



LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

MINUTES OF THE CABINET Monday 16 July 2018 at 4.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillor M Butt (Chair), Councillor McLennan (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Agha, Farah, Hirani, Miller, M Patel, Krupa Sheth, Southwood and Tatler

Also present: Councillor Kelcher

1. Membership and Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED:

- (i) Cabinet noted the appointment of Councillor Tom Miller as Lead Member for Community Safety.
- (ii) Cabinet noted the appointment by the Leader of the Council of Councillor Tom Miller to replace Councillor Shama Tatler as a full Member of the Joint Boroughs IT Committee
- (iii) Cabinet noted the appointment of Councillor Amer Agha as the Council's representative on the South Kilburn Trust.

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 June 2018 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising (if any)

None.

5. Petitions (if any)

None.

6. Deputations (if any)

Councillor Muhammed Butt, Leader of the Council, welcomed Cllr Matt Kelcher, Councillor for Kensal Green Ward, and Ms Joan Greening of the Kensal Green Residents Association to the meeting.

In accordance with Standing Order 67 Cabinet received a deputation from Ms Joan Greening of the Kensal Green Residents Association about Bank Holiday Parking Restriction Changes in KR & KG Parking Zones.

Ms Greening stated currently, KR & KG Bank Holiday parking differs to the rest of Brent in that restrictions apply on all Bank Holidays.

Ms Greening added that Kensal Green Residents Association are asking the Cabinet to request the removal of parking restrictions on all bank holidays with the exception of the August bank holiday.

Councillor Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Environment, thanked Ms Greening for her contribution to the meeting. She stated that a report on CPZ zones is due for consideration by Cabinet at its meeting in October and that KR & KG Bank Holiday parking would feature as part of the review of CPZ. She stated that formal consultation would follow consideration by the Cabinet.

Cllr Matt Kelcher, Councillor for Kensal Green Ward, stated that there are currently too few signs in the KR & KG CPZ zones. In response, Chris Whyte, Operational Director, Environmental Services, stated that his service would review the signage.

7. Performance Report, Q4 (January - March) 2017/18

Councillor Margaret McLennan, Deputy Leader of the Council, introduced the report and the performance scorecard setting out the position on the Council's performance in the final quarter of 2017/18 and its year-end performance.

Councillor McLennan stated that the purpose of this report is to provide Cabinet with a corporate overview of performance information linked to the Brent 2020 and Borough Plan priorities, to support informed decision-making and to manage performance effectively.

Councillor McLennan stated that the Corporate Performance Scorecard sets out the suite of key performance indicators being monitored corporately.

RESOLVED:

- (i) Cabinet noted the performance information within the report.
- (ii) Cabinet considered the current and futures strategic risks associated with the information provided and agreed remedial actions on strategic risks as appropriate.
- (iii) Cabinet agreed to challenge progress with responsible officers as appropriate.

8. July Finance Review

Councillor Margaret McLennan, Deputy Leader of the Council, introduced the setting out the overall financial position facing the Council for the next four years and highlights the significant risks, issues and uncertainties.

Councillor McLennan stated that the report also sets out the proposed budget setting process for, at least, the years 2019/20 and 2020/21, in order to maximise the period of consultation with residents, businesses and other key stakeholders.

Councillor Muhammed Butt, Leader of the Council, stated that, on the recommendations of this report the draft budget would be published for consultation in October 2018. Councillor Butt stated that, based on what is currently known, or can reasonably be assumed, about future funding settlements further substantial reductions in expenditure will be required.

Councillor M. Butt stated that the Council will need to take difficult decisions about which services to prioritise and protect and which to reduce in order to continue to deliver affordable and sustainable budgets.

