

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

RECORD OF THE DECISIONS OF THE CABINET

HELD AT 5.32 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2013

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

Members Present:

Mayor Lutfur Rahman	(Mayor)
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	(Deputy Mayor)
Councillor Rofique U Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Regeneration)
Councillor Shahed Ali	(Cabinet Member for Environment)
Councillor Abdul Asad	(Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing)
Councillor Alibor Choudhury	(Cabinet Member for Resources)
Councillor Shafiqul Haque	(Cabinet Member for Jobs and Skills)
Councillor Rabina Khan	(Cabinet Member for Housing)
Councillor Rania Khan	(Cabinet Member for Culture)

Other Councillors Present:

Councillor Kabir Ahmed	(Executive Advisor to the Mayor and Cabinet)
Councillor Marc Francis	
Councillor Peter Golds	(Leader of the Conservative Group)
Councillor Ann Jackson	
Councillor Aminur Khan	
Councillor Md. Maium Miah	(Advisor to the Mayor and Cabinet on Third Sector and Community Engagement)
Councillor Gulam Robbani	(Executive advisor to the Cabinet and Mayor on adult social care)
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	(Chair, Overview & Scrutiny Committee)

Officers Present:

Stephen Halsey	(Head of Paid Service and Corporate Director Communities, Localities & Culture)
Anne Canning	(Interim Corporate Director, Education Social Care and Wellbeing)
Aman Dalvi	(Corporate Director, Development & Renewal)
Chris Holme	(Acting Corporate Director - Resources)
Andy Bamber	(Service Head Safer Communities, Crime Reduction Services, Communities, Localities and Culture)
Dr Somen Banerjee	(Interim Director of Public Health)
Sarah Barr	(Senior Strategy Policy and Performance Officer, Corporate Strategy and Equality Service, Chief Executive's)
Michael Bell	(Strategic Planning Manager, Development & Renewal)

Duncan Brown	(Planning Officer, Development and Renewal)
Emily Fieran-Reed	(Head of Community Safety Partnership, Domestic Violence & Hate Crime, Community Safety, Communities Localities and Culture)
Ben Gadsby	(Political Adviser to the Conservative Group)
David Galpin	(Head of Legal Services (Community), Legal Services, Chief Executive's)
Numan Hussain	(Political Advisor to the Mayor, Executive Mayor's Office, Chief Executive's)
Kevin Kewin	(Service Manager, Strategy & Performance, Chief Executive's)
Ellie Kuper-Thomas	(Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer - Executive Mayor's Office, One Tower Hamlets, Chief Executive's)
Murziline Parchment	(Head of Executive Mayor's Office, Democratic Services, Chief Executive's)
Takki Sulaiman	(Service Head Communications, Chief Executive's)
Alison Thomas	(Acting Joint Service Head, Strategy Innovation and Sustainability, Development & Renewal)
David Tolley	(Head of Consumer and Business Regulations Service, Safer Communities, Communities Localities & Culture)
John Williams	(Service Head, Democratic Services, Chief Executive's)
Matthew Mannion	(Committee Services Manager, Democratic Services, Chief Executive's)

The following is a record of those decisions taken by the Cabinet at their meeting held on Wednesday 11 September 2013.

Most decisions may be 'called in' for scrutiny by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on **Tuesday 1 October 2013** on receipt of a written request.

The **deadline** for the receipt of any such written request is **5.00pm on Friday 20 September 2013**. Such requests should be made to John Williams, Service Head Democratic Services-Tel 020 7364 4204.

The request to "call in" a decision must comply with the requirements set out in the Council's Constitution (Part 4 – Rules of Procedure, Section 4.5 – Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, Rules 16.2 and 16.3). This sets out the time-scale for "call in", those persons who may "call in" and those details the request must contain.

The Council's Constitution (Part 4 – Rules of Procedure, Section 4.5 – Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, Rule 16.4) **sets out those decisions that may not be "called in"** for further consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Report authors will be advised by Democratic Services if any decision in respect of an item they have placed on the agenda has been "called in".

Any decision not "called in" for scrutiny can be implemented on Monday 23 September 2013.

Any decision 'called in' for scrutiny but supported by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting on Tuesday 1 October 2013, can be implemented the following day, Wednesday 2 October 2013.

Any decision 'called in' for scrutiny but not supported by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting on Tuesday 1 October 2013, will be referred back to the Mayor in Cabinet for further consideration on Wednesday 9 October 2013.

