

# **Corporate Committee**

TUESDAY, 15TH MAY, 2012 at 19:00 HRS - CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH ROAD, WOOD GREEN, N22 8LE.

**MEMBERS:** Councillors Amin, Gorrie, Griffith, Jenks, Khan, McNamara, Meehan, Watson, Whyte and Williams

#### AGENDA

# 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE(IF ANY)

#### 2. URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair will consider the admission of any of any late items of urgent business. (Late items will be considered under the agenda item where they appear. New items will be dealt with at item 18 or 23 below).

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A member with a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.

A member with a personal interest in a matter also has a prejudicial interest in that matter if the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member's judgment of the public interest **and** if this interest affects their financial position or the financial position of a person or body as described in paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct **and/or** if it relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to them or any person or body described in paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct.

# 4. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

To consider any requests received in accordance with Part 4, section B, Paragraph 29 of the Council's Constitution.

# 5. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 16)

To consider and agree the Corporate Committee minutes of the meetings held on :

23 January 2012 20 March 2012

# 6. PENSIONS QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE UPDATE (PAGES 17 - 30)

To receive the quarterly Pension Fund will provide information for the between period October 2011 to March 31 2012 in respect of:

- Investment asset allocation
- Investment performance
- Responsible investment activity
- Budget management
- Late payment of contributions

# 7. PENSION FUND EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2011/12 (PAGES 31 - 44)

This report presents the audit plan prepared by the external auditors, Grant Thornton for the audit of the Pension Fund accounts 2011/12 for the Committee's consideration.

#### 8. PENSION FUND: INVESTMENT STRATEGY UPDATE (PAGES 45 - 64)

This report summarises the stages of the investment strategy review, provides an update on the implementation and sets out a draft revised Statement of Investment Principles for approval.

# 9. TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2011/12 - QUARTER 4 UPDATE AND USE OF COUNTERPARTIES (PAGES 65 - 76)

This report updates the Committee on the Council's treasury management activities and performance in the fourth quarter of 2011/12 and outlines the Council's use of counterparties during 2011/12 at the request of the Committee at the January meeting.

#### 10. EXTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS UPDATE (PAGES 77 - 78)

To consider Grant Thornton's Audit Progress report for May 2012.

### 11. AUDIT APPROACH MEMORANDUM (PAGES 79 - 96)

The memorandum will provide additional detail regarding Grant Thornton's audit approach, as set out in the Audit Plan 2011/12 considered by the Committee in January, as well as provide an update on their response to key risks from the results of interim audit work carried out to date.

#### 12. STAFF CHANGES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CABINET DECISION TO CLOSE TWO RESIDENTIAL CHILDREN'S HOMES (PAGES 97 - 128)

The Committee to consider the background context and overview of the consultation and staffing restructuring process connected with the Cabinet decision to close two residential children's homes.

#### 13. QUARTER 4 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT (PAGES 129 - 164)

To advise the Committee of the work undertaken during the fourth quarter by the Internal Audit Service in completing the 2011/12 annual audit plan and reports issued for outstanding 2010/11 audits, together with the responsive and housing benefit fraud investigation work, and to provide details of the work undertaken by Council's Human Resources business unit in supporting disciplinary action taken across all departments by respective Council Officers.

# 14. NATIONAL FRAUD INITIATIVE - UPDATE REPORT ON 2011 INVESTIGATIONS (PAGES 165 - 170)

The report provides details about the outcomes from work undertaken on the Audit Commission's National Fraud Initiative exercise during 2011/12 and the outcomes of the exercise to date.

# 15. SHARED SERVICES - EMPLOYMENT PROTOCOLS (PAGES 171 - 192)

The Committee will consider the shared service Employment Protocols developed jointly with the London Borough of Waltham Forest and the unions to provide a framework for managing the employment issues that will arise from providing services jointly by two or more London boroughs.

Attached to the report, for ease of reference, are the Employeeside comments on the Shared services report. Legal services have responded to the points raised about the secondment agreements and these are also attached to this paper.

#### 16. UPDATE REPORT ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH TRADE UNIONS ON STAFF TERMS AND CONDITIONS (PAGES 193 - 198)

The Committee will consider an update on discussions with the unions to change the following employment terms and procedures:

- Car and travel allowance
- Grievance procedure
- Capability procedure
- Disciplinary procedure
- Sickness absence disciplinary procedure

#### 17. DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER URGENCY, AND SIGNIFICANT DELEGATED ACTIONS (PAGES 199 - 206)

To inform the Corporate Committee of non executive delegated decisions, significant actions taken by Directors and any urgency decisions taken by the Chair since the ordinary meeting in January 2012.

#### 18. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

To consider any items admitted at item 2 above.

# 19. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following items are likely to be subject of a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contains exempt information as defined in Section 100a of the Local Government Act 1972; Para , 2 – information likely to reveal the identity of an individual and para 3 information relating to the business or financial affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

# 20. EXEMPT MINUTES (PAGES 207 - 214)

To consider the exempt minutes of the Corporate Committee held on:

23 January 2012 20 March 2012

Council Employee Joint Consultative Committee minutes:

7 November 2011

# 21. INVESTMENT STRATEGY (PAGES 215 - 222)

To consider exempt information relating to agenda item 8.

#### 22. STAFF CHANGES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CABINET DECISION TO CLOSE TWO RESIDENTIAL CHILDREN'S HOMES (PAGES 223 - 230)

The Committee to consider exempt information relating to item 12 on the agenda.

#### 23. ANY OTHER EXEMPT BUSINESS

To consider any items admitted at item 2 above.

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