

London Borough of Brent – Summary of Decisions taken by the Council held in the Conference Hall, Brent Civic Centre at 6:00pm on Monday 18 September 2023

PRESENT: Councillors Hylton (Mayor), Dar (Deputy Mayor), Aden, Afzal, Agha, Ahmed, Ahmadi-Moghaddam, Akram, Bajwa, Begum, Benea, M.Butt, S.Butt, Chan, Chappell, Chohan, Choudry, Collymore, Conneely, Crabb, Dixon, Donnelly-Jackson, Ethapemi, Farah, Fraser, Gbajumo, Georgiou, Grahl, Hack, Hirani, Johnson, Kabir, Kansagra, Kennelly, Knight, Long, Lorber, Mahmood, Matin, Maurice, Mistry, Mitchell, Moeen, Molloy, Nerva, J.Patel, Rajan-Seelan, Rubin, Shah, Smith and Tatler.

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1	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Kelcher, Miller, Mili Patel, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth and Southwood.
2	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	<p>AGREED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 10 July 2023 be approved as a correct record.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
3	Declarations of Interest	<p>The following interests were declared at the meeting:</p> <p>(a) Agenda Item 8 Petitions – Protection of Brents Parks & Open Spaces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Lorber declared a personal interest as a Director and Trustee of Barham Park Community Library given the reference to Barham Park within the motion. • Councillor Donnelly-Jackson declared a personal interest as a Trustee of Actionspace who were an art based Charity supporting emerging and established artists with learning disabilities that had used studio space provided through ACAVA (one of the tenant organisations in the Barham Park building).

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		<p>(b) Agenda Item 18.3: Motion – Rogue Landlords</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors Ahmed, Dixon, Ethapemi, Hirani, Johnson, Kansagra and J.Patel all declared a personal interest as landlords within the borough; • Councillors Ahmadi Moghaddam & Rubin declared a personal interest as members of Brent Renters Union; • Councillor Donnelly-Jackson declared a personal interest given her previous involvement in the Action for Renters campaign.
4	Mayor's Announcements (including any petitions received)	<p>Announcements from the Mayor were noted in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100th birthday celebration • Brent Health & Social Care Awards • Organ Donation Week • Paryushan Festival • Remembering victims of the earthquake in Morocco & flooding in Libya • Commemoration following the death of Fran Pearson (Independent Chair of Brent Adult Safeguarding Board and Safeguarding Children's Partnership) • Commemoration following death of former Councillor Ruth Moher – including personal tributes from Councillors M.Butt, Tatler, Kansagra, Mahmood, Mistry, Kabir, Lorber & Nerva followed by a minutes silence in her memory. • Petitions <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
5	Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies and Appointment of Chairs/Vice Chairs (if any)	<p>AGREED</p> <p>(1) To note that the Leader of the Council had appointed Councillor Tatler to cover</p>

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		<p>the role of Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources & Reform during Councillor Mili Patel’s period of maternity leave. This was in addition to Councillor Tatler’s existing remit as Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Planning & Growth.</p> <p>(2) The following changes in committee membership:</p> <p>(a) General Purposes Committee – Councillor Farah to replace Councillor Mili Patel as a full member with Councillor Tatler to be appointed as Vice-Chair. Councillor Farah to be replaced by a vacancy as substitute member.</p> <p>(b) Health & Wellbeing Board – Councillor Tatler to replace Councillor Mili Patel as a full member.</p> <p>(c) Joint Borough IT Committee Brent, Lewisham & Southwark – To note that the Leader of the Council had appointed Councillor Tatler to replace Councillor Mili Patel as a full member and Brent’s lead as Chair.</p> <p>(d) Barham Park Trust Committee – To note that the Leader of the Council had appointed Councillor Knight to replace Councillor Mili Patel as a full member with an accompanying vacancy as substitute member.</p> <p>(3) The following change in appointments to Outside Bodies:</p> <p>(a) London Councils Leaders Committee – Councillor Tatler to replace Councillor Mili Patel as deputy representative.</p> <p>(b) London Councils Greater London Employment Forum – To note the Leader of the</p>

