

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON Tuesday, 15th March, 2016, 18:30

PRESENT:

**Councillors: Claire Kober (Chair), Jason Arthur, Ali Demirci,
Joe Goldberg, Peter Morton, Bernice Vanier and Ann Waters**

205. FILMING AT MEETINGS

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

206. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Strickland and Cllr McNamara.

207. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business received.

208. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

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

No representations were received.

210. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th February 2016 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

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

None.

212. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/QUESTIONS

There were no deputations, questions or petitions put forward to the meeting that concurred with Committee Standing Orders.

213. PROVISIONAL OUTTURN REPORT

The Cabinet Member for Resources and Culture introduced the report which provided an updated position based on budget managers period 10 projections for the 2015/16 revenue and capital outturn position. The gross position on the General Fund was an estimated overspend of £11.1m. The Risk Reserve of £2.2m had been applied to provide mitigation and, as agreed at the November Cabinet meeting, a further £5m of reserves was to be used to manage this position further. The revised position was a net forecast overspend of £3.9m. The Cabinet Member advised that, as in previous years, this position may be reduced further during the summer when the final outturn report was produced. Cabinet noted that unearmarked reserves would need to be used to reduce this figure further.

RESOLVED

1. To note the report and the Council's 2015/16 provisional outturn position in respect of net revenue and capital expenditure;
2. To agree the principle that the carry forward of resources will only be permitted once agreed by the Chief Finance Officer and where the expenditure is backed by an approved reserve or external funding source; and
3. To maintain under review the key risks and issues identified in this report in the context of the Council's on-going budget management responsibilities.

Reasons for decision

Members' involvement in financial monitoring is an essential part of delivering the Council's priorities.

Alternative options considered

The report proposed that the Cabinet considered the provisional outturn position for 2015/16. The reporting of the Council's outturn and management of financial resources is a key part of the role of the Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) and no other options were therefore been considered.

At this stage of the year the impact of management action on the final outturn position was limited however, given the overall position and the further savings to be delivered in 2016/17 it was still important that corrective action was identified to bring expenditure back into line with the budget.

214. DISCRETIONARY BUSINESS RATES RELIEF POLICY

The Cabinet Member for Resources and Culture introduced the report which set out the new discretionary business rates relief policy and reflected significant changes to the policy, legal, and financial frameworks governing business rates that had taken place since the existing policy was implemented in 1990.

The Cabinet Member advised that, given the financial constraints the Council were facing, it would be increasingly reliant on local sources of income and in doing so

would need to support local economic growth. The Cabinet Member also advised that the report supported Council priorities, particularly around jobs and regeneration. The Cabinet Member thanked all of the residents and traders who were involved in the consultation process.

The Leader asked Cabinet to approve the recommendations at section 3.1 of the report.

RESOLVED

To approve the new Discretionary Business Rates Relief Policy, as appended to the report at Appendix A and described in more detail at section 6 of the report. This

1. Introduces new discretionary relief schemes for businesses:
 - i) To support occupancy of new and converted office and work space across the borough (B1 class usage);
 - ii) that are temporarily using a space whilst a new development project is being completed (meanwhile initiatives)
2. Updates and makes the following changes to the existing discretionary business rates relief scheme for Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations (VCOs):
 - i) VCOs applying for discretionary relief will be asked to outline how their services bring social value and local impact to our residents. This information would be used as a basis for ongoing discussion over opportunities for the Council and VCOs to work closer together to bring benefits for residents and the local area
 - ii) Reduces the current offer of 100% relief to charity gift shops to 80%, but retains our offer of 100% relief to youth centres, counseling centres and voluntary aided schools
 - iii) Shift from currently automatically offering 100% relief to all VCOs that are receiving funding from the Council (funding includes grants, contracts and discounted rent), to making a case by case assessment in the future. During the case by case assessment, the Council would assess (i) how the VCO intends to use the additional relief to directly support the activities that the Council is funding (ii) social value, and (iii) the financial case for offering the additional relief.
 - iv) Updates the existing categories of VCO that can claim 80% discretionary relief under the policy to also include:
 - a) employment and skills support services
 - b) organisations that promote health and wellbeing for local residents and a clean local environment

- c) organisations that work with groups of residents who are vulnerable or have additional needs e.g. working with those with special educational needs and disabilities, isolated individuals and children whose welfare is at risk
- d) children's playgroups

Reasons for decision

Haringey's discretionary business rates relief policy has not been updated since 1990.

