

Decisions of the Policy and Resources Committee

16 June 2021

Members Present:-

Councillor Daniel Thomas (Chairman)
Councillor David Longstaff (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Dean Cohen	Councillor Sachin Rajput
Councillor Geof Cooke	Councillor Barry Rawlings
Councillor Val Duschinsky	Councillor Gabriel Rozenberg
Councillor Ross Houston	Councillor Peter Zinkin
Councillor Arjun Mittra	Councillor Melvin Cohen (In place of
Councillor Alison Moore	Councillor Caroline Stock)

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting dated the 24 May 2021 be agreed as a correct record.

2. ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Caroline Stock. Councillor Melvin Cohen was substituting.

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

Councillor Arjun Mittra declared an interest in agenda items 7 and 8 as TFL is referenced in both reports and Councillor Mittra GLA employee of which TFL is part.

4. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER (IF ANY)

None.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND WRITTEN COMMENTS (IF ANY)

None.

6. MEMBERS' ITEMS (IF ANY)

The Chairman informed the Committee that this item would be dealt with in the Exempt session.

7. BUSINESS PLANNING 2022-26

The Chairman introduced the report which set out the current challenges, proposed process, and timetable for the preparation of the budget for 2022/23 and the refresh of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2022-26.

Also presented in the report for committee approval was a number of routine financial management matters, in line with financial regulations. This included updates to the programme of capital investment, the update of the Housing Revenue Account business plan, budget amendments and debt management.

Upon being put to the vote recommendations as set out in the report were unanimously carried.

RESOLVED - That the Committee:

In respect of business planning for 2022-26:

- 1. Notes the revised Medium-Term Financial Strategy;**
- 2. Notes the 2020/21 revenue and capital outturn General Fund and Housing Revenue Account positions;**
- 3. Notes the delivery timetable for the 2022/23 budget setting process;**
- 4. Considers the proposed 'cash limit' approach to budget planning for 2022/23, also proposals to include greater use of data to inform budget planning, alignment to delivery of Barnet Plan, and planning for post pandemic activity levels;**
- 5. Notes the proposed approach to the financial strategy;**

In respect of routine financial matters for 2021/22:

- 6. Approves the revenue budget virements for 2021/22 presented**
 - 7. Approves the writes-offs for Sundry Debt, Housing Revenue Account tenant arrears and General Fund tenant arrears;**
 - 8. Approves the revised Capital Programme and financing of it;**
 - 9. Approves the release of financing to TfL (set out in para 5.45 – proposed use of s106 funding to support a bus route extension);**
 - 10. Notes the HRA Business Plan and refreshed 2021/22 budget (para 5.46 ff);**
 - 11. Notes the Quarter 4 2020/21 Corporate Risk Register (para 5.56 ff).**
- 8. BARNET'S LOCAL PLAN – PUBLICATION - REGULATION 19 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (LOCAL PLANNING) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS (REG 19)**

The Chairman introduced the which set out a planning policy framework that the Council will use to make decisions about how Barnet will change as a place over the next 15 years. The Local Plan is one of the most important statutory documents that must be produced for the Borough.

Upon being put to the vote recommendations as set out in the report were declared carried. The vote was recorded as follows;

For	7
Against	5
Abstentions	1

RESOLVED - That the Committee:

1. Considered the responses to consultation at Local Plan – Preferred Approach - Regulation 18 (as set out in Appendix B);
2. Approved the Draft Local Plan – Publication - Regulation 19 (as set out in Appendix A) for public consultation;
3. Delegated authority to the Deputy Chief Executive to make any further minor changes to the Local Plan in consultation with the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee prior to public consultation.

9. WEST HENDON PLAYING FIELDS - OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE

The Chairman introduced the report which set out the Outline Business Case (OBC) for West Hendon Playing Fields. Also detailed in the OBC were the two key interdependent workstreams; capital delivery (design and build) and transformation (management model) which were critical in the successful delivery of the project and included a series of tasks to be progressed in the next stage.

Councillor Geof Cooke moved the following additional recommendation.

