

**MINUTES OF THE CABINET  
TUESDAY, 26 JANUARY 2010**

Councillors \*Kober (Chair), \*Amin, Basu, \*Bevan, \*Canver, \*Dogus, \*B. Harris and \*Reith.

\*Present

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
CAB116.	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> (Agenda Item 1)</p> <p>An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Basu.</p>	
CAB117.	<p><b>MINUTES</b> (Agenda Item 4)</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>That, the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 15 December 2009 be confirmed and signed.</p>	HLDMS
CAB118.	<p><b>DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/QUESTIONS</b> (Agenda Item 5)</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. We noted that the Letter summarised the conclusions and significant issues arising out of the work for the Council in the preceding year. It included information from the audit of the Council's accounts, the Use of Resources Assessment and the certification of claims and returns.</p> <p>Mr. Dossett highlighted the key conclusions from the 2008/09 audit which were as follows -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An unqualified opinion of the Council's 2008/09 accounts had been issued by the required deadline. The Council had engaged in the accounts audit in a very positive and responsive fashion.</li> <li>• Although the Council had performed well overall in the new use of resources assessment, the value for money conclusion had contained an 'except for' qualification in respect of the Council's use of data, based on a number of weaknesses identified with the Council's data quality.</li> <li>• The review of the Council's treasury management arrangements had demonstrated that the Council had put sound arrangements in place and, following its exposure from the Icelandic banking crisis, had taken decisive action to deal with the nationally and locally identified areas for improvement.</li> </ul> <p>He advised that the audit had also highlighted the following key areas where the Council should take action in 2009/10 -</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council should continue its preparations for the introduction of accounting under International Financial Reporting Standards including by ensuring that asset valuation procedures were sufficiently robust and accounting for fixed assets was further strengthened.</li> <li>• The Council should address, as a matter of priority, the identified weaknesses in data quality, including the child protection and housing and council tax services in order to achieve an 'adequate' assessment in future.</li> </ul> <p>Arising from the question of International Financial Reporting Standards Mr. Dossett added that the Audit Commission were to issue a briefing saying that many local authorities were struggling to implement these but he was pleased to report that Haringey were more advanced than most with their preparations and he emphasised the good working arrangements between the Council's officers and Grant Thornton. Our Chair then thanked Mr. Dossett for the presentation.</p>	
<p><b>CAB119.</b></p>	<p><b>ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2008/09</b> (Report of the Chief Financial Officer Agenda Item 6)</p> <p>We noted that the auditors' findings had been reported previously to the General Purposes Committee and to the Audit Committee and actions agreed in response.</p> <p>We also noted that the Audit Committee was responsible for monitoring the implementation and progress of the detailed actions which were summarised in the interleaved report. The report outlined how the Council was addressing the key issues raised by the external assessment process and it was reported that the external auditors had also agreed the substance of the detailed actions.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">That the Annual Audit Letter for 2008/09 be received and the Council's response to it be noted.</p>	
<p><b>CAB120.</b></p>	<p><b>THE COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE: NOVEMBER 2009 (PERIOD 8)</b> (Joint Report of the Chief Executive and the Chief Financial Officer - 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 2009. It also sought agreement to a number of budget virements in accordance with financial regulations.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">That the report be noted and approval be granted to the budget changes (virements) set out in Appendix 2 to the interleaved</p>	<p>CFO</p>

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	report.	
<b>CAB121.</b>	<p><b>FINANCIAL PLANNING 2010/11 - 2012/13</b> (Joint Report of the Director of Corporate Resources and the Chief Financial Officer - Agenda Item 9)</p> <p>Our Chair agreed to admit the report as urgent business. The report was late because of the need to complete necessary consultations. The report was too urgent to await the next meeting because approval of the recommendations contained in the report was necessary to refer the budget package to the Council meeting on 22 February 2010 for consideration.</p> <p>We noted that the report set out the proposed budget package for recommendation to the Council and that the budget proposed was based on a Council Tax freeze for 2010/11. The medium term plan showed a significant budget gap for 2011/12 onwards and in order to meet this challenge a strategic approach had been set out.</p> <p>The report also proposed a balanced budget for the schools element of children's services within the ring-fenced dedicated schools grant (DSG) and a balanced budget for the HRA based on an average rent increase of 1.3%. The proposed capital programme was based on the existing policy framework for capital expenditure.</p> <p>We also noted that the treasury management strategy and policy had been considered by the General Purposes Committee and was recommended for approval.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That approval be granted to the changes and variations set out in paragraph 9.3 of the interleaved report and Appendix B thereto.</li> <li>2. That the outcome of the consultation processes as set out in section 11 of the interleaved report be noted.</li> <li>3. That approval be granted to the revised and new investment proposals set out in Appendix D to the interleaved report.</li> <li>4. That approval be granted to the revised and new savings proposals set out in Appendix E to the interleaved report.</li> <li>5. That approval be granted to the proposals for the children's services (DSG) budget as set out in the interleaved report and in Appendix F to the interleaved report.</li> <li>6. That approval be granted to the proposals for the HRA budget asset out in Appendix G to the interleaved report.</li> <li>7. That approval be granted to housing rent increases at an average of £0.98 per week (1.3%).</li> </ol>	<p>CFO</p> <p>CFO</p> <p>CFO</p> <p>CFO</p> <p>CFO</p> <p>CFO</p> <p>CFO</p>

