



MINUTES OF A CABINET MEETING
Council Chamber - Town Hall
Wednesday, 13 December 2017
(7.30 - 8.45 pm)

Present:

Councillor Roger Ramsey (Leader of the Council), Chairman

Councillor Damian White
Councillor Wendy Brice-Thompson
Councillor Osman Dervish
Councillor Melvin Wallace
Councillor Clarence Barrett
Councillor Ron Ower
Councillor Joshua Chapman
Councillor Jason Frost

Cabinet Member responsibility:
Housing
Adult Social Services and Health
Environment and Community Safety
Culture and Community Engagement
Financial Management, Transformation & IT
Housing Development Company and OneSource Management
Deputy Cabinet Member for Housing
Deputy Cabinet Member for Environment, Regulatory Services & Community Safety

12 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements were made in relation to the evacuation procedure in the event of a fire or other emergency.

13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

14 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 November, 2017, were agreed and signed by the Chair.

16 UPDATE ON THE COUNCIL'S MTFS AND BUDGET FOR 2018/19

The report was presented to Cabinet by the Leader of the Council, Cllr Roger Ramsey. This detailed an update on assumptions within the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) approved by Cabinet in October, 2017 and set out further budget proposals to achieve a balanced budget for 2018/19. The report set out the proposed 5 year Capital Programme for approval to put forward to consultation and scrutiny. In addition, an overview of the proposed Business Rates Pilot Pool with effect from 2018/19 was provided. Further, the report presented proposed amendments to the Council Tax Discretionary Policy to support care leavers on low incomes to discharge their Council Tax liability.

The Council is required by statute to set a balanced budget for 2018/19 and to have a robust plan in place to achieve a financial balance over the medium term.

Key information will come from the Provisional Local Government Settlement (PLGS) which will set out the support the Local Authority will receive. This is expected in December and hoped for next week.

The October Cabinet report set out a number of Council's funding streams which were subject to further review:

- Business Rates
- Impact of the London Business Rates Pool Pilot
- Council Tax Base and Level
- Better Care Fund and Improved Better Care Fund
- New Homes Bonus
- Education Services Grant
- External Borrowing

The Leader addressed each of these matters in turn.

The future direction for the national business rates policy remains uncertain though further information is expected in the PLGS.

At the London Council's Leaders' Committee in October the establishment of a London Business Rates Pilot for 2018/19 was agreed in principle. This will be the subject of a further decision at Cabinet in January, 2018.

The Autumn Budget confirmed the power to raise the empty homes premium from 50% to 100% from April, 2018. On current data, this will generate a further £0.120m and this has been incorporated into the forecast budget figures.

Council tax base growth assumptions of £0.980 increase remains as predicted at the October Cabinet and the Council tax level will be reviewed as part of the budget report before February Cabinet and Council.

At this stage there is no further update regarding the Better Care Fund and the Adult Social Care Grant, pending the Local Government Finance Settlement. The Adult Social Care Green Paper will now be published in the summer of 2018.

The New Homes Bonus has been at risk due to Planning Applications being granted on appeal. The position is now better and more information will be provided in the January and February Cabinet reports.

The Education Services Grant has been reduced considerably and there is a shortfall in funding that will be managed as part of the ongoing transformational review of the service.

The London Business Rate Pool Pilot was reported to Cabinet in October and will be reviewed again in January. The principle to go forward with establishing a Pan-London Business Rates Pool to pilot 100% retention of business rates growth in 2018 to 2019 for a period of up to two years, was agreed on 10th October, 2017.

The Council is seeking to provide care leavers with the stability and support they need to progress confidently into independent lives. The Council will be supporting approximately 130 care leavers through the Council Tax Support Scheme.

A timetable has been established to develop further budget proposals which will be considered by Cabinet in January and February, 2018.

For the reasons set out in the report, Cabinet:

1. **Noted** the updated national financial context for local government, in year financial performance and the projected budget gap over the period 2018/19 to 2022/23 as set out in section 1 of the report and the period 6 forecast position set out in section 2 of the report.
2. **Noted** the assumptions which underpin the forecast and that further updates will be provided as further information becomes available in the build up to the budget setting in February 2018.
3. **Noted** the update on the proposed London Business Rate Pool Pilot and that this will be presented to Cabinet for a decision in January 2018.
4. **Approved** additional savings proposals of £1.390m of which £0.588m relate to 2018/19 for consultation where necessary as set out in section 6 and Appendix B of the report.

