

Decisions of the Policy and Resources Committee

14 October 2014

Members Present:-

Councillor Richard Cornelius (Chairman)
Councillor Daniel Thomas (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Tom Davey	Councillor Alison Moore
Councillor Paul Edwards	Councillor Alon Or-Bach
Councillor Anthony Finn	Councillor Sachin Rajput
Councillor Ross Houston	Councillor Barry Rawlings
Councillor David Longstaff	Councillor Reuben Thompstone (In place of Dean Cohen)

Also in attendance

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Dean Cohen

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of 21 July 2014 were agreed as an accurate record.

2. ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dean Cohen. Councillor Reuben Thompstone attended as substitute member. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Tom Davey.

3. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS (IF ANY)

There were none.

4. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER (IF ANY)

There was none.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS (IF ANY)

Details of the questions asked and the published answers were provided with the agenda papers for the meeting. Verbal responses were given to the supplementary questions at the meeting.

There were no public comments.

6. MEMBERS' ITEMS (IF ANY)

There were none.

7. ANNUAL COUNCIL 2014 - EXTERNAL INVESTIGATION

Ms Claer Lloyd-Jones provided an overview of her qualifications and introduced the investigation report. The Chief Executive Mr Andrew Travers introduced the cover report.

Committee members asked questions regarding the reports which were responded to by Ms Lloyd-Jones and Mr Travers.

Councillor Alison Moore moved that the following amendments be made:

- That recommendation 1 be amended to read 'That the recommendations set out in section 6 of appendix 1 are agreed, except signing the side agreement, until legal services are brought back in house'.
- Add new recommendation 2.1 'That the vacant Monitoring Officer post must be filled by a legally qualified person, and this must be specified in the job description and job advert'
- Delete recommendation 3 and replace with new recommendation 3 'That legal services are brought back in-house to be part of the integrated Assurance function'
- That recommendation 5 be amended to add 'including that a limited scope of high level corporate legal support is removed from the scope of the Inter-Authority Agreement and is instead provided 'in-house' and/or through separate external arrangements, pending legal services being brought back in-house'
- Add new recommendation 6 'That a review of all decisions taken by LB Barnet since Barnet ceased to have a legally qualified Monitoring Officer is undertaken, with the support of external legal advice'

Following discussion of the proposed amendments Councillor Alison Moore MOVED that the report be referred to Council. The referral was supported by:

Councillor Barry Rawlings
Councillor Alan Or-Bach
Councillor Ross Houston
Councillor Paul Edwards

RESOLVED – That having received the requisite number of support for referral, the item will be placed on the agenda for consideration by Full Council.

8. BARNET'S LOCAL PLAN - SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT ON DELIVERING SKILLS, EMPLOYMENT, ENTERPRISE & TRAINING FROM DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SECTION 106

The Committee considered the report.

It was agreed that the wording in the last sentence of paragraph 2.12 on page 15 of the Local Plan be changed from 'would not be appropriate' to 'may not be appropriate'.

RESOLVED - That the Committee approve the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Delivering Skills, Employment, Enterprise and Training (SEET) from Development through S106 (attached at Appendix A) for adoption.

9. AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET ALLOCATION PROPOSALS

The Committee considered the report.

Councillor Moore, seconded by Cllr Ross Houston, moved that an additional recommendation be added as follows:

That a community and residents advisory panel be established to ensure that there is community feed in and that residents are consulted on the applications before a decision is taken, possibly through the use of the Area Forums.

Votes were recorded as follows.

Agreed	5
Opposed	7
Abstentions	0

The motion was lost.

The recommendations in the report were then put to the vote.

RESOLVED – That the Committee agree the proposed process for allocating the Area Committee budgets.

10. COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee noted the report.

Councillor Barry Rawlings queried whether the North London Waste Plan report was still on track to be considered at 13 January meeting. The Strategic Director Growth and Environment undertook to check this.

11. ANY OTHER ITEM(S) THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

There were none.

12. ANY OTHER EXEMPT ITEM(S) THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

There were none.

The meeting finished at 9.16 pm