in paragraph 2.3 be agreed subject to the submission of annual reports regarding the business plan for the Rich Mix Cultural Centre to the Cabinet for consideration.”

The Chair **Moved** the recommendations contained in the report (taking account of the proposed amendment from Councillor Peck) and it was: -

Resolved

1. That the current position of the Rich Mix Cultural Centre capital project as set out in paragraph 5 of the report (CAB 003/067), be noted;
2. That it be noted that the Rich Mix Cultural Foundation's current business plan projections, as set out in paragraph 6 of the report (CAB 003/067), be noted;

3. That subject to resolution 5. below it be agreed that the outstanding forward funding, as determined by the Council in 2003, be converted into a loan, as set out in paragraph 7 of the report (CAB 003/067);
4. That it be noted that in resolving 1 to 3 above, the Council is exercising its well-being powers, under section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000;
5. That annual reports regarding the business plan for the Rich Mix Cultural Centre be submitted to the Cabinet for consideration.

11. A BETTER PLACE FOR LEARNING, ACHIEVEMENT AND LEISURE

11.1 Strategic Business Case (SBC) for Building Schools for the Future (BSF) (CAB 005/067)

Mr Collins, Corporate Director Children's Services, responded to matters raised by members of the Cabinet regarding the following: -

- With reference to the Table contained at paragraph 4.8.1 of the report clarification regarding the moderated rankings for different schools in the context of the prioritisation of schools for funding from the Governments Building Schools for the Future initiative.
- With reference to the Table contained at paragraph 4.8.1 of the report assurance that the total rebuild of St Paul's Way School would be congruent with regeneration plans for the surrounding area and that the Chair of the governing body had been consulted regarding any such proposals.
- With reference to paragraph 6.4 of the report assurance that the estimated cost of the Authority's delivery of the Building Schools for the Future programme, which was at the lower end of Department for Employment and Skills scale of 3% to 5% of capital investment, was robust.

Ms Gilbert, Chief Executive, advised members of the Cabinet that the Authority would undertake formal consultation with governing bodies in respect of the Building Schools for the Future programme over the coming few months.

The Chair in **Moving** the recommendations, as contained in the report, welcomed the proposals set out therein, and it was: -

Resolved

1. That the Building Schools for the Future Strategic Business Case be approved for submission to the Department for Education and Skills (DfES);
2. That the Corporate Director (Children's Services) be authorised to make any further amendments to the Strategic Business Case consistent with its spirit in order to complete the approval process from

the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) and Partnership for Schools (PFS);

3. That the retention of the Wessex Centre for educational use and allocation of part of the Education Supported Capital expenditure allocation, equivalent to the estimated disposal value, to fund Other Services Block capital projects, be approved;
4. That the use of £5.2m supported capital borrowing to fund the delivery of the Building Schools for the Future programme, including the Building Schools for the Future project team, be approved; and
5. That a further detailed report regarding the procurement strategy, including the options around the role and scope of the Local Education Partnership (LEP) be submitted to the Cabinet for consideration on 4th October 2006.

11.2 Lifelong Learning Service Fees and Charges 2006/ 2007(CAB 006/067)

The Chair **Moved** and it was: -

Resolved

1. That the following Lifelong Learning tuition fees for the 2006/2007 academic year be agreed: -
 - (a) **Non-accredited Courses:** The tuition fee for lifelong learning **non-accredited** courses to go up from £30 to £33 per course per term. For learners entitled to a concessionary rate, the recommended registration fee is £10.00 per course per term.
 - (b) **Accredited Courses:** The tuition fees for lifelong learning **accredited** courses should be charged in fee bands, dependent on the level of qualification, length of the course and area of specialism, for 2006/2007 academic year as follows:

FEE BAND	TUITION FEES FOR ACCREDITED COURSES 2006/07	CONCESSIONARY RATE FOR ACCREDITED COURSES 2006/07
A	£40 - £60	£10
B	£80 - £110	£10
C	£120 - £180	£10
D	£210 - £300	£10
E	£340 - £475	£10
F	£520 - £970	£10

Students should also be charged for course materials, examination fees, books and field trips. For learners entitled to a concessionary rate, the tuition fee should be £10.00 per course per term. All students eligible for concessionary rates, and those

on low income, should be able to apply to the discretionary Learner Support Fund for help towards tuition fees, exam fees, course materials, books, and field trips.

- (c) **Nil Fees:** The following students should be eligible for nil fees on both accredited and non-accredited courses:

- Students aged 16 to 18 years (under 19 years old on 31 August).
- Students taking Basic Skills, ESOL and Family Learning.

