

Extraordinary Meeting of the

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday, 13 February 2012 at 7.00 p.m.

A G E N D A

VENUE

C1, 1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove
Crescent, London, E14 2BG

Members:	Deputies (if any):
<p>Chair: Councillor Ann Jackson Vice-Chair: Councillor Rachael Saunders, Scrutiny Lead, Adults Health & Wellbeing</p>	<p>Councillor Judith Gardiner, (Designated Deputy representing Sirajul Islam, Ann Jackson, Rachael Saunders, Zenith Rahman, Helal Uddin and Amy Whitelock) □ Councillor Peter Golds, (Designated Deputy representing Councillor Tim Archer) □ Councillor Ahmed Adam Omer, (Designated Deputy representing Ann Jackson, Sirajul Islam, Zenith Rahman, Helal Uddin and Amy Whitelock) □ Councillor Harun Miah, (Designated Deputy representing Councillor Fozol Miah) □ Councillor David Snowdon, (Designated Deputy representing Councillor Tim Archer) □ Councillor Bill Turner, (Designated Deputy representing Ann Jackson, Sirajul Islam, Zenith Rahman, Helal Uddin and Amy Whitelock)</p>
<p>Councillor Tim Archer, Scrutiny Lead, Chief Executive's Councillor Stephanie Eaton Councillor Sirajul Islam, Scrutiny Lead, Resources Councillor Fozol Miah Councillor Zenith Rahman, Scrutiny Lead, Communities Leisure & Culture Councillor Amy Whitelock, Scrutiny Lead, Children Schools & Families Councillor Helal Uddin, Scrutiny Lead, Development & Renewal</p>	
<p>[Note: The quorum for this body is 3 voting Members].</p>	

Co-opted Members:	
Memory Kampiyawo	– (Parent Governor Representative)
Jake Kemp	– (Parent Governor Representative)
Rev James Olanipekun	– (Parent Governor Representative)
Canon Michael Ainsworth	– (Church of England Diocese Representative)
Mr Mushfique Uddin	– (Muslim Community Representative)
1 Vacancy	– Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster Representative

If you require any further information relating to this meeting, would like to request a large print, Braille or audio version of this document, or would like to discuss access arrangements or any other special requirements, please contact:

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LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday, 13 February 2012

7.00 p.m.

SECTION ONE

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To note any declarations of interest made by Members, including those restricting Members from voting on the questions detailed in Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992. See attached note from the Chief Executive.

3. REQUESTS TO SUBMIT PETITIONS

To be notified at the meeting.

4. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

4.1 General Fund Capital and Revenue Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan 2012-15 (Revised Proposals) 3 - 6

To consider the revised proposals for General Fund, Capital and Revenue Budgets and Medium Term Financial Plan 2012-2015 (CAB 071/112) in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

*Members are advised that the report and appendices concerning this item have been previously circulated to all Members as a Supplemental Cabinet Agenda (8 February 2012) "**Budget 2012/2013 Document Pack**"*

Please bring the document pack to the meeting.

The decision of the Mayor in Cabinet at the meeting held on 8 February 2012 is included in this agenda

4 .2 Treasury Management Strategy statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2012-13 (Revised Proposals)

7 - 8

To consider the revised proposals for Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2012-13 (CAB 072/112) in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

*Members are advised that the report and appendices concerning this item are also contained in the document pack previously circulated to all Members as a Supplemental Cabinet Agenda (8 February 2012) "**Budget 2012/2013 Document Pack**"*

Please bring the document pack to the meeting.

The decision of the Mayor in Cabinet at the meeting held on 8 February 2012 is included in this agenda

5. ANY OTHER SECTION ONE (UNRESTRICTED) BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

Agenda Item 2

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS - NOTE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE FOR MEMBERS OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

This note is guidance only. Members should consult the Council's Code of Conduct for further details. Note: Only Members can decide if they have an interest therefore they must make their own decision. If in doubt as to the nature of an interest it is advisable to seek advice **prior** to attending at a meeting.

Declaration of interests for Members

Where Members have a personal interest in any business of the authority as described in paragraph 4 of the Council's Code of Conduct (contained in part 5 of the Council's Constitution) then s/he must disclose this personal interest as in accordance with paragraph 5 of the Code. Members must disclose the existence and nature of the interest at the start of the meeting and certainly no later than the commencement of the item or where the interest becomes apparent.

You have a **personal interest** in any business of your authority where it relates to or is likely to affect:

- (a) An interest that you must **register**
- (b) An interest that is not on the register, but where the well-being or financial position of you, members of your family, or people with whom you have a close association, is likely to be affected by the business of your authority more than it would affect the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision.