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		<p>Council had appointed Councillor Tatler to replace Councillor Mili Patel as deputy representative.</p> <p>(c) London Councils Grants Committee – To note the Leader of the Council had appointed Councillor Donnelly-Jackson Tatler to replace Councillor Mili Patel as Brent’s full representative with Councillor Tatler appointed as deputy representative.</p> <p>(4) To confirm the appointment of Rhys Jarvis to fill the vacant position (following the resignation of Rachel Tiffen) as an Independent co-opted Member on the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee for a four year term of office expiring at the Annual Council meeting in May 2027 (subject to confirmation of the ongoing appointment at the Annual Council meeting each year).</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
6	Deputations (if any)	<p>NOTED the deputation received from Satvinder Riyat (representing Sudbury Matters Forum as a local community group) regarding the future of Barham Park. In thanking the Mayor for the opportunity to present her deputation, she began by outlining the history of Barham Park and its buildings and nature of their gift as a community asset by Titus Barham in 1937, on the basis of the Council acting as sole Trustee. In noting the current governance arrangements, with the Council discharging its duties as Trustee through the Barham Park Trust Committee and the Council supporting the Trust in terms of the maintenance and upkeep of the Park and its facilities, the Sudbury Matters Forum (having recognised the limited awareness amongst residents of the Parks status) were keen to ensure that the local community had the opportunity to establish a mechanism and voice that could be used to assist in shaping and securing the future use and management of the Park and its buildings. This was felt to be</p>

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		<p>particularly important given the feasibility exercise currently being undertaken by the Trust, with Satvinder Riyat announcing that as a result, the Forum were now in the process of establishing a “Friends of Barham Park” Group.</p> <p>The aim of the Group was to ensure that local residents, as the beneficiaries of the Park following its gift as a community asset, were able to have a voice in its future. Satvinder Riyat advised that the Friends Group was being established as an independent, inclusive and non-partisan body which all interested parties would be welcome to join (irrespective of their proximity to the Park) in order to ensure that it was as representative of the diverse communities across Brent as possible. Members were advised that the key aim of the Group would be to preserve the historical and ecological value of the Park and its buildings ensuring that they remained sustainable for present and future generations to enjoy. In concluding the deputation, members were advised of the key aims identified by the Group, which were as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To serve as the voice of the beneficiaries in collaboration with the Trustees to influence the future of the Park and its buildings 2. To actively participate as volunteers in the maintenance, conservation and preservation of the Park for future residents. 3. To engage with the Trustees in conducting a comprehensive survey of the Park, in order to detect the presence of any protected wildlife species. 4. To capture and preserve the history of the Park, including the architectural importance of its buildings, its previous owner and occupants, which may have cultural significance for the borough’s diverse communities.

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		<p>5. To educate about the Park’s historic significance.</p> <p>Whilst recognising the current nature of the challenges facing the Trust in supporting the upkeep and maintenance of the Park and its buildings, Satvinder Riyat ended by highlighting that the Group were committed to working with the Barham Park Trust and Council officers in order to safeguard the Park as a much valued community asset gifted to the people of the borough with anyone interested in joining the Group urged to contact: www.friendsofbarhampark.org</p> <p>In welcoming and responding to the deputation, Councillor Muhammed Butt, as Chair of the Barham Park Trust, thanked the Sudbury Matters Forum for their efforts to engage with the Trust and Council, supported through Councillor Benea. In recognising the need to ensure a collaborative approach was taken to preserving the benefit and future of the Park, Councillor Muhammed Butt outlined the Trust’s commitment to safeguard and build on its legacy as a much valued community asset and welcomed the established of the Friends Group through the Forum as a means of focussing future collaboration and engagement.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
7	Questions from Members of the Public	<p>NOTED</p> <p>1. The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Homelessness and Renters Security to a public question submitted by Martin Francis regarding compliance by the Council with the requirements, as a landlord, under the Building Safety Act, including the completion of structural and fire risk assessments on all buildings in scope.</p>

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		<p>2. The written response provided by the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities and Public Protection to a public question submitted by John Cox on noise nuisance arising from HS2 works impacting on nearby residential properties, including those in Harley Road, NW10. No supplementary question was received.</p> <p>3. The written response provided by the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Action to a public question submitted by Charlotte Child (who joined the meeting online in order to present a supplementary question) regarding the need, given safety concerns highlighted by local residents, for the installation of a pedestrian crossing at the junction of Cavendish Road, Willesden Lane and The Avenue, NW6. Whilst noting the initial response provided by the Leader of the Council at the meeting, the Mayor advised that given the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Action had submitted her apologies for absence a written response would also be provided on the issue raised following the meeting.</p> <p>4. The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Public Health & Adult Social Care to a public question submitted by Naishadh Patel (with Hitesh Patel attending the meeting in order to ask a supplementary question) regarding the selection and management of social care provision suppliers including local businesses.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
8	Petitions (if any)	NOTED the presentation of a petition by Councillor Lorber containing 1170 signatures relating to the Protection of Brents Parks and Open Spaces. In presenting the petition, Councillor Lorber highlighted his focus on Barham Park given concerns identified as to

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		<p>how it was felt proposals presented at the recent meeting of the Barham Park Trust Committee would set an unwelcome precedent not only in terms of the risk to the Council’s long established Core Strategy of protecting Brent parks and open spaces but also in relation to local Neighbourhood planning and the safeguarding of other parks and open spaces in Brent.</p> <p>In outlining the historical context to the gift of Barham Park and its use as a much valued community asset, with the Council as sole Trustee, concerns were expressed at the management and maintenance of the Park and buildings by the Barham Park Trust along with the cost and outcome of the recent strategic property review and feasibility study presented to the Barham Park Trust Committee on 5 September 2023. Referring to the design options identified for the Park building as part of the architectural feasibility study considered by the Trust Committee, concerns were highlighted at their potential impact on the existing charitable and community based organisations currently occupying the building as tenants (given the social value they generated) and suggested alternative use including a mixture of a hotel, Airbnb, offices, café and shop units. Given approval of the recent planning application relating to development of the housing site located along the north-west corner of Barham Park and the Trust’s recent agreement to progress negotiations on the possible variation of the restrictive covenant protecting against development on that site, Councillor Lorber felt the petition also served to highlight the level of concern expressed about the need to protect parks and open spaces across the borough from potential future development.</p> <p>In concluding presentation of the petition, Councillor Lorber called on all members to recognise the strength of local feeling and prioritise the preservation and promotion of the borough’s parks and open spaces as valuable and vital assets for local communities across the borough.</p>

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		<p>In responding Councillor Tatler, as Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Planning & Growth, began by thanking all residents who had signed the petition for highlighting the value placed on Brents parks and green spaces. In seeking to focus and address the issues highlighted within the main petition, rather than wider rhetoric expressed by the Opposition Groups, the opportunity was taken to reassure local residents of the Council’s commitment to protecting and enhancing the boroughs parks as evidenced not only through the significant level of investment already provided by the Administration but also the ongoing use and allocation of over £2m of the Community Infrastructure Levy and planning process to secure a number of new parks and open public spaces including areas such as, Staples Corner, Neasden, Church End, Wembley Park, South Kilburn and Grand Union in Alperton. In highlighting what she regarded as the progressive nature of the Council’s planning policies in seeking to balance the need for housebuilding with the wider demand for infrastructure like parks and wider sustainability objectives, Councillor Tatler also took the opportunity to remind members of the measures adopted within the Local Plan been to protect and safeguard parks and open spaces. These included Local Plan policies in Growth Areas identifying specific local park provision, a series of play areas and open spaces within new developments and the requirement for developments to provide an urban greening factor, bio-diversity gain, replacement tree canopy cover (with over 4000 new trees planted to date) and space for water and habitats that would not have existed before, with members reminded that the Liberal Democrats had opposed initial adoption of the Local Plan.</p> <p>In concluding, Councillor Tatler took the opportunity to end her response to the petition by once again reassuring residents how seriously the current Administration took its ongoing responsibility to protect the boroughs parks and green spaces.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>

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9	Annual Report from the Leader of the Council	<p>NOTED the annual report provided by the Leader of the Council on the work of the Council and state of the borough.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
10	Reports from the Leader and Cabinet	<p>NOTED the report and update provided at the meeting by Councillor Muhammed Butt, as Leader of the Council, highlighting the work being undertaken across each Cabinet portfolio to manage the Council's finances and provide ongoing support and services in order to meet the needs of residents across the borough.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
11	Questions from the Opposition and other Non-Cabinet Members	<p>NOTED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="840 869 2078 1050">1. The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Schools to a question submitted by Councillor Gbajumo regarding the examination results achieved by young people across Brent and wider steps being taken to maintain and support levels of educational attainment across the borough. <li data-bbox="840 1093 2078 1305">2. The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Public Health & Adult Social Care to a question submitted by Councillor Long expressing concerns regarding the impact of the recent decision by a private sector provider to seek a buyer for the GP practices they currently operated, including within Brent, both in terms of patients and the wider primary care sector across Brent and North West London. <li data-bbox="840 1348 2078 1417">3. The written response provided by the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure & Climate Action to a question submitted by Councillor Dixon

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		<p>seeking details on the measures taken to address concerns relating to the introduction of the new Resident Parking Permit contract and transition to the new permit system. As a result of the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Action having submitted her apologies for absence at the meeting no direct supplementary question was asked but in recognising the work undertaken to address the concerns identified the opportunity was also taken to highlight the need to ensure that lessons learnt, particularly in relation to engagement with local residents, were recognised.</p> <p>4. The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Homelessness and Renters Security to a question submitted by Councillor Maurice regarding the measures taken to deal with rough sleepers in Woodcock Park and what was felt to be a delay in appropriate action being taken to address the concerns identified by local residents and other stakeholders neighbouring the park.</p> <p>5. The written and supplementary verbal response provided by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Homelessness and Renters Security to a question submitted by Councillor Georgiou seeking clarification on the Council's position regarding the use of Shared Ownership and its appropriateness in being classified as a genuinely Affordable Housing option in the development of housing schemes across Brent, particularly given the difference in approach between schemes such as Grand Union, Alperton and Watling Gardens.</p> <p>Responses were also provided by the relevant Cabinet Members on the following additional questions raised during the open session of this part of the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Kennelly regarding the recent change in approach announced by the

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		<p>Metropolitan Police in no longer attending calls to a majority of mental health related incidents introduced under the Right Care Right Person scheme and the wider impact it was anticipated this would have in terms of health services and professionals across Brent along with the action being taken to address the concerns identified.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Hirani supporting the concerns raised in relation to the delay in identifying a solution to tackle the rough sleepers in Woodcock Park and seeking details on visits undertaken by the Leader and Cabinet Member(s) and engagement with local ward councillors on any lessons learnt as a result. • Councillor Lorber highlighting concern at the way in which the Barham Park Trust Committee held on 5 September 23 had been conducted in relation to the opportunity provided for tenant organisations and representatives of the local community to speak at the meeting and the specific treatment of the representative from Barham community Library. • Councillor Mistry highlighting concerns regarding the problems being caused by the use of paan along Kingsbury Road and requesting the introduction of a similar approach towards prevention, education and enforcement as that implemented along Ealing Road in order to tackle the issue. Given the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Action had submitted her apologies for absence, the Mayor advised that a written response would be provided on the issue raised following the meeting. • Councillor J.Patel seeking further detail on the action being taken by the Council against Utility Companies undertaking works without the necessary permission or who were found not to have completed highway repairs to the necessary standard following the conclusion of their work, with reference as specific examples to works along Stag Lane and Kingsbury Road. Given the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Action had submitted her apologies for absence, the Mayor once again advised that a written response would be

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		<p>provided on the issue raised following the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Georgiou seeking details as to when the next scheduled update in relation progress on the New Council Homes Programme would be available. <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
12	Report from Chairs of Scrutiny Committees	<p>NOTED the update reports provided by the Chair of the Community & Wellbeing and Resources & Public Realm Scrutiny Committees.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
13	Report from the Vice Chair of the Audit & Standards Advisory Committees	<p>NOTED the update report provided by the Vice Chair of the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
14	Non Cabinet Members' Debate	<p>Following the approval of an amendment moved by the Labour Group in relation to the original motion submitted, the following motion (as amended) was AGREED as the outcome of the non-cabinet member debate:</p> <p><u>“Provision of support to deal with cases of RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete) in Brent Schools</u></p> <p>This Council notes:</p> <p>Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) is a lightweight form of concrete pioneered in Sweden whose use swept across Europe particularly in schools, colleges, and other building construction from the 1950’s until the mid-1990s. Used in flat roofing, floors, and walls it offered a cheaper alternative to standard concrete, but its</p>

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		<p>short lifespan means its use in permanent buildings has caused problems. The Secretary of State for Education has clarified, out of 22,500 schools in England, 156 have been confirmed to have RAAC and 52 of these have already got mitigations in place and are dealing with repairs.</p> <p>To date, it has been identified that only one Brent school, although not maintained by the Council, has RAAC. St. Gregory’s Catholic Science College discovered it had RAAC in its Maths block in November 2022. Safety measures were introduced, and work was completed by Tuesday 12th September. The Council was informed by the school’s CEO/Headteacher in January 2023 of the discovery of RAAC. There is no current financial impact to the Council as the school affected is operated by an academy trust, therefore the local authority is not the responsible body.</p> <p>Upon notification in January 2023, DfE have supported the school in arranging surveys and discussing the management of RAAC. Since the summer, a dedicated case officer has been assigned to the school from the DfE to manage the next steps of removing RAAC from the school with all costs to be reimbursed by the DfE as it rightfully should.</p> <p>When Brent residents apply for rear building extensions, building control officers demand high quality materials be used. If this RAAC was known to have a recommended 30-year lifespan there must be question as to why it was approved in long term school and civic developments and what reviews were put in place by Building Control to undertake regular checks on its safety?</p> <p>Parents, teachers and pupils across the country have been rightly concerned about the news of RAAC and this has been reflected in how it has been reported. The Secretary of State for Education Gillian Keegan MP is the tenth Conservative Secretary of State for Education since 2010 and showed no sympathy for parents’ concerns across the</p>

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		<p>UK in her highly unprofessional behaviour when she was being interviewed by ITV news.</p> <p>As a result, this Council recognises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Conservative Government in the 1980s colluded in neglecting capital and infrastructure investment despite insatiable public demand for increased revenue spending on vital public services. This has been worsened by the effects of Austerity which decimated the country’s public services and defunded buildings provided for our nation’s schoolchildren. People a century ago were truly building schools for the future; today’s squabbles are much more about ‘Patching Schools for the Present’. The uncomfortable truth is that this really, if anything, has been a pass-the-parcel problem made worse by the current Conservative Government, putting at risk school children and staff. • It was a Labour Government that launched the Building Schools for the Future Programme, which was the biggest school building programme since the Victorian times allocating £55billion to rebuild every secondary school in the country. In the first months of the Conservative-led Coalition Government in 2010, then Secretary of State for Education Michael Gove scrapped the scheme and offered no replacement. Gove has later called the cancellation of this programme his biggest mistake in office. • Covid has taught us so many things and lead us to deal with issues that we thought would never be achieved. We will also deal with this and learn the valuable lesson of investing in our public services to ensure good practice and safety for all of our residents.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whilst global events continue, there is also a need to recognise that the safety of our children comes first. The issue of RAAC has been missed for over 30 years. In 2002 the Labour government first became aware of the deterioration and risks of RAAC via a BRE (Building Research Establishment) report. In 2018 Conservative Minister Damian Hinds ordered an urgent and comprehensive review of RAAC in all schools. It is because of these inspections that we know the extent of the current risks. Senior officials at the Department of Education told the treasury while Rishi Sunak was Chancellor at the time that there was a need to rebuild 300 to 400 schools a year in England, Sunak only allowed funding for 100 schools which was then halved to 50. <p>This Council therefore resolves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To request the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools writes to the Secretary of State for Education to call for urgent additional funding to be secured for buildings affected by RAAC in Brent and across the UK, and for her to outline what measures the Government is doing to ensure the safety of our schoolchildren. • To pledge to support in any way we can St Gregory’s Catholic Science College, which is the only Brent school currently affected with RAAC while also noting that there are limitations to how we as a Council can assist as the school is operated by an Academy and we pledge to support, guide and advise any schools which may become known in future. • To recognise that school requests for planning permission and other compliance issues from the council should be dealt with expeditiously while following the planning and safety legislation that underpins all planning decisions.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work cross party to expedite planning permissions where required for the temporary classrooms and Portacabins schools may require and should they go down this route, to house the classrooms on site or alternatively assist in finding suitable accommodation across the borough. For example, when schools ask for planning permission there should be no complacency in recognising any defects and dealing with them quickly. • To communicate with the affected schools should they need help with contractors for remedial works. • In the case of schools which are affected by RAAC but are not the council's responsibility, if the schools are short of funds to remedy the defects the Council to call on the Government to provide the necessary funding and not rely on already stretched Local Government budgets. • To continue closely monitoring through building control functions all schools for cases of unsafe materials.” <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
15	Brent Youth Justice Plan 2023-24	<p>Council RESOLVED following its referral by Cabinet on 11 September 2023 to approve formal sign off and adoption of the Brent Youth Justice Plan 2023/24.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
16	Treasury Management Outturn Report 2022-23	<p>Council RESOLVED</p>

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		<p>(1) To note and approve, following its consideration by Audit & Standards Advisory Committee on 18 July 2023 and Cabinet on 11 September 2023, the 2022 - 23 Treasury Management outturn report and the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Strategies in Appendix 4 – 6 of the report, in compliance with CIPFA’s Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code).</p> <p>(2) To note that for 2022 - 23 the Council had complied with its Prudential Indicators which were approved by Full Council on 22 February 2022 as part of the Council’s Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Capital Strategy Statement.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
17	Changes to the Constitution	<p>Council RESOLVED</p> <p>(1) To approve the amendments to the Constitution as detailed within Appendix 1 of the report relating to the updated Terms of Reference for the Health & Wellbeing Board and update to Standing Order 41 on the process for withdrawal of Council Motions.</p> <p>(2) Following on from (1) above, to authorise the Corporate Director, Governance to amend the Constitution accordingly, including making any necessary incidental or consequential changes.</p> <p>(3) To note that, to the extent that the changes related to executive functions of the Council, they had been approved by the Leader.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>

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18	Motions	<p>(1) Following the approval of an amendment moved by the Labour Group in relation to the original Motion submitted by the Conservative Group, the following Motion (as amended) was AGREED:</p> <p><u>“Management of Road and Utilities Work across the borough</u></p> <p>The coordination and management of the many road works, repairs and temporary traffic lights in our borough continues to be of importance to Brent Council to ensure cohesion for our residents travelling around the borough.</p> <p>The Council have listened to concerns from residents who whilst appreciating that these works need to be carried are apprehensive about the potential disruption this can cause to them and continues to work with utility companies and meet with officials regularly to ensure disruption to residents during necessary major works is kept to a minimum.</p> <p>The Council’s Network Management Team hold quarterly coordination meetings with utility companies in order to coordinate works and minimize disruption however there are times when emergency works are required and this can unfortunately clash with other works near the location.</p> <p>Council is therefore asked to note that in relation to the following concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roadworks, though essential, can cause major traffic hold ups including in some cases gridlock, can lead to road rage and leads to an increase in pollution, and the Council continues to work with utility companies to prevent major disruption arising from these major works.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lack of regular interaction between the various agencies who own services beneath our streets - There is regular interaction between the various agencies with quarterly coordination meetings between the Council and utility companies to discuss major works. • The coordination of roadworks - There is coordination to ensure that roadworks are carried out in such a manner so they do not interact to cause further disruption. The Council requires 10 days notice for major works and 3 days notice for minor works. The permitting software used will automatically identify clashes should two sets of works be programmed in close proximity to each other during the same time period. • Disruption to road users - There are measures put in place by the Council to ensure that roadworks are timed and coordinated so as to cause the minimum disruption to road users. However, there may be times where emergency and urgent works are required which may clash with other scheduled works. <p>Therefore, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Action is asked to ensure:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) That, with the exception of emergencies e.g. burst water mains, when a utility company applies for permission to carry our road works, the Council continues its work with utility companies to coordinate their planned works programme to ensure minimal disruption for residents across the borough. (2) That the Network Management Team continues to hold quarterly coordination meetings with utility representatives to discuss major works and assist in avoiding clashes.

