



## LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

### MINUTES OF THE CABINET Monday 15 October 2018 at 4.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillor M Butt (Chair), Councillor McLennan (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Agha, Farah, Hirani, Miller, M Patel, Krupa Sheth, Southwood and Tatler

Also present: Councillors S Butt, Johnson, Kabir, W Mitchell Murray and Colacicco

1. **Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED:-

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 September 2018 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. **Matters Arising (if any)**

There were no matters arising.

5. **Petitions (if any)**

Cabinet heard a petition from Mr Joel Grant. Speaking on behalf of residents of Bruce Road, Casselden Road, Hazeldean Road, Alric Avenue and Selwyn Road, Mr Grant asked Cabinet to consider the introduction of controlled parking zone arrangements to resolve ongoing parking issues.

6. **Draft Budget Proposals 2019/20 – 2020/21**

Councillor M Butt (Leader of the Council) introduced this item and asked the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor M McLennan, to present the report. Councillor M McLennan stated that this report sets out for consultation and scrutiny the draft budget proposals for 2019/20 and 2020/21.

Councillor M McLennan stated that the budget would be agreed at the Full Council meeting in February 2019. She stated that the report also set out the overall financial position facing the Council for the next four years and highlighted the

significant risks, issues and uncertainties. Councillor M Butt stated that the report set out the approach to consultation with residents, businesses and other key stakeholders.

Councillor Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Public Health, Culture and Leisure, outlined the implications on the ring-fenced Public Health grant but also how Brent winning the London Borough of Culture bid would also attract funding.

Councillor Shama Tatler, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways, Planning, referring to a recent statement by the Prime Minister, stated that the implications of the Government's austerity agenda were definitely not over in Brent. She stated that local authorities were being given more and more responsibility from central government but without the necessary funding meaning that the Council is now faced with hard decisions.

Councillor Amer Agha, Cabinet Member for Schools, Employment & Skills, stated that the Council was now being more creative in how it allocates funding. He highlighted that school results and inspection findings in Brent were now the best they have ever been thanks to dedicated staff, not increased budgets.

Councillor Eleanor Southwood, Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform, stated that residents should be assured that the Council is committed to addressing the housing crisis in Brent. Housing supply is the only solution. She stated that the Council would support those negatively affected by Universal Credit via the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme.

Councillor Tom Miller, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, stated that there is no appetite in Brent to set an illegal budget. He stated that the Government's austerity drive had impacted on all public services. He stated that although knife crime is falling in Brent, the crime epidemic in London was particularly worrying.

Councillor Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Environment, stated that innovative solutions in response to austerity had been necessary in the Environment Directorate, for example the introduction of the Neighbourhood Manager role.

Councillor Mili Patel, Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding, Early Help and Social Care, stated that the Government austerity drive had placed the Children's and Young People's Directorate in a very difficult position.

Councillor Harbi Farah, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, stated that the budget proposals represented extremely difficult choices in Adult Social Care.

Councillor M Butt, Leader of the Council, thanked Cabinet Members for their contributions. He then invited non-Cabinet members who wished to speak on this item.

Councillor Sandra Kabir, Queensbury Ward, thanked the Cabinet for the proposals, stating that the proposals represented painful choices. In response to comments about knife crime in Queensbury, Councillor Tom Miller, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, agreed to meet with the Queensbury Ward Councillors.

Councillor Robert Johnson, Northwick Park Ward, thanked Cabinet members for their proposals. He urged the Cabinet to engage with staff who know how services operate and where pressure points would be.

Councillor M Butt, Leader of the Council, stated that clearly, the financial context is exceptionally challenging. However, in developing draft proposals for consultation in even the most sensitive areas of service provision managers have sought to identify creative ways to achieve efficiencies without damaging service provision.

Councillor M Butt stated that Leaders of the London Boroughs had discussed the impact of Government Austerity at the London Council's Leaders' Committee meeting.

**RESOLVED:**

- i. Cabinet noted the overall financial position.
- ii. Cabinet agreed to consult on the budget proposals as set out in Appendices A, B, C, D of the report.
- iii. Cabinet noted that detailed information on each of the budget proposals as set out in Appendix E of the report.
- iv. Cabinet agreed to consult on council tax increases of 4.99% in 2019/20, subject to the legislative uncertainty set out in the report, and 3.99% in 2020/21.
- v. Cabinet endorsed the approach to consultation and scrutiny between October 2018 and January 2019, as set out in the report.
- vi. Cabinet endorsed the changes to the technical budget assumptions underpinning the budget as set out in the report.
- vii. Cabinet agreed the estimated Collection Fund balance relating to Council Tax for 2019/20 as a surplus of £0.9m and noted the current estimated balance relating to NNDR for 2019/20 as zero (no surplus or deficit) as set out in the report.
- viii. Cabinet noted the position on the School funding reform proposals, as set out in the report.
- ix. Cabinet noted the budget proposals for the Housing Revenue Account, as set out in the report.

