

**Meeting of the Executive
Tuesday, 14 September 2004 at 7.00 pm
LIST OF DECISIONS**

PRESENT: Councillor Coughlin (Vice-Chair, in the Chair) and Councillors Beswick, Fox, Jones, Kagan, D Long, Lyon, R S Patel and Thomas.

Apologies for absence were given on behalf of Councillor John.

Councillor H B Patel also attended the meeting.

ITEM 1 Waterloo Road: Petition from Tankridge Residents' Association

Summary:	The premises at 51-57 Waterloo Road and 150a, b, c, d & e Coles Green Road are industrial/storage premises which lie within the Staples Corner Strategic Employment Area. A fire broke out on 30 April 2004 apparently in premises at the corner of Coles Green Road and Streakesfield Road and fanned by a strong north wind, it spread from Federal Motors in Waterloo Road and a carpet warehouse to the warehouse of Rustins, paint manufacturers. A petition was received on 10/06/04 from the Tankridge Residents Association "to stop the firm of Rustins rebuilding their factory". Residents consider the housing of so many chemicals to be dangerous.
Ward(s):	Dollis Hill
Decision Taken:	That the concerns of local residents be noted and officers requested to take these into account in respect of any future planning application to rebuild the warehouse.

ITEM 2 Progressing Town Centre Management in Brent

Summary:	This report seeks agreement on a town centre framework document for Brent. This will help guide the further implementation of Town Centre Management initiatives across the Borough whilst outlining the changed approach which might result from the intended production of a borough-wide town centre strategy. It then also identifies certain town centres to be prioritised within the resources attributed to the scheme, in addition to the existing centres of Wembley and Kilburn, and highlights the initial work programme to be undertaken in these areas.
Ward(s):	All
Decision Taken:	(i) That the town centre framework document for Brent attached as Appendix A to the report be adopted and further work supported to develop a more detailed Borough town centre strategy as outlined in the report; (ii) that the priority town centres identified in paragraph 7.29 of the report be agreed as being those in which additional town centre management initiatives will initially be focused and in so doing note the feedback received from an initial consultation with key stakeholders;

	<p>(iii) that it be agreed to strengthen political representation on emerging town centre partnerships as outlined in paragraph 7.37 of the report to support such initiatives;</p> <p>(iv) that the work programme, performance management and liaison arrangements being established to enable ongoing implementation, monitoring and review of these initiatives be noted; and</p> <p>(v) that the progress and issues arising from existing town centre management activity in Wembley and Kilburn which have helped inform this report be noted.</p>
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ITEM 3 Proposed Expansion of the Organic Waste Collection Service

Summary:	<p>This report informs the Executive of a successful bid made to the London Recycling Fund for the expansion of the Council's existing Organic Waste Collection Service (often referred to as the Garden Waste Collection Service), thus enabling the service to be provided to a further 15,000 households (i.e. from 30,000 to 45,000).</p> <p>An overview of the details of the bid is given in this Report as well as the additional revenue budget growth that will be required from 2005/06. The report also proposes the reallocation of capital funds within the current year's budget (2004/05) in order to allow the capital costs of the service expansion to be met.</p>
Ward(s):	All
Decision Taken:	<p>(i) That the successful bid made by officers to the London Recycling Fund for the expansion of the Organic Waste Collection Service be noted;</p> <p>(ii) that the expansion of the current fortnightly based service to a further 15,000 households in the Borough be agreed;</p> <p>(iii) that it be noted and agreed in principle that the growth of £135k in the revenue budget required from 2005/2006 is the first call on the £500k agreed by Full Council for organic waste collection per paragraph 3.2 of the report;</p> <p>(iv) that it be agreed to reallocate £100,000 capital funding in the current year from its intended use in connection with the Twyford Reuse and Recycling Centre, to supplement the £260,000 awarded by the London Recycling Fund.</p>

ITEM 4 Wembley Stadium Access Corridor – Appropriation of River Brent Open Space

Summary:	<p>This report proposes that the Council appropriates for its highway purposes part of the River Brent Open Space. The land that is proposed to be appropriated is currently held by the Council as public open space. The appropriation is required to rationalise the Council's holdings and to allow the construction of a widened foot</p>
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	and cycle way on the northern side of Great Central Way; this is part of Section 1 of the Stadium Access Corridor ("SAC") project
Ward(s):	Tokyngton/Stonebridge
Decision Taken:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That the progress made on the development of the SAC project be noted; (ii) that it be noted that the proposed appropriation of public open space at the River Brent open space north of Great Central Way has been advertised in accordance with the requirements of S122 of the Local Government Act 1972; (iii) that it be noted that no representations have been received following the placing of the required statutory advertisements and that the period for objection has now closed; (iv) that the land shown on the plan annexed to the report at Appendix 1, which forms part of the River Brent open space, be declared as no longer required for the Council's Environmental purposes; (v) that the appropriation of the area of the River Brent Open Space shown on the plan annexed to the report at Appendix 1 be approved, for the Council's highway purposes pursuant to Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972, to allow for the construction of the proposed Stadium Access Corridor scheme; (vi) that the Council's Director of Finance be authorised to make the required adjustments to the Council's accounts to record the appropriation hereby authorised.