MR L. RAHMAN (MAYOR) IN THE CHAIR

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Councillor Oliur Rahman (Cabinet Member for Children's Services)

Apologies for lateness were received on behalf of:

- Councillor Rania Khan (Cabinet Member for Culture)

Action by:

SERVICE HEAD, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES (J. WILLIAMS)
(Committee Services Manager (M. Mannion))

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None were declared.

3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

The unrestricted minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 31 July 2013 were presented for information.

4. PETITIONS

Petition tabled by Mr Terry McGrenera on behalf of a number of Housing Association tenants within Tower Hamlets Borough.

DECISION

1. That the petition tabled by Mr Terry McGreenera in respect of Agenda Item 10.1 (Co-regulation and Accountability of Registered Providers) be received and noted.
2. That the points raised be given consideration during the Cabinet deliberation of the item of business to which the petition related; and
3. That any outstanding issues raised by the petition be referred to the appropriate Corporate Director for attention and response in writing within 28 days, in accordance with the Authority's Constitution (Part 4, Rules of Procedure, Section 4.1 Council Procedure Rules, Paragraph 19).

Action by:**CORPORATE DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL (A. DALVI)****5. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****5.1 Chair's Advice of Key Issues or Questions in Relation to Unrestricted Business to be Considered**

Nil items.

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

Nil items.

6. A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE**6.1 Draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

1. To approve the draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan SPD (contained in Appendix 1) for statutory public consultation.
2. To authorise the Corporate Director of Development and Renewal, after consultation with the Lead Member for Housing , Development and Renewal, to make any necessary and appropriate minor amendments to the draft Whitechapel Vision Masterplan SPD, prior to the statutory public consultation.

Action by:**CORPORATE DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL (A. DALVI)**

(Head of Planning and Building Control (O. Whalley)
(Strategic Planning Manager (M. Bell)

Reasons for the decision

The adoption of an SPD for Whitechapel will ensure that the expected future regeneration and growth of the area can be appropriately managed and coordinated until 2025, the Local Plan period. This coordinated approach should maximise the benefits of growth for the community by delivering new affordable housing, local enterprise and employment opportunities, public realm enhancements, and community infrastructure through various mechanisms, including Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding arising from new developments.

The Whitechapel area is already extremely active in terms of development aspirations with a number of significant proposals coming forward. The SPD will set out an ambitious vision to promote the area to inward private sector investment but in doing so will ensure that the Council takes a leading role, identifying key community priorities and providing concise planning principles for the area. The SPD will provide a robust planning framework to assist the Council's current and future negotiations with landowners, developers, RPs and other key stakeholders.

Alternative options

The Council's Local Plan, comprising the Core Strategy (2010) and Managing Development Document (2013), provides a vision and strategic development principles for the borough as a whole and individual places including Whitechapel. The Local Plan could be used to guide and support development in the Whitechapel area on its own.

Relying on the Local Plan is not considered to be sufficient in that it does not provide the necessary level of detail needed to plan for and coordinate the scale of development expected in Whitechapel. The additional guidance provided by the SPD ensures that there is a more detailed local planning framework to manage and guide development sites coming forward and to deliver necessary infrastructure, public realm improvements and community benefits.

7. A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY

7.1 Planning for School Places - 2013/14 Review

1. To note the contents of this report.
2. To note the continuing rising need for school places and confirm the priority for school places to be provided to contribute towards sustainable communities.

3. To note the site allocations achieved for primary and secondary schools (paragraph 6.9) and confirm support for the implementation of these allocations, subject to detailed proposals for each site.
4. To support the proposed expansions of Stebon and Olga Primary Schools (paragraphs 6.14, 6.15) and note that these proposals are subject to publication of statutory proposals and recommendations included in a separate report on this agenda (Education, Social Care & Wellbeing Capital Programme).
5. To support the proposed expansion and change of age range of St Paul's Way Trust School (paragraph 6.17), subject to publication of statutory proposals, and recommendations included in a separate report on this agenda (Education, Social Care & Wellbeing Capital Programme).

Action by:**INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR EDUCATION, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING (A. CANNING)**

(Head of Building Development (P. Watson))

Reasons for the decision

The Council has a statutory duty to provide and plan for school places. The report sets out the 2013 projections of need and details the actions proposed in the medium and longer term to meet need.

Planning for school places has to be kept under review to ensure that there are proposals to meet the projections of need. The rising trend of need continues although there may be minor variations in figures year to year.

