

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON TUESDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY, 2019, 6.30pm.

PRESENT:

Councillors: Joseph Ejiofor (Chair), Emine Ibrahim (Vice-Chair), Patrick Berryman, Mark Blake, Kirsten Hearn, Noah Tucker, Elin Weston, Kaushika Amin and Sarah James

Also in attendance Councillors: Dennison, Connor, Rossetti, Bevan, Carlin, Williams, Brabazon.

72. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Leader referred to agenda item 1, as shown on the agenda in respect of filming at the meeting and Members noted this information.

73. APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillor Adje and apologies for lateness from Cllr Mark Blake.

74. URGENT BUSINESS

The Leader advised the meeting that Cabinet did not have any new items of urgent business to consider. However, there were two items of late business to consider relating to items 9 and 10 on the agenda which he had accepted as urgent business. These were as follows:

An EQIA for consideration with the Borough Plan at item 9. This report was late to allow finalisation of the presentation of key data and needs urgent consideration alongside the Borough Plan. This was deemed urgent in order to agree the recommendations set out in the report and allow the borough plan to be considered alongside the budget report.

In relation to the MTFs report at item 10, there was an addendum setting out some minor updates to report which needed to be noted before considering the recommendations. The Leader advised that the addendum had to be considered with the 2019/20 Budget/Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2019/20-23/24 at the meeting tonight to facilitate an accurate recommendation on the adoption of the 2019/20 Budget/Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20-2023/24 to be made to Full Council at its meeting on the 25th February 2019. Further, to meet the requirements of

the Local Government Finance Act 1992, Full Council needed to approve the budget and agree the Council Tax for that year by the statutory deadline of 11th March.

Cabinet also was required to consider Appendix 7 – Overview and Scrutiny Committee Recommendations and Proposed Response. This was marked to follow in the published agenda pack and was not published with the original pack due to the requirement for an extraordinary Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting to be held on 5th February 2019 and enable any recommendations arising from this meeting to be addressed. The appendix was now included.

75. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- The Leader declared a personal, non-pecuniary and non-beneficial interest in item 10, Medium Term Financial strategy (2019/20 to 2023/24) due to a connection with Fortismere secondary school.
- In the absence of Councillor Mark Blake at the start of the meeting, the Leader, declared on his behalf, a personal, non-pecuniary and non-beneficial interest in item 10, Medium Term Financial strategy (2019/20 to 2023/24) due to a connection with Fortismere secondary school.
- The Leader further declared a personal interest in item 12, the Fees and Charges 2019/20 report due to a connection with a charge increase listed.
- Cllr Noah Tucker declared a personal interest in item 12, the Fees and Charges 2019/20 report due to a connection with a charge increase listed.
- Cllr Pat Berryman declared a personal, non-pecuniary and non-beneficial interest in item 10, Medium Term Financial Strategy (2019/20 to 2023/24) due to a connection with Fortismere secondary school.

76. NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN PRIVATE, ANY REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED AND THE RESPONSE TO ANY SUCH REPRESENTATIONS

There were no representations received at the agenda publication stage in relation to the exempt items on the agenda.

At this point in the meeting, the Leader proposed to vary the agenda to consider agenda items 10, 14,15 and 11 after consideration of the deputation at item 8.The agenda order would resume at item 9 after consideration of these housing related items. Cabinet agreed to this variation of the agenda.

77. MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on the 22nd of January 2019 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

78. MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no Overview and Scrutiny Matters for consideration by Cabinet.

The Scrutiny recommendations relating to the budget would be considered with item 10.

79. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/QUESTIONS

Deputation - Haringey Defend Council Housing – Paul Burnham

The deputation was put forward in relation to tenant's service charges. This was a small part of the budget but of great concern to Haringey Defend Council Housing, who were representing tenants in the borough. Over the years, landlords had increased charges but this has been done with the premise of involving the tenant in these decisions. There were 21 different service charges which demonstrated the range and complexity of the charges being made to tenants and further underlined the importance of tenants having their say through a consultation process on the final charges. This was part of the wider right of the tenant to hold the landlord to account.

The deputation asserted that there had been no recent consultation on these tenant service charges and highlighted that, pre 2015, it was the practice to have a consultation process on tenant service charges. The period of consultation was previously announced and this allowed tenants to make representations through a set process. In the past, it had also meant that some charges were not taken forward when the views of tenants was considered so a successful process, in the deputation's view.

The deputation referred to the December MTFs Cabinet report which released the overall budget for consultation, highlighting that this documentation also did not include the proposed tenant service charge increase. Therefore, there had been no information available in the budget consultation period to signal these increases. Despite this, Haringey Defend Council Housing had put forward representation in relation to service charges to ensure that this issue was considered and also put forward a deputation to Cabinet, prior to the publication of the budget report, and knowing what the detail of the tenant service charges might be.

The deputation referred to the proposed services charge increases in the report which contained no explanation about the reason for the scale of the changes taking place. There was estimated to be a £656k increase in this charge. The deputation questioned what changes were taking place to warrant these increases?

The deputation further reiterated that the tenant service charges have to be specifically linked to the service being provided and questioned the specific changes taking place for these increases as this was not set out in the report.

The deputation referred to the Homes for Haringey recent board meetings which had considered reports indicating good performance with service charges in the current year. There were 7 different service, indicating 5 charges within budget and 2 over budget and an overall surplus of £209k. The deputation was disappointed on how the

Council had dealt with this issue and the performance data from the Homes for Haringey Board meetings underlined that there was no need to increase charges. The deputation suspected that the landlord was likely using this income to top up the income from housing rent.

There were no questions put forward from Cabinet Members to the deputation and the Leader asked the Cabinet Member for Finance to respond to the deputation.

The Cabinet Member for Finance thanked the deputation for their attendance at the meeting and for raising these concerns. The Cabinet Member expressed that the budget process was often a complex wide ranging process and it was always helpful to highlight issues. Services charges covered the cost of services to tenants. The Council would only charge the cost of a service. For example, when the cost of utilities decreased by the Council achieving better energy deals through the wholesale process, the charge to tenants had also decreased. In relation to these increased charges, this was related to an increase in the cost of the concierge and street sweeping service on estate.

The Cabinet Member for Finance reported that there was not a legal requirement to consult on tenant service charges but this might be a consideration for the future, as outlined by the deputation, to take forward. The two services indicated above, concierge and street sweeping, made up the bulk of the rise. The increases in the cost of the concierge service were related to staff receiving a pay rise above inflation to ensure that staff in this area were being paid appropriate levels. The Cabinet Member anticipated that the increase in cost, related to street sweeping, was a result of this becoming more of a priority for tenants but the Cabinet Member, committed to explore the wider reasons for this change.

