

Agenda item:

**[No.]**

**Cabinet**

**7 June 2011**

Report Title. APPOINTMENT OF CABINET COMMITTEES

Report of Assistant Chief Executive (People and Organisational Development)

Signed :

Contact Officer : Richard Burbidge  
Telephone: 020 8489 2923

Wards(s) affected: **Not applicable**

Report for: **Non Key Decision**

## 1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To appoint Cabinet Members to serve on the Procurement Committee and the Voluntary Sector Committee for the 2011/12 Municipal Year and to confirm the terms of reference of the two executive committees.
- 1.2 To appoint Members to serve on the Adult Safeguarding Advisory Committee, the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee and the Children's Safeguarding Advisory Committee for the 2011/12 Municipal Year and to confirm the terms of reference of these three advisory committees.
- 1.3 To recommend that the Hornsey Town Hall Community Partnership Board be wound up.

## 2. Introduction by Cabinet Member

- 2.1 The Cabinet Procurement Committee will play an important part in enabling the Cabinet to undertake our responsibilities in relation to contract and procurement decisions. Good procurement decisions are central to sound financial management and our continued commitment to achieving value for money and the delivery of excellent services to Haringey's communities.

- 2.2 The Cabinet Voluntary Sector Committee will enable this Council to build on the constructive and positive relationships with our partners within the Voluntary Sector. The remit of this body goes beyond the scope of solely allocating grant aid to that of issues relating to the Voluntary Sector in general.
- 2.3 It is vital that as a Council we have in place the necessary arrangements for ensuring we discharge our corporate parenting and child safeguarding arrangements. The governance arrangements for corporate parenting and child safeguarding matters proposed in the report respond clearly to the issues which were raised in the JAR inspection at the end of 2008.
- 2.4 The Well-being and Choice Service Inspection, January 2009, made certain recommendations in terms of further enhancing Adults Safeguarding practice. The Advisory Committee provides an 'arms length' overview and provides the Cabinet with the assurance that the highest level of scrutiny is being offered to the safeguarding of vulnerable adults in Haringey.

### **3. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and/or other Strategies:**

- 3.1 Section 2 (Committees of the Cabinet) of Part Three Section D of the Council's Constitution provides that -

The Cabinet may delegate any of its functions to a Committee of the Cabinet. Committees of the Cabinet shall report to the Cabinet. The Cabinet may establish decision-making Committees, which may only include Cabinet Members. The Cabinet may establish advisory Committees, the membership of which need not be limited to Cabinet Members. The Cabinet may change them, abolish them, or create further ones, at its own discretion.

Committees established by the Cabinet shall be empowered to perform their functions with immediate effect unless the Cabinet imposes any express restriction when they are established. Unless stated otherwise, all Decision-Making Committees will continue in operation until expressly abolished by the Cabinet and all Advisory or Consultative Committees will continue in operation only until the first meeting of the Cabinet in the next municipal year following their establishment when they must be expressly renewed or they cease to exist.

The establishment, abolition or cessation of Committees and the amendment of their terms of reference will be reported to full Council in due course for noting in the Council's Constitution.

The functions of the Cabinet under this Section shall be exercised with the agreement of the Leader and may be exercised by the Leader personally.

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1. That the Cabinet appoint the Cabinet Members indicated below to serve on the Procurement Committee and on the Voluntary Sector Committee for the 2011/12 municipal year and confirm their respective terms of reference as outlined in paragraphs 7.1 and 7.2 below -

Cabinet Procurement Committee

Councillor Goldberg (Chair)  
Councillor Bevan  
Councillor Kober  
Councillor Reith

Voluntary Sector Committee

Councillor Dogus (Chair)  
Councillor Goldberg  
Councillor Vanier

- 4.2 That the Cabinet appoint the Members indicated below to serve on the Adults Safeguarding Advisory Committee, the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee and the Children Safeguarding Policy and Practice Advisory Committee for the 2011/12 municipal year and confirm their respective terms of reference as detailed in paragraphs 7.3 - 7.5 below –

Adults Safeguarding Policy & Practice Advisory Committee

Councillor Egan  
Councillor Mallett  
Councillor Winskill

Children's Safeguarding Policy & Practice Advisory Committee

Councillor Rice (Chair)  
Councillor Amin  
Bob Hare  
Councillor Stewart  
(Plus Hilary Corrick – Independent Member)

Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee

Councillor Reith (Chair)  
Councillor Allison  
Councillor Brabazon  
Councillor Reece  
Councillor Solomon  
Councillor Stennett  
Councillor Watson

- 4.3 That the Hornsey Town Hall Community Partnership Board be wound up.