The LA has proposals in place to meet the need and these can require long term planning to implement. Decisions sought in this report are to ensure that the programme of providing additional places can continue and have certainty to meet the identified need. Where decisions are not made in time, there may be a need for additional short term measures to ensure children can be offered a school place. These measures, such as bulge classes, can be difficult to implement and are not a sustainable approach to providing places. Such measures can operate for primary places but will not be suitable for secondary places.

Alternative options

The Council has to comply with its duty to provide school places. Some of the need for places is being met by the establishment of new free schools which are decided by the Secretary of State for Education. However, the majority of proposals for new places will be initiated by the Council. This report sets out options towards meeting the need for places.

Where the Council has not made sufficient plans to ensure permanent places are available when needed, short term proposals may be needed which may be less cost-effective by reliance on temporary buildings.

7.2 Education, Social Care and Wellbeing Capital Programme 2013/14

1. To note the contents of this report and specifically the out-turn for the 2012/13 CSF and Adult Services' Capital Programmes (detailed in Appendix A) and proposed allocation of the funding available in 2013/14 and 2014/15 (as detailed in Appendix B);
2. To approve the adoption of capital estimates for 2013/14 capital condition and improvement programme schemes as shown in Appendix C and authorise expenditure (paragraph 6.6);
3. To note the remaining projects within the Primary Capital Programme (PCP) schemes as shown in Appendix D (paragraph 6.9);
4. To note the Primary School Expansion Programme as detailed in Appendix E (paragraph 6.11) ;
5. To approve the revised capital estimates of £4.90m for the works at Arnhem Wharf Primary School to be funded from the uncommitted funds within the ESCW capital programme (paragraph 6.13);
6. To approve the revised capital estimates of £5.3m for the works at Bonner (Mile End) Primary School to be funded from the uncommitted funds within the ESCW capital programme (paragraph 6.15);
7. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £5.5m for the proposed expansion of Stebon Primary School (paragraph 6.16);
8. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £5.5m for the proposed 2FE primary provision by the expansion of St Paul's Way Trust School (paragraph 6.18);
9. To authorise the Corporate Director, Education, Social Care & Wellbeing, the Director of Development & Renewal and the Head of Legal Services to negotiate and agree the necessary development agreement and leases with Poplar Harca & St Paul's Way Trust School to facilitate the school expansion (paragraph 6.21);
10. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £10.7m for the proposed expansion of Olga Primary School (paragraph 6.23);
11. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £500,000 to cover the costs of developing proposals to be considered for inclusion in the capital programme and authorise expenditure (paragraph 6.27);

12. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £370,000 for the costs of providing additional short term accommodation if required for additional pupils until major works have been carried out to provide permanent additional school places and authorise expenditure (paragraph 6.28);
13. To note the grant funding from the Department for Education of £1.2m as part of the Council's duty to provide free early education from 1 September 2013, and that suitable projects will be formally approved using delegated authority (paragraph 6.30);
14. To note that the Short Breaks grant funding for 2013/14 is not announced until August 2013, and that and that suitable projects will be formally approved using delegate authority (paragraph 6.34);
15. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £370,000 for the proposed works to 35 Ronald Street to be funded from the Adults' Personal Social Services Capital Grant (paragraph 6.38);
16. That the Director of Education, Social Care and Wellbeing (ESCW), in respect of all proposed tenders referred in this report, is authorised to agree tenders for projects within the approved programmes and capital estimate;
17. That any scheme exceeding the approved budget, the Director of ESCW is authorised to prepare and carry out a Bill of Reductions where relevant to ensure expenditure is contained within the agreed costs.

Action by:

INTEIRM CORPORATE DIRECTOR EDUCATION, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING (A. CANNING)

(Head of Building Development (P. Watson))

Reasons for the decision

The Local Authority (LA) has a responsibility to maintain its properties to ensure that they are safe and secure for staff and users. In the case of schools, the LA also has a statutory responsibility to provide sufficient places for children and young people of school age. Cabinet is asked to note the programme and approve the adoption of the capital estimates so that the required works can proceed.

Alternative options

When identifying which works to include within the capital programme alternative options are always considered. This is to ensure that the projects both meet value for money and address the needs identified. Expansion projects are recommended following options appraisals and to select the options which best meet the location needs of the rising school age population.

7.3 Proposed Expansion of Stebon School

1. To note the contents of this report.
2. To agree that statutory proposals should be published for the enlargement of Stebon Primary School to admit 90 pupils in each year from September 2014.

