

CABINET

12 DECEMBER 2013

DECISIONS NOTICE

(PUBLISHED ON FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER 2013)

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken on the substantive items at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Thursday 12 December 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 Una Sullivan, Democratic & Electoral Services Officer, on 020 8424 1785 or by email una.sullivan@harrow.gov.uk or Alison Atherton, Senior Professional – Democratic Services on 020 8424 1266 or by email alison.atherton@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 20 December 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.

9 Key Decision - School Expansion Programme

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the outcomes of the statutory consultation be noted;
- (2) the publication of statutory notices to expand permanently and extend the age range of Whitefriars Community School to include provision for secondary aged pupils be agreed.

Reason for Decision: To fulfil the Council's statutory duties to provide sufficient school places in its area.

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.

10 Key Decision - Stanmore and Edgware Conservation Areas Supplementary Planning Document

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Stanmore and Edgware Conservation Areas Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), attached as appendix 2 to the report, be approved;
- (2) the representations received to public consultation on the draft Stanmore and Edgware Conservations Areas SPD, provided at Appendix 1 to the report, and the Council's response to the individual comments made be noted;
- (3) it be noted that the conservation area boundaries for the Little Common Conservation Area and Old Church Lane Conservation Area had been altered, and new Article 4(2) Directions had been proposed for Old Church Lane, Stanmore Hill, Kerry Avenue and Canons Park Conservation Areas;
- (4) authority be delegated to the Divisional Director of Planning, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration, to make typographical corrections and any other necessary non-material amendments to the SPD prior to its formal publication.

Reason for Decision: To ensure that when adopted the Stanmore and Edgware Conservation Areas SPD would be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. The SPD would also provide useful guidance to relevant Council departments when dealing with issues relating to Stanmore and Edgware Conservation Areas.

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.

11 Key Decision - Locally Listed Buildings Supplementary Planning Document

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the representations received to public consultation on the draft Locally Listed Buildings SPD, provided at Appendix 1 to the report, and the Council's response to the individual comments made, be noted;
- (2) the Local Development Framework Panel's recommendations at appendix 2 to the report be noted, including the amendments made to the SPD in response to the recommendations set out in the body of the report;
- (3) the Locally Listed Buildings SPD, attached as Appendix 3 to the report, be adopted.

Reason for Decision: To afford weight to the SPD as a material planning consideration.

To set out best practice guidance and advice to the owners and occupiers of Locally Listed Buildings to acknowledge the contribution these buildings made to Harrow's character and to promote the continue preservation of these significant local heritage assets.

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 Authority Monitoring Report

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Authority Monitoring Report 2012/13, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved for publication on the Council's website;
- (2) authority be delegated to the Divisional Director of Planning, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration, to make further minor changes to the Authority's Monitoring Report prior to publication.

Reason for Decision: To comply with the requirement under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).

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.

13 Key Decision - Draft HRA Budget 2014/15, Draft MTFS 2015/16 to 2017/18, Draft HRA Capital Budget 2014/15 to 2017/18

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the draft HRA Budget be approved for consultation;
- (2) the proposed increase of 5.1% to housing rent charges for 2014/15, resulting in an average rent of £112.43 per week for 2014/15 be approved for consultation;
- (3) the proposed increases in facility and water charges set out in appendices 4 and 5 to the report be approved for consultation;
- (4) the draft four year Capital Programme be approved for consultation;

with final approval being sought from Cabinet and Council in February 2014;

- (5) the government's proposals to change national rent policy from 2015/16 onwards be noted.

Reason for Decision: To publish the draft HRA Budget and Capital Programme for consultation.

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.

14 Key Decision - Calculation of Council Tax Base for 2014/15

RESOLVED: That, having considered the information given in the report, the following be agreed:

- (a) the Band D equivalent number of taxable properties be calculated as shown in accordance with the government regulations;
- (b) the provision for uncollectable amounts of Council Tax for 2014-2015 be agreed at 2.50% producing an expected collection rate of 97.50%;
- (c) subject to (a) & (b) above, a Council Tax Base for 2014-2015 of **78,550** Band D equivalent properties (being 80,565 x 97.50%) be approved, allowing for payment in lieu of Ministry of Defence properties.