The Cabinet Member for Finance concluded his response by reiterating that consulting tenants and leaseholders on increased service charges was not a legal requirement but he would examine how this consultation could be taken forward in coming financial years.

80. BUDGET REPORT (2019-20)AND MTFS

[Cllr Mark Blake entered the meeting for the start of this item]

The Cabinet Member for Finance introduced the Council's 5 year Medium Financial Strategy for 2019-24. This would provide a clear financial plan during this period of uncertainty for local authority budgeting. It was noted that the Council had been able to bridge the £6.5m budget gap communicated in the December MTFS report. This had been arrived at through minimal recourse to additional savings or cuts to services.

The Cabinet Member re-iterated the unprecedented reductions to government funding for local services over the last 8 years. This meant that Councils were finding it difficult to keep up with rising cost or demand. This was also causing an impact on those most in need and further causing an impact on quality of life for residents.

The Cabinet Member commented that local authorities had reached a stage where making cuts would now cause an overspend in another area of the budget. This has

been highlighted by the 'breaking point' campaign being led by the Islington Council Leader.

In compiling the Medium Term Financial Plan, there had been attention given to supporting the manifesto priorities of supporting the delivery of Youth services, become a London Living wage employer, and extending the council tax reduction scheme.

The Cabinet Member further welcomed the removal of the borrowing cap on the HRA which would help the Council in their commitment to deliver 1000 new Council homes at Council rents.

However, it was important to recognise that the next year's budget process will again be a hard process with demand increasing and households coming under pressure from welfare reductions and rising housing costs.

The attached report was putting forward a balanced budget for 2019/20. It was also currently estimated that the Council will not need to utilise balances in 2018/19.

The Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny was invited to present the scrutiny recommendations contained at appendix 7 of the report pack. She drew attention to the important work of scrutiny and the key role of this function in the budget setting process. There was a request for increased access to officers with financial expertise to assist the panels and main Committee in their scrutiny of the budget and their regular consideration of the quarterly budget update. This was particularly important given the number of medium to high risk savings listed in the budget.

The Vice Chair of Overview & Scrutiny continued to draw attention to the medium to high-risk savings listed in the Scrutiny recommendations. It was important to note real risk around these areas and the risk to achieving savings next year. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee had noted the use of reserves to balance the 2019/20 Budget. Whilst the Committee fully acknowledged the risk around unachievable savings, there was also the risk attached to savings that were being taken forward negatively affecting residents that need support the most.

The Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny highlighted three areas of savings for reconsideration by Cabinet:

- Within the Adults and Health services area, there was a saving proposed on charging for managed accounts. The Overview and Scrutiny argued for the removal of these charges as it was felt that a maximum charge of £650 per year would negatively impact those on benefits. Only service users with savings below £1000 will not be applicable for this charge. Many families were struggling and it was felt that increasing these charges could be a financial tipping point for a family that was just about managing and this could cause an impact on another area of the Council's budget.
- The transfer of high cost day opportunities would initially lead to spend on high quality care to achieve the required savings later. By placing these savings in year two, this was felt to place an enormous pressure on Heads of Service to

make savings when this was not achievable. High quality care may provide savings but these needed to be person focused and based on care needs. Therefore, making savings too soon could negatively affect care. The Vice Chair proposed that these savings be reduced or spread over more time to mitigate this.

- The Flexible Police resources cessation in funding was opposed. The Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny requested that Cabinet reconsider this saving with concerns over safety, a high priority in the borough. This was also illustrated in the EQIA attached to the borough Plan. The Cabinet response acknowledged this yet this proposal to not agree this saving was not agreed.

The Vice Chair of Overview & Scrutiny advised that in considering the Capital programme spend, the Panels found that there was not enough detail to accompany the capital projects listed. Going forward, it was suggested that the quarterly budget reports, considered by the panels, contain an update on the capital projects and an indication given when the businesses cases are ready to be scrutinised. This will allow the O&S Committee to have a rolling timetable of capital projects and be able to scrutinise them when the budget decision is available.

In response to a question from Cllr Brabazon, the Leader responded on the development at Fortismere, advising that the current summary of the project was contained in the main report. The process around the capital programme was based on projects that the Council may want to take forward. Similarly, this capital project would be based on a business case coming forward. In order to arrive at a business case, the Council had to complete a due diligence process and this meant completing desktop research and feasibility studies

In response to questions from Cllr Dennison the following was noted:

In relation to the £6.5m gap, this had been bridged in the last few weeks through 3 main areas, service improvements, technical adjustments and grant changes. The details of this was as follows:

- In relation to the service improvements, this entailed extra cost from parking but a saving was envisaged later on where investing in a car pound.
 - The commercial portfolio had moved to the General Fund last year and the Council were considering ways to invest in this and generate income from rent, further considering how the Council generally manage this portfolio.
 - Libraries stock had been considered and the opportunities to increase income
 - There was a reduction in the growth provision in Adults. This was where officers previously thought that there could have been a growth in a service area but had now been able to assess how the new grants received had been utilised.
- Grant changes – meant more money was available through the Government settlement with £1.2m from the levy surplus payment.
- The Council identified that the government grant was greater than forecast for housing benefit / council tax administration to the Council so this improved this budget assumption.

- There was a technical adjustment including a higher projection for council tax collection. This was low risk as the Council tended to outperform previous projections.
- The cost of borrowing was reduced, and less capital expenditure as expected due to the Council having not taken forward the HDV.
- The Council was able to further make use of the Flexible Homelessness grant funding and make use of capital receipts, to be used for revenue spend where transforming a service or delivering efficiency. The government had extended this provision for transformative use for three years.

In relation to future rent charges in 2020/21, the Council were expecting this formula to be CPI plus 1%. The Council had to ensure that the housing stock was not run down and the government had likely kept rent levels low in order to maintain housing benefit payment cost. This rent increase had been factored in the budget for future years.

In relation to the measure of success for the free school meals, a written response would be provided on this.

Cllr Berryman notified the meeting of a proposed correction to recommendation 3.1.5 . this should read as follows: Propose approval to the Council of the 2019/20 General Fund Revenue Budget as set out in Appendix 1, including specifically a General Fund Budget Requirement of **£241.182m**, but subject to final decisions of the levying and precepting bodies and the final local government finance settlement. Cabinet agreed to the amendment of this recommendation.