There have been significant changes to the policy, legal and financial frameworks that govern business rates and these changes present an opportunity to consider how Haringey's discretionary business rates relief policy can better:

1. Support the Council's strategic priorities – including the growth of key economic sectors, new job creation, supporting economic regeneration programmes, and support those organisations whose activities are bringing most social value to our residents.
2. Support the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Alternative options considered

To maintain the current policy. This option is not being considered because of changes to the local, national, legal and financial context outlined below:

Local

The Council's Corporate Plan 2015-18 marks a shift to a more outcome focused approach to policy development and service delivery. It sets out five priorities for the Council to deliver against: 1) enable every child and young person to have the best start in life, 2) empower all adults to live healthy, long and fulfilling lives, 3) a clean and safe borough where people are proud to live, 4) drive growth and employment from which everyone can benefit, and 5) create homes and communities where people choose to live and are able to thrive. Under each priority the Corporate Plan lists objectives and outlines how it will measure success for each objective.

In this new local context, there is an opportunity for a new discretionary business rates relief policy to better support our corporate priorities and objectives.

National

The new policy has been developed at a time when a wider agenda is emerging nationally on devolving power down from Central Government to local authorities over business rates.

On 5th October 2015, the Chancellor announced that by the end of the Parliament, local authorities will be able to retain 100% of local business rates revenue. This was reiterated in the autumn statement in November 2015.

With significant cuts to Government funding for local authorities in the pipeline and the expected phasing out of Revenue Support Grant, the locally retained share of business rates will in the future become an increasingly important source of revenue for Haringey Council to use to fund local services for residents.

Having the power to decide locally how relief is given on business rates is a key part of the devolution agenda, particularly as relief can be used to support the medium to long term growth of business rates revenue.

Legal

The Localism Act 2011 has given local authorities scope to offer a broader discretionary business rates relief policy, including its extension to profit making organisations.

Financial

In April 2013, the Government introduced the business rates retention scheme, aiming to provide a financial incentive for local authorities to stimulate the local growth of business rates revenue. In London, local authorities now retain a 'local share' of 30% of the total business rates collected within their area.

In the context of a challenging national financial environment, revenue generated from business rates is set to become an increasingly important source of income for local authorities. A discretionary business rates relief policy, directed at incentivising the supply and value of rateable commercial property, has the potential over the medium term to help grow the Council's revenue base from retained business rates.

Another option would have been to introduce a new discretionary relief scheme targeted at other economic sectors such as retail. This was not taken forward at this point in time because Haringey's current Economic Growth Strategy is primarily aimed at growing new economic sectors in the borough such as tech, high value manufacturing and creative industries, all of which occupy office and work space (B1 Usage Class). However, business rates levy and discount schemes targeted at strengthening High Streets could in the future be looked at as part of Business Improvement Districts, but these policy proposals still are only at an early stage of development and require the support of local businesses to implement. There are also a number of other business rates relief schemes already in place which other economic sectors, such as retail, can benefit from including small business rate relief, empty properties relief and transitional relief.

A further option was to consider applying relief for existing office space. This was not taken forward because of financial reasons as it would not deliver the additional growth of business rates to mitigate the cost to the Council in applying the discount. However, there are other business rates relief schemes that remain in place that occupiers of existing office space can benefit from, including small business rates relief, empty properties relief and transitional relief.

