

**MINUTES OF THE CABINET
TUESDAY, 25 JANUARY 2011**

Councillors *Kober (Chair), *Reith (Vice Chair), *Bevan, *Canver, *Dogus, *Goldberg, *Mallett and *Vanier.

*Present

Also Present: Councillors Adje, Browne, Bull, Engert, Gorrie, Meehan, Newton and Whyte.

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
CAB106.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 3)</p> <p>Councillor Reith in respect of item 15 – Homes for Haringey Re-inspection Final Report.</p>	HLDMS
CAB107.	<p>MINUTES (Agenda Item 4)</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 13 and 21 December 2010 be confirmed and signed.</p>	HLDMS
CAB108.	<p>ANNUAL AUDIT AND INSPECTION LETTER (Report of the Director of Corporate Resources - Agenda Item 7)</p> <p><u>Annual Audit and Inspection Letter</u></p> <p>We received a presentation from Mr. Paul Dossett of Grant Thornton (the Council’s external auditors) on the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter and we noted that the Letter summarised the key issues arising from the work undertaken by them during their 2009/10 audit. The main two areas of audit work were in respect of the audit of the accounts and the Value for Money conclusion.</p> <p>In terms of the audit of the accounts for 2009/10 we also noted that the Council had received an unqualified opinion from the external auditors. Which had been formally reported to the General Purposes Committee on 23 September 2010 within the statutory deadline.</p> <p>We were informed that .in respect of the Value for Money conclusion, the auditors had concluded that the Council had made proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ending 31 March 2010 and this had been formally reported to the Audit Committee on 2 November 2010. We were also informed that the auditors work on the certification of grant claims and returns was ongoing and that the results of that work would be formally reported to the April 2011 Audit Committee. Mr. Dossett having answered questions put to him by Members, our Chair thanked him for his attendance and his presentation.</p>	

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	<p>We noted that the officer's report outlined how the Council was addressing the key areas for action raised by external audit in the Annual Audit Letter and also noted that it was planned that monitoring of the actions undertaken by the Council would be carried out by the Audit Committee which would be presented with the Letter at its meeting on 3 February.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the Annual Audit Letter for 2009/10 be received and the Council's response be noted.</p>	
<p>CAB109.</p>	<p>THE COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE: NOVEMBER 2010 (PERIOD 8) (Joint Report of the Chief Executive and the Director of Corporate Resources - Agenda Item 8)</p> <p>We noted that the report set out on an exception basis financial and performance information for the year to November 2010 and sought approval of budget virements in accordance with financial regulations.</p> <p>Disappointment having been expressed that the proportion of looked after children who had had 3 or more placements was on a rising trend at 17.09% in the 12 months to the end of November 2010 we were advised that this matter had been the subject of discussion at the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee on 24 January and that further analysis was being conducted in order to understand better the deterioration in performance in this area and the reasons for placement breakdown and that this would tie in with the work being done around sufficiency.</p> <p>In response to a question about the revenue virement of £26,070,000 shown in Table 3 of Appendix 2 we were advised that this was a technical adjustment and that the Director of Corporate Resources would provide Councillor Gorrie with a fuller, written explanation.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report and the progress being made against the Council's priorities be noted. 2. That approval be granted to the budget changes (virements) set out in Appendix 2 to the interleaved report. 3. That, where possible, Directors take the necessary action to bring current year spending to within their approved budgets. 	<p>DCR</p> <p>DCR</p> <p>CEMB</p>
<p>CAB110.</p>	<p>TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT (Report of the Director of Corporate Resources - Agenda Item 9)</p> <p>We noted that the report presented the proposed Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2011/12 to 2013/14 prior to its submission to the Council for final approval.</p>	

