



## **LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT**

### **MINUTES OF THE CABINET Monday 18 June 2018 at 4.00 pm**

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

1. **Apologies for Absence**

None.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

None.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**RESOLVED:**

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 21 May 2018 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. **Matters Arising (if any)**

There were no matters arising.

5. **Petitions (if any)**

There were no petitions submitted to be considered by Cabinet.

6. **Private Housing Assistance Policy Amendments**

Councillor Ellie Southwood, Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform, introduced the report outlining its two purposes, the first was to ask Cabinet to allow amendment to be made to the Council's Private Housing Assistance Policy and the second was to give an explanation as to why the Council would like to make those changes.

Councillor Southwood stated that the Private Housing Assistance Policy gave the Council powers under the Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) (England and Wales) Order 2002 (RRO) to provide additional, more discretionary assistance grants rather than relying on Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) for the provision of adaptations to the homes of disabled residents.

In essence, Councillor Southwood stated that it was the Council's intention to introduce additional and amend existing discretionary grants in order to improve independence and wellbeing for vulnerable and disabled Brent residents and prevent wider system demand on hospital, council and residential/community care services.

Councillor Southwood stated that these proposed changes to the RRO allowed for an even more customer centred approach to be taken. This would see residents helped more quickly and with more bespoke services, irrespective of what tenure they lived in.

**RESOLVED:**

- 6.1 That Cabinet approved the revisions to Brent's Private Housing Assistance Policy attached as Appendix A in relation to the following new and improved services, these being:
- i. The introduction of the Discretionary Disability Adaptations Grant (DDAG);
  - ii. The improvement of the current Small Works Grant (SWG);
  - iii. The introduction of the Spend to Save Grant (SSG);
  - iv. The introduction of the Hospital Discharge Assistance Service (HDAS);
  - v. The introduction of the Acute Handyperson Service (AHAS).
- 6.2 That Cabinet granted delegated authority to the Strategic Director Community Wellbeing to make any necessary minor typographical/graphical amendments to the Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy prior to its publication.

**7. Shopfronts Supplementary Planning Document (SPD3) Adoption**

Councillor Shama Tatler, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning, introduced the report stating that the paper outlined the consultation responses received between 1 February 2018 and 15 March 2018 on the draft Shopfronts Supplementary Planning Document (SPD3).

The consultation responses received had resulted in some minor amendments, with revised text now providing clearer guidance. When adopted by Cabinet the document would replace the existing Brent Shop fronts and shop signs (SPG7) adopted in 2003, which would need to be revoked.

**RESOLVED:**

- 7.1 That Cabinet approved the proposed amendments as set out in Appendix 1 and adopted the Shopfronts Supplementary Planning Document (SPD3) as set out in Appendix 2.
- 7.2 That Cabinet revoked the existing Brent Shop fronts and shop signs ('SPG7') adopted in 2003.

**8. Air quality improvement measures: Electric vehicle charging infrastructure – Cabinet variation report**

Councillor Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Environment, introduced the report. She stated that the recommendations sought approval to amend the procurement process as previously agreed by Cabinet on 15 January 2018.

As detailed in the report to Cabinet on 15 January 2018, officers were working on three separate electric vehicle charging infrastructure projects in order to provide a range of appropriate charging facilities to meet the demand for electric vehicle infrastructure by residents and businesses in Brent.

Councillor Sheth stated that Brent Council had received £150,000 of funding from London's Go Ultra Low Cities Scheme (GULCS) towards 75% of the capital costs of procuring and installing charge points for electric vehicles in lamp columns in streets where residents did not have access to off-street parking. These installations were necessary to allow residents the option of charging their electric vehicles overnight and close to home which is an important factor in encouraging more residents to purchase electric vehicles. To date, 50 requests from residents had been received for on-street charging facilities. The Council's £50,000 match funding for this project was being sourced from S106 developer contributions in specific wards, Neighbourhood CIL and TfL Local Implementation Plan Funding.

**RESOLVED:**

- 8.1 That Cabinet noted the reason as set out in paragraph 4.2 as to why the procurement process in respect of the supply, installation, maintenance and operation of charge points in lamp columns for electric vehicles on residential streets in Brent could not proceed as agreed by Cabinet on 15 January 2018;
- 8.2 That Cabinet approved the procurement of the supply, installation, maintenance and operation of charge points in lamp columns for electric vehicles on residential streets in Brent from TfL's Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Framework Agreement; and
- 8.3 That Cabinet delegated authority to the Strategic Director Regeneration and Environment, in consultation with the Lead Member for Environment, to authorise an alternative procurement process for the supply, installation, maintenance and operation of charge points in lamp columns for electric vehicles should the TfL Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Framework Agreement be delayed in its set up or fails to address Brent Council's needs for the reasons set out in paragraph 4.9.

**9. Exclusion of Press and Public**

None.

**10. Any Other Urgent Business**

None.

The meeting ended at 4.15 pm

COUNCILLOR MUHAMMED BUTT  
Chair