

**DECISIONS SHOULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED BEFORE
FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2018**

CABINET
6 February 2018

PRESENT – Councillor Dixon (in the Chair); Councillors Harker, C L B Hughes, McEwan, S Richmond, A J Scott and Wallis. (7)

INVITEES – Councillors Curry, I G Haszeldine and Mrs Scott. (3)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Councillor Johnson.

C104. REPRESENTATIONS – No representations were made by Members or members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

C105. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

C106. MINUTES - Submitted - The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Cabinet held on 9 January 2018.

RESOLVED - That the Minutes be confirmed as a correct record.

REASON – They represent an accurate record of the meeting.

C107. MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET - There were no matters referred back for re-consideration to this meeting.

C108. ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY - There were no issues arising from Scrutiny considered at this meeting.

C109. KEY DECISIONS – SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2019/20 - The Cabinet Member with the Children and Young People Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Children and Adults Services (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the Local Authority's Admission Arrangements (also previously circulated) for the 2019/20 Academic Year, for maintained schools in the Borough.

The submitted report stated that, in line with the School Admissions Code, an Admission Authority was required to annually determine the admission arrangements used to allocate places for schools for which it was the admission authority and that once approved, there was a statutory duty to forward a Co-ordinated Admission Scheme for both primary and secondary schools to the Secretary of State by 28 February 2018.

RESOLVED - (a) That the Local Authority's admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools, as appended to the submitted report, be approved.

(b) That the Co-ordinated Admission Schemes for both primary and secondary applications for the 2019/20 academic year, as appended to the submitted report, be adopted.

REASONS - (a) The Authority is under a statutory duty to determine admission arrangements for primary schools for which it is the admission authority for the academic year 2019/20.

(b) If the co-ordinated scheme is not approved and returned to the Department for Education by the 28 February 2018 the Secretary of State may impose a scheme on the Authority.

C110. UPDATE ON CHILDREN'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENTS - The Cabinet Member with the Children and Young People Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Children and Adults Services (previously circulated) providing an update on the improvements made to date within Children's Social Care, since the publication of the Ofsted report on Services to Children in Need of Help and Protection, Children Looked After and Care Leavers on 1 September 2015.

The submitted report stated that since the last update to Cabinet three further monitoring visits had taken place in February, June and September 2017; the Children's Services Improvement Board continued to meet; outlined the particular focus of each of those visits; and the main findings and improvements identified from those visits. Particular references were made to the improvements made in performance management and practice; feedback received from children, their families, staff and partners; sufficiency of Children's Services Social Work Workforce; and Training and Staff Development.

Reference was also made to the priority actions required to move on from achieving compliance to a culture of learning and robust quality of and evidenced based practice which included the embedding of improved high quality social work practice across all teams; 'Signs of Safety' as a solution focussed strengths based approach to children's services; robust Audit and Quality Assurance Programme, to effectively monitor practice improvement and drive up social work standards; and training and development activity to meet the continued development needs of the workforce.

In presenting the report the Cabinet Member with the Children and Young People Portfolio thanked the Director of Children and Adults Services and her staff for all their hard work in making the improvements that had been made within Children's Social Care.

RESOLVED - That the information contained within the submitted report, on improvements made to date within Children's Social Care, since the publication of the Ofsted report on Services to Children in Need of Help and Protection, Children Looked After and Care Leaves on 1 September 2015, be noted.

REASON - That Cabinet agreed they should receive regular update reports on improvement progress.

C111. CALENDAR OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2018/19 - The Leader introduced the report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the Calendar of Council and Committee Meetings for the 2018/19 Municipal Year (also previously circulated).

RESOLVED - That the Calendar of Council and Committee Meetings 2018/19, as appended to the submitted report, be approved, and the proposed dates for the meetings of Council be referred to the Annual Council meeting scheduled to be held on Thursday 17 May 2018, for approval.

REASON - To ensure that the calendar of meetings is approved for the forthcoming municipal year.

