

# CABINET

## 11 APRIL 2013

### DECISIONS NOTICE

(PUBLISHED ON FRIDAY 12 APRIL 2013)

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken on the substantive items at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Thursday 11 April 2013. These decisions will be implemented on the expiry of 5 clear working days, unless there is a call-in of any of the decisions (for details on how to do this, please contact Nicola Fletcher, Democratic & Electoral Services Officer on 020 8416 8050 or by email [nicola.fletcher@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:nicola.fletcher@harrow.gov.uk)) in which case any such decision may not be implemented until the resolution of the call-in process. If no request for call-in is received by 5.00 pm on Friday 19 April 2013 then the decisions will be implemented.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Daksha Ghelani, Senior Democratic Services Officer on 020 8424 1881 or by email [daksha.ghelani@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:daksha.ghelani@harrow.gov.uk).

#### 8 Special Needs Transport Change Programme 3 (SNT 3)

**RESOLVED:** That

- (1) the progress on the SNT3 Programme be noted;
- (2) the Corporate Director of Children and Families, in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Children, Schools and Families, Property and Major Contracts, and Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, be authorised to:
  - a) procure, select and award contracts to the preferred transport services suppliers on such terms as agreed, acting in the best interests of the Council and in doing so promoting local social enterprises and private organisations;
  - b) consult on a new transport eligibility policy;
- (3) a further progress report with a final draft policy be received for approval in Autumn 2013.

**Reason for Decision:** The MTFs provided a need and a timeframe for delivering further savings of £540k from special transport. The SNT3 programme would deliver the required savings whilst maintaining the service required by residents.

To deliver savings within the timescales required delegated authority to identify best providers and award contracts to the best placed provider.

A broader, more flexible delivery would future proof the service for the direction of government policy. The preferred option would seek solutions that were delivered by local suppliers and local social and community enterprises.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:** As set out in the report.

**Conflict of Interest relating to the matter declared by Cabinet Member / Dispensation Granted:** None.

**9 Housing Changes Review: Approval of Housing Strategy 2013/18, Homelessness Strategy 2013/18, Private Sector Housing Strategy 2013/18, Housing Allocations Scheme 2013, and update on Housing Business Plan 2013 and draft Asset Management Strategy 2013**

**RESOLVED:** That

- (1) the consultation responses and proposed amendments to the Housing Strategy 2013-2018, Homelessness Strategy 2013-2018, Private Sector Strategy 2013-2018 and Housing Allocation Scheme be noted;
- (2) the final Housing Strategy 2013-2018, attached at Appendix 2 to the report, be approved;
- (3) the final Homelessness Strategy 2013-2018, attached at Appendix 3 to the report, be approved;
- (4) the final Private Sector Housing Strategy 2013-2018, attached at Appendix 4 to the report, be approved;
- (5) the final Housing Allocations Scheme and transitional arrangements, attached at Appendix 5 to the report, be approved;
- (6) the position with regard to the draft Housing Business Plan and Asset Management Strategy be noted;
- (7) the intention to enter into a Consortium Agreement with the Greater London Authority (GLA) acting under the powers devolved from the Homes and Community Agency (HCA) to receive funding towards bringing empty homes back into use be noted, and authority be delegated to the Corporate Director of Community, Health and Wellbeing and the Portfolio Holder for Housing to sign off the Consortium Agreement;

- (8) the Corporate Director of Community, Health and Wellbeing, the Director of Finance and Assurance and the Portfolio Holder for Housing be granted delegated authority to approve individual cash incentive payments to Council tenants to enable them to move to settled private sector accommodation, supported by a Business Case, pending approval of a general scheme for cash incentive payments for Council tenants to be included in the final Housing HRA Business Plan;
- (9) the Corporate Director of Community, Health and Wellbeing and the Portfolio Holder for Housing be granted delegated authority to approve participation in a pilot National Mobility Scheme that would provide additional opportunities for tenants to move;
- (10) it be noted that from 1 April 2013 general Right to Buy (RTB) receipts (i.e. not those specifically set aside for new affordable housing) could not be used for non-HRA purposes without penalty to the General Fund, and that the implications for the Housing Revenue Account would need to be considered in finalising the Housing Business Plan due to be reported to Cabinet in June 2013.

**Reason for Decision:** To enable the adoption of key Housing Policy and Strategy documents which clearly set out the Council's Strategic Housing Vision in responding to priority housing needs in Harrow.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:** Do nothing or adopt some but not all of the freedoms and flexibilities, as set out in the report.

**Conflict of Interest relating to the matter declared by Cabinet Member / Dispensation Granted:** None.

## **10 Harrow Outdoor Sports Strategy 2013-2023**

**RESOLVED:** That

- (1) the Harrow Outdoor Sports Pitch Strategy 2013-2023 and the implementation Plan, as outlined in appendices A and B and in paragraph 2.7 of the report, be adopted;
- (2) the Corporate Director of Community, Health and Wellbeing be authorised to proceed with the implementation Plan (Appendix 2 of the report refers) provided by the Strategy and take any action necessary in consultation with the Corporate Director of Environment and Enterprise, the Portfolio Holders for Community and Cultural Services and Environment and Community Safety;
- (3) the Corporate Director of Community, Health and Wellbeing be authorised to submit external funding bids to support the delivery of the priorities and actions within the Strategy, through the ongoing development and delivery of a responsive action plan, in consultation with the Corporate Director of Environment and Enterprise, the Portfolio Holders for Community and Cultural Services and Environment and Community Safety.

**Reason for Decision:** The Harrow Outdoor Sports Pitch Strategy would enable Harrow to plan for the provision and quality of outdoor sports facilities to provide better access and increase people's participation in sport and physical activity to achieve improved health and wellbeing outcomes for Harrow. The Strategy would enable Harrow to access external partnerships and funding to take the priorities forward and outlined how £1.7million would be invested in pitches in the borough.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:** Continue with the current situation and not adopt an Outdoor Sports Strategy, as set out in the report.

**Conflict of Interest relating to the matter declared by Cabinet Member / Dispensation Granted:** None.

## 11 Adult Learning Commissioning Framework

**RESOLVED:** That

- (1) the Preferred Providers Framework Agreement for Adult Learning with a total estimated annual value of £450,000 be approved;
- (2) the decision to make annual contract awards under the Framework Agreement during its lifetime to providers on the Framework be delegated to the Corporate Director of Community, Health and Wellbeing in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Community and Cultural Services, provided that the total value of contract awards did not exceed the overall Framework value.

**Reason for Decision:** The Adult, Community and Family Learning Service, as a recipient of a Community Learning funding allocation, must deliver to the objectives set out in *New Challenges, New Chances*. Provision should be targeted for the benefit of disadvantaged learners whilst maintaining a fee-paying universal offer and should show strong partnership working, with a diversified provider base. Establishing a Framework of Preferred Providers with delegated approval of contracts would enable the Service to respond flexibly to local needs throughout the year and target core funding to achieve overall objectives.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:** As set out in the report.

**Conflict of Interest relating to the matter declared by Cabinet Member / Dispensation Granted:** None.

## 12 Garden Land Development Supplementary Planning Document

**RESOLVED:** That

- (1) the Garden Land Development SPD, at Appendix B to the report, be adopted;

- (2) the Divisional Director of Planning be delegated authority to make typographical corrections and any other necessary non-material amendments to the Garden Land Development SPD prior to formal publication of the SPD.

**Reason for Decision:** To adopt the Supplementary Planning Document for development management purposes as the most effective way of supporting the implementation of the presumption against garden land development set out in Harrow's Core Strategy.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:** Do nothing, or issue an informal guidance note, as set out in the report.

**Conflict of Interest relating to the matter declared by Cabinet Member / Dispensation Granted:** None.

### 13 Financial Procedure Rules

**Resolved to RECOMMEND:** (to Council)

That the existing Financial Regulations be replaced with the revised set of Financial Procedure Rules.

**Reason for Decision:** It has been the duty of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to maintain an up to date set of Financial Procedure Rules. The current Financial Regulations were agreed by Cabinet on 3 November 2011 and required updating to ensure that the Council had effective governance arrangements in place.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:** As set out in the report.

**Conflict of Interest relating to the matter declared by Cabinet Member / Dispensation Granted:** None.

*[Call-in does not apply as the decision is reserved to Council.]*

### 14 Report of the Harrow Partnership Board Meeting held on 13 March 2013

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

**Reason for Decision:** To be informed of the Partnership's decisions.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:** None.

**Conflict of Interest relating to the matter declared by Cabinet Member / Dispensation Granted:** None.

*[Note: Call-in does not apply to matters that have been noted.]*

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 7.31 pm, closed at 8.21 pm).