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	<p>In response to a question about the proposed reform of the Council Housing Subsidy System, we were informed that for the Council this was likely to result in a reduction of debt within the Housing Revenue Account.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the proposed Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2011/12 to 2013/14 as set out at Appendix A to the interleaved report be recommended to the Council for approval.</p>	DCR
CAB111.	<p>RETHINKING HARINGEY - IMPLEMENTING ONE BOROUGH ONE FUTURE (Report of the Chief Executive - Agenda Item 10)</p> <p>Our Chair agreed to admit the report as urgent business. The report was late because officers were keen to commence consultation with staff and unions at the same time as the proposals went public and the soonest that the relevant meetings could take place was 18 January. The report was too urgent to await the next meeting because it contained proposals connected with the budget package of savings. Informal consultation with staff and unions had commenced and needed to be followed up quickly with detailed information. It was important that Members were aware of the consultation so that any views might be incorporated. To delay Member consideration might impact on the timetable for consultation and therefore delay implementation. This might have an adverse impact on the profile of proposed savings.</p> <p>We noted that the report set out proposals to reorganise the Council's top three tiers of staff. We also noted that while the focus had been on the having the structure in place by the start of the next financial year rather than on the narrative which could be improved. The proposals to move towards a strategic commissioning role were generally welcomed as providing an opportunity to modernise services. In response to a question about details of the reduced costs anticipated we were informed that these would become available as work on the second phase of the organisational change progressed.</p> <p>In response to a further question about opportunities for all Members to become engaged in discussions about the second phase, officers indicated that while briefings could be arranged for both political groups the question for cross party working structures was a matter requiring political approval.</p> <p>Our attention was drawn to an error in the proposed structure charts in that the Anti Social Behaviour team was shown under the Head of Support and Options in the proposed Adult and Housing Services Structure (Appendix 13) whereas it should have been shown under the Head of Neighbourhood Services in the proposed Place and Sustainability Structure (Appendix 8). We also asked that further consideration be given to the possible re-location of Emergency Planning from the proposed Public Health Structure (Appendix 16) to the</p>	

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	<p>proposed Corporate Resources Structure (Appendix 10).</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the proposals set out in Appendix 1 to the interleaved report to restructure the top three tiers of Council staff be noted. 2. That it also be noted that the process as detailed in paragraph 7 of the interleaved report was in accordance with Part 4K (Officer Employment Procedure Rules) of the Council's Constitution. 	CE
<p>CAB112.</p>	<p>DELIVERING AN EARLY YEARS SINGLE FUNDING FORMULA FOR HARINGEY (Report of Director of the Children and Young People's Service - Agenda Item 11)</p> <p>We noted that the report recommended an Early Years Single Funding Formula for Haringey following consultation with partners which had been presented to the Schools Forum on 17 January 2011.</p> <p>The Forum had been informed of the difficulties in introducing such a formula in Haringey due to the high level of maintained early years provision, the distinct geographical divide between more and less affluent areas and the inequities of the national grant allocation that so under funded Haringey's children. The Forum had also been informed of the significant changes made to the proposed formula following consultation, in particular reducing the reliance on the flexibility supplement, revising the hourly rate, removing the profit supplement, giving greater stability to nursery schools and the finer targeting of the deprivation supplement.</p> <p>We were advised that the Forum had paid tribute to the hard work of members of the Project Board in achieving the best possible outcome in the circumstances and had recommended that we agree the recommendations set out in the report. In addition, in considering the proposed Schools' Budget the Forum had also recommended that funding to cover the redistribution of resources to the non-maintained sector be top sliced from the headroom generated by the negative minimum funding guarantee.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That approval be granted to the Early Years Single Funding Formula as set out in Appendix 1 to the interleaved report. 2. That approval be granted to the transitional and payment arrangements as set out in Sections 2 and 3 of Appendix 1 to the interleaved report. 3. That the Early Years Single Funding Formula be kept under review to ensure that it continued to be fit for purpose. 	<p>DCYPS</p> <p>DCYPS</p> <p>DCYPS</p>
<p>CAB113.</p>	<p>PROPOSALS FOR A NEW SINGLE FRONTLINE SERVICE (Report of</p>	

