

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**MINUTES OF THE CABINET**

**HELD AT 5.31 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 4 MARCH 2015**

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

**Members Present:**

Councillor Oliur Rahman	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Economic Development (Jobs, Skills and Enterprise)
Councillor Shahed Ali	(Cabinet Member for Clean and Green)
Councillor Abdul Asad	(Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Services)
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 Joshua Peck

**Apologies:**

Councillor Ohid Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Community Safety)
Councillor Alibor Choudhury	(Cabinet Member for Resources)

**Officers Present:**

Andy Bamber	(Service Head Safer Communities, Crime Reduction Services, Communities, Localities and Culture)
Colin Cormack	(Service Head Housing Options, Development & Renewal)
Stephen Halsey	(Head of Paid Service and Corporate Director Communities, Localities & Culture)
Chris Holme	(Acting Corporate Director - Resources)
Robert McCulloch-Graham	(Corporate Director, Education Social Care and Wellbeing)
Niall McGowan	(Housing Regeneration Manager)
Poppy Noor	Project Manager - Mayor's Office
Jackie Odunoye	(Service Head, Strategy, Regeneration & Sustainability, Development and Renewal)
Dean RiddickMcGregor	(Political Adviser to the Labour Group)
Louise Russell	(Service Head Corporate Strategy and Equality, Law Probity & Governance)
Rachael Sadegh	(DAAT Manager, Community Safety Service, Communities Localities & Culture)

Robin Sager	(Regeneration Schemes Co-ordinator)
Meic Sullivan-Gould	(Interim Monitoring Officer, Legal Services, LPG)
Matthew Mannion	(Committee Services Manager, Democratic Services, LPG)

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of the Mayor, Councillor Ohid Ahmed (Cabinet Member for Community Safety), Councillor Alibor Choudhury (Cabinet Member for Resources), Robin Beattie (Service Head, Strategy and Resources) and Aman Dalvi (Corporate Director, Development and Renewal).

The Deputy Mayor stated that as the Mayor was unavoidably absent, he would be Chairing the meeting and determining the reports presented. This was in line with Paragraph 1(7) of Schedule A1 of the Local Government Act 2000 which provided that 'If for any reason the elected Mayor is unable to act..., the deputy mayor must act in the in the elected Mayor's place.'

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None were declared.

## 3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

The unrestricted minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 4 February 2015 were noted subject to the addition of Councillor Joshua Peck in the list of attendees.

## 4. PETITIONS

### **Threat of Closure of SEN Unit at Cambridge Heath**

Sarah Jennings presented the petition on behalf of the petitioners who were concerned about the impact on vulnerable young people by a proposal to close the Special Educational Needs (SEN) unit at Cambridge Heath. After a question and answer session with Members, Councillor Oliur Rahman, the Deputy Mayor responded to the points raised. He thanked the petitioners for raising their concerns and he stated that, whilst the ultimate decision rested with the schools, the Council were working hard to try and ensure that the unit was not closed.

### **RESOLVED**

1. That the petition be referred to the Corporate Director, Education, Social Care and Wellbeing, for a written response on any outstanding matters within 28 days.

## **5. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **5.1 Chair's Advice of Key Issues or Questions in Relation to Unrestricted Business to be Considered**

Councillor Joshua Peck, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC), provided an update on the Committee's meeting the previous evening. In particular he reported:

- The Committee's disappointment that the Mayor had been unable to attend the meeting as invited and that they had now invited him to the additional OSC meeting on 24 March and also the next regular meeting on 7 April.
- There had been a good discussion on a report on the cleaning and waste contracts that highlighted a disconnect between Member and officer views on the cleanliness of the Borough.
- There had also been a session looking at homelessness.
- The Committee had examined the Best Value plan. There were particular concerns about organisational culture and lack of trust and whether they would be sufficiently addressed, but it was noted the plan was a work in progress.

The **Deputy Mayor** thanked Councillor Joshua Peck for his update.

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

Nil items.

## **6. A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE**

### **6.1 The Allocations Scheme 2015 and Lettings Plan**

Councillor Rabina Khan, Cabinet Member for Housing and Development, introduced the report. She highlighted the changes since the last time the plan had been agreed. She also noted the discussions taking place at the Overview and Scrutiny in relation to homeless families.

The **Deputy Mayor agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

### **RESOLVED**

1. To agree to amend the Allocations Scheme to provide capacity to place homeless applicants on autobid in the circumstances set out in section 4.10 – 4.14 of the report.
2. To authorise the Corporate Director Development Renewal to set quotas for the proportion of lets to be made to homeless households.
3. To agree the revised priority target groups for the Lettings Plan set out in section 5.3 of this report.

## **6.2 Disposal of Land Interests acquired by Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) to and on behalf of Swan Housing (Hackworth Point & Mallard Point).**

Councillor Rabina Khan, Cabinet Member for Housing and Development, introduced the report. It was noted that the Compulsory Purchase Orders had taken place a number of years ago and that this decision was simply to transfer the titles back to Swan Housing.

