

London Borough of Brent
Summary of Decisions taken by the Cabinet held in the Conference Hall, Brent Civic Centre on Monday 17
November 2025 at 10am

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

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Kennelly (for Agenda Item 10).

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1.	Apologies for Absence		Apologies for absence were received from Kim Wright (Chief Executive) with Nigel Chapman (Corporate Director Children, Young People and Community Development) acting as her representative.
2.	Declarations of Interest		No declarations of interest were made during the meeting.
3.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting		Cabinet RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 13 October 2025 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.
4.	Matters Arising (if any)		None identified.
5.	Petitions (if any)		<p>5.1 Experimental Traffic Order Scheme between Kingswood Avenue & Salusbury Road</p> <p>Councillor Muhammed Butt (as Leader of the Council) welcomed Sanjay Nazerali (as lead petitioner) to the meeting who he advised was attending to present a petition regarding the Experimental Traffic Order scheme between Kingswood Avenue & Salusbury Road.</p> <p>In thanking the Leader of the Council for the opportunity to present</p>

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			<p>the petition, Sanjay Nazerali advised that the representations followed the presentation of a previous petition to Cabinet by Alastair Balfour a year ago which included reference to the ETOs between Kingswood Avenue and Salusbury Road. Given the exclusive focus of the current petition on the Kingswood Avenue and Salusbury Road scheme, he felt this represented Part 2 of the same process, highlighting the similar number of signatures within the current petition as evidence that the issues had not disappeared.</p> <p>In outlining the concerns being raised, Mr Nazerali advised that the ETOs between Kingswood Avenue and Salusbury Road had created deep division within the local community, resulting in what petitioners saw as a two-tier ward whereby the relief enjoyed by the few as a result of the ETOs corresponded with equal levels of nuisance for their neighbours, reflecting not just an issue related to traffic but also on wider community cohesion. As such, it was not felt the Council had listened to the concerns being raised, with concern expressed that the most recent report published relating to Queens Park Healthy Neighbourhoods had stated the 1,400 signatories to the previous petition ‘welcomed the scheme’, which he confirmed was not factually accurate. As a result of those comments, residents had made a formal complaint seeking amendment to the report with further concerns raised from a governance perspective around the process followed in relation to the investigation of that complaint involving the officer who had prepared the original report.</p>

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			<p>Concern was also expressed at the process of engagement with local ward councillors in Queens Park given what the petitioners felt to have been a lack of response when they queried them about the representation of constituents' views in the report, which had subsequently been escalated to the Leader of the Council. Given the number of signatures across both petitions which had now been presented to Cabinet, concerns were also highlighted at the view expressed by one local councillor that the sentiment being expressed in opposition to the scheme was only held by a small group of residents.</p> <p>In summarising the impact of the ETO scheme on the community, Mr Nazerali felt that it represented a socially regressive policy that had caused division in the community and eroded trust in the Council's commitment to transparency. As a way forward, given the strength of feeling represented by the number of signatures across both petitions which had been presented to Cabinet, he advised the petitioners were calling on the Council to cancel what was felt to be the divisive and unfair ETO scheme between Kingswood Avenue and Salusbury Road and to develop a more holistic solution that would benefit the many rather than a few in a way that would restore trust in the Council.</p> <p>In response, Councillor Krupa Sheth (as Cabinet Member for Public Realm and Enforcement) thanked Sanjay Nazerali and others for attending Cabinet to ensure the views of residents in Kingswood Avenue and Salusbury Road and the surrounding area were</p>

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			<p>represented. In noting the content of the petition and presentation, Councillor Krupa Sheth assured the petitioners that the Council welcomed all feedback and felt it important to highlight the extensive engagement from the community on the scheme, including 575 emails. This had generated wide ranging feedback with strong views expressed for all options with residents raising objections as well as expressing support for the scheme and its principles. In seeking a way forward, the petitioners were advised that all feedback would be considered alongside evidence-based traffic monitoring data such as traffic surveys, air quality results and the impact of other planned improvements, in order for the Council to develop a well-balanced and evidence-based recommendation, working with both local residents and councillors to ensure the best outcomes for Queens Park.</p> <p>The Leader then invited Councillor Nerva to speak (as a local Queens Park ward councillor) who highlighted the challenge of managing traffic in inner city areas. Whilst recognising the nature of ETOs as experimental he was keen to ensure that a final way forward and recommendation on the future of the ETO scheme in Kingswood Avenue and Salusbury Road was reached as soon as possible. The opportunity was also taken to welcome the funding secured for a traffic study on the area to the west of Chamberlayne Road, which he felt would also provide important insights as to the impact of traffic in the area. In concluding his response, he highlighted the balance local councillors were required to strike between listening to residents and their expectations in one area</p>

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			<p>with a wider area and was pleased to note the commitment made to the use of an evidence-based process to ensure an informed decision could be reached on the future of any scheme affecting Kingswood Avenue and Salusbury Road.</p> <p>As a final contribution and in summing up, Councillor Muhammed Butt (as Leader of the Council) also took the opportunity to thank Sanjay Nazerali and the other residents present for attending the meeting to present the petition. Whilst recognising the impact of the scheme on the local community and views expressed within the petition, the opportunity was taken to once again assure the petitioners of the commitment made by the Cabinet Member for Public Realm and Enforcement to ensure a fair and evidence-based approach was taken in relation to any final decision on the future of the scheme.</p> <p>5.2 Addressing the mess and nuisance being caused by pigeons under the Network Rail Green Bridge, Kilburn Station</p> <p>Councillor Muhammed Butt (as Leader of the Council) advised that following consultation with the lead petitioner, the petition had been withdrawn from presentation to Cabinet.</p>
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.

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7.	Draft Budget 2026 - 27	All Wards	<p>Cabinet RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) To note the overall financial position, as detailed within the report. (2) To agree to consult on the new budget proposals, as set out in Appendices A and B of the report. (3) To agree to consult on a Council Tax increase of 4.99% (consisting of a 2.99% general increase plus 2% for the Adult Social Care Precept) in 2026/27. (4) To endorse the approach to the statutory process of consultation, scrutiny and equalities between November 2025 and February 2026, as set out in section ten of the report. (5) To endorse the changes to the technical budget assumptions underpinning the budget, as set out in sections six and seven of the report. (6) To note the position with regard to the funding for Schools and the Dedicated Schools Grant, as set out in section eleven of the report. (7) To note the position with regard to the Housing Revenue Account, as set out in section twelve of the report.

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			<p>(8) To note the position with regard to the Capital programme, as set out in section thirteen of the report.</p> <p>(9) To note the revised Debt Recovery Policy, as set out in Appendix C of the report.</p> <p>Eligible for call-in: Yes</p> <p>Deadline for submission of call-in: 6pm on Monday 24 November 25</p>
8.	Willesden Green Health and Wellbeing Integrated Hub	Cricklewood & Mapesbury	<p>Prior to considering the report, Cabinet noted the representations and comments made by Dr Muhammed Najim (as a lead GP located within the Willesden Green surgery and NHS Brent's Clinical Director for Health Inequalities) supported by Tom Shakespeare (Managing Director Brent Integrated Care Board) speaking in support of the proposals outlined within the report to develop a Health and Wellbeing Integrated Hub on the Gladstone Park Youth and Community Centre site, which would deliver modern primary health services alongside a range of community amenities and wellbeing spaces for some of Brent's most deprived communities within a modern, sustainable building. In thanking the Council for their support, the opportunity was also taken to outline the engagement with local community groups in seeking to develop the scheme in partnership with the NHS and in line with the transition towards an Integrated Neighbourhood model with the Hub becoming a flagship centre for health and wellbeing and centre for green</p>

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			<p>excellence.</p> <p>Having welcomed the support expressed and process of engagement led by the Willesden Green GP surgery in developing the Integrated Hub proposals Cabinet RESOLVED to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Approve the allocation of up to £2.97m Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (SCIL) funding to support the redevelopment of the Gladstone Park Youth and Community Centre site into the Willesden Green Health and Wellbeing Integrated Hub, as set out in section 3.14 (Option 1) of the report, subject to the conditions in (2) below. (2) Approve the release of SCIL funding in staged payments, aligned to delivery milestones and contingent upon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning consent being granted; • Confirmation of the full external funding; and • Completion of the agreement to lease with Willesden Green Surgery. (3) Approve the granting a 150-year peppercorn lease to Willesden Green Surgery to enable delivery of the Hub, with the Council retaining the freehold and securing lease clauses to protect health and community uses in perpetuity. (4) Authorise the Director of Property and Assets to agree the detailed terms of the agreement to lease and long lease

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			<p>disposal and to enter into the necessary legal agreements to facilitate the disposal and development and to take all necessary steps to complete the transaction.</p> <p>(5) Note the intentions to relocate Kilburn Cosmos Rugby Football Club (KCRFC) from the Gladstone Park Youth & Community Centre to the Gladstone Park Pavilion to secure suitable alternative premises for KCRFC and full vacant possession of the site to enable on-site delivery.</p> <p>(6) Note that Willesden Green Health and Wellbeing Integrated Hub would be a temporary working name for the new facility. The permanent name would be determined following discussions with key stakeholders, to reflect the hub's location within the Cricklewood and Mapesbury ward and to ensure the name was appropriate and inclusive.</p> <p>Eligible for call-in: Yes</p> <p>Deadline for submission of call-in: 6pm on Monday 24 November 25</p>
9.	Approval to Proceed with Alternative Heat Supply for Willesden Green Library- Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) Phase 4	Roundwood; Willesden Green	<p>Cabinet RESOLVED to:</p> <p>(1) Approve a total capital budget of £917,628, which included £807,000 for installation, £111,000 contingency, and staff capitalisation costs.</p>

