



# LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

## MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE Monday, 14 March 2011 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillor John (Chair), Councillor Butt (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Arnold, Beswick, Crane, Jones, J Moher, R Moher, Powney and Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Adeyeye, Al-Ebadi, Mistry, Naheerathan and HB Patel

### 1. **Declarations of personal and prejudicial interests**

None declared.

### 2. **Martin Cheeseman**

The Executive paid tribute to Martin Cheeseman, Director of Housing and Community Care, who was attending his last meeting of the Executive before his retirement. Members thanked him for all his service to the council over the years.

### 3. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

RESOLVED:-

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 February 2011 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

### 4. **Matters arising**

None.

### 5. **Review of formula funding for SEN statementing in mainstream schools**

The report from the Director of Children and Families sought members' approval to proposed changes to the schools funding formula in respect of statements of special educational need (SEN) in mainstream schools. Councillor Arnold (Lead Member, Children and Families) advised that the proposals involved simplifying the resource allocation system, increased the threshold beyond which new statements would be issued and had been agreed by the Schools Forum at its meeting 31 January 2011. Councillor Arnold also made reference to the government review on SEN on which a Green Paper had been recently published any recommendations from which were not expected to come through for some time.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that approval be given to a new system of resource bands with associated descriptors of SEN as set out in Appendix A of the report from the Director of

Children and Families for all new statements or individual pupil resource agreements issued from 1 April 2011 with any future changes to the descriptors and resource levels being agreed by the Schools Forum;

- (ii) that agreement be given to increase the threshold, at which new statements of SEN will be provided, to the support equivalent of 0.5 Teaching Assistant with effect from April 2011.

**6. Authority to invite tenders for short break services for disabled children and young people**

Councillor Arnold (Lead Member, Children and Families) reminded the Executive that on 18 January 2010 approval had been given to invite tenders for framework contracts for the provision of Short Break Services provided for disabled children and young people in their own homes, as required by Contract Standing Orders 88 and 89. Due to the need to achieve ever greater efficiencies and in view of the additional suppliers in this market, an alternate process of tendering the service was now envisioned with the establishment of multiple provider frameworks rather than single provider frameworks allowing needs to be met more broadly.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that approval be given to the pre-tender considerations and the criteria to be used to evaluate tenders as set out in paragraph 4.1 of the report from the Director of Children and Families;
- (ii) that approval be given to the invite of tenders for three multiple provider frameworks and their evaluation in accordance with the approved evaluation criteria referred to in (i) above.

**7. Provision of transport for adult social care service users - promoting independence**

The Lead Member, (Adults, Health and Social Care) introduced the report from the Director of Housing and Community Care which set out the results from the series of consultation meetings on the proposals to adopt an eligibility policy for access to council funded transport which aimed to ensure that a service would be available to those in need. Councillor R Moher advised that six meetings had taken place and while there were concerns over how the criteria would be developed, users that had been given the opportunity to gain independence by using public transport were proud of their achievement.

RESOLVED:

that the council adopts the eligibility policy for access to council-funded transport for users of adult social care services. Under this policy, eligibility will be determined by assessment of a service user's access to existing transport and an assessment of their mobility and ability to travel independently.

**8. Supporting people procurement plan and related contract issues**

In May 2007, agreement was given to a four year procurement plan for contracts funded through Supporting People Grant. As the period covered by this plan was coming to an end, the report from the Director of Housing and Community Care set out a Procurement Plan for Supporting People funded services for the next three years. Councillor Thomas (Lead Member, Housing and Customer Services) advised that the report requested authority to approve the award of new contracts for Supporting People funded contracts providing services for women escaping violence and homeless families and services for single homeless people in order to allow sufficient time for them to be procured in line with the Procurement Plan. The council would be participating in a West London agreement which would also help to generate savings.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the timetable for procurement of Supporting People services set out in the Procurement Plan attached at Appendix A of the report from the Director of Housing and Community Care be noted;
- (ii) that approval be given to participation in a collaborative procurement project to tender a joint Framework Agreement for housing and support services with other West London boroughs and that this project be exempted from the normal requirements of Brent's Contract Standing Orders on the basis of the reasons set out in section 5 of the report;
- (iii) that agreement be given to an exemption from tendering requirements for the reasons set out in section 6 of the report, and approve the award of new contracts for Supporting People funded contracts providing services for Women Escaping Violence and Homeless Families (as listed in para 6.2 of the report from the Director of Housing and Community Care). The new contracts would be for 15 months from 1 April 2011 to 31 June 2012, with the scope to extend for up to 9 months to 31 March 2013 (2 years in total) in order to allow time for new contracts to be put in place;
- (iv) that agreement be given to an exemption from tendering requirements for the reasons set out in section 7 of the report, and approval given to the award of new contracts for Supporting People funded contracts providing services Supporting People funded contracts providing services for Single Homeless (as listed in para 7.2 of the report). The new contracts would be for fifteen months from 1 April 2011 to 31 June 2012 with the scope to extend for up to another year to 31 March 2013 (2 years in total) in order to allow time for new contracts to be put in place.

9. **ALMO amendment to Memorandum of Association - registered provider status**

In introducing the report from the Director of Housing and Community Services, Councillor Thomas (Lead Member, Housing and Customer Care) advised that in order to meet regulatory requirements for access to grant funding to progress existing new build development, and to secure financial benefits for the delivery of the Settled Homes Initiative (SHI), Brent Housing Partnership (BHP) needed to become a Registered Provider with the Tenant Services Authority (TSA).

