

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS****MINUTES OF THE CABINET****HELD AT 5.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2022****C1, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE CRESCENT,  
LONDON, E14 2BG****Members Present in Person:**

Mayor Lutfur Rahman	
Councillor Maium Talukdar	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning (Statutory Deputy Mayor))
Councillor Kabir Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding)
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Safer Communities)
Councillor Saied Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living)
Councillor Suluk Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Inclusion)
Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury	(Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Social Care)
Councillor Abu Chowdhury	(Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills and Growth)
Councillor Iqbal Hossain	(Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation)
Councillor Kabir Hussain	(Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency)

**Other Councillors Present in Person:**

Councillor Maisha Begum  
Councillor Marc Francis  
Councillor Peter Golds

**Officers Present in Person:**

Kevin Bartle	(Interim Corporate Director, Resources & Section 151 Officer)
Janet Fasan	(Director of Legal & Monitoring Officer)
Sharon Godman	(Director, Strategy, Improvement and Transformation)
Adrian Gorst	(Divisional Director, IT)
Dan Jones	(Director, Public Realm)
Melanie Rose	(Head of IT Office)
Stephen Shapiro	(Acting Director of Property and Major Programmes)
Ann Sutcliffe	(Corporate Director, Place)
James Thomas	(Corporate Director, Children and Culture)
Will Tuckley	(Chief Executive)
Matthew Mannion	(Head of Democratic Services)

**Officers In Attendance Virtually:**

Nisar Visram	(Director of Finance, Procurement & Audit)
Afazul Hoque	(Head of Corporate Strategy & Policy)
Hannah Marshall	(Communications Officer)

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER INTERESTS**

There were no Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

**3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES****RESOLVED**

1. That the unrestricted minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on Monday 1 August 2022 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of proceedings.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) FROM THE MAYOR****4.1 Liveable Streets**

The Mayor provided an update on consultation exercises in relation to the liveable streets programme. He highlighted that one of the central pledges of his manifesto was to get the borough moving through taking away restrictions on the boroughs roads due to their impact on working people and the congestion caused on neighbouring roads.

However, he also recognised the threat caused by the climate emergency and the role the Council could play in supporting change. He had already initiated a number of projects to help work towards net zero.

Thousands of residents had responded to the surveys on potentially removing the existing road restrictions. Once these surveys had been completed the Council would review the situation and determine the appropriate next steps. An update would be provided in due course.

**5. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****5.1 Chair's Advice of Key Issues or Questions**

It was noted that Councillor Musthak Ahmed, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, would be providing a written update to the Mayor on the Committee's recent activities.

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

There had been no call-ins of decisions taken at the Cabinet meeting held on Monday 1 August 2022.

## 6. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

### 6.1 Procurement of Highways and Street Lighting Contract

Dan Jones, Director of Public Realm, introduced the report on the procurement of the Council's Highways and Street Lighting contract. He highlighted that an updated report had been tabled which made a few small changes to the report, namely:

- Amending the recommendations so that the Mayor would be awarding the contract and authorising the Corporate Director, Place to execute the contract.
- Adjusting the contract length to 7 years (5+2)
- In Paragraph 3.14 - Adding a social value framework of 10%
- In Section 5 making it clear that the employment targets would be delivered by the Council.

During discussion the significant community and social benefits built into the contract were welcomed.

The Mayor welcomed the report and, subject to the amendments set out in the tabled paper, **agreed** the recommendations.

### RESOLVED

1. To agree that the contract as set out in this report may proceed to procurement in October 2022;
2. To agree that the Mayor will award the Contract to the most economically advantageous tenderer following an appropriate procurement process;
3. To authorise the Corporate Director Place to instruct the execution of any and all necessary legal documentation required to give effect to recommendation 2

### 6.2 Watney Market: Approval to install Sprinklers and Emergency Lighting.

Councillor Saied Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living, introduced the report requesting approval to install sprinklers and emergency lighting at Watney Market Car Park. He explained that the underground car park was in poor condition with, in particular, the sprinkler system being at end of life. There were also lots of other problems such as around egress of water. There was also a significant risk of any fire spreading to the residential block above.

