

**London Borough of Brent**  
**Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet held in the Conference Hall, Brent Civic Centre on Monday 11**  
**March 2024 at 10am**

PRESENT: Councillor Muhammed Butt (Chair), Councillor Mili Patel (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Donnelly-Jackson, Farah, Grahl, Knight, Nerva, Krupa Sheth and Tatler.

Agenda Item No	Item	Ward(s)	Decision
1.	Apologies for Absence		<p>Councillor Muhammed Butt (Leader of Council) formally welcomed Councillor Mili Patel back in her role as Vice-Chair, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources &amp; Reform and Cabinet Vice-Chair, following her return from maternity leave.</p> <p>The opportunity was also taken to thank Councillor Tatler for the work undertaken and support in covering Councillor Mili Patel's portfolio as Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Reform.</p> <p>No apologies for absence were received.</p>
2.	Declarations of Interest		No declarations of interest were made during the meeting.
3.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting		<p>Cabinet RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 5 February 2024 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: <b>No</b></p>
4.	Matters Arising (if any)		None.
5.	Petitions (if any)		No petitions were submitted for consideration at the meeting.

**London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 March 2024 (continued)**

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6.	Reference of item considered by Scrutiny Committees (if any)		There were no items referred from either the Community Wellbeing or Resources & Public Realm Scrutiny Committees.
7.	i4B Holdings Ltd Business Plan 2024 - 25	All Wards	<p>Cabinet noted the introductory comments made by Andrew Hudson (as Chair of the i4B and First Wave Housing (FWH) Ltd Boards) in presenting the i4B and FWH Business Plans who began by outlining the nature of the current challenges faced in relation to the performance of both companies as a housing service, which included rent collection during a cost-of-living crisis; building safety; pressure from disrepair claims as well as longer term issues such as working towards net zero.</p> <p>In focussing on priorities moving forward he highlighted the work being undertaken to tackle voids (including minor void performance), which included looking for best practice as well as further activity to streamline processes, and other housing management issues which had included establishing closer links between staff and the areas they covered in order to develop a more holistic approach and relationship with tenants and the Board continuing to closely monitor levels of tenant satisfaction.</p> <p>In terms of strategic challenges, he advised members that they key focus remained on seeking to maximise the Boards contribution to the Council’s wider priorities, with a specific focus in supporting the work being undertaken to tackle the demand for housing and increasing levels of homelessness. As part of this approach, the Board had identified workstreams over the coming year aiming to</p>

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			<p>increase i4Bs level of stock (utilising the rise in Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates and increased price cap supported by discussions with the Council on the potential draw down of further funding) with initial activity focussed around the acquisition of 3-4 bed houses in the North West of the borough above the North Circular Road and small blocks as well as supporting tenants to move through i4B. In terms of the support to tenants, members were advised of the work already being undertaken with BEAM as a partner organisation to provide specific employment support alongside the focus in developing wider packages of support for tenants.</p> <p>In recognising the challenges outlined alongside current performance and welcoming the approach adopted in relation to the strategic priorities identified by i4B, Cabinet RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) To approve the 2024-25 i4B Holdings Ltd Business Plan and financial model as Shareholder of the Company.</li> <li>(2) To approve the 2024-25 Service Level Agreement between i4B Holdings Ltd and the Council.</li> </ol> <p>Eligible for call-in: <b>Yes</b></p> <p>Deadline for submission of call-in: <b>6pm on Monday 18 March 24</b></p>
8.	First Wave Housing Ltd (FWH)		Having noted the introductory comments made by Andrew Hudson

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	Business Plan 2024 - 25		<p>(as Chair of the i4B and First Wave Housing (FWH) Ltd Boards) under the previous item including the focus of FWH (working with the Council) in seeking to maximise the opportunities identified through any additional streams of grant funding, Cabinet RESOLVED:</p> <p>(1) To approve the 2024-25 First Wave Housing Ltd Business Plan and financial model as Guarantor of the Company.</p> <p>(2) To approve the 2024-25 Service Level Agreement between First Wave Housing Ltd and the Council.</p> <p>Eligible for call-in: <b>Yes</b></p> <p>Deadline for submission of call-in: <b>6pm on Monday 18 March 24</b></p>
9.	Future of Housing Repairs Service Update		<p>Cabinet RESOLVED</p> <p>(1) To approve an extension to the current housing repairs service contract with Wates, for a period of six months, with the possibility of extension for a further six months for the reasons set out in paragraphs 5.1 and 5.2 of the report.</p> <p>(2) To approve the outline pre-tender considerations set out in Section 6 of the report.</p> <p>(3) To approve the new timetable for future repairs delivery actions</p>

