

London Borough of Brent – Decisions taken at the online Council meeting held on Monday 22 February 2021

PRESENT (in remote attendance): Councillors Ezeajughi (Mayor), Colacicco (Deputy Mayor), Abdi, Afzal, Agha, Ahmed, Akram, M.Butt, S.Butt, Chan, Chappell, Chohan, S.Choudhary, A.Choudry, Colwill, Crane, Daly, Dar, Denselow, Dixon, Donnelly-Jackson, Ethapemi, Farah, Gbajumo, Georgiou, Gill, Hassan, Hector, Hirani, Hylton, Johnson, Kabir, Kansagra, Kelcher, Kennelly, Knight, Lloyd, Lo, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, Maurice, McLennan, Miller, Mitchell-Murray, Murray, Naheerathan, Nerva, M.Patel, R.Patel, Perrin, Sangani, Shah, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stephens, Tatler & Thakkar.

Agenda Item No	Item	Decision
1	Apologies for Absence	Apologies received from Councillors Aden and Conneely.
2	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	Council RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 23 November 2020 as a correct record.
3	Declarations of Interest	Councillor Hirani declared a personal (non pecuniary) interest in Agenda Item 6 (Budget and Council Tax 2021-22) as the recently appointed Chair of Trustees for Metroland Cultures.
4	Mayor's Announcements (including any petitions received)	<p>NOTED the announcements from the Mayor in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Court judgement regarding the Barnhill By-Election result • Queens New Year Honours List 2021 • 100th Birthday celebrations • Holocaust & Genocide Memorial Day Event • Death of former Councillor Lawrie Nerva • NHS Vaccination Centre & thanks to Council staff for their efforts in responding to the pandemic • Petitions
5	Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies and Appointment of Chairs/Vice Chairs (if any)	<p>Council RESOLVED to appoint the following as members of the Council Tax Setting Committee:</p> <p>Labour Group: Councillors M.Butt, McLennan, Krupa Sheth and Stephens to be appointed as full members</p>

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		<p align="center">Councillor Nerva to be appointed as substitute member</p> <p>Conservative Group: Councillor Kansagra to be appointed as full member</p> <p align="center">Councillors Colwill and Maurice to be appointed as substitute members</p>
6	Budget and Council Tax 2021/22	<p>Council RESOLVED to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Agree an overall 4.99% increase in the Council's element of Council Tax for 2020/21, with 3% as a precept for Adult Social Care and a 1.99% general increase. (2) Agree the General Fund revenue budget for 2021/22, as summarised in Appendix A of the report. (3) Agree the cost pressures and technical adjustments detailed in Appendix B of the report. (4) Agree the budget savings proposals detailed in Appendix C of the report. (5) Note the report from the Budget Scrutiny Panel in Appendix D of the report. (6) Agree the HRA budget for 2021/22, as set out in section seven of this report. (7) Agree the Dedicated Schools' Grant as set out in section eight of this report.

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		<p>(8) Agree the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix E of the report.</p> <p>(9) Agree the Capital Strategy, the Investment Strategy, the Treasury Management Strategy and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement as set out in Appendices G, H, I and J of the report.</p> <p>(10) Agree the schedule of reserves, as set out in Appendix K of the report.</p> <p>(11) Agree the schedule of fees and charges as set out in Appendix L of the report.</p> <p>(12) Note the results of the budget consultation as set out in section six and detailed in Appendix M of the report.</p> <p>(13) Note the advice of the Director of Legal, HR, Audit and Investigations as set out in Appendix N of the report.</p> <p>(14) Agree the Pay Policy Statement for 2021/22 as set out in Appendix O of the report (including the additional wording set out in paragraph 9.2 of the report) and the payments to which it refers.</p> <p>Council Tax recommendations</p> <p>These recommendations only include a provisional Council Tax level for the GLA as its final budget was not agreed when this report was despatched. This means that the statutory calculation of the total amount of Council Tax under Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 cannot be carried out until the final GLA precept has been received.</p>