These students could be charged for incidentals such as course materials, books and field trips.

- (d) **Concessionary Fees:** The following students should be eligible for the concessionary rate of £10 per course per term on both **non-accredited** and **accredited** courses:

- Students (including refugees or asylum seekers) who are on means tested state benefits or job seekers allowance, or are dependent on someone on such benefits.
- Students who have special needs, such as a sensory disability, hearing or visual impairment or severe learning difficulties.
- Students who are 60 years and over.

- (e) Employees of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets should pay 80% of standard tuition fees, for both accredited and non-accredited courses, but could be charged for course materials, examination fees, books and field trips.

- (f) Students eligible for the above concessionary rate on accredited courses could be charged for examination fees but could apply to the Learner Support Fund for help towards tuition fees, course materials, examination fees, books and field trips.

- (g) **Premises Hire Fees:**

That Members agree a 3% increase in the hire rate for premises used by the Lifelong Learning Service from 1 April 2006, in line with the rise in the cost of living.

11.3 Idea Store Half-Year Report (CAB 007/067)

Ms Williams, Assistant Chief Executive, in introducing the report highlighted in particular that it: -

- Included up to date Idea Store usage figures and residents satisfaction ratings both of which were encouraging.
- Sought a revised capital estimate for the Whitechapel Idea Store and set out the reasons for the increasing costs of the scheme which underlay this, although detail was limited due to commercial sensitivity.

The proposed additional capital expenditure would have an impact on the Authority's Other Services Capital Programme Block 2006/2007.

- Proposed capital estimate provided for completion of the Whitechapel Idea Store and some additional works necessary to meet legal and regulatory requirements. A final settlement with the construction partner, as recommended by the Authority's quantity surveyor was also provided for.
- Detailed the outturn for expenditure relating to the Canary Wharf Idea Store currently an under-spend; however this remained provisional subject to the awaited completion of the lease from the London Metropolitan University. However the balance of the under-spend would be reimbursed to the Authority's Other Services Capital Programme Block.

The Chair commented that it was acknowledged that the Idea Store Programme had proved to be a tremendous success in attracting service users, and therefore improving lifelong learning in the Borough. However the Cabinet had previously been assured by officers that further cost overruns would not occur, and yet additional funding had been requested and agreed on at least two occasions. The Chair considered that it was necessary to agree the revised capital estimate recommended in the report but understood that this would be undertaken to the detriment of other projects which might otherwise be funded by the Other Services Capital Programme Block. In this context the Chair sought an assurance that lessons had been learned from project management of the Idea Store Programme to date and that no further cost overruns would occur.

Councillor Rahman, Lead Member Culture, commented that the Idea Store Programme had proved to be an attractive and successful concept, but expressed concern regarding the recommendation to adopt a revised capital estimate because of a cost overrun in the programme. Councillor Rahman considered that a line must be drawn, with no further overruns of this kind.

Councillor Peck, Lead Member Resources and Performance concurred with the Chair's comments regarding the additional costs relating to the Idea Store Programme and the impact of this on the Other Services Capital Programme Block. In this context Councillor Peck considered that lessons must be drawn from project management to date to ensure improved project management of the remaining programme and sought assurance that as the Idea Store Programme moved forward officers would ensure that professional parties bore liability for future cost overruns.

Ms Peters, Corporate Director Development and Renewal, at the request of the Chair, updated members of the Cabinet of the current position in relation to the regeneration of the Roman Road area including shopping provision to replace that lost by the closure of Morrisons supermarket. Progress in this regard was linked with complex negotiations between the Authority and sub-lessees of the property upon which Morrisons had been situated, the freehold of which was owned by the Authority.

Ms Gilbert, Chief Executive, assured members of the Cabinet that overspends in the Idea Store Programme were treated seriously by senior officers, and advised that she had recently initiated an enquiry, using external expertise, to ascertain how/why these overspends had occurred, in order that lessons could be drawn and matters dealt with differently in the future. Ms Gilbert understood that the two key themes emerging were: -

- Procurement related issues/ lessons stemming from the initial contracts in 2002.
- Project Management weaknesses.

Ms Gilbert: -

- Considered that the procurement related lessons had to a large extent been learned but would seek confirmation of that from the report currently being produced.
- Advised that the Authority had identified growth funding for project management during the 2006/2007 General Fund Budget process.
- Also advised that there was now a corporate framework for project management which was being rolled out through a programme of training for senior and other managers.
- Would await the findings of the enquiry before giving a guaranteed assurance that there would be no further cost overruns relating to the Idea Store Programme.

