

London Borough of Brent – Summary of decisions taken by the Full Council (Budget Setting) meeting on Thursday 24 February 2022

PRESENT: Councillors Colacicco (Mayor), Aden (Deputy Mayor), Afzal, Agha, Ahmed, Akram, M.Butt, S.Butt, Chan, Chappell, Choudhary, Choudry, Colwill, Conneely, Daly, Dar, Dixon, Ethapemi, Ezeajughi, Farah, Gbajumo, Georgiou, Grahl, Hassan, Hirani, Hylton, Johnson, Kabir, Kansagra, Kelcher, Kennelly, Knight, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, Maurice, McLeish, McLennan, Miller, Mitchell-Murray, Naheerathan, Nerva, M.Patel, Sangani, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stephens, Tatler and Thakkar.

Agenda Item No	Item	Decision
1	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chohan, Crane, Denselow, Donnelly-Jackson, Hector, Lloyd, Lo, Ramesh Patel, Perrin & Shah.
2	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	AGREED that the minutes of the previous Full Council meeting held on Monday 22 November 2021 be approved as a correct record.
3	Declarations of Interest	No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.
4	Mayor's Announcements (including any petitions received)	<p>Prior to the Mayor's formal announcements Council considered and unanimously AGREED a statement tabled at the meeting condemning the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine and expressing solidarity with all those affected living within Ukraine.</p> <p>Announcements from the Mayor were then noted in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Years Honours List 2022 • Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Day event 2022 • Tributes and thanks expressed to councillors not standing in the May 2022 borough elections • Mayor's Charity Gala Dinner • Relaunch of Community Grants Schemes • Petitions
5	Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies and Appointment	AGREED the following changes in the membership of Committees & Outside Bodies:

London Borough of Brent – Summary of decisions taken by the Full Council (Budget Setting) meeting on Thursday 24 February 2022

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	of Chairs/Vice Chairs (if any)	<p>(1) Councillor Mili Patel to be replaced as a full member and Chair of the Corporate Parenting Committee by Councillor McLennan (with Council having noted her appointment as Interim Lead Member for Children’s Safeguarding, Early Help and Social Care).</p> <p>(2) Councillor Mitchell-Murray to be replaced as a full member of the Brent Pension Fund Sub Committee by a vacancy. (NB this will be subject to confirmation by General Purposes Committee on 7 March 22).</p> <p>(3) Councillor Mitchell- Murray to be replaced as a substitute member on both the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee and Audit & Standards Committee by a vacancy.</p>
6	Budget and Council Tax 2022/2023	<p>Council RESOLVED to:</p> <p>(1) Agree an overall 2.99% increase in the Council’s element of Council Tax for 2022/23, with 1% as a precept for Adult Social Care and a 1.99% general increase.</p> <p>(2) Agree the General Fund revenue budget for 2022/23, as summarised in Appendices A and B of the report.</p> <p>(3) Agree the savings proposals for 2022/23, as set out in Appendix C of the report.</p> <p>(4) Note the report from the Budget Scrutiny Panel in Appendix D of the report.</p> <p>(5) Agree the HRA budget for 2022/23, as set out in section seven of the report.</p>

London Borough of Brent – Summary of decisions taken by the Full Council (Budget Setting) meeting on Thursday 24 February 2022

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		<p>(6) Agree the Dedicated Schools Grant, as set out in section eight of the report.</p> <p>(7) Agree the changes to the existing Capital Programme in relation to additions of new schemes and reprofiling, as set out in section 10 of the report and Appendix E, and note the Capital Pipeline Schemes in Appendix F of the report.</p> <p>(8) Agree the Capital Strategy, the Investment Strategy, the Treasury Management Strategy and the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement as set out in Appendices G, H, I and J of the report.</p> <p>(9) Agree the Reserves Strategy and schedule of reserves, as set out in Appendix K of the report.</p> <p>(10) Note the action plan to implement CIPFA’s Financial Management Code, as set out in Appendix L of the report.</p> <p>(11) Agree the schedule of fees and charges, as set out in Appendix M of the report.</p> <p>(12) Note the results of the budget consultation, as set out in section six and detailed in Appendix N of the report.</p> <p>(13) Note the advice of the Director of Legal, HR, Audit and Investigations, as set out in Appendix O of the report.</p> <p>(14) Agree the Pay Policy Statement for 2022/23, as set out in Appendix P of the report.</p> <p>Council Tax recommendations</p>

London Borough of Brent – Summary of decisions taken by the Full Council (Budget Setting) meeting on Thursday 24 February 2022

