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MINUTES OF A CABINET MEETING
Council Chamber - Town Hall
Wednesday, 17 June 2015
(7.30 - 8.05 pm)

Present:

Councillor Roger Ramsey (Leader of the Council), Chairman

Councillor Robert Benham

Councillor Wendy Brice-Thompson

Councillor Meg Davis

Councillor Osman Dervish

Councillor Melvin Wallace

Councillor Clarence Barrett

Cabinet Member responsibility:

Environment

Adult Social Services and Health

Children and Learning

Regulatory Services and Community
Safety

Culture and Community
Engagement

Financial Management

Apologies were received for the absence of Councillors Damian White and Ron Ower.

Councillors Ray Morgon, Michael Deon Burton and Keith Darvill also attended.

There were no members of the public present, but a representative of the press was in attendance.

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Unless otherwise indicated, all decisions were agreed unanimously with no Member voting against.

1 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2015 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

2 **MOVING TRAFFIC CONTRAVENTIONS**

Councillor Robert Benham, Cabinet Member for Environment, introduced the report

Cabinet was reminded that the Council, at its meeting of the 22nd October 2014 had agreed to adopt the powers to enforce moving traffic contraventions within Havering. These were in respect of a series of regulations which included banned turns, no vehicle entry, stopping in box junctions and other vehicle access restrictions e.g. bus lanes. The London Councils TEC Committee had now approved the proposals. They were due to be implemented on 18th September 2015 after a period of 3 months' notice in the press and London Gazette.

It was further agreed that the operational aspects of enforcement would be submitted to Cabinet for approval.

Moving Traffic Contraventions (MTCs) comprised a number of traffic regulations, including, but not limited to, banned right, left and U turns, no vehicle entry, yellow no stopping box junctions and vehicle type access restrictions.

There were a limited number of locations in Havering where MTC enforcement could be applied, and it was considered that those locations would benefit from such enforcement in terms of improved driver behaviour, improved traffic flow and road safety.

Buses were a central part of any public transport system and protecting the bus lanes from misuse improved the reliability and punctuality of buses whilst reducing congestion and pollution.

Reasons for the Decision

To promote Road Safety by improving driver behaviours, and ensure traffic flow was maintained.

The adoption of the powers would ensure a comprehensive enforcement regime could be used that would allow the police to concentrate their resources to other areas.

Alternative Options Considered

Failure to make an Article 4 Direction(s) would leave the Council vulnerable. There were no other options available to the locations of enforcement as in adopting the powers the Council had to enforce all restrictions listed and could not choose to opt out of any specific location.

Cabinet Agreed:

1. That where new restrictions were introduced they would be included in the operational plan to ensure compliance with the regulations.
2. That priority for initial enforcement based on where compliance was known to be poor would be the sites as listed in appendix B of the report.
3. That warning signs would be issued from July 2015 to allow the public to become accustomed to the new enforcement regime and that general publicity would be widely distributed.
4. To the use of the CCTV vehicles for the purpose of enforcement where practicable to do so.
5. To the use of other CCTV cameras where it was more appropriate to use that type of equipment.

3 VOLUNTARY SECTOR STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Councillor Melvin Wallace, Cabinet Member for Culture & Community Engagement, introduced the report

Cabinet was reminded that as part of the Council's on-going work on demand management, and also as a result of key legislative changes such as the implementation of the Care Act, much consideration had been given over the past several months to the Council's relationship with the voluntary and community sector (VCS); what outcomes the Council would wish to see delivered within the VCS, and how the Council could support the sector to build its capacity to deliver against its shared priorities.

On 9 October 2014, Council had published a draft Voluntary Sector Strategy for consultation. An independent consultant was appointed to lead the consultation process which comprised of workshops, focus groups, one-to-one meetings and an opportunity to submit comments directly either to the Council's consultant or to the Council itself.

The aims of this action plan was to strengthen communities and to increase the effectiveness and impact of the voluntary sector so that it could support communities to be more resilient, by enabling neighbours, communities and families to support one another, and that local people could take the lead on improving their local areas through voluntary action, and

To improve local voluntary sector capacity to deliver high quality local services which people needed, and that new types of services, which best met peoples' needs should be developed with - and by - the sector, possibly through new models of delivery.

Reasons for the decision:

The Voluntary Sector Strategy and action plan set out how the Council would work with the sector going forward.

Other options considered:

As part of the delivery of the action plan, further options would be considered in the future as to how services would be commissioned from the sector going forward.

Cabinet **approved** the Voluntary Sector Strategy and Action Plan attached to the report.

4 **ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE**

Councillor Melvin Wallace, Cabinet Member for Culture & Community Engagement, introduced the report

Cabinet was reminded that the Assets of Community Value provisions in the Localism Act 2011 had come into force on 21st September 2012. Since that time, local groups had had the right to nominate land or buildings (in any ownership) as assets of community value, provided that they met certain criteria. Details of the scheme were set out in the report.

The Council had not, as yet, received any nominations and had accordingly not had to maintain a list of decisions. In January 2015, however, the Leader had received a letter from the then MP Stephen Williams requesting that the Council added accessible information to its website about these community rights including how to make a nomination. In order to do this the Council needed to put in place procedures and delegations, as set out in the report, to administer the scheme.

The provisions of the legislation were in two main parts – nominating and listing assets and the provisions concerning a proposed sale. The Act also made provision for compensation to be paid to the property owner if losses or expenses were incurred as a result of the Listing.

The legislation aimed to provide an opportunity for local community groups to be informed when an important local amenity/building came up for sale and to provide an opportunity for local people to organise themselves so that they could bid to purchase the property - potentially preventing the loss of a facility that was considered important to that community.

It was proposed that the scheme be administered by Officers of the Council as it was highly procedural in nature.

Reasons for the decision:

The requirement to manage this process was set out in the Localism Act 2011 and the Council needed to have processes in place to handle requests as and when they were submitted..

Alternative Options Considered

Alternative delegation arrangements had been considered. This included delegating power to the Director of Asset Management Services to make decisions on listing etc. but this was not proposed as there could be a potential conflict of interest if a nomination were to be made in respect of Council land.

Cabinet:

1. **Approved** the Council's proposed approach to the implementation of the assets of community value provisions in the Localism Act 2011, as outlined in the report.
2. **Authorised** the Group Director, Communities and Resources to implement those sections of the Localism Act (as set out in the report) which related to the determination of all applications submitted to the Council in accordance with the approved scheme, all reviews requested by property owners whose properties were approved for inclusion in the List of Assets of Community Value and in relation to claims for compensation.
3. **Authorised** the Director of Asset Management Services to administer the compensation scheme associated with assets of community value.

Chairman

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