



LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

MINUTES OF THE CABINET

Held as an online virtual meeting on Thursday 28 May 2020 at 4.00 pm

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Harbi Farah (Lead Member of Adult Social Care), Carolyn Downs (Chief Executive) and Phil Porter (Strategic Director, Community Wellbeing who was represented by Hakeem Osinaike Operational Director - Housing).

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Amar Agaha declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 7 – National Non-Domestic Rates: Applications for Discretionary Rate Relief as one of the Council's appointed representatives on the South Kilburn Trust.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 20 April 2020 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising (if any)

None.

5. Petitions (if any)

None.

6. Reference of item considered by Scrutiny Committees (if any)

None.

7. National Non-Domestic Rates – Applications for Discretionary Rate Relief

Councillor Margaret McLennan (Deputy Leader) introduced the report detailing the new applications received for discretionary National Non-Domestic Rate relief from charitable and non-profit making organisations. Cabinet noted the existing policy and criteria upon which the award of discretionary rate relief was based (as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report), along with details of the applications received, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report. Members were also keen to recognise the valued service and support being provided by charitable and non-profit making

organisations across the borough as part of the co-ordinated emergency response to Covid 19.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approve the applications for discretionary rate relief in respect of National Non-Domestic Rate liability, as set out and detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.

8. **Authority to Award Contracts for the Purchase of Gas and Electricity (October 2020 to September 2022)**

Councillor Margaret McLennan (Deputy Leader) introduced the report seeking approval to award contracts for the supply of electricity and gas for a two-year period from the LASER Framework. Cabinet noted that the two-year timeframe had been designed to enable the Council to focus its efforts on reducing energy usage and to explore innovative ways of seeking to reduce its carbon footprint whilst closely following developments in the energy market as part of the wider focus on Brent's Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:

- (1) approve the award of a contract for the supply of electricity to NPower Limited for two years as from 1st October 2020 via a call-off from LASER Framework Y18003,
- (2) approve the award of a contract for the supply of gas to Total Gas and Power for two years from 1st October 2020 via a call-off from the LASER Framework Y18002; and
- (3) approve, alternatively to the recommendations at (1) and (2) above, the award of contracts for gas and electricity to the next ranked Suppliers on Lot 1 of each of the Frameworks referred to in section 5 of the report, if NPower Limited or Total Gas and Power cannot, or do not accept the offer of a Council contract. Such award shall be in accordance with the offer and award process described in section 5 of the report;
- (4) approve the Council's entry into an Access Agreement with Kent County Council referred to in section 5 of the report, to enable its participation and purchase of gas and electricity from the Frameworks referred to in (1) and (2) above.

9. **Exclusion of Press and Public**

There were no items that required the exclusion of the press or public.

10. **Any other urgent business**

None.

The meeting ended at 4.11 pm

COUNCILLOR MUHAMMED BUTT
Chair