Registered Provider status and the regulatory compliance regime with the TSA would only apply to BHP's directly owned social rented homes.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that BHP Board be authorised to make amendments to its objectives within its Memorandum of Association as set out and tracked in Appendix A to the report from the Director of Housing and Community Care in order to meet the requirements of the Tenant Services Authority (TSA) for registration as a social housing provider;
- (ii) that BHP be authorised to apply for Registered Provider status with the TSA;
- (iii) that it be noted that the changes proposed in the report from the Director of Housing and Community Care would not prejudice any actions or decisions which the Executive may make following the review of BHP that is currently being carried out on behalf of the Council by Navigant Consulting.

10. **Environment and Neighbourhoods Capital Spend 2011/12: Highways Major Works Programme**

The report from the Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services made recommendations to members detailing the prioritised programme for major footway upgrade projects, carriageway resurfacing schemes, improvements to grass verge areas and accessibility, renewal of marginal highway land, new street signage, gully maintenance, carriageway resurfacing – short sections, and footway upgrades – short sections. The Executive were asked to approve the expenditure of the £2,920k capital budget allocation for the 2011/12 capital works programme, which had been included in the Budget Setting report submitted to the meeting of the Executive on 15 February. Councillor J Moher (Lead Member, Highways and Transportation) drew members' attention to the efforts being made to maintain roads, even in the current difficult financial situation, with priorities established on the basis of independent advice and also taking into account contributions from ward councillors.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that agreement be given to utilise the main highways capital programme of £2,920k as follows:

<b>Footways</b>	<b>% budget</b>	<b>amount (£ 000's)</b>
▪ Major footway upgrade	38.7	1,130
▪ Footway upgrades – short sections	3.4	100
▪ Renewal of marginal highway land	0.9	25
▪ Improvement to grass verges and accessibility	1.7	50
▪ New street signs	1.7	50
<b>total</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>1,355</b>

## **Carriageways**

▪ Major carriageway resurfacing of non-principal unclassified (borough road) network	37.3	1,090
▪ Major carriageway resurfacing of non-principal classified (B & C) network (NI169)	6.9	200
▪ Carriageway resurfacing – short sections	3.4	100
▪ Gulley replacement/maintenance	2.6	75
<b>total</b>	<b>50.2</b>	<b>1,465</b>

## **Miscellaneous**

▪ Contingencies for TfL funded schemes	3.4	100
<b>total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,920</b>

- (ii) that approval be given to the schemes and reserve schemes, as listed in Appendices 1–3 of the report from the Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services.

### **11. South Kilburn Regeneration - procurement of developer framework and regeneration update**

The report from the Director of Regeneration and Major Projects sought approval to finalise the procurement of the South Kilburn Regeneration Developer Framework. It also sought approval to progress planning applications for two sites within phase two of the regeneration and provided an update on the progress of the wider regeneration of South Kilburn.

The Executive also had before them an appendix to the report which was not for publication as it contained the following category of exempt information as specified in Schedule 12 of the Local Government (Access to Information Act) 1972:

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that agreement be given to the establishment of the South Kilburn Regeneration Developer Framework and to the appointment of those developers detailed in paragraph 3.5 of the report from the Director of Regeneration and Major Projects for a period of four 4 years from the framework commencement date;
- (ii) that officers' intention to progress the selection of a design team from the LDA Architecture, Landscape and Urban Design Framework Agreement to take a proposal through to full planning application (RIBA Stage C or D) for the Fielding House and Bronte House sites (Zones 3a and 3b respectively) and to report back to Executive with regard to contract award be noted;

- (iii) that the wider progress with the regeneration of South Kilburn be noted.

## 12. **Wembley Link Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

Councillor Crane (Lead Member, Regeneration and Major Projects) introduced the report which asked the Executive to consider the consultation responses to the draft Wembley Link Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and proposed changes to the consultation draft. He advised that the SPD formed part of the Local Development Framework adopted last year and referred members to the comments received as part of the consultation process. Councillor Crane drew attention to the need for redevelopment in this area which would be to the benefit of Copland School in the vicinity.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the views expressed on the council's consultation draft of the Wembley Link SPD be noted and support given to the responses and changes proposed as a result, set out in Appendix 1 of the report from the Director of Regeneration and Major Projects;
- (ii) that Wembley Link be adopted as a SPD supplementary to the council's 2010 Core Strategy and Site Specific Allocations subject to the Council's adoption to the DPD;
- (iii) that authority be delegated to the Director of Regeneration and Major Projects to make minor text changes and illustration changes to the published document.

## 13. **Performance and Finance 2010/11 Quarter 3**

The report from the Directors of Finance and Corporate Services and Strategy, Partnerships and Improvement summarised the Council's budget position, expenditure, activity data and performance trends for the quarter and also recommended action. Councillor John (Lead Member, Corporate Strategy and Policy Co-ordination) drew members' attention to the recommendations in the report, the need to ensure the budget remained on target and for close attention to be paid to performance.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the council's budget position, expenditure, activity trends and performance information for the quarter be noted;
- (ii) that relevant lead members hold all service area directors to account by ensuring they operate within the confines of their allocated budgets, that under-performance is adequately redressed, and that effective measures are taken to mitigate areas of risk;
- (iii) that approval be given to the 2010/11 budget virements detailed in paragraph 5.5 of the joint report from the Directors of Finance and Corporate Services and of Strategy, Partnerships and Improvement;

- (iv) that the re-allocation of the Capital Programme to the new departmental structure, the details of which are included within Section 8 of the Directors' report be noted.

14. **Reference of item considered by Call in Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

None.

15. **Any Other Urgent Business**

None.

The meeting ended at 7.25 pm

A JOHN  
Chair