

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

RECORD OF THE DECISIONS OF THE CABINET

HELD AT 5.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY 2015

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

Members Present:

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| 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 Shafiqul Haque | (Cabinet Member for Culture) |
| Councillor Gulam Robbani | (Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services) |

Officers Present:

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| Aman Dalvi | (Corporate Director, Development & Renewal) |
| Stephen Halsey | (Head of Paid Service and Corporate Director Communities, Localities & Culture) |
| Robert McCulloch-Graham | (Corporate Director, Education Social Care and Wellbeing) |
| Barry Scarr | (Interim Service Head, Finance & Procurement) |
| Meic Sullivan-Gould | (Interim Monitoring Officer, Legal Services, LPG) |
| Kate Bingham | (Service Head, Resources, Education Social Care and Wellbeing) |
| Ellie Kuper-Thomas | (Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer - Executive Mayor's Office, One Tower Hamlets, DLPG) |
| Murziline Parchment | (Head of Executive Mayor's Office, Democratic Services, LPG) |
| Dean RiddickMcGregor | (Political Adviser to the Labour Group) |
| Matthew Mannion | (Committee Services Manager, Democratic Services, LPG) |

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR OF THE MEETING

Nominations were sought for a Chair of the meeting.

DECISION

1. That Councillor Ohid Ahmed be elected to serve as Chair for the duration of the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Councillor Aminur Khan (Cabinet Member for Policy, Strategy and Performance)
- Councillor Rabina Khan (Cabinet Member for Housing and Development)
- Councillor Oliur Rahman (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Economic Development)
- Chris Holme (Acting Corporate Director, Resources)

3. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None were declared.

4. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

The unrestricted minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 8 April 2015 were noted.

5. PETITIONS

Nil items.

6. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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

Nil items.

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

Nil items.

7. A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

Nil items.

8. A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY

8.1 Education, Social Care and Wellbeing Capital Programme 2015/16

DECISION

1. To note the contents of this report and specifically the anticipated out-turn for the 2014/15 ESCW Capital Programme (detailed in Appendix A) and proposed allocation of the funding available in 2015/18 (as detailed in Appendix B);

2. To approve the adoption of capital estimates for the 2015/16 capital condition and improvement programme schemes in schools and service premises as shown in Appendix C (Schools and Children's Services) and Appendix D (Adult Services) and authorise expenditure;
3. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £350,000 for the additional dining accommodation at Oaklands School;
4. To note the completed projects within the Primary Capital Programme (PCP) schemes as shown in Appendix D;
5. To note the Primary School Expansion Programme as detailed in Appendix E;
6. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £750,000 to cover the costs of developing proposals to be considered for inclusion in the capital programme and authorise expenditure;
7. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £300,000 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;
8. To note progress with creating early education provision and further consultation with providers as shown in Appendix D;
9. To note the proposed procurement approach for the capital works to provide 6th form accommodation at Stepney Green School (paragraph 3.55);
10. To agree that Council-approved Frameworks be used, where appropriate, to deliver the various projects within the approved programmes;
11. To authorise the Corporate Director of ESCW, in respect of all proposed tenders referred to in this report, to agree tenders for projects within the approved programmes and capital estimate;
12. To authorise the Corporate Director of ESCW to prepare and carry out a Bill of Reductions for any scheme exceeding the approved budget, where relevant to ensure expenditure is contained within the agreed costs.

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

(Service Head, Resources, ESCW (K. Bingham))

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.

A separate report on this agenda deals with proposals for new projects to provide primary school places. Subject to decisions on that report, the projects will be included in the ESCW capital programme.

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.

8.2 Primary School Places Programme**DECISION**

1. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £9.0m for the proposed works to the former Bromley Hall Special School;
2. To delegate to the Corporate Director, Development & Renewal, the power to appropriate land in Lochnagar Street shown in Appendix A from the HRA to the General Fund for Education purposes, subject to prior consultation with the Service Head – Legal Services, and agree that the land is incorporated into Bromley Hall School site;
3. To approve the proposed procurement of works to the Bromley Hall School by use of a suitable pre-tendered framework;
4. To approve the adoption of a capital estimate of £11m for the proposed works to the former site of Bow Boys' School;
5. To approve the proposed procurement approach for the former Bow Boys' School site of working with Tower Hamlets Schools Ltd ;
6. To authorise the Corporate Director of ESCW to agree tenders for projects referred to in this report within the approved programmes and capital estimate; and
7. To authorise the Corporate Director, Development and Renewal, following consultation with the Service Head – Legal Services, to agree and enter into the contracts required to give effect to the above recommendations.

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

(Head of Building Development (P. Watson)

(Service Head, Resources, ESCW (K. Bingham)

Reasons for the decision

The LA has a duty to provide sufficient school places for the local population. The need for additional places in Tower Hamlets has been rising for some time and is projected to continue to rise. The Cabinet meeting on 3 September 2014 received a report on the 2014/15 Annual Review of School Places. The former Bromley Hall School and the former Bow Boys' School sites have been identified as opportunities within the Council's own assets to provide additional places. Decisions are required to adopt the projects into the capital programme and to proceed with implementation.

If these decisions are not taken or are deferred, the potential to open the extra school places will be delayed. This will mean that alternative, temporary classes will have to be provided to meet the expected number of children requiring school places. This type of provision is not good value for money and, whilst it can be managed by schools, is less satisfactory for the continuity of children's education.

Alternative options

When projects are being considered for the capital programme, alternative options are considered. This is to ensure that the projects both meet value for money and address the needs identified. Projects are recommended following options appraisals and to select the options which best meet the location needs of the rising school age population. Potential alternative options for the sites are noted below. The sites are at present vacant and incurring costs to maintain security.

As above, if permanent school accommodation is not provided in time to meet the number of children requiring school places, alternative temporary provision has to be made.

9. A SAFE AND COHESIVE COMMUNITY

Nil items.

10. A HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

Nil items.

11. ONE TOWER HAMLETS

Nil items.

12. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

Nil items.

13. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**13.1 Exercise of Corporate Directors' Discretions****DECISION**

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

Action by:**ACTING CORPORATE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES (C. HOLME)**

(Accountant, Financial Planning (A. Kadir))

Reasons for the decision

Financial Regulations require that regular reports be submitted to Council/Committee setting out financial decisions taken under Financial Regulation B8.

The regular reporting of Corporate Director's Discretions should assist in ensuring that Members are able to scrutinise officer decisions.

Alternative options

The Council is bound by its Financial Regulations (which have been approved by Council) to report to Council/Committee setting out financial decisions taken under Financial Regulation B8.

If the Council were to deviate from those requirements, there would need to be a good reason for doing so. It is not considered that there is any such reason, having regard to the need to ensure that Members are kept informed about decisions made under the delegated authority threshold and to ensure that these activities are in accordance with Financial Regulations.

14. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Nil items.

15. EXEMPT / CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

Nil items.

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

Nil items.

17. A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

Nil items.

18. A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY

Nil items.

19. A SAFE AND COHESIVE COMMUNITY

Nil items.

20. A HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

Nil items.

21. ONE TOWER HAMLETS

Nil items.

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

Nil items.

23. EXEMPT / CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Nil items.

The meeting ended at 5.34 p.m.

John S Williams
SERVICE HEAD, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES