

DECISION NOTICE OF THE Cabinet HELD ON Tuesday, 20th January, 2026

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of Cabinet held on Tuesday, 20 January 2026.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Richard Plummer, Committees Manager.

9. ACQUISITION OF 12 COUNCIL HOMES AT 67 LAWRENCE ROAD, LONDON N15 4GL

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR THIS ITEM:

None

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet:

1. Approved the acquisition of the long leasehold interest in 12 flats at the property for housing purposes, for the purchase price as set out in the Part B (Exempt) report and based on the draft Heads of Terms contained in the Part B (Exempt) report.
2. Approved the total scheme cost for the acquisition as contained in the Part B (Exempt) report.
3. Approved the payment to Estate Office Investments Ltd (Estate Office) as contained in the Part B (Exempt) report.
4. Noted that it was proposed that grant funding from the Greater London Authority (GLA) would be used to part fund the acquisition with the option to use additional funding from the General Fund under an approved allocation for acquisitions through the CHAP programme. The amount of grant funding was contained in the Part B (Exempt) report.
5. In the event GLA funding was not available, Cabinet approval was sought for the use of right to buy (RTB) receipts. The amount of grant funding was contained in the Exempt Part B (Exempt) report.
6. Pursuant to the previous recommendation, where RTB funding was used, approved the grant of leases of these homes for a term not exceeding 7 years to the Haringey Community Benefit Society (HCBS) who, in turn, would let these homes at Local Housing Allowance (LHA).

7. Approved that the lettings of these homes were made in accordance with the grant funding conditions, and that the Neighbourhood Moves Scheme would not apply to these homes.
8. Granted delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources following consultation with the Head of Legal and Lead Member for Housing to finalise the Heads of Terms, agree the purchase price, finalise legal documentation and complete the transactions.

Reasons for decision

The acquisition of these properties resulted in 12 additional new council homes helping the council make good on its pledge to acquire and build 3,000 council homes by 2031.

The homes were expected to be of a good standard and to accord with the GLA's design standards as set out in the London Plan.

Alternative options considered

Not to acquire the homes. This option was rejected because it would have been a missed opportunity for the Council to:

- Secure 12 new Council homes.
- Purchase homes at a commercially advantageous price and payment structure.
- Assist in maintaining momentum and progress in the overall aspiration to provide affordable housing in the borough.

10. ADOPTING AN UPDATED DAMP AND MOULD POLICY

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR THIS ITEM:

None

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet:

1. Approved the updated Damp and Mould Policy at Appendix 1, having had regard to the Equality Impact Assessment at Appendix 2, to come into effect from 3 February 2026.
2. Delegated to the Corporate Director Adults, Housing and Health in consultation with the relevant Cabinet member for Housing and Planning any future changes to this policy required by changes to legal or regulatory requirements arising in the three-year period before the policy was due for review.

Reasons for decision

This policy outlined the Council's approach to tenancy management for Council tenants and for their wider households. It also helped the Council meet the Social

Housing Regulator's consumer standards, specifically the Tenancy Standard and the Transparency, Influence and Accountability Standard.

Alternative options considered

The Council could have treated all damp and mould cases via its existing repairs process and decided not to design and implement a damp and mould policy. This option was rejected since there was an expectation, from government and residents, that the Council, as a social housing landlord, would have a policy in place which set out its approach to dealing with issues relating to damp and mould.

11. APPROVAL OF HARINGEY LIBRARY STRATEGY 2026-30

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR THIS ITEM:

None

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet:

1. Approved the draft Haringey Library Strategy 2026–30.1.
2. Noted the findings of the consultation report and updated Equalities Impact Assessment.

Reasons for decision

The Council had a statutory duty under the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 to provide a 'comprehensive and efficient' library service for those who lived, worked or studied in the borough. The duty was supplemented by government guidance, which although not statutory, still had to be taken into account. The guidance advised that changes to library services should be based on strategic plans and consideration of alternative delivery models, and on careful assessment of needs and consideration of impacts and mitigations.

When the Council adopted revised operating hours for the library service in December 2024, in the absence of a specific library strategy, it used the principles which already underpinned its Arts & Culture Strategy – Access, Collaboration, Equity, Growth, Lifelong Learning, Visibility & Representation – to inform that decision. The Council also committed as part of that decision to developing a dedicated library strategy to underpin future development of the library service and put it on a sustainable footing for the future. This report gave effect to that commitment, following detailed consultation and engagement with a wide range of stakeholders.

Alternative options considered

The Council could have decided not to adopt a Library Strategy. However, this would have left the library service without an underpinning strategic direction and would have

undermined the Council's conformity with its statutory duty in respect of library provision. This option was therefore not recommended.

12. SINGLE USE PLASTICS POLICY AND ACTION PLAN

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR THIS ITEM:

None

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet:

1. Approved the Single Use Plastics Policy 2026 and accompanying Single Use Plastics Action Plan, which outlined how the Council would reduce SUPs, both within its operations and across the borough.

Reasons for decision

Haringey Council was committed to doing everything possible to respond to the climate emergency and improve sustainability across its own operations and in the borough of Haringey.

Reducing consumption of SUPs across the Council's offices and the borough saved money, reduced waste, improved the environment and decreased the number of harmful plastics ending up in the world's oceans or in landfill.

Haringey Council had already taken bold steps to reduce SUPs. The last SUP policy successfully delivered a wide range of plastic reduction initiatives including the introduction of water fountains for refillable bottles and recyclable drink cups in Council offices.

This decision supported the Council's Climate Emergency declaration and contributed to borough-wide carbon reduction targets. It also aligned with the Corporate Delivery Plan, particularly the strategic themes of Responding to the Climate Emergency and Place and Economy.

Haringey's last original SUP Policy ran from 2020 to 2022. Post-COVID, many Council practices had changed; for example, changes in building usage and remote working affected SUP consumption and waste. Some actions outlined in the original plan were no longer applicable or relevant to current ways of working.

The national and regional landscape around SUP had also changed significantly since 2020, which meant the original policy did not reflect recent developments in legislation, borough-wide sustainability goals, or best practice guidance from ReLondon and London Councils.

At a regional level, London Councils, ReLondon, and WRAP launched the "One World Living Single-Use Plastics Pledge" in 2025, encouraging boroughs to commit to

reducing SUPs across their operations and supply chains. This new updated SUP policy reflected how Haringey actively aligned with this pledge.

The Policy and Action Plan highlighted the borough's commitment to eliminate problematic single-use plastics and transition to reuse in Council operations and delivered services. It aligned with a growing regional movement across London and was in tandem with the Council's commitment to the single-use plastics pledge in partnership with London Councils, ReLondon and WRAP.

Alternative options considered

Doing nothing was rejected. This would have left the Council with an outdated SUP Policy, which did not reflect how the Council's operations had changed, or changes in the regional and national policy landscape. Not updating the policy would not have supported the Corporate Delivery Plan or the Haringey Climate Action Plan.

Doing a Council Plan only was rejected. This would have focused only on the Council as an organisation and on the influence the Council had across the borough. The Council was well placed to help reduce SUPs beyond its own organisation. To only focus on SUP the Council directly used would have missed opportunities, such as SUPs at events, SUPs in schools and SUPs used by the Council's partners, which were a vital part of achieving the Council's aim.