

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE CABINET

HELD AT 5.34 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 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)

Other Councillors Present:

Councillor Kabir Ahmed	(Executive Advisor to the Mayor and Cabinet)
Councillor Khaled Uddin Ahmed	
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	
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 Marc Francis	
Councillor Peter Golds	(Leader of the Conservative Group)

Officers Present:

Andy Bamber	(Service Head Safer Communities, Crime Reduction Services, Communities, Localities and Culture)
Michael Bell	(Strategic Planning Manager, Development & Renewal)
Kate Bingham	(Service Head, Resources, Education Social Care and Wellbeing)
Barbara Disney	(Service Manager, Strategic Commissioning, Adults Health & Wellbeing)
Ben Gadsby	(Political Adviser to the Conservative Group)
Andrew Hargreaves	(Borough Conservation Officer, Development and Renewal)
Steve Hill	(Head of Benefits Service)
Shazia Hussain	(Service Head Localisation, Communities Localities & Culture)
Frances Jones	(Service Manager One Tower Hamlets, Corporate Strategy and Equality Service, Chief Executive's)

Abdul J. Khan	(Sustainable Development Manager, Strategy Innovation & Sustainability, Development and Renewal)
Carrie Kilpatrick	(Supporting People Manager)
Ellie Kuper-Thomas	(Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer - Executive Mayor's Office, One Tower Hamlets, Chief Executive's)
Jackie Odunoye	(Service Head, Strategy, Regeneration & Sustainability, Development and Renewal)
Murziline Parchment	(Head of Executive Mayor's Office, Democratic Services, Chief Executive's)
David Tolley	(Head of Consumer and Business Regulations Service, Safer Communities, Communities Localities & Culture)
Darren Ingram	(Service Manager - Access to Resources, Commissioning and Strategy)
Matthew Mannion	(Committee Services Manager, Democratic Services, Chief Executive's)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Councillor Rania Khan, Cabinet Member for Culture
- Councillor Oliur Rahman, Cabinet Member for Children's Services

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None were declared.

3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

Subject to a request to include an 'Any Other Business' item from the meeting, the unrestricted minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 9 October 2013 were noted.

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

Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC), provided an update on the discussions that had taken place at their last meeting.

In particular he:

- Thanked Councillors Alibor Choudhury and Peter Golds for their presentations in relation to the Call-In of the Community Event Fund (Round 3) Individual Mayor's Executive Decision. He reported that after a discussion it had been decided to refer back the decision due to concerns about its consistency and clarity of the awards. He also reported that the Committee felt more clarity was needed on criteria for future rounds.
- Thanked Councillor Rabina Khan for presenting the key challenges to delivering sufficient affordable housing during her spotlight session. Members were pleased with the progress although there were slight concerns around access to information for residents without internet access and allocation of officer responsibility for engaging with residents.
- The Committee had received a report on the Watts Grove project as requested by Council. Members felt that the restrictions placed on some papers had impacted on their ability to scrutinise them.
- Requested that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be filmed in the same way as Cabinet.
- Again requested that the Mayor accept an invitation to attend Overview and Scrutiny.

The **Mayor** thanked Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman for his update presentation.

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

The Clerk advised that no requests had been received to 'call-in' for further consideration, by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, any provisional decisions taken by the Mayor in Cabinet at the meeting held on 9 October 2013.

6. A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

6.1 New Homes - Bradwell Street

Councillor Rabina Khan, Cabinet Member for Housing, introduced the report. She explained how the Council had been able to secure the funding from the Greater London Authority (GLA) and highlighted the hard work from officers in achieving this result.

The **Mayor** highlighted that the Council had now delivered 3300 new homes and that it clearly demonstrated its commitment to helping families in overcrowded households. He **agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED

1. To note the total grant of £1,950,000. from the GLA towards the development of 65 Council homes for rent at the Bradwell Street and