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	<p>the Director of Urban Environment - Agenda Item 12)</p> <p>We noted that he report outlined details on the shaping of a new Single Frontline Service and set out the principles of the new service would engage, respond and deliver for future Area Assemblies and Area Committees.</p> <p>Clarification was sought of whether there were any areas in which service levels were expected to decline and if there would be opportunities for residents' feedback. Further clarification was also sought of the anticipated savings now reported.</p> <p>In response, we noted that in order to maximise the outcomes from the resources available a mobile working solution would be provided that would allow the maximum time on-street and limit the amount of time required in the office. In order to ensure that services were maintained there would be a phased approach to implementation and during this period of change officers might require additional support as they adapted to new ways of working as new systems were developed and introduced. The proposed Single Frontline Service would have a key role in engaging with residents through Area Assemblies thereby enabling the local community to play an active role in resolving issues. We were advised that the savings figures included within the report were purely indicative and that the total figure of around £3.5 million incorporated options around Neighbourhood Management and Enforcement that were already part of the Haringey Efficiency Savings Programme process and were not wholly additional to existing options which were under consideration. Detailed work was underway to identify the precise additional saving possible but this would be dependent on a number of factors.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That approval be granted in principle to the amalgamation of Frontline Services together with elements of the existing Safer, Stronger Communities into a new Single Frontline Service. 2. That approval be granted to the development of the detail of the reorganisation for presentation to the General Purposes Committee. 	<p>DUE</p> <p>DUE</p>
<p>CAB114.</p>	<p>FUTURE OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT SERVICE (Report of the Director of Urban Environment - Agenda Item 13)</p> <p>We noted that the report made proposals for the future of the Neighbourhood Management Service and its key functions. Reference having been made to a number of on-going projects being managed by the Neighbourhood Management Service we were informed that the Head of Safer, Stronger Communities was working with the service to devise an exit strategy including for the projects mentioned.</p> <p>In response to a question it was confirmed that the Area Assemblies and</p>	

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	<p>Area Committees would each meet 4 times per year. In response to a further question concerning the charge to be made for Special Events on minor roads following our consideration of the matter on 21 December 2010 (vide Minute CAB.92) we were informed that, subject to confirmation, the proposed charge was thought to be in the region of £80.</p> <p>Concern having been expressed that liaison arrangements with Registered Social Landlords and other non-Council organisations was not explicit, clarification was also sought of the proposed budgetary arrangements including in respect of the 'Making the Difference' element of the Service.</p> <p>It was pointed out that the report on the proposed Single Frontline Service which was complementary to that on the Neighbourhood Management Service had set out the arrangements for continuing and building on the relationship with key partners. Similarly, financial information was also set out in the report on the Single Frontline Service. In response to a further question about redundancy costs we were informed that extensive work had been carried out by officers in this respect and the results could be shared with Members outside the meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Neighbourhood Management Service (NMS) be dis-established. 2. That the key functions currently carried out by the NMS and requiring to be maintained be transferred to other Council departments/teams where appropriate to facilitate their continuation within existing resource limits and financial envelopes for these services. 3. That buildings currently managed/utilised by NMS be transferred to the Council's Corporate Property Services or Homes for Haringey according to ownership. 4. That the General Purposes Committee consider the staffing changes arising from these recommendations. 	<p>CE</p> <p>DUE</p> <p>DUE</p> <p>DUE</p> <p>DUE</p>
<p>CAB115.</p>	<p>OUT OF BOROUGH HOUSING STOCK (Report of the Director of Urban Environment - Agenda Item 14)</p> <p>Our Chair agreed to admit the report as urgent business. The report was late because of the need to obtain further legal opinion on the contents of the report. The report was too urgent to await the next meeting because of the limited amount of capital funding available to the Council for Decent Homes and officers were seeking authority to defer all future Decent Homes works to out of borough stock and carry out an appraisal of alternative options.</p>	

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	<p>We noted that the report sought our approval for officers to consider options for meeting the future management and investment needs of the Council's out of borough housing stock.</p> <p>We also noted that in addition to the Waltham Cross estate which was located in Broxbourne, Hertfordshire there were also 130 homes on the Imperial Wharf Estate which was now located in Hackney following a boundary change. The Imperial Wharf Estate was identified for inclusion in Year 3 of the Decent Homes programme and was currently on hold pending clarification on future funding. We asked that officers first check recent re-let figures and, as appropriate, consult with residents there about future management and investment options.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the changes in the future allocation of Decent Homes funding set out in the Homes and Communities Agency consultation and bid documents 'Decent Homes Backlog Funding for Council Landlords 11-15' be noted. 2. That approval be granted to all future Decent Homes works to out of borough stock being deferred. 3. That approval be granted to options being explored on how to deliver Decent Homes work for out of borough stock, in view of reduced funding, and Tenant Services Authority requirements around consolidating property holdings and more effective housing management. 4. That approval be granted to discussions being entered into with interested Registered Housing Providers about a potential offer for the Waltham Cross estate. 5. That approval be granted to residents being consulted about future management and investment options for the Waltham Cross estate. 	<p>DUE</p> <p>DUE</p> <p>DUE</p> <p>DUE</p> <p>DUE</p>
<p>CAB116.</p>	<p>HOMES FOR HARINGEY RE-INSPECTION - FINAL REPORT (Report of the Director of Urban Environment - Agenda Item 15)</p> <p>Councillor Reith declared a personal interest in respect of this item by virtue of being a Homes for Haringey leaseholder.</p> <p>We noted that the report informed us of the outcome of the inspection of Homes for Haringey by the Audit Commission in June 2010 and of Homes for Haringey's plans to address the formal recommendations made by the Audit Commission.</p> <p>We also noted that the question of grounds maintenance was being addressed and that following a meeting a report was awaited from officers on measures to address those areas requiring improvement.</p>	