Where a personal interest is declared a Member may stay and take part in the debate and decision on that item.

What constitutes a prejudicial interest? - Please refer to paragraph 6 of the adopted Code of Conduct.

Your personal interest will also be a prejudicial interest in a matter if (a), (b) and either (c) or (d) below apply:-

- (a) A member of the public, who knows the relevant facts, would reasonably think that your personal interests are so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgment of the public interests; AND
- (b) The matter does not fall within one of the exempt categories of decision listed in paragraph 6.2 of the Code; AND EITHER
- (c) The matter affects your financial position or the financial interest of a body with which you are associated; or
- (d) The matter relates to the determination of a licensing or regulatory application

The key points to remember if you have a prejudicial interest in a matter being discussed at a meeting:-

- i. You must declare that you have a prejudicial interest, and the nature of that interest, as soon as that interest becomes apparent to you; and
- ii. You must leave the room for the duration of consideration and decision on the item and not seek to influence the debate or decision unless (iv) below applies; and

- iii. You must not seek to improperly influence a decision in which you have a prejudicial interest.
- iv. If Members of the public are allowed to speak or make representations at the meeting, give evidence or answer questions about the matter, by statutory right or otherwise (e.g. planning or licensing committees), you can declare your prejudicial interest but make representations. However, you must immediately leave the room once you have finished your representations and answered questions (if any). You cannot remain in the meeting or in the public gallery during the debate or decision on the matter.

There are particular rules relating to a prejudicial interest arising in relation to Overview and Scrutiny Committees

- You will have a prejudicial interest in any business before an Overview & Scrutiny Committee or sub committee meeting where both of the following requirements are met:-
 - (i) That business relates to a decision made (whether implemented or not) or action taken by the Council's Executive (Cabinet) or another of the Council's committees, sub committees, joint committees or joint sub committees
 - (ii) You were a Member of that decision making body at the time and you were present at the time the decision was made or action taken.
- If the Overview & Scrutiny Committee is conducting a review of the decision which you were involved in making or if there is a 'call-in' you may be invited by the Committee to attend that meeting to answer questions on the matter in which case you must attend the meeting to answer questions and then leave the room before the debate or decision.
- If you are not called to attend you should not attend the meeting in relation to the matter in which you participated in the decision unless the authority's constitution allows members of the public to attend the Overview & Scrutiny for the same purpose. If you do attend then you must declare a prejudicial interest even if you are not called to speak on the matter and you must leave the debate before the decision.

DECISIONS OF MAYOR IN CABINET 8TH FEBRUARY 2012 IN RESPECT OF BUDGET FRAMEWORK ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Agenda Item 11.1

General Fund Capital and Revenue Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan 2012-15 (CAB 071/112)

Decision

Decisions 1 to 12 below agreed subject to revision to reflect alternative options proposed and subsequently agreed as set out at (a) to (f) below:-

Budget Consultation

1. That the comments/ recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee [on the Executive's initial Budget proposals, considered at by the Mayor in Cabinet on 11 January 2012], be noted;

Formula Grant Funding

2. That the funding available for 2012-13 and the indications and forecasts for future years, as set out in Section 7.5 of the report (CAB 071/112), be noted;

Directorate Base Budgets 2012-13

3. That the base budgets for 2012-13 for each Directorate, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report (CAB 071/112), be agreed.

Approved Budget 2012-13

4. That the growth contingency and savings for 2012-13, as set out in Sections 8 and 9 and Appendices 3, 4.1, 4.2 and 5 of the report (CAB 071/112) be agreed; and that the implications for later financial years be noted;

Medium Term Financial Plan 2012-13 to 2014-15

5. That the Medium Term Financial Plan set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report (CAB 071/112), the savings target arising in relation to future years and the actions being undertaken to address it, be noted;

Capital Programme 2012-13 to 2014-15

6. That the capital programme for 2012-13 to 2014-15, as set out in Section 13 and detailed in Appendices 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 to the report (CAB 071/112), be agreed;

Dedicated Schools Grant 2012-13

7. That the proposals with regard to the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2012-13, as set out in Section 11 and Appendix 7 to the report (CAB 071/112), be agreed; and that it be noted that final budgets for schools will be driven by actual, rather than estimated pupil numbers in January 2012.