C112. STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PART 2 - COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN PLANNING APPLICATIONS - The Cabinet Member with Economy and Regeneration Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Economic Growth (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the Draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) (also previously circulated), insofar as it relates to the Development Management process, and the process and timescales for the adoption of the document.

The submitted report stated that the SCI sets out of the Council's approach to consulting the local community and other stakeholders on planning matters; an updated SCI for the Local Plan process had been approved and adopted by Cabinet in April 2016 (Minute C141(2(b)/Apr/16 refers); the Development Management part of the SCI was now considered to be out of date as a result of changes in processes, legislation and national policy since it was adopted in 2010; and that as a result a new SCI had been prepared for consultation.

The Draft SCI set out how the Council intended to involve people and organisations in determining planning applications; key overarching principles for engagement; the methods to be used in publicising applications; what was expected from developers; and stated that it represented the most efficient means of ensuring engagement.

Discussion ensued on publicising the consultation on the SCI and its existence following its adoption.

RESOLVED – (a) That the Statement of Community Involvement, Part 2 Community Involvement in Planning Applications, as appended to the submitted report, be approved as a basis for consultation.

(b) That the Director of Economic Growth be given delegated authority to agree the final Statement of Community Involvement document, in liaison with the Cabinet Member with the Economy and Regeneration Portfolio, and, if necessary, to make minor amendments to the document following the six week consultation period prior to adoption.

REASON - The Council is required to have an up to date Statement of Community Involvement (Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Section 15, as amended by Section 111, Localism Act 2011).

C113. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2017/18 – QUARTER THREE - The Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources (previously circulated) providing an up-to-date forecast of the 2017/18 revenue budget outturn, as part of the Council's continuous financial management process.

The submitted report stated that latest projections showed an overall improvement against the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) of £5.22M, an increase of £1.429M from the previous report to Cabinet; a large proportion of the increase was related to efficiencies within Adult Social Care; and that the increased projected balances as at 31 March 2018 would be reflected in the revised MTFP which was scheduled to be considered at special meetings of Cabinet and Council in February 2018.

RESOLVED – (a) That the forecast revenue outturn for 2017/18, as detailed in the submitted report, be noted.

(b) That the proposed carry forward of resources, referred to in paragraphs 14 and 15 of the submitted report, be noted and approved.

(c) That further regular reports be made to monitor progress and take prompt action if necessary.

REASONS – (a) To continue effective management of resources.

(b) To continue to deliver services to agreed levels.

C114. PROJECT POSITION STATEMENT AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING - QUARTER THREE 2017/18 - The Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources and the Director of Economic Growth (previously circulated) providing a summary of the latest Capital resource and commitment position, to inform monitoring of the affordability and funding of the Council's Capital Programme; an update on the current status of all construction projects currently being undertaken by the Council; and requesting that consideration be given to a number of changes to the capital programme.

The submitted report stated the projected outturn of the current Capital Programme was £142.699M against an approved programme of £142.740M; the investment was delivering a wide range of improvements to the Council's assets and services; the Council had a substantial annual construction programme of work; the current project position statement showed that there were 33 live projects currently being managed by the Council with an overall project outturn of £98.016M; the majority of projects were running to time, cost and quality expectations; and that the projects were managed either by the Council's in-house management team, a Framework Partner or by Consultants sourced via an open/OJEU tender process.

RESOLVED – (a) That the status position on construction projects, as detailed in the submitted report, be noted.

(b) That the projected capital expenditure and resources, as detailed in the submitted report, be noted.

(c) That the review and final outturn of schemes, as detailed in paragraphs 18 and 19 of the submitted report, be noted.

(d) That the adjustments to resources, as detailed in paragraph 20 of the submitted report, be approved.

REASONS – (a) To inform Cabinet of the current status of construction projects.

(b) To make Cabinet aware of the latest financial position of the Council.

(c) To maintain effective management of resources.

C115. MEMBERSHIP CHANGES – There were no membership changes reported at the meeting.

**DECISIONS DATED –
THURSDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2018**