The **Deputy Mayor agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

### **RESOLVED**

1. To confirm the transfer to Swan Housing at nil consideration, of the following land interests acquired under Compulsory Purchase Order, for the purpose of delivering the Crossways Regeneration Scheme (Single Regeneration Budget 6):
  - No. 10 Hackworth Point, Rainhill Way, E3 3ET;
  - No. 91 Hackworth Point , Rainhill Way, E3 3EX;
  - No's. 6,12,16,26,31 Mallard Point, Rainhill Way E3 3JE;
  - No's 53,56,59,68,91 Mallard Point Rainhill Way, E3 3JF
2. To note that any transfer of property to Swan will require the consent of the Commissioners appointed by the Secretary of State.

## **7. A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY**

### **7.1 Determining the School Admission Arrangements for 2016/17**

Robert McCulloch-Graham, Corporate Director, Education Social Care and Wellbeing introduced the report highlighting that this was an annual report to Cabinet setting out the school admission arrangements.

The **Deputy Mayor agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

### **RESOLVED**

1. To agree the arrangements and oversubscription criteria for admission to Community Nursery Schools/Classes in 2016/17, as set out in Appendix 1.
2. To agree the arrangements, oversubscription criteria and catchment areas for admission to Community Primary Schools in 2016/17, as set out in Appendices 2 and 3.
3. To agree the arrangements and oversubscription criteria for admission to Community Secondary Schools in 2016/17, as set out in Appendix 4.

4. To agree the schemes for co-ordinating admissions to the Reception Year of primary school and Year 7 of secondary school for 2016/17, as set out in Appendix 5.
5. To agree the scheme for co-ordinating 'In-Year' Admissions for 2016/17, as set out in Appendix 6.
6. To agree the planned admission number for each School in Tower Hamlets in 2016/17, as set out in Appendix 7.

## **8. A SAFE AND COHESIVE COMMUNITY**

Nil items.

## **9. A HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY**

### **9.1 DAAT Commissioning Intentions Update**

Andy Bamber, Service Head, Community Service, introduced the commissioning intentions update report. He referred Members back to the previous Cabinet decision but stated a different approach was required for two services.

In response to questions, officers replied that the majority of savings required from the public health grant could be made without impacting on service users and in fact that service users should see an improved service through the new procurement. It was also noted that the Tower Hamlets Health and Wellbeing Board had considered this issue.

The **Deputy Mayor agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

### **RESOLVED**

1. To agree to the continued commissioning of the services outlined in the report.
2. To agree the proposal to commence consultation around the decommissioning of the Harbour Recovery Centre.
3. To note a reduced funding envelope for drug / alcohol treatment services in the borough.
4. To authorise the commencement of the treatment system procurement exercise.

## **10. ONE TOWER HAMLETS**

### **10.1 Digital Inclusion Strategy**

Councillor Aminur Khan, Cabinet Member for Policy, Strategy and Performance, introduced the report. He highlighted that there had been

thorough discussions with Cabinet Members and that comments had been fed into the report.

During discussion it was noted that this strategy had the potential to reduce the isolation of elderly and vulnerable residents and improve independent living chances.

The **Deputy Mayor** welcomed the report and **agreed** the recommendations as set out.

#### **RESOLVED**

1. To agree the Digital Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan (Appendix 1).
2. To note the partnership approach and consultation activity, outlined in section 3, which has helped develop the Digital Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan (Appendix 1);

#### **10.2 Contracts Forward Plan 2014/15 Q4**

Chris Holme, Acting Corporate Director, Resources, introduced the regular contracts forward plan report. He confirmed that the Cabinet Member for Resources had been consulted on the report. A minor correction was noted that the planned invitation to tender date for the Domiciliary and Personal Care Support contract should be February 2016 and not 2015.

The **Deputy Mayor agreed** that all contracts could progress as planned.

#### **RESOLVED**

1. To confirm that all reports listed in Appendix 1 to the report 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.
2. To authorise the Head of Legal Services to execute all necessary contract documents in respect of the awards of contracts referred to at Recommendation 1 above.

#### **10.3 Best Value Plan**

Stephen Halsey, Head of Paid Service, introduced the report. Members attention was drawn to the tabled report which was an update on the version contained in the agenda. It was explained that all the Best Value Plans had been seen by the Commissioners and that it was for the Mayor to agree those in relation to Property, Communications and the Publicity Plan.

It was emphasised that this was the first iteration of the plan and that it would change and develop over time. The Mayor, Members of the Executive and of

the Overview and Scrutiny Committee were thanked for their contributions. Members would be kept informed of any changes to the plans.

The **Deputy Mayor** welcomed the report. On the issue of trust between officers and Members he asked that it be stated that he considered that officers displayed the highest standards of trust.

### **RESOLVED**

1. To approve the Best Value plans in relation to Property and Communications;
2. To approve the Publicity Plan
3. To note the remaining Best Value Plans.

### **11. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT**

Nil items.

### **12. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

Nil items.

### **13. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

No motion to exclude the press and public was passed.

### **14. EXEMPT / CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

The exempt/confidential minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 4 February 2015 were noted.

### **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 6.07 p.m.

John S. Williams  
SERVICE HEAD, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES