

Notice to the Mayor (in the absence of the Chair of the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee)



Urgent Key Decision form

DECISION DETAILS

Decision Maker: Corporate Director Finance & Resources

Decision Title: Authority to Award Contract for Brent Council PSDS Phase 4

Description of Decision: This is to confirm the acceptance of the funding made available by The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero worth £667,628.00 for carrying out low carbon heating projects in London Borough of Brent

When will the Decision be made? 04/04/25

Will the accompanying report be: Open ☒ Part Exempt ☐ Fully Exempt ☐

Reasons for exemption (if applicable)

The report will contain the following category of Information exempt from publication under the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, namely paragraph:

TYPE OF URGENCY

Please tick all that apply:

- ☐ A. The decision is urgent and 28 clear days' notice of the decision cannot be given but at least 5 clear days' notice can
- ☒ B. The decision is extremely urgent and even 5 clear days' notice of the decision cannot be given
- ☐ C. The decision will be made by members at a meeting and 28 clear days' notice that the proposed decision may be discussed in private (i.e. the report will contain information exempt from publication) cannot be given
- ☒ D. The decision must be implemented urgently and the 5 day call-in period must be dis-applied to allow the decision to take immediate effect.

REASONS FOR URGENCY

If you have selected options A, B or C please explain:

- Why it was not possible to provide the required notice (i.e. why the decision or exemption was not anticipated)
- Why it is impractical to defer the decision to a later date to allow the appropriate notice to be provided.

Due to the short turn-around of receiving the successful grant decision and returning the signed contract, it has not been possible to provide the required notice.

As Brent was not certain it would be awarded the funding, it was not put on the Forward Plan and executive sign-off was not secured prior to being awarded the grant money. It is impractical to defer the decision to a later date as Salix have requested the Grant Offer Letter upon which the grant is conditional to be signed and returned on 4th April 2025 at the very latest.

If you have selected Option D please explain why the council's interest or the public interest would be seriously prejudiced by the decision not taking immediate effect.

This grant will fund highly essential low carbon heating projects works at two sites in Brent: Willesden Green Library and Willesden New Cemetery which will reduce energy bills, improve energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions in line with Brent's 2030 Net Zero Target. In particular, the grant will help fund an Air-Source Heat Pump at Willesden Green Library, providing a much-needed alternative heating option in line with Brent's overall decarbonisation goals. If the decision was not to take immediate effect, the grant offer would expire, and Brent Council would lose out on a significant external funding opportunity for essential works.

SIGN-OFF

Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods & Regeneration

Printed Name: Alice Lester

Signature: *Alice Lester*

Chief Executive

Printed Name: Kim Wright

Signature: *Kim Wright*

THE FOLLOWING SECTION IS TO BE COMPLETED BY GOVERNANCE SERVICES

MAYOR ACTING IN PLACE OF THE CHAIR OF RESOURCES & PUBLIC REALM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Notice to: Councillor Tariq Dar MBE(acting in place of the Chair Resources & Public Realm Scrutiny Committee)

The Chair is asked to:

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Note that an urgent decision will be taken as detailed in the form above.

The decision is deemed urgent because insufficient (less than 28 days) notice of the intention to take the decision was provided on the Forward Plan. However, at least 5 clear days' notice has been provided and therefore the Scrutiny Chair is only required to note that the decision will be taken.

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Permit the extremely urgent decision to be taken as detailed in the form above.

The decision is deemed extremely urgent as less than 5 clear days' notice of the intention to take the decision has been provided. The Scrutiny Chair is asked to agree that the decision is urgent and cannot be reasonably deferred for the reasons detailed in the form above.

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Permit discussion of exempt information in private relying on Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

If a report is likely to contain information exempt from publication under schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, then 28 days' notice of this must be provided on the Forward Plan. Where this requirement has not been met, the agreement of the Scrutiny Chair is required before proceeding.

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Permit the dis-application of the 5 day call-in period, allowing the decision detailed in the form above to take immediate effect.

A Cabinet decision or a Key Decision cannot be implemented until the 5 day call in period has elapsed and no valid call-in has been received. The call-in protocol can be dis-applied if the council's or the public interest would be seriously prejudiced by the decision not taking immediate effect. The Chief Executive must determine whether a decision is urgent in this regard. The consent of the Scrutiny Chair to the matter being treated as urgent is also required.

SIGN-OFF

Notice sent to the Mayor on 02/04/25

Mayor's approval:

Required ☒

Not Required ☐

Date approval granted (if applicable): 02/04/25