Action by:

INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR EDUCATION, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING (A. CANNING)

(Head of Building Development (P. Watson))

Reasons for the decision

Proposals have been developed to expand Stebon Primary School to assist in the LA's programme to provide primary school places to meet growing local need. Initial consultation on the proposals has been held. Cabinet is asked to consider the proposed expansion, the response to the initial consultation and the recommendation that statutory proposals for the expansion should be published. The publication of statutory proposals is required in order to implement this change to the school.

Alternative options

In order to meet the rising need for school places, the Council has implemented a number of school expansion projects and continues to develop further schemes to meet need. Longer term development plans for the borough include proposals for new primary schools. However, further expansion proposals are needed to keep pace with the need, so taking no action would leave the Council at risk of being unable to discharge its statutory functions. The options for expansion have been considered having regard to the factors set out in paragraphs 6.9 to 6.11 of the report.

8. A SAFE AND COHESIVE COMMUNITY

8.1 Licensing Policy Review

1. To agree the forward programme for the adoption of the Statement of Licensing Policy.
2. To recommend that Full Council approve the Licensing Policy.
3. To note that it is intended that the Statement of licensing Policy will take effect from 1st November 2013 until 31st October 2018. The

existing Statement of Licensing Policy will be revoked on the 31st October 2013.

4. To recommend that Full Council approve the 'no casino' resolution.

Action by:

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES, LOCALITIES AND CULTURE
(S. HALSEY)**

(Head of Consumer and Business Regulations (D. Tolley)

Reasons for the decision

The Council is statutorily required to review its Statement of Licensing Policy every three years. As part of the review a statutory consultation must take place.

Alternative options

Cabinet does have the option not to review its Statement of Licensing Policy but the Council will be open to legal challenge for not having a properly consulted and adopted Policy.

8.2 Sexual Entertainment Venue Policy

1. To adopt the proposed policy for Sexual Entertainment Venues which:
 - a. establishes a nil limit on licenses for new premises;
 - b. allows existing licensed sexual entertainment venues to continue to operate subject to regulatory controls and license fees.
2. To agree that the policy for Sex Establishments should take effect on the same day that Schedule 3 takes effect in Tower Hamlets.
3. To note that the Licensing Committee will be asked to resolve that Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 as amended by section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009 be applied in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets area to enable the proposed Sexual Entertainment Venues Policy to be brought into effect:
4. To note that the Licensing Committee will be asked to make regulations prescribing standard conditions as set out in Appendix 2.
5. To note that the Licensing Committee will be asked to resolve that fees as set out in Appendix 3 should apply to applications for Sexual Entertainment Venues.

Action by:

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES, LOCALITIES AND CULTURE
(S. HALSEY)**

(Head of Consumer and Business Regulations Service (D Tolley))

Reasons for the decision

The legislation that allows greater control of Sex Establishments is discretionary. Therefore if the Council wishes to avail itself of these powers the relevant legislation has to be adopted.

Cabinet (3rd August 2011) indicated that it wished to apply Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 as amended by section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009 to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets area. In order to progress to adoption the authority is required to undertake consultation specific to the adoption of these powers. This consultation has now been completed and analysed. The Licensing Committee has the appropriate delegation to resolve that Schedule 3 should apply to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Local Authorities adopting Sex Establishments legislation are not required to have in place a policy. It is accepted good practice however that the Authority should develop a Policy that defines how the legislation will be administered and applied. Policy development should be carried out with appropriate consultation. This consultation has been completed and analysed. The policy, as recommended, provides a pragmatic solution to the achievement of Executive aspirations for a strong policy line against the exploitation of women. It reflects the consultation findings, equalities considerations, research review and previous Overview & Scrutiny findings. The law does not allow moral or religious considerations to drive council policy in this area.

Alternative options

The principal options considered are set out in the body of the report.

Adoption of the legislation is not compulsory and so the Council could choose not to pursue adoption. However the council would not be able to make decisions based upon the broader considerations allowed for in the 2009 Act including the appropriateness of the establishment within a locality and overall numbers of establishments across the borough.

The proposed policy is recommended over other policy options for reasons set out in the report. It would be possible not to have a policy at all, in which case each license application would be considered on a case by case basis resulting in a higher risk of inconsistency in approach which could in turn increase the potential for legal challenge or reputational damage where discrepancies occur.

8.3 Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16

1. To consider and comment on the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 (Appendix A) and the priorities set out within it.
2. To recommend that Full Council approve the Community Safety Partnership Plan.

Action by:**CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES, LOCALITIES AND CULTURE
(S. HALSEY)**

(Community Safety Partnership Officer (C Hewitt))

Reasons for the decision

Full Council must adopt a Community Safety plan in order to meet statutory requirements set by the Crime and Disorder Act (1998). The priorities and governance structure outlined in the Plan are based on the statutory strategic assessment exercise that was carried out by statutory partners to consider data on safety in the Borough. They have been agreed by the Community Safety Partnership to be the best model to deliver a safer and more cohesive community in Tower Hamlets. The Cabinet are asked to consider the Plan and satisfy itself that it can proceed to Full Council.

Alternative options

It is a statutory responsibility for Community Safety Partnerships to produce a Community Safety Plan. There are therefore no alternative options to doing so without risking government censure, damaging key partner relationships and undermining community safety. It is the role of Full Council to ratify that partnership plan.

9. A HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY**9.1 Public Health Procurement Plan 2014-15**

1. To consider the contract summary at Appendix A, and
 - a. Confirm that contracts set out in Appendix A can proceed to contract award after tender subject to the relevant Corporate Director who holds the budget for the service area consulting with the Mayor and the relevant lead member prior to contract award, and
 - b. Identify any contracts about which specific reports – relating to contract award – should be brought before Cabinet prior to contract award by the appropriate Corporate Director for the service area, and

- c. Authorise the Head of Legal Services to execute all necessary contract documents in respect of the awards of contracts referred to at recommendation 1b) above and
2. In addition to the above, and in order to allow for a comprehensive review of the School Health Service to take place, to approve a six month continuation of the current contract for the Child Health and Nutrition Services either by extension of the contract or an interim six month contract, in either case to end on 31st September 2014.

Action by:**INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR EDUCATION, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING (A. CANNING)**

(Interim Director of Public Health (Dr S. Banerjee))

Reasons for the decision

Public health contracts, which were transferred from the NHS Primary Care Trust through the Public Health transition process, end on 31st March 2014. The contracts require reprocurement, generally through a competitive tender process.

For community pharmacy public health services there is no competitive marketplace as it is considered essential that these services are provided through local pharmacies situated in Tower Hamlets and it is considered important that as many of the pharmacies as possible participate in delivery of these services to create maximum benefit for the health and wellbeing of the residents of the borough.

For one service area – Child Health and Nutrition Services – a comprehensive review of the School Health Services element is recommended, and for this to be carried out thoroughly and with appropriate levels of stakeholder consultation – a six month extension of the existing contract which is held by Bart's Health NHS Trust or an interim contract with Bart's Health to continue the service to 30 September 2014 would be required.

Alternative options

The Mayor in Cabinet could require officers to consider alternative approaches to, or timescales for, the procurement plans set out in this report. This option is not recommended as it would lead to delays in the award of new contracts that may lead to discontinuity of service delivery.

The Mayor in Cabinet could instruct that specific contracts not be reprocured. However, this would be likely to lead to a deterioration of health of the population particularly amongst the most vulnerable groups and those most at highest risk of poor health. It would also be in breach of the Council's duties under the Health and Social Care Act 2012. For this reason this alternative option is not recommended.

10. ONE TOWER HAMLETS

10.1 Co-regulation and Accountability of Registered Providers

1. To note the report.

Action by:

CORPORATE DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL (A. DALVI)

(Service Head, Strategy & Equality (L. Russell)

(Corporate Strategy and Performance Officer (S. Ahmed)

Reasons for the decision

Housing co-regulation was chosen as a priority issue for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 2012-13 given the significant regulatory changes in this area and the high proportion of social housing in the borough. Housing is a priority for the Mayor and it was felt strongly that a scrutiny review could make a valuable contribution to the work on this agenda.

Alternative options

To take no action. This is not recommended as the proposed recommendations are strategic, measurable and attainable. A timetable for delivering the recommendations has also been agreed by officers at the most senior levels of the organisation. The action plan is outlined in appendix 2.

To agree some, but not all recommendations.

10.2 Mental Health and Housing: Response to the Scrutiny Challenge Session

1. To note the report.

Action by:

CORPORATE DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL (A. DALVI)

(Corporate Strategy and Equalities Officer (P. Gresty)

Reasons for the decision

Disability (including mental health) is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty. As a public facing organisation, the council has a legal obligation to show 'due regard' in all its functions, including housing and lettings policies and processes.