RESOLVED

1. To consider the outcome of the budget consultation as set out in Appendix 8, to be included in the report to Council. Having considering this, this report does not propose an amendment to the budget proposed for 2019/20 not to the MTFS 2019/24.
2. To approve the responses made to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendations following their consideration of the draft budget proposals as set out in Appendix 7 and in a subsequent addendum to follow this report.
3. To note that the Quarter 3 corporate financial forecast is that the level of General Fund balance will remain unchanged at the end of 2018/19.
4. To propose approval to the Council of the 2019/20 Budget and MTFS 2019/24 Budget Reduction Proposals as set out in Appendix 9.
5. To propose approval to the Council of the 2019/20 General Fund Revenue Budget as set out in Appendix 1, including specifically a General Fund Budget Requirement of **£241.182m**, but subject to final decisions of the levying and presenting bodies and the final local government finance settlement.
6. To propose approval to the Council of the General Fund Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2019-2024 as set out in Appendix 1.

7. To propose approval to the Council that the Haringey element of Council Tax to be set by London Borough of Haringey for 2019/20 will be £1,319.89 per Band D property, which represents 2.99% increase on the 2018/19 amount.
8. To note the Council Tax Base of the London Borough of Haringey, as agreed by the Section 151 Officer under delegated authority (Article 4.01(b), Part 2, of the Constitution), as 77,265 for the financial year 2019/20.
9. To propose approach to the Council of the 2019/20 Housing Revenue Account budget as set out in Appendix 2.
10. To approve the changes to the rent levels for General Needs Homes for Council tenants reflecting the regulations requiring a 1% rent reduction in 2019/20. This will reduce the average weekly rent from £102.85 to £101.82 as set out in Table 16.1.
11. To propose approval to the Council of service charges as set in Appendix 2A.
12. To propose approval to the Council of the 2019/20 – 2023/24 General Fund capital programme detailed in Appendix 3.
13. To propose approval to the Council of the 2019/20 – 2023/24 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital programme detailed in Appendix 4.
14. To propose approval to the Council of the capital Strategy detailed in Section 14 of this report.
15. To propose approval to the Council of the policy on the use of flexible capital receipts to facilitate the delivery of efficiency savings including capitalisation of redundancy costs (Appendix 11).
16. To note that Fees and Charges in respect of executive functions will be considered under a separate agenda item, and that Fees and Charges in respect of non-executive functions has been considered and approved by the Regulatory Committee and that the impact on the 2019/20 budget proposals is outlined within this report.
17. To propose to the Council the Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB) allocations for 2019/20 of £256.326m as set out in Appendix 5.
18. To agree the funding to be distributed to primary and secondary schools for 2019/20 based on the figures advised to Schools Forum and submitted to the Education Funding Agency in January 2019 set out in Section 17.
19. To agree the budgets (including the use of brought forward DSG) for the Schools Block, Central Services Block, High Needs Block and Early Years Block as per Appendix 5.
20. To delegate to the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Families, the power to amend the

Delegated Schools Budget to take account of any changes to Haringey's total schools funding allocation by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

21. To delegate to the Section 151 officer, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, the power to make further changes to the 2019/20 budget proposals to Full Council up to a maximum limit of £1.0m.

Reasons for Decision

The Council has a statutory requirement to set a balanced budget for 2019/20 and this report forms a key part of the budget setting process by setting out the likely funding and expenditure for that year. Additionally, in order to ensure the Council's finances for the medium term are put on a sound basis, this report also sets out the funding and expenditure assumptions for the following four years in the form of a Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Alternative options considered

The Cabinet must consider how to deliver a balanced 2019/20 budget and sustainable MTFS over the five-year period 2019/24m to be reviewed and ultimately adopted at the meeting of the Full Council on 25th February 2019.

Clearly there are options available to achieve a balanced budget and officers have developed the proposals contained in this report for determining levels of both income and service provision in this report. These take account of the Council's priorities, the extent of the estimated funding shortfall and the Council's overall financial position.

The proposals have been subject to consultation both externally and through the Overview and Scrutiny Process. The outcome from these consultations have been reported to be considered by Cabinet who received the reports on these outcomes contained in these appendices. After due regard, Cabinet considers that the issues raised are addressed in its budget strategy and it is not therefore proposing any consequential changes.

81. HOUSING STRATEGY

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Renewal introduced this report which sought Cabinet approval to the draft of amended Appendix C, and the deletion of Appendix D, of Haringey's Housing Strategy 2017-2022, following consultation. The Cabinet Member acknowledged the administration had been elected on a manifesto which committed to the following five pledges for housing:

- *To deliver a thousand new council homes by 2022*
- *To review the planning targets and ensure new 'affordable' is genuinely affordable*
- *To expand our landlord licensing scheme to cover all wards*
- *To ensure that new housing for sale is made available to Haringey residents first, and*

- *To aim to end street homelessness in Haringey by 2022.*

The Cabinet Member outlined that Haringey's Housing Strategy set the strategic direction for housing in the borough. The Council last published a Housing Strategy in 2016. Since that time, there had been important changes at the national and regional level, with which the existing strategy was considered no longer relevant.

The Cabinet Member continued to highlight, that the Government had abandoned a number of proposed housing policies and there has been a renewed focus on social housing. At the same time, the lifting of the HRA borrowing cap and the significant funding for new Council housing from the GLA transformed the potential to develop new Council housing. The Council had made a successful bid for funding which meant it would receive a £62.8m grant to deliver Council homes.

The Cabinet Member noted work on a new housing strategy had already been undertaken, but to ensure consistency, it needed to follow the adoption of the Borough Plan, reflecting and expanding on the housing aims in that document. In the interim, it was proposed that Appendix C of the current Housing Strategy be amended, to define more clearly what was meant by affordable housing. The new Appendix was clear that the Labour administration's first priority was Council Rented homes and that it would ensure other affordable homes delivered in the borough would be affordable to existing residents. Developing a new housing strategy to address all the Council's housing commitments would be a priority for the Labour administration in 2019.

The Cabinet Member was to establish a Member group to help guide the work above to collaborate with fellow councillors.

Following questions from Cllr Dennison, the following was noted:

- The focus would not be isolated to specific areas of the borough but rather on a site-by-site basis, dependent on what that site was able to offer. Officers confirmed the principal intention was to redress the balance of particular types of housing in parts of the borough. Site-by-site flexibility was a key approach to ensuring that the best outcome was achieved across the borough.
- The Cabinet Member's preference was for social rent to London Living Rent and affordable Rent.
- Officers confirmed the policy stated social rent housing was the preferred option on affordable rented housing but recognised the distinction between social rented and intermediate homes. Within the intermediate category, the policy was clear that the preference was for intermediate rents at London Living Rent levels.