Ms Williams, Assistant Chief Executive, responded to matters raised by members of the Cabinet and other Members, speaking with the consent of the Cabinet, regarding the following: -

- Progress in relation to the receipt of compensation from Crossrail in respect of costs incurred for the revised design of the Whitechapel Idea Store.
- Confirmation that the revised capital estimate was final and no additional funding would be required for the fabric of the Whitechapel Idea Store, nor related construction partner fees.

Ms Williams, Assistant Chief Executive, in response to a question from a Member, regarding the factoring of expenditure related to the future disposal of Limehouse Library into the costs of the Idea Store Programme, undertook to respond in writing.

The Chair **Moved** and it was: -

Resolved

1. That the progress relating to the implementation of the Idea Store strategy be noted;
2. That the comments of the Director of Resources in relation to additional costs on the Idea Store Whitechapel project be noted;
3. That a revised capital estimate for the Whitechapel Idea Store of £18,289,400 be adopted, as set out in report (CAB 007/067);

4. That the Assistant Chief Executive be authorised to enter into a settlement agreement with Verry Construction, as outlined in section 5.8 of the report (CAB 007/067).

12. A BETTER PLACE FOR EXCELLENT PUBLIC SERVICES

12.1 Tower Hamlets Community Plan to 2010 Year 6 (2006/2007) Revision (CAB 008/067)

Ms Gilbert, Chief Executive, in briefly introducing the report advised members of the Cabinet that: -

- The Community Plan was a 10 year vision for the Borough which originated from the Tower Hamlets Partnership and the contents of which were fundamental to the work of the Authority.
- Drew the attention of members of the Cabinet to the detail provided in relation to the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund.
- The proposed Tower Hamlets Community Plan to 2010: Year 6 (2006-07) revision had been noted by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting held on 6th June 2006.

The Chair **Moved** and it was: -

Resolved

1. That the Tower Hamlets Community Plan to 2010: Year 6 (2006-07) revision, attached at Appendix 1 to the report (CAB 008/067), be endorsed and that full Council be recommended to approve the Plan, subject to necessary and appropriate amendments to ensure that the plan is accurate, coherent and reflects the views of Members;
2. That the Chief Executive be authorised to make appropriate and necessary amendments to the Tower Hamlets Community Plan to 2010: Year 6 (2006-07) in advance of final publication; and
3. That the outturn figures for the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) for 2004-2006, be noted and it be agreed that the Chief Executive and Corporate Directors be authorised to agree and implement proposals for the use of NRF in 2006-2008, which have been developed and evaluated through the process described in Appendix 2 to the report (CAB 008/067).

12.2 The Council's Strategic Plan 2006 – 2011: Year 1 Implementation Plan (2006/7) & Best Value Performance Plan (CAB 009/067)

Ms Gilbert, Chief Executive, in briefly introducing the report informed members of the Cabinet that: -

- The proposed Strategic Plan spanned a 5 year period, in contrast to the 4 year span of the previous Plan, and the contents were fundamental to the work of the Authority.

- The proposed Strategic Plan had been broadly welcomed and endorsed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting held on 6th June 2006.

Ms Gilbert, Chief Executive, at the request of our Chair, responded to the matters raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on 6th June 2006, in relation to the report; as set out in the sheet of questions and comments tabled by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee earlier in the proceedings, as follows: -

Paragraph 1

The finalised version of the Strategic Plan 2006-2011 would indicate more clearly how past challenges in delivering the outcomes within the Strategic Plan 2002-2006 had informed and influenced actions, targets and milestones proposed for the new Strategic Plan.

Paragraph 2

The report and appendices, comprising the Strategic Plan and Best Value Performance Plan, did set out the priority outcomes, for the Authority, in the five year period and a related basket of indicators (the Tower Hamlets Index) which were monitored very closely. However the signposting regarding this might not be readily apparent, and greater clarity would be given to this in the finalised document.

Paragraph 3

Officers had intended rates of progress should be appropriately profiled across the full five years of the Strategic Plan and Best Value Performance Plan. Ms Gilbert, Chief Executive, gave an undertaking that she and Corporate Directors of the Authority would re-examine the profiling of the targets to ensure an appropriate rate of progress.

Paragraph 4

An appendix to the Tower Hamlets Strategic Plan Annual Report set out detailed explanations for instances where the Authority's performance was 10% or more below the Best Value Performance Indicator target.