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			<p>(2) Note that the total capital budget of £917,628 would be sourced from £667,628 Salix grant and £250,000 from the Carbon Offset Fund. The budget would be split across delivery of the following two projects: Willesden Green Library and Willesden New Cemetery.</p> <p>(3) Acknowledge the findings of THE Equality Impact Assessment (detailed within Appendix 1 of the report) regarding the installation of an alternative heat supply at Willesden Green Library that included the results of a public consultation undertaken.</p> <p>(4) Note the grant spend timeline stipulated by Salix and its implication on the delivery of the project, particularly when it comes to the requirement to spend all grant funding by March 31st, 2026, as set out in section 5.3 – 5.4 of the report.</p> <p>(5) Note the significant financial, energy and carbon savings that the delivery of an alternative heat supply at Willesden Green Library would provide as set out section 3.7 of the report.</p> <p>Eligible for call-in: Yes</p> <p>Deadline for submission of call-in: 6pm on Monday 24 November 25</p>

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10.	School Place Planning Strategy 2024-28 Second Refresh	All Wards	<p>Prior to considering the report Cabinet noted the comments made by Councillor Kennelly who had requested to speak (as a local ward councillor) in support of the strategy adopted towards the expansion of local SEND provision and proposals relating to development of the Strathcona site within his ward.</p> <p>Having welcomed the support expressed for the strategy and approach adopted towards the expansion of local SEND provision, Cabinet RESOLVED to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Approve the second refresh of the School Place Planning Strategy 2024-2028, as provided in Appendix 1 of the report. (2) Note the continued focus on planning for the sufficiency of places and the sustainability of schools, based on varying demand patterns impacting on school planning areas in Brent. (3) Note the very early signs of a reversal of declining pupil numbers in the borough and that a requirement to accommodate higher demand in some planning areas may be required in the future. (4) Note there continued to be increasing demand for places that meet the needs of children and young people with SEND aged 0-25 and the intention to further develop the SEND estate capital investment programme as Brent's strategy to address this need, as set out in Section 3.7 of the report.

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			<p>(5) Note the school place planning actions completed in the first year of the strategy and the actions planned for the coming academic year as set out in section 4 of the report.</p> <p>(6) Note the update on the success measures set out in the original strategy in section 3.1.3 of the report.</p> <p>Eligible for call-in: Yes</p> <p>Deadline for submission of call-in: 6pm on Monday 24 November 25</p>
11.	Adopting the Socio-Economic Duty	All Wards	<p>Cabinet RESOLVED to Approve the Council’s formal adoption of the socio-economic duty.</p> <p>Eligible for call-in: Yes</p> <p>Deadline for submission of call-in: 6pm on Monday 24 November 25</p>
12.	Authority to participate in Collaborative Procurement in respect of Genitourinary Medicine (GUM) Sexual Health Services Contract	All Wards	<p>On the basis of the amendment to the recommendations identified at the meeting, Cabinet RESOLVED:</p> <p>(1) To note the deletion of recommendation 2.1 within the report.</p> <p>(2) To approve the Council’s participation in a collaborative</p>

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			<p>procurement with Ealing and Harrow Council's.</p> <p>(3) On the basis of the legal considerations within the report, to approve an exemption from the usual tendering requirements of Contract Standing Orders 84(a) to enable Ealing Council act as the lead authority in the collaborative procurement detailed in (2) above for the reasons detailed in section 3 of the report and accordingly that the collaborative procurement is undertaken in accordance with its Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.</p> <p>(4) To delegate authority to the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health & Leisure, to agree the award of contract on completion of the procurement process for a period of 5 years with an option to extend for a further 4 years to (a total of 9 years) to London North West University Healthcare Trust (LNWHT).</p> <p>Eligible for call-in: Yes</p> <p>Deadline for submission of call-in: 6pm on Monday 24 November 25</p>
13.	Exclusion of Press and Public		There were no items that required the exclusion of the press or public.

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14.	Any other urgent business		<p>There were no items of urgent business.</p> <p>Prior to ending proceedings, Councillor Muhammed Butt (as Leader of the Council) advised that it was sadness he had to announce the recent death of former Mayor and Councillor Mr Harbahjan Singh.</p> <p>Members were advised that former Councillor Singh had represented Welsh Harp ward where his passion and commitment to making a positive impact on the local community he served were recognised and fondly remembered.</p> <p>On behalf of all members of Cabinet and in advance of a formal tribute being provided by the Mayor at the next Full Council meeting, the Leader offered his condolences to the family of former Councillor Singh.</p>