Cllr Dennison would be provided with a written response regarding the rationale for the requirement of 10% of all affordable homes to be wheel chair accessible, with 20% the desirable figure, but noted those figures would have been the result of research and an understanding of what the general needs were across the borough.

RESOLVED

1. To note the outcome of the consultation process on Appendix C of the Housing Strategy and the deletion of Appendix D of the Housing Strategy.
2. To recommend that Full Council approve the adoption of Appendix C of the Housing Strategy, as amended as set out in paras 6.21 – 6.23, and the deletion of Appendix D of the Housing Strategy.

Reasons for decision

The Council's current Housing Strategy was set in 2016. Since then, the policy context has changed and a new administration has been elected with different priorities to the previous administration particularly with regard to housing.

In addition, decisions taken since May 2018 have fundamentally altered the Council's approach to housing, notably:

- The decision not to proceed with the Haringey Development Vehicle
- The decision to set up a wholly owned company to help deliver 1,000 Council homes at Council rents

This means that the existing strategy, adopted in November 2016, is no longer a good fit with the ambitions of the new administration and there is a need to produce a new strategy to better reflect these.

One particular issue is a renewed emphasis on housing for social rent as affordable housing.

In advance of the development, consultation, and publication of this new housing strategy, it is proposed that Appendix C of the existing strategy is amended and Appendix D deleted to ensure the Council's housing policy framework reflects this changed environment, and the Council's new priorities. This requires no revision of the Borough Plan.

Alternative options considered

The alternative option would be not to amend Appendix C and not to delete Appendix D of the current Housing Strategy. Given Cabinet's agreement to consult on the amendment and deletion in November 2018, and the consultation with stakeholders, this would not be an acceptable course of action.

82. HOUSING COMPANY

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Renewal introduced this report which sought Cabinet approval to make the necessary decisions to incorporate Haringey's Wholly Owned Company (WOC) for housing development. The Cabinet Member noted the Labour administration had been elected on a manifesto which had placed housing at its core. The manifesto had committed to deliver at least 1,000 new Council homes at Council rents by 2022. This was the latest report that had the recommendations to put in place the structures to deliver those homes.

The Cabinet Member referred to the Labour administration's preference in the Manifesto was to build Council housing directly through a company we fully own. However, this was at a time when the GLA funding was not available and was before the announcement in the October budget of the scrapping of the HRA borrowing cap. The Council had since considered what those changes meant for housing delivery in the borough, and the role that the Company could best play in making that delivery happen.

The Cabinet Member stressed the recommendations Cabinet were asked to approve would create the housing company contained within the Labour administration's manifesto, to support the creation of new Council homes for Haringey families on the waiting list.

Clerk note - Cllrs Bevan and Rossetti addressed the Committee in their capacity as board members of Homes for Haringey and as Councillors.

Following questions from Cllrs Bevan, Dennison, Williams, Rossetti, Brabazon and Carlin, the following was noted:

- Homes for Haringey (HfH) is an Arms-Length Management Organisation (ALMO). The Cabinet Member noted HfH could be supported to create new Council homes in the future but that was not the commitment the administration had made within its manifesto. The manifesto had made a commitment to directly creating those Council homes, not at arms-length, which is what HfH effectively was to the Council. This consideration was set out in the July Cabinet report on the WOC.
- The Cabinet Member held frequent discussions with the Managing Director for H4H and discussions had been productive but it was accepted the direction of travel was for the creation of a WOC and for HfH to continue to its current role. July Cabinet had considered the option of exploring creating the 1,000 new Council homes with HfH but this was ruled out for the reasons contained in that report to Cabinet
- Officers referred members to the 17th July 2018 report entitled '*Setting up a Wholly Owned Company for Housing Development*' to Cabinet where the option to explore creating Council homes through the HfH had been explored as an alternative option but was not pursued for the reasons set out in that report.
- Contractual arrangements would be sought with companies to build any new properties, which would follow the usual tender process. Once built, HfH would be managing those newly built Council properties.
- The Cabinet Member highlighted the Labour manifesto had given the administration the mandate to set up a wholly owned company and this was what the administration would pursue. The Leader noted the WOC was within the parameters of the Labour Manifesto.
- Regarding the governance, Officers confirmed no Councillors would be on the board of the proposed WOC given members would set the parameters within which the company would operate through the business plan and the board would be enforcing what members had set in the business plan.

- It was correct that Cabinet at its meeting of the 17th July 2018 had agreed to allocate a maximum of £500k of flexible homelessness support grant to the establishment of the company. However, Officers confirmed that figure was set at a time when the WOC was expected to be the main vehicle for the development programme but, with the lifting of the HRA borrowing cap, this was not this case moving forward, and so it was expected the figure of £500k would be significantly reduced. It was also not expected that the Council would incur such level of costs even with the creation of the other companies it was proposing to set up. Furthermore, all of the proposed companies contained within the report would have an impact on reducing homelessness in the borough. The purpose of the WOC was to hold forms of rented housing which were not social rented housing and could therefore not be held within the HRA. The Council acknowledged that that type of housing was a potential solution for certain homelessness family's needs. That was why the Council was interested in developing that type of housing within the borough and officers were wholly satisfied this was an appropriate and legitimate use of money from the flexible homelessness support grant. This was confirmed by the Council's legal team.
- The Council's finance and legal teams had had sight and commented on the financial implications and legalities of all aspects contained within this report. In addition, this report had two previous associated reports, which, similarly, went through the same rigorous clearance process with both teams satisfied they complied with the relevant financial and legal frameworks.
- Due to the change in the HRA borrowing cap, this meant the Council was in a position to build a number of the social homes properties itself. The Cabinet Member noted they would be subject to Right to Buy but this would have been the case even if the homes had been built by HfH within the HRA. The WOC was proposed to accommodate different types of rent.
- The Cabinet Member accepted the risk of Right to Buy but felt strongly that secure tenancies were the most appropriate type of tenancy a Council should offer, given the guarantees this offered to tenants. Only a Council was able to offer a secure tenancy and a WOC would not be able to provide this on its behalf.
- The Cabinet Member informed that certain schemes required a mixture of properties to ensure they were financially viable. The WOC gave the Council the capacity to have a combination of rents in the scheme to make it financially viable but still able to exercise a degree of control over its direction than if it were to collaborate those products with a private developer.
- Intermediate rented homes would not count towards the 1,000 new homes commitment in the Labour manifesto. Such rented homes were important in making schemes viable and would help the Council in its pursuit of creating those 1,000 new Council homes by supporting it financially. The Cabinet Member noted the report could have been clearer concerning the role of the intermediate rented homes.
- Officers confirmed the HRA could develop housing that was not for social rent but if the Council wished to hold a particular type of home and rent it out at a different rent to that of social rent, it could only do so through a WOC. The WOC provided the Council with flexibility and options for the future if, for example, it sought to provide homes at market rent. All homes would be developed by the HRA and if and when those properties would be moved to the

WOC, the WOC would effectively buy those homes off the HRA using the general fund borrowing.

