

**London Borough of Brent
Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet
on Monday 11 February 2019**

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

ABSENT: Councillors Miller and Krupa Sheth

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Ahmed and Long

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
1.	Apologies for Absence		Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Krupa Sheth and Miller.
3.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting		RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 January 2019 be agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.
7.	New Bridge Park Centre	Stonebridge	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Cabinet approved the New Bridge Park Centre provision on the retained site as per the table referenced in paragraph 3.17 of the report from the Strategic Director of Community and Wellbeing. ii) Cabinet agreed that any land receipt from the sale proceeds of the current Bridge Park site will be used to provide the significantly enhanced community and leisure facilities in the New Bridge Park Centre in response to the community consultation. iii) Cabinet noted that separate budget provision would be sought for

London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 February 2019 (continued)

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
			<p>the NAIL housing and enterprise space as part of the capital budget setting process.</p> <p>iv) Cabinet delegated authority to the Strategic Director of Resources in consultation with the Lead Member for Resources to agree the changes needed to the Conditional Land Sale Agreement to deliver the enhanced facilities.</p> <p>v) Cabinet delegated authority to the Strategic Director of Community and Wellbeing in consultation with the Lead Member for Public Health, Culture & Leisure to agree the final design for the New Bridge Park Centre.</p> <p>vi) Cabinet agreed that consultation is to take place in relation to any transitional arrangement for the existing Bridge Park Community Leisure Centre and opening of the New Bridge Park Centre.</p> <p>vii) Cabinet agreed that the retained site be appropriated for planning purposes in accordance with section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972.</p> <p>viii) Cabinet delegated authority to the Strategic Director of Community and Wellbeing in consultation with the Lead Member for Public Health, Culture & Leisure to set up a resident advisory group as described in paragraph 3.26 of the report from the Strategic Director of Community and Wellbeing.</p>
8.	Borough Plan 2019-2023	All Wards	RESOLVED that the Cabinet agreed the Borough Plan and Delivery Plan as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report from the Director of Performance, Policy & Partnerships, for adoption in April 2019.

London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 February 2019 (continued)

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
9.	Budget and Council Tax 2019/20 – 2020/21	All Wards	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Cabinet agreed to recommend to full council an overall 4.99% increase in the Council’s element of council tax for 2019/20 with 2% as a precept for Adult Social Care and a 2.99% general increase. ii) Cabinet agreed to recommend to full council the General Fund revenue budget for 2019/20, as summarised in Appendix A to the report from the Chief Finance Officer. iii) Cabinet noted the cost pressures and technical adjustments detailed in Appendix B to the report from the Chief Finance Officer. iv) Cabinet noted the savings detailed in Appendix C to the report from the Chief Finance Officer. v) Cabinet delegated authority to the Chief Finance Officer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) agree (in consultation with the Leader) whether to participate in the London Business Rates Pool and pilots for subsequent years (noting that in this case the authority’s executive administrative function as a billing authority pursuant to the Non-Domestic Rating (Rates Retention) Regulations 2013 will remain delegated to the City of London Corporation, as the Lead Authority); and b) agree the operational details of the pooling arrangements with the participating authorities for

London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 February 2019 (continued)

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
			<p align="center">2019/20 and any subsequent years and enter into any Memorandum of Understanding required.</p> <p>vi) Cabinet agreed that the Leader of the Council would continue to represent the authority in relation to consultations regarding the London Business Rates Pilot Pool undertaken by the Lead Authority pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding and he would respond to the consultations.</p> <p>vii) Cabinet noted the report of the Budget Scrutiny Panel provided at Appendix D to the report from the Chief Finance Officer.</p> <p>viii) Cabinet agreed to set the HRA budget for 2019/20, as set out in section eight of the report from the Chief Finance Officer.</p> <p>ix) Cabinet agreed to set the HRA rents for council dwellings, tenant service charges and garages, as set out in section eight of the report from the Chief Finance Officer.</p> <p>x) Cabinet agreed to set the major works and new build development budgets set for 2019/20 and 2020/21, as set out in section eight of this report.</p> <p>xi) Cabinet agreed to set the rents set under the Housing General Fund for Brent Housing PFI and traveller’s site pitches and to note the rents for Hillside dwellings as set out in section eight of this report.</p>