## **5. Reasons for recommendation(s)**

- 5.1. To ensure that the Cabinet responsibilities in relation to contract and procurement matters are properly discharged as good procurement decisions are central to sound financial management and our continued commitment to achieving value for money and the delivery of excellent services to Haringey's communities.
- 5.2 To enable the Council to build on the constructive and positive relationships with our partners within the Voluntary Sector the remit of this body was broadened to go beyond its original scope of solely allocating grant aid to that of issues relating to the Voluntary Sector in general.
- 5.3 To respond to the recommendations within the JAR Action in relation to improved governance of children safeguarding arrangements.
- 5.4 To assist the development of better performance management in line with the Independence, Wellbeing and Choice Service Inspection and the agreed action plan by reviewing the effectiveness of the Council's policies and practice in relation to the Safeguarding of Adults and joint working of partner organisations to make sure that adults within Haringey are appropriately protected from all forms of abuse.
- 5.5 The Hornsey Town Hall Community Partnership Board was established as a Transitional body to develop key elements of the Hornsey Town Hall scheme until such time as responsibility transferred to the Hornsey Town Hall Community Trust (HTHCT). The Board has not met in the last year and with recent Cabinet agreement to pursue a scheme with Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts the Board is no longer required. It is anticipated that the HTHCT will continue to be engaged in the scheme in its own capacity as a community stakeholder.

## **6. Other options considered**

- 6.1. Not applicable

## **7. Summary**

- 7.1 In the municipal year 2010/11 the membership of the Procurement Committee was 4 with a quorum of 2 and consisted of -

Cabinet Member Finance & Sustainability (Chair)  
Leader of the Council  
Cabinet Member Children and Young People  
Cabinet Member Housing

In addition, the Members appointed were entitled to name any other Member of the Cabinet as a substitute in the event of absence from a meeting with the

proviso that substitutes, when attending in that capacity, be recorded in the minutes as so doing and be entitled to carry full voting and other rights and responsibilities.

The Terms of Reference of the Committee agreed by the Council were as follows:

- a) To exercise the functions of the Cabinet in respect of all contracts for procurement for works, goods or services in accordance with the Contract Procedure Rules set out in Part Four Section J of the Constitution except for those matters expressly delegated to any other body or person;
- b) To undertake particular powers included within (a) as follows:
  - (i) waiver of Contract Procedure Rules where appropriate;
  - (ii) acceptance of tenders/award of contracts where appropriate;
  - (iii) approving variations, extensions and novations of contracts where appropriate;
  - (iv) annual review of Contract Procedure Rules;
  - (v) receive quarterly reports of the Director of Adults, Culture and Community Services and the Director of the Children and Young People's Services in relation to 'spot contracts';
  - (vi) agreeing of approved lists of contractors;
- c) To oversee the process and receive reports at key milestones in respect of procurement of strategic service areas;
- d) To advise the Cabinet on all matters concerned with procurement generally.

7.2 In the municipal year 2010/11 the membership of the Voluntary Sector Committee was 3 with a quorum of 2 and consisted of-

Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services (Chair)  
Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion  
Cabinet Member Finance and Sustainability

The Terms of Reference of the Committee agreed by the Council were as follows:

- a) To consider officer recommendations for future funding and agree the awarding of grant aid to the voluntary and community sector;
- b) To review funding to organisations where there is a potential breach of conditions of grant aid and/or service level agreement
- c) To advise the Cabinet on variations to the overall grant policy;

- d) To advise the Cabinet on all aspects of the Council's relationship with the Voluntary Sector including the management and use of the community buildings portfolio.

7.3 In the municipal year 2010/11 the membership of the Adult Safeguarding Advisory Committee was 3 with a quorum of 2 and consisted of –

Councillor Adamou (Chair)  
Councillor Christophides  
Councillor Winskill

The Terms of Reference of the Committee agreed by the Cabinet were as follows:

- a) To examine and review the effectiveness of the Council's policies and practice in relation to the Safeguarding of Adults;
- b) To review and examine the effectiveness of arrangements for co-operation and joint working of Adults Safeguarding issues between partner agencies;
- c) By obtaining the views of key stakeholders (staff, families/carers and the person themselves) to obtain a qualitative understanding of how safeguarding processes are working to protect vulnerable adults;
- d) To consider the Council's policies and performance in relation to safeguarding adults through observing practice within Haringey;
- e) To make recommendations on these issues to the Cabinet, the lead member for Safeguarding Adults and the Assistant Director for safeguarding in order to take forward and drive improvements to safeguarding adults within the borough.
- f) To receive periodic reports on national and local practice developments and to be kept updated on key issues in relation to safeguarding adults.
- g) To be cognisant of the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board and to meet periodically with the Independent Chair, the Assistant Director and the Head of Service.
- h) To undertake a scrutiny function of services provided across the borough which may be subject to safeguarding concerns.