RESOLVED

1. To agree the Company's name as 'Haringey Housing Company Limited', and give delegated authority to the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Planning and the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) to agree the final wording of the Articles of Association and Memorandum of Understanding as set out in draft form in appendices 1 and 2.
2. To agree that the purpose of the Company will be primarily to facilitate the Council's ambitions to deliver new homes and to hold homes developed by the Council that cannot normally be held in the Housing Revenue Account, for example intermediate and other non-social rented homes.
3. To agree the appointment of the following Directors of the Company:
 - A senior housing officer nominated by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Planning;
 - A senior finance officer nominated by the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) and
 - A senior legal officer nominated by the Monitoring Officer.

To agree the creation of a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company to be registered as a Registered Provider to be called the 'Haringey Housing Company Registered Provider Limited' (the "Company RP"); and give delegated authority to the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Planning and the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) to agree the final wording of the Articles of Association and Memorandum of Understanding as set out in similar draft form to the Company in appendices 1 and 2.

4. To agree that the purpose of the Company RP will be primarily to hold homes developed by the Council that would be held by the Company but are required to be held by a Registered Provider; and that Officers seek registration of the Company RP as a Registered Provider.
5. To agree that the composition of the Board of Directors of the Company RP shall be the same as the Board of Directors of the Company.

Reasons for decision

On 17 July 2018 Cabinet agreed to the setting up of the Company, subject to the documents needed for its incorporation being agreed by Cabinet. The Articles of Association and Memorandum of Understanding of the Company and the Company RP have been drafted by the Council's external legal advisors and Cabinet is being asked to consider these documents so the Company and the Company RP can be incorporated.

The July Cabinet Report described the primary purpose of the Company as being to maximise the delivery of new Council owned homes and this remains the primary aim of the Council's housing delivery programme. However, following the abolition of the HRA borrowing cap, the Company's role within the programme will be to support the Council's ambitions to deliver new homes, primarily by holding those homes that the HRA cannot.

The members of the Board of Directors of the Company need to be appointed. These will be Council officers, namely a senior officer nominated by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Planning, a senior finance officer nominated by the Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) and a senior legal officer nominated by the Monitoring Officer. The Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer), the Monitoring Officer and any officer with direct responsibility for planning have been deliberately excluded, to minimise the risk of conflicts of interest.

The creation of a subsidiary 'not for profit' Company RP is necessary for the Company to hold sub-market rented homes that have received housing grant from the GLA.

Alternative options considered

The formation of the Company was agreed by Cabinet on 17 July 2018, with the detail being left for agreement at a future meeting. Recommendations within this report reflect advice from Pinsent Masons, the Council's external legal advisors in relation to the formation and running of the Company. The use of a detailed Objectives clause was considered and discounted to ensure that the Company could have scope to operate more freely in the future. (An Objectives clause can limit trading of the company, for instance to 'owning and managing sub market rental homes', whereas the Council may in future want the Company to be able to develop/own community projects which under such an Objectives clause it would be unable to do).

The Articles of Association and Memorandum of Understanding are clearly drafted to give the Council the assurance that the Company will remain wholly owned and controlled by the Council, less clearly draft documents may lead to confusion or challenge in the future.

A wider range of director positions were considered but discounted; for instance including the Monitoring Officer or Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) or including external directors. These options were discounted to ensure potential conflicts of interest are avoided, to maximise the direct control by the Council of the Company and to allow the Council and the Company to operate in a proper and consistent manner.

83. PROPERTY LICENSING DESIGNATION

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Renewal introduced this report which sought Cabinet to designate a borough wide licensing scheme for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and a smaller selective licensing scheme in 29 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) for non HMO properties.

The Cabinet Member noted current estimates were that some 33% of households in Haringey were privately rented (equating to 35,000) exceeding by 14% the national average of 19%. Between 2001 and 2011, Haringey's private rented sector had grown by 45.6%, an upward trend which was likely to continue given the huge need and the current lack of affordable public sector housing. Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) were a significant component of the private rented sector and provided accommodation for a wide range of individuals and families. It was vital that those properties were well and effectively regulated, to ensure they were safe and compliant with environmental and other regulations. The landlord licensing scheme proposed in the report provided the regulatory framework to support the many good landlords in Haringey, whilst also providing the powers for officers to tackle the rogue landlords who did not comply.

The Cabinet Member advised that the scheme would also enable the Council to know who owned and managed those properties through the issuing of licenses to operate. The additional (HMO) scheme had been developed following wide research, evidence gathering and public consultation.

Following questions from Cllr Dennison, the following was noted:

- A dedicated officer dealt with empty properties in the private rented sector. It was encouraged that a relationship be built with empty homeowners and advice and guidance provided to them on bringing homes back into use before any enforcement action was taken.
- The use of Empty Dwelling Management Orders was an expensive process and counter cost effective for the Council to pursue.
- The Council did not have grants in this area but could explore schemes that financially assisted individuals into bringing empty properties back into usage that could then be provided for temporary accommodation for homelessness families, as had been done previously by the Council.

RESOLVED

1. To consider the consultation results and representations received in response to the consultation on the Additional HMO Licensing Scheme. (Appendix 4).
2. To designate pursuant to s56 (1) (a) of the Housing Act 2004 the whole area of the Borough as subject to additional licensing of houses in multiple occupation (HMO's) as set out in the draft designation at Appendix 1, the designation to be cited as the "London Borough of Haringey Designation for an Area for Additional Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation, No 3, 2019" coming into force on 27 May 2019. (Appendix 1).
3. To approve the scale of fees and charges (Appendix 5).
4. To delegate to the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods in consultation with the lead Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Renewal, the authority to agree minor changes to the proposed implementation and delivery, including administration, fees and conditions and give all necessary statutory notifications.

5. To approve the policy on determining the appropriate level of civil penalty for offences under the Housing Act 2004 set out at Appendix 6.

Reasons for decision

Additional HMO Licensing has been piloted in our borough previously. In 2011 a scheme was designated within the Harringay ward and ran for 5 years and we currently have a small scheme within five wards in Tottenham.