Housing Revenue Account

8. That the position with regard to the Housing Revenue Account, as set out in Section 12 and Appendices 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3, to the report (CAB 071/112), be noted;

Financial Risks: Reserves and Contingencies

9. That the advice of the Corporate Director of Resources on strategic budget risks, as set out in Section 10 and Appendices 6.1 and 6.2 to the report (CAB 071/112), be noted;

Robustness of Budget Process

10. That the advice of the Corporate Director of Resources in relation to the robustness of the budget process, as set out in Section 10, paragraph 10.6 of the report (CAB 071/112), be noted;

Balances/Reserves

11. That the review of reserves and advice on the strategy for general reserves, as set out in Sections 7 and 10 and further detailed in Appendices 6.1 and 6.3 of the report (CAB 071/112), be noted; and

General Fund Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2012-13

12. That a General Fund Revenue Budget of £292.265m and a Council Tax (Band D) of £885.52 for 2012-13 be agreed and recommended to Budget Council for consideration and approval.

Alternative Options

- (a) Agreed with regard to Savings Proposal RES 4 (2012) “Rationalisation of One Stop Shops” [Appendix 5 New Savings Options (detailed proformas) to the report (CAB 071/112)] that the specific reference to the closure of the One Stop Shop at Rushmead be removed and instead a review into other options for achieving this saving be undertaken.
- (b) Agreed with regard to Savings Proposal AHWB 6 (2012) “Housing Link Phase 2” [Appendix 5 New Savings Options (detailed proformas) to the report (CAB 071/112)], that the Corporate Director Adults Health and Wellbeing, after consultation with the Corporate Director Resources, produce an alternative proposal which will keep a transitional Housing Link Service with two members of staff.
- (c) Agreed that £1.485 million be allocated to fund 17 police officers for the following three years; and that:-
 - (i) These police officers will be tasked with tackling drug dealing, organised crime and anti-social behaviour.
 - (ii) These police officers will be subject to joint tasking by the Borough Commander and the Council’s Community Safety team.
- (d) Agreed that:
 - (i) £210,000 be allocated to fund two dedicated borough-based victim support officers for the next three years; and that these officers be located in Tower Hamlets and recruited in partnership with the LBTH Community Safety Team.
 - (ii) £10,000 be allocated to commission a feasibility study to explore how after-school patrols may be re-introduced through reconfiguring the existing partnership Police, THEO’s and the Truancy Team to deliver this service.
 - (iii) £30,000 be allocated to support the development of an Energy Co-operative and exploration of innovative fuel purchasing models, identifying a community energy partner, in order to facilitate and accelerate work to help Council tenants and residents in fuel poverty in the Borough.
 - (iv) In the context of disruption to local businesses during London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games, that £10,000 be allocated to assist businesses affected by the Olympic Route network and other disruption to trade by signposting the business rates relief that is available from HMRC to individual businesses. The work to include holding workshops to assist local business to access the business rate relief.

- (v) £30,000 be allocated to promote local businesses in Tower Hamlets during the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games by providing 6 double-page spreads in East End Life over the games period to promote local businesses and voluntary organisations that would not otherwise advertise in East End Life.
 - (vi) A musical instrument recycling scheme, be funded from existing resources, to encourage donations of unwanted instruments, and to refurbish and distribute them to provide wider access to musical instruments for the Borough's children.
 - (vii) £10,000 be allocated to support the development and planting of a new avenue of trees to commemorate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games.
- (e) That £250,000 of unallocated resources earmarked for the support of apprenticeships, leadership training and new graduate employment initiatives in 2011/12 be used to support the delivery of 3rd sector English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes in the community.
- (f) That the funding for the alternative options (a) to (e) above be from the resources identified by the Corporate Director Resources at the Cabinet meeting, as relating to: -
- A saving to the Authority's staffing budgets of £350,000 resulting from industrial action on 30 November 2011.
 - £1.3 million of Area Based Grant carry forward currently unallocated.
 - £100,000 of partnership monies earmarked to fund redundancies no longer required for this purpose.
 - £280,000 of monies earmarked to employment initiatives in last year's budget yet to be allocated.

DECISIONS OF MAYOR IN CABINET 8TH FEBRUARY 2012 IN RESPECT OF BUDGET FRAMEWORK ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Agenda Item 11.2

Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2012-13 (CAB 072/112)

Decision

1. That Full Council be recommended to adopt: -
 - (a) The Treasury Management Strategy Statement set out in Sections 6 to 9 of the report (CAB 072/112);
 - (b) The Annual Investment Strategy set out in Section 10 of the report (CAB 072/112);
 - (c) The Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement set out in Section 11 of the report (CAB 072/112) which officers involved in treasury management must then follow; and

2. That the Corporate Director Resources be authorised, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources, to vary the figures in the report (CAB 072/112) to reflect any decisions made in relation to the Capital Programme prior to submission to Budget Council.

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