

**London Borough of Brent
Summary of Decisions taken by the Executive
on Monday, 15 February 2010**

PRESENT: Councillor Lorber (Chair), Councillor Blackman (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Allie, Colwill, Detre, Matthews, Sneddon, Van Colle and Wharton

ABSENT: Councillors D Brown

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors HB Patel

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
1.	Minutes of the previous meeting		RESOLVED:- that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 January 2010 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.
5.	Petition - Closure of BACES, Harlesden		Noted.
6.	Introduction of Early Years Single Funding Formula and changes to the allocation and funding of Early Years Full Time Places in maintained and private, voluntary and independent (PVI) sectors	All Wards;	(i) that the Early Years Single Funding Formula and implementation from April 2010 be agreed in accordance with the recommendation of the January Schools Forum; (ii) that the application made in January to DCSF for pathfinder status be noted; (iii) that parents be consulted on the proposed allocation of full time early years places based on need as set out in Section 6 from September 201; a further report to be presented to the Executive following the consultation later in 2010.

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Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
7.	Building Schools for the Future project initiation document	All Wards;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) that the Transforming Learning in Brent – BSF Project Initiation Document be approved; (ii) that the anticipated funding gap as set out in paragraph 4.4 of the report from the Director of Children and Families be noted together with the planned strategy to resolve the gap.
8.	Crest Boys and Girls Academies	All Wards;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) that the Director of Finance and the Director of Children and Families be authorised to submit the OBC to PfS in the form set out in Appendix 1 to the report from the Director of Children and Families with the detailed content completed by the Director of Children and Families, subject to the FAM allocation being increased to meet the Council’s estimate of costs as set out in Appendix 5 or the Director of Finance being satisfied that any costs over and above the FAM allocation can be met from an existing capital budget and upon approval to commence procurement via the PfS National Framework; (ii) that the Section 151 Officer be authorised to complete and issue the letter confirming the affordability of the scheme, subject to the FAM allocation being increased or the Director of Finance being satisfied as set out in paragraph 2.1 Template attached as Appendix 4 to the Director’s report; (iii) that the local authority’s commitment to the project as set out in Appendix 2 to the Director’s report be confirmed and approved given to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding in the form set out in Appendix 3 or with such amendments as the Director of Children and Families, in consultation with the Borough Solicitor, considers to be appropriate.

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9.	Carbon Reduction Commitment	All Wards;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) that the introduction and implications of implementing the government Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme be noted; (ii) that approval be given to the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources having responsibility as Lead Officer for implementing Carbon Reduction Commitment for the Council; (iii) that the Carbon Management Steering Groups develop a framework for penalising departments including schools that have not reduced their CO₂ emissions; (iv) that it be noted that the outcome of the review of the bronze project 'Review of energy supply and costs' will determine whether to install Automatic Meter Readers for Council's offices and schools; (v) that it be noted that the requirement for an annual budget of approximately £43K plus lost interest on the cash flow from 2011/12 and note the implications of losing approximately £43K in the first year as a penalty for being at the lower end of the Carbon Reduction Commitment Performance League Table; (vi) that it be noted that for each subsequent year from 2012 the penalty increases by 10% each year should the Council remain at the lower end of the Performance League table (vii) that it be noted that as final regulations are yet to be published, any detail referred to is subject to change.
10.	South Kilburn Regeneration - disposal	All Wards;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) that agreement be given to enter into a development agreement in

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	of sites known as Albert Road and Carlton Vale roundabout		<p>respect of land at Albert Road, South Kilburn (known as Zone 11a) as shown edged red in the plan at Appendix 1 to the report from the Directors of Housing and Community Care and Policy and Regeneration, with London and Quadrant Housing Association, such agreement to provide for the acquisition of the land for the sum set out in Appendix 5 (restricted) and to contain such other terms as are approved by the Director of Housing and Community Care in consultation with the Borough Solicitor;</p> <p>(ii) that agreement be given to enter into a development agreement in respect of land at Carlton Vale Roundabout, South Kilburn (known as Zone 3c) as shown edged red in the plan at Appendix 2, with London & Quadrant Housing Association, such agreement to provide for the acquisition of the land for the sum set out in Appendix 5 (restricted) and to contain such other terms as are approved by the Director of Housing and Community Care in consultation with the Borough Solicitor;</p> <p>(iii) that the sum of £2,978,000 from the proceeds of the sale should be transferred to South Kilburn Neighbourhood Trust;</p> <p>(iv) that agreement be given to the remaining sum set out in Appendix 5 to the report from the Directors of Housing and Community Care and Policy and Regeneration from the proceeds of the sales be re-invested into the regeneration of South Kilburn, including for the purposes of bringing forward further development sites within the regeneration area in line with priorities set out in paragraphs 4.4 of the Director’s report;</p>