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		<p>(15) As a result of confirmation having been received on the final GLA precept in advance of the recommendations being put to the vote at the Council meeting it was agreed in relation to the Council Tax for 2022/23:</p> <p>That the following amounts be now calculated as the Council’s element by the Council for the year 2022/23 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended:</p> <p>(a) £1,067,562,055 being the aggregate of the amount that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act.</p> <p>(b) £927,416,795 being the aggregate of the amounts that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.</p> <p>(c) £140,145,260 being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year.</p> <p>(d) £1,419.48 being the amount at (c) above, divided by the amount for the tax base of 98,730, agreed by the General Purposes Committee on the 6 December 2021, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.</p> <p>(e) Valuation Bands</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="875 1321 2040 1394"> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>B</td> <td>C</td> <td>D</td> <td>E</td> <td>F</td> <td>G</td> <td>H</td> </tr> </table>	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
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		<p>(16) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of council tax for the year 2022/23 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:</p> <p align="center">Valuation Bands</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th align="center">A</th> <th align="center">B</th> <th align="center">C</th> <th align="center">D</th> <th align="center">E</th> <th align="center">F</th> <th align="center">G</th> <th align="center">H</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td align="center">£</td> <td align="center">£</td> <td align="center">£</td> <td align="center">£</td> <td align="center">£</td> <td align="center">£</td> <td align="center">£</td> <td align="center">£</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center">1,210.05</td> <td align="center">1,411.72</td> <td align="center">1,613.40</td> <td align="center">1,815.07</td> <td align="center">2,218.42</td> <td align="center">2,621.77</td> <td align="center">3,025.12</td> <td align="center">3,630.14</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(18) That it be noted that the Director of Finance has determined that the Council element of the basic amount of Council Tax for 2022/23 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.</p> <p>(a) That the Director of Finance be and is hereby authorised to give due notice of the said Council Tax in the manner provided by Section 38(2) of the 1992 Act.</p> <p>(b) That the Director of Finance be and is hereby authorised when necessary to apply for a summons against any Council Tax payer or non-domestic ratepayer on whom an account for the said tax or rate and any arrears has been duly served and who has failed to pay the amounts due to take all subsequent necessary action to recover them promptly.</p> <p>(c) That the Director of Finance be and is hereby authorised to collect</p>	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	1,210.05	1,411.72	1,613.40	1,815.07	2,218.42	2,621.77	3,025.12	3,630.14
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		<p align="center">revenues and distribute monies from the Collection Fund and is authorised to borrow or to lend money in accordance with the regulations to the maximum benefit of each fund.</p> <p>In accordance with Standing Order 43, as the above decisions related to the setting of the budget and Council Tax they were subject to a recorded vote.</p> <p>Prior to the above recommendations being approved, the alternative budget proposals moved as amendments to the budget report by the Conservative Group were put to the vote and declared LOST.</p> <p>The voting recorded on the amendment moved by the Conservative Group was as follows:</p> <p>For the Amendment (3): Councillors Colwill, Kansagra and Maurice</p> <p>Against the Amendment (45): Councillors Afzal, Agha, Ahmed, Akram, M.Butt, S.Butt, Chan, Chappell, S Choudhary, Choudry, Conneely, Daly, Dar, Dixon, Ethapemi, Ezeajughi, Farah, Gbajumo, Georgiou, Grahl, Hassan, Hirani, Hylton, Johnson, Kabir, Kelcher, Kennelly, Knight, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, McLeish, McLennan, Miller, Naheerathan, Nerva, M.Patel, Sangani, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stephens, Tatler and Thakkar</p> <p>Abstentions to the Amendment (3): Councillors Colacicco (Mayor), Aden (Deputy Mayor) & Mitchell-Murray.</p> <p>The substantive recommendations, as detailed above, were then put to the vote and declared CARRIED. The voting recorded was as follows:</p>

London Borough of Brent – Summary of decisions taken by the Full Council (Budget Setting) meeting on Thursday 24 February 2022