5. **Approved** growth proposals of £1.080m, all of which relate to 2018/19 for consultation where necessary as set out in section 6 and Appendix B of the report.
6. **Approved** the proposed 5-year Capital Programme for consultation and scrutiny as required as set out in section 8 of the report
7. **Noted** the updated Treasury Management position arising from the proposed Capital programme and that an updated Treasury Management Strategy will be presented in January (section 8 of the report)
8. **Approved** the amendment to the Council Tax Discretionary Policy to include supporting care leavers set out in section 4 of the report.
9. **Noted** the timetable and process for developing, reporting and considering the 2018/19 budget and MTFS as set out in section 7 of the report which will include consideration and approval of the Council Tax Support Scheme in January 2018.

17 PUBLICATION OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING'S AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN 2018-2023 SUBJECT TO CONSULTATION

The Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Osman Dervish presented the report to Cabinet detailing the Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) for Havering 2018 to 2023.

This report highlights the actions the Council will take to improve local air quality. The priority is to reduce concentration of the key pollutants, Nitrogen Dioxide and Particulate Matter. In Havering these pollutants are primarily produced by road traffic in high congestion areas. Generally, areas within Greater London are failing to meet relevant standards for Nitrogen Dioxide and it is predicted that these standards will not be met until 2025.

The Borough of Havering has been designated an Air Quality Management Area and has status as a Cleaner Air Borough which the Borough seeks to maintain.

Havering has aspirations to be a more environmentally friendly Borough. And this is very important to Havering to improve public health for all especially for an older population and young families.

The draft AQAP must be subject to public and internal consultation which will commence in mid-December, 2017 for a period of 10 weeks.

Cabinet:

- 1. Agreed and approved** the draft Air Quality Action Plan appended as Appendix 1 to the report, which is to be published for the purposes of public consultation as set out in section 10.4 of the Cabinet report.

18 QUARTER 2 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT (2017/18)

The Lead Member for Financial Management, Transformation and IT presented the report to Cabinet detailing the Corporate Performance across the four Council Objectives.

The corporate performance indicators show that 25 (71%) have a green on track status, 10 (29%) have a red off track status. This is an improvement on the position at the end of Quarter 1.

The performance indicators need to be interpreted in the context of the increasing demands being placed on services across the Borough.

Councillor Clarence Barrett detailed the data through all strategic goals highlighting successes and areas where improvement is required.

Cabinet:

1. **Reviewed** the performance set out in Appendix 1 of the Cabinet Report and the corrective action that is being taken.
2. **Noted** the content of the Demand Pressures Dashboard attached as Appendix 2 to the report.

19 JOINT COMMISSIONING STRATEGY

The report was presented by the Cabinet Lead Member for Adult Social Services and Health.

This detailed a strategic approach to commissioning across Adult Social Care, Public Health and Children's Services. Cabinet were recommended to approve the report ahead of the public consultation process. Once the consultation process has been completed this will inform the full equalities impact assessment. Once the strategy has been finally developed following consultation it will return to Cabinet for final sign off and will be basis for all commissioners to operate from within the London Borough of Havering.

Cabinet:

1. **Approved** the draft strategy prior to public consultation and development of a full equalities assessment.
2. **Noted** that the matter will return to Cabinet for final sign off and will ultimately be the basis for operating for commissioners within the Joint Commissioning Unit, responsible for Adults Social Care, Children's and Public Health commissioning.

20 OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT ADULT SOCIAL CARE & SUPPORT PLANNING POLICY FOR APPROVAL

The Cabinet Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health presented the report to Cabinet. The draft policy on Social Care and Support Planning was drafted earlier in the year. This has now been developed to clarify and organise best practice in accordance with the council's existing duties under the care Act, 2014. It is designed to provide staff, partner agencies and those people in need of adult social care and support a definitive and helpful summary of the Care Act outlining the council's duties and responsibilities.

The report detailed the outcome of the public consultation and recommends that Cabinet approve the policy in accordance with that process.

Cabinet:

1. **Noted** and **considered** all of the comments and results of the formal consultation on the draft Adult Social Care & Support Planning policy.
2. **Noted** the changes made to the policy in response to the comments and views expressed during consultation.