Reason for Decision: To fulfil the Council's statutory obligation to set the Council Tax Base for 2014-2015.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: None.

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

15 Key Decision - Calculation of Business Rates Income for 2014/15

RESOLVED: That the report be withdrawn and a revised report be submitted to the next Cabinet meeting.

[Call-in does not apply]

16 Key Decision - Draft Revenue Budget 2014/15 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2014/15 to 2016/17

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the draft budget for 2014/15 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), as set out in appendix 3 to the report, be approved for general consultation including an anticipated 0% Council Tax increase;

- (2) the current remaining budget gaps of £19.481m in 2015/16 and £18.612m in 2016/17 be noted;
- (3) the draft Public Health Budget for 2014/15, as set out in Appendix 5 to the report, be approved;
- (4) the statutory changes to schools funding for 2014/15 be noted and the proposed arrangements for the 2014/15 school funding formula as set out in Appendix 6 to the report be approved;
- (5) the sum of £239,219 be approved as Harrow's contribution to the London Grant Scheme in 2014/15;
- (6) a Capital Financing Risk Reserve be established to allow for delays in capital receipts in the current financial year.

Reason for Decision: To ensure that the Council publishes a draft budget for 2014-15.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: None.

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

17 Key Decision - Draft Capital Programme 2014/15 to 2017/18

RESOLVED: That the draft Capital Programme, as detailed within Appendix 1, be approved for consultation, with the final version being presented at the February 2014 meeting of Cabinet.

Reason for Decision: To enable the Council to have an approved Capital Programme for 2014-15 to 2017-18 and to enable preparation work to be undertaken for future years.

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.

18 Key Decision - Revenue and Capital Monitoring for Quarter 2 as at 30 September 2013

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Revenue and Capital forecast outturn position at the end of Quarter 2, September 2013, be noted;
- (2) the Capital virement detailed in paragraphs 49 and 50 of the report be noted.

Reason for Decision: To ensure that Cabinet was updated on the forecast revenue and capital financial position for 2013/14 and that budget virements were agreed in line with Financial Regulations.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: None.

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

[Call-in does not apply]

19 Key Decision - Collection Fund 2013/14

RESOLVED: That

- (1) an estimated surplus of £2,095,937 on the Collection Fund as at 31 March 2014 of which £1,676,274 was the Harrow share be noted;
- (2) an amount of £1,676,274 be transferred to the General Fund in 2014/15.

Reason for Decision: To be informed of the Council's statutory obligation to make an estimate of the surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund by 15 January 2014. Approval to the recommendations set out was a major part of the annual budget review process.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: None.

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

20 Half Year 2013/14 Treasury Management Activity

Resolved to RECOMMEND: (to Council)

That the minimum credit criterion for The Royal Bank of Scotland be amended from F1 to F2 as discussed in paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the report.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the half year Treasury Management Activity (TMA) for 2013/14 be noted;
- (2) the Governance, Audit and Risk Management Committee consider and review the report;

Reason for Recommendation/Decision: To promote effective financial management and comply with the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) Regulations 2003 and other relevant guidance. To be informed of Treasury Management Activities and performance.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: None.

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

[Call-in does not apply to the Recommendation to Council.]

21 Procurement of Banking Services

RESOLVED: That, having taken into account appendix 1 in respect of the supply of banking services for the term of five years beginning on 1 April 2014 and ending on 31 March 2019 with an option to extend for a period of up to a further two years to 31 March 2021, the Royal Bank of Scotland be awarded the contract for the supply of banking services for the term of five years beginning on 1 April 2014 and ending on 31 March 2019 with an option to extend for a period of up to a further two years to 31 March 2021.

Reason for Decision: The Council's current banking contract was due to expire in March 2014. In compliance with the Council's Standing Orders, an open tendering procedure had been followed and, based on the results, a decision has been made to award the contract to the most economically advantageous tender.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: None.

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

22 Strategic Performance Report - Quarter 2

RESOLVED: That Portfolio Holders continue working with officers to achieve improvement against identified key challenges.

Reason for Decision: To be informed of performance against key measures and to identify and assign corrective action where necessary.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: None.

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

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 6.30 pm, closed at 8.36 pm).