215. HARINGEY, CAMDEN AND ISLINGTON ICT SHARED SERVICES PROGRAMME

The Cabinet Member for Resources and Culture introduced the report which sought approval from the Cabinet for the Council to join an existing shared Information and Communications Technology (ICT) service with the London Boroughs of Camden and Islington. The shared arrangements were due to commence formally in October 2016.

A review of the Council's ICT service, carried out by SOCITM (Society of Information Technology Management), found clear alignment in the strategic direction of all three councils and the outcomes required from their respective ICT functions to deliver change and support future savings plans. The Cabinet Member emphasised that additional savings, on top of what had been identified in the Medium Term Financial Strategy, were expected as a result of joining the ICT service with Islington and Camden.

The Leader asked Cabinet to approve the recommendations set out at section 3 of the report.

RESOLVED

1. To establish a shared ICT service between Haringey, Camden and Islington Councils;
2. To agree that a formal executive Joint Committee be established , comprising six members, two members appointed by each of the London Boroughs of Camden, Islington and Haringey, to oversee the shared service, with a view to review options for commercial operating model within 12 months;
3. To note that the Leader, subject to the Cabinet agreement of recommendations 1 & 2 above, will, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources, make any further decisions required (and makes any appropriate delegations to officers) as to the terms of reference and operation of the executive Joint Committee and associated agreements;
4. To authorise the Chief Operating Officer to enter into a joint agreement between the Council, Camden and Islington Councils (as approved by the Leader) and any additional legal documentation necessary for the establishment of the shared ICT Service. This does not extend to the establishment of any future commercial governance arrangement and operating model, which would require separate member approval;
5. To agree the Council's maximum contribution of £2.5m to a total cost-of-change budget of a maximum of £7.5 m to support the transition across the three boroughs;
6. To note that costs and savings for the core service offering will be shared on equal basis between the three boroughs subject to due diligence and that any variation shall be agreed by the Chief Operating Officer.

Reasons for decision

The current corporate plan and priority outcome programmes continue to create demand for different IT skills and resources which are necessary for delivering these transformation programmes.

The changing world of public services with increasing financial pressure will ultimately require innovative solutions and greater need for rapid service transformations. Sharing ICT resources with neighboring local authorities will help the Council to deliver this transformation at greater speed and reduced cost.

The research published by LGA in 2015 identified 416 shared service arrangements between the councils across the country resulting in £462m of efficiency savings. In Greater London there are 46 examples of shared services.

The development of shared services with Islington and Camden will allow the Council to develop digital skills to respond more effectively to changing demands on our services.

Joining the shared services with Islington and Camden will help the Council in:

- Delivering value for money and cashable financial savings,
- Consolidating the expertise and best practice from all three ICT services into one integrated and high-performing service, and
- Creating a public service structure that is resilient and is able to better withstand market conditions from both local government and beyond.
- Benefit from the transformational projects which have been already delivered in Islington or Camden.

The shared IT services will allow us to deliver improved digital services as set out in the council's corporate plan at reduced cost through sharing of resources and skills with Islington and Camden.

The shared services proposal will allow the council to continue improving its digital offer while delivering substantive savings.

Alternative options considered

Officers and lead Members from the Council have carefully considered the underlying business case. It is felt that there is a sufficient level of benefit – both financial and otherwise – to recommend the Council joining the shared service in a joint committee model.

There was not enough evidence to justify setting up a commercial model for the shared service on October 2016. Further research will be carried out over twelve months after the Joint Committee set up goes live in October 2016 to assess if the joint service should adopt a commercial model.

There is a significant pressure to support the Council wide transformation. The pressure to support and deliver more with fewer resources often results in employing short term resources. This option often increases cost of delivery in short term. The shared service model will allow the Council to share existing resources more

effectively across the three boroughs and even better value for money for residents of each borough.