ITEM 5 Stonebridge Housing Action Trust (HAT) – Proposed Contract with Hyde Housing Association Limited

Summary:	This report describes the outcome of the PFI negotiations that have been taking place with Hyde Housing Association Ltd ("Hyde"), for the provision of managing and maintaining (over a thirty year period) those properties that will transfer to the Council upon succession.
Ward(s):	Stonebridge
Decision Taken:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That the selection of Hyde Housing as the successor landlord by the Stonebridge Housing Action (the HAT) be noted (this subject to the confirmation by the DPM in 2007) and those tenants who so elect will transfer to this landlord; (ii) that it be agreed to enter into a thirty year contract with Hyde Housing Association Limited and subsequently to the novation of the agreement to the Community Based Housing Association upon the succession date, for the provision of housing management services in respect of those properties returning to the Council following the succession procedures, subject to:-

	<p>(a) consent being given by the Secretary of State under Section 27 of the Housing Act 1985</p> <p>(b) the final terms of the contract being settled to the satisfaction of the Director of Housing and Director of Finance</p> <p>(c) the final terms of the Spare Land Protocol being agreed with the HAT and Hyde Housing Association Limited to the satisfaction of the Directors of Housing and Finance.</p> <p>(iii) that the Director of Finance be authorised to sign the Local Government (Contracts) Act Certificate in relation to the contract and the current draft of the certificate at Appendix 1 to this report and that an indemnity will need to be given to the Director by the Council in respect of this.</p> <p>(iv) that the previous decision for these properties to be accounted for outside the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) be confirmed.</p>
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ITEM 6 Older Persons' Housing Strategy

Summary:	This report seeks Members' agreement of the Older Persons' Housing strategy and its recommendations
Ward(s):	All
Decision Taken:	<p>(i) That the Older Persons' Housing strategy be agreed.</p> <p>(ii) that the Action Plan in Appendix 1 of the report be agreed, subject to available resources.</p>

ITEM 7 Proposal for Creating a New Voluntary Aided Islamic Primary School and a New Voluntary Aided Jewish High School

Summary:	This report informs Members of a proposal for a new Muslim VA Primary School on the site of the current independent school, The Avenue Primary School, 5 The Avenue, London, NW6 7YG. (<i>The Proposer is the Trustee of the school, 'FED 2000' – Federation for Educational Development</i>). Since the Proposer started formal consultation, as required by statute, the LEA has learnt that neither the DfES nor the ODPM will guarantee the necessary increase in the level of its Revenue Support Grant for 2005/2006. This funding issue will also affect the application of Menorah High School, which is going through the same process and has already gained provisional Council support to become VA in April 2005.
Ward(s):	All
Decision Taken:	(i) that given the continuing uncertainty about the effect of the

	<p>schools' inclusion on the financial positions of other schools and the Council more generally, we agree to approve the applications provisionally subject to Department of Education and Skills and Office of the Deputy Prime Minister adopting a funding mechanism that would minimise any such detrimental effects. This position will be reviewed when details of the Local Government Finance Settlement are announced in November;</p> <p>(ii) that a policy be formally adopted whereby although applications for VA status from faith schools are welcome, they will normally only be agreed to if there is no disadvantage financially to the Council or other Brent schools;</p> <p>(iii) that member's decision in respect of each of these applications be referred to the SOC.</p>
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ITEM 8 Public Library Position Statement

Summary:	This report introduces Brent's Library Service Position Statement, which must be submitted to the Government's Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) by the 30 th of September 2004. The Public Library Position Statement replaces the Annual Library Plan within the context of the Local Government White Paper and the move to Freedoms and Flexibilities. It will contribute to the Libraries and Leisure rating of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment. The Position Statement is to be submitted to the DCMS for a maximum of two years from 2003.
Ward(s):	All
Decision Taken:	That the Library Service Position Statement 2004 be approved and the Lead Member for Education, Arts and Libraries be authorised to sign on behalf of the Council.