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			<p>as set out at paragraph 5.3 of the report.</p> <p>(4) To approve the proposal that the final cost/quality split be agreed by the Corporate Director, Resident Services, in consultation with the Corporate Director, Finance and Resources.</p> <p>Eligible for call-in: <b>Yes</b></p> <p>Deadline for submission of call-in: <b>6pm on Monday 18 March 24</b></p>
10.	Amendment to the Procurement of the Framework Agreement For Housing Refurbishment Works	All Wards	<p>Cabinet RESOLVED:</p> <p>(1) To note the proposed amendments to the procurement of a framework agreement for Housing Refurbishment Works as set out in paragraph 4.4 of the report to include the increases of Lots from 6 to 16, the amendment to annual framework value and the extension of the framework term from four to ten years compared to that detailed in the Cabinet Report dated 12 October 2020 requesting Authority to Tender for Framework Agreements for Housing Refurbishment Works and Technical Consultancy Services.</p> <p>(2) To note that the amended framework for Housing Refurbishment Works will be available to call off by Council officers and contractors appointed in connection with replacement repairs, voids and planned maintenance works.</p>

**London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 March 2024 (continued)**

<b>Agenda Item No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Ward(s)</b>	<b>Decision</b>
			<p>(3) To approve inviting tenders for a framework agreement for Housing Refurbishment Works on the basis of the revised pre-tender considerations set out in paragraph 4.9 of the report.</p> <p>(4) To approves officers evaluating the tenders referred to in (3) above on the basis of the evaluation criteria set out in paragraph 4.9 of the report.</p> <p>(5) To approve reducing the number of Lots from seven to six for the framework agreement for Technical Consultancy Services as detailed in paragraph 4.1 of the report.</p> <p>(6) To approve the report in conjunction with the re-procurement of the repairs and maintenance service report (Item 9 above).</p> <p>Eligible for call-in: <b>Yes</b></p> <p>Deadline for submission of call-in: <b>6pm on Monday 18 March 24</b></p>
11.	Proposal to deliver 60 homes for Social Rent on the Chalk Hill Estate	Barnhill	<p>Cabinet RESOLVED:</p> <p>(1) To approve in principle the Council working with Metropolitan Thames Valley Housing Association (MTVH) to support the development objective of delivering new social housing within the Chalkhill Estate.</p>

**London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 11 March 2024 (continued)**

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			<p>(2) To approve in principle to make Compulsory Purchase Orders of land interests within the Chalkhill Estate as identified on Plan 1 under Planning or Housing legislation to bring forward the development objectives, subject to a further specific resolution of Cabinet in respect of the making of each order.</p> <p>(3) To agree advancing the preliminary stages of the compulsory purchase process on the Chalkhill Estate, including, but not limited to, land referencing, issuing section 16 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 notices (section 16 notices), engaging, consulting and negotiating with landowners, and preparation of documentation and undertake all matters that the Council might need to undertake to inform a further report to Cabinet to make, confirm and implement the CPO, if required.</p> <p>(4) To approve in principle to appropriate, subject to planning, the land identified on Plan 1 under section 203 of the 2016 Housing and Planning Act, subject to a further specific resolution of Cabinet in respect of the making of each appropriation.</p> <p>(5) To approve in principle to make stopping up orders using planning or highways legislation for any land identified on Plan 1 and comprising public highway.</p> <p>(6) To note the potential for the delivery of new social housing</p>

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			<p>illustrated by MTVH’s current design proposals and that the current proposal will be subject to further consultation, design refinement and following that be subject of an application for planning permission to the Local Planning Authority.</p> <p>(7) To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Resident Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, Homelessness and Renters Security to enter into an indemnity agreement with MTVH to indemnify the Council for all costs associated with the compulsory purchase process on Chalkhill Estate.</p> <p>Eligible for call-in: <b>Yes</b></p> <p>Deadline for submission of call-in: <b>6pm on Monday 18 March 24</b></p>
12.	Corporate Performance Report - Quarter 3 2023/24	All Wards	<p>Cabinet RESOLVED</p> <p>(1) To note the Borough Plan 2023-24 performance reporting for Q3 as set out in section 3 and Appendix A of the report.</p> <p>(2) To note the current and future strategic risks associated with the information provided and agree the remedial actions on strategic risks identified as appropriate alongside the challenge on progress being provided with responsible officers as necessary.</p>



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			Eligible for call-in: <b>Yes</b>  Deadline for submission of call-in: <b>6pm on Monday 18 March 24</b>
13.	Request for Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (SCIL) Allocation for Three Projects	Kingsbury; Northwick Park; Preston	Cabinet RESOLVED  (1) To approve the use of £600k of SCIL for the fit out of Preston Community Library.  (2) To approve the use of up to £3m of SCIL for the completion of the spine road at Northwick Park as part of the One Public Estate development.  (3) To approve the use of £500k of SCIL for the nursery development project at Grove Park Pavilion.  Eligible for call-in: <b>Yes</b>  Deadline for submission of call-in: <b>6pm on Monday 18 March 24</b>
14.	Provision of Microsoft Licences - for STS partner borough of Southwark	All Wards	Cabinet RESOLVED to approve the award of a contract for the provision of Microsoft Licences for the London Borough of Southwark to Bytes Software Services Limited for a term of three years in the estimated sum of £6,306,449.63.  Eligible for call-in: <b>Yes</b>

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			Deadline for submission of call-in: <b>6pm on Monday 18 March 24</b>
15.	Exclusion of Press and Public		There were no items that required the exclusion of the press or public.