Ashington House East sites under the Building the Pipeline Supply programme

2. To agree the resulting contribution from the Council of £1,991,000 for the development of the Bradwell Garage site
3. To adopt a total capital estimate of £2,451,000 in order to deliver the Bradwell Street scheme. This represents the total scheme costs of £2,351,000 plus a suggested contingency of £100,000 (paragraph 1.8).
4. To authorise the Director, Development & Renewal to take the necessary actions to deliver the scheme within the timescale of the funding programme including negotiating with Network Rail for the acquisition of amenity land for the Bradwell Street project and dealing with the settlement of any existing rights on both projects
5. To authorise officers to proceed with the procurement of the required professional and technical services and works contracts and utilising suitable procurement frameworks available to the public sector.
6. To agree to set aside £200,000 of funding from within available existing HRA Overcrowding Initiatives / Affordable Housing budgets in order to complete the preliminary design, site assembly and survey costs on the Ashington House East project pending a future report to Cabinet.
7. To authorise the Director, Development & Renewal in consultation with Legal Services to agree the terms of
 - i) the GLA Funding Agreement
 - ii) the contracts for the required professional and technical services for both schemes
 - iii) the works contracts for both schemes, (subject to funding being agreed for Ashington House East scheme)
 - iv) the land transactions with Network Rail
 - v) the settlement of any existing rights over land to be used for the schemes
8. To authorise the execution of the documents referred to at paragraph 7 above on behalf of the Council

6.2 Fuel Poverty Strategy Action Plan

Councillor Rabina Khan, Cabinet Member for Housing, introduced the report. She highlighted that fuel poverty had been a long-standing concern of the Mayor. She also reported that over 3500 had signed up to the fuel switch campaign which was now to be launched London wide.

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

RESOLVED

1. To approve the Fuel Poverty Strategy and Action Plan as attached in Appendix 1

6.3 Revised Local List

Councillor Rabina Khan, Cabinet Member for Housing, introduced the report. In particular she highlighted that the forthcoming 100th anniversary of the First World War was an appropriate time to look at adding war memorials to the revised local list.

The **Mayor** welcomed the proposal as an appropriate way to remember those who had given so much and he **agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED

1. To agree to proceed with public consultation with regard to the addition of War Memorials to the Local List as set out in Appendix 1.
2. To agree to proceed with public consultation on the removal of selected existing entries on the local list as set out in Appendix 2.
3. To authorise the Corporate Director of Development and Renewal, after consultation with the Lead Member for Housing, Development and Renewal, to make the necessary and appropriate minor amendments to the draft lists, prior to public consultation.

6.4 Bartlett Park Landscape Improvement Plan and Capital Estimate for Phase 1 Improvement Works

Shazia Hussain, Service Head, Culture, Learning and Leisure, introduced the report. She highlighted the way the improvement plans would provide high quality open space to cater for an increasing range of needs from the local community.

Following discussion during which Members expressed support for the proposals, the **Mayor** welcomed the report and its demonstration of a commitment to the whole Borough and he **agreed** the recommendations set out in the report.

RESOLVED

1. To approve the Bartlett Park Landscape Improvement Plan derived from the public consultation process.
2. To adopt a capital estimate of £3.71m for Phase 1 works.

7. A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY

7.1 PFI Contracts - progress review 2013/14

Robert McCulloch-Graham, Corporate Director, Education, Social Care and Wellbeing, introduced the report. Stating that the PFI projects were progressing satisfactorily.

The **Mayor** welcomed the report as demonstrating the Council's commitment to the Borough's children and **agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED

1. To note the contents of this report;
2. To authorise the Corporate Director Education, Social Care and Wellbeing to agree revised Governors' Agreements with the 24 schools in the Grouped Schools PFI Contract and with Mulberry School to reflect the current position regarding the contributions made by the schools to the costs of those contracts;
3. To authorise the Head of Legal Services (Environment) to execute all necessary documents to implement paragraph 2 above.

8. A SAFE AND COHESIVE COMMUNITY

Nil items.

9. A HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

9.1 Food Law Enforcement Plan 2013/14

Andy Bamber, Service Head Community Service, introduced the report. He highlighted that 100% of Band A sites and 99% of Band B sites had been inspected and that as well as undertaking inspections, officers were involved in offering training, running an award scheme and other work.

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

RESOLVED

1. To approve the Tower Hamlets Food Law Enforcement Plan 2013/2014 and Food Sampling Policy attached at the Appendix of the report.

9.2 Day Services for Older People

Councillor Abdul Asad, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, introduced the report. He highlighted that it was important that the Mayor was kept updated about the pricing on the contracts on a regular basis.