London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 February 2019 (continued)

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1193 391 2016 454">xii) Cabinet noted the Dedicated Schools Grant as set out in section nine of the report from the Chief Finance Officer. <li data-bbox="1193 494 2038 590">xiii) Cabinet agreed to recommend to full council the capital programme as set out in Appendix E to the report from the Chief Finance Officer <li data-bbox="1193 630 2072 758">xiv) Cabinet agreed to recommend to full council the Treasury Management Strategy, Capital Strategy, Investment Strategy and MRP Policy as set out in Appendices F, G, H and I to the report from the Chief Finance Officer. <li data-bbox="1193 798 2049 893">xv) Cabinet noted the advice of the Director of Legal and HR as set out in Appendix J to the report from the Chief Finance Officer. <li data-bbox="1193 933 2060 1061">xvi) Cabinet agreed to agreed, and where relevant agree to recommend to full council, the schedule of fees and charges set out at in Appendix K to the report from the Chief Finance Officer. <li data-bbox="1193 1101 2072 1173">xvii) Cabinet noted the results of consultation as set out in section 7 and detailed in Appendix L.
10.	Authority to award stage two contract for the redevelopment of Knowles House London NW10 3UN	Kensal Green	<p data-bbox="1120 1204 1344 1236">RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1164 1268 2060 1364">i) Cabinet provided approval to trigger the entry into the contract for Stage Two of the Two Stage design and build contract for the redevelopment of Knowles House to Wates Residential Ltd.

London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 February 2019 (continued)

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii) Cabinet noted the budget for the redevelopment of Knowles House as set out in Appendix 2 to the report from the Strategic Director of Resources. iii) Cabinet noted that the redevelopment of this site would reduce the number of people in unsuitable temporary accommodation in Brent.
11.	National Non Domestic Rates – to approve discretionary rate relief schemes for 2019/20	All Wards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Cabinet approved the Discretionary Discount Scheme (Revaluation Support) for 2019/20 and 2020/21 as detailed in sections 3.1 to 3.9 and in Appendix 1 of the report from the Strategic Director of Resources, pursuant to the Council’s powers under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 as amended. ii) Cabinet approved the Discretionary Discount Scheme (Retail Rate Relief) for 2019/20 and 2020/21 as detailed in sections 3.10 to 3.13 and in Appendix 2 of the report from the Strategic Director of Resources pursuant to the Council’s powers under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 as amended. iii) Cabinet delegated authority to the Chief Finance Officer to implement the two schemes as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report from the Strategic Director of Resources, so that the agreed discretionary discounts for business rates can be awarded in compliance with the schemes criteria.
12.	Council Tax – Empty Homes premium	All Wards	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Cabinet agreed that the council increase the council tax premium from 50% to 100% from 1 April 2019 in respect of domestic properties that have been empty for longer than 2 years.

London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 February 2019 (continued)

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii) Cabinet agreed that the council increase the council tax premium to 200% from 1 April 2020 in respect of domestic properties that have been empty for longer than 5 years. iii) Cabinet agreed that the council increase the council tax premium to 300% from 1 April 2021 in respect of domestic properties that have been empty for longer than 10 years.
13.	Contingency planning for the Council Tax Service: Authorisation of Third Parties to Make Decisions for Council Tax Functions	All Wards	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Cabinet authorised a third party service provider to make decisions relating to Council Tax matters for the purposes set out within the report from the Strategic Director of Resources where the appropriate approvals have been obtained in compliance with Council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. ii) Cabinet delegated authority to the Strategic Director of Resources in consultation with the Lead Member to authorise a third party service provider to make decisions relating to Council Tax for any other specific and ad-hoc purposes that might arise subsequent to the circumstances set out within the report from the Strategic Director of Resources, subject to the appropriate approvals being obtained in compliance with Council standing orders and financial regulations.
14.	Expansion of Uxendon Manor & Elsley Primary Schools - Design & Build Contract Update		<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Cabinet noted the current status and contractual position with Lakehouse Contracts Ltd on the two design and build contracts for Uxendon Manor Primary School and for Elsley Primary School.