ITEM 9 The Connexions Service in Brent

Summary:	This report provides members with updated information concerning the proposal for the Council to become the accountable body in respect of the Connexions Services in Brent and for a new model for co-ordinate the provision of the Connexions service in West London. The report seeks the approval of the Executive to the proposed new arrangements.
Ward(s):	All
Decision Taken:	(i) That it be agreed the London Borough of Brent becomes the accountable body responsible to the DfES through the Supporting Children and Young People Group (SCYPG) for the delivery of Connexions in Brent, subject to the following issues being resolved to the satisfaction of the Director of Finance and the Borough Solicitor;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Funding arrangements with the Government Office for London (b) Contractual arrangements with Lifetime Careers (c) Contractual/grant arrangements with the other service providers that provide services for Connexions in Brent as set out in paragraph 6.15 and Appendix 1; and (d) Any TUPE/pension implications <p>(ii) that the Director of EAL, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Borough Solicitor undertake the detailed negotiations and arrangements for the transfer;</p> <p>(iii) that it be noted that the Financial Memorandum between the Council and SKYPG and main contractual documentation is scheduled to be completed to come into effect on 1 October 04 although the full confederacy model described in the report will be completed through a staged process over the next 6 months;</p> <p>(iv) that it be agreed that there are good financial and/or operational reasons not to seek 3 written quotes in accordance with Contract Standing Orders in respect of the novation of the contracts identified in paragraph 6.18 of this report to the Council;</p> <p>(v) that it be agreed that the Council take over responsibility for the Grant Agreements set out in Appendix 1 of the report from the date on which the Financial Memorandum comes into effect.</p>
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ITEM 10 NNDR Discretionary Relief for Charities & Non Profit Making Organisations

Summary:	This report sets out the latest position on the 2004/2005 Revenue Budget which was originally agreed by Full Council on 1 st March 2004. It also seeks approval for the release of £30k to fund a contribution to the domestic violence budget.
Ward(s):	None specific
Decision Taken:	<i>See resolution attached at Appendix A.</i>

ITEM 11 Revenue Budget 2004/2005 Monitoring Report

Summary:	This report sets out the latest position on the 2004/2005 Revenue Budget which was originally agreed by Full Council on 1 st March 2004. It also seeks approval for the release of £30k to fund a contribution to the domestic violence budget.
Ward(s):	All

Decision Taken:	(i) That the latest budget in Appendix A to the report be noted; (ii) that the allocation of £30k to the domestic violence budget per section 6.3 of the report be agreed.
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ITEM 12 Award of Contract for Access Consultancy Services

Summary:	This report requests authority to award the access consultancy contract as required by Contract Standing Order No 89. This report summarises the process undertaken in tendering this contract and, following the completion of the evaluation of the tenders, recommends that the contract should be awarded to Vectra Group Limited.
Ward(s):	All
Decision Taken:	That it be agreed to award the contract for Access Consultancy Services to Vectra Group Ltd.

ITEM 13 E-Government Priority Outcomes

Summary:	This report supplements the April 2004 report on the E-Government Programme and proposes the allocation of further funding to meet the requirements of the ODPM Priority Outcomes report.
Ward(s):	All
Decision Taken:	(i) That the proposed further funding arrangements for 2004/5 as detailed in section 7 of the report be agreed; (ii) that the Director of Corporate Services be authorised to agree any necessary variations to the proposals to ensure best use of the available e-Government funding.

ITEM 14 Appointments to the London Housing Unit Executive Committee

Summary:	This report details the background to the Association for London Government ('ALG') London Housing Unit Sectoral Joint Committee ('LHUC') and the requirement for member representation.
Ward(s):	None specific
Decision Taken:	(i) that the Leader of the Council be appointed to the LHUC and the Lead Member for Housing as an alternate member to this committee. (ii) that Lead Member for Housing be nominated for appointment by the LHUC onto their executive sub committee.
ITEM 15	Vital Signs Quarter One

Summary:	This report introduces the Vital Signs for the period April to June 2004. The Vital Signs set out the data on the Council's performance against the key priority indicators.
Ward(s):	All
Decision Taken:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That it be noted the digest provides a clear and concise summary of performance over the previous 5 quarters, with comments from Executive Lead Members and key officers; (ii) that it be noted the changes in reporting as some vital signs within Social Services have been replaced, and in the case of indicator BV 99 (Environmental Services) the ODPM definition has changed.