The **Mayor** agreed that pricing, in particular spot pricing was an area that he wanted to keep updated with and officers promised to monitor them on a monthly basis. The **Mayor agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED

1. To agree to offer new 12 month, spot contractual arrangements from 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015, with three current day service providers for older people which are currently block contracted. These providers are:
 - a. Sonali Gardens (St Hildas) in Tarling Street, E1 (focusses on Bangladeshi elders)
 - b. Sundial Centre (Peabody Trust) in Shipton Street, E2
 - c. St Hilda's Weekend Day Centre, E2

All provide borough wide services to older residents who meet FACS¹ eligibility criteria.

2. To agree that extensive consultation with current day service users and other stakeholders, and outcomes from the review and vision of *The Care Bill* should inform the model for a potential service redesign.
3. To agree a further paper to Cabinet in September 2014 with recommendations to be discussed and permission sought to go to the Market with clear outcomes for future Older Peoples Day Opportunities.

9.3 Mental Health Day Opportunities and Support Services Contracts

Councillor Abdul Asad, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, introduced the report. He confirmed that the report had been through a number of discussion stages.

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

RESOLVED

1. To note that further work will be required to determine the optimum configuration for mental health day opportunities and support services following the adoption of the Health and Wellbeing Board Mental Health Strategy;

¹ FACS = Fair Access to Care Services

2. To agree that new short-term contracts be let to existing providers of mental health day opportunities and support services, for the period from current contract expiry to 31 March 2015, in order to ensure continuity of support for mental health service users.

9.4 Commissioning Plan for Young Peoples Supported Accommodation

Councillor Abdul Asad, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, introduced the report.

Following questions, officers confirmed that any review of the services would take into account actual needs and changing entitlement rules to ensure there was no overall impact.

Following discussion where Members highlighted the importance of culturally sensitive service provision, the **Mayor agreed** the recommendations in the report.

RESOLVED

1. To agree the Young Peoples Supported Accommodation Commissioning Plan for 2013 – 2016 and the specific 11 recommendations listed below which set out the future design of the young people's sector:
 - Review the eligibility criteria of young peoples supported accommodation services to better target complex need and align the service with other key services; reducing the access threshold from 23 to 20 years of age.
 - Commission an assessment facility and a "crash pad" type facility through the reconfiguration of existing services.
 - Reconfigure services to enable a balance of high, medium and low support services that offers young people opportunities to move between high and low support as their needs change.
 - Establish an Inclusion Panel to reduce evictions and youth homelessness.
 - Increase the amount of high support provision to meet the needs of those with complex support needs.
 - Work with Providers to develop the interface with specialist services. So improving outcomes for service users.

- Re-configure or replace the existing Drapers City Foyer service to provide 2 smaller units of high support accommodation based services: the timescale being a 3 year period.
 - Re-commission the teenage parents service.
 - Maintain access to a move on quota, improve throughput and access.
 - Commission personalised services.
 - Improve Service User Outcomes.
2. To agree to maintain the annual revenue budget of £1.7m for these services over the next year three year period.
 3. To agree that procurement can commence under the Supporting People Framework Agreement.

10. ONE TOWER HAMLETS

10.1 Council Tax Reduction Year Two

Councillor Alibor Choudhury, Cabinet Member for Resources, introduced the report. He expressed support for the proposal to absorb the cost of the Government's cut to its funding of the scheme saying that it was important to protect the poor and vulnerable from this cut.

Following a discussion where Members welcomed the proposals and suggested that other Boroughs be actively encouraged to adopt the same, the **Mayor** welcomed the report and the commitment shown to protecting the vulnerable and **agreed** the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESOLVED

1. To agree the proposed Council Tax Replacement scheme for 2014/15 for consideration by full council.
2. To note feedback on the public consultation on the proposed scheme for 2014/15.
3. To refer the scheme to full Council for agreement.

11. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT

Nil items.

12. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

12.1 Exercise of Corporate Directors' Discretions

Councillor Alibor Choudhury, Cabinet Member for Resources, introduced the report and the **Mayor agreed** the recommendation as set out.

RESOLVED

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

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 6.31 p.m.

John S. Williams
SERVICE HEAD, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES