



LONDON BOROUGH OF
HARROW

Cabinet

Minutes

15 February 2024

Record of decisions taken at the meeting held on Thursday 15 February 2024.

Present:

Chair: Councillor Paul Osborn

Councillors: David Ashton Mina Parmar
Marilyn Ashton Anjana Patel
Stephen Greek Pritesh Patel
Hitesh Karia Norman Stevenson
Jean Lammiman

**Non-Executive
Cabinet Member:** Thaya Idaikkadar
Kanti Rabadia

**In attendance
(Councillors):** Peymana Assad For Minute 262
Graham Henson For Minute 262
Eden Kulig For Minute 263
David Perry For Minute 260-277

**Apologies
received:** John Higgins

Absent: Harrow Youth Parliament
Representative

Recommended Items

268. Final Revenue Budget 2024/25 and Medium Term Financial Strategy to 2026/27

Resolved to RECOMMEND: (to Council)

That

- (1) the 2024/25 budget be approved to enable the Council Tax for 2024/25 to be set;
- (2) the Model Council Tax Resolution 2024/25 be approved as set out in Appendix 11 of the officer report;
- (3) in accordance with Section 38 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the Managing Director be instructed to place a notice in the local press of the amounts set under recommendation 2 above within a period of 21 days following the Council's decision;
- (4) the new council tax premium for empty furnished properties (under section 11C of the Local Government Finance Act 1992) at a premium of 100% from 1 April 2025 (Paragraphs 1.21-1.24 of the officer report) be applied;
- (5) the Medium-Term Financial Strategy be approved (Appendix 2 of the officer report);
- (6) the 2024/25 Annual Pay Policy Statement be approved (Appendix 12 of the officer report).
- (7) the Capital Receipts Flexibility Strategy be approved (Appendix 13 of the officer report).

RESOLVED: That

- (1) additional funding be noted, namely Social Care Grant and Funding Guarantee, announced by Government on 24 January 2024 for Local Government at the Final Settlement, which was published on 5 February 2024 (Paragraph 1.05 of the officer report);
- (2) the balanced budget position for 2024/25 and the estimated budget gap of £10.880m and £6.732m for 2025/26 and 2026/27 respectively (Table 2 of the officer report), be noted;
- (3) the intention to increase core Council Tax by 2.99% in 2024/25 (Paragraph 1.17 of the officer report), be noted;
- (4) the intention to increase Council Tax by a further 2% in 2024/25 in respect of the Adult Social Care Precept (Paragraph 1.19 of the officer report) be noted;

- (5) the 2024/25 budgets for Schools and Public Health as set out in Appendices 6 & 7 of the officer report, be noted;
- (6) the proposal to increase funding to Additionally Resourced Mainstream Units by 3.4% (within the High Needs Block) (Paragraph 1.43 of the officer report), be noted;
- (7) the proposal to provide additional funding for pupils with Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) in mainstream schools of 7% (Paragraph 1.46 of the officer report), be noted;
- (8) the assumed funding for the protection of social care 2024/25 through the Better Care Fund (Paragraphs 1.58 to 1.61 of the officer report), be noted;

Reason for Recommendations: This would ensure that the Council sets a balanced budget for 2024/25.