

Portfolio Holder Decision Meeting

AGENDA

DATE: **Wednesday 22 July 2020**

TIME: **10.00 am**

VENUE: **Virtual Meeting - Online**

MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Graham Henson

- Leader of the Council; Strategy, Partnerships, Devolution & Customer Services Portfolio Holder

Contact: Nikoleta Nikolova, Senior Democratic and Electoral Services Officer
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Agenda publication date: Tuesday 21 July 2020

AGENDA - PART I

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary or non pecuniary interests, arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from:

- (a) all Members of the Committee, Sub-Committee or Panel;
- (b) all other Members present.

2. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 8)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2020 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

3. PETITIONS

To receive petitions (if any) submitted by members of the public/Councillors under the provisions of Executive Procedure Rule 49 (Part 4D of the Constitution).

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS *

To receive any public questions received in accordance with Executive Procedure Rule 51 (Part 4D of the Constitution).

Questions will be asked in the order in which they were received. There will be a time limit of 15 minutes for the asking and answering of public questions.

[The deadline for receipt of public questions is 3.00 pm, 21 July 2020. Questions should be sent to publicquestions@harrow.gov.uk

No person may submit more than one question].

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER

In accordance with the provisions contained in Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 23 (Part 4F of the Constitution).

6. REPORTS FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEES

7. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Which cannot otherwise be dealt with.

8. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To resolve that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of confidential information in breach of an obligation of confidence, or of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972:

<u>Agenda Item No</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Description of Exempt Information</u>
8.	Leisure Contract – Future Options	Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

AGENDA - PART II

COMMUNITY

9. LEISURE CONTRACT - FUTURE OPTIONS (Pages 9 - 52)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

In accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information Act 1985, this meeting is being called with less than 5 clear working days' notice by virtue of the special circumstances and grounds for urgency stated below:-

Special Circumstances/Grounds for Urgency

This decision is urgent as Covid-19 resulted in the closure of the Council's Leisure Centres. The government are now allowing gyms and swimming pools to re-open subject to social distancing and health and safety measures being put in place.. The government has confirmed that indoor leisure centres will be able to reopen from the 25th July 2020.

Reopening the leisure centres is consistent with the council's health objectives. A decision on this matter was not possible until the government had stated when gyms and swimming pools could reopen.

At the time of the publication of the Key Decision Schedule or prior to its publication, it could not have been envisaged that a meeting would be required.

The decision is urgent and cannot wait until the scheduled meeting of Cabinet on 10 September 2020 as this would delay the re-opening of Harrow Leisure Centre.

Publication of decisions	22 July 2020
Deadline for Call in	N/A
Decisions implemented if not Called in	22 July 2020

PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION MEETING MINUTES

15 MAY 2020

Chair: * Councillor Graham Henson

In attendance: * Simon Brown Minute 35
(Councillors)

* Denotes Member present

29. Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED: To note that there were no declarations of interests made by Members.

30. Minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2019 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

31. Petitions

RESOLVED: To note that no petitions had been received.

32. Public Questions

RESOLVED: To note that no public questions were received.

33. Matters referred to the Executive Member

RESOLVED: To note that no matters had been referred to the Leader of the Council for consideration.

34. Reports from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Sub-Committees

RESOLVED: To note that none were received.

RESOLVED ITEMS

35. Temporary Additional Funding to Providers for Covid Related Costs

The Leader of the Council received a report which report set out proposals to make temporary additional payments to care providers for Covid related costs.

The Portfolio Holder for Adults and Public Health outlined the content of the report which advised that the Government had set out clear expectations that the funding provided be used to support front line services and care providers including care homes. He reported the steps that had been taken by officers to support care providers aligned with the Government's Covid Funding, Association of Directors of Adult Social Services framework, Government's Procurement Policy Note and Procurement's advice. The proposal to make a 5% temporary additional payment to care providers for Covid related spend would bring total spend in this area to approximately 8-9%.

The Director of Adult Social Services emphasised that the care providers were under considerable pressures and were dealing vulnerable and end of life residents and initially did not have the same support the acute hospital trust would have had. The additional 5% did reflect the total expenditure that the Council had incurred.

The Leader of the Council requested that his gratitude be conveyed to the Adult Social Care team and colleagues for the support provided to care homes and the wider care market at a time when there were an increasing number of care home residents. He advised that Cabinet would be considering a report on additional funding for Phase 2 (July to end of September) and Phase 3 (October to end of December) on 21 May 2020.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the approach taken to support providers implemented with effect from 23 March 2020 until the end of June 2020 be noted;
- (2) the Council make a 5% temporary additional payment to care providers for Covid related expenses for the period 23 March 2020 to the end of June 2020.

Reason for Decision: To enable the Council to make payments to social care providers in accordance with the Government's allocation of additional Covid funding and fulfil the Local Authority duty to manage the provider market.

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

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

[Call-in did not apply as a waiver of Call-in had been obtained from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the decision proposed was reasonable and should be treated as a matter of urgency as any delay likely to be caused by the Call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's interests.]

Reasons for Urgency: The decision was urgent and could not wait until the scheduled meeting of Cabinet on 21 May as this would delay the allocation of payments to Harrow's care providers who were supporting the most vulnerable residents. Allocation of the funding as soon as possible would also support the NHS in terms of hospital discharges and their response to the COVID 19 crisis.]

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 10.00 am, closed at 10.10 am).

(Signed) COUNCILLOR GRAHAM HENSON
Chair

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of the Local Government Act 1972.

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