London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 February 2019 (continued)

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1167 391 2085 486">ii) Cabinet noted the activities being undertaken to secure completion of the works at Uxendon Manor Primary School under the Parent Company Guarantee. <li data-bbox="1167 526 2085 758">iii) Cabinet delegated authority to the Strategic Director of Resources in consultation with the Director of Legal and HR Services and Chief Finance Officer to terminate the high value works contract for Uxendon Manor Primary School in the event that reliance on the Parent Company Guarantee is not practicable or Officers conclude reliance on the Parent Company Guarantee/s is not in the Council's interest. <li data-bbox="1167 798 2085 965">iv) Cabinet noted that officers were reviewing procurement options for the outstanding works at both schools should it not be practicable or appropriate to secure further works under the Parent Company Guarantee at Uxendon Manor Primary School or under the existing contract at Elsley Primary School. <li data-bbox="1167 1005 2085 1173">v) Cabinet approved the waiving of contract standing orders to permit a quote process or direct award to select an alternative contractor for Uxendon Manor Primary School and for Elsley Primary School should other procurement options not permit works to be completed by September 2019. <li data-bbox="1167 1204 2085 1340">vi) Cabinet noted that subject to recommendation v) above, the Strategic Director of Resources would approve the award of one or more Low and/or Medium Value Works Contracts should it be required using powers delegated under the Constitution. <li data-bbox="1167 1372 2085 1404">vii) Cabinet noted that Officers would review options for the recovery of

London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 February 2019 (continued)

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
			any wasted or additional costs against Lakehouse Contracts Limited and/or parent company as described in Appendix 1 to the report from the Strategic Director of Resources.
15.	Business Rates Relief Scheme for businesses accredited with the Living Wage Foundation	All Wards	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Cabinet approved the continuation of a discretionary business rates discount scheme for businesses accredited with the London Living Wage Foundation, using the qualifying criteria set out in Appendix A to the report from the Strategic Director of Regeneration & Environment. ii) Cabinet approved the continuation of the scheme for a four year period from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2023. iii) Cabinet approved the introduction of a cap on the maximum discount a business can receive, in line with Option 2 detailed in paragraphs 3.19 - 3.20 of the report from the Strategic Director of Regeneration & Environment , and that the cap be set at £15,000 to guard against the Foundation increasing their costs again and large businesses being eligible for a higher discount. iv) Cabinet noted that officers in Employment, Skills, and Enterprise and Customer Services would monitor the scheme in terms of take up and costs and would report back to Cabinet at a later date should any changes to the scheme be required.
16.	Establishment of Operational Director Post	All Wards	RESOLVED that Cabinet approved the establishment of the post of Operational Director – Regeneration, Growth and Employment as part of a restructure.
17.	i4B Business Plan 2019/20	All Wards	RESOLVED that:

London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 February 2019 (continued)

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Cabinet approved the Business Plan as set out in appendix 1 to the report from the Chief Executive. ii) Cabinet agreed to increase the proportion of properties purchased in Brent and Greater London. iii) Cabinet agreed to the proposal for the realignment of agreed funding which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increasing the budget for PRS Phase 1 from the approved £103.5m to £109m. • Changing the PRS Phase 2 budget from £116m to £110.5m. • Making £24m of the £110.5m available for the street properties and making £86m available for the purchase of new build properties • Total agreed funding remains the same at £254.5m. iv) Cabinet approved the increase of the Company’s cash flow facility from £3.5m to £4.0m. v) Cabinet approved the Rent Collection and Arrears Management policy as set out in appendix 2 to the report from the Chief Executive. vi) Cabinet approved the updated financial model.
18.	First Wave Housing Business Plan 2019/20	All Wards	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Cabinet approved the Business Plan as set out in appendix 1 to of the report from the Chief Executive. ii) Cabinet agreed to the proposal for FWH to have the flexibility to consider

London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 February 2019 (continued)

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
			<p>the product and rent level for each portfolio property on its re-let.</p> <p>iii) Cabinet agreed to the proposal for the Council’s asset management team to create a maintenance plan detailing the investment required to repair its stock.</p> <p>iv) Cabinet delegated authority to the Chief Finance Officer to agree terms for the disposal of the four properties as outlined in paragraph 3.9 of the report from the Chief Executive.</p>