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		<p>For (44): Councillors Afzal, Agha, Ahmed, Akram, M.Butt, S.Butt, Chan, Chappell, S Choudhary, Choudry, Conneely, Daly, Dar, Dixon, Ethapemi, Ezeajughi, Farah, Gbajumo, Grahl, Hassan, Hirani, Hylton, Johnson, Kabir, Kelcher, Kennelly, Knight, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, McLeish, McLennan, Miller, Naheerathan, Nerva, M.Patel, Sangani, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stephens, Tatler and Thakkar.</p> <p>Against (4): Councillors Colwill, Georgiou, Kansagra and Maurice</p> <p>Abstentions to the Amendment (3): Councillors Colacicco (Mayor), Aden (Deputy Mayor) & Mitchell-Murray.</p>
7	Auditor's Annual Report on the London Borough of Brent	Council RESOLVED to note the external auditor's annual report on value for money as part of the 2020/21 audit of the year end accounts.
8	Brent Local Plan 2022 Adoption	<p>Council RESOLVED, having considered the report of the Inspectors appointed to examine the draft Brent Local Plan, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report:</p> <p>(1) To approve the proposed schedule of 'main' modifications recommended as set out in Appendix 2 of the report as necessary by the Inspectors to make the draft Brent Local Plan capable of being found sound.</p> <p>(2) To approve non-main modifications to the draft Brent Local Plan as shown in Appendix 3 of the report and modifications to the draft Brent Local Plan Policies Map as shown in Appendix 4 of the report.</p> <p>(3) To adopt the Brent Local Plan 2022 as set out within Appendix 5 of the report incorporating the draft Local Plan submitted for examination with modifications set</p>

London Borough of Brent – Summary of decisions taken by the Full Council (Budget Setting) meeting on Thursday 24 February 2022

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		<p>out in Appendices 2 and 3 of the report, and also the associated policies map within Appendix 6 of the report that will incorporate modifications as set out in Appendix 4 of the report.</p> <p>(4) To revoke the Brent Core Strategy 2010, Brent Site Allocations Development Plan Document 2011, the Wembley Area Action Plan 2015 and the Development Management Policies Plan 2016 so that they are no longer considered Development Plan Documents for the purposes of determining planning applications within the area that the Council remains the Local Planning Authority and also their associated policies map</p> <p>(5) To delegate authority to the Strategic Director Regeneration and Environment in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Property and Planning to make any further necessary minor modifications and confirm the final format of the printed Brent Local Plan 2022.</p>
9	External Audit Appointment for 2023/24 to 2028/29	Council RESOLVED to accept Public Sector Audit Appointments' invitation to opt into the sector-led option for the appointment of external auditors to principal local government and police bodies for five financial years from 1 April 2023.
10	Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2021-2022	Council RESOLVED to note the 2021-22 Mid-Year Treasury report in compliance with CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code).
11	Members' Allowance Scheme Annual Review (including changes to Dependants' Carers' Allowance; and Maternity, Paternity, Adoption and Sickness Pay)	<p>Council RESOLVED:</p> <p>(1) To approve the changes to the Members' Allowance Scheme proposed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report which update and clarify the Council's support for councillors with caring responsibilities in relation to a) dependants' carers' allowance and b) maternity, paternity, adoption and sickness pay.</p>

London Borough of Brent – Summary of decisions taken by the Full Council (Budget Setting) meeting on Thursday 24 February 2022

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		<p>(2) To make a Members Allowance Scheme in the proposed terms set out in this report for the Financial Year 2022/23.</p> <p>(3) To note that a further detailed review of the level of allowances payable under the Scheme will be undertaken by Constitution Working Group following which further changes to the Scheme may be recommended to Council.</p> <p>(4) To authorise the Director of Legal, HR Audit & Investigations to comply with the statutory requirements to publicise the Council’s Members’ Allowance Scheme.</p>
12	Urgent Business	<p>In accordance with Standing Order 30(s) Council were advised that the Mayor had agreed to deal with the following as an urgent item on the grounds that there was a requirement for the Council to amend its Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2022/23 in order take account of the Energy Rebate Scheme as prescribed by the Government.</p> <p>12.1 Council Tax Reduction Scheme Amendment for 2022/23 – Energy Rebate Grant</p> <p>Council RESOLVED:</p> <p>(1) To approve the amended Council Tax Reduction Scheme for the 2022/23 financial year as set out in Appendix A to the report to take effect from 1 April 2022.</p> <p>(2) To note that the change to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for the 2022/23 as prescribed by central government was as follows:</p>

London Borough of Brent – Summary of decisions taken by the Full Council (Budget Setting) meeting on Thursday 24 February 2022

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		<p>(a) any payment made under the Energy Rebate Scheme 2022 is to be disregarded in determining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) an applicant’s entitlement to a reduction under the scheme; or (ii) the amount of any reduction under the scheme. <p>(3) To note that the Energy Rebate of £150 would be paid whether or not a resident was in receipt of Council Tax Support.</p>