The outcomes of these schemes provide our greatest evidence base that licensing improves the standard of accommodation for tenants, provides a register of responsible parties and has enabled the Council to adopt a multiagency approach to tackle issues arising from poorly managed HMO property.

With an expanding Private Rented Sector, HMOs are likely to be growing in demand as it offers an affordable accommodation option for many tenants. Rolling out Additional HMO Licensing borough wide will allow the Council to require standards to be met across all HMOs, will give us greater intelligence on our private rental sector and provide details of who is responsible for those property.

Public Consultation identified that tenants and the public are in favour of having licensing for Houses in Multiple Occupation and provided feedback on how this can be targeted to provide them with the greatest support.

In contrast we know that landlords are not in favour of such schemes and see the implementation as a money making initiative for the Council. The licence fee is a cost associated with the administration of the licence applications and compliance process. The Housing Act 2004 allows a fee to be set that is reasonable and transparent. The License fee income is to be used for running of the licensing project and should be set at an amount which is reflective of this.

It is important to prove to compliant landlords and the public that we are pursuing those landlords who remain non complaint. Taking appropriate enforcement action and publicising these outcomes to promote the schemes successes is essential. The use of civil penalties is an alternative to prosecution and provides an additional enforcement tool for officers when deciding what penalty is appropriate for the offence committed.

It is necessary for Cabinet to agree licensing proposals under the Housing Act 2004. Approval is therefore sought for the designation of a borough wide Additional Licensing for Houses in Multiple Occupation.

Cabinet are required to agree and approve the use of civil financial penalties and all other enforcement powers under the Housing and Planning Act 2016 and to delegate these powers to authorised officers. (Appendix 6)

Alternative options considered

Do nothing and continue with existing legal powers –

Existing powers available to the Council are largely reactive with officers responding to tenants' complaints. Many tenants are reluctant to complain through fear of retaliatory eviction. Although current enforcement activity has been successful in remedying problems in individual dwellings, it is not felt to have raised the standard of private sector dwellings generally and at the scale now required.

Voluntary Accreditation –

Although the voluntary accreditation scheme is helpful in driving up standards, take up is generally poor and is likely to be used by self-selecting professional landlords rather than rogue landlords

More detail regarding other courses of action already used by the Council appears below at paragraphs 7.3 and within Appendix 2.

84. BOROUGH PLAN, 2019-23

The Leader introduced the report and set out the key ambitions behind the compilation of the plan which had been based on the manifesto. This included building 1000 Council homes in Haringey .The Leader expressed that the Cabinet were ambitious for Haringey's future and for the people who live here. The Borough Plan set out the priorities of the Council and its partners for the next four years; and sets out the framework to deliver on this agenda for the borough together.

The Leader outlined that to achieve these goals, the Council need to change how it did things. The administration wanted to run an open, collaborative Council that genuinely engages people in shaping the borough's future.

The Leader emphasised the default position of the administration which was to deliver services directly where this was prudent to do so, in order to maximise accountability, quality and other benefits to the community, as well as improving value for money where possible. The administration believed that public services need to be responsive to change and more democratically accountable.

The Borough Plan sets out the priorities for the borough. The consultation and engagement had confirmed that these were also top priorities for residents:

- **Housing Haringey's people:** We believe that increasing the supply of traditional Council housing is one of the most important things we can do.
- **Building and retaining wealth in our community:** We will work to increase the prosperity of Haringey residents. We will put greater emphasis on procuring goods and services locally. We'll support small and medium sized businesses to create high quality local jobs. Public pound spent on the community.
- **Tackling serious violent crime:** in particular, setting out a public health approach to tackling youth violence.
- **Reducing inequality and making Haringey a fairer place:** tackling inequality underpins everything we do.

In addition to the requirement to identify and agree organisational priorities and objectives, the Council had a legal duty to set a budget. The administration were adopting a number of principles to guide them in making financial decisions, to make sure that the Council focused resources where there was the greatest need, and minimised the impact of cuts on those who need the Council's support the most. The Budget was published alongside the Borough Plan and has been developed in parallel to it.

The Pledges were also set out and demonstrated the Council's need to work with stakeholders and partners in the borough.

In response to questions from Cllr Dennison and Cllr Connor the following was noted:

In relation to the risks around keeping spending local, this was aimed at exploring how the Council spend money in a broader sense and of course there would be consideration of Haringey in the London context. The Cabinet recognised that there were local suppliers that employ local people and there would be further detail on what local should mean.

With regards to the saving on flexible police resources, the Cabinet Member for Communities, Safety, and Engagement commented on the appropriateness of the Council funding the police. There was a current media battle on resources and in response to the saving proposal, this was taking account of the expected increase in the Mayor's precept allocation for policing. The Cabinet Member commented that the whole impact of austerity on local communities had been down played in the media. With regards to community support, agreed there needed to be more police making relationships with the local community, having a presence and there would be additional resources for this from the Mayor's precept. However, there was not enough public discussion about the funding needed by Councils to support work in communities and additional funding needed for council's safeguarding of children.

The Leader proposed an additional recommendation, providing delegated authority to the Director of Communications and Strategy to make minor amendments to the Borough Plan before publication. This included making amendments to the housing objectives section at page 46 and some typographical errors that need to be rectified at Table 1.1 on pages 25-26 and at page 38. This was agreed by Cabinet.

RESOLVED

1. To note and have regard to the Equality Impact Assessment for the Borough Plan and the summary of feedback from consultation and engagement at Appendix B to the report.
2. To adopt the Borough Plan at Appendix A to this report, and agree to its publication.

3. To delegated authority to the Director of Communications and Strategy to make minor amendments to the borough Plan before publication. This included making amendments to the housing objectives section at page 46 and some typographical errors that need to be rectified at Table 1.1 on pages 25-26 and at page 38.

Reasons for decision

Following the end of the Council's old Corporate Plan, the Borough Plan sets out a new strategy for 2019-23, which sets the strategic vision, priorities, outcomes and objectives for the organisation and major partners in the borough.

The Borough Plan seeks to deliver the political priorities of the administration over the next four years. The Plan should be seen as a living document and will be revised over the course of the next four years, including responding to the recommendations of the Fairness Commission.

The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) is also coming to February Cabinet for agreement. The Borough Plan and MTFS have been developed in partnership, recognising the need to balance levels of ambition with available resource.

The Council has a statutory duty to publish equalities objectives. The Borough Plan is the core document through which the Council identifies and agrees where to tackle inequality in the borough.

Alternative options considered

There are alternative options, including:

- a) Do not publish a new Plan; and
- b) Extend the previous Corporate Plan.