7.4 In the municipal year 2010/11 the membership of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee was 7 with a quorum of 2 and consisted of -

— Cabinet Member for Children and Young People (Chair)  
Councillor Allison  
Councillor Alexander

Councillor Engert  
Councillor Peacock  
Councillor Stennett  
Councillor Watson

The Terms of Reference of the Committee agreed by the Cabinet were as follows:

- a) To be responsible for the Council's role as Corporate parent for those children and young people who are in care;
- b) To ensure the views of children in care are heard;
- c) To seek to ensure that the life chances of children in care are maximized in terms of health, educational attainment and access to training and employment to aid the transition to a secure and fulfilling adulthood.
- d) To ensure that the voice and needs of disabled children are identified and provided for;
- e) To provide an advocacy function within the Children's Trust and the Council on behalf of children in care;
- f) To monitor the quality of care provided by the Council to Children in Care;
- g) To ensure that children leaving care have sustainable arrangements for their future wellbeing.

7.5 In the municipal year 2010/11 the membership of the Children Safeguarding Policy and Practice Advisory Committee was 7 with a quorum of 3 and consisted of -

Councillor Rice ( Chair)  
Councillor Amin  
Councillor Davies  
Councillor Hare  
Councillor McNamara  
Hilary Corrick ( Non Councillor Member – appointed by the Advisory Committee)

The Terms of Reference of the Committee agreed by the Cabinet were as follows:

- a) To examine and consider the effectiveness of the Council's policies and practice, including policies and practices in schools, children's homes and children's centres, relating to the safeguarding of children.
- b) To examine and consider the effectiveness of the arrangements for co-operation on child protection matters between partner agencies.

- c) To consider the Council's policies and performance relating to safeguarding through observing practice in Haringey and obtaining the views of key stakeholders (staff, families and children /young people) to attain a qualitative understanding of safeguarding practice.
- d) To make recommendations on these matters to the Cabinet or Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and Director of Children and Young People's Service in taking forward improvements to safeguarding of children.
- e) The Chair will determine the Committee's procedures and the means for conveying the Committee's views to the Cabinet but, in the event of any dispute, the outcome will be determined by the majority vote of the Committee's membership with the Chair having a casting vote.

## **8. Chief Financial Officer Comments**

- 8.1. The service manager confirms that these committees can be serviced from within existing business unit resources.
- 8.2. Members should note that the advisory committees and the community partnership board have no formal decision making powers and thus will not have the authority to incur expenditure or make budgetary decisions.

## **9. Head of Legal Services Comments**

- 9.1. The Council's Constitution sets out the relevant Cabinet arrangements at Part Three, Section D and confirms that the Cabinet may establish decision making committees, which may only include Cabinet Members. The Cabinet may establish advisory Committees, the membership of which need not be limited to Cabinet Members. The Cabinet may change them, abolish them, or create further ones, at its own discretion. Unless changed or abolished, the two decision-making Committees continue in operation without the need for formal renewal each year. Under the new executive leadership arrangements, these powers of the Cabinet must be exercised with the agreement of the Leader and may be exercised by the Leader personally.

## **10. Head of Procurement Comments – [Required for Procurement Committee]**

- 10.1. Not applicable

## **11. Equalities & Community Cohesion Comments**



- 11.1. The recommendations of Members to serve on the Procurement Committee and the Voluntary Sector Committee reflect Members' roles and specialisms because of the diversity of members the suggestions are balanced in terms of gender and ethnicity.
- 11.2. There has been consultation on the proposals for the three Advisory Committees within the Majority and Minority Political Groups.

## **12. Consultation**

- 12.1. Not applicable.

## **13. Service Financial Comments**

- 13.1. It is not envisaged that the establishment of these Committees will of itself have any direct financial implications.

## **14. Use of appendices /Tables and photographs**

- 14.1. Not applicable

## **15. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

### **15.1 Background Papers**

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

Report to the Cabinet on 15 June 2010 entitled Appointment of Cabinet Committees.

The background papers are located at River Park House, 225 High Road, Wood Green, London N22 8HQ.

To inspect them or to discuss this report further, please contact Richard Burbidge on 020 8489 2923.