The current savings profile for ICT service has achieved savings of £35k for financial year 15/16 and £170k for 16/17. The savings profile of the shared services business case as summarised in the table at 7.12 sets out significant savings which are higher as a result of joining the ICT service with Islington and Camden.

Should the Cabinet decide that we do not engage in shared services with Islington and Camden, the Council's ICT service will continue to deliver ICT services in its current format.

We have considered the option of outsourcing the ICT service, both to the public sector and to the private sector. The ICT service currently has various contracts with private sector organisations for some service elements as they provide value for money. It is not envisaged that at this stage the pursuing full outsourcing will provide greater benefits than the shared services option. The shared services option provides more benefits than just financial benefits for the Council.

216. MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH HOMES FOR HARINGEY FOR HOUSING SERVICES

The Leader introduced the report which sought approval for the new Management Agreement with Homes for Haringey, following the decision by Cabinet in September 2015, which had considered recommendations from a cross-party working group, and agreed to retain Homes for Haringey as the Council's Arms Length Housing Management Company with a new contract for ten years in duration. The contract was due to expire on 31st March 2026, with a review after five years.

RESOLVED

1. To note that the Management Agreement requires the consent of the Secretary of State.
2. To approve the new Management Agreement between the Council and Homes for Haringey attached as appendix 1, to take effect from 1st April 2016, or from such date that approval of the Management Agreement is received from the Secretary of State if later than 1st April 2016.
3. To delegate authority to the Chief Operating Officer, to be exercised in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration, to make amendments to the detail of the Management Agreement that may arise from the requirement to gain the consent of the Secretary of State to enable the implementation of the agreement, or in general.

Reasons for decision

A decision is required following the previous Cabinet decision to retain Homes for Haringey and put a new management agreement in place. The current agreement

expires on 31 March 2016 and approval of the new agreement is required to take effect on 1 April 2016.

Alternative options considered

The current Management Agreement with Homes for Haringey (HfH) is a long and detailed document. An alternative option was to recreate a similar type of agreement but it was felt this approach was outdated and would not fully reflect the new relationship and style of working with HfH that the council is moving towards, as set out in the report.

The recommended approach provided a shorter and more focused agreement as HfH's priorities and objectives are now fundamentally determined by the Corporate Plan and the Housing Strategy and will be reflected in HfH's annual business plan.

217. MONUMENT WAY DISPOSAL

The Leader introduced the report which sought approval to dispose of the Monument Way site to Newlon Housing Trust. Approval was sought to grant right to buy receipts to Newlon Housing Trust to enable a scheme with a proportion of affordable rent homes significantly above the current planning policy requirement. The Leader commented that Monument Way was located in Tottenham Hale, which had been designated as a Housing Zone by the Mayor of London and the Council was keen to bring forward new housing developments, including as much affordable housing as possible. In order to facilitate this, the Council needed to bring forward sites that it owned for redevelopment. The Leader advised that the proposal included the use of right to buy receipts, enabling this funding to be utilised to provide as much affordable housing as possible.

In response to a question from Cllr Morris, the Leader agreed that the consideration of open space and light was important in delivering high quality developments but stated that ensuring that one of the plots was maintained as open space would be a matter for Planning Committee to determine. The AD Capital Major Projects advised that the fourth plot was excluded from the land that was being transferred to Newlon Housing Trust and would be kept for public realm works.

In response to further questions from Cllr Morris, the Leader advised that all 44 units would be affordable homes and also advised that the Council were unable to insulate the development from the potential of the units being available under the right to buy scheme in the future. The Leader further advised that right to buy had been extended to housing association tenants and the Council had to operate within the law.

RESOLVED

1. To declare the Monument Way site (shown edged red on the site plan attached at Appendix A of the report) surplus to requirements.
2. To authorise the disposal of the Monument Way site to Newlon Housing Trust for the sum set out in Part B of the report and on the terms set out in the Heads of Terms attached in Part B.