3. In accordance with part 3, Section 2.1 (d) of the Constitution to determine the Council's policy in relation to all Executive matters, **approved** the Adult Social Care and Support Planning policy, which has been amended to take account of the comments and views expressed during consultation.

4. **Noted** in response to issues raised in the consultation that Adult Services will prepare plans to re-draft the Easy Read version of the policy (in further consultation with local people with a learning disability) to make it more accessible, and to develop other ways of making the policy more accessible to people with sensory disabilities.

21 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

22 **RAINHAM AND BEAM PARK HOUSING ZONE - APPOINTMENT OF A JOINT VENTURE DEVELOPMENT PARTNER.**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Roger Ramsey presented the report to Cabinet.

This matter has been before Cabinet a number of times previously and now details a very ambitious plan for the regeneration of Rainham. The Rainham and Beam Park Housing Zone bid was submitted to the GLA on 24th September, 2014 and was successful.

Cabinet approval is now needed in principle to invest capital into a Limited Liability Partnership to contribute to the delivery of the housing zone through the development of at least 774 new homes with 35% of these being affordable units. As this investment is in excess of the available budget within the Approved Capital Programme and falls outside of the approved Treasury Management Strategy. The approval of Full Council will therefore also be required.

The recommended partner is the Notting Hill Housing Group.

The report before Cabinet set out in considerable detail the proposals of the Joint Venture arrangement.

Cabinet:

1. **Noted** that Notting Hill Housing Trust will provide an indemnity for the Council's CPO costs of £50 million should it not be possible to acquire properties by negotiation. These costs whilst initially born by NHHT through the CPO indemnity, will need to be covered in full by the JVLLP when drawn down for development or at a longstop date;

2. **Approved** inclusion of this allocation within the proposed capital programme that will be considered by Cabinet on the same agenda

in December 2017 and recommended to Council for final approval in February 2018.

3. **Approved** the inclusion of the scheme with a budget allocation of a further £10 million to meet the Council's equity contribution within the proposed capital programme that will be considered by Cabinet on the same agenda in December 2017 and recommended to Council for final approval in February 2018.

4. **Noted** that a further report addressing the governance framework and staff resources will be required to develop and deliver the Rainham scheme and other economic development schemes will be presented for consideration and approval by Cabinet in January, 2018.

Subject to the approval of the required budget and funding at recommendation 1 above, that Cabinet:

5. **Agreed** to establish a Limited Liability Partnership for the purpose of meeting the Council's regeneration objectives for Rainham by entering into a Members' Agreement with Notting Hill Commercial Property ("NHCP") (company registration number 01523328) on the basis of the Business Case and the Legal Summary appended to the exempt agenda report.

6. **Agreed** to delegate to the Leader, after consultation with the Director of Neighbourhoods, the authority to agree the name of the LLP, negotiate the final detailed terms of the agreements being entered into, and authority to agree that the Council enter into the following agreements:

- Members' Agreement;
- Strategic Land Agreement;
- CPO Indemnity Agreement;
- Any ancillary agreements or documents necessary to give effect to the setting up of the JV LLP in accordance with this Report and its appendices (all as described in the Legal Summary appended to the exempt agenda report).

7. **Authorised** the LLP to enter into the Development Management Agreement with Notting Hill Home Ownership, one of the Notting Hill group of companies, when in agreed form.

8. **Agreed** to delegate to the Leader, after consultation with the Director of Neighbourhoods, authority to agree the terms of the Development Management Agreement referred to in recommendation 5 on behalf of the Council as Member of the LLP established in accordance with recommendations 3 and 4 above.

9. **Agreed** to delegate to the Leader, after consultation with the Director of Neighbourhoods and the Section 151 Officer, authority to

approve the first Overarching Business Plan of the LLP on behalf of the Council.

10. **Agreed** to delegate to the Leader, after consultation with Cabinet Member for the Housing Company Development and OneSource Management and the Director of Neighbourhoods, authority to approve the consultation and communication plans for the regeneration of Rainham.

11. **Agreed** to delegate to the Leader, after consultation with the Director of Neighbourhoods, the appointment of nominees to represent the Council on the JVLLP board and indemnify them under the Local Authorities (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order 2004 once the JVLLP has been set up;

12. **Agreed** that the primary purpose of the Council's participation in the JV LLP is to secure the regeneration of the Rainham and Beam Park Housing Zone.

Chairman