

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS
COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 23rd JANUARY 2013
AGENDA ITEM 11.1: TABLED REPORT
BUDGET COUNCIL MEETING: CHANGE OF DATE
REPORT OF THE SERVICE HEAD, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

REASONS FOR URGENCY

This report was not available for inspection for five clear working days prior to the meeting as required by the Council's Constitution and Access to Information rules. The meeting is nevertheless requested to consider the report as there is an urgent need to revise the date of the Budget Council Meeting to accommodate the timetable for setting the GLA precept.

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks the approval of the Council to change the date of the forthcoming Budget Council Meeting(s) to accommodate the timetable for finalisation of the GLA precept.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the date of the Budget Council Meeting be amended from 20th February to Wednesday 27th February 2013 (7.30 p.m. start); and the provisional date for any second Budget Council Meeting (if required) be amended to Thursday 7th March 2013.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council on 16th May 2012 agreed the programme of Council and committee meetings for the municipal year 2012/13.
- 3.2 The agreed programme of meetings included the Budget Council Meeting scheduled for 20th February 2013.
- 3.3 However officers have recently become aware that the GLA precept will not be finalised this year until 25th February. This is over two weeks later than in previous years (last year the GLA met to set the precept on 9th February), but more importantly five days after Tower Hamlets' scheduled Budget Council Meeting.

3.4 The Council cannot agree the statutory Council Tax motion until the GLA precept is known. It will therefore be necessary to change the date of the Budget Council Meeting. Officers propose that the meeting should move back a week, to **Wednesday 27th February**.

3.5 In the event that a second Budget Meeting is required, this would then be on **Thursday 7th March** in order to allow the minimum statutory period between the two meetings for the Mayor to consider any amendments passed by the Council at the first meeting.

4. Observations of the Chief Financial Officer

4.1 There are no specific financial comments arising from this report.

5. Concurrent Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal)

5.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

6. Implications for One Tower Hamlets

6.1 The original date for the Budget Council Meeting fell during the school half-term holiday period. The change of date may therefore have the effect of enabling attendance or participation by those residents for whom this would be inconvenient during the school holidays.

7. Anti-Poverty Implications

7.1 There are no anti-poverty implications arising from the proposals in this report.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2000 (SECTION 97)

LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Brief description of "background paper"	Name and telephone number of holder and address where open to inspection
None.	