3. To note the intention to acquire the piece of land at the end of Fairbanks Road (shaded green on the plan attached in Appendix A of the report) from Holy Trinity School and part of the land shaded orange on the plan attached in Appendix A of the report from Transport for London and to dispose to Newlon Housing Trust as part of recommendation 3.1 (b) of the report and on the basis that the disposal is likely to contribute to the achievement of the promotion or improvement of the economic or social or the environmental well being of the area.
4. That delegated authority be given to the Director of Regeneration Planning and Development after consultation with the Section 151 Officer and Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration to agree the final details of the Heads of Terms and contract documentations.
5. To grant a sum of a maximum of £5,000,000 from right to buy receipts to Newlon Housing Trust as a contribution towards the provision of a minimum of 44 affordable rented units as set out in the Heads of Terms in Part B of the report and subject to Newlon Housing Trust entering into a funding agreement and 100% Nominations Rights for the minimum of 44 affordable rented units.

Reasons for decision

The Monument Way site sits within the Tottenham Housing Zone. Officers considered the site suitable for affordable rent homes and was able to use right to buy receipts to maximise the affordable rent position. The site could be delivered relatively quickly and independently of other sites in the Housing Zone and is a priority since Council has an urgent demand for affordable rent homes.

It is proposed that the Monument Way site be declared surplus to requirements and can be disposed of to provide much needed affordable rent housing. This is the reason for the recommendation in 3.1 (a) of the report.

The Council are not in a position to undertake the development themselves due to insufficient resources and have been discussing with Newlon Housing Trust, as a preferred partner, the opportunity to take forward the development.

Officers are recommending that the land is disposed to Newlon Housing Trust for the sum set out in the Heads of Terms in Part B and on the terms set out in the Heads of Terms in Part B. This is the reason for the recommendation in 3.1 (b) of the report.

The Council holds the freehold of most of the land within the Monument Way site and is in the process of acquiring two parcels of land from adjoining owners. These land transfers will be dealt with in separate reports, the Council is recommending that members note the land assembly activities, this is the reason for the recommendation in 3.1 (c) of the report.

Draft Heads of Terms can be found in Part B of the report; however terms cannot be fully agreed due to land assembly complications and abnormal costs which are at present not fully understood. These will be resolved in the final documentation; therefore the report is recommending that delegated authority be given to the Director of Regeneration Planning and Development after consultation with the Section 151

Officer and Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration to agree the final detail of the Heads of Terms. This is the reason for the recommendation in 3.1(d) of the report.

The Council will give a grant to Newlon Housing Trust from right to buy receipts in order to maximise the number of affordable rent units. The Council has previously agreed in principle that Right to Buy receipts can be allocated to development partners to increase the level of affordable housing within the Borough. However, in line with other Council expenditure any allocation above £500,000 needs to be agreed by Cabinet. This is the reason for the recommendation in 3.1 (e) of the report.

Alternative options considered

The alternative option is to not sell the site to Newlon Housing. This would result in not achieving a minimum of 44 new affordable rented residential accommodation in Tottenham Hale.

The Council could sell the site in the open market. However the land receipt is unlikely to be higher than that for a social rented development and would at best be policy compliant and therefore not achieve the same level of social housing the Newlon proposal provided.

The Council could undertake the development themselves. However the Council's new build programme, due to insufficient resource, is not in a position to undertake the development and Newlon as a preferred partner could take the development forward.

218. PURCHASE OF THE HEAD LEASE AT 40 CUMBERLAND ROAD, LONDON N22 7SG

The Leader introduced the report which sought approval for the purchase of the head lease for the property at 40 Cumberland Road to provide the Council with an unencumbered freehold interest in the site. The Leader identified that the proposal was important in terms of the regeneration of Wood Green and the need for the Council to have leverage through land ownership in the area.

