

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

RECORD OF THE DECISIONS OF THE CABINET

HELD AT 5.41 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER 2014

C1, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE CRESCENT,
LONDON, E14 2BG**Members Present:**

Mayor Lutfur Rahman	
Councillor Oliur Rahman	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Economic Development (Jobs, Skills and Enterprise))
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Community Safety)
Councillor Shahed Ali	(Cabinet Member for Clean and Green)
Councillor Abdul Asad	(Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Services)
Councillor Alibor Choudhury	(Cabinet Member for Resources)
Councillor Shafiqul Haque	(Cabinet Member for Culture)
Councillor Rabina Khan	(Cabinet Member for Housing and Development)
Councillor Aminur Khan	(Cabinet Member for Policy, Strategy and Performance)
Councillor Gulam Robbani	(Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services)

Other Councillors Present:

Councillor Shah Alam	
Councillor Peter Golds	(Leader of the Conservative Group)
Councillor Danny Hassell	
Councillor Md. Maium Miah	

Officers Present:

Andy Bamber	(Service Head Safer Communities, Crime Reduction Services, Communities, Localities and Culture)
Robin Beattie	(Service Head, Strategy & Resources, Communities Localities & Culture)
Anne Canning	(Service Head Learning and Achievement, Education Social Care and Wellbeing)
Aman Dalvi	(Corporate Director, Development & Renewal)
David Galpin	(Service Head, Legal Services, Directorate Law Probity and Governance)
Stephen Halsey	(Head of Paid Service and Corporate Director Communities, Localities & Culture)
Chris Holme	(Acting Corporate Director - Resources)
Frances Jones	(Service Manager One Tower Hamlets, Corporate Strategy and Equality Service, LPG)
Ellie Kuper-Thomas	(Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer - Executive Mayor's Office, One Tower Hamlets, DLPG)
Poppy Noor	Project Manager - Mayor's Office

Murziline Parchment	(Head of Executive Mayor's Office, Democratic Services, LPG)
Rachael Sadegh	(Interim DAAT Co-ordinator, Community Safety Service, Communities Localities & Culture)
Takki Sulaiman	(Service Head Communications, Law, Probity and Governance)
David Tolley	(Head of Consumer and Business Regulations Service, Safer Communities, Communities Localities & Culture)
Matthew Mannion	(Committee Services Manager, Democratic Services, LPG)
David Knight	(Senior Democratic Services Officer)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Robert McCulloch-Graham (Corporate Director, Education, Social Care and Wellbeing)
- Meic Sullivan-Gould (Interim Monitoring Officer)

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None were declared.

3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

The unrestricted minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 9 July 2014 were noted.

Action by:

SERVICE HEAD, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES (J. S. WILLIAMS)

(Committee Services Manager, M. Mannion)

4. PETITIONS

Nil items.

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 - DAAT Commissioning

The Mayor and Cabinet considered the tabled report from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the Call-In of the Drug and Alcohol Action Team Commissioning report from Cabinet on 23 July 2014.

DECISION

1. That after consideration of the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the original decision taken at Cabinet on 23 July 2014 be reaffirmed.

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

(Service Head, Community Service (A. Bamber)
(DAAT Co-ordinator (R. Sadegh)

Reasons for the decision

See original report to Cabinet on 23 July 2014.

Alternative options

See original report to Cabinet on 23 July 2014.

6. A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

6.1 Consultation on Selective Licensing for the Private Rented Sector Housing

DECISION

1. To agree that consultation take place on the adoption of the powers for selective licensing within the following former wards: Blackwall and Cubitt Town, Millwall, Weavers, Whitechapel, Spitalfields and Banglatown, Bow East and Bow West. (pre May 22nd boundaries)
2. To agree that a Housing Consultancy should be engaged to assist with conducting the consultation.

Action by:

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

(Service Head, Community Service (A. Bamber)
(Head of Consumer and Business Regulations (D. Tolley)

Reasons for the decision

The Council can designate an area or the whole Borough for a selective licensing scheme providing it can demonstrate the following:

- a) The area is, or is likely to become an area of low demand for housing, and/or

- b) The area is experiencing a significant and persistent problem caused by anti-social behaviour (ASB) that is attributable to occupiers of privately rented properties and that some or all of the private sector landlords are failing to take action that it would be appropriate for them to do to combat the problem.