**7. Quarter 2 Financial Forecast 2018/19**

Councillor M McLennan, Deputy Leader of the Council, introduced the report setting out the current forecasts of income and expenditure against the revenue budget for 2018/19 and other key financial data.

She highlighted a forecast overspend of £1.5m in the Children & Young People department but stated that all other Council departments are forecast to spend to budget, although there are some expenditure pressures and risks. Work is underway to ensure that these overspends are constrained, and reduced where possible.

**RESOLVED:**

- i. Cabinet noted the overall financial position and the actions being taken to manage the issues arising as set out in the report.

**8. Kingsbury Library and Flats, 522-524 Kingsbury Road NW9 9HE Lease**

Councillor M McLennan, Deputy Leader of the Council, introduced the report seeking approval to enter into a new lease for a term of up to 10 years and to delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Resources to agree and specify the terms of the lease

RESOLVED:

- i. Cabinet delegated authority to the Strategic Director of Resources to negotiate and agree the terms of a lease, for a period of up to 10 years.

**9. Review of Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2019/20**

Councillor Eleanor Southwood, Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform, introduced the reporting reminding Members that, since April 2013, all Councils in England and Wales are required to operate a local Council Tax Reduction Scheme. These local schemes replace the former national Council Tax Benefit (CTB) scheme.

Councillor Southwood stated that Brent introduced its current scheme ("Council Tax Support") in 2013 and it has remained in place with only minor changes since then. Councils are required to review and confirm or change their scheme each year. This report covers the review of the Brent scheme for 2019/20.

She stated that the report proposes retaining the existing scheme for 2019/20.

RESOLVED:

- i. Cabinet agreed that Brent's Council Tax Support ("CTS") scheme remained unchanged in 2019/20.
- ii. Cabinet noted the factors which would be relevant for consideration regarding the future of the local scheme beyond 2019/20.

**10. Brent Borough Plan 2019-23**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor M Butt, introduced the report presenting the draft Borough Plan 2019-23, setting out a vision, strategic priorities, and set of commitments for Brent, to be consulted upon before adoption by Full Council.

Councillors Miller and Tatler welcomed the draft Plan and its outward facing nature saying that previous borough plans had been too inward facing.

RESOLVED:

- i. Cabinet considered and agreed the draft Borough Plan in Appendix 1 of the report for public consultation, before reporting to Full Council for adoption in February 2019.

## 11. **Reference of item considered by Scrutiny Committees**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor M Butt, asked Members of Cabinet to note the recommendations from the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee relating to the potential sale of Wembley Stadium, and the allocation of Community Infrastructure Levy.

RESOLVED:

- i. Cabinet considered the following recommendations made by the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee:
  - a. That subject to the confirmation of the sale of Wembley Stadium, the London Borough of Brent write to the Valuation Office at the point the stadium passes to the new owners to ask that its business rates valuation were reconsidered. If the stadium was to be used purely to generate private profit the full amount possible should be returned to the taxpayers of London (through the London business rates pilot pool).
  - b. That Cabinet give due consideration of geographical spread when allocated Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies to projects in future.

## 12. **Consultation on Admissions Arrangements for Community Schools for 2020/21**

Councillor Amer Agha, Cabinet Member for Schools, Employment & Skills, introduced the report seeking Cabinet approval to consult on proposed changes to the Admission Arrangements for Brent Community Schools for 2020/21. Councillor Agha stated that the changes proposed are:

- a) to reduce the Published Admission Numbers of the primary schools set out in paragraph 4.2 and
- b) to introduce a criterion that gives priority to children previously in state care outside of England and who have ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

RESOLVED:

- i. Cabinet agreed to carry out statutory consultation on the proposed changes to Community Schools Oversubscription Criteria as set out in the report, to take effect for the academic year 2020/21.
- ii. Cabinet noted that the results of the consultation would be reported back to the Cabinet for final decision on the proposals in February 2019.