In response to a question from Cllr Morris, the Leader advised that any decision on the Wood Green section of Crossrail 2 being delayed had not been taken and that the National Infrastructure Commission has made some recommendations on options for scaling back the costs. Further work was required from Transport for London to assess costs and further funding announcements from HM Treasury would be monitored going forward. Final consideration of the route was expected in the summer.

The Leader added that the Piccadilly Line was due to be upgraded to deal with a one-third increase in capacity. Therefore, regardless of Crossrail 2, the transport infrastructure improvements around Wood Green would be substantial, and would support significant economic and housing growth. The Leader advised that the Council would need to be working on the basis that Crossrail 2 would be progressing as planned but with growth and regeneration potential in and around Wood Green, the borough would not be reliant upon Crossrail 2.

RESOLVED

1. To purchase of the Head Lease of the property located at 40 Cumberland Road as outlined red on the plan attached in Appendix A of the report for general fund purposes for the purchase price and costs set out in Part B of this report and based on the Heads of Terms set out in Part B of this report.

Reasons for decision

The Council are the freeholders of 40 Cumberland Road and also own the freehold of the majority of the adjoining properties in Station Road. The acquisition of the head lease at 40 Cumberland Road will save the Council rent and will also enable the site together with the other Council owned sites to be part of the Joint Venture Company currently being procured.

Alternative options considered

Should the Council not acquire the lease they will continue to pay rent until the end of the lease. A dilapidations cost would likely to be substantial at the end of the lease.

In the event that the site forms part of future redevelopment proposals of the Joint Venture development vehicle the current head lease interest would then need to be acquired at that time.

219. NOEL PARK CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Cabinet Member for Planning introduced the report which sought Member approval for the adoption of the finalised draft of the Noel Park Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan, following the consultation process that had been undertaken on the draft report and the representations received.

The Cabinet Member for Planning thanked the local community, Historic England and Planning Officers for their contributions. The Cabinet Member advised that the Noel Park Conservation Area was one of the many valuable heritage sites in the borough and by working with key stakeholders, the Planning Service had been able to develop an updated character appraisal and management plan to drive future work across the Council and to ensure that the area's special character was preserved. The Cabinet Member recommended the report to Cabinet and advised that the report sought approval for extending the conservation area and Article 4 designations, as per the recommendations contained in the appraisal.

RESOLVED

1. To note the comments received from the consultation on the draft document and how these have been taken into account in the finalising the draft Noel Park Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan, highlighted at paragraph 6.17 of the report and set out in the Consultation Statement at Appendix 2 of the report;
2. To approve the adoption and publication of the finalised draft Noel Park Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan as attached at Appendix 2 of the report;
3. To authorise the extension of the existing Article 4 Direction to cover the entire designated conservation area in accordance with the appraisal recommendations and instruct officers to undertake such steps as are necessary under Schedule 3 to the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 to do so.

Reasons for decision

The Council has a statutory duty to ensure that conservation areas are preserved or enhanced and publish policies for the implementation of the same. The various insensitive alterations within the area have resulted in the conservation area being included in Historic England's 'At Risk' register. It is therefore important that the Council adopts this appraisal along with the management plan to ensure that the significance of the area is preserved or enhanced.

The management plan includes recommendations that both the conservation area and Article 4 area are extended. It is important that these changes are made in order to give the Council consistent control over minor changes to buildings across the whole estate so that the significance of the whole area can be effectively protected.

Alternative options considered

The appraisal explores the possibility of leaving the boundaries of the conservation area and the area covered by the Article 4 Direction as they currently are. However, the proposed addition to the conservation area is contemporary with the Noel Park Estate and has the same architectural and historic significance therefore it was considered preferable that it be included in the conservation area and given the same protection as the rest of the estate.

Furthermore, given the cumulative impact of the loss of architectural detailing, it is considered preferable that a consistent control over such alterations is implemented across the whole of the conservation area by extending the Article 4 Direction (which removes permitted development rights to alterations to the front of the property only).

220. AUTHORITY MONITORING REPORT (AMR) 2014-15

The Cabinet Member for Planning introduced the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) which assessed the effectiveness of Haringey's planning policies. The AMR covered

the monitoring period from 1st April to 31st March 2015 and was the first one produced since the Corporate Plan 2015-18 was published. The report therefore also assessed performance against the priority outcomes reflected in the Corporate Plan.

The report also sought to set out a framework for future reporting and explore opportunities for alignments with corporate monitoring processes. The Cabinet Member advised that the report highlighted the challenges faced in delivery of new homes, with the number of affordable homes being delivered, 406, falling short of the requirements set out in the London Plan. The Cabinet Member also advised that changes in funding for affordable homes and legislative changes meant that delivery levels of affordable homes would likely be reduced further going forward.

In response to a question from Cllr Morris, the Cabinet Member for Planning acknowledged the issue of pedestrian safety and responded that enforcement of the Council's 20 MPH zone was a significant factor in the Council's attempts to reduce the number of pedestrian casualties on the Haringey's streets. The Cabinet Member for Planning also advised that the Council was in the process of developing an updated Transport Strategy that would include improvements to road safety and an early draft of this document could be shared with the Member.

RESOLVED

1. To note the findings of the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) for the monitoring period 2014/15;
2. To approve the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) 2014/15 for publication on the Council's website; and
3. To approve undertaking of an interim review of development data (i.e. planning permissions and completions) for the 2015/2016 reporting year, to be published as an addendum to this AMR.

Reasons for decision

The publication of the Authority Monitoring Report is a requirement of the Localism Act 2011. Approval of the AMR 2014/15 for publication will ensure that the Council meets its statutory obligations for planning performance monitoring.

Publication of the 2014/15 AMR, and addendum covering 2015/16 development data, will provide for timely reporting of up-to-date technical evidence needed to support Haringey's emerging Local Plans when they are considered at public examination later this year.

Alternative options considered

The Localism Act 2011 requires local planning authorities to produce monitoring reports. The Council considers that Haringey's existing procedure of annual monitoring is an effective way for presenting the effectiveness of planning policies, within existing resources. As such, no other options were considered.

221. UPDATE OF THE HARINGEY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LDS) 2016 - 2019

The Cabinet Member for Planning introduced the report which set out the revised timetable for the Local Plan documents that the Council was looking to prepare over the coming years. The Cabinet Member for Planning advised that the revised Local Development Scheme (LDS) was intended to replace the current outdated LDS published in January 2015. The LDS forms an important component of the plan-making process because it keeps the public and other stakeholders informed of the planning policy documents the Council intends to prepare and the timescales that are being worked towards.

The Cabinet Member for Planning advised that as a result of the significant volume of representations received during the Local Plan consultation in 2015, delays had occurred in the process of producing the documents. Due to the importance of these documents, it was felt prudent to give sufficient opportunity for representations to come forward and additional time for their analysis.

RESOLVED

1. To note the revised Local Development Scheme (LDS) at Appendix A of the report; and
2. To adopt the revised LDS at Appendix A of the report and to bring this into effect on 1st April 2016.

Reasons for decision

Under Section 15 (1) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), the Council has a statutory duty to maintain an up-to-date LDS. The revised LDS fulfils this duty, reflecting the current timetable for the preparation of the Development Plan Documents that, when adopted, will comprise Haringey's Local Plan.

Alternative options considered

The option of not updating the LDS was considered but dismissed. Section 19 (1) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) requires that all Development Plan Documents (DPDs) be prepared in accordance with the LDS. This includes complying with the timetable contained in the LDS for each of the relevant DPDs. If the project timetables for preparing a DPD and that in the LDS differ significantly, this is likely to lead to a finding of non-compliance with the statutory legal test at the independent examination of the relevant DPD, making the document 'unsound'.

Therefore, the only valid option available was to revise the out-of-date project timetable in the LDS to reflect the current timetable to satisfy the legal requirements of the Act.