RESOLVED:

- (i) Cabinet agreed the budget setting process for 2019/20 – 2020/21 including the approach to consultation and scrutiny as set out in the report.
- (ii) Cabinet noted the Government's commitment to proceed with Fair Funding Review, a reset of the Business Rates Baseline and a move to 75% Business Rates Retention, all to be implemented by April 2020 and the likely consequences of this for Brent's future funding.
- (iii) Cabinet noted that the current funding assumptions savings of at least £30.3 million will be required in order to agree balanced budgets for 2019/20 and 2020/21
- (iv) Cabinet noted the Capital budgets and agreed the proposed 2017/18 capital budget carry forwards and capital virements set out in the report.
- (v) Cabinet agreed to allocate £1m to begin the process of developing and consulting upon investment options in the borough's more dilapidated physical infrastructure, financed by the Investment Strategy Reserve.

9. 2017/18 Financial Outturn and Statement of Accounts

Councillor Margaret McLennan, Deputy Leader of the Council, introduced the report setting out the current forecasts of income and expenditure against the revenue and capital budgets for 2017/18.

Councillor McLennan stated that the council's revenue outturn was within the budget set for 2017/18. There were overspends in some directorates, offset by underspends in other departments. This outturn shows that the effort being put into budget setting and review, and good financial management is working, and the council finished 2017/18 with in a robust financial position.

RESOLVED that Cabinet noted the overall financial outturn as set up in the report and accompanying appendix.

10. **Quarter 1 Financial Forecast 2018/19**

Councillor Margaret McLennan, Deputy Leader of the Council, introduced the report setting out the current forecasts of income and expenditure against the revenue budget for 2018/19 and other key financial data.

Councillor McLennan stated that, with the exception of the pressure against the Housing Association Leasing Scheme (HALS) budgets, the Council is on track to spend within its budget as set out below.

Councillor McLennan stated that this is not without risk, but to date identified risks can be addressed by offsetting against underspends and use of contingencies within the budget.

Councillor Muhammed Butt, Leader of the Council, urged Cabinet Members to monitor the budgets within each portfolio closely.

RESOLVED that Cabinet noted the overall financial position and the actions taken to manage the issues arising as set up in the report.

11. **Wembley Transport Improvements**

Cllr Shama Tatler, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning, introduced the report relating to the transport infrastructure improvement works identified within the adopted Wembley Area Action Plan (WAAP) that are required to ensure the ongoing success of, and investment in, the Wembley growth area.

Councillor Tatler stated that it relates to the funding and delivery process for highway improvements to support the current and planned for residential and commercial developments, enabling free flow of traffic within and through the area, and improvements to the public realm.

RESOLVED:

- (i) Cabinet approved the funding required to implement the schemes set out in paragraph 1.2 of the report and approve the procurement via OJEU Restricted Procedure for a contractor(s) to deliver the works.
- (ii) Cabinet approved delegated authority to the Strategic Director, Regeneration and Environment in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning to approve the pre tender considerations in accordance with Standing Order 89 and award and enter into agreement with contractors to carry out the required works.

12. **Harlesden Neighbourhood Plan - Consultation and Examination**

Cllr Shama Tatler, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning, introduced the report providing an overview of the process which Harlesden Neighbourhood Forum has followed in producing the draft Harlesden Neighbourhood Plan and a brief summary of its content.

Councillor Tatler stated that the report sets out the next stages that the Plan will have to go through to become part of the development plan.

Councillor Tatler stated that the report recommends the draft Plan is published for consultation for 6 weeks; that an independent examiner is appointed and subsequently the draft Plan is submitted along with responses received for examination.

RESOLVED:

(i) Cabinet agreed that:

- a) the draft Harlesden Neighbourhood Plan as set out in Appendix A of the report is published for public consultation for 6 weeks
- b) the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment be authorised to appoint an independent examiner in consultation with the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) and Neighbourhood Forum
- c) following public consultation, the draft Plan and representations received are submitted for independent examination
- d) that following receipt of the examiner's report that the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning, be authorised to publish the Council's decision notice, update the Harlesden Neighbourhood Plan, undertake a referendum and, subject to the outcome, that the Harlesden Neighbourhood Plan is made.

13. Exclusion of Press and Public

None.

14. Any Other Urgent Business

None.

The meeting ended at 4.38 pm

COUNCILLOR MUHAMMED BUTT
Chair