It is not felt that there are any areas in the Borough that are facing low housing demand, the selective licensing scheme is being considered due to persistent problems with ASB.

Alternative options

The Council could take no action, however, this power could be useful in addressing ASB. This proposal is to commence a consultation within the wards detailed in the report, a future decision will need to be made whether a landlord selective licensing scheme is to be introduced.

7. A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY

7.1 Planning for School Places - 2014/15 Review

DECISION

1. To note the contents of this report and agree that the programme outlined in the report to develop proposals to meet the need for additional capacity should continue (noting that any proposals sought to be progressed will require further approvals and decisions before implementation);
2. Note the progress in identifying other development sites which will become available and agree that work to develop the implementation of these proposals should continue (noting that any proposals sought to be progressed will require further approvals and decisions before implementation).

Action by:

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR, EDUCATION, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING
(R. McCULLOCH-GRAHAM)**

(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 2014 projections of need and proposals to meet the need.

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

The LA has proposals in place to meet the need and these can require long term planning to implement. Decisions are required in time so that the programme of providing places can continue and have certainty to meet the

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 be used for primary places but will not be suitable for secondary schools.

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 free schools which are decided by the Secretary of State. However, the majority of proposals for new places will be initiated by the Council. This report includes 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.

8. A SAFE AND COHESIVE COMMUNITY

Nil items.

9. A HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

9.1 Food Law Enforcement Service Plan 2014/115

DECISION

1. To approve the Tower Hamlets Food Law Enforcement Plan 2014/2015 and Food Sampling Policy attached at the Appendix of the report.

Action by:

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

(Service Head, Community Service (A. Bamber)

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

Reasons for the decision

Under the powers given to it by the Food Standards Act 1999 The Food Standards Agency (FSA) oversees and monitors how Local Authorities enforce food safety legislation. The FSA require all Local Authorities to produce and approve an annual plan that sets out how it is going to discharge its responsibilities.

Alternative options

If the Council take no action the FSA have the power to remove food safety responsibilities and engage another authority to deliver the service. The likely scenario would be for a neighbouring Local Authority to be seconded to provide this service. If this did happen the Council would still have to fund the service but would lose Member and management control of it.

9.2 Extension of Substance Misuse Strategy

DECISION

1. To endorse an extension of the current substance misuse strategy by one year to the end of March 2016.
2. To agree that the proposed extension may be presented to Full Council for agreement.

Action by:

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

(Service Head, Community Service (A. Bamber)

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

Reasons for the decision

The current Substance Misuse Strategy is due to end in March 2015.

A major reprocurement of drug / alcohol treatment services is currently underway and will facilitate significant change in treatment services across the borough. The new treatment system will not be in place until Q1 2015/16 and should feature in an updated strategy.

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Community Safety Plan both currently run until March 2016 and it would be beneficial to co-ordinate the development of a new Substance Misuse Strategy with the update of these strategies / plans.

Alternative options

An agreement to extend the strategy for a year with a refreshed action plan for 2015/16 to be agreed by DAAT Board.

A new strategy could be developed to start in April 2015 though this is unlikely to be developed and adopted by Council in time for an April start. Due to the significant changes planned for the treatment system over the next year, this strategy would quickly become out of date and would not be congruent with a new Health and Wellbeing Strategy or Community Safety Plan.

The current strategy could be allowed to lapse without a new strategy in place. This would put the Council at risk due to its obligation under section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to formulate and implement strategies in conjunction with other specified responsible authorities for combating the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances.

10. ONE TOWER HAMLETS

Nil items.

11. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

Nil items.

12. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

12.1 Exercise of Corporate Directors' Discretions

DECISION

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

Action by:

ACTING CORPORATE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES (C. HOLME)

13. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Nil items.

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 HEALTH AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

Nil items.

20. ONE TOWER HAMLETS

Nil items.

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

Nil items.

The meeting ended at 6.15 p.m.

John S Williams
SERVICE HEAD, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES