

MINUTES OF CABINET MEMBER SIGNING MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 7TH MARCH, 2022, 10.00 - 10.25 AM

PRESENT: Councillor Seema Chandwani, Cabinet Member for Customer Service, Welfare, and the Public Realm.

In attendance: Matthew Middup, IT Procurement and Software Management Officer; David Graaff, Head of Service Delivery; Mark Stevens, Assistant Director for Direct Services; Ann Cunningham, Head of Highways and Parking; and Fiona Rae, Acting Committees Manager.

139. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

140. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

141. CONTRACT VARIATION FOR PROVISION OF MOBILE NETWORK VOICE AND DATA SERVICES

The Cabinet Member for Customer Service, Welfare, and the Public Realm considered the report which sought approval under Contract Standing Order 10.02.1 b), where the value is £500,000 (five hundred thousand pounds) or more, and subject to the provisions of Public Contract Regulations 2015 (PCR) 72(1) (b) (i) & (ii) for the extension and variation to the Mobile Network Voice and Data Services contract awarded to EE Ltd.

The contract award would be for a period of no more than 12 months, with a value of up to £204,000.00, to commence on 1 April 2022. The total aggregated contract value was up to £1,022,000.00, over the 5-year term.

It was noted that this decision needed to be taken so that the Mobile Network Voice and Data Services contract for the Council was maintained. A new contract would be procured and in place before 1 April 2023.

The Cabinet Member noted that the contract would be extended for 12 months and enquired how the council would be ensuring timely and strong arrangements for future contracts. The IT Procurement and Software Management Officer explained that a new framework was due to be published in June for the provision of mobile network voice and data services contract. It was added that the extended contract was for 12 months but was a rolling 30 day arrangement which would allow the council to transition to a new contract when convenient.

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

1. To approve the implementation of Contract Standing Order 10.02.1 (b) and Contract Standing Order 16.02 and award the extension and variation for the Mobile Network Voice and Data Services contract to EE Ltd, for a period no longer than 12 months, from 1 April 2022.
2. The contract value will not exceed £204,000.00, over the 12-month variation term, with a total aggregated contract value of up to £1,022,000.00.

Reasons for decision

The current contract is due to expire on 30th March 2022. Therefore, this variation is being presented to Cabinet Member to ensure the continuity of all mobile network voice and data services used by the London Borough of Haringey and Homes for Haringey.

An open tender to procure a new contract for the Council's Mobile Network Voice and Data Services was issued on 19th November 2021, with the provision of a new service scheduled for 1st April 2022. Of the submissions received, none were compliant, and the decision was taken to cancel the procurement, with no new contract being let.

Alternative options considered

There are 2 alternative options available:

Retender – not an option as we do not have sufficient time to carry out a compliant procurement.

No Action – do not award a contract extension and allow the existing contract to end. This option has a high level of risk. The implications of not having a contract are:

- Special tariff rates and discounts could revert to increased standard rates
- Possible disruption to mobile network services

142. DISCRETIONARY HOUSING PAYMENTS POLICY

The Cabinet Member for Customer Service, Welfare, and the Public Realm considered the report which noted that, each year, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) made grants available to local authorities for Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP) purposes. The report was brought to the Cabinet Member with an updated DHP policy to reflect the new funding allocation.

It was noted that the main objective of the DHP policy was to prevent homelessness and to sustain existing tenancies where possible.

The Head of Service Delivery reported that, on 24 February 2022, the DWP had issued subsidy circular S1/2022. This stated that:

- The total amount of DHP funding for England and Wales for FYE March 2023 was £100 million.

- £98 million of funding would be allocated in April 2022 for the FYE March 2023. Haringey had a funding allocation of £1,168,397.
- DWP was reserving £2 million of DHP funding until later in the year. DWP would provide further information about how this funding would be allocated in due course.

The Cabinet Member noted that the allocation was reducing fairly significantly each year and expressed concerns about the reduction in welfare spending. It was noted that Cabinet was still due to be notified of the figure in the Quarter One budget monitoring report.

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

1. To approve Haringey's Discretionary Housing Payments Policy 2022/23 (see Appendix A) as the methodology to determine the award of individual Discretionary Housing Payments during the financial year 2022/23 having regard to the Equalities Impact Assessment (set out in Appendix B).
2. At the time of writing this report, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) have not confirmed the Discretionary Housing Payment allocation to Haringey for 2022/23. If notification arrives after this Cabinet meeting, Cabinet will be notified of the figure in the Quarter One budget monitoring report.
3. **It was noted that, after the report had been published, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) had issued subsidy circular S1/2022. This stated that:**
 - **The total amount of Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP) funding for England and Wales for Fiscal Year End (FYE) March 2023 was £100 million.**
 - **£98 million of funding would be allocated in April 2022 for the FYE March 2023. Haringey had a funding allocation of £1,168,397.**
 - **DWP was reserving £2 million of DHP funding until later in the year. DWP would provide further information about how this funding would be allocated in due course.**

Reasons for decision

The DHP Policy must be reviewed and approved every year in line with the changing funding allocated by the DWP.

Alternative options considered

None.

143. FLOOD WATER MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT PLAN

The Cabinet Member for Customer Service, Welfare, and the Public Realm considered the report which noted that it was widely recognised that the combined effects of climate change and continuing urban development would give rise to increased flood risk. In London alone, there were many properties that were deemed

at risk of flooding. Haringey as well as several other London boroughs experienced flooding from extreme rainfall on two occasions in July 2021.

Haringey was responsible for taking the lead in managing flood risk from surface water, groundwater, reservoir, rivers, and some of the smaller watercourses. In 2010, the Flood and Water Management Act came into effect, and this required the Council to take on the role of 'lead local flood authority' (LLFA) for the Haringey area.

It was not possible to completely stop flooding, but steps could be taken to reduce the effect through measures including that of highways drainage resilience works and schemes to prevent unmanaged flooding.

The Flood Water Management Investment Plan (FWMIP) set out the capital investment programme for 2022/2023. Appendix 1 set out the proposed allocation of schemes within the overall programme. This programme had been developed to meet the objectives in the Haringey Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

The schemes proposed in the Flood Water Management Investment Plan were a 'living document' of proposals which were developed as the Council understood the various issues that had an impact on flooding.

In response to a question from the Cabinet Member, it was noted that officers were hopeful that there would be Greater London Authority (GLA) funding for the Chestnuts Park rainwater masterplan scheme and a decision was expected shortly.

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

1. To approve the Flood Water Management Investment Plan for the 2022/23 financial year as set out in the attached Appendix 1.
2. To delegate decisions relating to flood water management scheme design and implementation to the Head of Highways and Parking.
3. To authorise the Head of Highways and Parking to carry out any required consultation in accordance with Appendix 2 and to make any necessary traffic orders, having had due regard to any prior consultation, to give effect to those schemes.
4. To authorise the Head of Highways and Parking to consider any objections and representations and to report back to the Cabinet Member for Customer Service, Welfare and the Public Realm if there are significant or substantial objections or concerns raised; and
5. To agree to a review of policy to allow a more robust approach in dissuading the conversion of existing property frontages from soft landscaping to hard landscaping in the face of the global climate crisis.
6. To agree to vire £355k from the Borough Roads budget to the Flood Water Management budget.

Reasons for decision

The FWMIP sets out the Council's flood water management and highways drainage resilience projects for the coming financial year and how they align with the Council's strategic objectives.

The report provides detail of the funding arrangements, seeks authority to proceed with the development and delivery of these projects. Some of those projects will be subject to appropriate consultation.

Alternative options considered

No other options were considered. The Council has a statutory obligation to maintain the public highway network. The Council is the lead local flood authority in the borough and is responsible for taking the lead in managing flood risk from surface water, groundwater, reservoir, rivers and some of the smaller watercourses. This 2022/23 investment plan has been informed by the Council's Transport Strategy, Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and a developing Asset Management Strategy. The projects proposed are those that have already been identified as priorities to further reduce the risk of future flooding in the borough.

The funding for the proposed projects comes from Council resources approved by Cabinet as part of the Capital Programme and from external grants or contributions that have been received or are proposed.

144. HIGHWAYS AND STREET LIGHTING INVESTMENT PLAN

The Cabinet Member for Customer Service, Welfare, and the Public Realm considered the report which made recommendations for investment in Haringey's highways infrastructure during 2022/23 and particularly covered footway, carriageway and street lighting assets, as well as providing details of some traffic schemes. The report also provided an update on the insourcing of highways reactive maintenance.

Investment in Haringey's local highways network was critical to delivering the Council's ambitions to make Haringey a better and safe place to live, encouraging growth and attracting investment, and creating opportunities that all can share in.

The investment recommended in this report had been identified to meet the Borough Plan objectives and the Transport Strategy. The key objectives within the Transport Strategy were as follows:

- A public transport network that is better connected, has greater capacity and is more accessible, supporting our growth ambitions;
- A well-maintained road network that is less congested and safer;
- Active travel the easier choice, with more people choosing to travel by walking or cycling;
- Improved air quality and a reduction in carbon emissions from transport.

Appendices 1, 2 and 3 of this report set out the recommended investment and, where relevant, expected funding streams for 2022/23 for various works to highways infrastructure assets and on the local highway network.

The plan – which covered a number of service areas – would be collectively referred to as the Highways and Street Lighting Investment Plan (HSLIP).

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

1. To approve the investment of £8.754m in highway assets for 2022/23, as set out in Appendix 1 of this report;
2. To approve the investment of £1.3m in lighting assets for 2022/23, as set out in Appendix 2 of this report;
3. To approve and note the investment of £0.350m in traffic schemes for 2022/23, as set out in Appendix 3 of this report;
4. To delegate decisions relating to highways infrastructure asset maintenance, and highways and traffic improvement scheme design and implementation to the Head of Highways and Parking;
5. To authorise the Head of Highways and Parking to carry out any required consultation in accordance with Appendix 4 and to make any necessary traffic management orders, having had due regard to any prior consultation, to give effect to those schemes;
6. To authorise the Head of Highways and Parking to consider any objections and representations on highways and traffic improvement schemes and to report back to the Cabinet Member for Customer Service, Welfare and the Public Realm if there are significant or substantial objections or concerns raised; and
7. To note the progress made on the insourcing of highways reactive maintenance.

Reasons for decision

This report sets out the 2022/23 investment in the Council's local highways infrastructure, the improvements that are planned, the programme for the future potential insourcing of highways reactive maintenance and how these activities align with the Council's strategic objectives.

The report provides detail of the funding arrangements and seeks authority to proceed with the development and delivery of these projects, subject to appropriate consultation.

Alternative options considered

Allocated funding is insufficient to cover all existing maintenance needs, so the proposals prioritise the essential works that need to be delivered. The 2022/23 investment plan has been informed by the Council's Transport Strategy, the Local

Investment Plan (LIP) - which involved consultation with key stakeholders - and the emerging, updated Highways Asset Management Plan.

The maintenance works programmes are prioritised through visual inspections and highway condition surveys by officers, and concerns raised by Members and by the wider community.

The lantern and column replacement programme for street lighting is developed around electrical and structural condition surveys, scouting, road hierarchy, visual inspections, lighting levels, and regeneration all to ensure that investment is targeted where most needed.

145. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting as item 8 contained exempt information, as defined in Section 100a of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by Section 12A of the Local Government Act 1985); paras 3 and 5, namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

146. EXEMPT - CONTRACT VARIATION FOR PROVISION OF MOBILE NETWORK VOICE AND DATA SERVICES

The Cabinet Member considered the exempt information.

CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Seema Chandwani

Signed by Cabinet Member

Date ...8 March 2022.....

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