## 13. **Approval to Tender for a Targeted Service to Promote Education, Employment and Training for Young People**

Councillor Mili Patel, Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding, Early Help and Social Care, introduced the report concerning the provision of targeted services that promote education, employment and training for young people at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training). She stated that the report requests Cabinet approval to invite tenders in respect of these services as required

by Contract Standing Orders 88 and 89, and seeks delegated authority to award the contract.

RESOLVED:

- i. Cabinet approved the Invitation to Tender process for a Targeted Service to Promote Education, Employment and Training for Young People on the basis of the pretender considerations, set out in the report.
- ii. Cabinet approved officers evaluating the tenders referred to above on the basis of the evaluation criteria set out in the report.
- iii. Cabinet delegated authority to the Strategic Director of Children and Young People, in consultation with the Lead Member for Children's Safeguarding, Early Help and Social Care, to award a contract for a Targeted Service to Promote Education, Employment and Training for Young People for the reasons detailed in the report for a term of 3 years, with the option to extend by 2 years.
- iv. Cabinet noted the delivery arrangements for the Targeted Service to Promote Education, Employment and Training for Young People and the estimated budget as set out in the report.

#### 14. **Approval to Tender a Contract for Speech and Language Therapy**

Councillor Mili Patel, Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding, Early Help and Social Care, introduced the report setting out the commissioning and delivery models considered for the provision of speech and language therapy to support children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in mainstream schools, children's centres and linked early years settings.

Councillor Patel stated that the report seeks Cabinet approval to invite tenders for the provision of Speech and Language Therapy to support children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in mainstream schools, children's centres and linked early years settings, as required by Contract Standing Orders 88 and 89.

RESOLVED:

- i. Cabinet approved the preferred commissioning approach and delivery model for a contract that delivers Speech and Language Therapy to support children with SEND in mainstream schools, children's centres and linked early years settings as set out in the report.
- ii. Cabinet approved the invitation of tenders for the contract referred to above on the basis of the pre-tender considerations as set out in the report.
- iii. Cabinet approved that officers evaluate the tenders referred to above on the basis of the evaluation criteria set out in section (vi) of the report
- iv. Cabinet delegated authority to award the contract for Speech and Language Therapy for children with SEND in mainstream schools, children's centres and linked early years settings to the Strategic Director, Children and Young People, in consultation with the Lead Member for Children's Safeguarding, Early Help and Social Care as detailed in the report.

15. **Proposal To Join 'Capital Letters' - A Lettings Company Owned by a Consortium of London Authorities**

Councillor Eleanor Southwood, Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform, introduced the report stating that the housing pressures on low income households in London have perhaps never been higher, and a more co-ordinated effort is required from Councils across London to source an improved supply of suitable accommodation to meet demand.

She stated that London Housing Directors and London Councils have been working on a model which would enable better outcomes for homeless / at risk households and for Councils.

Councillor Southwood stated that this report sets out the reasons for joining “Capital Letters”, a proposed joint endeavour between a group of London boroughs to jointly procure affordable Private Rented Sector accommodation across London, delivering at least the same level or potentially more PRS accommodation. The aim is to reduce costs and increase the supply of accommodation to use for the prevention and relief of homelessness or to end a main homelessness duty. One of the objectives is improved outcomes for homeless families.

Members of Cabinet discussed the need for political oversight of the Company.

RESOLVED:

- i. Cabinet noted the £39 million over three years potentially being made available by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government specifically for pan-London collaboration on the procurement of accommodation for homeless households.
- ii. Cabinet approved the decision for the Council to join a letting company to be named Capital Letters London Ltd, a Company Limited by Guarantee that would be established by the London boroughs, as an A member.
- iii. Cabinet to request that that London Councils put in place appropriate political oversight.

16. **Local Implementation Plan (LIP3)**

Councillor Shama Tatler, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways, Planning, introduced the report stating that the current Mayor’s Transport Strategy (MTS) was published on 13 March 2018. She stated that the MTS sets out the Mayor’s plans to transform London’s streets, improve public transport and create opportunities for new homes and jobs. To achieve this, the Mayor wants to encourage more people to walk, cycle and use public transport, aiming for 80 per cent of all trips in London to be made on foot, by cycle or using public transport by 2041.

Councillor Tatler stated that each London borough is required to develop a Local Implementation Plan (LIP). The LIP sets out how the borough will deliver the MTS, take forward local transport policies, and target resources and investment to meet the relevant objectives at local level.