There would be significant benefits from bringing the car park back to general use for businesses and residents. The works were urgent and it was important they started as swiftly as possible. Market traders, residents and businesses would be kept up to date.

The Mayor welcomed the report and noted that the works were significantly overdue and that the health and safety implications meant the Council really needed to take on this work.

He asked that, as part of the works, measures to tackle anti-social behaviour be considered and that car park spaces were opened up for both shop owners and residents. Officers confirmed that the exact usage of the car park was being explored and Members would be kept informed. The Mayor then **agreed** the recommendations as set out.

The Appendix exempted through Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) was noted.

### **RESOLVED**

1. To approve the figure of £2.089m to enable the safety works to be undertaken at Watney Market carpark.
2. To approve the addition of the project to the 2022 – 25 approved HRA capital programme.

### **6.3 Budget Monitoring 2022/23 Quarter 1 including Capital**

Councillor Saied Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living, introduced the budget monitoring report for Quarter 1 of 2022-23. He highlighted that the Council was currently forecasting a £2.8 million overspend for the year, mainly due to a £2.6 million energy cost pressure. There were also pressures in adult social care, commercial waste and vacant property costs. However, there were currently surpluses in concessionary fares and parking income.

It was further noted that the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) was reporting a small overspend, again mainly due to energy costs.

The Council's was forecast to spend £146.1 million on capital expenditure and the HRA was forecasting £84.8 million on the same.

It was noted that officers would be working to bring spend back into line with the budget.

During discussion, the Mayor noted that the cost of living crisis was having a big impact on residents and it was important to support them as much as possible. He reviewed the report and **agreed** the recommendations.

### **RESOLVED**

1. To note the council's forecast outturn position against General Fund, Dedicated Schools Budget, Housing Revenue Account and earmarked reserves for 2022-23, based on forecasts as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022;
2. To note the progress made against the 2022-23 savings targets, based on forecasts as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022;
3. To note the council's forecast outturn position against General Fund and Housing Revenue Account capital programme approved budgets for 2022-23, based on forecasts as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022;
4. To note that there are no equalities implications directly resulting from this report, as set out in Section 4 of the report.

#### **6.4 IT Contract Procurement Approval Q1 2022**

Councillor Saied Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living, introduced the report on asking for approval to undergo procurement in relation to key ICT systems.

The Mayor noted the four contracts set out in the report. He noted that the details met the Administration's needs including in contract length and potential break clauses. He **agreed** the recommendations as set out.

The Appendix exempted through Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) was noted.

### **RESOLVED**

1. To approve the proposed procurement of renewed support and maintenance, either directly from the existing supplier or direct award to the existing supplier via a framework, of four critical business applications with total contract costs exceeding £1 million to provide continuity pending strategic decision making on the future of these solutions. These are identified and listed in Appendix 1 to the report They will support a maximum term and value shown in Appendix 1 to the report.
2. To authorise the Corporate Director of Resources to award the renewal contracts referred above for terms and values not exceeding the maximum terms and values shown in Restricted. Restricted Appendix 1 to the report also shows the current support and maintenance costs

and the estimated maximum contract value for the proposed contract duration including extensions.

**6.5 Record of Corporate Directors Actions 2022/23 Q1**

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

**RESOLVED**

1. To note the Record of Corporate Directors' Actions set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

**7. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT**

Nil items.

**8. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Nil items.

**9. EXEMPT / CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

Nil items.

**10. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**10.1 Chair's Advice of Key Issues or Questions in Relation to Exempt / Confidential Business**

Nil items.

**10.2 Any Exempt / Confidential Decisions "Called in" by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

Nil items.

**11. EXEMPT / CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

Nil items.

**12. ANY OTHER EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS CONSIDERED TO BE URGENT**

Nil items.

The meeting ended at 5.58 p.m.

Chair, Mayor Lutfur Rahman  
Cabinet