

COUNCIL SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

25 September 2019

The following report is attached for consideration and is submitted with the agreement of the Chairman as an urgent matter pursuant to Section 100B (4) of the Local Government Act 1972

7 UPDATE REPORTS ON THE 2021 BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS) (Pages 1 - 2)

Questions on report attached.

10 BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW PART 1 (COUNCIL SIZE) (Pages 3 - 4)

Amendments to report attached.

10A AUTHORITY TO CHANGE FULL COUNCIL MEETING DATE (Pages 5 - 6)

NOTE: Amendments to this report may be submitted at any point prior to the start of discussion of the item at the Council meeting.

Report attached.

**Andrew Beesley
Head of Democratic Services**

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COUNCIL, 25 SEPTEMBER 2019, AGENDA ITEM 7 – UPDATE REPORTS ON THE 2021 BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS)

Questions on behalf of the Residents' Group

In reference to paragraph 1.5 of the report:

1. Would the Leader of the Council confirm why there is a 818K overspend in the Neighbourhoods budget and how this has been allowed to happen?
2. Would the Leader of the Council confirm what action he is taking to rectify the overspend situation in the Neighbourhoods budget?

Questions on behalf of the Labour Group

In Appendix A of the report:

1. In the service improvement programme and efficiency proposals there are 42 items listed to meet the saving target - a draft budget for each area must have been established. Please could this be added to the report so that the impact on services could be better understood by members?
2. A number of these items refer to the reduction in use of agency staff and the replacement with more cost effective internal staff. While we applaud this, was this not part of the original savings proposals and if not why not?
3. On item 31 it is suggested that you cease to use agency staff and instead use ASYE's to reduce agency costs. As ASYE's are relatively newly qualified staff and agency staff are generally more experienced what mitigating factors are the Directors of Children's and Adults Services putting in place?

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COUNCIL, 25 SEPTEMBER 2019, AGENDA ITEM 10 – BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW

Amendment on behalf of Labour Group

That the report be amended as follows:

Council takes the view that in view of the population increases taking place and projected to 2025 and beyond the number of Councillors should increase from 54 to 60.

The summary of the report and its conclusions should be amended to delete references to “sufficient capacity and resilience in the existing cohort number”. In addition references to “limiting the financial burden on taxpayers” should also be deleted as the burden on individual residents will not increase as population increase should lead to additional Council Tax receipts i.e. each individual household should remain the same in terms the burden of tax payable.

In addition to the deletions above reference in report to the BCR should be made to the increase in workload for Members leading to additional Case Work in the wards with areas of deprivation and high levels of social housing. The housing developments in the areas such as South Hornchurch are likely to give rise to a significant rise in Member enquires.

Finally there is an inaccuracy in part 2.17 (JV Working Party). The Working Party was set up after the Local Election in 2018, it has only met on 1 occasion i.e. not “approximately two month intervals” The report be amended to read “that it is proposed to meet at two months intervals”

Amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group

The following amendments to be added under section 2.1 – the Havering Vision:

The digital council

Since the last review in 2002, there have been major advancements in ‘digital tools and solutions (which) enable councils to improve service design and delivery, to better meet the needs of their residents and improve productivity’ (LGA, 2017).

The Local Government Association’s (ibid.) article entitled, ‘Digital’, highlights that ‘as councils face the twin challenges of decreasing funding and increasing demand, they have to find new ways of using technology to deliver services more effectively and enable their staff and members to work in new ways, increasing productivity and reducing costs’.

In a digital world, more residents are choosing to interact with the Council online rather than face to face, and the authority is ever-evolving and -changing, to interact and advise residents through their preferred method of communication.

Locally, the use of technology has proved to be an enabler for a more immediate interaction with council services, staff and members. For example, the Council's website allows transactions to be fulfilled faster and more effectively. This will continue to improve into the future, with the greater use of wider technology such as the Love Havering app and replacement of the complaints and members enquiry system.

The digital councillor

Email access and social media have contributed greatly to the birth of the digital council and the digital councillor, which has significantly changed the way in which residents interact with their elected representatives:

'It wasn't that long ago that email was a novel way to contact your councillor. Already many councillors are interacting with the people they represent online through social media, and it won't be long before this is common expectation, too' (IDeA, 2010)

Due to the ability of residents to contact their councillors in near-immediate time, members are only too aware of the issues facing their local communities. The ability of a member to raise and resolve these issues quickly and effectively is vital, and, in a digital world, that is certainly the expectation of residents.

The use of technology will, undoubtedly, play an important part in the council's journey to make Havering a Cleaner, Safer, Prouder place to live. This will enable councillors to deal with a larger volume of case-work, keep in regular contact with their constituents, as well as facilitating and supporting residents in their journey to self-service.



Havering

LONDON BOROUGH

FULL COUNCIL, 25 September 2019

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

SUBJECT: AUTHORITY TO CHANGE FULL COUNCIL MEETING DATE

REPORT DETAIL

The Council's Constitution states that ordinary meetings of Full Council will take place in accordance with a programme decided by the Council at the last ordinary meeting of the preceding municipal year. The Constitution is silent however in specifying with whom authority resides to amend Full Council meeting dates as and when the need arises.

There will therefore be a report presented to the next meeting of the Governance Committee specifically on this matter, with a recommendation likely to come forward to the November meeting of Full Council.

In the event however that the date of November Council needs to be changed, it is recommended that the Mayor be given authority to change the date and determine a revised date.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor be given authority to change the November date of Full Council and determine a revised date, should the need arise.

Legal Implications and Risks:

Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 sets out the regulations to be followed in respect of the organisation of meetings and proceedings of local authorities. It is for Full Council to determine its schedule of meetings for each municipal year, including the determination of amendments to that schedule.

Human Resource Implications and Risks:

There are none directly associated with this report.

Equalities and Social Inclusion Implications and Risks:

There are none directly associated with this report.

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Background paper List

None