Ms Gilbert, Chief Executive, concluded by indicating that officers would endeavour to accommodate the spirit of the advice and comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as the Strategic Plan progressed towards publication.

The Chair **Moved** (taking account of the response of the Chief Executive to the matters raised by Overview and Scrutiny Committee) and it was: -

Resolved

1. That the Council's Strategic Plan 2006 – 2011: Year 1 Implementation Plan (2006/7) & Best Value Performance Plan be endorsed and that full Council be recommended to approve these Plans, attached at Appendix 1 and 2 to the report (CAB 009/067), subject to necessary

and appropriate amendments to ensure that the plan is accurate, coherent and reflects the views of Members; and

2. That the Chief Executive be authorised to make appropriate and necessary amendments to the Strategic Plan 2006-2011 Year 1 and BVPP (2006/2007) in advance of final publication, the latter to include appropriate accommodation of the advice and comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as set out in the paper Tabled by the Chair of the latter Committee earlier in the proceedings.

12.3 Equalities Action Plan 2006/2007 (CAB 010/067)

Ms Gilbert, Chief Executive, commented that paragraph 2 of the advice/comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in relation to agenda item 12.2 "The Council's Strategic Plan 2006/2011 and BVPP", tabled earlier in the proceedings by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, had prompted her to examine the Equalities Action Plan 2006/2007 more closely; and having done so Ms Gilbert considered that it required revision as follows:

-
- The preamble to the Equalities Action Plan 2006/2007 should include reference to the performance of the Authority for 2005/2006.
- The Equalities Action Plan 2006/2007 should incorporate more measurable outcomes, in particular, core targets for 2006/2007.

Ms Williams, Assistant Chief Executive, responded to a matter raised by a member of the Cabinet regarding the National Equalities Standard.

Councillor Ali, Lead Member Equalities, Employment and Skills requested that she be provided with an analysis of corporate performance in relation to the Authority's Workforce to Reflect the Community policy and targets.

The Chair **Moved** (taking account of the advice of the Chief Executive), and it was: -

Resolved

That subject to the revisions set out below, the Equalities Action Plan 2006/2007, attached at Appendix 1 to the report (CAB 010/067), be approved:

-
- (a) That the preamble to the Equalities Action Plan 2006/2007 include reference to the performance of the Authority for 2005/2006.
- (b) The incorporation of more measurable outcomes, in particular, core targets for 2006/2007.

12.4 Accommodation Strategy Implementation (CAB 011/067)**12.4A Accommodation Strategy Implementation Addendum report (CAB 015/067)**

The Chair informed members of the Cabinet that: -

- An Addendum (CAB 015/067) to the report "Accommodation Strategy Implementation" (CAB 011/067), which amended the recommendations contained therein, had been **Tabled**.
- The comments of the Trades Unions in relation to the report had been **Tabled**

copies of which would be interleaved with the minutes.

Mr Smith, Director of Resources, at the request of the Chair: -

- Addressed the matters raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on 6th June 2006, in relation to the report; as set out in the sheet of questions and comments tabled by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee earlier in the proceedings.
- Addressed the matters raised by Trades Unions, in relation to the report; as set out in the sheet of tabled comments.

Ms Gilbert, Chief Executive, commented that there were mechanisms available for the Trades Unions to communicate their concerns to senior officers regarding any matters, including those raised in the tabled paper, and considered it inappropriate for such concerns to be conveyed in this way. The Unions had cancelled a recent meeting with her, as they had no items for discussion.

The Chair commented that it was difficult for members of the Cabinet to assimilate and address detailed matters raised by the Trades Unions through a tabled paper and this practice would cease henceforth.

The Chair **Moved** the recommendations, contained in the report circulated in the agenda as amended by the recommendations contained in the tabled Addendum report, together with an additional recommendation for the consideration of the Cabinet "That the contents of the Addendum report be noted".

and it was: -

Resolved

1. That the progress made to date in the implementation of the Council's Accommodation Strategy, be noted;
2. That the contents of the Accommodation Strategy Implementation Addendum report (CAB 015/067) be noted;
3. That the Director of Resources be authorised to enter into Capital Works Contracts and a Quantity Surveying Management Contract in accordance with the recommendations of the tender evaluation panel as follows: -

- (a) Award the Capital Works Contract (Design & Build) for Mulberry Place, 62 Roman Road and Gladstone Place to the preferred bidder, Morgan Lovell, in accordance with their tender dated 24th May 2006.
 - (b) Award the Capital Works Contract (Design & Build) for Sutton Street Depot to the preferred bidder, Lakehouse Construction Limited, in accordance with their tender dated 24th May 2006.
 - (c) Award the Quantity Surveying Contract Management contract for the Capital Works Contracts (Design & Build) above to Nisbet LLP, in accordance with their tender dated 19th May 2006; and
4. That the retention of 62 Roman Road principally as the location for the Council's Housing Advice Centre/Homeless Persons Unit as well as an access point for residents and staff, be agreed.