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	<p>Questions were then asked in relation to Homes for Haringey's policy towards void management and squatters, the proportion of homes which met the Decent Homes criteria, how audit data would in future be monitored and the position of Tenancy Liaison Officers.</p> <p>In response we were informed that much effort had gone into achieving performance through the Void Improvement Project and it remained an area of focus. Overall, the number of squatters was low but it was acknowledged that there were costs associated with their removal. Consultations were taking place with the Council's Head of Policy and Performance about ways in which to best validate information while Tenant Liaison Officers were new posts funded from existing resources whose principal role would be to ensure satisfaction with new tenancies. At the time of inspection, 72% of the total stock had met Decent Homes standards and it was anticipated that this proportion would have increased to 80% by the end of the year.</p> <p>We were pleased to note that Homes for Haringey had been assessed by the Audit Commission as delivering a 'Good' (two star) service with 'Promising Prospects for Improvement' and we asked that our thanks to all staff concerned for their good work be placed on record.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Homes for Haringey's approach for responding to the Audit Commission's recommendations and findings be noted. 2. That it be recognised the Homes for Haringey and the Council would need to jointly review the approach to, and the authority of the Arms Length Management Organisation in the delivery of re-letting empty properties and pursuing debt. 	DUE
<p>CAB117.</p>	<p>MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES (Agenda Item 16)</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the minutes of the following meetings be noted and any necessary action approved –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Children's Safeguarding Policy and Practice Advisory Committee – 6 December 2010; b. Voluntary Sector Committee – 6 December 2010 c. Procurement Committee – 16 December 2010. 	
<p>CAB118.</p>	<p>DELEGATED DECISIONS AND SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (People and Organisational Development - Agenda Item 17)</p> <p>The Appendix to the interleaved report was the subject of a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contained exempt information relating to the business or financial affairs of any particular person.</p>	

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	<p>The Cabinet Member for Housing asked to be provided with details of the considerations received for 78 Shepherd's Hill and 226 Stapleton Hall Road.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the report be noted and any necessary action approved.</p>	DUE
CAB119.	<p>LAND AT BULL LANE AND PASTEUR GARDENS N18 (Report of the Director of Corporate Resources - Agenda Item 18)</p> <p>The Appendix to the interleaved report was the subject of a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contained exempt information relating to the business or financial affairs of any particular person.</p> <p>We noted that the report provided us with an update following our conditional approval in March 2010 to dispose of Bull Lane and Pasteur Gardens N18 to Community Action Sport in order to develop and manage the site for sporting, recreation and community use. The report also sought our advice on the future direction of the proposed disposal.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That it be noted that Community Action Sport had not been able to conclude agreement on its proposed acquisition of Bull Lane and Pasteur Gardens on the basis of the terms and conditions agreed at our meeting on 23 March 2010. 2. That the disposal to Community Action Sport as authorised on 23 March should not proceed but the Council's commitment to the regeneration and improvement of these two sites be re-affirmed including the continued provision of recreational facilities and the value which it places on partnership with the community sector in securing their future. 3. That approval be granted to the Bull Lane and Pasteur Gardens sites being marketed including by inviting the full range of potential purchasers (and their potential partners) to submit bids outlining how these would meet the Council's long standing objectives of investing in the retention of open green spaces, improving sports and leisure facilities, contributing to social and economic regeneration and generating capital receipts. 	<p>DCR</p> <p>DCR</p>

The meeting ended at 21.15 hours.

CLAIRE KOBER
Chair