

MINUTES OF MEETING Cabinet Member Signing HELD ON Monday, 28th June, 2021, 15:30

PRESENT:

Councillor John Bevan, Cabinet Member for Planning, Licensing & Housing Services

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

6. NOVATION OF CONTRACT FROM LONDON HOTEL GROUP LTD T/A IBIS STYLES HOTEL TO LONDON WALTHAMSTOW LTD FOR TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION FOR VULNERABLE HOMELESS ADULTS (COVID-19).

The Cabinet Member considered a report which sought approval for a novation of contract for accommodation and services from London Hotel Group to London Walthamstow for 63 units of accommodation for up to six months, from 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021 as allowed under Contract Standing Order 10.03.

RESOLVED

- I. That the Cabinet Member approved the novation of contract for emergency Covid-19 accommodation for vulnerable rough sleepers, to London Walthamstow Ltd from April to September 2021 at a cost of £525,404 as permitted under Contract Standing Order 10.03.
- II. That this replaced the previous Cabinet Member approval of 19 March 2021 for an extension of contract to London Hotel Group t/a Ibis Styles Hotel.

Reasons for decision

A Member decision was granted on 19th March 2021 to extend the contact with London Hotel Group Ltd t/a Ibis Styles Hotel for the above provision for a period of 6 months from 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021. However, the Provider had since restructured their business. A novation is now required to ensure the Council is contracting with the appropriate business entity and to transfer the contract obligations to the new business entity London Walthamstow Ltd.

As part of the response to the Covid-19 global pandemic, Haringey Council is committed to providing temporary accommodation and subsistence to single homeless adults who are rough sleeping or at imminent risk of rough sleeping. This commitment acknowledges the particular vulnerabilities and inequalities they face and will ensure they are able to adhere to government guidelines around self-isolation, where they would not ordinarily have the accommodation or financial means to do so.

The Covid-19 Emergency Accommodation Board have been governing this work, which has already rapidly mobilised a range of accommodation and subsistence options for vulnerable homeless people. This report outlines a procurement decision which has the pre-approval of that Board.

Alternative options considered

Conduct a full RFQ process

The need for additional temporary accommodation and subsistence is urgent and unprecedented. It was deemed unfeasible to conduct a lengthy procurement process when the need was urgent and immediate, and it is now understood after four months of hotel acquisition arrangements that this hotel is unique in its location and offer therefore a procurement process wouldn't be a valuable use of time.

Do nothing

The Council could elect not to use its discretionary powers to source accommodation for vulnerable homeless people during the Covid-19 situation. However, to do so would be to ignore its commitments to adult safeguarding, public health and rough sleeping as well as wider responsibilities to public safety.

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date