12.5 Award of Contracts for Grocery Provisions, Ready Prepared Frozen Meals, Fruit and Vegetables, School Milk and Fresh and Frozen Meat (CAB 012/067)

Mr Collins, Corporate Director Children's Services, at the request of the Chair, addressed the matters raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on 6th June 2006, in relation to the report; as set out in the sheet of questions and comments tabled by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee earlier in the proceedings.

Ms Cattermole, Service Head Strategic and Operational Services - Education, responded to matters raised by members of the Cabinet regarding the inclusion within the detailed contract specification of halal meat provision and guarantees regarding slaughter arrangements.

The Chair **Moved** and it was: -

Resolved

1. That the Corporate Director of Children's Services be authorised to award three year contracts with options of two, one year extensions for the supply of grocery foods, the supply of ready prepared frozen meals, the supply of fresh fruit and vegetables and the supply of fresh and frozen meat and the supply of milk; and
2. That the London Contract Supplies Group be used for the supply of frozen foods, non-food products and catering light equipment.

12.6 Cabinet Sub Bodies 2006/2007 Terms of Reference and Membership (CAB 013/067)

The Chair informed members of the Cabinet that she had **Tabled a Motion** (a copy of which would be interleaved with the minutes) which proposed that: -

“

- 1) We agree recommendation 2.1 as contained in the report.
[That Cabinet note the establishment of the Sub-Bodies, to discharge functions on behalf of the Cabinet, with Terms of Reference, Membership and Quorum as set out in paragraphs 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 of the report.]
- 2) That we agree the appointments set out below to the Grants Panel for the Municipal Year 2006/2007.

Grants Panel

Members

Councillor	R. Bawden	(Chair)
Councillor	H. Abbas	
Councillor	O. Ahmed	
Councillor	A. Ullah	
Councillor	A. Ali	

Deputies

Councillor	D. Jones
Councillor	S. Islam
Councillor	J. Peck
Councillor	A. Asad
Councillor	L. Rahman”

Resolved

- 1) That the establishment of the Sub-Bodies, to discharge functions on behalf of the Cabinet, with Terms of Reference, Membership and Quorum, as set out in paragraphs 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 of the report (CAB 013/067), be noted; and
- 2) That the appointments to the Grants Panel for the Municipal Year 2006/2007, as set out below, be agreed: -

Grants Panel

Members

Councillor	R. Bawden	(Chair)
Councillor	H. Abbas	
Councillor	O. Ahmed	
Councillor	A. Ullah	
Councillor	A. Ali	

Deputies

Councillor D. Jones
Councillor S. Islam
Councillor J. Peck
Councillor A. Asad
Councillor L. Rahman

13. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**13.1 Exercise of Corporate Directors Discretions (CAB 014/067)**

The Chair **Moved** and it was: -

Resolved

That the exercise of Corporate Directors discretions, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report (CAB 014/067), be noted.

14. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chair **Moved** and it was: -

Resolved

That in accordance with 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 contained information defined as exempt or confidential in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government, Act 1972.

SUMMARY OF EXEMPT PROCEEDINGS**15. EXEMPT / CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

Cabinet 5th April 2006 approved.

16. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**16.1 Chair's advice of Key Issues or Questions in relation to Exempt / Confidential Business to be considered.**

Nil items.

16.2 Any Exempt / Confidential Decisions "Called in" by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee**16.2 (i) Report "Called in" Disposal of Cheviot House (CAB 016/067)**

Reference from Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 6th June 2006 Tabled in the unrestricted part of the proceedings.

Motion from Chair approved.

17. A BETTER PLACE FOR LIVING SAFELY

Nil items.

18. A BETTER PLACE FOR LIVING WELL

Nil items.

19. A BETTER PLACE FOR CREATING AND SHARING PROSPERITY

Nil items.

20. A BETTER PLACE FOR LEARNING, ACHIEVEMENT AND LEISURE

Nil items.

21. A BETTER PLACE FOR EXCELLENT PUBLIC SERVICES

Nil items.

22. EXEMPT / CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Nil items.

The meeting ended at 7.40 p.m.

Councillor Denise Jones
Chair, Cabinet