Add recommendation:

5. Policy & Resources Committee agrees to ensure that the impact of construction on West Hendon estate residents and the Welsh Harp is minimised in any construction plan

Upon being put to the vote additional recommendation was declared lost. The vote was recorded as follows;

For	5
Against	7
Abstentions	1

Councillor Peter Zinkin proposed the following amendment to Councillor Cooke’s recommendation.

5. Policy & Resources Committee agrees to ensure that the impact of construction on West Hendon estate residents and the Welsh Harp is ~~minimised~~ **appropriately mitigated** in any construction plan

Upon being put to the vote the proposed amendment by Councillor Peter Zinkin was declared carried. The vote was recorded as follows;

For	13
Against	0
Abstentions	0

RESOLVED - That the;

- 1. Policy and Resources Committee approve the Outline Business Case (OBC) for the West Hendon Playing Fields Masterplan.**
- 2. Policy and Resources Committee note the funding strategy outlined within the Outline Business Case (Section 7) and approves £18.8m capital funding, which includes the associated professional fees to deliver the West Hendon Playing Fields Masterplan.**
- 3. Policy & Resources Committee note the associated delivery timetable set out in Appendix A, Section 8 of the Outline Business Case which includes the submission of a Planning Application.**
- 4. Policy & Resources Committee delegates authority to the Executive Director for Environment to commence the procurement workstreams for both construction and operator.**
- 5. Policy & Resources Committee agrees to ensure that the impact of construction on West Hendon estate residents and the Welsh Harp is appropriately mitigated in any construction plan.**

10. EDGWARE GROWTH AREA SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

The Chairman introduced the report which is prepared jointly by the Boroughs of Barnet and Harrow. The plan identifies local needs, challenges and opportunities and sets out how the key opportunity sites should come forward, as well as providing guidance for design, high quality homes, public realm, and transport matters.

Upon being put to the vote recommendations as set out in the report were declared carried. The vote was recorded as follows;

For	7
Against	6
Abstentions	0

RESOLVED - That the Committee

- 1. Consider the responses to consultation on the Edgware Growth Area Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) as set out in Appendix B);**
- 2. Adopts the Edgware Growth Area Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) at Appendix A.**

3. **Delegates authority to the Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, to make any further minor changes to the Edgware Growth Area SPD arising as a result of formal consideration by the London Borough of Harrow.**

11. EQUALITIES, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION POLICY 2021-25

The Chairman introduced which set out how the council will comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty in the Equality Act 2010. It details the council's approach to implementing its equalities policy and new Strategic Equalities Objective.

The policy also supports the council's Barnet Plan 2021-2025 and existing documents such as the Statement of Community Involvement, Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Growth Strategy, and Transport Strategy.

The draft EDI Policy has been developed in consultation with external stakeholders through the Communities Together Network and also engaged staff through the EDI steering group.

The Deputy Head of Strategy and Engagement confirmed they would seek clarification on the email responses which Councillor Cooke has indicated haven't been included in the evidence.

Upon being put to the vote recommendations as set out in the report were unanimously carried.

RESOLVED - That the Committee

1. **That the Committee agrees to adopt the Equalities, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy (at Appendix A to this report).**
2. **That the Committee authorises officers to implement the Equalities, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy Action Plan (as set out in Appendix B).**
3. **That the Committee delegates authority to the CMT Equalities, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy sponsors, Director of Finance and Resources & Director of Public Health and Prevention, to make any subsequent non-material changes to the policy and its supporting documents.**

12. COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Councillor Cooke sought clarification on when the Sustainable Strategy will be coming to Policy and Resources. The Chief Executive confirmed it would be in the autumn.

RESOLVED – The Committee noted the Work Programme

13. ANY ITEM(S) THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

None.

14. MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Councillor Thomas, duly seconded moved a to exclude the press and public and move in exempt session.

15. MEMBERS ITEM EXEMPT

RESOLVED – That the Committee noted the exempt Member’s Item.

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

None.

The meeting finished at 9.40 pm