



**MINUTES OF A CABINET MEETING**  
**Council Chamber - Town Hall**  
**Wednesday, 12 June 2019**  
**(7.30 - 8.15 pm)**

**Present:**

Councillor Damian White (Leader of the Council), Chairman

Councillor Robert Benham

Councillor Osman Dervish

Councillor Joshua Chapman

Councillor Jason Frost

Councillor Roger Ramsey

Councillor Viddy Persaud

**Cabinet Member responsibility:**

Cabinet Member for Education,  
Children & Families

Cabinet Member for Environment

Cabinet Member for Housing

Cabinet Member for Health & Adult  
Care Services

Cabinet Member for Finance &  
Property

Cabinet Member for Public  
Protection and Safety

There were no apologies for absence.

**71 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Agenda item 7. Good Growth Fund - Rainham Innovation Hub and Public Realm improvements Contractual Agreements.

Councillor Damian White, Declared a Pecuniary Interest. The Leader of the Council made a declaration and absented himself from the meeting for this matter and took no part in the debate.

**72 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 8 May, 2019 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record of the same.

**73 ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES TO DELIVER ADOLESCENT SAFEGUARDING PROGRAMME**

Councillor Robert Benham, Cabinet Member for Education, Children & Families presented the report to Cabinet. He stated that the Borough is very

proud of the young people who are part of the community as they give great hope for the future and a commitment to be the best they can be. However, the young people of the Borough face a number of challenges in today's world which is widely publicised in the media.

Young people are vulnerable to criminal and sexual exploitation as well as to violence and knife crime. Although Havering remains a safe borough without the scale of challenge faced in other parts of London, it is necessary to address these issues locally.

In April, 2019 Cabinet agreed the Serious Group Violence and Knife Crime Strategy Partnership. Aligned to this, the Adolescent Safeguarding Strategy has been developed. This sets out how the Council can protect young people who are vulnerable to violence and criminal exploitation.

The approach supports the ongoing improvement of Children's Services and one element of that is to address criminal and sexual exploitation by developing interventions and appropriate services. This will help to address issues and relationships that have served to attract young people into activities such as trafficking drugs through county lines.

Councillor Benham recommended that Cabinet approve the proposal to invest £750,000 over a period of three financial years to enable the Adolescent Safeguarding approach to be developed. This will give the opportunity to test an innovative approach ensuring it is evaluated and financially stable.

The investment will bring together a multidisciplinary service under one management structure. This will include youth services, Youth Offending Services and targeted child health. These will ensure early intervention and will cover mental health services.

The Service will work closely with schools and the police using data and intelligence to identify children who without early intervention may become susceptible to exploitation from gangs or individuals later in development.

Projects and programmes will support and divert young people and their families so that they will be more able to prevent problems occurring and break the cycles of violence and exploitation. The Service will continue to work with those youngsters already involved in criminal activity to reduce the risk of reoffending and aspire to rehabilitation. The approach via the recommended investment is to better predict, prevent, intervene and disrupt risk and vulnerability to the young people of Havering.

For the reasons set out in the report,

**Cabinet:**

- i. **Approved** the approach outlined in the Report and the request for resources allocated to Children's Services, to enable the development of a multi-disciplinary adolescent safeguarding approach to address serious youth violence and exploitation. This

would be the mechanism through which to deliver the actions contained in the Serious Group Violence and Knife Crime strategy relating to children and young people, approved at Cabinet in April 2019.

- ii. **Agreed** £750,000 funding over two calendar years (three financial years) over which time this approach will be fully evaluated and other (external) sources of funding can be explored. Following this, the service will be core funded from an allocation of demographic growth and a permanent budget adjustment to carry this work forward. Refer to financial implications and risks at section four of the report.

## 74 **APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO HAVERING'S CHILDREN'S SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP**

Cllr Robert Benham presented the report to Cabinet for consideration.

The report details proposals to form a new Local Safeguarding Partnership and approval was sought to publish these plans ahead of the implementation in the autumn.

The Children & Social Work Act of 2017 and the Working Together Guidance of 2018 required Local Authorities to move away from the existing Local Safeguarding Children's Boards, and adopt a new approach to partnership working. Each Local Authority is required to publish the plans by the end of June 2019, and implement the new arrangements by the end of September 2019.

The new guidance provides much greater freedom for local areas to manage the way they approach the Safeguarding Partnership – there is no specific requirement to hold a 'board' meeting, and there is more flexibility to organise arrangements to fit with local priorities and objectives. The three statutory partners are the Local Authority, the Police and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

Havering has taken the opportunity to re-think the approach to partnership working, retaining a local focus, whilst recognising the importance of working closely with our neighbouring boroughs – Barking and Dagenham and Redbridge.

This makes sense, as all partners share the footprint of the Metropolitan Police East Command Unit, and also the Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge CCG.

Partners are also tackling some common risks in relation to children and young people, such as adolescent safeguarding and child neglect, which affects children and families across all three local areas and makes sense to develop a joined-up approach.

The aim is to publish a common approach to these safeguarding arrangements, with a strategic alignment, although this arrangement will still allow for local variation. This arrangement is designed to ensure that all agencies collaborate across shared priorities, aligning processes and workforce development in an innovative response to the new guidance.

This approach will be cost-neutral in the first year of implementation, with the potential to achieve efficiencies through rationalising resources as the partnership matures.

It is proposed that a small, senior group of the statutory Safeguarding Partners will form the Safeguarding Leadership Group and develop cross borough approaches where appropriate, whilst ensuring there is a robust focus on local safeguarding priorities. This group will provide challenge, oversight and guidance and ensure there is adequate independent scrutiny. Each local authority area will convene a Safeguarding Partnership Group. This group will provide oversight and challenge to the local safeguarding system and ensure that local priorities receive an effective response.

The Havering Safeguarding Partnership Group (HSPG), will be chaired by the Director of Children's Services, and provide the overall strategic direction and governance for the safeguarding partnership within Havering.

There will be an annual work programme to identify key priorities for the local partnership. Four local thematic groups will oversee the key priority areas: Adolescent Safeguarding; Quality and Effectiveness; Schools and Learners; and a Case Review Group. The HSPG will also develop Task and Finish Groups as required to examine areas of particular concern.

There is a requirement under the new guidance to ensure that a mechanism for independent scrutiny of these Safeguarding Partnership Arrangements is in place. Havering will ensure that there is Independent Scrutiny of these partnership arrangements through the commissioning of an independent person.

The Scrutiny role will review the performance, challenge and work-plan of the partnership, and undertake dialogue with stakeholders, particularly children, young people and their families.

A key advantage of seeking to collaborate across the three boroughs is the opportunity to test new and improved ways of working. A number of functions have been identified that could be more efficiently provided across the whole area.

Over the first nine months of the new partnership, the three Local Authorities, the Police and the CCG will collaborate on developing alignment of processes in areas including audit and learning reviews, monitoring of performance data, and training.

A response has been constructed to the Child Death Overview Panel and, duties across our three areas. It is the intention to extend and expand that approach as far as possible.

The first year of this partnership will be treated as a 'shadow-year' where the new approach can be tested. As such, we will be commissioning a report from the Independent scrutineer to review the effectiveness of the new arrangements, and provide recommendations for improvement. These recommendations will be presented to Cabinet for consideration in the autumn of 2020.

Cllr Benham commended the recommendations in the report to Cabinet.

Following discussion and for the reasons set out in the report,

**Cabinet:**

- (i) **Approved** the principles and approach to the new safeguarding arrangements and child death reviews as set out in this report
- (ii) **Agreed** to delegate to the Director of Children's Services, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education, Children & Families, the responsibility for finalising the plan for the new arrangements by 29<sup>th</sup> June 2019.
- (iii) **Approved** the arrangements for Independent Scrutiny set out at 3.1 of the report.

75 **GOOD GROWTH FUND - RAINHAM INNOVATION HUB AND PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS**

Councillor Roger Ramsey, Cabinet Lead Member for Finance and Property presented the report to Cabinet for consideration. The Grant Agreement sets out the proposals for funding to be received from the Good Growth Fund following agreement by the GLA for the Rainham Innovation Hub and Public Realm Agreements and is a commitment to the 2019/20 Corporate Plan under the Opportunities to help the Businesses in the Borough grow.

Rainham is an important area for business and residential growth. The acceptance of the grant will give great potential to improve the area.

There are two principal elements to the project. The first will be delivered through the Riverside BID which will improve the public realm which will involve landscaping one or more spaces to provide improved outdoor facilities including a seating area for workers which has been a long standing priority for the BID. The second is the innovation hub which is a three way partnership project involving the Council, Havering College and SEGRO. It will involve construction works at the College's Rainham Campus, a fit out of the space within the College and within a SEGRO industrial unit, purchasing of new digital equipment and a programme of teaching and business support, events and research activities to improve productivity and workforce skills. The concept is to develop expertise and promote improvements for workers and for the area developing a local skilled workforce.

Funding will be in part by SEGRO who will procure an operator for the hub. Part of this procurement will require the operator to set out how skills will be developed and monitored. A computer assisted design expert will be sought to ensure that skills are developed to pave the way for computer assisted building design which will be needed into the future. The funding aspects are set out within the report under paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3. The Council will be accountable for the delivery and will be entering into delivery agreements.

Following discussion,

**Cabinet:**

- **Agreed** to enter into a Grant Agreement with the Greater London Authority (GLA) until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 to provide an Innovation Hub designed to boost productivity and skills in Havering and across East London and improve the physical environment of the area for workers, students and visitors, focussing initially on the use of digital technologies in logistics, construction and related sectors. The Grant from the GLA is for £1,631,940.
- **Approved** match funding from the Council be provided to help fund the overall project derived from the value of staff time (£16,200), £800,000 from the London Strategic Investment Pot funding for connectivity in Rainham, £56,000 to be identified from business sponsorship/social value contributions or S106 (and if this is not identified by 2021/22 from the Council's allocated Regeneration and Economic Development revenue budget. Match funding will also be provided by Havering College, Riverside BID and SEGRO at a combined value of £1,049,565.
- **Delegated** authority to the Director of Regeneration Delivery to enter into Delivery Agreements with SEGRO, Havering College of Further and Higher Education and the London Riverside Business Improvement District to draw down delivery funding for the project of £309,400, £562,800 and £250,000 respectively, to deliver elements of the project and achieve agreed outcomes;
- **Agreed** to provide forward funding to the Riverside BID of £50,000 (capital) in 2019/2020 and £200,000 (capital) in 2020/2021 to enable them to fund the public realm improvements; and,
- **Agreed** a Statement of Intent with Havering College and SEGRO to confirm the partners' intentions to develop and deliver the Innovation Hub and work together to take it forward; and,
- **Noted** that the process of appointing an operator for the Hub will be undertaken on behalf of the partners through the Council's procurement processes.

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**Chairman**