BELOW THE LINE REPORTS

ITEM 16 **Madison House, London Road, Wembley - Lease Renewal 2nd Floor and Acquisition of 3rd Floor**

Summary:	This report seeks Members' consent to the renewal of the Council's lease of the above property on the terms detailed in this report
Ward(s):	Wembley Central
Decision Taken:	That it be agreed to renew the Council's lease of the 2 nd floor offices in Madison House for a term of 6 years from 2 September 2003, the expiry date of the current lease, on the main terms set out in the Detail of the report and such other terms which the Manager of Corporate Property Services considers to be in the best interest of the Council.

ITEM 17 **Willesden Sports Centre PFI – Final Business Case**

Summary:	This report asks members to note the progress on the negotiations for the Willesden Sports Centre PFI and the content of the draft Final Business Case and to agree in principle to award the PFI contract as set out in the report.
Ward(s):	All
Decision Taken:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That the progress on negotiations for the Willesden Sports Centre PFI be noted together with the content of the draft Final Business Case which will be finalised by the Director of Environment and submitted to DCMS for approval; (ii) that it be agreed, in principle, to award the PFI contract to the Linteum Consortium to design, build, finance and operate the new Willesden Leisure Centre and, subject to recommendations (iii) and (iv) of the report, authority be delegated to the Director of Environment to conclude negotiations with the consortium and finalise contract terms within the parameters set out in this report; (iii) that for the reasons outlined in the supplementary report circulated at the meeting it be agreed that it is not possible for Brent Council to bridge the affordability gap without serious financial consequences and adverse impact on other priority projects and services; (iv) that it further be noted that there are two outstanding contracts and leases with Leisure Connections, part of the consortium, in respect of Vale Farm and Charteris and that the PFI contract will not be finalised by officers unless and until those outstanding contracts and leases are concluded satisfactorily;

	<p>(v) that the Director of Environment be authorised to sign a Local Government (Contracts) Act Certificate in respect of the PFI contract and note that the Director of Finance will be required to sign a letter to accompany the Final Business Case confirming the Council can meet its obligations within the agreement;</p> <p>(vi) the it be noted that an indemnity will need to be given to the Directors of Environment and Finance by the Council in respect of their signing of the documents referred to in (v) above.</p>
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D Coughlin
In the Chair

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE**14 SEPTEMBER 2004****NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATE-DISCRETIONARY RELIEF FOR CHARITIES
AND NON-PROFIT MAKING ORGANISATIONS****RESOLUTION**

1. We agree that the following local charities are to be granted 100% discretionary relief for 2004/05:

COST TO COUNCIL

6 th Wembley Scout Group	£ 112
Addaction	£ 265
Afri-Caribbean Peoples Organisation	£ 1026
Brent Adolescent Centre	£ 1026
Brent Deaf Peoples Group	£ 370
Brent Deaf Peoples Group	£ 16
Brent Mental Health User Group	£ 314
Brent Mind	£ 534
Caribbean Cultural Organisation	£ 260
Churchend & Roundwood Community Assoc	£ 410
Family Outreach Project	£ 257
Kenton Youth Aid Trust	£ 2086
Mandhata Youth & Community Assoc	£ 971
Samaritans of Brent	£ 636
Samaritans of Brent	£ 527
Shishukunj	£ 735
Stanmore & District Scout Council	£ 140
Stanmore & District Scout Council	£ 53
The Minster Centre	£ 1663
Tricycle Theatre Co Ltd	£5308

2. We agree that the following non-local charities are to be granted 25% discretionary relief for 2004/05;

22 nd Hampstead Sea Scout Group	£ 15
Charity Logistics	£ 1948
Joshua Generation Ministries	£ 45
RSPCA	£ 315

3. We agree that the following non-profit making organisations should be granted 25% discretionary relief for 2004/05;

An-Nisa Society	£ 197
An-Nisa Society	£ 265
Elmwood Tennis Club	£ 297
Heritage Family Centre	£ 399
Immigration & Employment Consultancy	£ 307
Information Centre	£ 214
Kingsbury Bowling Club	£ 13
South Hampstead Club Ltd	£ 299
Stonebridge Tenants Advancement Committee	£ 105
Stonebridge Tenants Advancement Committee	£ 217

4. We agree that the following applications for discretionary relief for 2003/04 are not allowed as they did not apply during 2003/04

Brent Mental Health User Group
Stonebridge Tenants Advancement Committee
Stonebridge Training & Employment Project

5. We agree that the following application from a local charity for 100% discretionary relief for 2003/04 is allowed as they applied during 2003/04

Brahim Society	£ 269
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TOTAL COST TO COUNCIL	£ 21,614
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6. We agree that the Foundation School, J F S School , is to be granted 100% discretionary relief for 2003/04 and 2004/05.