It is not considered feasible to pursue option A, as the Council's Corporate Plan ended in 2018, which means a new Plan is needed. The Council is required to agree an overarching strategic document, which sets the parameters in which all other strategies operate. The Borough Plan plays this role, both for the Council and for the wider partnership.

It was not considered appropriate to extend the governance period of the previous Corporate Plan, as this does not reflect the administration's priorities; does not reflect the strength of partnerships across the borough, which contribute to the delivery of the Plan's outcomes; and does not reflect changes to the political and financial operating context, including at local, regional and national level.

85. FEES AND CHARGES 2019-20

The Cabinet Member for Finance introduced the report which set out the Fees & Charges that are proposed to be applied to services from the start of 2019/20. This report considered the relevant factors affecting the review of fees and charges, identified those services where an increase was being proposed and sought approval to increase the fee or charge rate to those services where an increase is proposed in line with inflation and agreement where an alternative approach is being proposed.

In response to a question on the reasons for increasing fees for users of parks which were running physical activities and not increasing the commercial fees for events at Parks, the Cabinet Member's initial observation was that this may be connected to maintaining the competitiveness of Council facilities use for events ,in a competitive market for events, but would provide a written response on this.

RESOLVED

- a) To **agree** the proposed fees and charges to be levied by the Council with effect from 1 April 2019, unless otherwise stated, and as detailed in Section 8 and Appendices I – XII d taking into account the findings of equalities assessments as set out in section 8 of the report, save as provided at (b) below;
- b) To note that this meeting will also consider proposals to introduce Additional Licensing schemes for private rented properties which are detailed at Appendix X b 'HMO Licensing' of this report, and subject to approval by the Cabinet of this proposal, to agree the proposed fees and charges as set out in said Appendix X b;
- c) To **note** that the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2019/20-2023/24 assumes that the changes to Fees & Charges set out in this report are agreed.

Reasons for Decision

It is a requirement to review fees and charges as a minimum annually. The financial position of the Council supports the view that levels of fees and charges should be maximised where possible taking into account all relevant factors including the effect on service users and any consequent demand for services.

Alternative options considered

This report summarises the conclusions after consideration of a range of alternative approaches dependent on particular services and relevant factors. As such a range of alternative options ranging from no increase to differentiated rates of increases have been considered and reflected in this report.

86. OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION ON REVISED GAMBLING POLICY

The Cabinet Member for Civic Services introduced this report which sought Cabinet to consider the response to the consultation regarding the review of the Council's Gambling Policy and to recommend it to Full Council for adoption. The report set out the Fees & Charges that were proposed to be applied to services from the start of 2019/20. The report considered the relevant factors affecting the review of fees and charges, identified those services where an increase was being proposed and sought approval to increase the fee or charge rate to those services where an increase is proposed in line with inflation, and Member's agreement where an alternative approach was being proposed.

The Cabinet Member noted the Council had compiled information on the level of crime and deprivation in each ward as well as mapping the locations of schools and vulnerable service providers. It was intended for this to be used by betting operators as they were required to be mindful of the areas in which they operate and, if they operated in a vulnerable area, they should be conscientious of the makeup of that area they were operating.

The Cabinet Member stated one response had been received during the consultation, which requested that Woodside Ward be included in the list of vulnerable areas as the betting shops on Lordship Lane given the significant level of crime in its immediate area. That request was accepted.

Following questions from Cllrs Tucker, Ibrahim, Berryman, Dennison, Connor, the following was noted:

- Officers confirmed there were no casinos within Haringey and there was no risk of that changing unless the Secretary of State increased the number of casino licenses across the country.
- Government had not set out the outcome of the changes to the fixed odd betting terminals and any implementation date for changes had not been set.
- The Council was anticipating an increase in the number of bingo operators but they would be required to consider the local area profiles when deciding on suitable locations.
- Officers assured Cabinet that the Council had been robust in dealing with questionable practices of certain private members clubs (especially around Green Lanes) which had led to a change in how those businesses operated.
- There were three licensed social clubs off Philip Lane and Officers confirmed they received regular enforcement checks. On occasion, illegal gaming machines had been found on those premises and officers would perform a tailgate operation and destroy such machines on site, if discovered.
- All adult gaming centres were required to be licensed. Officers noted adult gaming centres generated similar level of crimes to betting shops, partly due to damage to betting machines being recorded as criminal damage.
- The Gambling Commission had introduced a requirement for the staff of betting operators to perform a welfare check on customers when they had concern for their wellbeing, if, for example, they remained at a machine for a significant period.
- New conditions introduced in the revised Statement of Gambling Policy centred on fraud prevention. Betting operators were required to improve their practice to ensure no fraud took place on their premises. Whilst the Licensing Authority

- would assist, it would fundamentally be the responsibility of the Gambling Commission to ensure that there was no fraud related activity on premises.
- Regarding risk assessments, operators within the borough had been requested to submit their local area risk assessment and all, but one, had complied.
 - The Cabinet Member informed all measures would be considered to reduce harm to individuals by the enforcement activity the Council undertook.

RESOLVED

1. To consider and take into account the outcome of the consultation on the draft Statement of Gambling Policy set out in paragraph 8.3 and Appendix 3 of the report and the Equality Impact Assessment screening tool set out in Appendix 4.
2. To note the supplementary guidance containing the local area profile information at Appendix 2;
3. To approve the draft Statement of Gambling Policy in Appendix 1; and
4. To recommend to Full Council to approve and adopt the Policy.

Reasons for decision

The Council is obliged to review and adopt a Statement of Licensing Policy for Gambling every three years, the current policy expired in January 2019. Therefore a new policy has to be adopted.

Alternative options considered

No alternatives were considered. It is a legislative requirement that the policy be reviewed at least every three years, and that a public consultation is carried out. Failure to review and adopt the Statement of Gambling Policy would result in the Council failing to comply with legislation.

87. ADMISSION TO SCHOOLS – DETERMINED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2020/21

The Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Families introduced this report which sought to set the council school admission arrangements for the academic year of 2020/2021. Local authorities were required to consider and determine admissions arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools by 28th February in each determination year. The Council had carried out a consultation to inform that decision making process from 26th November 2018 to 7th January 2019. The consultation response was set out in paragraph 6 of the report onwards. The Cabinet Member noted there was no proposed change to the oversubscription criteria for community and voluntary controlled schools for 2020/21. However, it was proposed to change the public admission numbers for Welbourne and Tiverton primary schools by

one form of entry (30 reception pupils each). It was hoped that reduction would allow the two schools to more effectively manage their budgets. It was not anticipated that families in the areas would be disadvantaged by these reductions, as there were surplus placements areas across both planning areas.