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		<p>(15) In relation to the Council Tax for 2021/22 we resolve:</p> <p>That the following amounts be now calculated as the Council’s element by the Council for the year 2021/22 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended:</p> <p>(a) £1,036,468,015 being the aggregate of the amount that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act.</p> <p>(b) £900,778,354 being the aggregate of the amounts that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.</p> <p>(c) £135,689,697 being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year.</p> <p>(d) £1,378.26 being the amount at (c) above, divided by the amount for the tax base of 98,450, agreed by the General Purposes Committee on the 7 December 2020, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.</p> <p>(e) </p>

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		<table><tr><td>918.84</td><td>1,071.98</td><td>1,225.12</td><td>1,378.26</td><td>1,684.54</td><td>1,990.82</td><td>2,297.10</td><td>2,756.52</td></tr></table>	918.84	1,071.98	1,225.12	1,378.26	1,684.54	1,990.82	2,297.10	2,756.52																
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		<p>being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (d) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.</p> <p>(16) That it be noted that for the year 2021/22 the proposed GLA precept issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, in respect of the GLA, for each of the categories of dwellings are as shown below. The GLA intends to agree its precept on 25 February 2021.</p> <p>Valuation Bands</p> <table><tr><td>A</td><td>B</td><td>C</td><td>D</td><td>E</td><td>F</td><td>G</td><td>H</td></tr><tr><td>£</td><td>£</td><td>£</td><td>£</td><td>£</td><td>£</td><td>£</td><td>£</td></tr><tr><td>242.44</td><td>282.85</td><td>323.25</td><td>363.66</td><td>444.47</td><td>525.29</td><td>606.10</td><td>727.32</td></tr></table>	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	242.44	282.85	323.25	363.66	444.47	525.29	606.10	727.32
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£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£																			
242.44	282.85	323.25	363.66	444.47	525.29	606.10	727.32																			
		<p>(17) That the Council establishes a Council Tax setting committee, to set the Council Tax for the year 2021/22, in accordance with section 67(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, and agrees the terms of reference, size and</p>																								

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		<p>political composition as set out in Appendix P of the report.</p> <p>(18) That the Council appoints Councillors to serve on the Council Tax setting committee and appoints a chair and vice-chair of the Council Tax setting committee (please refer to Agenda Item 5 above).</p> <p>(19) That the special Council Tax setting committee meet as soon as possible after 25 February 2021 to allow Council Tax notices to be issued in line with the normal statutory timetable.</p> <p>(20) That it be noted that the Director of Finance has determined that the Council element of the basic amount of Council Tax for 2021/22 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.</p> <p>(a) That the Director of Finance be and is hereby authorised to give due notice of the said Council Tax in the manner provided by Section 38(2) of the 1992 Act.</p> <p>(b) That the Director of Finance be and is hereby authorised when necessary to apply for a summons against any Council Tax payer or non-domestic ratepayer on whom an account for the said tax or rate and any arrears has been duly served and who has failed to pay the amounts due to take all subsequent necessary action to recover them promptly.</p> <p>(c) That the Director of Finance be and is hereby authorised to collect revenues and distribute monies from the Collection Fund and is authorised to borrow or to lend money in accordance with the regulations to the maximum benefit of each fund.</p>

