

'CALL IN' OF DECISIONS OF THE CABINET

This form is to be used for the 'calling in' of decisions of the above bodies, in accordance with the procedure set out in Part 4 Section H.2 of the Constitution.

TITLE OF MEETING	Cabinet
DATE OF MEETING	20 th June 2017
MINUTE No. AND TITLE OF ITEM	Item 12, Proposed Relocation of Highgate Library Service

1. Reason for Call-In/Is it claimed to be outside the policy or budget framework?

It is not claimed to be outside of the policy or budget framework.

Reasons for call-in:

1. The feasibility study/business case for the potential move of the Highgate Library Service to Jacksons Lane has not been completed or published.
2. The Cabinet clearly stated they the Council will not undertake a public consultation on the proposed move of the service and the sale of Highgate Library site. This is despite a very similar plan to move Muswell Hill library service and sell the library site being the subject of a full public consultation.
3. The local community and Highgate Library user groups have clear concerns about the plans, with a petition against the move signed by over 2,000 local people.
4. We believe that if the Council proceeds with this decision without public consultation, there could be a legal challenge of the decision.
5. We are concerned that the Cabinet report suggests combining the Highgate Library site with neighbouring TfL land for sale and development. The land includes Metropolitan Open Land, which we believe should not be built on. We also have concerns for the future of the locally listed Highgate Library building and that any development may not respect local heritage and conservation concerns.

2. Variation of Action Proposed

1. The Liberal Democrats believe the Cabinet should not be making an 'in-principle' decision to dispose of the Highgate Library site for a potential move of the library service to Jacksons Lane. We are asking for this decision to be halted and for Cabinet to think again.


We understand that the Council wishes to support the Jacksons Lane bid for funding from the Arts Council and that match funding is required. The centre provides many services to local people and is an important arts centre.

We suggest the £1m of Council match funding required for the Arts Council bid can be found in the capital fund. For example, the Marsh Lane Depot project is currently under review and over £8m of funding for this project remains unspent. (see Appendix 2 of item 11 of Cabinet meeting of 20th June).

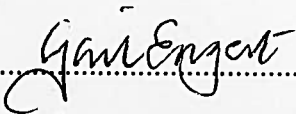
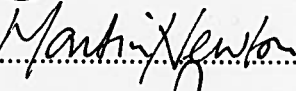
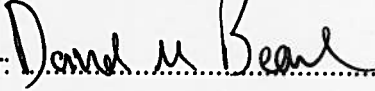
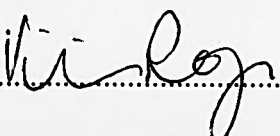
If our first alternative action is rejected:

2. We believe a feasibility study must be published and a full public consultation done, before, not after, any decision ('in-principle' or not), is made to sell Highgate Library site or move the library service.

Signed:

Councillor:  (Please print name): CLIVE CARTER

Countersigned:

- 1. Councillor:  (Please print name): GAIL ENGERT
- 2. Councillor:  (Please print name): MARTIN NEWTON
- 3. Councillor:  (Please print name): DAVID BEACHAM
- 4. Councillor:  (Please print name): VIV ROSS

Date Submitted:

Date Received :

(to be completed by the Democratic Services Manager)

Notes:

- 1. Please send this form to:
Michael Kay (on behalf of the Proper Officer)
Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager
5th Floor
River Park House
225 High Road, Wood Green, London N22 8HQ
Tel: 8489 2920
Fax: 020 8881 5218

This form must be received by the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager by 10.00 a.m. on the fifth working day following publication of the minutes.

- 2. The proper officer will forward all timely and proper call-in requests to the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and notify the decision taker and the relevant Director.
- 3. A decision will be implemented after the expiry of ten working days following the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee's receipt of a call-in request, unless a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee takes place during the 10 day period.
- 4. If a call-in request claims that a decision is contrary to the policy or budget framework, the Proper Officer will forward the call-in requests to the Monitoring Officer and /or Chief Financial Officer for a report to be prepared for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee advising whether the decision does fall outside the policy or budget framework.