RESOLVED

1. To consider and take into account the dieback from the consultation undertaken which is set out in Appendix 8 and a summary included from paragraphs 7.1 – 7.9 of this report.
2. To consider and take into account the equalities impact assessment of the proposals on protected groups at Appendix 7.
3. To agree the recommendation set out in this report to proceed with proposal to reduce the published admission number (PAN) for Welbourne and Tiverton Primary Schools by one form of entry (1FE) – 30 Reception pupils each from September 2020 as part of the community and voluntary controlled (VC) schools' published admission arrangements.
4. To determine the Council's admission arrangements for the academic year 2020/21 as set out in Appendices 1 – 4.
5. To agree the in-year fair access protocol (IYFAP) as set out in Appendix 5 to come into force from 1 March 2019.
6. To agree that the determined arrangements for all maintained primary and secondary schools in the borough are published on the Council's website by 15 March 2019 with an explanation of the right of any person or body, under the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) Regulations 2012, to object to the Schools Adjudicator in specified circumstances.

Reasons for decision

The School Admissions Code 2014 requires all admission authorities to determine admission arrangements every year, even if they have not changed from previous years. Regulation 17 of the School Admissions Regulations 2012 also requires admission authorities to determine admission arrangements by 28 February in the determination year.

In addition, the Regulations require the admission authority (in this case, the Local Authority) to publish on its website by 15 March in the determining year the determined arrangements of all maintained primary and secondary school and academies in the borough, advising the right to object to the Schools Adjudicator,

where it is considered that the arrangement does not comply with the mandatory provisions of the School Admissions Code 2014.

The Council consults on its admission arrangements annually irrespective of whether or not there is a proposed change to the arrangements. This is to ensure transparency and openness on the contents of the admission arrangements and to allow all stakeholders to make representations which can then be considered as part of the determination of the arrangements.

The School Admissions Code (2014) sets out the requirement for all admission authorities to undertake statutory consultation where they propose a decrease to the PAN of a school

Tiverton Primary is a community school located at Pulford Road, London, N15 6SP, and sits within planning area 3. The school normally admits 2 classes (60 Reception pupils) per year. However, due to a local decrease in the demand for school places, we have consulted on the proposal to reduce the school's PAN to 30 for the 2020/21 academic year.

Welbourne Primary is a community school located at Stainby Road, London, N15 4EA and sits within planning area 4. The school normally admits 3 classes (90 Reception pupils) per year. However, due to local decreases in the demand for school places, we have consulted on the proposal to reduce the school's PAN to 60 for the 2020/21 academic year.

Both Tiverton and Welbourne Primary schools have vacancies across all year groups and our projections show that demand is likely to continue to decrease. There are also vacancies in other local primary schools in the area. Current school roll projections for planning area 3 (where Tiverton is located) suggest a surplus of school places of between 1-2 forms of entry between now and 2026/27. Current school roll projections for planning area 4 (where Welbourne is located) suggest a surplus of school places of between 3-4 forms of entry between now and 2021/22.

Approval was sought from the Schools Adjudicator for a temporary reduction in PAN for Tiverton Primary School for entry in September 2018. A reduction by 1 form of entry was agreed and it is likely that a similar request will be made for entry in September 2019. Our projections show that demand is likely to continue to decline with the school struggling to fill beyond 1 form of entry.

Welbourne Primary School has the highest number of vacancies across all year groups when compared with other schools in planning area 4. It is likely that this will have had a ripple effect locally as falling demand is rarely evidenced at just one school but is often felt across several. A benefit of planning places judiciously is that it keeps rolls relatively buoyant across and beyond any planning area as surplus places are reduced and school rolls can fill at or close to capacity.

The Council consulted on the proposal to reduce the number of available places at Tiverton and Welbourne Primary Schools to enable them to operate more efficiently and cost effectively. The proposed reduction of PANs for these schools will allow better alignment of PANs with actual number of pupils on roll, leading to cost savings to both schools.

Consulting on our admission arrangements for entry in September 2020 gives these schools sufficient time to review their internal structure so that any potential impact on staff reorganisation can be minimised. It will allow the school leadership teams in the longer term to plan judiciously by offering a realistic number of places that meets actual demand.

Consideration from an equalities perspective was given to the selection of these specific schools for a reduction in PANs to help frame any potential impact on all protected groups. Our proposal will not adversely impact on families trying to access their local school with high quality provision. A projected surplus of school places in the planning areas where these schools are located means that we expect sufficient places to still be available for local children if the PANs are reduced at Welbourne and Tiverton Primary School for entry in September 2020.

All Haringey schools are able to support children with a wide range of abilities, special needs, disabilities and learning difficulties, from able, gifted and talented pupils to those with multiple and significant disabilities, medical conditions and learning difficulties. Welbourne and Tiverton do not offer any specific provision that is not provided in other local schools.

In the unlikely event that a place cannot be offered at Welbourn and Tiverton schools, we believe that the needs of the community can and will be met at other local schools. We will continue to closely monitor the number of primary applications received in any given year and in the event there is an increase in demand for primary school places and additional places are required, the school(s) can revert to their original PAN. We will raise the PAN of the school(s) having looked at demand for each school.

Alternative options considered

We are required by the School Admission Code 2014 (para 1.42 – 1.45 of the Code) to consult on our admission arrangements between 1 October and 31 January each year for a minimum of six weeks. Last year, the consultation on the proposed admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled (VC) schools included a proposal to introduce an additional oversubscription criteria for children of staff to follow after the sibling criterion. Cabinet agreed to the proposal in February last year which means the children of staff criterion will come into effect from September 2019.

This year we are not proposing a change to the oversubscription criterion for community and VC schools. While there are other ways admission arrangements can influence the allocations of school places set out in the School Admission Code 2014 (e.g. designated catchment areas, identified eligible for the early years premium/pupil premium), no alternative option is being considered at the time of writing this report.

88. MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES

RESOLVED

To note the minutes of the Cabinet member signing held on the 18th of January 2019.

89. SIGNIFICANT AND DELEGATED ACTIONS

RESOLVED

To note the significant and delegated actions taken in January by directors.

90. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

There was no new items of urgent business.

91. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting as the items below contain exempt information, as defined under paragraph 3 and 5, Part 1 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

92. EXEMPT CABINET MINUTES

RESOLVED

To agree the Exempt Cabinet minutes for the meeting held in the 22nd of January 2019.

93. NEW ITEMS OF EXEMPT URGENT BUSINESS

None

CHAIR: Councillor Joseph Ejiofor

Signed by Chair

Date