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	<p>8. That approval be granted to the housing tenant service charge reduction at an average of £1.59 per week (10%).</p> <p>9. That approval be granted to the proposals for the capital programme and funding as set out in Appendices H and J and to the capital resource allocation policy at Appendix I to the interleaved report.</p> <p>10. That approval be granted to the treasury management strategy and policy and prudential limits set out in Appendix K to the interleaved report and to the amended reporting processes in line with the revised CIPFA guidance.</p> <p>11. That approval be granted to the proposed General Fund budget requirement of £416.587 million, subject to the decisions of precepting and levying authorities, and the consequences for Council Tax levels</p> <p>12. That it be noted that the report would now be referred to the Council on 22 February 2010 for a final decision on the budget and the council tax for 2010/11.</p>	<p>CFO</p> <p>CFO</p> <p>CFO</p> <p>CFO</p>
<p><b>CAB122.</b></p>	<p><b>AQUATICS DEVELOPMENT PLAN</b> (Report of the Director of Adult, Culture and Community Services - Agenda Item 10)</p> <p>We noted that swimming and other aquatic based activity was the most popular sport within the borough and had the most unmet demand from people who wanted to learn to swim. However, swimming pools required a significant subsidy in order to operate and it was important that they had the maximum benefit they could on people's health outcomes.</p> <p>We also noted that the purpose of the report was to seek to ensure a sustainable plan was in place for people who wanted to learn to swim. To this end officers were seeking to identify key partner's with whom the Council could work to increase access and opportunity and to ensure investments within the Sports and Leisure Improvement Programme were targeted to benefit long term development of aquatic activity. Consideration was also given to the options for the continuation of the free swimming offer beyond March 2011.</p> <p>We welcomed the inclusion of schools swimming pools in the Plan and in response to a question we noted that with regard to the pool at Northumberland Park school discussions about extending public use there were taking place.</p> <p>Reference was made to the new water treatment system at Tottenham Green Leisure Centre and it was confirmed that this had resulted in economies in water, chemical and energy usage and also in the reduction of carbon emissions and that a number of other local authorities had expressed interest in the regenerative filtration system.</p>	

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	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>That approval be granted to the Aquatics Development Plan as set out in the Appendix to the interleaved report.</p>	DACCS
<p><b>CAB123.</b></p>	<p><b>DRAFT REPLACEMENT LONDON PLAN: DRAFT LONDON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND THE MAYOR'S DRAFT TRANSPORT STRATEGY</b> (Report of the Director of Urban Environment - Agenda Item 11)</p> <p>We noted that the Mayor had published three major draft policy documents for consultation in October and was seeking views from the Boroughs, public agencies and all stakeholders. The documents in question were -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft replacement London Plan (LP)</li> <li>• Draft Economic Development Strategy (EDS)</li> <li>• Mayor's Draft Transport Strategy (MTS)</li> </ul> <p>We also noted that, following the publication of these strategies, the London Development Agency's (LDA) draft Investment Strategy had been published in December. This set out the broad investment priorities for 2010-2013 with the intention of supporting the delivery of outcomes identified in the replacement London Plan, draft MTS and draft EDS.</p> <p>The interleaved report proposed the Council's response to each of the draft strategies. The response to the LDA's Investment Strategy was incorporated into the responses to the draft replacement London Plan, draft MTS and draft EDS. The key comments proposed were set out in Section 7 of the main body of the report while in Appendices 1-4, summaries of the 3 Plans/Strategies were set out along with both proposed general and key comments.</p> <p>Our Chair thanked the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities and the other members of the LDF Members Advisory Group for their efforts to ensure that a corporate response was made to these three strategies.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>That approval be granted to the proposed comments as set out in Section 7 of the interleaved report and in Appendices 1-3 thereto, and that these be submitted to the Mayor of London as the Council's formal comments on the draft replacement London Plan, Economic Development Strategy and the Mayor's Transport Strategy.</p>	DUE
<p><b>CAB124.</b></p>	<p><b>DELEGATED DECISIONS AND SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS</b> (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive – People and Organisational Development Agenda Item 12)</p> <p>The Appendix to the interleaved report was the subject of a motion to</p>	

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	<p>exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contained exempt information relating to the business or financial affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>That the report be noted and any necessary action approved.</p>	
<p><b>CAB125.</b></p>	<p><b>MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES</b> (Agenda Item 13)</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>That the minutes of the following meetings be noted and any necessary action approved -</p> <p>a) Corporate Parenting Committee – 7 December 2009;  b) Children’s Safeguarding Policy and Practice Committee – 17 December 2009;  c) Procurement Committee – 22 December 2009.</p>	
<p><b>CAB126.</b></p>	<p><b>APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON HARINGEY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP THEME BOARDS</b> (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive – People and Organisational Development Agenda Item 14)</p> <p>Our Chair agreed to admit the report as urgent business. The report was late because of the late receipt of the former Cabinet Member’s resignation. The report was too urgent to await the next meeting because the two Haringey Strategic Partnership (HSP) Theme Boards to which appointments needed to be made were both due to meet before the next Cabinet meeting on 23 February 2009.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>That Councillor Bevan be appointed to serve in place of Councillor Haley on the HSP Better Places Partnership Board and the HSP Enterprise Board for the remainder of the 2009/10 municipal year.</p>	<p>HLDMS</p>
<p><b>CAB127.</b></p>	<p><b>EXEMPT MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES</b> (Agenda Item 17)</p> <p>The minutes were the subject of a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as they contained exempt information likely to reveal the identity of an individual, and information relating to any individual.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>That the exempt minutes of the Corporate Parenting Committee meeting held on 7 December 2009 be noted and any necessary action approved.</p>	

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The meeting ended at

CLAIRE KOBER  
Chair