RESOLVED:

- i. Cabinet noted the timetable and process for preparation of the Brent Council's LIP3.
- ii. Cabinet approved the submission of the draft LIP3 to Transport for London (TfL) for their consideration by the 2 November 2018 deadline and approval by the Mayor of London in March 2019.
- iii. Cabinet delegated authority to the Strategic Director for Regeneration and Environment, in consultation with the Lead Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning, to make any further minor amendments following comments from Transport for London (TfL) and resubmit for approval in March 2019 or earlier, in February 2019, should substantive changes be required

17. **Brent Local Implementation Plan (LIP) Annual Spending Submission 2019/20 - 2021/22**

Councillor Shama Tatler, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways, Planning, introduced the report by stating that the primary source of funding for schemes and initiatives to improve transport infrastructure and travel choices in Brent is Local Implementation Plan (LIP) funding, allocated through Transport for London (TfL). LIPs set out how London boroughs will deliver better transport in their area, in the context of borough priorities, overarching Mayoral mode aim and Transport Strategy outcomes to deliver 'Healthy Streets and Healthy People'.

Councillor Tatler stated that this report seeks to update on the provisional LIP allocation and the 2019/20 Corridors, Neighbourhoods and Supporting Measures LIP programme proposed to be submitted to TfL. Following approval by TfL, the schemes and initiatives within the approved LIP programme will be implemented subject to receiving the full funding allocation.

RESOLVED:

- i. Cabinet noted the content of the report and Brent's 2019/20 provisional allocation of £2,147,000.
- ii. Cabinet approved the proposed 2019/20 programme of LIP Corridors, Neighbourhoods and Supporting Measures schemes through application of the prioritisation matrix, as set out in the report and, subject to TfL approval in December 2018, instructed the Head of Highways & Infrastructure to deliver the programme using the allocated budget and resources available.
- iii. Cabinet authorised the Head of Highways & Infrastructure to undertake any necessary statutory and non-statutory consultation and in consultation with the Lead Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning consider any objections or representations regarding the proposed schemes. Provided there were no objections or representations, or the Head of Highways & Infrastructure in consultation with the Lead Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning considered the objections or representations as groundless or unsubstantiated, the Head of Highways & Infrastructure was authorised to deliver the schemes. Otherwise, the Head of Highways & Infrastructure was authorised to refer objections or representations to Cabinet for further consideration.

- iv. Cabinet noted the scheme allocations were provisional and that schemes may be subject to change during development and following the consultation process.
- v. Cabinet authorised the Head of Highways & Infrastructure in consultation with the Lead Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning to vary scheme allocations where necessary within the overall LIP budget, and in accordance with financial regulations.
- vi. Cabinet authorised the Head of Highways and Infrastructure to deliver schemes that receive any additional in-year funding as approved by TfL, subject to the outcome of consultation and to brief the Strategic Director for Regeneration and Environment Lead Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning.

## 18. **On-Street Parking Management – 2018/19 Programme**

Councillor Shama Tatler, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways, Planning, introduced the report providing Cabinet with an update on the On-Street Parking Management Review, further to the report to Cabinet on 12 February 2018.

She stated that the report provides details of an analysis of feedback from the public to identify levels of demand for introducing new Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) and reviewing existing CPZs.

### RESOLVED:

- i. Cabinet noted the petitions received and online requests for changes to parking management in the Borough for the period between 6 November 2017 and 14 August 2018.
- ii. Cabinet approved the 2018/19 programme regarding the proposed new and review Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) schemes as set out in Appendix 2 to the report for implementing changes to on-street parking arrangements to go out to public consultation.
- iii. Cabinet delegated authority to the Strategic Director for Regeneration and Environment to decide whether to approve the said proposed CPZ schemes and any necessary Traffic Management Orders resulting therefrom in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning following the public and statutory consultation processes.
- iv. Cabinet noted the financial implications within this report and agreed a budget provision of £91,000 to deliver the programme, subject to consultation.
- v. Cabinet authorised the Strategic Director for Regeneration and Environment to make arrangements to contact the lead petitioners to inform them of the responses on behalf of the Council in relation to their respective petitions, as set out in the report.
- vi. Cabinet noted that the online information, guidance and application process for parking changes would continue to remain in place, and that requests would be considered when developing future programmes.

## 19. **Exclusion of Press and Public**

None

20. **Any other urgent business**

None.

The meeting ended at 5.27 pm

COUNCILLOR MUHAMMED BUTT  
Chair