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		<p>In accordance with Standing Order 43, as the above decisions related to the setting of the budget and Council Tax they were subject to a recorded vote.</p> <p>Prior to the above recommendations being approved, two alternative budget proposals moved as amendments to the budget report by firstly the Conservative Group and secondly Councillor Anton Georgiou, were put to the vote and declared LOST.</p> <p>The voting recorded on the first amendment moved by the Conservative Group was as follows:</p> <p>For the Amendment (3): Councillors Colwill, Kansagra and Maurice</p> <p>Against the Amendment (54): Councillors Abdi, Afzal, Agha, Ahmed, Akram, M.Butt, S.Butt, Chan, Chappell, Chohan, S Choudhary, Choudry, Crane, Daly, Dar, Denselow, Dixon, Donnelly-Jackson, Ethapemi, Farah, Gbajumo, Georgiou, Gill, Hassan, Hector, Hirani, Hylton, Johnson, Kabir, Kelcher, Kennelly, Knight, Lloyd, Lo, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, McLennan, Miller, Mitchell-Murray, Murray, Naheerathan, Nerva, M.Patel, Perrin, Sangani, Shah, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stephens, Tatler and Thakkar</p> <p>Abstentions to the Amendment (2): Councillors Ezeajughi (Mayor) and Colacicco (Deputy Mayor)</p> <p>Having been moved by Councillor Georgiou without notice, Council agreed to accept the second amendment for consideration at the meeting noting that the amendment only related to the Council's revenue proposals. In considering the amendment, Council also noted the advice from the Director of Finance that whilst the proposed</p>

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		<p>amendments would provide a legally balanced budget for 2021-22 they would also carry significant ongoing financial risk. The voting recorded on the second amendment was as follows:</p> <p>For the Amendment (1): Councillor Georgiou.</p> <p>Against the Amendment (54): Councillors Abdi, Afzal, Agha, Ahmed, Akram, M.Butt, S.Butt, Chan, Chappell, Chohan, S Choudhary, Choudry, Colwill, Crane, Daly, Dar, Denselow, Dixon, Donnelly-Jackson, Ethapemi, Farah, Gbajumo, Gill, Hassan, Hirani, Hylton, Johnson, Kabir, Kansagra, Kelcher, Kennelly, Knight, Lo, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, Maurice, McLennan, Miller, Mitchell-Murray, Murray, Naheerathan, Nerva, M.Patel, Perrin, Sangani, Shah, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stephens, Tatler and Thakkar</p> <p>Abstentions to the Amendment (2): Councillors Ezeajughi (Mayor) and Colacicco (Deputy Mayor)</p> <p>The substantive recommendations, as detailed above, were then put to the vote and declared CARRIED. The voting recorded was as follows:</p> <p>For (51): Councillors Abdi, Afzal, Agha, Ahmed, Akram, M.Butt, S.Butt, Chan, Chappell, Chohan, S Choudhary, Choudry, Crane, Daly, Dar, Denselow, Dixon, Donnelly-Jackson, Ethapemi, Farah, Gbajumo, Hassan, Hector, Hirani, Hylton, Johnson, Kabir, Kelcher, Kennelly, Knight, Lo, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, McLennan, Miller, Mitchell-Murray, Murray, Naheerathan, Nerva, M.Patel, Perrin, Sangani, Shah, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stephens, Tatler and Thakkar</p> <p>Against (4): Councillors Colwill, Georgiou, Kansagra and Maurice</p>

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		Abstain (3): Councillors Ezeajughi (Mayor), Colacicco (Deputy Mayor) and Gill.
7	Borough Plan 2021-2022	<p>Council RESOLVED:</p> <p>(1) To adopt the Borough Plan attached as Appendix 1 of the report and note the Equality Strategy Action Plan attached as Appendix 2 of the report.</p> <p>(2) To refer the Borough Plan to Cabinet for monitoring.</p>
8	Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2020-2021	Council RESOLVED to note the 2020-21 Mid-Year Treasury report in compliance with CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code).
9	Members Allowance Scheme - Annual Review	<p>Council RESOLVED</p> <p>(1) To make a Members' Allowance Scheme in the proposed terms set out in the report for the financial year 2021/212.</p> <p>(2) To authorise the Director of Legal, HR Audit & Investigations to comply with the statutory requirements to publicise the Council's Members' Allowance Scheme.</p>
10	Changes to the Constitution	<p>Council RESOLVED:</p> <p>(1) To approve the changes to the Constitution as set out within the report.</p> <p>(2) To authorise the Director of Legal and HR Services to amend the Constitution accordingly, including making any necessary incidental or consequential changes.</p>
11	Urgent Business	None.