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		<p>(3) That companies continue to apply for permission to carry out works and in line with the regulations of their permit if granted must do so within a certain time frame and if not completed on time, should be fined by the local authority in accordance with the current Government legislation, unless an extension is agreed.”</p> <p>(2) Having been put to a vote, in accordance with Standing Order 42(l), the Motion submitted by the Liberal Democrats Group “Making our Borough Clean and Safe” was withdrawn from consideration at the meeting.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p> <p>(3) The following Motion submitted by the Labour Group was unanimously AGREED:</p> <p><u>Rogue Landlords</u></p> <p>This Council notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The important contribution the Private Rented Sector (PRS) makes to the provision of housing in the borough, with renters of private accommodation making up the largest proportion of occupants in our borough. • The majority of private landlords renting out properties in Brent are good landlords who work in close partnership with the Council. • However, this is not the case for all landlords and the Council is fully committed to ensure that no private rented sector tenant is living in substandard

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		<p>accommodation. We believe everyone should live in a warm and dry home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A recent survey by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) showing that of those officers working on housing enforcement in the private rented sector, nine out of ten had encountered landlords engaging in harassment or illegal eviction, and 78% had dealt with landlords who persistently refuse to maintain their property to a safe condition. • That rogue landlords can have a devastating impact on vulnerable tenants and the wider community. <p>This Council further notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Labour Administration’s commitment to take a zero tolerance approach to rogue landlords and to use the full range of tools and powers at its disposal to tackle rogue landlords. • The case of Jaydipkumar Valand, who was found guilty of raking in £360,000 by packing up to 40 tenants in to a four bed semi-detached home in Napier Road, Wembley, back in 2018. Due to the hard work of Brent enforcement officers, Valand was issued with Brent Council’s first ever banning order which now prevents him from letting out any houses in England or engaging in any sort of property management work in the country for the next five years. • The new selective licensing scheme that the Council introduced on 1 August to protect renters’ rights and secure a decent standard of living for all residents. Landlords who rent out properties in Dollis Hill, Harlesden & Kensal Green and Willesden Green are now legally required to have a property licence.

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		<p>This Council resolves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To do more to publicise successful legal action against landlords and lettings agents, which will act as a deterrent to bad landlords and raise awareness of landlords duties and responsibilities. • Request that the Cabinet Member for Housing, Homelessness and Renters Security calls on the Secretary of State for Housing, Levelling-Up and Communities to support Brent Council’s commitment to further landlord licensing schemes in the borough. • Request that the Cabinet Member for Housing, Homelessness and Renters Security calls on the UK Government to urgently bring forward legislation to bring the Decent Homes Standard to the private rented sector as proposed in the Renters Reform white paper. • To continue to work with the Mayor of London to lobby the Government to increase funding to London and its Boroughs for the delivery of affordable homes.” <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>
19	Urgent Business	<p>No urgent items of business were raised at the meeting.</p> <p>Eligible for Call-In: No</p>