Many people with mental health conditions live in mainstream social housing but housing providers are sometimes not confident about how to best support such tenants. This can lead to people being allocated unsuitable accommodation. Furthermore, the lack of appropriate housing can impede a person's access to treatment, recovery and social inclusion as access to mental health services and employment is more difficult for people who do not have settled accommodation.

This had been identified as an issue by a number of members through their casework. They wanted to explore whether the current lettings process discriminates against people with mental health problems and to highlight and address what aspects of the lettings process, if any, have a disproportionate impact on people with mental health issues.

Alternative options

No action required. The proposed recommendations are strategic, measurable and attainable, and clearly address the council's need to better communicate its decision making with residents and Members. The action plan is outlined in appendix 1.

10.3 Removing Barriers to Youth Employment: Response to the Scrutiny Review

1. To note the report.

Action by:

CORPORATE DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL (A. DALVI)
(Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer (V. Allen))

Reasons for the decision

In recent years, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has undertaken two reviews of youth unemployment: one on graduate unemployment in 2006/07 and another on reducing worklessness amongst young adults aged 18-24 in 2009/10. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee were keen to take a fresh look at this issue to explore what the council and its partners can do to reduce youth unemployment in the borough. The Committee felt that it was appropriate to revisit this issue as, since the last reviews, the continuing global recession has depressed employment further especially for young people.

Improving employment opportunities for residents in general, and for young people in particular, has been a local priority for a number of years. There are a wide range of organisations within the borough which support young people in their post-16 options, including statutory and publically funded organisations. By working with businesses and providing employment training

and job brokerage services, the council aims to secure economic benefits for local residents.

The council's contribution to the total borough spend on information, advice and guidance, capacity building and employment preparation work is approximately 5%. Given its limited financial resources, the council's role as an influencer and an enabler is crucial in helping young people to effectively access both pre-job support and job opportunities.

Alternative options

To take no action. This is not recommended as the proposed recommendations are strategic, measurable and attainable, and clearly address the council's need to better communicate its decision making with residents and Members. A timetable for delivering the recommendations has also been agreed by officers at the most senior levels of the organisation. The action plan is outlined in appendix 1.

To agree some, but not all recommendations. As outlined above all of the recommendations are achievable at little additional cost to the organisation. Although the scrutiny review group is confident all the recommendations will be addressed, there may be reasons for not accepting all of them.

10.4 Strategic Performance, 13/14 General Fund Revenue Budget and Capital Programme Monitoring Q1

1. To review and note the Quarter 1 2013/14 performance; and
2. To note the Council's financial position as detailed in section 3 and Appendices 1-4 of this report.

Action by:

CORPORATE DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL (A. DALVI)

(Acting Corporate Director Resources (C. Holme)

(Service Head Corporate Strategy and Equality (L. Russell))

Reasons for the decision

The report provides performance information, including by reference to key performance indicators and the budget. It is consistent with good administration for the Council to consider monitoring information in relation to plans and budgets that it has adopted.

Section 3 of the Local Government Act 1999 requires the Council as a best value authority to "make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness". Monitoring of performance information is an important way in which that obligation can be fulfilled.

The Council is required by section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs. The Council's chief finance officer has established financial procedures to ensure the Council's proper financial administration. These include procedures for budgetary control. It is consistent with these arrangements for Members to receive information about the revenue and capital budgets as set out in the report.

When considering its performance, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who don't. Relevant information is set out in section 11 of the report.

Alternative options

This is a noting report and so alternative options were not considered.

11. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

Nil items.

12. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

12.1 Exercise of Corporate Directors' Discretions

1. To note the exercise of Corporate Directors' discretions as set out in Appendix 1.

Action by:

ACTING CORPORATE DIRECTOR RESOURCES (C. HOLME)

(Chief Financial Strategy Officer (O. Shonola)

(Finance Officer (L. Stone)

13. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

No motion to exclude the press and public was passed.

14. EXEMPT / CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

Nil items.

15. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

15.1 Chair's advice of Key Issues or Questions in Relation to Exempt / Confidential Business to be Considered.

Nil items.

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

Nil items.

16. A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

Nil items.

17. A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY

Nil items.

18. A SAFE AND COHESIVE COMMUNITY

Nil items.

19. A HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

Nil items.

20. ONE TOWER HAMLETS

Nil items.

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

Nil items.

22. EXEMPT / CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Nil items.

The meeting ended at 6.48 p.m.

John Williams
SERVICE HEAD, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES