

Havering Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 14 January 2026

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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Note: this decision list is for guidance only. The text of the minutes, which may be different, is definitive.

Part A – Items considered in public

A4	Minutes	The minutes of the meetings held on 10th December 2025 , were agreed as a correct record and the Chair signed them.
A5	Havering Community Safety Partnership Plan 2026-29	<p>Report Title: Approval of the Havering Community Safety Partnership, Partnership Plan 2026 to 2029</p> <p>Presented by: Councillor Barry Mugglestone, Cabinet Member for Environment</p> <p>Cabinet:</p> <p>Agreed the revised Havering Community Safety Partnership Plan 2026-29 set out in Appendix 1</p>
A6	Adoption of new CCTV Policy	<p>Report Title: Adoption of New CCTV Policy</p> <p>Presented by: Councillor Barry Mugglestone, Cabinet Member for Environment</p> <p>Cabinet:</p> <p>Noted the contents of and agreed to the publication of the new CCTV Policy, appended to this report at Appendix 1.</p>
A7	Approval of the Revised Inclusive Growth Strategy	<p>Report Title: Adoption of Revised Inclusive Growth Strategy.</p> <p>Presented by: Councillor Graham Williamson, Lead Member for Development & Regeneration</p> <p>Cabinet:</p>

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		Agreed to adopt the draft revised Inclusive Growth Strategy
A8	Adoption of Social Value Guidance Policy	<p>Report Title: Adoption of Social Value Policy and Guidance</p> <p>Presented by: Councillor Ray Morgon, Leader of the Council</p> <p>Cabinet:</p> <p>Approved the adoption of the Social Value Policy, as set out in Appendix A and the Social Value outcomes matrix as set out in Appendix B. This will be incorporated in the revision of the Contract Procedure Rules.</p>
A9	Approval of the Education Employment Skills Strategy	<p>Report Title: Adoption of new Education & Employment Skills Strategy</p> <p>Presented by: Councillor Oscar Ford, Cabinet Member for Children & Young People</p> <p>Cabinet:</p> <p>Agreed to the adoption of this new Education & Employment Skills Strategy</p>
A10	Site Selection for Family Hub	<p>Report Title: Site Selection for a Family Hub</p> <p>Presented by: Councillor Oscar Ford, Lead Member for Children and Young People</p> <p>Cabinet:</p> <p>Agreed a recommendation to select St Kilda's Children's Centre in Romford as the main Family Hub for phase one of the programme with satellite hubs at Ingrebourne Children's Centre and MyPlace Youth and Community Centre, both in the Harold Hill area, in order to</p>

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		<p>ensure sufficient reach and delivery across the breadth of the offer.</p> <p>Following a review of local data, service and demand needs within the Borough, this recommendation is based on St. Kilda's central location, accessibility, existing infrastructure, and high service usage. The site meets the criteria set by the DfE and offers opportunities to expand our existing services and partnerships.</p> <p>Cabinet agreed to the proposal that, alongside St Kilda's as the main Family Hub, Ingrebourne Children's Centre and MyPlace Youth and Community Centre, both in the Harold Hill area, are utilised as satellite family hubs during this initial phase to ensure sufficient reach and delivery across the breadth of the offer.</p> <p>Cabinet agreed to the recommendation that the sites for service delivery remain under frequent review to ensure that maximum potential reach is being achieved and that all appropriate community venues are being utilised.</p>
A11	Arnold's Field Works- Contracts Award (Phase 1)	<p>Report Title: Arnold's Field Works – Contracts Award (Phase 1)</p> <p>Presented by: Councillor Ray Morgon, Leader of the Council</p> <p>Cabinet Members Agreed</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In principle, to the proposals for the Phase 1 works for Arnold's Field (as set out in this report) (without prejudice and with no acknowledgement of responsibility for works across the wider site) to be a maximum value of £300,000. 2. To delegate, to the Strategic Director of Place in conjunction with the Strategic Director for Resources, authority to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. procure and award a contract for Phase 1 remedial works at Arnold's Field as set out in this report; and/or

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Consider alternative arrangements on required works from the owner c. negotiate and enter into any contracts and ancillary arrangements required to give effect to the recommendations in this report 3. To waive the Contracts Procedure Rules, as required, to give effect to the recommendations in this report.
A12	Joint People/Place Overview & Scrutiny Comments - Launder's Lane (Arnold's Field)	<p>Report title: Joint People/Place Overview & Scrutiny Comments - Launder's Lane (Arnold's Field)</p> <p>Presented by: Councillor David Taylor, Chair of Place Overview & Scrutiny Sub-Committee</p> <p>Response from: Councillor Ray Morgon, Leader of the Council</p> <p>Using its Constitutional powers under the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the People and Place Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committees at a joint meeting have made a number of recommendations to Cabinet. Cabinet is required to respond to these.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>That Cabinet considers and responds to the following recommendations made by the People and Place Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committees in relation to the report on Launder's Lane (Arnold's Field) in response to a motion on Arnold's Field agreed by Full Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Council review relevant past documents and communication and look at putting together an engagement strategy as to how it communicates in the future. 2. That the Council look at proactive communication in general on the Launder's Lane

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		<p>issue with particular emphasis on the site clean-up and the provision of clear health advice.</p> <p>3. That the Council explore advising residents and the landowner to cut back the bush shrubbery.</p> <p>4. That the Council provide further information on the existence of asbestos on the site</p> <p>5. That the Council lobby the government to request a tightening of the legislation around smoke with reference to Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.</p> <p>6. The Sub-Committees also recommend that the Council seek legal opinion on its potential exposure to being sued in the future by local residents.</p> <p>7. That the Council plan to monitor and to detect long term health impacts in order that an action plan around detecting long term health impacts be put in place.</p> <p>8. That the Council consider a data sharing partnership specifically with the London Fire Brigade.</p> <p><u>Response and confirmation that a fuller update will be provided in February</u></p> <p>1. Communications & Engagement</p> <p>The Council has maintained proactive communication with Rainham residents since May 2022</p>

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		<p>through:</p> <p>Newsletters, public meetings, presentations, a dedicated webpage, email address, and WhatsApp channels.</p> <p>The Leader emphasised the administration’s commitment to openness, transparency and honesty.</p> <p>2. Scrutiny Recommendations</p> <p>Scrutiny recommendations fall into two themes: (a) Communications and (b) Improvements. Key points raised by the Scrutiny Chair:</p> <p>Recommendation for Cabinet to receive and respond to scrutiny input. Appreciation expressed for the joint meeting attended by LFB, Environment Agency and residents. Clarifications were gained regarding the Council’s legal position.</p> <p>3. Lobbying & Legislative Change</p> <p>Recognition that current legislation is inadequate. Council progressing with lobbying for Zane’s Law, supported by continued engagement with the borough’s three MPs and also meetings planned with families and stakeholders involved in prior legal actions.</p> <p>Aim: improve powers and funding available to councils in dealing with hazardous sites.</p>

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		<p>4. Long-Term Health Monitoring</p> <p>Concern noted that health impacts may emerge many years later. Recommendation: develop a monitoring and detection plan for long-term health impacts. Council update:</p> <p>Permanent air quality monitoring in place. Ongoing work with Public Health, NHS partners and universities. Further updates will return to Scrutiny (likely in February).</p> <p>5. Data Sharing</p> <p>Scrutiny recommended establishing a data-sharing partnership with London Fire Brigade. Discussion on whether data should be sourced from LFB directly or the Fire Brigades Union. The union provided insight on firefighter PPE requirements and exposure; use of that data may support public health analysis.</p> <p>6. Asbestos and Environmental Measures</p> <p>Soil sampling confirmed asbestos present underground. Air monitoring during fires confirmed no airborne asbestos. Extensive environmental monitoring undertaken, including soil analysis and air quality readings. Council reaffirmed commitment to ensuring residents' health and wellbeing.</p> <p>7. Legal Work</p>

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		<p>The Council has sought KC-level legal advice from the outset to support enforcement and resolution. Judicial Review outcomes contributed to new case law around smoke and contamination considerations.</p> <p>8. Next Steps</p> <p>Council will return to Scrutiny with:</p> <p>Updates on health monitoring, data sharing, asbestos matters and environmental measures. Timings aligned with outcomes of ongoing work such as drone surveys and contract awards.</p>
A13	People Overview & Scrutiny Comments - Education & Employment Skill Strategy	<p>Report Title: People Overview & Scrutiny Comments - Education & Employment Skill Strategy</p> <p>Using its Constitutional powers under the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the People Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee have made a recommendation to Cabinet. Cabinet is required to respond to these.</p> <p>That Cabinet considers and responds to the following recommendation made by the People Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee in relation to the report on the Education & Employment Skills Strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy strengthens the route for residents who wish to move to higher skill levels (for example Level 2 to Level 3) <p>Cabinet supported the recommendation</p>
A14	Comments of Overview and Scrutiny Board on Requisition of Cabinet	<p>Report Title: Comments of Overview and Scrutiny Board on Requisition of Cabinet Decision - Future Proposals for Former Library Premises</p>

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	Decision - Future Proposals for Former Library Premises	<p>Presented by: Councillor Julie Wilkes – Deputy Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Board.</p> <p>Response from: Councillor Graham Williamson, Lead Member for Development & Regeneration</p> <p>Following the call-in considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 8th January 2026 and after consideration of the comments made, Cabinet have clarified the recommendations made in the report for transparency:</p> <p>Cabinet are asked the following:</p> <p>Former Gidea Park Library site:</p> <p>Approve in principle the re-purposing of the former Gidea Park Library site for the development of a 6-person accommodation facility for children with disabilities, subject to a separate business case being submitted to and agreed by Cabinet.</p> <p>Endorse a request for capital budget in the sum of £120,000 to be included in the 2026/27 capital programme and approve the submission of any related planning application for the demolition of the former library building at Gidea Park. <u>Agreed by Cabinet</u></p> <p>Former Harold Wood Library site:</p> <p>Note the ongoing evaluation of the proposal received from the Harold Wood Foundation in respect of the temporary use of the former Harold Wood library premises including the granting of a 7-year lease with a 3-year break-clause.</p>

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		<p>Note that any decision to be made in relation to the further proposals for the former Harold Wood Library site will be presented to a future Cabinet for decision. <u>Agreed by Cabinet</u></p> <p>Former South Hornchurch Library site:</p> <p>Agree to the disposal of the former South Hornchurch library site, as identified in the red line plan shown in Appendix A. <u>Agreed by Cabinet</u></p> <p>Instruct officers to report back to a future Cabinet the outcome of the evaluation of the marketing of the site and premises of the former South Hornchurch library site with officer recommendations as to how achieve best value for the site can be achieved. <u>Agreed by Cabinet</u></p> <p>Endorse a request for capital expenditure in the sum of £110,000 and approve the submission of any related planning application for the demolition of the former library building at South Hornchurch. – the final decision to demolish will be subject to the decision by Cabinet detailed above. <u>Agreed by Cabinet</u></p> <p>Delegate authority to the Assistant Director of Regeneration & Place Shaping, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member, Section 151 officer and Deputy Director of Legal and Democratic Services to conduct all appropriate steps to progress the recommendations above. <u>Agreed by Cabinet</u></p>
A15	2026/27 Council Taxbase Report	Report Title: Council Tax base 2026/27

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		<p>Presented by: Councillor Chris Wilkins (Cabinet Member for Finance)</p> <p>Cabinet:</p> <p>2.1 Agreed a taxbase of 91,122 band D equivalents for 2026/27,</p> <p>2.2. Cabinet noted the estimated collection rate set out in section 3.3 which is a prudent assumption and reflective of current collection levels.</p>