222. HARINGEY TRAVEL POLICY

The Cabinet Member for Children & Families introduced the report which set out the Council's intentions for consultation with a wide range of stakeholders before the final

Travel Policy was presented to Cabinet for approval later in the year. The Travel Policy was a statutory requirement that set out how the Council will meet its obligations with regards to pupils travelling to school and meet the travel requirements for adults with learning disabilities and disabilities. This was the first time both adult and children travel obligations had been brought together in one policy, following the Care Act 2014. The Cabinet Member advised that the Council was seeking to move towards a consistent and equitable way of supporting people in the provision of Council funded travel.

In response to a question from Cllr Morris, the Cabinet Member acknowledged that significant savings had to be made in Children's Services, including in the Home to School transport budget, but stated that officers were working closely with parents of children who had SEN issues to ensure that any changes to the service would not unduly impact the welfare of those children. The Cabinet Member added that the approach of the new policy was to make the system easier, taking into account the child's needs and also the need develop a sense of independence for when the children leave school. A full consultation was to be undertaken and the responses from it would be incorporated into a final report back to Cabinet.

RESOLVED

1. To approve the draft Travel Policy for consultation with stakeholders for a period of 90 days.
2. Officers to prepare a report for Cabinet on the feedback from the consultation undertaken and for a decision on the proposed Travel Policy.

Reasons for decision

There is a clear case for change as set out in the Corporate Plan priorities to give children the best start in life and to enable healthy and fulfilling lives for all residents. The current Council arrangements for travel support do not rest upon a single clearly stated policy position and can be seen as at variance with wider policy imperatives to promote independence, widen personalisation and enable greater resilience.

The draft policy, however, rests upon a general assumption and expectation that service users will meet their own needs for travel to access and take advantage of existing services or support and will use public transport to develop independence, social and life skills. Haringey recognises that to enable the promotion of independence for children, young people and adults requires the provision of support initiatives such as travel training and the development of community involvement. Funded passenger transport will not be directly provided unless, following assessment, it is deemed to be the only reasonable means of ensuring that the service user can be safely transported to an assessed and eligible service.

Haringey Council is also committed to reducing traffic congestion, improving road safety and reducing the environmental impact of vehicle journeys by promoting alternative forms of travel, such as walking, wheel chiring, cycling and use of integrated public transport. Wherever possible, in the provision of travel assistance the Authority will consider travel options for 'eligible children and adults' that lead to

reducing the number and length of vehicle journeys as well as promoting independence and enabling mobility.

Alternative options considered

Alternative options have been considered, including separate Travel Policies for children and young people and for adults and maintaining the current position of not having a shared policy statement for travel. Neither of these options is considered viable given the requirements set out in the Care Act in respect of transitions and the importance of travel to giving children the best start in life and enabling adults to lead healthy and fulfilling lives.

The contents of the Policy reflect the wider strategic aims of the Council to promote independence for children, young people and adults with the appropriate levels of support and training. The option of maintaining the current model of travel support was not considered to meet these wider strategic aims due to the emphasis placed on access to passenger transport.

223. MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES

RESOLVED

To note the minutes of the following meetings:

- Cabinet Member Signing on 11th February 2016.
- Cabinet Member Signing on 1st March 2016

224. SIGNIFICANT AND DELEGATED ACTIONS

RESOLVED

To note the delegated decisions taken by Directors in February 2016.

225. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

226. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting as the items contained exempt information, as defined under Schedule 12, Paragraph 3 of the Local Government Act 1972.

227. MONUMENT WAY DISPOSAL

As per Item CAB 217.

228. PURCHASE OF THE HEAD LEASE AT 40 CUMBERLAND ROAD, LONDON N22 7SG

As per Item CAB 218.

229. NEW ITEMS OF EXEMPT URGENT BUSINESS

None

CHAIR: Councillor Claire Kober

Signed by Chair

Date