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			(v) that the rent assumptions for both sites as set out in paragraphs 3.11 and 3.12 of the Directors’ report be noted.
11.	South Kilburn Regeneration - dealing with housing issues (voids)	Kilburn; Queens Park;	That members delegate authority to the Director of Housing and Community Care to find a solution for the use of voids using the criteria in paragraph 3.30, and seek all relevant consents if so required.
12.	Housing Revenue Account Budget 2010-11 for rent increase proposal for council dwellings for 2010-11	All Wards;	<p>(i) that approval be given to the Revised (Probable) Budget for 2009/2010 (Appendix 1 Table 1 of the report from the Director of Housing and Community Care) ;</p> <p>(ii) that the draft Budget for 2010-11 (Appendix 1 Table 1) be noted, in the light of officers’ advice contained in the report.</p> <p>(iii) that approval be given to the growth of £150k in 2010-11 and a further £150k in 2011-12, and the proposal for funding that growth, as set out in paragraph 3.39 of the Director’s report;</p> <p>(iv) that approval be given to the savings/budget reductions as set out in paragraph 3.44 of the Director’s report;</p> <p>(v) that approval be given to an average overall rent increase (excluding service charges) of £0.87 per week, which is an average overall increase of 1.09%. This to be applied on an individual basis to each property based on the Government’s rent convergence guidelines as detailed in paragraphs 3.22 to 3.26. This will raise an additional £419k rent income;</p> <p>(vi) that approval be given to increase HRA Council Dwelling service charges by 1.23% raising an additional £35k;</p>

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			<p>(vii) that approval be given to an average overall rent decrease of £0.54p per dwelling per week on the Brent Stonebridge Dwellings, which is an average overall rent decrease of 0.5% as set out in paragraph 3.58 of the Director’s report. This would reduce the annual rent income by £9k;</p> <p>(viii) that approval be given to decrease the service charges on the Brent Stonebridge Dwellings by an average of 37.8% or an average of £3.21 per dwelling per week as set out in paragraph 3.61 of the Director’s report. This would reduce the annual service charge income by £55k;</p> <p>(ix) that authority be delegated to the Director of Housing and Community Care to agree the ALMO management fee after negotiations with that organisation on the basis it is funded from agreed overall financial resources for the financial year 2010/11.</p>
13.	Removals and storage	All Wards;	that approval be given to award the Contract for Furniture Removals and Storage Services to Crown Promotions and Removals Limited, the contract to run from 1 April 2010 until 31 March 2012, with an option to extend the contract for up to a further two years.
14.	Budget 2010/11 and Council Tax	All Wards;	(i) This budget continues the Administration’s sound financial policies. It delivers efficiencies to fund frontline service improvements and a 0% increase in Council Tax. Brent currently has the fourth lowest council tax out of the 20 outer London boroughs. This budget has been produced despite the backdrop of the worst economic conditions for more than a generation, combined with Central Government breaking funding pledges on concessionary fares,

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			<p>which has required the Council to find £1.5m to protect the full scheme for all residents;</p> <p>(ii) We have also developed a planned and innovative response to address the Government’s cuts in resources. The Improvement and Efficiency Strategy is aimed at fundamental service transformation to raise the quality of frontline services, while at the same time taking costs out of the organisation to meet the challenges in the medium term;</p> <p>(iii) We have provided over £9m of growth to fund our priorities. This includes:</p> <p>£2.3m for Child Protection Services; £1m on Adult Social Care; £60k on recycling; £250k on supporting the redevelopment of Brent’s secondary schools; £800k on sport and youth activities; £245k on combating climate change and carbon reduction; £500k on Temporary Accommodation; £100k on extra library books; £68k for additional CCTV.</p> <p>(vi) We note that the Council has won £85m of additional funding for secondary schools through Building Schools for the Future, and £23m for Primary Schools to help modernise our schools and allow us to use them as wider community facilities;</p>

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			<p>(v) The Executive notes the comments and recommendations of the Budget Panel and thanks them for their informed input into the overall process;</p> <p>(vi) The Executive notes the report and agrees to forward it as amended by:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Decisions of the Schools Forum on 8th February 2010 and any consequent changes due to these; and any other changes to the budget figures from updated information;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">to Full Council on 1st March 2010 who are asked to agree recommendations 2.1 to 2.38;</p> <p>(vi) That it be noted that this report will be amended by the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources prior to the council budget setting meeting to reflect changes per paragraph 6.</p>
15.	Review of Fees and Charges 2010/11	All Wards;	<p>(i) that approval be given to the proposed fees and charges set out in Appendix A to the report from the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources to apply from 1 April 2010 (unless otherwise stated);</p> <p>(ii) that approval be given to changes to the Removals and Storage Charging Policy as set out in Appendix B of the report from the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources.</p>
16.	Occupational Health contract	All Wards;	that approval be given to the award of the contract for the provision of occupational health services to Connaught Compliance Services Limited for a term of three years commencing on 1 April 2010, with an option to

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			extend for a further two year period.
17.	Authority to participate in a collaborative procurement for the provision of services for the administration of the Local Government Pension Scheme	All Wards;	<p>(i) that approval be given to the Council participating in a collaborative procurement exercise leading to the establishment of a framework agreement by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham for the provision of services for the administration of the Local Government Pension Scheme;</p> <p>(ii) that approval be given to the collaborative procurement exercise described in paragraphs 3.5 – 3.10 being exempted from the normal requirements of Brent’s Contract Standing Orders in accordance with Contract Standing Orders 85(c) and 84(a) on the basis that there are good financial and operational reasons as set out in the report from the Director of Business Transformation.</p>